

7-29-2009

The Beacon, July 29, 2009

Florida International University

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New Red Light Camera Program catches runners

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Microsoft strikes back at Apple with "Laptop Hunter" ads

PAGE 4

SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

The School of Hospitality Management has a new interim dean looking to increase the student body.

EDITORIAL PAGE 4

Twenty-three years of service; reflecting on Modesto Maidique's legacy and contributions to FIU.

OPINION PAGE 4



The infamous Pirate Bay's closure won't keep downloaders from e-plundering.

LIFE! PAGE 5



Concert showcases talents of veteran acts and shortcomings of some newer ones.

LIFE! PAGE 6

Highly anticipated Reefer Madness provides the powerful euphoria of laughter.

SPORTS PAGE 8



Sun Belt Conference expands media exposure and saves money by switching press conferences to an online video format.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tori Amos, July 29, 7:30 p.m. Come see an early '90s staple at The Fillmore Miami Beach, tickets range in price from \$37.50- \$63.00.

Mystery on the Menu, July 30, 7 p.m. Help solve a murder while watching a one-woman show at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden for \$20.

Beauty On The Beach, July 31, 6:30 p.m. See the history of beachwear at The Wolfsonian-FIU for free!

Miami Salsa Congress, August 1, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Get your dancing feet on and come out for salsa workshops; prices range from \$15-100.

WEATHER



WEDNESDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 80 HIGH: 89



THURSDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 81 HIGH: 90



FRIDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 80 HIGH: 90

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BBC ADMINISTRATION

Abrupt departure paves way for change

PAMELA DUQUE
BBC Managing Editor

After the departure of two University officials, Joseph J. West, the Biscayne Bay Campus vice provost, announced his unexpected resignation.

West, who was also the former dean of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, announced his resignation from both positions five



MOLL

months after agreeing to stay as vice provost until August 2010.

The announcement was made through a University-wide e-mail sent June 11.

"After 10 years as dean, a return to the faculty is too tempting to further postpone," said Douglas Wartzok, interim provost and executive vice president, about West in the e-mail. "Accordingly, he has indicated that he will step down from

both positions on July 1, 2009 and take his long-delayed sabbatical during the 2009-10 year."

In an interview with *The Beacon*, West said his decision followed the resignation of the two administrators who initially asked him to delay his sabbatical. He tried to resign a year ago, but when a national search failed to produce a viable candidate, West told then Provost Ronald Berkman that he would stay until reaffirmation of HTM was complete.

"Then things changed. Berkman left, we had a new president coming in, and I just decided that I would step down," West said.

Berkman applied for the University's presidency and withdrew his application in April. Two weeks later, Vivian Sanchez resigned from her position as chief financial officer.

"It was more the fact that Sanchez and Berkman left. I enjoyed working

VICE PROVOST, page 3

PICK AND CHOOSE



ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

NEW HOME: President-designate Mark Rosenberg, accompanied by museum Director Carol Damian, toured the Frost Art Museum on July 23. He searched for student or faculty artwork for his new house, the Ronald Regan Presidential House, where he moves in with his family in the beginning of August.

MEDICAL SCHOOL

Depression risks addressed

New lecture informs, warns medical students about disease

DIANA JORDAN
Staff Writer

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine is ensuring its incoming students' well-being is a top priority in its agenda, even before the official commencement of classes in August.

Dr. Heidi von Harscher, director of the Counseling and Wellness Center at the college, presented medical students with a lecture, "Depression in Medical Students, Residents and Physicians" on July 23,

which shed light on a prevalent issue affecting thousands of physicians a year.

"[Depression] is a disease," said von Harscher, who spoke about the impact depression could have on not only physicians but their patients as well.

Claiming approximately 400 physicians' lives a year, depression can be detected by telltale signs including lack of personal hygiene, odd sleeping patterns and seclusion from loved ones.

Von Harscher warned, however, that detecting the disease in medical students

could be more difficult due to the stress and depression-like symptoms that come with the territory.

She explained that there are reasons other than the typical stress and pressure medical school brings, such as genetic predispositions, the reason depression has become so commonplace in medical settings.

"FIU's Counseling and Wellness Center has made it a priority to keep the University's students aware of these issues by hosting lectures and providing counseling and medical services for students that need it," said Susie Novoa,

MED SCHOOL, page 2

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE

Manrara eliminated from dance competition

ELSIE PUIG
Staff Writer

Jeanette Manrara, one of the last eight contestants on "So You Think You Can Dance" was eliminated on Thursday along with Jason Glover after viewers gave them the least amount of votes.

"It was a big shock for me to be eliminated since I had received good commentary throughout the season," said Manrara, a finance major. "I really liked when Nigel Lythgoe said that it had ruined his 100th episode seeing me eliminated, he really wanted to see me win."

Manrara, who came back to Miami on July

MANRARA, page 2

Former marching band member dies in power line accident

JORGE VALENS
Asst. News Director

Myles Davis, an FIU jazz performance major, passed away on July 23.

Davis, 21, was a former member of the Golden Panther Band and a trumpet player for the Florida National Guard Army Band.

According to *The Miami Herald*, Davis was killed after trying to move a downed power line with his bare hands after a storm.

"I always admired his talent as a trumpet



DAVIS

DAVIS, page 2

NEWS FLASH

FIU

University to pay tribute to Maidique

The University will offer a ceremony to Modesto A. Maidique on August 3 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

The entire University community was invited to the event and tickets are needed in order to attend.

According to an e-mail sent by Jaffus Hardrick, vice president for Human Resources, the event will "attract dignitaries and community leaders from throughout the state."

Maidique announced his resignation last November after 23 years of service to Florida International University.

He will continue with the University, however, as the director of the Center of Leadership.

Mark Rosenberg, former FIU provost and chancellor of the Florida Board of Governors, was voted by the Board of Trustees and approved by the BOG to replace Maidique. His term starts on August 4.

For more information contact Division of Human Resources at (305) 348-2181.

