

10-30-2009

The Beacon, October 30, 2009

Florida International University

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Florida International University, "The Beacon, October 30, 2009" (2009). *The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon)*. 369.
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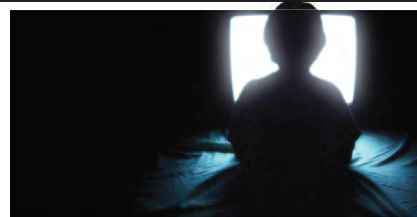
What to do for Halloween on and around campus

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Is the Internet altering our brains?

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SPOTLIGHT

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Weekends with Paradise: Paradise gives you ideas to impersonate and put your characters to play during this Halloween!

AT THE BAY PAGE 4

Three University professors will be featured in the oldest and largest book fair in the nation.

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Letter to the Editor: Housing students have advantages while living on campus.

OPINION PAGE 6

The University should make an effort to support theatre shows like *Rocky Horror*.

LIFE! PAGE 9



Moment of Clarity: Horrorcore artists aim to combine horror movie aesthetics, rap music.

SPORTS PAGE 12



Volleyball faces tough three games in three-day stretch with Louisiana road trip.

UPCOMING EVENTS

House of Jigsaw Halloween Weekend, Oct. 30, 10:00 p.m. For \$15, you can join in on this party for the latest *Saw* movie. Event will be held at Mansion, 1235 Washington Ave., Miami Beach.

Captain Morgan's Fantasyfest Parade, Oct. 31, 7:00 p.m. Enjoy watching 50 home-made floats plus Marquardt as the grand marshal for free at Duval Street in Key West.

Attack! Attack!, Nov. 1, 6:00 p.m. For \$14.99, catch this metalcore band at the Culture Room on 3045 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale.

WEATHER



FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
LOW: 76 HIGH: 87



SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
LOW: 75 HIGH: 85



SUNDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 75 HIGH: 86

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FOOTBALL

Students attending games can win prizes

JORGE VALENS
Asst. News Director

The University will be giving students who attend the next football home game an opportunity to win a scholarship.

During the game, three students will be chosen at random to win a \$500 scholarship that can be applied toward college expenses.

Aside from that, four students will also be selected to win a one-month parking upgrade, allowing winners to park in a faculty/staff space anywhere on campus.

On Oct. 31, the Golden Panthers will be facing the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns at FIU Stadium.

The contest will be held for each of the two remaining home games being held on Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.

Students can attend the game for free with a valid Panther ID. Friends and family accompanying students can purchase an end zone ticket for \$15.

Those interested in purchasing tickets can call 305-FIU-GAME or visit www.fiusports.com.

CNN anchor lectures about originality

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff Writer

Soledad O'Brien stressed how thinking differently can solve problems in the community and beyond during a lecture at the University.

"Thinking differently can have massive, massive societal implications," O'Brien said.

The CNN special correspondent spoke to a near-capacity crowd of around 300 students and faculty members in the Green Library auditorium on Oct. 28.

O'Brien told stories from her experience as a reporter and while working on documentaries like "Black in America," and the recently-released "Latino in America," to illustrate her point on thinking differently.

In one example, African villages were experiencing a brain-drain

when educated males would leave the village. Girls were typically taken out of school early on to help in domestic jobs. To help change the tide, students were all fed at school and offered food to take home for their family. This incentive was the different kind of thinking that allowed girls to be educated, addressing the brain-drain, and helping feed the populace.

"Almost over night all these kids became providers," O'Brien said. "They were able to flip the value of the kids in society."

Another example came by a Harvard professor featured in "Black in America," that wants to pay kids to learn. The plan is to close the gap between minority graduation rates and those of Caucasians. Some kids have found

O'BRIEN, page 3

SWEET DREAMS

IS IT WORTH IT? Craven's masterpiece still chills, induces insomnia

DAVID BARRIOS
Staff Writer

The first time I saw Wes Craven's *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, I was 12 years old, flipping through the wasteland of late night television and saddened that I was not able to go trick-or-treating with my friends during a dull Halloween.

Then I stumbled onto an older-looking movie with an eerie, dream-like tone, with a young woman running through a dark, seedy boiler room. We're not sure what she's running from but she's running and we care. We hear the clanging of four sharpened razors attached to the hand of a large, frightening figure. He attacks her, of course to decimate her.

Then she awakens. The dream is over. Tina Grey (Amanda Wyss) is OK. Then she looks upon her nightgown to find four slash marks on it. The dream is over but the legend of Freddy Krueger (Robert Englund) was born.

Tina, frightened by her dream asks her friends Nancy (Heather Langenkamp) and Glen (Johnny Depp of *Miramar, Fla.* in his feature film debut)

WORTH IT, page 8

WANNA PLAY A GAME?



BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

GET SCARED: Freshman AJ Mayungbe (left), graduate Joel Calafell (center) and sophomore Keanna Angquico (lying down) scare visitors inside the kitchen at the Fiji House during Fiji's Haunted House Oct. 28. Proceeds raised at the event benefited the American Red Cross.

NEWS FLASH

FIU

BOG appoints two new FIU trustees

The Florida Board of Governors appointed Michael M. Adler and Joseph L. Caruncho, two long time FIU supporters, to sit on the University's Board of Trustees.

Adler, chairman and chief executive officer of Adler Group, Inc., and Caruncho, CEO of Preferred Care Partners, will serve five-year terms on the board beginning January 6, 2010.

According to the University, Adler and Caruncho will be filling the seats occupied by Betsy Atkins and David Parker, whose terms are set to expire on the same day.

LOCAL

Sex offender arrested after release from hospital

A man suspected of child molestation that was assaulted by the victim's father was booked on Oct. 28.

According to *The Miami Herald*, Luke Petruschke spent a week in a medically induced coma at Memorial Regional Hospital and was released to authorities and arrested on the scene.

Police say two men, Krish Carter and Manuel Vega beat Petruschke with a cinder block after Vega learned that Petruschke fondled his son. The two men face attempted murder charges.

NATIONAL

Traffic delays plague city after Bay Bridge closure

San Francisco's Bay Bridge has been closed indefinitely after 5,000 pounds of the bridge's infrastructure rained down on drivers on Oct. 27.

The span of the Bay Bridge affected had been under repair since Labor Day.

According to CNN, the closure of the bridge has caused extensive delays for residents commuting to and from San Francisco and Oakland. In an attempt to alleviate traffic, officials have lengthened the schedule of the Bay Area Rapid Transit system.

Stocks fall after housing market concerns

The stock market went down on Oct. 28 after a less than favorable report indicated a weakness in the housing market.

According to the *Washington Post*, new-home sales dropped 3.6 percent in September after rising for five consecutive months. The western U.S. in particular saw an 11 percent decrease in home sales during September.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 1.2 percent, while the S&P 500 and the NASDAQ composite were down 2 percent and 2.7 percent respectively.

- Compiled by Jorge Valens



PHOTOS BY ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

ON THE RUNWAY: Ladies of the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority put together a fashion show on Oct. 26. The show's theme was "Exotique" and the funds generated will go to carbon monoxide poisoning awareness and research.

Sorority organizes fashion show

Event raises funds for carbon monoxide poisoning awareness

LAEBONY LIVINGSTON
Staff Writer

The ladies of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority presented their eighth annual fashion show titled "Exotique" to raise awareness for carbon monoxide poisoning.

The event, held on Oct. 26, began in 2001, but since 2004, it has been dedicated to a fallen sister, Janelle Bertot who died of carbon monoxide five years ago.

The show carried an exotic theme, so many of the models had animal prints and markings painted on their bodies and faces. The décor of the Graham Center Ballrooms fit in with the exotic and jungle theme of the night.

"We have been here all day setting up decorations," said Phi Sigma Sigma sister Jeanette Echavarría, a freshman biology major.

On hand was a mixture of FIU students and community members. Many students, especially other Greeks, came out to support the ladies in their work. Once the doors opened at 7 p.m., the crowd began to pour into the ballrooms and quickly filled up most of the 700 available seats.

Before the models started to do their run, guests were reminded of the real reason for the event.

Janelle's mother, Barbara Bertot and her best friend, Breny Deparre, opened the event by thanking the sorority for putting the fashion show together.

