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RUSSIA

House unanimously OKs New START

Russia's upper house of parliament unanimously ratified the New START nuclear arms pact with the United States, the centerpiece of President Barack Obama's efforts to "reset" ties with Moscow.



INDONESIA

Strong quake hits western Indonesia

With preliminary magnitude of 6.1, a strong earthquake has hit waters off western Indonesia, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.



TUNISIA

Warrant issued for ousted president

Tunisia's government issued an international arrest warrant for ousted President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and six relatives, accusing him of taking money out of the nation illegally.

Students to dance non-stop to raise money



PHOTOS BY LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

Dr. Seuss was the theme of choice for the 2010 Dance Marathon. Last year's event raised a record-breaking \$160,000 and this year organizers hope to raise \$180,000. Dance Marathon will be held on Jan. 29 at the Recreation Center starting at noon.



JUAN LOPEZ Contributing Writer

Every year in January, feet move and hands clap for 25 hours straight to raise money for a good cause.

The Dance Marathon event was first introduced to the University in 1997. In its first year, the event raised \$9,000 for Miami Children's Hospital and Miracle Children.

Since that first event, Dance Marathon at the University has raised over \$850,000 including last year's record breaking \$160,000. It takes nearly a year to plan the event to ensure

it goes smoothly, but the fund-raising accomplished by Dance Marathon goes to help children with illnesses recover and get the treatment they need.

One of the current directors of the event, Francis Ortiz, has a personal attachment to the cause.

"I know what the kids this event benefits are going through and can relate to them," said Ortiz who has been involved in organizing the event for four years.

She used to volunteer for the event even before attending FIU through her sisters who were heavily involved in

Dance Marathon while they attended the University.

The other co-director of the event, Christina Flores, first got involved with the event last year as an entertainment chair but is just as passionate about Dance Marathon.

"To me, Dance Marathon means the chance to give children hope and inspiration," says Flores. "Our team has the privilege of knowing that with every penny we fundraise for the Miami Children's Hospital and the Children's Miracle Network, we are helping save

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Survivor describes his experience as child in Holocaust

DAVID BARRIOS Senior Staff Writer

The police raids began at 4 a.m. on July 16, 1942.

Joseph Weissmann was eleven years old at the time. As a French Jew living in Paris, occupied by the Germans and run by the Vichy government during this period, his life was about to intersect with Nazi Germany's "Final Solution."

Over 13,000 Jews would be rounded up from Paris and its neighboring towns by the French authorities within the course of that day and sent to concentration camps in an event now referred to by the French as "The Round-Up."

Weissman, now 80, spoke to an audience of hundreds of students on January 25, recounting his experiences while interred

by the Nazis and his subsequent escape during the Second World War.

"I am not a professional conference man. I am only a witness," Weissmann told the audience as he began.

Ordered onto buses by the French Police, Weissmann, along with his family and thousands of others, were held at the Velodrome d'Hiver. A former bicycling track and

stadium, it would be used to house the Jews until they could be sent to their respective camps.

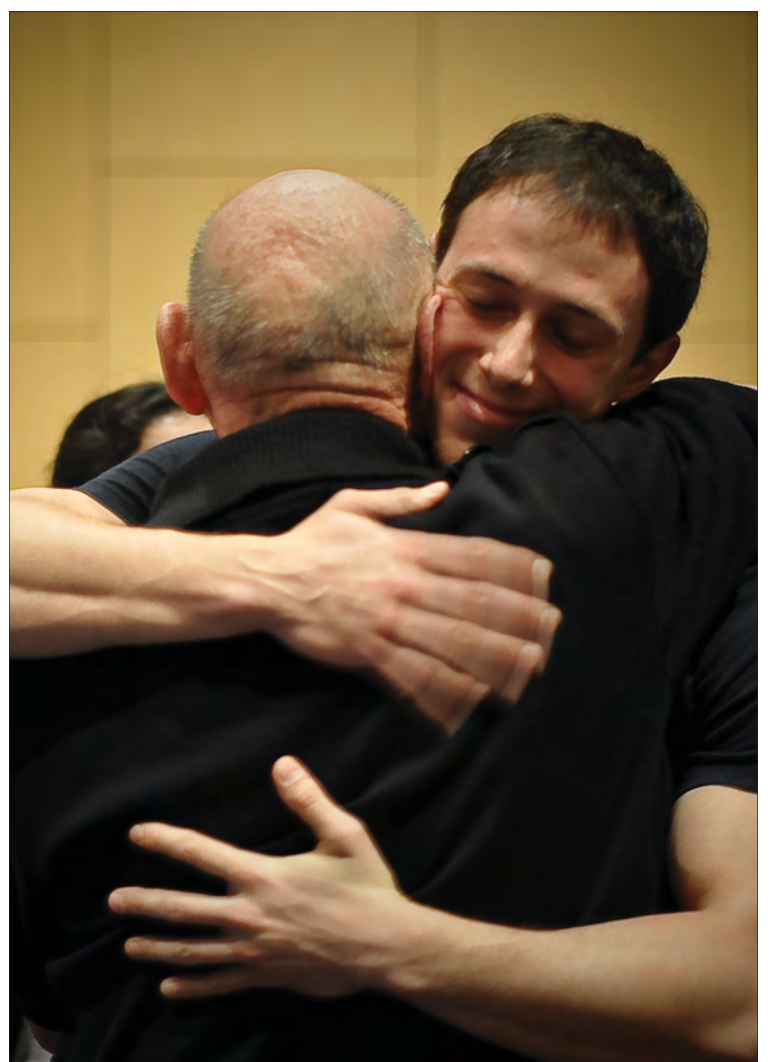
"There is an incessant moaning coming from people, day and night. The sanitary conditions grew worse day in and day out. Someone commits suicide, creating a great panic among the people there. There was no food and

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PHOTOS BY GLORIA BAILON/THE BEACON

LEFT: Joseph Weissmann, a survivor of the Holocaust, lectures to an audience of hundreds at the new SIPA auditorium. RIGHT: Bryan Arriete, a senior majoring in physics, shares a warm embrace with Weissmann.



