

9-17-2008

# The Beacon, September 17, 2008

Florida International University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student\\_newspaper](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper)

---

## Recommended Citation

Florida International University, "The Beacon, September 17, 2008" (2008). *The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon)*. 173.  
[https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student\\_newspaper/173](https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper/173)

This work is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections and University Archives at FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon) by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [dcc@fiu.edu](mailto:dcc@fiu.edu).

**SJMC FIGHTS AIDS**  
Students work with victims

**TALKING TROUBLES**  
Languages pose problems

**INNER PEACE**  
Club promotes yoga

**LEARNING CURVE**  
How volleyball found a way to win

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

OPINION PAGE 4

LIFE! PAGE 5

SPORTS PAGE 8

## State limits campus drinking

MEGAN DOWNS  
AP Wire

On any given night, a University of Central Florida student can drink without a lot of money, difficulty or limits.

"We're out four times a week, at least," said Alex Bozinta, 21, who ordered three drinks at a popular bar recently so she wouldn't have to fight the crowd as often. "We drink and drink. As long as you get drunk, it's fun."

As classes and football games began for a new season, UCF and universities throughout Florida have been creating more stringent rules that attempt to curb underage drinking, as well as its dangerous counterpart: binge drinking.

"The problem isn't when you start drinking, it's how much you start drinking," said Tom Hall, UCF's director of alcohol and other drug-prevention programming. "When you have a culture that supports excessive alcohol use, you have a problem."

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism estimates that 1,700 college students between ages 18 and 24 die of alcohol-related causes each year, while about 600,000 suffer from alcohol-related injuries.

At the University of Florida in Gainesville, named the nation's No. 1 party

DRINKING, page 2

## STARTING STRONG



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**VICTORY IS THEIRS:** Setter Natalia Valentin clenches her fist in celebration after defeating Oral Roberts to win the FIU Invitational Tournament on Sept. 13.

## FIU prospers amid budget difficulties

DANIELLA BACIGALUPO  
News Director

Top administration officials got the memo from University President Modesto A. Maidique on Monday: no budget crisis, big or small, will slow down FIU's growth.

Although framed around the budget crisis, Maidique's first leadership meeting of the year concentrated on the University's new stage, "FIU 3.0," and its effects on colleges, schools and faculty.

"Many of you in this room carried the burden of making the difficult choices about program and employee terminations. I know you agonized over each decision and every dollar, but the University now has to look [to the] future," Maidique said.

The University's vice presidents, deans and directors sat through an hour-long discussion that emphasized undergraduate education, graduate and faculty research, internationally focused curriculum and improved student customer service as "FIU 3.0" cornerstones.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, FIU ranks far below both national and Florida standards for student-faculty ratios; an FIU Foundation survey finds nine percent of alumni

LEADERSHIP, page 2

## Israeli consulate visits Middle East politics class

EDUARDO MORALES  
Staff Writer

The Consulate General of Israel, Paul Hirschson, visited the Politics in Middle East class at FIU on Monday, Sept. 15 to discuss his roles within the consulate as well as the current events and happenings surrounding the state of Israel.

Hirschson began speaking to students about the history of his native country and of those surrounding it. He did not shy away from controversial topics and made time to discuss the conflicts in the Middle East. The discussion instigated classroom debate but Hirschson was never afraid to answer any questions.

"The issue I'm addressing is Israel and what's going on in Israel," Hirschson said when asked about issues he'd like to cover with students.

The Consulate General was very honest with his answers and spoke about his position as well as his stance in the conflicts going on in the Middle East.

He was also intent on discussing the qualities of the country not normally shown in the news.

"Israel is much more than a place where periodically in the Middle East there are wars," Hirschson said. "You wouldn't have a cell phone without Israeli technology; you'd never have a laptop without Israeli technology [and] you wouldn't have a huge amount of medical technology."

Hirschson discussed his views on the relations between Israel, Iran, Iraq and Lebanon and asked students to share their own views. He also spoke of Israel's relations with Egypt as well as the country's major trading partners. In the later half of the discussion, he openly spoke about the conflict over possession of the Gaza Strip.

The classroom visit gave international relations majors the opportunity to talk with political figures they read about in class and hear about in the news.

Students took advantage of the opportunity and openly discussed both political and personal problems.

"We can have an argument, myself and somebody from the other side, about how we got to where we are," Hirschson said. "The question is not so much how we got to where we are, the question is how do we move forward from here?"



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**PACIFIST SPEAKS:** Paul Hirschson, Consulate General of Israel, addresses the Politics in Middle East class on Sept. 15.

**FUN Back to School JOBS!!!**

Clean Water Action  
 Help Elect Environmental Representatives!  
 Organize, activate, and motivate citizen participation!

- Excellent training and benefits!
- National Conferences!
  - \$80-90/day.
  - FT and PT positions.

www.cleanwateraction.org  
**Interviews available immediately**  
**305.653.5134**

Do You Like News?  
 Fill out an application  
 in GC 210  
 OR  
 WUC 124

**THE BEACON**

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| CHARLIE GRAU<br>CHRISTOPHER NECUZE   | EDITOR IN CHIEF<br>PRODUCTION MANAGER  |
| DANIELLA BACIGALUPO<br>JONATHAN DAVILA<br>ERIC FELDMAN<br>ANDREW JULIAN<br>VICTORIA LYNCH<br>LEONCIO ALVAREZ | NEWS DIRECTOR<br>LIFE! EDITOR<br>OPINION EDITOR<br>SPORTS DIRECTOR<br>PHOTO EDITOR<br>COPY CHIEF |

**INFORMATION**

The Beacon office is located in the Graham Center, room 210, at the University Park campus. Questions regarding display advertising and billing should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 305-348-6994. Mailing address: Graham Center, room 210, Miami, FL 33199. Fax number is 305-348-2712. Biscayne Bay Campus is 305-919-4722. Office hours are 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. E-mail: [Beacon@fiu.edu](mailto:Beacon@fiu.edu). Visit us online at [www.fiusm.com](http://www.fiusm.com)

# Maidique stresses school growth

**LEADERSHIP, page 1**

would not recommend FIU to someone else and a University-wide survey indicates a majority of students are dissatisfied with bureaucracy at student offices like Financial Aid.