They explained that the money from the event would go to raise awareness on carbon monoxide poisoning and give scholarships to high school as well as undergraduate college students.

Graduate student Travis Stokes has been a part of the fashion show for the past five years.

He was good friends with Janelle Bertot, and said he modeled in the fashion show "for the cause."

"[The show] has gotten a lot more edgy than it has been in the past," said Stokes, who also participated in the first show that the sorority put up.

Stokes modeled in Swimwear, Business Casual, Formal and the Fashion Forward scenes.

The president of Phi Sigma Sigma, Gabriela Vazquez, was happy with the help she got from her fellow sisters and the outcome of the event.

"All the sisters came out to help. We didn't spend a dime, and everything was donated," she said.

The event was sponsored entirely by both local and national donors. The list of local businesses includes *OhYeahMiami.com*, Donut Divas, and Habit Boutique. Local clothing boutique Peace Love World donated its clothes to be showcased during the show.

National hair product producer and stylist Paul Mitchell, which sponsored the event for the second year in a row, and Coca Cola also sponsored the Exotique Fashion Show.

Some of the sponsors had set up

booths around the ballroom promoting their products and work.

Paul Mitchell donated its stylists for the event to prepare the models for the catwalk.

Sigma Kappa Sister Lizmarie Rodriguez, a junior nursing major, auditioned to model along with the rest of her sorority. She modeled in the Peace Love World, Casual, Business Casual and Edgy scenes.

During the fashion show there were two intermissions that gave the guests a chance to partake on the food provided as well as look around the sponsor tables.

During the first intermission guests were treated to a performance by the Miami Sunset High School "Golden Girls".

In the second intermission, prizes were given away to those who had purchased winning raffle tickets.

Giveaways included a shirt designed by one of the sponsors as well as a \$150 cash prize.

At the end of the fashion show all the models as well as the president of Phi Sigma Sigma and the fashion show director, Angie Solis Junior, came on stage to thank everyone for attending.

Yamil Pascal, a freshman in business, was in attendance.

"Everyone appeared to be enjoying themselves," Pascal said. "It was amazing."

According to eMedicine, carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America. This odorless, tasteless and colorless gas is known as the "Silent Killer." The Centers for Disease Control estimates that carbon monoxide poisoning claims nearly 500 lives, and causes more than 15,000 visits to hospital emergency departments annually.



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SGC-MMC

Senate speaks out against universal health insurance

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff Writer.

In another vocal session of the Student Government Senate at Modesto Maidique Campus on Oct. 26, the senate came out against Mandatory Health Insurance for university students, in support of refurbishing a computer lab at the Engineering Center, as well as in support of the Student Legacy Campaign, and passed a council bill that defines when a senator can abstain from a vote.

The Mandatory Health Insurance Resolution passed with a vote of 20 for and two against, and promptly received a presidential veto.

Entitled "In opposition of Mandatory Health Insurance for State University Students," the resolution calls for SGA to oppose mandatory health insurance because it will be an additional financial burden to students, and deny registration to those who cannot pay for it.

"The state Legislature has tried to enact mandatory health insurance for all state university students, without any financial assistance, and denies class registration to

Fraute was not convinced. Neither was SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda who announced he vetoed the resolution during the Oct. 28 cabinet meeting. He said the senate needed more discussion and information on the subject.

"I disagree with some of the harsh lines in the resolution," Rionda said at the cabinet meeting.

Rionda also said he would like to see the senate use both weeks, that are required in the bylaws, to debate a topic instead of always bypassing a vote on new business. Last year, the senate passed the "Senate Speed Pass Act," which lets them bypass a requirement to read legislation at two meetings before passing and enabled them to both present and vote on new businesses during the same meeting.

"It should be a personal decision," said sponsoring senator from the Engineering and Computing, William-Jose Velez, on whether students should get health insurance.

During the meeting, the senate also called for the refurbishment of a student computer lab at the Engineering Center. The resolution called for the Technology Fee Advisory Council to recommend using the fee's money

If even one student cannot pay for health insurance, then we must be behind that one student.

Altanese Phenelus, senator of Arts and Sciences
SGC-MMC

students who don't have health insurance" the resolution states.

The resolution also claims that 60 percent of FIU students do not have health insurance, and that one-third of FIU students are depended on financial aid.

The inference in the resolution is that those students solely dependent on financial aid would not be able to register for classes, and therefore not be able to receive the financial aid they rely on. It also claims that University Health Services would not be able to handle the influx of paperwork caused by mandatory health insurance.

"University Health Services has stated that it does not have the capacity and the staff to handle such paperwork and ensure that more than 38,000 students have health insurance before registration opens," stated the resolution.

Student Media was unable to contact University Health Services at time of publication for verification.

"Where are you getting this information?" asked Graduate Senator Loren Fraute during the meeting. Fraute said he felt uncomfortable voting without knowing all the facts; he was one of the nay votes.

Cabinet member and coordinator of Health Affairs, David Dial, was on hand to confirm the resolution's numbers. However neither he nor the sponsoring senators could add the specifics on prices for insurance plans that would be offered to students if the state Legislature imposes mandatory health insurance on the university system.

The health care resolution's sponsoring senators stuck to the principle of being against education being denied to those who can't afford health insurance

"If even one student cannot pay for health insurance, then we must be behind that one student," said senator of Arts and Sciences, Altanese Phenelus.

to upgrade "older and obsolete computer systems" in the lab.

"The updated equipment will maximize and improve students' learning experience," stated the resolution.

It passed with a vote of 22 for, zero against and two abstentions. The two abstentions came from senators Phenelus and Fraute who are both in the tech fee advisory council.

The senate also showed their support of the Student Legacy Campaign by passing a resolution unanimously.

According to the Division of University Advancement's Web site, which the campaign is under, the SLC is an initiative that focuses on current students giving back to the University.

"The aim ... is to establish a feeling of affinity among current students to contribute financially and experience a sense of philanthropy," states the resolution.

The senate also passed a council bill to help clarify what constitutes a conflict of interest in the SGC-MMC campus bylaws.

Entitled the "SGC-MMC Voting Process Reform Act of 2009," it states that "all members must vote unless they have a clear and direct conflict of interest."

Those conflicts of interest include immediate blood, by marriage, business or romantic relationships. Or by being a member or a board member of a commission or committee that will vote on the issue at hand. In those cases an abstention vote is allowed, but the reason must be stated at the time of voting and recorded.

During the summer and first part of the Fall semester there were more than a few abstention votes with no reason given.

According to SGC-MMC Advisor Jose Toscano, members of SGA took it upon themselves to consult their attorney to find the proper use of abstentions.



LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

INNOVATIVE THINKING: Soledad O'Brien, CNN anchor, spoke to students on Oct. 28 at the Green Library as part of SGC-MMC's Lecture Series.

O'Brien tells students to think outside the box

O'BRIEN, page 1

this as an incentive to compete scholastically. According to O'Brien the New York City graduation rates are 50 percent overall, and only 29 percent when only looking at black males.

"I give this example because the numbers are so dire, and you have to think outside the box," O'Brien said.

The most dramatic examples came from her time covering Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

"Pictures do no justice," O'Brien said when talking about the ravaged city. "It was absolutely shocking, it was like a war torn city."

The bleak setting had its successes in the shadow of massive failure. Those failures were the lack of supplies delivered in

a timely manner to the city by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, O'Brien said. She referenced her time covering the tsunami when supplies arrived two days later. FEMA took longer while operating within traditional thinking.

Thinking outside the traditional, O'Brien shared the case of two released convicts who were asked to help out in rescue efforts, and without the ability to swim would dive into deep waters to save trapped seniors. They went on to be considered top men in the efforts.

By letting circumstance dictate their character and not the traditional way of their troubled background, O'Brien said a lot of good was accomplished.

Diversity can help with shaping out-of-the-box thinking, she said.

"It casts a wider net," O'Brien said.

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Miami hosts oldest book fair

University professors part of featured authors this year

LATOYA BURGESS
Staff Writer

Three professors from the English Department at the Biscayne Bay Campus will be part of the world's oldest and largest book fair in the nation.

The Miami International Book Fair, which is free to the public, will take place Nov. 8 to Nov. 15 at Miami-Dade College Wolfson Campus, located at 401 N.E. 2nd Ave.