LOCAL

Florida will begin its two-day lobster mini-season this week

The mini-season will last from 12:01 a.m. July 29 to Thursday, July 30 at midnight.

According to CBS4, lobster mini-season leads to higher than usual activity in Florida's coastal waterways as boaters and divers will be searching for the perfect catch.

Officials urge divers to file float plans with the U.S. Coast Guard and observe the proper rules for the season.

Divers are limited to six lobsters per person.

– Compiled by Julia Cardenuto and Jorge Valens

SGC-MC

Internship program approved

FRANK MARADIAGA
Staff Writer

The executive branch at Maidique Campus unveiled a fall internship program for student government members, and set a date for the start of their fall plans during their July 22 meeting.

SGC-MC Vice President Mykaelle "Myka" Figueiredo announced the approval by the Department of Public Administration to allow SGA members to double their positions in SGA as an internship.

"[The internship] will not be a walk in the park," Figueiredo said.

According to the syllabus provided by Figueiredo, participants can receive three credit hours if they intern for a minimum of 10 hours per week, or six credits for 20 hours per week. The purpose stated in the syllabus is to give students the opportunity to gain meaningful work experience in public and nonprofit organizations.

The participants will be working on their SGA office responsibilities, as well as goals they are to develop on their own.

"There is going to be an extra motivation to do your jobs, and do your

job well," Figueiredo said.

The grading includes a 10-page term paper, and a mid-term and final evaluation. The evaluations will be two-fold; one is a self evaluation, and the other is administered by the internship supervisor. According to the vice president, the internship supervisor will be SGA advisor Jose Toscano.

The program will take about 15 juniors and seniors, though Figueiredo said she would try to push it up to around 20.

If the pilot program is a success, Figueiredo hopes to push this program to other organizations at the University.

"We have been trying to do it for the last three years," she said. "So this is a great achievement for SGC-MC."

In the meeting SGC-MC President Anthony Rionda declared the week of August 3 to be the start for SGA's plans for fall.

Rionda called it "a new era for

student government."

"The problems of the past are over," he said.

The "new era" will have an updated Web site, and concern for the problems of students.

Those concerns, according to the president, will be taken in through forums hosted by SGA and the addition of an interactive blog on the Web site.

The hope is to get the student body to see student government as their first stop for all their problems.

"We have to be that clearing house for their problems," Rionda said.

Rionda also set a goal for SGA to be a promoter of school spirit with an emphasis on getting students to go to class and get their degrees. The reasoning being the effect on the quality of the degrees, students starting their careers earlier, and avoiding a more expensive school run as Florida continues to raise tuition.

College helps tackle, prevent depression

MED SCHOOL, page 1

a graduate student in the mental health counseling program.

"I think FIU's active role in keeping students informed of the various medical issues and illnesses that are occurring in today's society is a step in the right direction."

Many medical students in attendance such as Patricio Lau were drawn aback by the statistics presented.

"The research really surprised me, and it was shocking to find the rate of depression among medical students is 15 to 30 percent higher when compared to the rest of the population," he said. "Fortunately, the college is really looking for ways to help its current and

future students so that this will not be an issue for us."

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, there is a higher completion-to-attempt ratio among physicians due to their access to and knowledge of the lethality of drugs.

Along with hosting lectures, the college is also offering free, on-site counseling to any medical student wishing to receive treatment by licensed psychologists which will remain confidential and off student records unless the student has intentions of harming themselves or others.

"I think that providing medical students with a lecture about battling depression is a proactive approach to ensure that they are able to provide their

patients with the best care possible in the future," said Kayla Cruz, a sophomore and health services administration major.

The Counseling and Wellness Center expects to become a model institution for combating depression among medical students by providing holistic and preventative care through meditation and stress management techniques.

"It is important for both medical and counseling professionals to be healthy. No one wants an out-of-shape trainer at a gym and the same applies to doctors and counselors," Novoa said.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with the Counseling and Wellness Center call (305) 348-1460 or pass by GL 340.

Competition opens doors to dancer's dream

MANRARA, page 1

26, was received with a big celebration of 150 of her closest friends and family.

"I really missed my family, and all the 'cubanness' of Miami," Manrara said. "In L.A. there were no *pastelitos*, or *cafe con leche*."

She remembered asking the mother of Jeanine Mason (fellow contestant and Miami native) to bring *pastelitos* from Miami.

Manrara will leave on Tuesday for New Jersey, where a dance studio called her to give dance classes for

two days.

She comes back to Miami on July 30 and on Aug. 1 she leaves for L.A. to rehearse for the grand finale of the show which airs on Aug. 5.

Manrara comes back to Miami for two weeks before leaving on the Top 20 national tour.

Manrara plans to return to L.A., find an agent, and pursue her career in acting and dance.

"Although I do plan on finishing my bachelor's degree, I think this is the moment for me to focus on pursuing this dream," she said.

Friend: Davis was adventurous

DAVIS, page 1

player and his ability to make people laugh and smile regardless of the situation," said Ernesto Fernandez, former Golden

Panther Band drum major and Davis's friend. "He was adventurous, energetic and full of life."

Services for Davis were held on July 27.

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated July 22, the editorial titled, "CLAST repeal indicates financial smarts, but students will suffer" stated that students would be forced to take additional classes due to the cancellation of the CLAST. In fact, most of the classes are basic requirements and only students who didn't get the minimum grade (C) would have to retake the class.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

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The Beacon is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. The Beacon is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. The Beacon is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.

The Beacon office is located in the Graham Center, Room 210, at the Maidique Campus. Questions regarding display advertising and billing should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 305-348-2709. 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. Visit us online at: www.fiusm.com.

New campus vice provost announces future goals

VICE PROVOST, page 1

with them. We were a good team, and I made a promise to them, and then they turned around and left," West said. "So I decided it was time for me to leave."

West also said that if both Sanchez and Berkman had stayed, he would still be holding his positions.

"I would've stayed, because I promised them I would," West said. "I'm a man of my word."

Since July 1, the vice provost position has been filled by a faculty member of HTM.