NEWS FLASH

Giffords moves to rehabilitation hospital

Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was moved from a Houston, Texas, hospital to a nearby rehabilitation hospital after doctors upgraded her condition from serious to good.

Giffords was shot in the head at a public event in Tucson, Arizona, on January 8. Her upgraded condition was announced late Tuesday after Giffords’ husband, Mark Kelly, said she had watched an hour of television from her hospital bed. Kelly called the development “exciting,” said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Florida and a friend of Giffords.

“Doctors continue to tell them they’re hopeful about how much she’ll recover. With each day she’s able to do things that are a little more complex than she had been doing before,” she said.

Florida’s Hispanic students outshine nation in science

Florida’s Hispanic students outperformed their counterparts across the country on the national science exams, according to data released Tuesday by the federal Department of Education.

Overall, Florida continued to lag behind the country on the science portion of the National Assessment of Educational Progress, known as the Nation’s Report Card. While the scores for Florida’s fourth-graders pretty much matched the national average, Florida’s eighth-grade scores were slightly below average.

The numbers reflect well on Miami-Dade County, schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho said.

“Given that 65 percent of students in Miami-Dade are Hispanic, it’s fair to say that Miami-Dade’s Hispanic students lifted statewide performance,” Carvalho said.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

SGC-MMC

Vacant positions filled during meeting

VINCENT FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

After the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus senate met this past Monday, Jan. 24, 9 vacant spots spread across three branches were filled, including the SGC-MMC Elections Commissioner and SGC-MMC Comptroller.

Wasting no time, senators voted to immediately begin confirming the many candidates brought forth at the meeting.

The first of these candidates to be confirmed was Andrea Alhadari, who would be elected as the new SGC-MMC Elections Commissioner. Alhadari, who previously served as director of external relations, had stepped down to fill personal responsibilities that arose during her time as director of external relations.

Alhadari previously served as president of Greek sorority Delta Phi Epsilon during her time as Director of External Relations, which brought up questions of a possible “conflict

of interest” by College of Arts and Sciences Senator Chris Cabral, who targeted her affiliation with Delta Phi Epsilon.

“Functionally, in the past, different Greek organizations have worked in effect as political parties, and would try to elect all their members into this organization and seeing as you were president of one of these organization, some would argue that would become a conflict of interest,” argued Cabral.

“I’m running for this position for this university and to develop myself as a leader. I want to go into higher education because this is the career path I want to follow,” Alhadari responded.

After questioning ended, the senate confirmed Alhadari as the new Elections Commissioner with a vote of 20 in favor to four against.

The next position to be voted on was the new chairperson for the Graduate Student Funding Committee. Rachel Emas, vice chairperson for the SGC-MMC GSFC, was the only candidate present and as such, was elected to the

position.

The executive branch also faced filling many positions left vacant due to resignations. These positions included Student Health Coordinator, Student Lobbying Coordinator and SGC-MMC Comptroller.

The comptroller position became vacant when former SGC-MMC Comptroller Maria-Rosa Blanco stepped down after being offered an extension to her internship, with the possibility of a job offer at the end.

The next nominees to come forth and be confirmed were Viktor Nathlan-ElSaieh for Student Health Coordinator, Kevin Gonzalez for SGC-MMC Comptroller and Christopher Diaz for Student Lobbying Coordinator.

“I’m really excited about the position and I’m really looking forward to working with some great people,” said Diaz. “I am going to make it possible for people with [varying] time constraints to contribute and impress upon students how much and how quickly this university has grown and how great it’s going

Bowl game celebration to take place

ALBA TOWERS
Asst. Life! Editor

In celebration of FIU’s historic bowl victory over the Toledo Rockets, the Student Government Association is hosting the “Hot-N-Ready Panther Party.”

On Jan. 28, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., students, faculty and staff are invited to celebrate along with the 2010 FIU Champion football team, Roary, Dazzlers

and the Cheerleaders in the Graham Center Ballrooms. SGA Presidents Helena Ramirez and Christin “Cici” Battle are organizing this University-wide party to congratulate the first-time Sun Belt Conference Champion winners.

Both Ramirez and Battle put together the event after several students expressed their desire to applaud the football team’s exciting victory at the Little Caesar’s

Pizza Bowl—the party is a tribute to Little Caesar’s slogan.

The football team will be signing free posters and photos for the fans.

The celebration will include free Little Caesars pizza, Pepsi products, music from DJ J.O., giveaways, significant discounts on FIU merchandise from the FIU Barnes and Nobles Bookstore, and a raffle.

Named the Sun Belt

CORRECTIONS

On page two of Vol. 22, Issue 6 of The Beacon, the article titled “Occupants embrace building’s facilities” incorrectly spelled the architecture firm in charge of building the SIPA building. The correct spelling is “Arquitectonica.”

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

THE BEACON

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Weissmann: ‘I must testify’

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nothing given to drink,” said Weissmann, describing his condition at the Velodrome during his three days there.

Weissmann and his fellow prisoners were rounded onto packed trains and transported to an interment camp outside of Paris.

“On these trains were written, ‘Horses: 8. People: 40. We were about 200 people in this wagon. One restroom per wagon,” he said.

The stay at the interment camp would be temporary, lasting several weeks. The final destination for all of the prisoners was Auschwitz.

Weissmann describe the scene as the Nazi’s searched for valuables held onto the internees before being sent to the death camps.

“Watches and jewelry are taken and earrings are torn out if they aren’t loosened fast

enough... along with parts of the ear. Those who are caught hiding something on them are beaten,” he said.