Les Standiford, director of the Creative Writing Program in the English Department at BBC, John Dufresne, professor of creative writing and Florida Book Award Winner, and Meri-Jane Rochelson, associate chair of the English Department, will be among the authors featured at this year's book fair.

Standiford is the author of

Last Train to Paradise, a biography published September 2006 about Henry Flagler, an oilman who helped establish Florida as a vacation destination and dreamt of building a railroad from Miami to Key West.

The Labor Day hurricane of 1935 tarnished that dream.

A winner of the Frank O'Connor Award for short fiction and mystery writer, Standiford will give fair-goers an in-depth look inside the novel he edited about crime and punishment, *Miami Noir*, published in November 2006.

Standiford was not available for comment despite several attempts.

Dufresne will be reading *Requiem, Mass*, a novel published in July 2008 about an eighth grade boy who struggles to keep his family from falling apart.

Dufresne's eighth book, set

to be released in February 2010, is called *Is Life Like This*, a workbook that teaches its readers how to write a novel.

Dufresne, who has had two of his novels named "notable books of the year" by *The New York Times*, said the Miami International Book Fair keeps students informed and exposed to the literary world.

"I think it's important to know what is up in our contemporary and literary culture and with the stories people are telling," he said. "Literature is alive and well and students will see some of the most important writers in the country."

Rochelson said the book fair is not only exciting because there is food to eat and souvenirs to buy, but because people get the chance to become "immersed in the world of books".

"In 26 years, the book fair has really grown to be an international event, it's a stop for readers, writers and aspiring writers," Rochelson said. "It's one of the most exciting things in Miami."

Rochelson will be reading *A Jew in the Public Arena: The Career of Israel Zang-*

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DUFRESNE



STANDIFORD



ROCHELSON

HALLOWEEN PARTIES

ON CAMPUS

The Office of Campus Life and Orientation at the Biscayne Bay Campus will host "Monster Mash," a Michael Jackson-themed costume party.

It will take place in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms Oct. 30 from 8 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Entry is free for students with a valid Panther ID. The entry fee for the rest of the community is \$3.

The party will feature a "best costume" contest, where the top three contestants will receive a Michael Jackson poster; and a Michael Jackson impersonation contest, the major event of the night, in which the winners will receive Michael Jackson CDs. The first prize includes a special Michael Jackson DVD.

There will also be a live DJ all night, as well as free food, drinks and giveaways.

NEAR CAMPUS

Many bars and lounges will be hosting Halloween parties, and they are all free.

- Billy's Pub Too, 732 N.E. 125th St., North Miami.

There will be a Halloween-themed party Oct. 30 and Oct. 31 until 5 a.m. Everybody gets in free, but students must be 21 and over.

Winners of the costume contests will receive prizes, such as a house tab. Regular happy hour specials will be honored from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Specials include \$6 pitchers of domestic beers.

For more information, call (305)-899-9986.

- Blue Royal Lounge, 13750 W. Dixie Hwy, North Miami.

A Halloween-themed party will take place Oct. 31. from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. Everyone gets in free, but students must be 21 and over.

There will be a costume contest, but prizes have yet to be announced.

Regular happy hour specials on drinks and \$1 off beers will be honored. Free shots will be given away throughout the night.

For more information, call 305-893-8054.

- Miami Prime Grill, 16395 Biscayne Blvd., North Miami Beach.

Miami Prime Halloween 2 Bash on Oct. 31 from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Everyone gets in free, but students must be 21 and over.

There will be a costume contest, beer pong tournament, ice luge and DJ entertainment. Cash prizes for the costume contest are: \$300 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$75 for third. The winner of the beer pong tournament will receive a \$50 certificate for the sports bar.

Specials will include: \$2 house shots, \$3 Jager shots, \$4 Patron shots, \$1 pints and \$5 drinks from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m. Drinks will include martinis, long islands, mojitos, and Hennessy and coke.

For more information, call 305-949-5101.

- Compiled by Pamela Duque and Charity Vergara

WEEKENDS WITH PARADISE

Dress up and play as your favorite character

Halloween is tomorrow, and sure, the holiday is all about dressing up for a night, but I refuse to think the fun should only be about the outfit.

COLUMNIST



PARADISE AFSHAR

Got Mail.

This year, I was deciding between dressing up as Sally Albright from *When Harry Met Sally*, or Kathleen Kelly from *You've*

I can easily impersonate someone who is denying that she is in love with a friend, like Sally, or a shop owner in love with someone she met online, like Kathleen, but there's no fun in that unless you're in that character. Anytime I walk into a deli, I think of when Sally fakes an orgasm inside a deli, and small grocery stores remind me of the scene from *You've Got Mail* when Joe Fox talks the clerk into letting Kelly pay with credit in a cash-only line.

To kill two birds with one stone, I went to St. Petersburg Deli, 17080 Collins Ave., Sunny Isles, to help make my final decision about whom to impersonate on Halloween. This place is a Russian grocery store with a small deli, and it is adorable!

They sell Russian beer and food, and a variety of European chocolate. Since I have a weak spot for any chocolate from the brand Kinder, it was torture resisting the purchase.

I had mashed potatoes with veggies on the side and a slice of whole wheat toast for \$5. And yes, I did my best to order with the same obsessive nature that Sally has.

The food was great. The potatoes were a bit chunky and the veggies were cooked together in what looked like a stew. It had eggplant, potatoes, tomatoes and other veggies.

I did not recreate the famous scene when I ate there, but I did get to relive a scene from *You've Got Mail*.

There is a \$10 minimum for credit, so my \$5 purchase wasn't enough. Sadly, I didn't have anyone come and convince the woman behind the counter to let me pay with a credit card, but that incident did make my outfit choice easier. Since I lived out a scene from the movie, how could I not be Kathleen? I feel more connected to her now, except I still need to work on finding someone to fall in love with over the Internet.

Let's say for Halloween you want to be Leonardo, my favorite ninja turtle from "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

Sure, you could put on a green shell and call it a night, but where is the fun in that?

If you already know what you are going to be, there are no excuses not to get fully into your character.

If you decide to be Leonardo, Miami-Dade County officials may not be OK with your hanging out in a sewer, and neither would your friends, but you can go out for a turtle's favorite: pizza!

I went to Venezia Pizza and Cafe on 13452 Biscayne Blvd., North Miami. Unfortunately, I didn't go wearing a costume to get a feel for where a crime-fighting teenage turtle would hang out. But I would totally recommend it. Venezia Pizza is a great whole-in-the-wall pizza joint that will fit the theme perfectly - minus the rat.

There is something about a hole in the wall that is just attractive and smoky enough for Halloween.

I went to this place with my friends Victoria and Sergio, the Donatello and Michelangelo to my Leonardo, and ordered a slice of tomato pizza for \$3.73.

It usually freaks me out when I have to watch someone make my food, so when the guy making the pizza didn't put on gloves as he reached for the tomatoes, I wanted to die.

God knows when he washed his hands last, and now his germs were on my pizza.

After I convinced myself that all the germs from his hands would burn off in the oven, I began to enjoy it.

The front area of the place is just bar stools. In the back, there is a dining area that is somewhat hidden from the outside, which offers a bit of

privacy and helps if you don't want anyone to see you in a costume.

The pizza is nothing special until you eat the super doughy crust. I think the turtles would approve.

Tomorrow when you dress up as a mouse, Tetris block or ghost, go all out and place your character in the right scene.

Go to a restaurant and order something cheesy, play Tetris all day, or hang out in a grave yard. Halloween is about letting go and taking on a new character. Why not play around with it?

Read *Weekends with Paradise every other Friday for more tips on places to go in the North Miami area.*

If you have any suggestions, e-mail paradise.afshar@fiusm.com. The columnist pays for all food and experiences.



AMY SUSSMAN/GETTY IMAGES N.A.

Students can mingle with more than 300 authors

FAIR, page 4

will, a literary biography published in December 2008.

“Zangwill was a part of the Women’s Suffrage movement, the Zionist movement and the Anti-War movement in the early 20th century,” she said. “He is the first Jewish celebrity of the 20th century, he’s very famous and not a lot of people know about him, that is why I chose to write about this.”

Rochelson is the co-editor of *Transforming Genres and New Approaches to British Fiction*, which she wrote with Nikki Lee Manos.

A buzz has already been circulating around BBC even for students who have never been to the Miami International Book Fair.