Steven Moll, associate professor and faculty chair in HTM, agreed to serve as interim vice provost.

Moll has been a professor of accounting, finance, operations management, and management for the past 32 years, with a bachelor's degree in hotel administration, and a master's in hotel and food service management from the University, he is no stranger to the school.

"When I started here, BBC didn't exist. FIU was two years old," Moll told *The Beacon*. "I've witnessed it from birth until today."

Moll was also the director of the College of Business Administration at BBC.

"As the vice provost, I look at my job as being the thread that ties us all together to make a beautiful cloth," said Moll. "I'm excited about this job, and I think it is an extraordinary challenge for me. I want to show the University administration that they made a good choice, and that the students and staff and faculty will all find this a better place to study and to work."

Leaving his position behind, West feels confident that someone from HTM will do the job.

"I think Moll is a good man, a good person for the job," said West. "In order to do well in hospitality, you have to get along with people, and he can get along with people. And if you're doing the right thing, and you can show people to do the right thing, you won't have problems."

West's tenure as interim vice provost began in the summer of 2008, when former BBC Vice

Provost Damian Fernandez resigned.

"I'm happy because it is necessary, and I'm happy that I can do it," said West in an interview with *The Beacon* on January 2009, when he accepted the BBC vice provost position. "It would be nice to be on sabbatical now, but I understand the situation. We have budget cuts, we're constrained, this is a difficult time. I can do the job."

As vice provost, West started a customer service initiative in January. The entire staff at BBC was given the option to participate in a series of classes to improve their customer service skills.

West also helmed a series of initiatives to make the campus greener and more environmentally-friendly, including the hiring of Jennifer Grimm as environmental coordinator in November 2008.

Following West's footsteps, Moll's goals for BBC include making the campus safer, working closely with all the schools for better student participation and continuing to make the campus greener.

"My job is to help create an environment where learning can take place," said Moll. "The classrooms have to be clean and comfortable. We'd like to have more shade trees with tables and chairs underneath, and nicer walkways. If we do this, it would be a much nicer place to be. It needs to be user-friendly to the students. That's the key."

Moll feels his involvement in the University throughout the years will help him accomplish his goals, but he said he will still work one step at a time.

"It won't happen overnight, but eventually we will have more academic programs, more students, more facilities, and it will slowly happen," he said.

West's assessment of what makes an effective leader could also serve as unofficial advice for the new vice provost.

"The vice provost has to use persuasion, tact and politics. I had no problem," West said. "Plus, I had a great staff. You can do it if you have a great staff."

Lights, camera, busted!

Traffic lights near campus outfitted with cameras

IVAN FLORES
Staff Writer

Students who run red lights on their way to campus may now get caught, get their pictures taken and receive a fine of more than \$100 in the mail.

The City of North Miami enacted its Red-Light Safety Camera Program at the entrance of the Biscayne Bay Campus, where cameras can capture drivers running red lights.

Cameras have been installed at the intersection of Biscayne Boulevard and 151st St. and drivers who run red lights may face \$125 fines.

"This is a slippery slope to a loss of privacy," said Rafael Angel, a senior English major. "I don't run red lights because it is dangerous."

But there are students who don't mind the new cameras.

"I feel that the cameras are a necessary evil and they prevent people from running the lights," said Maria Santella, a senior anthropology major.

American Traffic Solutions, a company that has installed almost 1,000 cameras around the country, installed cameras in the intersection of Biscayne Boulevard and 151st St., which is currently under the jurisdiction of the North Miami Police, the North Miami Beach Police and the Miami Dade Police Department, according to Kevin Kennison, a police officer for the City of North Miami.

The Red-Light Camera Safety Program was started by former City of North Miami Mayor Kevin Burns, as well as the North Miami Police Department.

The active warning phase, during which warnings were issued to offenders rather than citations, ended July 21.

"I've already found myself slowing down at yellow lights," said Scott Galvin, City of North Miami councilman and

CAMERAS, page 6

BLINDED BY SCIENCE



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

CHEMICAL REACTION: Priscilla Torres, president of the BBC Science Club and an engineering major, performs an experiment with water, oil and baking soda tablets at the SOC Club Fair hosted on July 22.

Dean resigns, interim chosen

PAMELA DUQUE
BBC Managing Editor

With the sudden resignation of Joseph West as dean and vice provost for the Biscayne Bay Campus, the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management has a new leader.

Joan Remington, former associate dean of HTM, is the new interim dean as of July 1.

Remington has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Hawaii in Manoa, and a doctorate from Willamette University's College of Law in Salem, Oregon. She has worked for the University since 1990, first as a visiting professor in marketing and travel law in HTM, and then as director of career development. She has been associate dean of HTM since July 2005.

"I chose her as an assistant dean and then as associate dean. She has worked with me for six years, and she has been my right hand," West said. "That school is in good hands."

As the new interim dean, Remington said she is looking forward to expanding the school, creating new international programs and increasing the student body.

"I'm taking it one step at a time," she said. "Let's see how it goes."

With her predecessor leaving, Remington said she will continue working and maintaining what West accomplished throughout the years.

West became dean of HTM on July 1, 1999. He said he found a school that lacked equipment, money and history. As dean, his job was to bring the school into the public eye, improve its reputation and make it

economically independent of state funds.

"The school was changing from a young to an old school. It didn't have a lot of money, it didn't have a lot of history, young alumni, and nobody in FIU was used to giving money," said West. "So when I came in, I said it was time to get really active and not depend on the state. It needed money, so that was my task: bring the curriculum up to date and make the school self-sufficient."

During his 10-year term, HTM raised more than \$2.9 million through the South Beach Wine and Food Festival, where students and faculty cooked and mingled with celebrity chefs from the Food Network.

Another accomplishment during West's tenure was the Marriott Tianjin China Program, a partnership between FIU and China. In August 2006, West pushed for the partnership, and the University now has the largest international program in China. The government of China agreed to build a \$50 million University center in the northeast of the country, which became the first U.S. School of Hospitality and Tourism in Tianjin, China.