FIU's new mission concentrates highly on establishing a better quality education, customer service,

and alumni affinity.

However, the most visually impactful aspects of "FIU 3.0" were the University's fundraising and construction endeavors.

Maidique made clear that with a new school, several new projects in blueprint or under construction, "FIU 3.0" is in full swing.

Expansion on campus includes the unveiling of a new school, the School of International and Public Affairs.

Arquitectonica, a Miami-based architecture firm, has full reign on 56,000 sq. ft. for a new building set to open in Fall 2009.

The school itself symbolizes FIU's new interna-

tional direction in which undergraduate curriculum in every major will have some type of international component.

Four sections; politics and international relations; public administration; criminal justice; social, cultural and spatial studies will make up the school.

Other possible construction includes a new hospi-

# Drinking games face banishment

**DRINKING, page 1**

school, the problem might be at its worst.

Trustees there are poised to approve a ban on drinking games, kegs and "beer balls," which hold the equivalent of 55 beer cans. Other Florida universities have similar policies.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said the school had four or five alcohol-related deaths several years ago, which prompted the school to revise the student code with changes that likely will take effect this fall.

"That was a wakeup call that we need to do something," Sikes said.

Now, media advertisements tell students that drinking is acceptable, sexy, fun: It looks like the place to be.

Carol, Burkett, Member

Orange County's Coalition for a Drug Free Community

One new policy bans activities that encourage alcohol abuse: Drinking games, kegs and the beer balls would be prohibited.

The majority of students believe binge drinking is a rite of passage, UCF's Hall said.

But his research at the school found that 20 percent of students aren't drinking.

"That's one of the myths

about college drinking," Hall said. "Nationally, about 23 percent of students are the extreme drinkers, so the notion that 'everyone is doing it' isn't accurate. But 23 percent is still too big of a number."

Carol Burkett, who sits on the task force and directs Orange County's Coalition for a Drug Free Community, said binge drinking is more accepted and younger stu-

dents are drinking more.

"In the '70s, you didn't have high-risk drink promotions," she said. "Now, media advertisements tell students that drinking is acceptable, sexy, fun: It looks like the place to be."

But Mike McCoy, Orange County public safety director and co-chairman of the underage drinking task force, said attitudes about what's unsafe could change. "Back then, we thought we couldn't do anything, but I think we will pass beyond that," he said. "You will see the generation saying it's so senseless, and we can do things about it."

**TEN DAYS**

**COUNTLESS MEMORIES**

**ZERO DOLLARS**

**TRIPS DEPART DECEMBER THROUGH MARCH**

**OVER 20 TRIP OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM**

**REGISTER NOW AT [WWW.BIRTHRIGHTISRAEL.COM](http://WWW.BIRTHRIGHTISRAEL.COM)**

**TAGLIT-BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL PROVIDES FREE, TEN-DAY TRIPS TO ISRAEL FOR JEWISH YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18 TO 26.**

**TAGLIT · תנולית BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL [www.birthrightisrael.com](http://www.birthrightisrael.com)**

**BRINGING INDEPENDENT AND UNDERGROUND MUSIC TO YOU**

**RADIATE FM**

**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**88.1 WREG.ORG 95.3**

**OLD HIP-HOP MONDAYS  
 ELECTRONIC TUESDAYS  
 METAL AND 80S WEDNESDAYS  
 CLASSIC ALTERNATIVE ROCK THURSDAYS  
 DANCE FRIDAYS  
 STREET HIP-HOP SATURDAYS  
 WORLD SUNDAYS**

**AND NOW SERVING NORTH MIAMI & SOUTH BROWARD 96.9 FM**

SJMC

## Partnership with *Herald* to focus on HIV victims

RENE BOURSQUOT  
Contributing Writer

In a partnership with the *Miami Herald*, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication will be reporting on and working with HIV/AIDS victims.

SJMC students, including some who have witnessed the HIV/AIDS epidemic first-hand in South Africa and others who reported from the World AIDS Conference for MTV Latin America, will begin producing, shooting and editing a four-part web series documenting the real stories and struggles of people infected with the virus.

Each two to three minute segment will detail the private side of the outbreak and tell the stories beyond the facts, figures and statistics.

Starting production in October, the project seeks to move beyond anonymous data, and provide a meaningful and necessary human element to the story - all in an effort to give a face to the faceless killer.

The project is scheduled to launch during the upcoming holiday season, and new episodes will be released

weekly on the *Miami Herald* Web site.

The *Miami Herald* aims to show readers there is a serious health crisis in South Florida that is increasingly affecting our community, and the individuals living within it, according to SJMC professor Kate MacMillin, a veteran television producer.

"[The series] is a community outreach effort to educate Miami residents about the rise of HIV/AIDS," MacMillin said.

MacMillin will be working alongside Allan Richards, interim associate dean of SJMC, to showcase the school's brightest talents, many of whom already have extensive experience reporting on the disease.

FIU and the *Miami Herald* hope to combat the social stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS by using available South Florida media to spread awareness.

An independent study group composed of 10 print journalism students and television production students, in cooperation with University Health Services, is looking for suitable candidates for a study examining HIV/AIDS sufferers.