“I’ve never been to any book fair, but I would love to see what kinds of authors are coming; I’m curious. I’m a firm believer that you don’t like books as much as you like the people who write them” said Rebekah Keida, a sophomore nutri-

tion major.

Different multi-colored tents will be set up where attendees can stop by each booth and purchase books, food and souvenirs.

The book fair’s main attraction are the more than 300 national and international authors, who will conduct readings, discussions and answer questions from their readers.

In its 26th year, Miami hosted its first two-day book fair called Books by the Bay in 1984.

As the fair attracted more book-lovers and authors, the event grew so large that by the 1990s it was renamed the Miami International Book Fair, becoming the largest literary festival in the country, according to the fair’s official Web site.

Several noted authors like Anne Rice, Tom Wolfe and Alice Walker among hundreds of other famous authors have presented their work at this annual fair.

Rice is most famous for her first book, *Interview with the Vampire*, published in 1976, which

was later turned into a motion picture: 1994’s *Interview with the Vampire*, starring Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise.

Wolfe’s first book, *The Kandy-Kolored Tangerine-Flake Streamline Baby*, a collection of articles about life in the ‘60s, was published in 1965. The book catapulted Wolfe’s career paving the way for him to become an established writer in mainstream media.

Wolfe is also known widely for his novel, *A Man in Full*, published in November 1998, about a 60-year-old Atlanta real estate developer facing bankruptcy and a 23-year-old manual laborer in California, who works in the freezer unit of a wholesale food store.

After many trials, both characters are faced with the question of what is a fulfilled human being.

A Man in Full was in *The New York Times* best seller list for 10 weeks and has sold nearly 1.4 million copies.

Walker is known for her

DONATE TO WIN



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

SWEET VICTORY: Delio Morato, a graduate assistant in Campus Life (right), gives his contact information to Desiree Rodriguez, chief of staff for External Relations (left), after winning a raffle at the United Way Kick Off in Panther Square Oct. 28.

classic of American literature, *The Color Purple*, published in 1982.

The award-winning novel inspired Steven Spielberg to direct the 1985, Oscar-nominated film, *The Color Purple*, starring Whoopi Goldberg and Danny Glover.

Many students are fans of the book fair and

are looking forward to attending this year. Jorge Amador, a graduate student in public relations said he has been attending the fair since the seventh grade.

Amador said it was good to be exposed to the different points of views through the discussions at the fair.

He remembered a

discussion last year about how blacks and Hispanics are portrayed in the media.

“It seems the only time minorities are in the newspapers it is to talk about something bad that has happened in an urban community,” said Amador. “It was very exciting; the book fair keeps literature relevant.”

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Internet junkies say: Time to get off Web

FAREED ISSA
Contributing Writer

Undoubtedly, technology is constantly changing our society. It has altered the way we gather information, consume news and keep in touch with others. We use technological devices on a daily basis and it is a very common part of our lives – and perhaps, because of this constant use, these devices alter our own minds.

A growing number of scientists believe this is the case. Texting and even Facebook can definitely distract individuals from doing other tasks, but what researchers are more concerned about is if our own brains will eventually turn into what is being called “plastic brains.”

Perhaps this has something to do with how we express emotions. Songs that used to express love through actual words and feelings are now about sending text messages with smiley faces and abbreviated phrases. Take the song by Trey Songz, called “LOL Smiley Face.”

The song illustrates the quintessential “guy likes girl” story, but technology permeates; throughout the song the girl sends the guy text messages about how she likes him. In return, the guy sends her text messages with the heartfelt word: LOL, and a digital smiley face.

This song is a major hit and is broadcast on all the major radio stations around the country. In today’s society has it gotten to the point where one person cannot tell the other how they feel, whether it is romantic or not?

Gary Small, author of *iBrain: Surviving the Technological Alteration of the Modern Mind*, writes, “As the brain evolves and shifts its focus toward new technological skills, it drifts away from fundamental social skills.”

I have to say I agree with him. Computers and technology are not necessarily a terrible thing but before people begin social networking, they need to learn to make real relationships with people first – face to face, without Facebook.

Technology has gotten our society addicted to flashy screens and fuzzy buttons, and this change is progressively growing on us.

I have a laptop, a cell phone, Facebook account, surf the Web regularly, send electronic love letters and purchase socks online. But isn’t this part of an American’s normal lifestyle?

Americans are accustomed to having everything at an arms stretch and are practically connected to power outlets; but it wouldn’t be such a disaster if we disconnect ourselves and power off for a little while.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Special guests, events give housing students an edge

When you live on campus, there are always perks and events to fill your schedule.

Living in a residential hall not only brings advantages such as your proximity to everything the University has to offer, but this past Tuesday it gave a group of students a chance to have a one-on-one experience with world renowned CNN journalist Soledad O’Brien.

All year long, students who reside in housing benefit from programs that their resident assistants throw for them. On Oct. 27, University Park Apartments RAs gave housing residents a chance to meet Soledad O’Brien.

While many students and faculty got to hear her lecture at 6 p.m., students who live on campus

(and who RSVP’d) got to spend time with her personally before her lecture.

One journalism major even traded contact information with her and will have a chance to be a CNN intern next year when she graduates.

This is just more proof that living on campus brings more great memories and greater perks to your college experience.

Next semester housing students will get the same opportunity with Robert F. Kennedy Jr. when he visits FIU.

Adam Johnson
Senior, International Relations
College of Arts and Sciences
Senator

ROCKED BY ROCKY

‘Virgin’ wants more shows this Fall

MATTHEW RUCKMAN
Asst. Opinion Editor

“Are you a virgin?” I was asked before the production of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* by the FIU Theater Department.

I was ... but not after Dr. Frank-N-Furter had his way with me.

The Theater Department put on its final midnight performance this past weekend to a sold out crowd and unparalleled carnal verve.

The performance was introduced by asking all “virgins” (those who haven’t seen the show before) on stage to mimic an orgasm, setting the tone for the rest of the night.

Actors performed alongside the film, which was shown on a screen (called shadow-casting), while putting their own unique spin on *Rocky Horror*.

The production – complete with silhouetted fellatio, a Speedo-clad Aryan and a time warp dance – was a joy that culminated in a transsexual orgy that made me feel like both washing and clapping my hands.

It was a crowd-pleaser and made me wonder when other performances like *Rocky Horror* were to be put on by the very capable Theater Department. The answer was a little depressing: not soon. After the performance of *Blithe Spirit* on Nov. 5-

7, there won’t be much offered during the remainder of the Fall semester.

One reason more shows can’t be put on is money.

The admission ticket for most of the performances only covers basic costs of the production, never compensating the actors or staff for their many hours of labor.

Even then, most shows

An infusion of funds from the University could guarantee even more theater shows students could enjoy.

operate at a loss, preferring to take a financial hit than limit who can attend by increasing the ticket price.

This could be remedied. An infusion of funds from the University could guarantee even more theater shows students could enjoy.

Money being as sparse as it is these days calls for some better allocation of already existing funds.

Take for example football, which commands one of the larger pools of money

compared to other entertainment-related activities on campus.

Some money could be intercepted from the athletic fee and given to the Theater Department to help put on more shows.

For a university that spends approximately \$19 million on a football program, a more equitable money dispersal is called for.

The FIU Theater Department manages, with very little monetary support, to produce engaging dramas and hilarious comedies, while FIU football isn’t managing to produce anything at all. Our current record is abysmal, at best.

The aesthetic contribution is obvious in these on-campus performances and shouldn’t be outweighed by the Golden Panther linebackers.

A more equal portion of FIU’s money pool should be going to the Theater Department and to other entertainment functions on campus.

Instead of benching our starters by funneling money into shoulder pads and jock straps maybe some of that money stream could be diverted to the arts, in the long term.

If the Theater Department can succeed in making man-on-man contact entertaining, as they’ve done in *Rocky Horror*, they’ve replaced most of football’s niche anyway.

Have something to say? Join the conversation today at FIUSM.com.



ALL PHOTOS BY ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

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.

DAILYQUERY

After a successful run of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, should the University devote more of their funds to arts programs, such as the Theater Department? Or should the University conserve that money for other endeavors? Send responses to opinion@fiusm.com

OPINIONPIECE

20

The number of Colombians who have been murdered in Venezuela in the past few weeks.