Weissmann would be separated from his family and their fate after Nazi officers felt that the train cart carrying the children was too full.

Over 100 children were to be held at the interment camp, waiting for a later deportation date, promised that they would meet their parents again.

“These children, among them my sisters that screamed in distress, their sadness and pain so high that I cannot find the words to describe them. The mothers and grandparents screaming, because some go and some stay,” Weissmann said, describing the moment he departed the train.

Weissmann, along with his friend Jo, would escape the camp three days after that. He lived from orphanage to

orphanage until the United States ended the Nazi occupation in August of 1944.

He also described with some humor his duty along with another young man to clean the “bucket” underneath the wooden planks used as a communal toilet. Weissmann, much smaller than his counterpart, was soon covered in feces.

He discovered in it currency, thrown out by prisoners intent on not giving it to the camp commanders. He would use this money to survive after his escape.

Weissmann currently lives in Les Mans. The film, “The Round-Up,” based on his experiences, stars Melanie Laurent and Jean Reno and is currently being screened at international film festivals.

“A great country like France must remember. I witnessed this tragedy. I must testify,” Weissmann said.

DION VON MOLTKE

FIU student to compete in 24-hour race

IGOR MELLO
Asst. Sports Director

Like most students, Dion von Moltke, drives an average car to school—a Volkswagen GTI. But this weekend, von Moltke will hop in a Porsche GT3 and compete in the 2011 Rolex 24 at Daytona.

The Rolex 24 at Daytona is an annual 24-hour race held in Daytona International Speedway. It will be von Moltke's third Daytona race in his young professional racing career.

By the end of the race, von Moltke's team will have gone through nearly 24-25 pit stops, changing nearly 25-26 sets of tires through the 24-hour stint.

Despite being born in The Home-lands, Texas, von Moltke's mother is from Zimbabwe and his father is from South Africa. The sophomore considers himself South African and his no. 18 car is sponsored by South African Airways.

"I was born here, but for me I race under the South African flag because for me that's home," von Moltke said.

As a professional racecar driver, von Moltke also struggles with the daily life of a student at the university. According to him, he travels 20-25 weekends out of the year to compete in various races.

"It's tough, especially here. Because were pro athletes, FIU cannot do anything for us," said von Moltke. "It's hard because you miss a lot of classes. I haven't taken a lab yet. I don't know how I'm going to do that because if I miss more than four or five days of class, I'll fail the lab."

This isn't the first time von Moltke, 20, had his struggles in the classroom, in fact, his classroom struggles were part of the reason why started racing.

While growing up, his family moved countless times, which caused von Moltke to attend school in various places. He was enrolled in schools in Texas, Australia, South Africa, California and Miami.

At the age of 13, von Moltke was forced to change schools once again. Worried about losing friends by changing schools, von Moltke rebelled.



DION VON MOLTKE

His parents were forced to bribe von Moltke with an offer that sparked his career. They bought von Moltke a go-kart, but only if he agreed on switching schools.

"What 13-year old guy is going to turn that down? I told him, 'Hell yes,'" von Moltke said. "One thing led to another and I was going on world championships in Italy for go-karts and I stepped up in to cars and I was half decent at it. I kept going up the ranks."

In a span of four years, von Moltke leaped from go-kart racing to racing at the Rolex 24 at Daytona.

According to von Moltke, he began preparations for this 24-hour race in October of 2010. It's been the most rigorous training he has ever taken part of, spending up to 40-50 hours a week in the past three months just to withstand the gravitational pull of his vehicle.

"You need a lot of muscular strength because you're under four g (four times the gravitational pull) in the car which makes you feel four times your body weight and the car gets to 150 degrees



PHOTO COURTESY OF DIONVM.COM

Dion von Moltke will drive the No. 18 Muehlner Motorsports GT3 Porsche on Jan. 29.

Fahrenheit," von Moltke said. "It's going to be a long race so you have to be on the peak of your ability, mentally and physically."

Despite the muscular strength training, von Moltke hasn't got to practice on the track as much as he'd prefer.

"It's hard to practice much because it's so expensive, it's more of the team expecting you to be on it, so it makes it tougher," von Moltke said.

The sophomore did get a chance to test

his new Porsche on Jan. 8-10 during the Roar Before the Rolex 24. He's set to do at least three stints for the Muehlner Motorsports team on Saturday, his third team in three years. It'll also be Muehlner Motorsports' American debut in the Rolex 24 at Daytona and von Moltke's first time driving the no. 18 Porsche GT3 car.

"I'll probably do four or five stints of three hours coming up. Maybe two or three hours a

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RECRUITING ROUNDUP

Defensive backs will be the area of focus on signing day

In almost all aspects of the game, FIU's defense was as good as it gets in the Sun Belt Conference.

While facing the threat of high scoring spread offenses every week, FIU's defense allowed 27 points per game to lead the SBC. Defensive Coordinator Geoff Collins, who took a similar job at Mississippi State, engineered the turnaround from what was an embarrassing unit in 2009.

Coming into 2011, FIU will only have to replace four starters on defense. With National Signing Day fast approaching (Feb. 2), the Panthers coaching staff is looking to replenish its defensive backfield with talent and adding on to an impressive front seven.

DEFENSIVE LINE

Similar to the team's breakout on offense, FIU's defense was stout against the run in 2010, finishing fourth in the SBC in that category. Andre Pound, Joshua Forney, Kasey Smith and Jerrico Lee anchored the heart of the defensive line, and all four will once again figure to receive a fair workload in 2011. Also expect Andrew Mattox to challenge for repetitions.

Jordan White, who stands at 6-foot-4 and 330-pounds, was a late

arrival last season, but processes intriguing upside.