Selections are expected to be completed by late September.

Miami has the third-highest HIV/AIDS contraction rate in the country with 56,804 people infected, according to Florida HIV/AIDS Resources & Statistics.

Tiffany Parkes and Jillian Simms recount their travels last spring as part of a recent FIU-sponsored excursion to South Africa.

In coordination with members of the United States Agency for International Development, as well as dozens of other local and international organizations and media outlets, including the Light House Project, students were able to get a first-hand look at and acquire an intimate understanding of the HIV/AIDS problem.

Hearing personal accounts from individuals dealing with HIV/AIDS opened the two journalism students' eyes to the life-changing effects the virus has on its victims.

The program also showed how people worldwide are using various mediums to spread information devoted to prevention and awareness of the illness.

## Karate eases student stress

CAROLA VOGES  
Contributing Writer

Though it is only September, students are already feeling the pressure from their classes. Fortunately for a few, karate seems to be the answer to these school stresses.

For those interested, the Uechi Ryu Okinawan Karate Do School began holding classes Aug. 4 at the Biscayne Bay Recreation Center.

"This is a healthy way for students to come learn self-defense and tone their body and mind. And it's always cheaper than a shrink," said Sensei Gus Saul, manager of the Uechi Ryu Okinawan Karate Do School.

Classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. and Fridays from 6 to 7 p.m.

Although based at FIU, this opportunity stretches out to more than just students. Saul encourages everyone to join the class.

"[We've gotten] positive feedback," said Andrea Reynoso, a physical therapy

major and receptionist at the Recreation Center. "Although there is a discount for students, a majority of the people that attend the classes are non-students that know about the school from other sources."

The program is perfect for casual members as well as beginners.

According to Saul, the class is divided into four sections: the first 15 minutes consist of kinetics, gymnastics and stretching; the next 15 minutes are devoted to karate warm-up exercises and the rest of the time is used for karate, mostly pre-arranged fighting forms.

"Nothing that a beginner couldn't handle," Saul said.

Though that is the basic structure of the classes, Saul does not impose this schedule on his students.

Different difficulty levels of karate are taught in the class. Three advanced students help teach the class, making sure to attend to all the different difficulty levels.

It takes approximately six months for students to graduate with their first belt, which

for true beginners means the white one.

"This opportunity sounds amazing. To be able to come to school, get stressed out and then, after class, focus your mind and release the stress sounds too good to be true. And it's not even expensive," said Khalid Kemp, a hospital management major.

The cost of this program is \$79 a month for students, and \$65 for faculty and staff. With the introductory promotion, however, students can pay \$199 for three months of classes. For non-students, gym fees, which are already included in student tuition, would apply at the rate of \$75 a semester, plus the \$79 for the karate classes.

"Those interested should feel free to walk in during class," Saul said. "Any student willing to try is given a first day free of charge to experience the art of empty-hand fighting."

For more information, contact Sensei Gus Saul at [gussaul@hotmail.com](mailto:gussaul@hotmail.com), or visit [www.uechiryukaratado.com/miami/](http://www.uechiryukaratado.com/miami/)

## SNACK ATTACK



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON



**CASH FOR CUPCAKES:** Arthur Mindermann, club secretary, helps bag cupcakes for Angela Lowe at the Friends of Wine Bake sale.

**FIU**

**ΣΚ**  
The NEW  
Opportunity at FIU

*Sigma Kappa Sorority*

is **PROUD** to be a part  
of *the FIU LEGACY.*

For more information on **joining** the newest  
sorority on campus, e-mail [fiu@sigmakappa.org](mailto:fiu@sigmakappa.org)  
or visit [www.sigmakappa.org](http://www.sigmakappa.org)

**SIGMA KAPPA SORORITY**  
ΣΚ

Sigma Kappa membership is based on a mutual selection process.

## THE SOAPBOX:

An Op-Ed Column

*Students can change the world through a single vote*

**HECTOR SUCO**

Special to The Beacon

If you were to bet on a competition and you knew that the sides were 37,000 vs. 537, which one would you put your money on? In the year 2000, 537 won.

In 2008, it's a whole new ball game. As most of you already know, President George Bush won the state of Florida in 2000, giving him enough electoral votes to win the White House by 537 votes.

That election changed the world and it came down to our state. This semester alone, there are nearly 37,000 students at FIU. A good number of those students are not registered to vote.

If you're saying to yourself, "My vote doesn't matter," or "I don't care about the election," then think again. If 537 FIU students felt a different way about voting in 2000, it could've changed the world.

Your voice can change the world in this election. 537 is just 1.45 percent of this year's enrollment at the University.

Imagine if 5 percent or even 50 percent of FIU students vote this year.

What kind of impact do you think it will have on a large swing state like Florida? Florida has picked the winner of the presidency nine out of the last 10 elections. Still think that your voice doesn't matter?

It takes two minutes to register and if you vote early, there will hardly be a line at the polls. If you don't want to wait in line by yourself, take a friend.

There are many reasons why you would want to register (or re-register) to vote.

If you need to have your card replaced, do so as soon as you can. Your voter's registration card tells you where you're supposed to go to vote.

There are many people like us who are always around on campus asking students if they are registered to vote, because we know how important this election is and how one vote can make a difference. Don't let another election year go off with a shrug.

As Mahatma Gandhi said, "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

*Hector Suco is the president of FIU Students for Obama.*



SUCO

# FLEETING FLUENCY

## Perfecting a language is impossible

**NEDA GHOMESHI**  
Contributing Writer

To some, language is a virtue, to others it's just another form of communication. However, language must be practiced, just like a sport. Some people practice to perfect language, such as scholars. The only question is, at what point has one learned enough about a language in that they can say, "I have perfected [insert language here]."