West said he has a lot to be proud of during his time as dean.

"We got 1,200 students in China. We are the largest American university in China," West said. "Here I was able to come in and take giant steps to make it better than it was."

Remington believes her job as associate dean prepared her for her position as interim dean, not only because she worked closely with West, but also because of her time in the school.

"I've worked very well with Dean West. He gave me a lot of respect as associate dean," Remington told *The Beacon*. "And I've been here for 20 years. It's easy for me to move to the position, and it's a wonderful opportunity. I'm looking forward to the challenges I'm facing and the contributions I can make."

THE BEACON | Editorial

Though imperfect, Mardique leaves behind legacy of accomplishment

When Modesto A. Mardique was appointed president in 1986, the then-University Park campus had eight major buildings. The University also had 16,400 students enrolled and offered eight doctoral programs.

On Aug. 3 Mardique will bequeath to his successor, Mark Rosenberg, a university with more than 38,000 students, a medical school ready to open this fall, an up and coming law school, 30 doctoral programs and a football subdivision program, among other impressive accomplishments, but his tenure has not been all smooth sailing.

The University under Mardique was notorious for its customer service problems, which themselves stem directly from the huge growth the University has experienced in a relatively short time.

The University's infrastructure has not grown accordingly, which is exemplified by a lower student to faculty ratio, 26:1, than other comparable Florida universities.

Last year, Mardique also found himself under fire because of retention deals he signed with former Chief Financial Officer Vivian Sanchez and former University Provost Ronald Berkman.

Mardique supported granting Berkman and Sanchez extensive severance packages and "retention" deals during a time when the University was experiencing drastic budget cuts.

Though it can be argued that the packages were warranted, it was a public relations nightmare when employees were being laid off and majors closed.

Mardique also initially lost a \$20 million dollar donation to the medical school due to a disagreement with the donor, Herbert Wertheim. Luckily, the situation was resolved; the new med school is now named after Wertheim.

While he has at times erred, Mardique's accomplishments are substantial and are not to be overlooked.

During his 23-year tenure, Mardique promoted the University's growth and developed it into a research-oriented institution.

Despite its young age, under Mardique's presidency, the University has entered many extensive projects and created a number of key institutions.

According to Mardique himself, he considers the medical school, the law school and the football program his greatest accomplishments, among transforming FIU from a junior college to a major public research university.

However, this is only one of many benchmarks in the University's history.

When FIU was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society - the most prestigious honor society in the nation - in 2000, it became the youngest member of the academic organization, and the fifth in all of Florida.

Mardique has also overseen the inception of numerous artistic and cultural programs. The School of Architecture was founded in 1997 and later became a full-fledged college nine years later: the College of Architecture and the Arts.

The Frost Art Museum which upgraded its facility from Primera Casa in November 2008 is also a major milestone, featuring historic paintings, artifacts and special lectures.

Mardique's accomplishments are clear when simply looking around campus; more than half the buildings one sees were built during his tenure. More importantly, the various programs that these buildings house are his real legacy.

It is this outstanding if imperfect legacy that Rosenberg will have to build on.

Online music pirating will not be deterred

OLGA VELEZ
Staff Writer

The Swedish software firm Global Gaming Factory X is in the process of purchasing the previously illegal file-sharing Web site known as The Pirate Bay in an attempt to turn it into a profitable business.

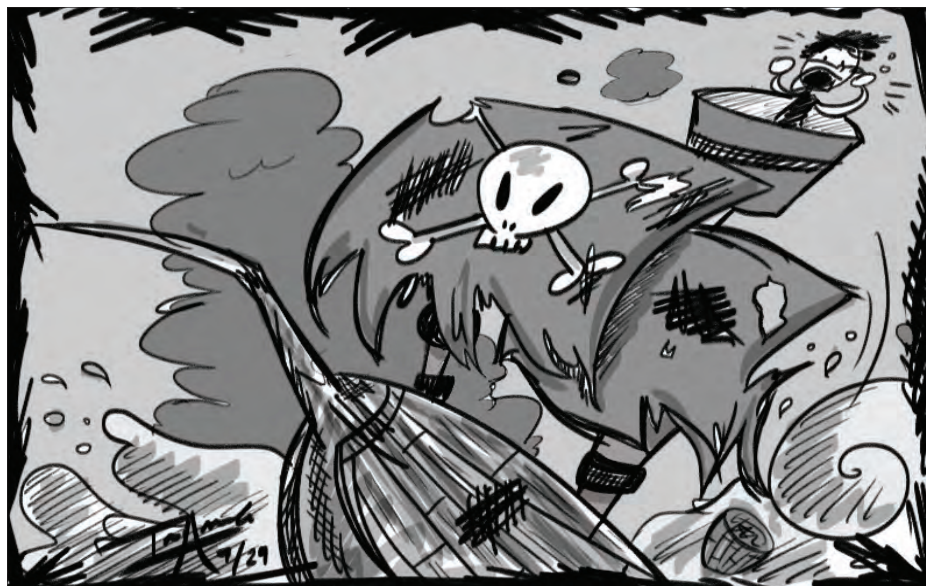
Global Gaming Factory X Chief Executive Hans Pandeya told the Associated Press that the firm is planning to introduce a monthly fee to use the Web site that could be worked off by sharing downloaded content or lending storage capacity to others on their PCs.

The money received from monthly fees would then be given to both the content providers and copyright holders.

"We know that unless we're able to create revenues for the filesharers they'll just move on to the next free site," he said. "Filesharers are our best friends."

As a friend to many who are involved in file-sharing and illegal downloading, I know this will never work.

If there was a way for the users to make money from selling content or storage on the Web site, this plan could possibly work. However, can filesharers make money by



providing content that they don't have the authority to provide in the first place?

This plan just doesn't make any sense. It would only work if there was a way to get rid of all of the illegal file-sharing Web sites and crack down on the majority of illegal downloaders. That way, everyone would be forced to pay the monthly fee for the products that they desire or share storage space instead of paying a monthly fee.

