

LaVar Arrington and Josh Mitchell get ready for Big 33

— Page 8

Natural Healing

Practices of meditation, massage and acupuncture provide alternatives to mainstream medicine

— Page 12

Cloudy and cool today with rain likely. High 67°F. A shower or thundershower will cross the region tonight. Low 63°F. Some sun tomorrow; a shower cannot be ruled out. High 78°F.

— by Chris Patti



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Body discovered in Miami, possibly Cunanan

By JOHN PACENTI
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — A body resembling Andrew Cunanan was found with a self-inflicted gunshot wound in a houseboat that SWAT teams surrounded and stormed last night.

"There is a similarity in the description of the victim that was found," Chief Richard Barreto said at a hastily called news conference. "Beyond that, there is nothing else to indicate at this time it is him."

Barreto said officials were awaiting forensic tests to confirm the body was that of Cunanan, whom residents had reported seeing in the area since Gianni Versace

was slain July 15. The houseboat is two and a half miles north of the mansion where Versace was gunned down.

"The general feeling is that this very well may be Cunanan, but the official word hasn't come down yet," said Miami Beach Mayor Seymour Gelber.

Police sources said the body may have been the victim of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. ABC News reported that a .40-caliber handgun, the same type of weapon Cunanan was believed to have used in a cross-country killing spree, was found near the body.

More than 100 police and FBI agents descended on the large blue, two-story houseboat after a caretaker told officers he was fired upon by an unknown man.

"The general feeling is that this very well may be Cunanan . . ."

— Seymour Gelber
Miami Beach Mayor

Police set up a perimeter around the houseboat, on the ground and in boats, and closed off Miami Beach's busy Collins Avenue for several blocks.

At one point during the four-hour standoff, officers in black flak jackets fired volleys of tear gas and shouted "Come out! Come out!"

Minutes later, at least six SWAT team members carrying rifles and a shield walked slowly in a line into the house. After nearly an hour inside, police announced their search had come up empty. More than an hour later, reports began to surface of a body.

A source told the AP that the body was found on the second floor of the houseboat, where bedrooms are located. The source said investigators believe the shot that the caretaker heard may have been the one that killed the man.

Cunanan, the prime suspect in Versace's killing and four other slayings, is the FBI's most-wanted fugitive. He has managed to escape capture even though his picture has been plastered on television, newspapers,

the Internet and wanted posters.

David Todini saw a man in the vicinity of the houseboat who fit Cunanan's description, wearing a bandana and carrying a backpack the night before Versace was killed.

"It looked out of place because there was no sun, there was no reason for him to have a bandana on his head," Todini said. "I said to myself, 'This guy's trying to disguise himself.'"

In Minnesota, Cunanan has been charged in the death of a former lover, David Madison, and is suspected of killing a friend, Jeffrey Trail. He is also suspected in the death of Chicago developer Lee Miglin and charged in the killing of New Jersey

Please see CUNANAN, Page 2.

Universities examine increasing suicides

By SUSANNE WALKER
Collegian Staff Writer

Prevention is better than cure. In suicide cases, it is the cure.

Before many victims commit suicide, they report having a sense of tunnel vision with no lights at the end of the tunnel, said Mary Knapp, a counselor for Counseling and Psychological Services, via E-mail.

Since 1990, 14 deaths have been attributed to suicide at University Park, according to Knapp. On average, two deaths per year result from suicide at University Park, she said.

"There has been heightened attention and interest in the topic of college student suicides in recent years," she added.

Attention was renewed earlier this year after a series of suicides at Michigan State University.

Within a span of three months, six students committed suicide at Michigan State.

Though the suicides fit within the average per year expected at universities, the cluster and close time frame sparked much concern, said Mort Silverman, editor of the American Association of Suicidology.

But there are many resources where help is available, he added. Campus ministries, academic advisors, faculty, resident assistants and other student counseling services are available for students, he added.

The availability of resources may be one reason suicides are less on campuses, he said.

A ten-year study of suicides on college campuses conducted by Silverman concluded the suicide rate on Big 10 campuses are 50 percent less than that of the general population.

The average rate for committing suicide in the general population is 15 per 100,000 per year, Silverman said. For the general college population, it is 7 per year.

"But just because we have a

"(Suicide) is the third leading cause of death for 15- to 24-year-olds in the United States."

— Mort Silverman
editor of the American Association of Suicidology

lower rate doesn't mean we should sit back and relax," he said. "It is the third leading cause of death for 15- to 24-year-olds in the United States."

According to a University of Illinois publication, most suicides can be prevented by sensitive responses to the person in crises.

There are many signs and risk factors that friends and families of potential victims can recognize.

"Substance abuse is considered a risk factor that is associated with increased suicidal behavior, particularly if the person is already depressed," Knapp said.

"In addition, drugs and alcohol abuse often leads to deaths due to accidents related to poor judgment and poor coordination," she said.

Giving away valuable items is also a sign someone may be suicidal, said Silverman.

But "access to available means" can also be a factor in suicides, he said.

If a person has available access to guns, pills or knives, a person may be more willing, he added.

Although a feeling of hopelessness is common among suicide victims, other factors influence suicide decisions.

"Depression, getting adjusted to a new campus and bad grades if you get a lot of pressure from home could drive people to suicides," said Allison Galasso (senior-psychology).

If someone is suicidal, they are already thinking about it.

"Don't be afraid to talk about it because it does not worsen the problem," Silverman said.