Recently, I was sitting outside of the Graham Center at University Park. As I looked around, I noticed the diversity of students who roam about the campus.

Within the next 30 minutes, I had heard five different languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese and honestly, I couldn't tell the fifth one.

It was fascinating to hear a sample of the many languages there are in this world which, according to the Ethnologue, a database of the world's spoken languages, is over 6,900. The whole concept of different languages got me thinking, how can one perfect a language?

Who determines if one has perfected a language and what exactly is perfection when it comes to language?

When I was growing up, I was taught to speak Farsi at home. In fact, I didn't even learn English until I began elementary school at the

age of five. By the time I was 17, I thought I had a good grasp of the Persian language.

However, it wasn't until I visited Iran that summer that I realized I knew no more than 50 percent of the language.

I went one day from believing I had excelled in a language, to the next day discovering I knew as much as an amateur. In America, when I spoke Farsi, I would be told I spoke it flawlessly; with proper grammar, high vocabulary and most importantly, in a respectable manner. However, when I visited Iran, I was told my Farsi was mediocre at best; I spoke with an accent, my vocabulary was weak and I used improper terms when conversing with an adult.

I felt like I wasn't treated or respected highly in Iran because of my weakness in conversing in Farsi. These comments and feelings were all rude awakenings.

When I returned to the states, I hit the books, conversed with every Persian I knew in Farsi and was set to achieve the ultimate, which later turned out to be an impossible goal, of perfecting my ability to communicate in Farsi.

I studied hard because I thought I was going to be given more respect as an individual if I spoke Farsi fluently, just like all of my family members and friends do in Iran.

However, according to the Oxford Dictionary, the term

"fluent" means one speaking or writing in a natural manner which is used easily.

I speak Farsi as if it is my second nature, and it comes to me naturally. So why am I studying so hard? It wasn't until the day I was sitting in front of the Graham Center when I realized that my goal was never going to be achieved. Although it was hard to admit, it was something I had to understand.

"I believe that I am fluent in Spanish, however I can improve my Spanish skills, but they will never be perfect because we don't live in a perfect world," Raf Navarro, a senior who is bilingual in English and Spanish, said. "To perfect a language would mean to understand and speak all of the dialects, which is impossible."

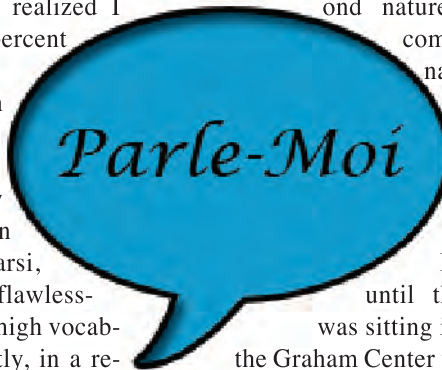
Languages are beautiful. They allow humans to interact with one another.

They enable us to communicate and pass on ideas.

So, why can't we converse with one another and not worry about the minor grammatical details, or the lack of heavy vocabulary?

"As long as I understand your point, I'm fine," said junior Jenny Balladares.

Wouldn't it be pleasant if Balladares' theory applied to the world?



# Please welcome Marco Rubio to class – or else

**CHRIS CABRAL**  
Staff Writer

We are all witnesses to one of the greatest things to ever happen to FIU. Every once in a great while, administration at this University deem it necessary to amaze us.

As you walk through the halls this semester, you may notice they seem a little emptier; the classrooms may seem a little more crowded and your major may have disappeared.

Fellow students, do not be alarmed. This is merely the work of FIU's newest and most wonderful professor Marco Rubio and his colleagues in Tallahassee.

Rubio helped push through a billion-dollar cut to our state's education budget as Florida House Speaker. Only a few months later, after pushing through the cuts that have ravaged our school and others across the state, Rubio was hired by FIU for a \$69,000 a year position to teach part time. Half of that money is coming from our school,

and the other half is coming from anonymous donors.

Now, some alarmists will express outrage at this shocking turn of events. After all, why should a man responsible for so much of the state's education problems be employed by an educational institution? He helped eviscerate our state's education budget, and in the process, forced our school to lay off 200 people and eliminate 23 majors. Why, they'll ask, is the man behind these cuts being paid with our tuition money?

The answer is that Rubio is a great and noble man. His hiring is a great thing for all of us. Why? Because our school's administrators say so. And what they say is always true. I think I read that somewhere.

You see, just because we lowly students may find this hiring to be audacious, despicable, horrifying or even offensive, doesn't make it so. Just because the "facts" say that Rubio is responsible for these budget cuts doesn't make him a bad

guy. In fact, I'm sure he feels really bad about the whole thing.

Instead of criticizing this decision and expressing our outrage collectively, and doing all we can

to force FIU to reconsider its decision, let's take a moment to instead admire this man we now call Professor Rubio.

Imagine the courage it must take to spend 15-20 hours a week among students and professors who are forced to suffer through the financial crisis he helped create. Imagine the guilt he must feel, spending 15-20 hours a week teaching in a class-

room that was likely once occupied by someone he helped get fired. It is that kind of unbridled audacity that makes a man great.

Just think of the things we could [Rubio] helped eviscerate our state's education budget, and in the process, forced our school to lay off 200 people.

Just think of the things we could

learn from him. Everyone who saw their potential majors eliminated could take Professor Rubio's DIS 1235: "How I made your majors disappear." Or we would all benefit from taking SCM 1101: "How to work only 20 hours a week and still make \$69,000 a year!"