It is also not the first time that an illegal file-sharing Web site has been made to collapse under the weight of corporate interests, or the legal impetus to make its business legitimate. File-sharing Web sites like Napster, Grokster and Kazaa all suffered this same fate.

According to an article from *The Econ-*

omist, the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, an organization that represents the interests of the recording industry worldwide, suggested in a report conducted in January of this year that 95 percent of all music downloads remain illegal.

So, despite the crackdown on file-sharing Web sites and the creation of legal alternatives, the amount of illegal downloading remains high. Until a way to eliminate illegal downloading from the internet is found, there will always be another Pirate Bay or Kazaa lurking in the corner and waiting to become the next largest illegal file-sharing Web site. None of these legal formats will ever be able to convince pirates to change their ways.

Microsoft plays up affordability in anti-Mac commercials

ODETTE BARRIENTOS
Staff Writer

Over the past few years, we've sat in front of our television sets and watched the entertaining (though often annoying), never-ending rivalry between Apple Inc. and the Microsoft Corporation.

Apple began the "Get a Mac" campaign in 2006, attempting to persuade PC users everywhere to switch to the Mac OS X. The first of many ads featured a young, hip, hoodie-wearing guy as the Mac, while the PC was an old, frumpy, office employee who admitted that Macs were "the better choice."

They were brilliant, simplistic ads - mercilessly attacking the PC and all its weaknesses (namely "crashes, viruses, and headaches"). Not only were they humorous, but they were also effective: There was a 51 percent Mac sales increase in late 2008 - the strongest sales in almost two decades, according to *Macworld.com*.

For two years, Microsoft ignored the blatant attacks and retaliated with dry campaigns

that did not harvest as much attention - one of which was the "I'm a PC" campaign.

But Microsoft has finally punched back: Their most recent "Laptop Hunter"

that the PC is the better value proposition.

Many Mac enthusiasts believe this isn't fair.

"As Apple slashed its MacBook price to \$999 in

is indeed overpriced. The programs I use can all be found on a PC (a comparable Dell runs for about \$700).

With the exception of programs like GarageBand,

Microsoft has finally punched back: Their most recent 'Laptop Hunter' campaign has caught my attention, and that of many other Mac enthusiasts.

campaign has caught my attention, and that of many other Mac enthusiasts.

By directly emphasizing the flaws of Macs (which, according to the ads, is the overpricing of the product), Microsoft has done exactly what Apple did since the genesis of this rivalry: attack.

The "Hunter" ads show people shopping for laptops in stores, discussing features and prices they can afford.

When a Mac (although aesthetically prettier) is too pricey and a PC has everything they need, they go for the PC. The point is to prove

June ... the company is reportedly demanding that Microsoft stop running the commercials," according to an article in the *Daily News*.

You reap what you sow. It was only a matter of time before Microsoft launched a response - a real, carefully-calculated one.

Although Apple slashed prices since the ads began running, Microsoft did start running altered versions of their ads, still managing to prove their point.

As a Mac user myself, I believe these ads are fair because I feel that the product

it's difficult to find things that can only be done on OS X.

While both have their pros and cons, the main differences are price and trends. Macs are trendy and more visually appealing than PCs.

The argument that PCs get viruses and Macs don't has nothing to do with the operating system itself. PCs aren't weaker, they're only logical targets. Most of the world uses PCs, why create a virus for Mac users?

Neither is superior to the other. The battle is entertaining to watch, but it's only making Linux look better.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials, send them to opinion@fiusm.com

DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

OPINIONPIECE

11

The increase (by percent) in U.S. home sales during the month of June, indicating a slowing recession.

QUOTATIONATION

"Even if he is a great champion, I have never had admiration for him and I never will."

Alberto Contador
2009 Tour de France winner on his relationship with Lance Armstrong

SEND LETTERS

Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 240 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year, and keep it under 300 words.



ALL PHOTOS BY CHRIS ADAMS/THE BEACON

CRANKED UP: Lead singer Spencer Charnas, Ice Nine Kills, performs the song "The Greatest Story Ever Told" for imitating fans.

Warped '09



AIRTIME: Volunteer skaters of all ages took part in a skate-off on the half pipe located near the Vans Main Stage.

VANS WARPED TOUR 2009

Dependable favorites keep the tour's punk spirit alive

ROSALYN DELGADO
Staff Writer

"Passion before Fashion" was printed on a T-shirt at Warped Tour, and it pretty much summed up this year's festival.

On July 25, with heavy rain clouds looming in the distance, the tour made its yearly visit at the Cruzan Amphitheatre, bringing with it a diverse group of punk/indie/dance/(and sort of odd) rock music.

Upon entering the venue, it was apparent that many bands as well as concertgoers on this year's tour stuck by this principle. Having just missed the heavy downpour of rain that brought the festival to a short stop, there was no problem spotting the attendees who were there to hold up an image of "cool and hipster" apart from those who wanted to enjoy a good old punk rock show regardless of their appearance.

First on the list of bands to check out were Canadian rockers Alexisonfire who took the Hurley Stage by storm, performing in South Florida for the first time in about six years and with their lead singer wearing short Canadian flag print shorts. The band showed that Canada can rock.

Belting old classics like "Boiled Frogs" as well as new songs from their new album, Alexisonfire managed to make grown men scream like girls at a Miley Cyrus concert; those in the mosh pits included.

After they wrapped a set that left their fans satisfied, it was time to take a little stroll. Of course, by stroll I mean claw your way through the traffic jam of people who walked the narrow Cruzan walkways, over to the smart punk stage to check out a band that had been generating a lot of buzz through the Warped Tour circuit.

Standing on the side of the stage watching who I thought was Forever The Sickest Kids, I heard a girl scream next

to me, "Hit The Lights is so awesome!" At that very moment it was clear to me that I had A) Confused band set times so I wasn't watching FTSK, in fact Hit the Lights was on stage and B) All these bands sound the same.