The team got a solid pass rush from a rising star in Tourek Williams and the departing Jarvis Wilson. Williams' growth from his freshman to sophomore seasons was noticeable, and he is expected to star on the defensive line. Replacing Wilson doesn't figure to be a great challenge, as the team sees freshmen

Paul Crawford and Isame Faciane becoming contributors.

The Panthers have secured verbal commitments from three defensive ends, however, looking to establish the depth at the position that they enjoy on the inside. Denzell Perine, Aaron Nielsen and Cody Horstman are expected to sign next week. Perine has a three-star ranking on rivals.com, with Nielsen and Horstman garnering two-star acclaim.

Sophomore defensive end Jonathan Jackson will not return in 2011. Jackson joins former high school teammate Kambriel Willis, who has already left the program after a fallout with coaches early last season.

LINEBACKER

Assuming the Panthers stick with

their hybrid defense that usually starts the game with two linebackers, Winston Fraser, Markeith Russell and Kenny Dillard should have the position covered.

The team loses Toronto Smith to graduation, who was well respected for his solid production and his leadership, but it isn't a cause for too much alarm given the expected ascension of underclassmen like Larvez Mars and Greg Hickman. Smith was good, but his production is considered replaceable.

Mars, who didn't play to start the season after an unfortunate car accident injury, still has yet to perform like the four-star prospect he was listed as by rivals.com in 2009.

After a strong end to the 2009 season, Aaron Davis seemed to be ready to replace Scott Bryant as the team's premier linebacker, but had trouble getting on the field.

Now, after a series of internal disagreements with the staff, Davis has decided to leave FIU. That will make Hickman, who has similar body structure and potential to Davis, important.

The team probably doesn't need to spend more than a scholarship or two in this class, but they are already excited to have a commitment from Miami Northwestern's Lyndon Edwards, a two-star recruit.

Other recruits being wooed by the

Panthers: Gary Wooten (Hialeah), Robert Way (Glades Central), and Jordan Mincy (Stephenson, GA), all of whom are currently undecided.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

The Panthers have nice depth in the defensive backfield, and return both starting cornerbacks in Junior Mertile and Jose Cheeseborough. Terrance Taylor, Emmanuel Souarin, Sam Miller, Khambrel Mcgee and Derrick Jones leave the Panthers with comfortable depth, although improvement must be shown by all of them in order to step in as starters if injuries occurred.

The team is intrigued with Mertile's potential after moving him from wide receiver. Mertile starred as a defensive back at North Miami High, but was insistent on playing offense in college coming out. He had a decent freshman season but was buried on the depth chart last season.

"Junior has really good ball skills," said O'darris D'Haiti, who started at cornerback for FIU in 2009. "When you put him in a zone, he's really dangerous, because he gets to read the quarterback and track the ball."

At free safety, the team returns Jonathan Cyprien, who will be a junior next season.

A two year starter, Cyprien is a

good blend of fundamentals and physical prowess.

Ash Parker must be replaced at strong safety, however, and Justin Halley and Randy Williams will compete for it.

The graduation of Kreg Brown, Marquis Rolle and Parker have shot the team's depth at safety, and it needs to be addressed.

Most importantly, the defense has to replace Anthony Gaitor.

If the starting formation is to remain the same, it will have to find someone who can cover a lot of ground in the 'STAR' role they created for Gaitor as a hybrid defensive back. Chuck Grace was plugged in as Gaitors backup last season, but that is not a given.

"He's not a guy that I would call physical, but he's a guy who works hard," D'Haiti said of Grace. "He tends to be in a good place to make plays."

But it should be noted, D'Haiti said, that 'you can't really replace Gaitor.'

The only present commitment the team has at cornerback is Cedric Walker, a 5-foot-8 athlete from Gulliver Prep who can also contribute on returns.

The team also has a committed safety in Gainesville High's Luis Rosado. Rosado, only a two-star prospect, has good size at 6-foot-2.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Late surge lifts FIU past WKU

RICO ALBARRACIN
Asst. Sports Director

After falling behind by 11 points at halftime, the Panthers were able to make a big comeback and overcome their rebounding woes.

FIU played suffocating defense in the second half to win 69-54 on Jan 26 against a high scoring Western Kentucky team.

Jerica Coley led the Panthers with a game-high 25 points and seven rebounds while Finda Mansare and Michelle Gonzalez added 17 points each.

Gonzalez also had seven steals throughout the game. Her experience against WKU was an advantage, Gonzalez said.

"I've played this team a few teams so I was able to anticipate what they were gonna do on offense," Gonzalez said. "I got a lot of help from my teammates who prevented them from making passes and I was in the right place."

The FIU (8-14, SBC 3-5) offense got off to a good start, being able to penetrate inside the paint. Freshman Jerica Coley started off hot by scoring seven of the

Panthers first 11 points. The defense became an issue, as they allowed the Hilltoppers to shoot open jump shots to take a 16-11 lead 8:02 left in the first half.

WKU (8-12, SBC 5-3) would begin to use a full court press which allowed Janae Howard to connect on three three-point shots to lead the Hilltoppers on a 13-4 run to give WKU a 29-15 lead with 3:33 left in the first half.

Senior Michelle Gonzalez hit a three-pointer and Coley added a layup off of a rebound to cut the deficit to 11, as they went into halftime trailing 31-20. Coach Cindy Russo liked her team's play, but things weren't going right.

"We were able to hit our shots in the second half. We played very good defense but our shots weren't going in through the first half," Russo said.

FIU looked to cut the Hilltopper lead, as Coley hit a wide open three-point shot and a reverse layup to help spark a 10-4 run for FIU.

Michelle Gonzalez turned up the defense to grab two steals and help FIU cut into the deficit down to one,



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Jerica Coley [above] scored 25 points and helped spark the Golden Panther comeback in the second half.

as they trailed 35-34, with 12:08 left in the game.