And as Rubio recently told *The Miami Herald* in August, he may teach more than 20 hours a week if

he "likes" it here. So please, do all you can to make his brief weekly visits to our school as pleasant as possible. Please don't start telling him stories about how your major was cut or how your little sister's teacher got fired or your club's adviser got laid off. That will probably make him really uncomfortable.

Remember, we want him to like us.

He's also still in the state legislature, and he's probably busy thinking about how much they'll be cutting from education next year. So please, leave him alone, and just bask in his magnificence.

Whatever you do, please don't call the department responsible for employing him, the Metropolitan Center (305-349-1251). And don't write to *The Beacon*, *The Miami Herald* and *The Sun-Sentinel* to express your outrage. Because if you do that, our school might start to reconsider hiring him.

And why would we possibly want that?

## HEALTHY RETREAT

### Focusing on helping students gain newfound confidence

**DIANA JORDAN**  
Contributing Writer

The Art of Living is an internationally recognized organization interested in promoting community service and dedicated to helping all individuals find clarity and peace.

The Yes! + division of the organization, which will be visiting FIU, is committed to reaching young, university-age students.

The retreat is open to all students and will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 23, through Friday, Sept. 26, from 7 to 10 p.m.; on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 4 to 10 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 28, from 7 to 10 p.m. Problems confronting university students, such as time management, will be discussed and students will be given the opportunity to unwind from their hectic schedules.

The cost of the program is \$200. This price allows those who have participated in the program once to participate multiple times on a donation basis and also includes follow-up sessions.

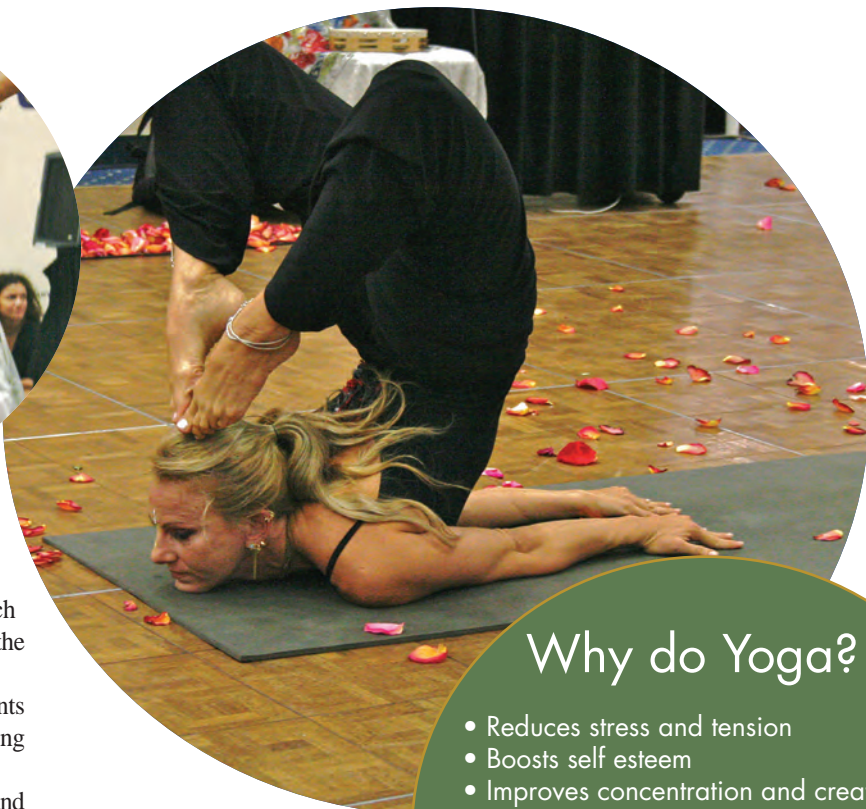
Along with renewal retreats, the organization also focuses on serving the local and international community by catering to those experiencing natural disasters or extreme poverty.

Members of the organization recently visited Haiti and have traveled to countries stricken by natural disasters such as India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand in the past, along with states like New Orleans and Mississippi devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

The organization's ultimate goal is for members to realize they can make a difference in the world. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the founder of The Art of Living and current World Wisdom Scholar in Residence, will also be on campus on Nov. 4 and 5 speaking about finding inner peace and giving back to the community through charitable acts such as food drives. FIU is the first school he will have visited.

The organization is working closely with the yoga club at FIU, which is facilitating all events and seminars. The week-long retreat at FIU will be a joint effort by the two groups and will be a way to initiate the beginning term of a new president, Leonor Armas, and celebrate the one-year anniversary of the club at FIU.

The word yoga means union in Sanskrit -



- an appropriate origin because yoga is the union of the body, soul and mind. The club's main goal is to promote an internal balance within each of its members and teach about the impact humans have on others in the community and on the world around them.

The yoga club is free of charge to students and open to anyone wanting to try something new.

A Divinity and Femininity luncheon and exposition, was held on Friday, Sept. 5 in the Graham Center. It will also be sponsoring free yoga sessions on Wednesdays from 12 to 1 p.m. on the lawn in front of Graham Center.

The club stresses that beginners are more than welcome to come try a session. In addition to finding an inner balance, members also improve their posture and breathing, are more relaxed in general and find they can handle situations with positive, confident attitudes.

Armas believes that through yoga comes clarity, which is followed by choice and ultimately, power.

By practicing yoga, students will not only improve physically but also mentally, and will gain a newfound sense of awareness.

The yoga club is always searching for students who want to learn a new form of exercise, find a sense of inner peace or simply wish to make new friends.

Together, the Art of Living and the yoga club will teach participants and members how minor changes to their lives can result in a greater awareness of the world around them and how they can be integral components in aiding those in dire need on local and international scales.