The Red Baron

Bob Johnston (right), a retired corporate jet pilot, began flying this year for the Red Baron Stearman Squadron, which travels the country giving rides to customers and performing in air shows. The group travels from mid-May until mid-November, hitting some 200 cities.

The squadron made a stop at University Park Airport Tuesday and yesterday to benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

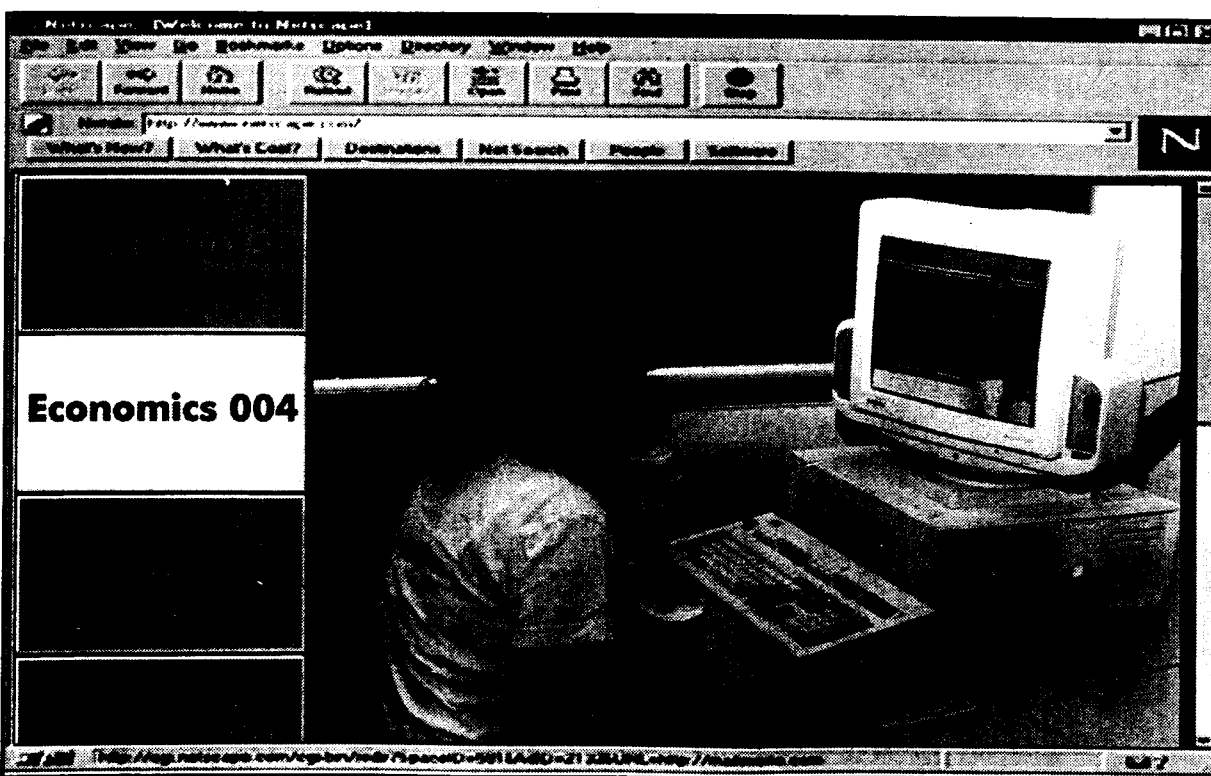
After flying corporate jets for 43 years, Johnston is enjoying his first season with the squadron.

"It is a rush for me, even after 43 years, to know that I am flying a piece of history."

Johnston, said that his flying in the squadron is his wife's retirement gift to him.

The plane pictured above is a 1943 Stearman airplane. It was designed by Lloyd Stearman and manufactured by Boeing Aircraft in Wichita, Kansas.

Photos by David S. Spence



Collegian Photo Illustration/Christa Rimonneau

Farah Krupp (junior-elementary education) demonstrates what a class over the Internet might be like with Penn State's World Campus. The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation recently gave a \$1.3 million grant to the University's World Campus program.

Foundation gives \$1.3 million grant for on-line education to University

By CAMILLE SELDEN
Collegian Staff Writer

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation gave a \$1.3 million grant to the University's World Campus program.

The World Campus program, which will be headed by Gary Miller, associate vice president for distance education, will offer its first classes January or February of 1998.

"What we're trying to do is create a learning environment for students to interact and work together to learn," said Bruce Heasley, associate director for student services.

The Internet will be heavily involved, but they will provide alternatives for people who are unable to use the Internet, Heasley said.

"Students will still be using textbooks," he added.

The main benefit of the program is that students can continue to

"What we're trying to do is create a learning environment for students to interact and work together to learn."

— Bruce Heasley
associate director for student services

work from where they are, Heasley said.

The five areas of study being offered through World Campus are an anesthesia case conference from Hershey Medical School, chemical-dependency-counseling training certificate, geographic-information-science graduate certificate, power-engineering non-credit graduate certificate and turf-

grass-management certificate program.

The turfgrass-management program is the only program available to undergraduate students, and the undergraduates must be upperclassmen.

"I don't think anyone said let's just limit it to graduate courses," said Heasley. "Those are the courses that after a long time have been decided."

One year after a student has been accepted into the program, they will be able to register themselves on-line. For now, a student must inquire about the program and then staff members will contact them.

The grant is one of the few the Sloan Foundation is making to universities to demonstrate the Asynchronous Learning Networks program. The ALN, according to a news release, is an on-line computer service that provides education anytime.