The Panthers would tighten up on defense, all while Finda Mansare helped carry the scoring load by scoring a couple of three-

point shots to help push the Panther lead to 60-47. WKU was forced to foul the Panthers for the finals minutes but it was not enough as FIU finished off the comeback to win 69-54.

Von Moltke on the rise in racing world

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stint and four or five stints throughout the night," said von Moltke.

Last year, von Moltke crashed and was unable to finish the 24-hour race. He finished 27th overall in the race. Von Moltke admits it may have been one of his lowest points in his racing career.

"I made a mental error coming out of the pits on cold tires and lost it. That was probably one of my low points of my career," von Moltke said.

Throughout his career, von Moltke has spent time in the hospital but never faced any serious injuries, nor broken any bones. He does acknowledge that he's in a dangerous profession.

"As a race car driver you accept the fact that it's dangerous and you can die, and you deal with it. If you're scared of it, then get out of the sport," von Moltke said.

Although, he's set to do four to five stints, von Moltke isn't sure at what time of the

day he'll be racing. What he does know is that he'd rather race under the lights.

"I don't know what shift I'm running yet. The night is my favorite time to race. That's really where you roll your sleeves up and get to battle," said von Moltke. "You can't win a race during the night, but you can definitely lose one."

Von Moltke has yet to sign a long-term contract this year, but when does ink a signature for a deal, the 20-year old will sign with the American Le Mans series or Grand AM.

"I'm still trying to figure out what I'm driving this year. It could be an American Le Mans series or it could be in Grand AM, we're still figuring it out," von Maltke said. "My dream would be to become a factory driver, maybe for Porsche. That would be the ultimate goal for any driver in the sports car world."

The Rolex 24 at Daytona will be televised on Speed TV and on FX on Jan. 29 at 3 p.m.

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SWEET SOUNDS

Miami Symphony performs at The Frost

ALFREDO APARICIO
Staff Writer

In the spirit of music and art, the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum is launching a fund raiser titled *MISO: A Journey through Art and Music* featuring the Miami Symphony Orchestra. The fundraiser, which serves as a venue to raise funds for the museum itself, will also serve as an opportunity to expose music and art lovers to both hemispheres.

The core idea of combining music with art came from Miami Symphony Orchestra conductor, Eduardo Marturet. His credits include such experimental pieces such as “Las Campanas del Silencio” in 1992 and “La Hamaca” in 1998. While he provided the full set list for the fundraiser, Carol Damian, director of the Frost Museum, collected all the artwork which is to be shown along with the music.

Music performed at the fundraiser will range from classical pieces by Wolfgang Mozart to more contemporary music from Paul Clay.

“While the fundraiser will serve to collect funds to benefit the Frost Museum, what we hope to achieve is to expose fans of both music and art to each other,” said Damian. She has always wanted to collaborate with the Miami Symphony Orchestra and when Marturet offered, she jumped at the opportunity, she said.

Working closely with Orlando Garcia, chair of the School of Music and his experimental music programs, FIU students perform recitals at the museum often.

FLEA, the Music School’s electronic and computer ensemble directed by Paula Matheson, has also performed at the Frost Museum.

The Frost Museum also has their very own program, *Crossing Boundaries: Art and Music*, a lecture series geared toward artists fascinated by music. Its purpose is to investigate the connection between music and art and the spell they cast on each other.

While looking for the pieces in her collection, Damian credits the help of art collector, Juan Antonio Pérez Simón. “He has an incredible palace full of art,” said Damian.

The art collection process began with Damian listening to the pieces from the set list and imagining what painting or piece of art would best represent the piece. For Mozart, Damian looked at classical Grecian-Roman artwork which she thought would best represent the mood of the music. For the modern pieces, Damian imagined the art sculptures of Alexander Calder as the best fit while more lively and whimsical pieces to represent the contemporary style of musician Paul Clay.

“It’s all very subjective,” said Damian. “When I played the music, and knew it was

inspired by a particular artist, I looked at the art of the artist and chose what seemed to go with the music.”

The images will be projected in the background while the music plays in the foreground.

The event will also feature violinist Kristóf Baráti, winner of the Sixth International Paganini Violin Competition in Moscow last year, playing Ottorino Respighi’s “Trittico Botticelliano.”

“It’s a really a once in a lifetime opportunity,” says Damian, who hopes that the estimated success of the event will lead to more exposure for the museum around the world.

The fund raiser will be held at The Wertheim Performing Arts Center at Florida International University in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus for one night on Feb. 12 starting at 8:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (305) 348 – 2890 or online at <http://thefrost.fiu.edu>.



COURTESY OF THE MISO

The MISO will perform at The Frost on Feb. 12, conducted by Eduardo Marturet.



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REEL TO REEL

Oscar-nominated actress shines in Coen Brothers' True Grit

Hailee Steinfeld should probably have been nominated in the Best Actress category for her performance in *True Grit* rather than best supporting actress. It's certainly not the first mistake to be made by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences but it's also one of the more glaring ones in recent memory.

W.C. Fields once warned performers to never work with children or dogs. His reasoning was that the audience will automatically gravitate towards the children in their attention. I like to call this the "Aww" factor.

The beauty of her performance as young Mattie Ross is that she approaches the audience not as a child but as an adult.

Mattie haggles the price of her father's burial to the town undertaker. The price is steep; sixty dollars, all the holdings her mother has. But she agrees to the price on the condition that she can

stay at his funeral parlor for the night. She has business to attend to.

She meets with U.S. Marshall Rooster Cogburn (Jeff Bridges), offering him a fifty dollar reward for the capture of Tom Cheney (Josh Brolin), the man who killed her father. She intends to ride with him through Indian Territory to see that the job is done properly. She's just fourteen years old.