### Why do Yoga?

- Reduces stress and tension
- Boosts self esteem
- Improves concentration and creativity
- Lowers fat
- Improves circulation
- Stimulates the immune system
- Creates sense of well being and calm

<http://www.yogasite.com>



FRANKIE TABOAS/THE BEACON

## Art show brings politicians under the big top

Politicians may not be the most artistic of people, but that doesn't mean politicians can't be art. Last Friday, I went to Florida Atlantic University to view the latest art show on display at the Ritter Gallery, Boca Raton Campus. The exhibition's theme, "Political Circus," intrigued me because of all the commotion this year over Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, as well as the band of Republicans including John McCain and Sarah Palin.

In previous presidential politics and races, there were controversies, spoofs, pastiches and parodies, all

highlighted and simplified into satirical memorabilia from bumper stickers and refrigerator magnets, to performances aired on *Saturday Night Live*. I was instantly delighted when driving behind a bumper, sporting the next clever Bush joke, or seeing a mocking, obnoxious refrigerator magnet.

In "Political Circus" there is quite an array of graphic designers on a rampage and silk screens of fury, such as Obama the Vulcan, or Abraham Lincoln with an afro, referencing the race card.

The Hilary Clinton nut-cracker plastic doll, also referring to her



ART BY KENNETH TIN-KIN HUNG

ball buster stigma, pulled out the gender card. My favorite though, was McCain, spelled with the capitalized "C" as a wheel chair.

"These items attempt to discredit and besmirch candidates by

using distortions, epithets, powerful symbols and negative stereotypes rooted in racism, misogyny, homophobia, gender policing and ageism," said the exhibition's curator, Jane Caputi, also a professor

at FAU of Women's Studies.

Caputi creates a sideshow, inverting the no-no's of America; one of the T-shirts on display read "Welcome to the Freik Show!"

Aside from feeling like you've just walked into Spencer's, there are a select few works deemed real art that take it over-the-top. Among them, a few represent the higher-end of the art world, two of them being African American artist Kara Walker and Asian artist Kenneth Tin-Kin Hung. Local celebrities from FIU, Pip Brandt and Kate Kretz, were among the high-enders.

Brandt is a professor of art and

# Big name sequels fill this fall's game line-up

Due to the exorbitant amount of must-play video games released every fall, it's not uncommon to find gamers who overdraft their bank accounts, stay locked indoors for weeks at a time or have to explain to their significant others that going out on Saturday night is no longer an option. Here are a few stellar titles to look out for when selecting what game will gobble up your study time.

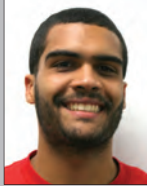
## FABLE II (XBOX 360)

The predecessor was hyped by its creator Peter Molyneux as the greatest role-playing game of all time, yet the original *Fable*, a fairly good game, did not deliver on its promise.

With *Fable II*, Molyneux hasn't made statements as bold as his previous ones, yet he is still aiming to give fans of the role playing genre a truly unique experience. Taking place 500 years after the original title, this ambi-

tious role playing game introduces guns into the world of Albion, a pet dog that acts as the player's companion throughout the game and online cooperative play. *Fable II* hits shelves Oct. 21.

## GAMES GALORE



JONATHAN  
DAVILA

## RESISTANCE 2 (PLAYSTATION 3)

The follow-up to the highly successful PS3 launch game, *Resistance 2* takes place right where the original left off – with main character Nathan Hale left stranded in a snowfield, armed with only one grenade. *Resistance 2* will feature two campaigns: a single player campaign and a cooperative campaign.

The cooperative campaign can be played with up to eight of your buddies online via the PlayStation Network, or two players on a split screen. The online fun doesn't end there. *Resistance 2*'s multiplayer offering will boast unprecedented online matches containing up to 60 players. Yes, that is a six and a zero.

The war against the Chimera continues when this greatly anticipated first-person adventure releases Nov. 4.

## GEARS OF WAR 2 (XBOX 360)

Continuing this fall's sequel trend, Epic Games plans to blow our minds on Nov. 7 with the release of *Gears of War 2*. This game has been dubbed by lead designer Cliff Bleszinski as, "bigger, badder and more badass" than the first iteration of the franchise.

Epic hopes to deliver not only a bigger, "badder" single player experience, but a more polished, less glitch-heavy multiplayer experience, after the original's online multiplayer was plagued by several bugs.

Players will again fill the shoes of chainsaw-wielding main character Marcus Fenix as he leads his squadron into the next chapter of the war against the Locust. Besides new weapons and new enemies, everything about *Gears 2* looks bigger, "badder" and – you get the point.

## PRINCE OF PERSIA (XBOX 360 & PS3 & PC)

Ditching the number or subtitle to indicate this as a sequel to *Prince of Persia: The Two Thrones*, shows Ubisoft is ready to redefine its beloved Prince of Persia franchise.

Choosing to go with a more Saturday morning cartoon appearance, the new Prince, which releases on Nov. 18, looks like a masterful work of art in the making.

Aside from the change in graphic style, the next Prince features a new battle system in which the player will only fight one enemy at a time and a new supporting character, Elika, who is intrinsically woven into the gameplay.

Gone is the Sands of Time gameplay in which the player could rewind time in order to escape death. Now, the player only has Elika as his aid. Don't let the change scare you. Prince will still contain the acrobatics and puzzle solving that fans of this third-person adventure game love.

# Gallery explores art, irony throughout modern politics

## POLITICAL CIRCUS, page 5

Kretz recently departed from the art and art history department.

My top three picks of the show are significantly varied, from little experience to tenured, much like the current political race.