Having abandoned all hope for these Warped Tour newcomers, it was time to once again jump into the sea of humanity and try to slowly and painfully make way to the main stage to watch tour vets Bouncing Souls. The Bouncing Souls put on a show that schooled all other bands on what it is to perform in front of hundreds of sweaty punk rock kids.

Decked out in dirty jeans and sweaty T-shirts this band showed that they indeed put passion before fashion and their fans appreciated every bit of it. 3OH!3 followed and after one song my brain began to yell "Flee!"

Remember that scene in *The Lion King* where little Simba is trying to run in the opposite direction of the stampede of wildebeests? Well that's exactly what it was like trying to fight through the 3OH!3 fans, although instead of wildebeests one had to dodge screaming 15-year-old girls.

By the time they played their radio hit "Don't Trust Me," I decided to give up and give in to the dance party going on all around me. Despite the enthusiasm of their adolescent fans, their performance was less than stellar; the band actually barely sang for much of their set and seemed more interested in looking cool than in putting on a passionate performance.

The festival had its disappointing moments, but also some wonderful highlights. The best performances came from bands like Senses Fail who left everyone with an intense musical rush and Streetlight Manifesto who solidified the presence of ska music on this year's tour.

WARPED, page 6



FRONT ROW: (From left to right) Daniela Rivera and FIU students Patty Rivera, junior psychology major, and Amina Homeidan, junior psychology major, await upcoming 3OH!3.



HANG TEN: Fans crowd surfed to the front, at the request from the members of Less Than Jake.

Undersized venue creates frustration

WARPED, page 5

Less Than Jake was a good example of what it is to be a great Warped Tour band, with the most crowd surfing any band had all day. At one point, the band offered a prize for the first fan to ride an inflatable whale atop the crowd and make it to the stage.

At Warped Tour, there were two kinds of bands, the ones that made you want to scream-your-head-off-and-break-everything-around-you and the ones like Chiodos, who stopped their set to make sure that an injured fan in the middle of a mosh pit was able to be safely removed from the crowd. Despite the interruption, the band put on an energetic set that left their fans screaming for more.

A lot of up-and-coming local bands had the chance to showcase their talent during the tour, but not all succeeded in making a good impression.

South Florida rockers I Set My Friends on Fire had a bad vocal day, while other rockers like Versa Emerge and There for Tomorrow put on a fairly entertaining show. The lowest of the lows and probably the most unsurprising annoyance of Warped Tour 2009 was the venue.

It is obvious that Cruzan was not a good location for the festival, with narrow walkways and accident-prone sidewalks, simply walking through the festival was extremely tedious. Concertgoers ended up in the middle of sweaty human traffic jams.

Having to deal with 25-minute human traffic jams, or watch some bands that cared more about the clothes and flashy sneakers they had on than the crowd in front of them was frustrating. Despite this, the “passion” of the good bands once again prevailed over the lesser, more fashionable acts at Warped Tour, and that’s why the tour continues to attract thousands of fans every year.

Traffic light violations may cost up to \$125

CAMERAS, page 3

University alumn.

A City of North Miami press release stated that three additional intersections will have camera systems installed: N.W. 135th Street and N.W. 7th Avenue, N.E. 135th Street and N.E. 6th Avenue, as well as the N.E. 125th Street and N.E. 6th Avenue.

The camera systems are leased per contract, and the equipment remains owned and maintained by ATS, according to Josh Weiss, director of communications and public affairs for ATS.

They do not cost the taxpayers any money because the program is

The original image is then cropped around the license plate.

A 12-second video is also recorded along with the still images. The evidence is then sent to the local municipality for review.

“Both shots must show that the light is red, as no citations can be issued if the light is green or yellow,” Weiss said.

ATS chose to install cameras at the intersection of Biscayne Boulevard and 151st St. due to the high number of violators during the testing phase, according to Kennison.

Violators who receive the citations in the mail have an option to pay online.

Even when citations are issued,

I feel that the cameras are a necessary evil and they prevent people from running the lights.

Maria Santella, student
FIU

paid for entirely by violators.

However, it is unclear exactly how the money is divided up between ATS and the City of North Miami.

“I’m unable to speak about local programs and their details,” Weiss said.

To catch violators, there are sensors installed before the cross walk at each intersection.

As a vehicle rolls over the sensor while the light is red, the camera system is triggered and two pictures are taken.

The first shot is a picture of the vehicle before it enters the intersection, and the second is the vehicle at the intersection while the light is red.

drivers will not have points added to their licenses.

The citation may also be contested by requesting an appeal.

However, an extra charge of \$50 does apply if the violator is found guilty.

“If the City of North Miami is so concerned about our safety, why don’t they place a speed trap by the David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center rather than a camera system?” Angel said.

The University Public Safety could not comment because the cameras lie outside their jurisdiction, according to a Public Safety dispatcher.

REVIEW

REEFER MADNESS



COURTNEY BAAS/THE BEACON

Cult classic an addictive hit at Alternative Theater Fest

IRIS FEBRES
Opinion Editor

After lackluster productions of *Pericles* and *The Birds*, an FIU affiliated theater production has finally done things right with the summer production of *Reefer Madness*.

Staged by the Alternative Summer Theatre Festival, organized and performed primarily by current and former FIU faculty and students, *Reefer Madness* marks a high point in the recent history of theater at FIU. The musical depicts “the Harper Affair,” a sequence of nefarious events caused by the ravaging effects of marijuana on innocent teenagers. We witness love blossom between Jimmy Harper (Joshua Dobarganes) and Mary Lane (Andrea Bovino) – but it ends up being choked by “the demon weed.”

Narrated by the Lecturer (Paul Perez), *Reefer Madness* illustrates – in an over-the-top production – the supposed dangers of “the real public enemy No. 1,” highlighting the outrageous propaganda techniques used in the ‘30s by Harry J. Anslinger, the first commissioner of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, and William Randolph Hearst.

Successfully staging a production such as *Reefer Madness* is no easy feat, as anyone who has seen the 2005 Showtime adaptation starring Christian Campbell and Kristen Bell can attest. *Reefer Madness* requires a lot of props, costume changes and show-stopping numbers, and the ASTF did a great job in being faithful to what the show called for, despite a likely paltry budget.

