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INSIDE



'Sweet Baby James'

Entertainer Bob Stillman pays tribute to James Taylor at the Phil in Naples on Saturday, June 14. **C1** ▶



'Sex in the City' premier

And other events in Fort Myers' society. **C23-25** ▶



Happy Birthday

Shell Point Retirement Community celebrates 40th anniversary. **B1** ▶



Waterfront camping

It's not too hot to enjoy Florida's waterfront state parks. **A20** ▶

biotech boom

>>Inside:
See what Madden has planned for the old airport. **A8**

BY EVAN WILLIAMS
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The emerging biotechnology market has real-estate developers and communities scurrying to get a piece of the lucrative business.

After all, it brings highly educated workers with big paychecks to the area, demands sophisticated and expensively constructed facilities, requires little in government services and the industry is environmentally friendly. It provides a solid tax base for government, disposable income for shop owners and restaurants and can be a boon to a university looking to expand its research.

It's a major growth industry and Lee County has its sights set squarely on it.

But governments rarely have the expertise or money to attract biotech firms. John Madden, however, does.

The Colorado-based developer with a home on Captiva Island, is launching a \$500 million development on county land near the old Southwest Florida International airport,

Developer John Madden is luring medical industry with a \$500 million park

FLORIDA WEEKLY
The Madden Research Loop will not be the only biotech game in town. FGCU has some top scientists working on ways to cure infectious diseases. See page A9.

SEE BOOM, A8 ▶

Florida Weekly writers win top honors

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF REPORT
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Florida Weekly took home five prestigious awards last Friday at the Florida Press Association's 2007 Better Weekly Newspaper Awards ceremony in Orlando.

Writer Roger Williams won first place for his Humorous Column dealing with "Going Green."

Florida Weekly's design staff also took a first-place award for Front Page Makeup.

"The design staff consistently turns out top-notch section fronts each and every

week," said Creative Director Jim Dickerson.

Williams won a second-place award for Community History for his story about pirates in Southwest Florida entitled "Pirates...extremists all."

Florida Weekly' Executive Editor Jeff Cull took third place in In-depth News Reporting for a story about silly laws on the books in the Sunshine State called "Illegal?"

In the Environmental or Conservation category, Williams took honorable mention honors for "Everglades Prophecy,"

"It's a real honor to be singled out by our peers," said Cull. "I believe that the quality of

our writing is what makes readers pick us up at newsstands. They've certainly shown that they can compete with any newspaper in the state."

The News-Press won seven awards in the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors contest for daily newspapers, awarded the same day, including first-place in the "Freedom of Information" category.

The Florida Press Association's Better Weekly Newspaper Awards are open to monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly newspaper members.

The work was published between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2007. ■

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