QUOTATIONATION

“They know they are on the losing side of history. But they are determined to take as many lives with them as their movement is finally exposed for the nihilistic, empty effort it is.”

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on the attacks in Pakistan after her visit on Oct. 28

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? 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.

NIGHT O' FRIGHT

Halloween festivities abound throughout Magic City



CHRISTOPHER NECUZE
Editor in Chief

In many ways, Halloween is the perfect night to live in Miami. It's the one night a year locals take to the streets to let loose and be themselves – that is, by not being themselves.

This town has no shortage of excuses to don that costume you've been thinking of all month long; and because the haunted eve falls on a Saturday this year, you can rest assured that the parties will go to all hours and all weekend.

Here are a few haunts to keep in

mind when you and some of your favorite ghouls and gals take on the night.

COCONUT GROVE

Those veterans of Halloween in Miami know that the biggest party is in the Grove. There are always excesses of food, alcohol and college students at this party; it's so big, it spills into the streets into a full-fledged block party.

This year's event is appropriately themed after the late King of Pop's most well-known album, *Thriller*. Thriller Night in Coconut Grove promises to treat you to a fair share

of prominent local DJs and Michael Jackson impersonators.

As expected, there will be the usual slew of costume contests among the various moon-walking competitions, with up to \$3,500 up for grabs in cash prizes.

The festivities will go from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31. Tickets are \$30, but it gets you access to all the entertainment and an open bar compliments of Miller Beer and Kilo Kai Rum. All proceeds of this event will go to Shake-A-Leg Miami, a local charity for disabled and at-risk youth.

SOUTH BEACH

If salty ocean air is more your thing, head over to South Beach on All

Hallow's eve with Lincoln Road dialed into your GPS. The Van Dyke Cafe, located at 846 Lincoln Road will be having another Halloween block party, this one voodoo themed.

Guests can enjoy a free concert by New Orleans blues group IKO IKO in the upstairs lounge, which promises to take guests to the "origins of voodoo."

One way or the other, Van Dyke's has a lot to offer in terms of moderately priced brews, with domestic bottles for \$4 and imports for \$5. You can also enjoy one of Van Dyke's signature cocktails, like the Mango Cosmo or the Orange Mojito, all

MIAMI, page 8



COMIC BOOK REVIEW

Comic book hero takes a bite out of crime

PABLO PENTON
WRGP General Manager

Ever wondered what would happen if Deadpool and an episode of CSI collided? OK, probably not. But the results are great.

"Chew" follows the life of Tony Chu, an officer in the Philly Police Department, who is also a "cibopath." Cibopaths possess the ability to take a bite out of anything organic and know all of its personal information. If Tony bites into a fruit or vegetable, he knows what plant it grew from, what pesticides were used, and when it was harvested. What's way more fun, though, is that his skill can also be used on humans.

Three years ago, the world suffered a global bird flu pandemic, killing 23 million Americans and 116 million worldwide, leading to the outlawing of chicken. As a result, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has become the most powerful government agency in the country, working nonstop to combat a black market where chicken has become a ludicrous livestock since its ban.

While busting a local restaurant, which was secretly selling chicken, Tony's cibopathic abilities are discovered

by the FDA. Knowing he can be used to help solve criminal cases, the FDA hires him on to their special crimes division. He is partnered with Mason Savoy who, as Tony learns for the first time, is one of two other cibopaths known in the world.

Tony is given his first case: Evan Pepper, a health inspector for the state of New York, has gone missing. The first piece of evidence: Evan's severed finger. After eating a piece of it, Tony and Mason find out that his finger was cut off after Evan stumbled upon the largest collection of illegal chickens in the country while making a routine health inspection. After further investigation, Tony and Mason find the chicken warehouse and plan a raid.

While leaving his guard down, Tony is cornered by the warehouse owner and finds himself at the end of the owner's gun barrel. Mason leaps in front of him to take the bullet in his shoulder. Mason slaughters the owner, which gets blood all over Tony. Tony gets a reading from the blood, but he also realizes something else: blood from Mason's gunshot wound also got in his mouth. Tony figures out that the warehouse owner did cut off

CHEW, page 9

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Five blogs contain fantastic content for cooking fanatics

The blogosphere is home to many subjects, ranging from important social issues to the most frivolous of celebrity gossip. Thankfully for us foodies, recipe and entertaining blogs fall somewhere in the middle, offering a plethora of knowledge that can be used to our advantage. Without further adieu, here's a look at five food blogs that stand out.

COLLEGE FOOD EXPERIMENTS
collegefoodexperiments.blogspot.com

College Food Experiments is written by Alyse, a busy biology/anthropology major with a penchant for dorm room dining.

Content includes novice-friendly recipes, articles on topics such as the "Freshman 15," and a list of the supplies every college dorm resident needs in order to get cooking.

I recommend this blog for those who need inspiration for a quick, cheap, easy meal without going bankrupt in the process.

BAKERELLA
www.bakerella.com

Along with cookie, cake and pastry recipes with bright step-by-step photographs to match, the tour-de-force of this blog is the on-going series of Cake Pop recipes.

Cake Pops – a mixture of cake and cream cheese to make them moldable – were first

introduced as simple candy coated spheres, but décor ideas for them have been established for various occasions such as graduation, Christmas and the fast-approaching Halloween. This is a blog that will offer fun, simple dessert options to satisfy your sweet tooth.

ALMOST VEGETARIAN
almostvegetarian.blogspot.com

This blog covers all things healthy – namely vegetarian recipes, cookbook reviews and articles regarding nutrition, diet and the benefits of organic living.

There are also some recipes for indulgent desserts made with vegetarian or vegan ingredients – all of the decadence, but half the calories.

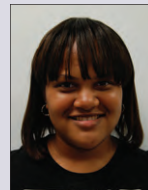
If you're thinking seriously about going green in terms of your eating habits, then you should think seriously about checking this blog regularly.

HOSTESS WITH THE MOSTESS (HWTM)
DAILY BLOG
WWW.HOSTESSBLOG.COM

Hostess Blog is updated daily with food,

FOOD, page 9

COLUMNIST



JASMYN ELLIOTT

NEON NIGHTS

South Dade spots serve ambience along with liquor

We have a saying here in Miami that I believe goes “Shots! Shots! Shots! Everybody!” and “Dale, que tu puedes!” Can there be a balance between having a comfortable place to knock back a few beers and a place to eat and converse without having to lean in and... “huh?” There’s an old saying in Madrid, “When you eat, you drink. When you drink, you eat.” I like that balance.

I usually try to stay away from the typical big loud bars with bad food. My hearing is already suffering from the many hours I’ve spent flailing inside nightclubs under the thick, deafening tribal house beat of Miami. Sometimes, blocking everyone out isn’t satisfying anymore. Sometimes, I just want to sit and listen.

Wow, if my mother ever reads that last line she’s probably rolling her eyes in disbelief.

But it’s for those very reasons that I go to Fox’s on Tuesday nights for Shuffle Tuesdays. Located on 6030 South Dixie Highway, Fox’s has a relaxed, low-light happy hour with a bartender who makes a wicked sour apple martini.

The two-for-one drink specials anywhere always translates into More-for-Me. Tuesdays nights attract the young, indie college-age crowd that enjoy an occasional guest DJ set. When it comes to gastronomy, Fox’s is all about the comfort food, but I like to come here when they have a special on lobster tails.

In the same neighborhood as Fox’s is The Irish Times, on 5850 Sunset Drive. I came here late one Monday and wasn’t too sure what the hype was about. OK, so it’s Irish. But Irish I never bothered with this place – no kisses from me. The fish and chips are just about the only thing I would come here for. The location of this bar, however, is great because you can walk to nearby Sunset Place, or the sushi bar RA – which serves an amazing rainbow roll.

RA, on 5829 SW 73rd Street, is currently

my favorite place to bring someone for sushi. The interior design of this sushi is beautiful and otherworldly. Happy hour at this sushi bar makes the appetizers half-off and sake shots are \$1. The staff has always been cheerful and polite with us, and they also offer outdoor seating.

So, Irish pub that feels more like an afterthought than a genuine Irish bar: bad idea. Excellent Japanese sushi with quick staff, great happy hour and impressive design: great idea.