The set (coupled with key lighting) economized the space given in DM 150. It’s surprising to see how well the show translates to a small stage, but the cast and crew managed well. The room’s smaller seating capacity makes the play more intimate, and audience members are granted more access to the show’s cast.

Despite a few lapses in singing ability, *Reefer Madness* is cast well; Bovino is delightfully irritating as Mary Lane, a young, blonde church-going girl who stays good despite falling prey to marijuana (as hilariously seen in the song “Little Mary Sunshine” in the second act). Perez, who leads us through the play, is convincing as a raving conservative who urges us to “save our kids” from the “vile narcotic.”

Jose Urbino – who portrays villain and head

of the reefer den Jack Stone – is wonderfully and necessarily sleazy. Mae (Kat Moreno) does well as a woman trapped in a house consumed by reefer, while physically and verbally abused by Jack.

Carolina Pozo’s Sally is nearly the mirror image of Amy Spanger’s portrayal in the Showtime film – a floozy who has “been in more laps than a napkin” and sells her baby to get her reefer fix. The same goes for Dixon Gutierrez’s Ralph: Gutierrez nailed John Kassir’s maniacal laugh and performs well when going through withdrawal.

The biggest surprise of the show came with the appearance of Jesus (Fernando Lamberty). In the song, “Listen to Jesus, Jimmy,” Jesus appears to our fallen protagonist and tries to convince him to “stop indulging like a Roman” and to put down the joint. This is, by far, one of the best numbers in the show, featuring angels and a charismatic (and well-oiled) Jesus Christ.

But the most memorable performance is Dobarganes as Jimmy. Watching him perform, it’s obvious he’s having an absolute blast. His performance is not only funny – at times reminiscent of Jerry Lewis – but also incredibly genuine. His exaggerated facial expressions and dances epitomize what *Reefer Madness* is really about: not the dangers of marijuana, but the dangers of propaganda, mingled with the philosophy of “the ends will justify the means.”

With a great cast and supporting ensemble, ASTF’s *Reefer Madness* is the perfect show for the FIU student body: it’s fun, raunchy and hilarious.

The show is so good in fact that the Theatre Department would be wise to produce the show during the school year. It’s a worthy “alternative” to shows like *The Birds* and more people deserve the chance to see it. It’s a show that shouldn’t be missed.

REEFER MADNESS INFO REMINDER

Dates & Times:
July 30-Aug. 9, 8 p.m. (5 p.m. on Sundays)

Where: DM 150

Price: \$10

ALL THE WAY



ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

STRONG DEFENSE: Doppler Effekt defenders steer away Pike forward Colt Anderson in a 72-69 victory on July 16. The Summer B season intramural playoffs began on July 28.

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Heat continues to pursue Odom; Moon to Cavaliers

JONATHAN DAVILA
Staff Writer

CAVALIERS SIGN MOON

Free-agent forward Lamar Odom has yet to make a decision on where he'll be playing next season, but the 10-year veteran is supposedly leaning toward coming back to Miami, where he spent the 2003-2004 season.

According to an article on *Yahoo! Sports*, Odom is "leaning strongly toward accepting the Miami Heat's contract offer and leaving the Los Angeles Lakers."

The news comes after the Los Angeles Lakers withdrew their four-year, \$36 million deal. The Heat is currently offering the forward a five-year, \$34 million deal.

One FIU student doesn't think Odom joining the Heat would help the team.

"They need someone who can score like [Dwyane] Wade. [Odom] doesn't put up the numbers he should be," said freshman political science major Garrett Cottom.

But another student thinks Odom would be a good addition.

"I think it's not a bad idea. Odom is pretty talented. Maybe [Michael Beasley] can learn something from him," said junior psychology major Eric Martinez.

Meanwhile, restricted free-agent Jamario Moon will be joining the Cleveland Cavaliers after the Heat decided not to match the Cavaliers' contract offer.

The Cavaliers used its mid-level exception – about \$3.2 million – to sign the 6-foot-8 forward.

"We declined to match because we want to stay true to our plan of not adding salary to our 2010 cap, and matching it would have reduced our flexibility," Heat president Pat Riley said in a statement to the Associated Press. "Michael Beasley will be getting significant minutes at both forward positions, and this opens up more opportunities for him to become the player we all expect him to be."

The remaining forwards on the Heat's roster include Beasley, Dorell Wright, Udonis Haslem, James Jones and Yakhouba Diawara.

But Martinez doesn't seem to like the thought of Beasley playing significant minutes.

"I don't like Beasley at all. I think he's a ball hog," he said. "But he's still young. He has a lot to learn."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

SUMMER B INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL STANDINGS

MEN'S OPEN LEAGUE

TEAM	OVERALL	WP	PF	PA	PD
Vinsanity	5-0-0	1.000	293	231	62
ELE	5-0-0	1.000	302	225	77
Doppler Effekt	4-2-0	.667	253	227	26
Average Joes	3-2-0	.667	253	227	26
PIKE	3-3-0	.500	270	205	65
FIJI	3-3-0	.500	255	247	8
Fresh Kicks	2-2-1	.400	165	231	-66
CNT	2-2-1	.400	251	278	-27
RageNBallers	1-4-0	.200	211	274	-63
Bohica	1-5-0	.167	228	295	-67
DTF	0-3-0	.000	104	147	-43
Rasta's	0-2-0	.000	0	4	-4

Intramural basketball league standings are up to date as of July 20. Playoffs begin this week.

NCAA grants Munera fifth season of eligibility

FOOTBALL, page 8

finish that high. Overall, FIU was picked to finish fifth out of nine teams in the conference, selected to be behind Troy, ASU, Florida Atlantic and MTSU, in that order.

BACK AGAIN

Second team All-conference specialist Carlos Munera got the green light from the NCAA to return for a fifth season. The punter had petitioned the NCAA for a medical

redshirt after transferring to FIU before last season. Munera averaged 41.1 yards per punt last season in his first season in Division I. Munera is expected to once again be an anchor for a strong special teams unit.