Bridges chews the scenery with great passion. Bridges doesn't so much speak but growls through half of the movie.

The slightly tarnished elegance of John Wayne's interpretation of Cogburn is replaced with Bridges' dirty snarl. He's not so much a law man, but a bum.

If you watch Cogburn's and Mattie's interactions on their first scene together on screen, you'll see a slight smile on his face. I haven't decided whether its Bridges' as the character smiling at Mattie's tenacity or Bridges, the screen veteran in shock that he's been cut down to size.

He fiddles with his cigarettes as he tries to make them with rolling paper and tobacco. She takes them from his hands and shows him the right way to roll a cigarette. You wonder if she used to do this for her father.

But she doesn't really have much to say about him except that he has to be avenged. Which is certainly fine because this isn't a brooding piece in the vein of Clint Eastwood's *Unforgiven* but rather in the vein of the classic western; broad strokes in characterization.

Brolin is so slimy as Tom Cheney and that's all the audience needs to know. Cogburn looks as if he hasn't bathed in weeks. Then again, it is the wild west. Not the idealized version either like John Ford's work shot in Monument Valley.

Laboef (Matt Damon) is not a loyal partner here but a competitor looking to collect another bounty held for Cheney in Texas. This film teeters between the classic and the modern Western.

Despite adapting the trappings of this film as a genre picture, this is still very much a Coen

Brothers film in terms of its sensibilities, occasional bursts of violence and absurdist humor.

Mattie walks through town and witnesses the hanging of three men.

The men make their final statements before the hood is put to their heads.

One man asks the towns people who've gathered to watch to not shun his family because of the murder he committed. The second man is just disappointed that he killed the wrong person.

"I see people out there that are no worse than I."

The third man is an Indian and the hangman cuts his statement short.

Then of course, there is Roger Deakins' cinematography, treading back on the same territory as his work on *No Country For Old Men*. Yet there is no deep existential sentiment here. Just solid filmmaking.

Reel to Reel is a weekly column on movies. Look for it every Friday.

Dance Marathon takes helping children to 'infinity and beyond'

DM, page 1

a life." With each passing year the amount of money collected for Miami Children's Hospital increases along with the expectations.

This year the goal for the event is \$180,000, more than last year's record breaking amount.

Though the goal is high, the directors feel it is achievable through the support of the University community. This year there will be 11 miracle children helped with the funds raised by the event.

Dance Marathon chooses a theme based on childhood games and movies including Disney characters and films, Dr. Seuss and popular board games.

The theme for this year's Dance Marathon is *Toy Story*, a theme chosen to appeal to both children as well as students.

With *Toy Story 3* being a recent blockbuster and critical success, organizers thought there was no better time for it to be the theme.

"*Toy Story* incorporates both adults and children," says Ortiz. "Just seeing Woody and Buzz gets the children excited. *Toy Story* is something that is close to the hearts of our generation."

While the dancing is obviously the main attraction, there will be plenty of other things to do during the 25 hour marathon.

You'll be able to learn this year's line dance as well as see others perform including country line dancers and the Miami Heat dance team.

The event will also host other activities such as laser tag, bounce houses, a bungee jump competition, ping pong and of course plenty to eat and drink.

One of the most important events is getting to meet the miracle children Dance Marathon benefits and hearing their inspirational stories.

Dance Marathon is also an excellent way to meet new people. The event is planned in a way so you will never be alone in the 25 hours you're there.

It is a true bonding experience for a cause that is very important.

"This event is like nothing you will ever experience," says Flores. "You will get the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to say, 'I made a difference in a child's life.' 25 hours and \$150 is a small price to pay for the life of a child."

Dance Marathon will be held in the Recreation Center starting at noon, Jan. 29.

For more information, visit Dance Marathon's official website: <http://www2.fiu.edu/~dm/>.

No replacement set for Velez

VELEZ, page 8

Her passion for student health is clear. "One of the things with students, is you get immediate positive reinforcement from them. I've been lucky, a lot of my students often came back and told me they appreciate the attention they received. That's something that's really different in college health P the relationships."

As for BBC's future direction of its health system, there has been no immediate replacement named for Velez, but there are plans for future expansion and improvements. Loynaz visited both Florida Atlantic University and Florida Gulf Coast University from Jan. 22 to 23 to examine their electronic health files as the University plans to

implement electronic records into the program.

Also, the University plans to increase enrollment this will bring the need for a larger building, a tentative plan that could include not only health services and the wellness center but also psychological services. Students will have a one-stop shop for their well being.

As for Velez, she said she may return to be a nurse practitioner after some time off.

"She's really devoted her life to students and providing the best health services to them," Boyd said. "She made it clear to her staff that we exist solely because the students. For us it's extremely important to listen to their wants and be responsive to our their needs. Our doors our are always open."

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, JAN. 28

HOT-N-READY PANTHER PARTY



WHEN: 12-1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC Ballrooms

RUBY SUNRISE



Setting off from a farm in Indiana, a young girl named Ruby struggles to turn her dream of the first all-electrical television system into a reality.