For the beer lovers out there, there is Yardhouse in Merrick Park on 320 San Lorenzo Ave. Yardhouse is massive. I went there for the first time last week and while I was looking for my seated friends, I took note of the food being served. It is quintessentially American: big portions, mountains of mashed potatoes, alpha male burgers and pizza. I won’t pretend that I am an expert on beer, but I have never been so overwhelmed with a seemingly inexhaustible list of beers. I chose the beer that for some reason or another jumped out at me: the Snakebite.

Yes, Halloween is coming up. Zombie wannabes all across Miami will be moaning for brains and “paaarrk-iing.” Whatever your plans are for the weekend, I will suggest that you keep your wits about you: drunken vampires and pretty puking sex bunnies will be on those slick black late night streets.

I can’t understand why someone would risk a DUI or death when just lying down and passing out in the backseat is so much safer. I’m no one to judge, but I do have advice: drink responsibly and eat a big meal. The Spanish were onto something clever when they realized it was better to serve tapas and food with their liquor than to serve it alone.

“Neon Nights” is a weekly column focusing on Miami nightlife. Look for it every Friday in *The Beacon* and on *FIUSM.com*.



BOBBY JOE BRACY

IS IT WORTH IT?

‘Elm St’: a dream to watch

WORTH IT, page 1

to sleep over. Tina’s boyfriend Rob (Nick Corri) soon arrives at the party to sleep with his girlfriend, only to watch her get slaughtered and picked apart and thrown onto the ceiling like a plush doll.

Everyone knows the tale of Freddy Krueger some 25 years after the release of the 1984 classic. He’s the child murderer who made it out of prison on a technicality but was incinerated in a boiler by the town’s people. He’s come to take revenge on their children by hunting for them in a place where their parents cannot protect them: their dreams.

Dreams and reality. The great discussion in art and life raging from thinkers like Freud to artists like Dali or even moviemakers such as Federico Fellini. Craven’s film takes it all to a frightening conclusion as Nancy

and Glen struggle to survive as the dreams become more and more real.

All this coupled by the eerie, surreal imagery of slaughter in small town America, captured by the keen eye of cinematographer Jacques Haitkin; slow motion and over saturation during small town scenes with mist and shadow play during dream sequences juxtaposed with extreme violence and Charles Bernstein’s child-like, subversive score.

Craven’s staging his importance to the horror genre along with his creation of a villain who really is a threat, because he exists in an area unreachable to anyone. It is the film of a director who is being allowed to really show his vision of what horror is.

Craven’s writing is not perfect. Certain dialogue falls flat, and how many times can the teen couple mid-coitus meet a violent end? Nancy is a typical teenager and so

is Glen, and so the problem of stereotyping is there as in many movies.

But it is Freddy’s movie. It’s not enough to be able to lurk and hide in dreams; you’ve got to bring real power and imposition to the role, which Englund does with such mastery. It is fair to say that this is an iconic role.

The kids in this movie do fine and serve their purpose; they die or try to escape dying and keep us watching the movie.

The star is of course Freddy, whose costume will be worn for countless Halloweens. In fact, I think I’ve chosen my costume for this year.

Verdict: Recommended.

“Is It Worth It?” is a weekly feature rating the relative quality of films screened by SPC. A Nightmare on Elm Street will be shown in GC 140 on Oct. 30 at 5 and 8 p.m.

South Florida gears up for Halloween 2009 events

MIAMI, page 7

Van Dyke’s. The band hits the stage at 9 p.m. Halloween night.

DOWNTOWN MIAMI

If driving to the beach sounds too scary even for Halloween night, stay on the mainland and head over to the downtown for a bevy of entertainment options.

For the really big party in downtown head to club Space, located at 34 NE 11th St. *The*

Miami Herald voted club Space the No. 1 late nightclub in Miami for 2009, just in case you needed convincing.

The party starts at 11 p.m. and goes – and goes. Just get ready to dance with DJ Boris, Guy Gerber and countless others going into the wee hours. Presale tickets are just \$20 and available online at clubspace.com.

Want something a little more intimate? Visit the iconic club PS14 located at 28 NE 14th Street for the last time, as Halloween 2009 will be the last time this club opens its doors.

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009

NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET



Enjoy free scary movie fun at GC!
WHEN: 5 and 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 140

SEVENDUST

A live show by the Atlanta-bred hard rock crew
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$24
WHERE: Revolution Live, <http://www.jointherevolution.net/>

THRILLER HALLOWEEN BASH



WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$6
WHERE: Tobacco Road, 626 S Miami Ave

THE COLOR PURPLE

Watch this great production tonight!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$25-\$75
WHERE: Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, 1300 Biscayne Blvd

HOUSE OF JIGSAW HALLOWEEN WEEKEND

A party for the latest Saw movie!
WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15
WHERE: Mansion, 1235 Washington Ave, Miami Beach

NICOLE HENRY



Open air jazz concert led by this artist tonight!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MOCA, 770 NE 125th St, North Miami

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009

NECKFACE:DEVIL'S DISCIPLE



Exhibition designed to frightened viewers!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15
WHERE: Our House West of Wynwood, epoplif.com

CAPTAIN MORGAN'S FANTASY-FEST PARADE



Enjoy watching 50 homemade floats plus Bridget Marquardt as the grand marshal!
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Duval Street in Key West

THE HELLRAISERS BALL



Debut of South Beach's newest rock venue!
WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: Bella Rose, bellarosemiami.com/

COSTUME CONTEST

Best costumed couple will receive a free lobster dinner!
WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Blue Print Ocean Grill, 24775 SW 87th Ave,

POP LIFE HALLOWEEN



Devil's Disciple after party!
WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15
WHERE: Electric Pickle, epoplif.com/

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009

HAUNTED MASQUERADE PARTY



A venetian carnival themed benefit!
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$50
WHERE: Seminole Coconut Creek, 5550 Northwest 40 St, Pompano Beach

ATTACK ATTACK!

Catch this metalcore band tonight!
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$14.99
WHERE: Culture Room, 3045 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale

HAIRTOPIA



Hairstyling competition!
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$40
WHERE: Miami Dade County Auditorium

DIGITAL DRAFTING SANDBLAST

A sand sculpture competition!
WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: free
WHERE: Crandon Park, 4000 Crandon Blvd.

OPEN MIC

WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: The Castle Lounge, 1322 West Dixie Hwy, Hollywood

ACOUSTIC NIGHT



WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: John Martin's Pub, 253 Miracle Mile

-Compiled by Mariana Ochoa. Got an event you want featured? Send an e-mail to mariana.ochoa@fiusm.com.

MOMENT OF CLARITY

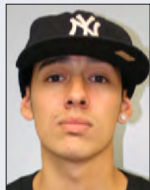
GANGSTER GORE

Hip-hop and horror collide to form underground genre

Kidcrusher promotes the spirit of Halloween everyday.

This horrorcore artist especially shows it in his popular YouTube video, "Meet The Monsters."

COLUMNIST



JONATHAN RAMOS

Although Kidcrusher's music has not gone mainstream, it is great to know that a grown man takes the foundation of Halloween so seriously that he has dedicated his life to shooting low-budget videos with his face painted while yelling obscenities into the camera.

Kidcrusher could just go trick-or-treating, but he gave up lollipops and Butterfingers for the thrill of promoting Halloween year round. With a wild head of hair and a variety of face paint masks, KidCrusher's favorite character to be is the clown. It looks like he is trying to be to Halloween what Santa Claus is to Christmas. Indeed, Kidcrusher is a lovable, bloodthirsty character that sprays his Halloween carols through violent death-oriented lyrics.

Truthfully, it is a fitting time to take a look at the hip-hop style that is horrorcore, not because of the subpar performances by Kidcrusher and others, but for what it is most of the time. The sub-genre, which can be

classified under rap or metal, combines dark lyrics and violence into horror-themed music. It has found a niche and a good following. The reason the music has not been able to surface in the mainstream is obvious, due to its propensity for violent words and thoughts that can include suicide and murder, among other things.

Early versions of Three 6 Mafia's and Eminem's music can be described as horrorcore rap. Gravediggaz, a group that has had

arguably the most success of all artists in the sub-genre, have had a respectable career. Starting with the 1994 album, *6 Feet Deep*, the group made a name for itself with lead single "Diary of a Madman." Gravediggaz show lyrical ability and their records can be appreciated as art instead of being tossed aside as garbage.

