Important Dates:

- 2/2 Groundhog Day!
- 2/14 Valentine’s Day
- 2/18 TGIF Movie Social – “Dead Poets Society”
- 2/21 President’s Day (Lincoln & Washington)
- 2/23-27 Florida Tech Homecoming Week!
- 2/25 Florida Teacher Certification Exam - Last day to register for the April 16 session!
- 3/7-11 Looking ahead: Spring Break!

**Attention Students:**

The next FTCE Dates are:

- April 16 – Reg. By 2/25
  - Late Reg. By 3/17
- July 23 – Reg. By 6/3
  - Late Reg. By 6/23

All students should consider taking the FTCE General Knowledge Exam as soon as possible. Passing scores on the FTCE General Knowledge are required before registration of the Junior Sequence of Education Courses (EDS 3033, 4051 & 3095)

Seniors must have their passing scores for the Professional Education and Subject Area Exams filed before graduation.

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**Education from the Smallest Heart**

By: Heather Novak

To teach and guide teenagers to the brink of true adulthood - the threshold of college doors - and setting them free upon the world seems like a mighty task. What can we possibly do to prepare ourselves for some of the most important steps and decisions we will make as future educators? As I pondered this question, as I know my fellow classmates have, I found the answer in the most extraordinary of places: my one-year-old son.

It was once proposed by a prominent psychologist that he could take any child and train him to grow up to be anything that he imagined. Of course the idea is preposterous! I have found that raising a child is as much an education as it is to educate. We will all change and develop through our teaching experiences, our education, and exposure to the youngest at heart. What we believe in today will have the opportunity to grow, expand, and change through teaching.

So we must prepare ourselves for the roller coaster of events that will change our lives. I must admit, that becoming a mother has taught me many important teaching strategies. Motherhood is really quite a humbling experience. There is nothing like getting just two hours of sleep in a day over a four month period to make one take a serious look at just how to get everything accomplish. My son has taught me the strategies of organization, dedication, execution, and preservation of one’s sanity.

The keys to success, ah, they are not as elusive as some of us may believe. Often times they can be achieved simply through balancing one’s schedule. I have found that keeping a monthly organizer is a must - and I look at it daily. I have also discovered that all projects and homework needs to be started and worked on from the first day the assignment is made. I am sure several of us have achieved the greatest procrastination feats in the course of education history, but trust a college/mom…it will become a bigger nightmare than last night’s diaper! I will admit that there will be times that studying or working on a project just isn’t going to happen. My son loves to “help”…loves to help remove my books…rip the pages…well, you get the picture. But it is up to me to pick up my books as soon as the opportunity presents itself and get back to work.

You may be thinking that I am talking all work and no play, but if I did that I would miss half of my child’s amazing accomplishments. If we choose to preserve our sanity, it is important to also schedule time for ourselves - and I am serious about scheduling! Taking time to exercise, eat, sleep, and socialize is as important to our minds as our classes. However, too much of it leads us astray. Achieve a healthful balance, and you too can become a super-student like me.

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**Help the fight against cancer, join the Science and Math Education Relay for life team.**

A sign-up list has been put up in the computer lab for all those interesting in joining our team or e-mail John Beck at jdbeck@fit.edu to become a part of this life saving event. The Relay will be held on April 1, 2005 in the Clemente Center.
**Study Break**

**TGIF Movie Social**

When: Feb. 18th
12:00pm – 2:00pm
Where: SH4
Why: To have a great time!
Bring: $2.00 for Pizza and Soda

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**February….Valentines…..Red Hearts and Pink Flamingos!**

What makes flamingos pink? Well…it’s not sunburn! The color of most birds is a matter of genetics. Bluebirds are blue by nature, robins have red breasts, and cardinals are bright red. The flamingo is different: flamingos are pink because of what they eat.

Depending on the species, the color of a flamingo can range from pale pink to crimson. A flamingo eats extremely small water plants such as algae and tiny animals such as insect larvae and crustaceans. Most of this food is full of natural pigments called carotenoids. The pigment in the carotenoids makes the flamingo turn pink or red as new feathers grow.

When flamingos are in captivity, such as in a zoo, they are fed a natural red coloring agent called Roxanthin or they are given a carotenoid-rich diet of prawns, shrimps, and crustaceans so that they retain their pink color. If flamingos are given food that lacks carotenoids, the pink color will eventually fade away.

When we eat carrots or beets we are also eating carotenoids, just like the flamingos. We just can’t eat enough beets and carrots to make us change color. The only way we can turn pink is either to blush or get a sunburn. I just thought you should know!

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**Ryan Burton Wins Award for Speech!**

At the annual Florida Future Educators of America Conference in Orlando January 15, 2005, **Ryan Burton** won first place in the Speech Contest, Postsecondary Division. He presented his speech at the closing session and did an outstanding job! Way to go Ryan!

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**The News Stand: What’s in This Month**

- Presentations
  Color Correction Blues
- The Science Teacher
  Our Place in the Universe
- FETC Connections
  NASA Live: Bring NASA into the Classroom, Virtually
- Science Scope
  Force & Motion
- Teaching Tolerance
  Confronting Bias at School

**Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School**

Computer - Generated Fractal Art

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**What is this?**

**Accomplished Practice**

**#2 - Communication:** The preprofessional teacher recognizes the need for effective communication in the classroom and is in the process of acquiring techniques which she/he will use in the classroom.

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**Humor is a rubber sword – it allows you to make a point without drawing blood!**

When love is your greatest weakness, you will be the strongest person in the world.

~Garman Wold

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**Attending the Conference: Ryan Burton, John Beck Paul Burt, Mrs. B, Christina DeCarmo, Nicole Weller**