



THE 411 Strange Days

As 2 Diddy files around on a jet pack in South Beach, how Miami South gets involved at the Hard Rock. (P.10)



NEWS Housing Revolt

Activists prepare to fight against gentrification. How they can. (P.14)

Covering Miami Beach, North Bay Village, Surfside, Bay Harbor, Bal Harbour, Aventura, Sunny Isles Beach, Coconut Grove, Brickell Avenue, Downtown, The Design District, Upper Eastside and North Beach.

'Preserving the Sexy' Mayor Diddy Announces Miami's MTV Mission

BY CELESTE FRASER DELGADO
Columnist

More than to the city have been given out collectively by Mayor Manny Diaz, David Derman and Carlos Alvarez (Diaz to a Bricklayer Boulevard model house on a Saturday night) that the key the three gave collectively to Sean "Diddy" Combs on Monday was special, over-sized and insured in glass engraved with the MTV logo. The single station, but open to the city of Miami, Miami Beach and Midland-Coral.

"You've got three mayors there today, and you're an established mayor," Mayor Derman quipped, apparently thinking he was giving the big-top, impromptu a promotion. Combs is no longer simply a platinum recording artist, actor, fashion, fashion designer and CEO of Bad Boy Worldwide Entertainment Group; he's our mayor, too.

Combs is also the host of the 2003 MTV Video Music Awards (VMA), the internationally awarded show, scheduled to make its second coming to Miami on August 18 at the American Airlines Arena. The show will air on a pay-per-view channel for the awards.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF



It's good to be the mayor. Sean "Diddy" Combs poses to preserve all that is sexy in Miami—at least while the MTV Video Music Awards are in town. Photo by Michael Tschering/Photo.com

Landmark Lost?

Preservationists
Fear Freedom
Tower's Landmark
Status At Risk

BY OMAR SCHMERTZ
Staff Writer

While the Planning Advisory Board's 23 to at their last meeting on July 10 rejected a recommendation for denial of "Terra Group's proposed 40-story condo project—one that would surround the Freedom Tower, Miami's historic-old, extended architectural landmark—the Miami City Commission (MCC) has the power to make the final decision.

Instead, construction has begun among insurance, architects and historic preservationists who are worried that, if the project is approved, the historic tower would get demolished within the city's skyline. Another fear: the Freedom Tower might not be able to qualify for National Historic Landmark status (especially because of the planned demolition of a large portion where the former Miami News & Herald's printing presses were housed). In late June, the Alan family, former owners of the building, withdrew the tower's historic nomination.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIA

INSIDE



FILM (P.37)

Commissioners: CRA Grants Help Promote Redevelopment Areas

BY ERIC SCHMERTZ
Editor

Arguing that such special events were the best way to promote Miami's Center and Downtown redevelopment areas, the Miami City Commission (MCC) granted a \$100,000 grant to the Black Archives for an MTV Video Music Awards and Art Show.

An idea fell and lightning cracked outside of the Boardroom Hotel Monday afternoon, the Commission, acting as the Board of directors of the Community Redevelopment Agency, approved a \$100,000 grant to the Black Archives for an MTV Video Music Awards and Art Show.

On August 23, after approval of a \$100,000 grant to the Performing Arts Center Trust for the Lighting the Show event and location to the Miami Foundation Inc. for Concert Miami 03, both Art Show-related events in December.

"Party, party, party, all they do in Downtown is party and we have nothing to show for it," said

FASHION

The View From Miami Fashion Week

"Fashion is infectious."

— Damon Dash of Roca Wear

BY ESTHER NASH
Fashion Contributor



Models backstage at Lycra Xtra Life Show

I arrived on time and the festivities were underway. No spices needed for flavor.

P.R. ladies? Ready! Fashion Week security? Ready! Sunglasses? On! Lights, camera, action!

No invite? No worry. I'm here to include all elite SunPost readers on the front row and backstage activity, so pass the suntan lotion, and enjoy the spoils of the recent Miami Fashion Week and the Sunglass Hut Swim Shows Miami presented by Lycra.

FRONT ROW ATTENDEES

Among the privileged few, Michael Capponi, Alan Roth, Tommy Pooch, Damon Dash of Roca Wear with daughter Eva, Diane Smith of Sports Illustrated, Robert Verdi as spokesperson for Sunglass Hut, Esteban Cortazar, Tara and Nick of Tara, Ink. And yours truly.

THE DESIGNERS

Carmen Marc Valvo, a lifestyle collection that wears beyond the beach. Tropical and feminine accented with sequins. Inca designs inspired by the traditional styles of Peruvian Beach coast, very beaded and embroidered.

Cosabella Mare, the line is a reflection of designer Ugo Campello's travels to India and Africa. Signature look: Sheer pantaloons with fitted anklets and side slits — very "I Dream of Jeannie." Exotic chic with eye-popping tribal colors.

Rosa Cha — Amir Slama translated Brazilian culture into a contemporary cruise collection. I am ready to sail! All aboard.

Gideon Oberson styles reflected the Middle East and Mediterranean, so sheer and sophisticated I had to look twice.

Becca: Inspiration California — its cities, its mountains, its culture. From one beach city to another, Becca combines the colors of peacocks with metallics for a unique chic result.

Xtra Life Lycra Show: Diane Lobber of Lycra explained that the fabric combats "bag and sag" and extends the standard suit life five times. Their show selected multiple top designers like Grant Leeds for Anne Cole to showcase the new material.

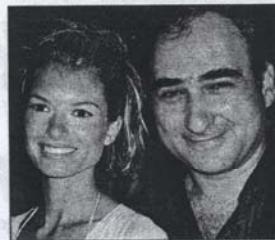
BEST QUOTES

"Fashion is infectious." — Damon Dash of Roca Wear. And, "It's all about the fit." — Andrea Bernholtz of Rock & Republic.

TREND ADVISORY REPORT

For shades, stop by Sunglass Hut and ask for regional manager Mark Emmerichs' assistance and think upgraded aviator, two-tone lenses, three-color frames, classic white, honey brown and the return of Jackie O styles.

Swimwear: Prints and solids, beads, sequins and embroidered detail. Colors: Tropical aqua, blue-greens, yellows as well as metallic and



Rosa Cha designer Amir Slama and model backstage
Photos by Shelly Nash