After all, the veteran group does feature Wu-Tang Clan member RZA, giving them a credible connection to hip-hop.

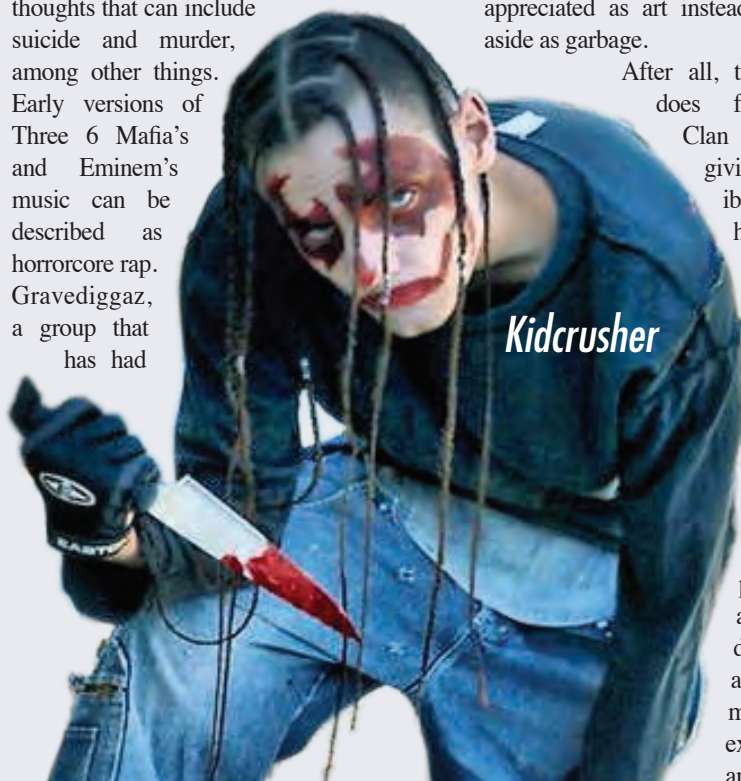
The group has shown the ability to lace beats with poetry and solid wordplay, regardless of the subject matter.

The music is not necessarily yelling and preaching violence as much as it is describing hardship and pain through music favoring extreme violence as an alternative.

When I first researched horrorcore in depth, I realized that it wasn't all people mindlessly screaming in need of attention. What's more, it can be thought of as an art form like its more acceptable cousin, gangsta rap.

Although artists like Kidcrusher should be noted for getting people into the humor of Halloween, this underground sub-genre can be entertaining, as long as it is listened to for what it is. It is a form of entertainment with horror-themed lyrics, just like going to the movies to watch the latest fright flick.

"Moment of Clarity" is a bi-weekly column on hip-hop music and culture by Assistant Sports Director Jonathan Ramos. Check out the Life! section next week for a special edition of "Clarity."



Kidcrusher

5 Notable Horrorcore Artists

- Insane Clown Posse
- Insane Poetry
- Gravediggaz
- Ganksta N-I-P
- Esham

The top five recipe blogs

FOOD, page 7

drink, and décor ideas for seasonal celebrations as well as other parties with kitschy themes such as "Alice in Wonderland" or "East Meets Guest". It also contains how-to entries on planning a celebration from start to finish or picking the right mood music. If you're looking to throw the most elaborate celebration your dorm has ever seen, this blog is a formidable resource for ideas.

ARABIC BITES

arabicbites.blogspot.com

Arabic Bites was created by two sisters from Saudi Arabia with a love for international cuisine as a whole. The entries include recipes for foreign favorites and many occasions, including Ramadan. This blog will allow food fans to travel without leaving their kitchen.

"Food for Thought" is a weekly column reviewing restaurants in the FIU area. Beacon reviewers receive no free food or services in exchange for positive reviews.

Comic book hero tastes victory of a mystery solved

CHEW, page 7

Evan's finger, but Mason was the one who killed him.

Evan Pepper came to Mason because he was threatened by a chicken smuggling operation, but Mason killed him because he thought Evan knew something about the cause of the bird flu pandemic. The real cause.

But Evan didn't know, and now it's Tony's job to go head-to-head with Mason and find out.

"Chew" has action, humor and charac-

ters you can really get attached to. In a time when comics are focusing on becoming more realistic, epic and cinematic, "Chew" remembers the most important thing about comics: they're comics.

It knows not to take itself too seriously and focuses on just being fun.

The art is playful, but gruesome when it needs to be. The story is ridiculous and obscene, but also well thought out and enticing. I'll have as many portions as this series is willing to serve.

"Chew" is a new series from Image Comics. It is written by John Layman and drawn by Rob Guillory.

"Chew" ... knows not to take itself too seriously and focuses on just being fun.

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www.buriedalive2009.com



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FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

Senior D'Haiti finds his way into starting lineup

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

In his five years with the Golden Panthers, O'Darris D'Haiti has commuted from North Miami in order to be a member of the football team. A walk-on, his countless trips on the campus shuttle bus from Biscayne Bay Campus to make it to organized team activities are starting to earn him more playing time as a senior.

D'Haiti will start his third consecutive game at cornerback when the Golden Panthers face Louisiana on Oct. 31 at FIU Stadium. Beyond special teams, D'Haiti has never assumed a major role on defense in his career. The senior is now stepping in for an injured Dez Johnson and playing solid coverage.

"Proud of him. I think one day we will all have the chance to tell a great story about O'Darris and all the things that he has done and the sacrifices that he's made to be a member of this football program," said FIU coach Mario Cristobal. "To be able to be here on time, while at the same time maintaining a tremendously difficult academic load as well as helping out his family and everything else that he does with that."

D'Haiti, who has 21 tackles on the season, often has to find other means to stay up to date when he cannot be on time to OTA's. Since the NCAA does not allow for the team to give him transportation outside of games, the staff overcomes that with constant communication.

"He doesn't miss things but there are times when we have to obviously accommodate his schedule in terms of him arriving late," Cristobal said. "If that is the case, we always try to provide him with the information before or make sure we catch up with him sometime in some shape or form."

STREAKING

When T.Y. Hilton caught a pass in the first quarter at Arkansas State last Saturday, it was his 18th consecutive game with a reception. Despite a knee injury that knocked him out of most of the game against WKU on Oct. 10, Hilton has played every game since and kept the streak alive. The dynamic sophomore has had a catch in every game since his debut vs. Kansas in 2008.

BERRY GOOD

Wide receiver Kendall Berry is back from an anterior crucial ligament injury, and he is starting to turn into the player Cristobal recruited in 2007. Over the last two games, his first two of the year, Berry has had six catches for 59 yards, including a touchdown vs. Troy on Oct. 17.

"Kendall was a special guy coming out of high school. He had a [ACL injury] last season, which was disappointing. We're trying to play him at wide receiver, trying to be that spread guy you can move back into the backfield and can run the football as well. He's up to 200 pounds, he's running well."

Panthers looking for first ever win against UL

FOOTBALL, page 12

Cedric Mack, Kevin Van Kirk, Istanich, Bryan and Alajajian have all played extensively for stretches and are competing to fill the last two spots on the unit.

"It is not up to our par," Cristobal said. "Not up to what we want standard-wise."

Cristobal added that freshman center Giancarlo Revilla is in the mix for playing time at guard as well, but is being developed especially at center after Serini, a Remington award finalist, recently battled injury.

STINGY SECONDARY

The Golden Panthers will need the offensive line to progress if they want to make a run to match last season's five wins, or win the next five contests and become bowl eligible with six victories. Against Louisiana, part of their responsibility will be to give quarterback Paul McCall time so that he can make good decisions against a Ragin' Cajun secondary that generates takeaways. UL is first in the conference with 10 interceptions as a team.

"They show a lot of different fronts, they move a lot," McCall said of UL's

defense. "They do a lot of difficult things in the secondary that a lot of the teams that we play don't usually do because of how complex they are."

FIU lost at UL 49-20 last season.

- Cornerback O'Darris D'Haiti is probable to play against UL after injuring a shoulder vs. ASU.
- Cornerback Anthony Gaitor is expected to play vs. UL after a shoulder injury he aggravated against ASU.
- Linebacker Winston Fraser will not play on Saturday.

out really strong because they think they can beat us. But I think that we are a stronger team and we'll come out fighting just as strong as they will."