Pip Brandt, "The Flying Carpet," 2007 – Brandt creates a fun play on the children's story, *Aladdin* and its political hierarchy taking place in the Middle East as the story of a

peasant boy becoming a prince.

Yet Brandt parodies this tale through the bitter reality in America and other parts of the world that depend on gasoline from the Middle East as she inserts the steel framing and head-lights of a Dodge pick up truck.

The push pedals she uses, (she likes to sew) create a segway of interaction with her mechanism. When pushing both pedals, the heads lights turn on and a loud thumping

sound occurs, reminding participants of sex in a car, possibly suggesting how gasoline prices are screwing us.

Kenneth Tin-Kin Hung, "Because Washington is Hollywood for Ugly People," 2007 – was one of the most popular pieces at the show. It consisted of five minutes of pure satire, depicting all the political celebrities in compromising positions. It reminded me of the brilliant television show *South Park*.

Alexis Foutz, "Untitled," 2008 – Foutz's work charmed me. She was quite rebellious, creating a small work that lacked any political paraphernalia, and she represented her own ideology. Ironically, her mother looks identical to Palin.

"Political Circus" will be exhibited from Sept. 5 to Nov. 1 at FAU's Ritter Art Gallery. For more information, go to [www.fau.edu/galleries](http://www.fau.edu/galleries).

who wants you to be  
well connected?

**mark.**

meet **mark** and get hooked up with  
free stuff

**WHERE:** Florida International University Bookstore  
**RALLY:** 9/16 • 4-6pm  
**EVENT:** 9/17-19, 9/22-23 • 11am-4pm

# Soccer teams remain winless

**JONATHAN RAMOS**  
Asst. Sports Editor

less on the season. Yohance Marshalls' late goal, which was the first FIU goal by a player other than forward Juan Guerra this season, was the last of the game as the Golden Panthers lost 2-1 on Sept. 13, despite having three more shots on goal than the host Bulls. FIU will continue its search for a first victory when they host Fairfield on Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. The upcoming game will be the first of two home games for the Golden Panthers.

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Golden Panthers lost their seventh straight game on Sept. 14, as Caly Poly scored five unanswered goals. FIU (0-7), allowed four goals in the first half as Poly quickly put the game out of the Golden Panthers hands.

Despite goalie Melanie Raimo's seven stopped shots, Poly's offense was too overpowering for the defense.

The Golden Panthers have not scored a goal in five meetings, as they enter a two game home stand beginning Sept. 19 when they host Middle Tennessee.

# Golden Panthers get it together, ORU defeated in final round

**JULIAN, page 8**

build the momentum 6-1 in the second set. That's when things went south. That's when the wheels came off and the adversity started. A moment later the set was tied at 6, and another moment later Oral Roberts had a 10-6 lead.

The Golden Eagles kept pressing ... 16-9, then 21-12. ORU took the set 25-13, and the Golden Panthers hadn't responded to the ORU run ... at all. In fact they had folded, like at Iowa State.

In the fourth set, heart tried to take over for FIU. The set was back and forth, three lead changes and nine ties later, Oral Roberts led 22-21. FIU needed something good to happen.

Error by ORU ... kill by Yarimar Rosa

... control, now time to finish. The Golden Panthers held on to win set four. They'd picked themselves up off the mat after being knocked down, in their own building. They gutted out a bad situation, and were in a first to 15 fifth set.

After trading points early, the Golden Panthers took control, winning the set 15-11, but the real story of the match, and perhaps the tournament, was what FIU learned.

Coach Daniela Tomic called it "inconsistency." Yarimar Rosa said her team came apart when she and her teammates' communication broke down in the third set, citing "fighting" on the floor, leading to indecision.

What ever it was that pulled them apart, the Golden Panthers pulled it back together. They learned how to find a way.

Composure is one of the most important intangibles any team can have, and almost a have to have. Having been named a contender is one thing, and the Golden Panthers were named just that at the beginning of this season, but to be one is about becoming one, and is an entirely different animal.

Learning how to win is step one, and FIU stepped up to win its home tournament.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free trips to Israel for Jews 18-27 years old. KabbaLah and other Jewish classes, some accredited, and Shabbat dinners available. Join us for Rush Hashanah services, no charge! For more information, call 305-770-1919, visit www.UnShuL.com, www.jLiFlorida.com or www.ChabadChayil.org

**Your Room Is Ready!** Furnished room, bath. Short drive from campus, \$500 month, \$500 deposit. Includes utilities and club. INTERNET. Smoke-free. Drug-free. 305-905-5055. abbasone@earthlink.net

Apartment 4 Rent 1 & 2 Bdr. Completely Remodeled, pool, gym, Sauna, Laundry on site Frank 786-262-5520

Furnished room with Direct TV for non-smoking student. Share home with two working adults-\$450 per month. Dogs on property. 34th St and 104 Ct. Contact Eric (305)479-8598 or Marilyn (305)227-2211 or email mbrl1030@hotmail.com

### Bird Tire Auto Center

10875 SW 40th Street  
Miami, FL 33165  
305-221-0474




Bird Tire & Custom Muffler Center Have Joined Forces to Bring You the Best In Custom Designed Aluminized or Stainless Steel Exhaust Systems & Complete Original Replacement Systems, "Lifetime" Limited or Entire System Warranties Available.

• VORTEX • FLOWMASTER • SUPREME DIESEL • VOLT • MUSTANG PERFORMANCE •
• ELIMINATOR TURBO • METAL CAT • CMX CONVERTER •

Grand Opening  
Specials  
(Good only for a limited time)


Take \$20.00 Off  
Any Stainless Muffler for  
Import Cars

Vortex Muffler, Aluminized  
Pipe, & Chrome Tips  
Starting @ \$195.95



## Morris on Campus

Life According to an Upperclassman




Descartes said:

"I think, therefore I am...  
opening a free  
checking account."