WHEN: 8 p.m. 2pm Sun
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$12 seniors, FIU faculty and staff, \$15 general admission
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Main Stage

CMENC BENEFIT CONCERT



WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5 students, \$5 FIU faculty, staff and seniors, \$5 general admission
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

JOSE MARTI BREAKFAST CELEBRATION

WHEN: 8 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC WUC

SPC THROWBACK MOVIE "MEAN GIRLS"



WHEN: 5 & 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC DM 100

SATURDAY, JAN. 29

KEYBOARD ARTS SERIES: FIU ALUMNI IN CONCERT



Distinguished alumni of the Keyboard Studies Program perform a wide range of popular works for grand piano.
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

JORGE DREXLER

Jorge Drexler is the first Uruguayan ever to win an Academy Award.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$33.50-\$68.50
WHERE: The Fillmore Miami Beach

PRESIDENT'S NEW STUDENT & FAMILY BBQ

WHEN: 2-4 p.m.
WHERE: FIU Stadium Club

RUBY SUNRISE



WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$12 seniors, FIU faculty and staff, \$15 general admission
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Main Stage

FIU DANCE MARATHON

WHEN: All day
WHERE: FIU Recreation Center

SWIM MEET VS. NOVA

WHEN: 11 a.m.
WHERE: BBC Rec. Pool

SUNDAY, JAN. 30

RUBY SUNRISE



WHEN: 2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$12 seniors, FIU faculty and staff, \$15 general admission
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Main Stage

SIGMA STUDY SESSIONS

A place for students to come and complete their work or study for any upcoming tests, quizzes, etc.
WHEN: 5-7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Graham Center, in front of Bustelo and Burger King

FIU DANCE MARATHON

WHEN: All day
WHERE: FIU Recreation Center

17TH ANNUAL MASTER CHEFS CLASSIC



Chefs from all over the Southernmost City will compete in appetizer, entrée and dessert categories, with the winners being picked by a panel of judges and you, the hungry foodies.
WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$55 to \$80
WHERE: Westin Key West Resort

FILM SERIES: INTERFAITH OUT! RECLAIMING OUR FAITH

WHEN: 2-4 p.m.
WHERE: The Wolfsonian

Privacy not guaranteed with Facebook, Wikileaks

PAOLO RAMOS
Staff Writer

In the society we live in today, information is exchanged at an increasing rate. From private federal documents on Wikileaks to the millions of status updates on Facebook, the appetite for information is insatiable.

One of the primary concerns with this exchange is privacy—the security of the content being circulated. Today, there can no longer be 100 percent of certainty that anything documented will remain private and confidential.

The advent of social networking has opened up the debate on how exactly information should be handled and shared over the Internet. On Facebook and other social networking websites, users are encouraged to disclose as much information about themselves as possible.

The introduction of website applications such as the “Like” button has given users the ease of creating a virtual collage of their personal preferences. It

allows users to link their profiles to things that interest them, updating them with the latest bits of information. Along with other social networking features, such as status updates and checking-in applications such as Four-square, one only needs to look at somebody else’s profile to glean a wealth of information.

However, what most users do not realize is that by pressing that “Like” button, they are giving any marketing analyst on the other end all the information they have uploaded onto their profile. This not only applies to businesses, but also to everything from musicians and recording artists to federal and intelligence agencies.

A more recent development has allowed for the forcing of certain ads to a user’s profile determined by the things they have “Liked.” The idea that somebody can have access to your personal details with just the click of a button is disturbing.

On a larger scale, there has been a shift in confidence in the political spheres of many coun-

“From personal confidentiality to national security, the world is undergoing an immense paradigm shift with how our information is being used and analyzed.”

tries due to the rise in prominence of Wikileaks, a website that leaks classified information to the public from anonymous sources. Some of the information that has been leaked includes intelligence reports from the U.S. Department of Defense and information regarding the war in Afghanistan.

In regard to the war in Afghanistan, Wikileaks has revealed some disturbing details such as the killing of civilians by American soldiers. On the other hand, it has also provided an intimate perspective into the inner mechanisms of the war, as well as details of other isolated incidents internationally. Wikileaks is currently sitting on the brink exposing the corruption within Bank of

America, which is sure to give the public a different perspective on something as personal and sensitive as finances.

Wikileaks has allowed the public an alternative, unbiased perspective of the inner workings of the governments of many countries, and the once inaccessible details to things that have the potential to impact the common individual directly. Most importantly, it has brought into question the potential threats that such leaked information could pose to national security.

From personal confidentiality to national security, the world is undergoing an immense paradigm shift with how our information is being used and analyzed. There

is a scramble going on in order to secure as much information as possible. This is easier said than done. Facebook alone requires a complicated process in order to limit certain information to the many friends a person can have.

One can only imagine the complexities of national security when compared to Facebook. With the sensitive state of the political and economic structures of many countries, Wikileaks has potentially opened up a Pandora’s box that is seemingly impossible to seal. The most important lesson anyone can learn today is to think twice before typing anything into their “About Me” section or simply pressing the “Like” button.

Child brides lose chance for safety

BROOKLYN MIDDLETON
Staff Writer

There seemed to be very little doubt about the International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriages Act of 2010 passing unanimously. One would think a legislation that helps prevent the horrifying phenomenon of young girls being forced into marriages with men 20 years their senior would transcend political party lines and appeal to their collective morals.

However, on Dec. 1, 2010, House Republican leaders blocked the bill that would have specified child marriage as a human rights violation. The passage of the bill would have successfully created more cohesive and thorough strategies to prevent child marriages internationally.

According to ABC News, shortly before the vote, Republicans circulated an anti-choice memo that read, “The bill provides little structure or oversight on how the money may be spent. The president is authorized under this bill to provide assistance through nongovernmental organizations that are charged with the promotion of ‘health’ of girls and women. It is possible that some of these NGOs may view abortion as health care and promote abortion services as a part of that health care.”

It is poignant and telling that the memo put health into quotations marks.

The dismissive nature in regard to the health of child brides internationally illustrates the lack of understanding about the often dire health consequences they experience.

The plight of child brides isn’t just revolting because of a very basic moral revulsion to the exploitation of children. The staggering statistics that detail the health dangers reveal serious public health consequences of not preventing global marriages of children. As recently as April 2010, a 13-year-old child bride in Yemen died of internal bleeding after her husband raped her.

In addition to the deaths caused by complications from internal damage post-rape and during childbirth at such a young age, the risk of HIV appears to be far greater.