For the team, these two weeks are about finishing what they set out to do from the start and to prepare for the Sun Belt tournament.

"Our whole theme this year is 'Finish Strong' and we want to peak at the right time and transfer that to a Sun Belt Championship," Tomic said. "Our goal is to go undefeated in the conference, but we have to focus on the match we are playing next."

Matchup with MTSU could settle East Division

VOLLEYBALL, page 12

Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee, both of whom will try and redeem themselves for their defeats at the hands of the Golden Panthers earlier this season. The match against Middle Tennessee could determine the winner of the East Division, with the Blue Raiders trailing FIU by one game.

"I think it'll be a good test," said freshman Chanel Araujo about the upcoming showdown with the Blue Raiders. "They'll come

MOVING ON UP



CHRIS GREEN / THE BEACON

FIRST PLACE: The Golden Panthers women's soccer team moved into first place in the conference following a pair of weekend wins, and moved into the top 10 in the NCAA's South Region ranking, tied at 10 with three teams.

Accountability, comedy keys to keeping things light

TRACK, page 12

were recruiting me, I would be the best on their team," Canady said. "I didn't want to go somewhere I would be the best. I wanted to be somewhere where somebody else could push me."

Mejia has been one of those leaders to push Canady.

"He always tells me to be on time, but that's just him picking on me."

Mejia feels he is just trying to make sure Canady understands how much more accountability is necessary to compete at the college level.

"I get on her about some stuff. Well, about being on time," Mejia said about making sure Canady is responsible. "We help them throughout the season. Setting up a schedule where you're not doing your homework at 3 a.m. and waking up at six. We also try to work with their time management and tell them they have to go to the training room. I told her she can't be a good runner if she doesn't take care of her body."

Sun Belt Freshman of the Year Sebastian Castillo said having a track on campus would save some time while Canady said it reminds her of her high school days.

"With us not having a track, I feel like I'm back in high school, not getting the recognition we should get."

Even so the three runners do not say they are at a disadvantage. They are focused with what they must do to win in the tournament. They said rest and eating right the week before helps. Mejia offered additional advice to prepare for the SBC tournament.

"Visualize the race mentally and know that it's nothing that we haven't done before," he said. "Know that the training we accomplished so far has prepared us for that moment. At that moment all we have to do is race and we should receive the results we are expecting."

The last two events of the season yielded good results. At the Walt Disney World Cross Country Classic on Oct. 9-10, Mejia led all FIU runners with a time of 26:10 in the 8k race, and Castillo finished with a time of 26:33.

The sophomores placed six and 11, respectively, out of 205 runners. Canady finished in 26th place out of 279 contestants with a 20:00.60 time.

At the Sodexo Stetson Hatter Invitational Cross Country on Oct. 16, the

men's team finished in sixth place out of 18 teams and the women finished in ninth place out of 20.

GETTING LOOSE

To cope with the pressure from a big meet, Castillo reverts to comedy to relieve the tension.

"He definitely keeps everyone relaxed," Mejia said.

Canady's teammates tease her by saying she owns a pig because she is from Arkansas.

"They make fun of me because I'm from Arkansas so they say I'm country," Canady said.

Castillo says Canady is not alone.

"No one is safe from getting picked on," Castillo said.

The joking stops when the race begins and Campbell understands his younger players will lead the rest of the men and women's teams during the tournament.

"The reason why he have so many expectations out of those three young people is because of their maturity level," Campbell said. "Both of those young men came in and some of the seniors from last year's team we're being led by them."



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

INCONSISTENT: The Golden Panthers offensive line is looking for the right combination of starters to keep the sacks to a minimum.

Golden Panthers look for push up front

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

In the first game of the season against Alabama, FIU coach Mario Cristobal comfortably started five upperclassmen on his offensive line. By the third contest, the comfort level stymied as Cristobal began to tinker with his starting unit. Now, heading into a home matchup with Louisiana (4-3, 2-1 Sun-Belt) on Oct. 31 for the season's eighth game, the tinkering is still ongoing as the team has yet to settle on a consistent offensive front.

Two games into 2009, the lineup that featured three seniors and two juniors was scratched, and in four

of the last five games, the Golden Panthers have not started the same unit in consecutive games. FIU (1-6, 1-3) has allowed the most sacks in the Sun Belt Conference at 22.

"I think the part that is disappointing about that is that a lot of time the offensive line is going to get blamed when things don't go well offensively," Cristobal said. "But there are several things involved in that formula, and the offensive line did do some things that were pretty good. Not exactly where we want to be all the time, but at the same time not as bad as what it seemed on paper statistically."

The most recent shakeup on the

offensive line saw freshman Rupert Bryan inserted at tackle over senior Joe Alajajian at Arkansas State. Cristobal said Bryan, who played roughly 20 plays, graded out well.

"He did well, Rupert is a very good football player," Cristobal said. "He's athletic. He's explosive. He played against [SBC preseason Defensive Player of the Year Alex Carrington] and he was good."

Cristobal added that against ASU the starting offensive line as a whole did not perform better the previous games, however, and that more lineup changes are possible. The third-year coach said that he inserted Bryan at tackle to challenge Alaja-

jian, and that some of the younger linemen are being pressed into action earlier than he thought.

"He is one of the guys that you would like to redshirt," Cristobal said of Bryan. "But we're in a situation where we got to play him and get him ready."

In addition to Bryan, fellow freshman David Istanich has stepped in and played both guard and tackle while starting the last five games, respectively. Although center Brad Serini, tackle Andy Leavine and guard Mario Caraballo have started every contest this season, Luis Abril,

FOOTBALL, page 11

CROSS COUNTRY

Team competes amid lack of track

SERGIO BONILLA
Sports Director

With no track on campus, the Golden Panthers men and women's cross country teams have to hold practices on any location possible.

This season, the teams practiced at Tropical Park, and the runners are using the program's lack of resources as a driving force to do well in the Sun Belt Conference tournament in Louisiana on Oct. 31.

"We do feel sometimes it gives us that extra boost because you want to prove yourself," Ciprian Mejia said. "You want to show them, 'Hey, we don't have a facility, but we're good enough to compete.' We're going to be just as good or better than our opponents."

Neither the men's team nor the women's team has ever won a Sun Belt Championship.

Coach Eric Campbell, who has been involved with the program for five years, said both squads are different this season because of individuals' responsible characters.

"The difference between this team and teams that we've had in years passed is that across the board each and every athlete is more accountable of themselves," Campbell said.

YOUNG LEADERS

Freshman Tai Canady chose to attend FIU because she did not want to be the team's star. She wanted her teammates to challenge her.

"Some of the other schools that

TRACK, page 11

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball hoping to avoid late season meltdown to SBC foes

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers have rolled through their Sun Belt schedule so far, going undefeated and relatively unscathed by their conference opponents.

But as the wins continue to pile up, the target on their backs grows larger with five conference foes preparing for the opportunity to dash the Panthers' hopes of a perfect conference record on their own home court in what could be the most difficult stretch FIU has faced since the beginning of the season.

"We've been working the whole season for this," said Yarimar Rosa. "We knew that the end of the season was going to be tough. We need to prepare for these five games like they are the most important games."

The trip begins Friday night against New Orleans, the team that eliminated the Golden Panthers from the Sun Belt tournament last season.

Louisiana-Monroe and Louisiana-Lafayette, who have struggled up to this point and are sitting at the bottom of the Sun Belt West Division, will have their shot to take down the Golden Panthers on Saturday and Sunday. Playing three games in three days will be a challenge for the squad, but they feel prepared for it.

"It's going to be a challenge for us," said Coach Danijela Tomic. "The Louisiana trip is going to be tough because we have to play three matches in three days and travel from one city to another. But every team does that so we have to do the same. New Orleans beat us last year in the tournament but our team is different and their team is different so it's a whole new ball game. It's going to be a good test for us."

The following weekend marks the conclusion of the Sun Belt regular season schedule, pitting the Golden Panthers against their two most formidable Sun Belt rivals:

VOLLEYBALL, page 11



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

AVOIDING A FALL: Isadora Rangel and the first place volleyball team head on the road for a three-game conference trip in Louisiana.