CAMP DATE SET

The Golden Panthers will begin camp in preparation for the season on Aug. 10. It will be the first opportunity to see the incoming class of freshmen, as well as the whole team together since the end of last season.

Conference saves over \$30,000 from football media day changes

SUN BELT, page 8

starting a new trend here."

McElwain said conference officials were pleased with how things went on the first day, but were not ready to commit to the same format next year.

"We're open to using the same format for

basketball, but how we conduct things in the future depends on the newspaper industry and the media landscape," McElwain said.

FIU football coach Mario Cristobal was unavailable for comment.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

PRESEASON PRAISE



VICTORIA LYNCH/BEACON FILE PHOTO



PHOTO COURTESY FIU ATHLETICS



VICTORIA LYNCH/BEACON FILE PHOTO

THREE ACES: T.Y. Hilton, left, Brad Serini, center, and Anthony Gaitor, right, were selected to the Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference team.

Golden Panthers boast three preseason SBC members

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

Wide receiver T.Y. Hilton, center Brad Serini and cornerback Anthony Gaitor were selected to the 2009 Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference team, as voted on by the leagues nine head coaches and selected media members. Only Troy University and Arkansas State had more selections to the preseason team.

Hilton got the honor after a decorated freshman season in which he was named to the Freshman All-American team as a punt return specialist by the Football Writers Association of America. Hilton,

who had an FIU record seven touchdown receptions last season, was the only sophomore named to the team. The 5-foot-10 athlete also got the nod as a special teams performer, as he accumulated more than 2,000 all-purpose yards in his first year. Gaitor and Serini were two of only five juniors to be selected, and Gaitor was the only defender listed who is not a senior.

Gaitor led all SBC players with four interceptions in conference play. He had five interceptions overall for the Golden Panthers, including two vs. Middle Tennessee State on Oct. 11. The former Miami Northwestern High star has started all but one game in his career.

Serini has been a starter for FIU since he arrived in 2007.

Troy led the way with eight selections, and ASU has five representatives.

Quarterbacks Rusty Smith (FAU) and Corey Leonard (ASU) were tabbed as Co-Preseason Offensive Players of the Year, and ASU's Alex Carrington was voted on as the preseason Defensive Player of the Year.

ONE LOVE

The Golden Panthers received one vote to finish first in the SBC, marking the first time they have been picked to

FOOTBALL, page 7

TOP OF THEIR CLASS

- T.Y. Hilton
Sophomore — Wide receiver, Special Teams
Selected to All-Sun Belt Conference First Team last season. Set a school record for most receiving yards in one season (1,013). Finished last season in the top five in the NCAA for all-purpose yards.
- Anthony Gaitor
Junior — Defensive back
Selected to All-Sun Belt Conference First Team last season. Finished last season with five interceptions and 44 tackles.
- Brad Serini
Junior — Center
Has started all 24 games for FIU since 2007. Helped offense score 15 rushing TDs.

New economical approach goes well for Sun Belt

SERGIO BONILLA
Sports Director

In order to expand media exposure and save money during the economic recession, the Sun Belt Conference changed the football media day on July 20 to an online video format.

With public universities across the country trimming costs, the Sun Belt's move to shift the format online was agreed upon a few months ago.

"We've been looking at the switch for a while now," Sun Belt Commissioner Wright Waters told Student Media on July 27. "The reality is that we're seeing a decline in the traditional media."

Sun Belt spokesman John McElwain told the Associated Press the Sun Belt and its football programs likely saved more than \$30,000 combined over last year's event, which included not just travel to the Big Easy but receptions as well as a steamboat cruise on the Mississippi River.

In a phone interview with Student Media

on July 27, McElwain said more than 50 reporters registered to cover the two days of media sessions online, compared to around 30 last summer at a downtown New Orleans hotel.

The hope was that making it more convenient and less costly for the media might improve coverage for the Sun Belt, which began sponsoring Division I Football Bowl Subdivision programs in 2001.

Six of the conference's nine football teams took part in online interviews on July 20, with the other three, including defending conference champions Troy, on July 21.

The conference also arranged for coaches to call into sports radio shows that might otherwise have recorded interviews in person had events been held in New Orleans.

The Sun Belt intends to use the same online format for basketball media days in the fall.

"We're not sure if we're going to include more sports," McElwain said to Student Media.

The event was not without its glitches, however, as video and audio was interrupted

from time to time.

When Golden Panthers head coach Mario Cristobal first began to speak, there was no video of him. When Louisiana-Lafayette coach Rickey Bustle appeared on screen, his lips moved but there was no sound.

While North Texas coach Todd Dodge spoke, a recorded message repeated several times in the background. Later, Mean Green linebacker Tobe Nwigwe could be seen shrugging his shoulders and sighing while a pulsating, static-like feedback overwhelmed the audio feed for about 30 seconds until conference operators broke in.

Waters was still pleased with the way the media day was conducted.

"It worked," Waters said. "The reaction that we got from media and coaches has been positive."

Still, the interview sessions of about a half hour for each team remained on schedule, with coaches and one player from each team speaking at length as they responded to questions about the coming season.

Several coaches agreed the format saved

time, giving them about two more days to be on campus with their coaching staff and prepare for training camp when they might otherwise have been on the road.

Some coaches and players expressed disappointment over not going to New Orleans.

The *Daily Advertiser* reported that Arkansas State coach Steve Roberts wished that his school's player representative, defensive end Alex Carrington, had gotten the chance to eat the food in New Orleans.

Carrington was sad that he missed out on that experience.

"I would have liked to go down there [to New Orleans] and burn his pocket up a little bit," Carrington told the *Daily Advertiser*. "But I do have business to tend to here, and it's a little more efficient."

The efficiency was appreciated by most of the league's coaches.

"I think this is a great way to do it," Louisiana-Monroe head coach Charlie Weatherbie said to the Associated Press. "We're maybe

SUN BELT, page 7