Seriously, he said that.

For more free financial life lessons, like how to get the Student Package with free checking\*, a savings account with Keep the Change®\*\* and Online Banking service, check out my online show at [bankofamerica.com/oncampus](http://bankofamerica.com/oncampus)

8585 Coral Way 305.264.9521  
13730 S.W. 8th Street 305.227.8437  
2680 N.W. 107th Avenue 305.468.1866



September 27, 2008  
[www.atlantafootballclassic.com](http://www.atlantafootballclassic.com)

\*CampusEdge® Checking is free of a monthly maintenance fee for five years while you are a student. Student status will be validated upon account opening. After the first five years, your CampusEdge Checking account will be automatically upgraded to MyAccess Checking®. The monthly maintenance fee of \$5.95 for MyAccess Checking will be waived as long as you have a monthly direct deposit. Fees for overdrafts and other account-related fees still apply. \*\*You must open both a new personal checking account and a new Regular Savings account (referred to as Unlinked Market Rate Savings in ID and WA) at the same time, sign up for our Keep the Change service, and use your check card to make a purchase within 90 days of account opening. This offer does not apply to current Bank of America customers or existing accounts. We may change or terminate this offer at any time. The monthly maintenance fee (referred to as "monthly service charge" in CA) waiver on your Regular Savings account begins after your first Keep the Change transfer from your new personal checking account to your new Regular Savings account. Excess transaction fees on Regular Savings still apply. See our Personal Schedule of Fees for information about these accounts and our Keep the Change service. Keep the Change, Patent Pending. Bank of America, N.A. Member FDIC. © 2008 Bank of America Corporation.



# CHAMPIONS



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**CONTINUED SUCCESS:** The Golden Panthers (9-1) continued its strong start by defeating Penn, UCF and Oral Roberts in the first FIU Invitational Tournament since 2006.

*Team continuing to learn to win regardless of record, early success*

The 9-1 start isn't a surprise to some, after all, the Golden Panthers ranked third in the pre-season Sun Belt poll, boasted two all conference selections and the pre-season player of the year.

The biggest surprise may have been the loss, and not so much losing on the road to Iowa State on Sept. 6, which began the season ranked No. 18 by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, but how the Golden Panthers played.

Considering FIU was coming off an impressive road victory over the then No. 19 Clemson Tigers (25-21, 25-22, 23-25, 26-24), to win Clemson's home tournament, the Big Orange Bash, was quite a perplexing finish at the Blue Raider Bash in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The Golden Panthers dropped their contest against Iowa State, in straight sets, 25-18, 25-9, 25-6, in a contest where stating that FIU

faded down the stretch would be a tremendous understatement. The Golden Panthers turned in the worst performance of the season at a curious time, with only 24 kills, and attack percentage of .071. The defense wasn't much better, only blocking three shots and allowing the Cyclones a sizzling .451 attack percentage.

Some of the blowout could be chalked up to fatigue. It was FIU's third game in two days; some of their performance to the caliber of opponent. The Cyclones (8-3) were a ranked opponent, and are still, receiving votes in the AVCA poll. I think the majority of the issue was not being able to recover when faced with adversity on the road.

In every college sport, consistency and composure are at an absolute premium, and although some would say the phrases are over used, it truly is difficult to get up for every

game, and win on the road.

Throw in the loss of five seniors, and only having two fourth year letter winners on this year's team, and that makes finding leaders that much more difficult. Add all that together and set the stage for the FIU Invitational, a weekend where the Golden Panthers hosted Oral Roberts, Penn, and UCF, with a chance to bounce back.

The first two matches, sweeps against Central Florida and Pennsylvania, allowed FIU to get back into their rhythm, moving to 8-1, but the most interesting match took place against Oral Roberts. FIU dropped the first set (20-25), for only the second time this season (see Iowa State), but rebounded to win the second 25-17. FIU found itself in a dogfight, and for just the second time this season, FIU was in a match tied at a set apiece.

The Golden Panthers looked to

COMMENTARY



ANDREW JULIAN

JULIAN, page 7

## Golden Panthers win tournament

ANDREW JULIAN  
Sports Director

The Golden Panthers' Women's volleyball team won the FIU Invitational tournament on Sept. 13 at the FIU Arena.

Led by two-time All-American, and tournament MVP Yarimar Rosa (JR, Vega Baja, Puerto Rico), FIU captured the championship, after failing to do so the last time FIU held its home tournament in 2006.

FIU swept its first two matches, Sept 12 against UCF (25-23, 25-17, 25-19), getting contributions from all around.

Rosa led the way in kills with 13, and Natalia Valentin (SO, Caguas, Puerto Rico) registered 21 assists and 11 digs.

In the second contest, on Sept 13, FIU toppled the Penn Quakers in straight sets, (25-11, 25-19, 25-19). Three Golden Panthers registered double-digit digs, Mariana Drumeva (SR, Sofia, Bulgaria) had 15, a season best, Valentin had 12, and junior Isadora Rangel (Sao Paulo, Brazil) tied a career high with 11.

FIU took on Oral Roberts in the third match, and it was the Golden Panthers' first five set match of the season, as FIU struggled at times in the match, but ultimately prevailed 20-25, 25-17, 13-25, 25-23, 15-11.

Drumeva and Rangel were named to the all tournament team.

FIU will be in action Sept. 19, when they travel to Birmingham, Alabama for the UAB/Samford Invitational. The other participants in the tournament will be Tenn.-Chattanooga, Memphis, and hosts UAB.