According to the International Women’s Health Coalition, “In developing countries, most sexually active adolescent girls are married, and have higher rates of HIV infection than sexually active girls who are not married. Among 15 to 19-year-old girls in Kisumu, Kenya, nearly 33 percent of married girls were HIV positive, compared to 22.3 percent of their sexually active, unmarried peers. Sex in marriage is more frequent and often unprotected due to girls’ lack of power and a desire for children.”

It is clear that the passage of this bill was not only essential to combating

child marriages, but it was also essential to effectively address and combat the global HIV/AIDS crisis.

Furthermore, the language of the memo was vague and misleading, “It is possible that some of these NGOs may view abortion as health care and promote abortion services as a part of that health care.” The fact that the possibility of the NGOs having a pro-choice stance was enough to block a measure that seeks to protect children internationally is alarming and illogical.

If the goal of these anti-choice Republicans is to protect fetuses from harm, perhaps they should extend that protection to include youth that are being brutally raped and violated over and over again because of child marriage.

In the circulated memo, the act was described as “costly.” This is infuriating for those who champion for the very basic human rights of children, especially female children, internationally. Protesting the “costly” expense of protecting children’s rights internationally isn’t good economics, it’s a cop-out and it encourages total inertia when it comes to global affairs.

Furthermore, as members of a political party that clings to values and morality in the media, Republicans should feel especially ashamed that they failed to defend children’s human rights and health by voting to block this bill.

PERSPECTIVES

Are you satisfied with the quality of education at FIU?



Yes. I’ve never had any problems or complaints. As a psychology major, I’ve never had any problems with professors or anything like that.

-Joanna Valdes, Senior, Psychology



Not all the time. Some teachers are better than others, give or take. It also depends on the student, but I do work hard and I see that some teachers don’t “teach” how they should, but there’s no way to regulate that.

-Beatriz Gonzalez, Senior, Chemistry



“For the most part, yes. Most of our teachers are good. I wouldn’t say all them [are], but most of them are very good and somewhat demanding.”

-Teodoro Gomez de la Torre, Senior, Psychology



“Yes. I think the professors are very qualified. Since there are a lot of international professors here, they give a good perspective on life outside of Miami.”

-Devin Parra, Freshman, International Business

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott

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COLOMBIA

Mine blast kills at least 5; 6 trapped

An explosion at a coal mine killed at least five workers in northern Colombia on Jan. 25 and trapped 16 more. The explosion occurred in the same mine where another blast killed 32 workers in 2007.



MEXICO

Candidate drops out of governor race

The candidate of the conservative National Action Party has endorsed one of his opponents in the governorship race in Guerrero state — hoping to keep the former ruling party from coming back to power.



VENEZUELA

Rights group: Chavez using judiciary against foes

President Hugo Chavez is using Venezuela's judiciary to persecute his political opponents, crack down on media critics and curtail the power of labor unions, a prominent human rights organization reports.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

Director Velez retires

KATIE LAWRENCE
Contributing Writer

Elvira Velez, who ingrained a for-the-students, open-door policy into her staff, is retiring after 28 years.

Velez, the University's director of health administration at the Biscayne Bay Campus, will leave behind her a legacy of improvements to the University's health care system and a motivation to continue to improve student's maintenance of health and wellness.

Velez spearheaded the growth of health services at BBC, starting out in a remodeled storage closet in the Wolfe Center and eventually bringing not only the free-standing health office but also the wellness center and fair to the University.

"She was the force behind all those things," said Therese Boyd, associate director of UHS at BBC. "When it started it out, she was it."

Velez, warmly referred to as Vira by her colleagues, was hired by Kathleen Kleinert, a registered nurse practitioner at the Modesto Maidique Campus who had been overseeing

the health service growth on that campus to bring similar growth and improvements to the BBC.

One of Velez's greatest contributions was her passion from wellness. "She's really taken the program from its inception, and has been the lead of the improvements [at BBC] since the beginning," said Oscar Loynaz, director of UHS at MMC, who was hired by Velez 11 years ago, of her creation of the wellness center.

Velez is also responsible for the Wellness Expo, and many of the programs that have come from it, such as massages and free HIV testing.

"The programs just grew and grew and she was behind it all," continued Loynaz. "She loves working with students and being able to make a difference in their lives."

"Its been a wonderful 28 years years," said Velez, 66, who will step down at the end of the month. "We tried to do things so that the students are not only pampered, but educated."

VELEZ, page 6

FUNNY PEOPLE



NED CHANDLER/THE BEACON

Comedians Prashanth Venkataramanujam (left) and Asif Ali (right) poke fun at the event flyer announcing their comedy show at the WUC Theatre. As part of their 2011 tour, the comedians made a stop at the University in an event sponsored by the Student Programming Council on Jan. 25.

RECREATION CENTER

Earn 'rec bucks' then prizes with every trip at Rec Center events

BRITTNY VALDES
Contributing Writer

The Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center has a program that aims to provide gym-goers, in addition to physical well-being, an abundance of prizes and opportunities.

The Rec Buck Incentive Program is designed to give the committed few a gift of appreciation, and those that aren't a little push of motivation.

Rec Bucks are vouchers given to students every time they dedicate themselves to a healthy lifestyle. Redeemable only at the BBC Recreation Center, students can accumulate "bucks" whenever they sweat at the gym or participate at any given Fitness Center event. Simply stop by the Membership Services Desk when leaving your workout and collect your bucks. Prizes are redeemed at the same location and can be done at the end of the semester or any time in between.

"The program has created quite a buzz on campus. As participants enter the fitness center, the first thing they inquire about is what are rec bucks?" said Jonathan Torrey, BBC's Recreation administrator and specialist. Torrey, along-

side Elias Bardawil, Campus Recreation Director, framed this program to easily yet effectively meet every individual in their demand for healthier living.

"Rec Bucks provide opportunities for the development of a healthy lifestyle, lifelong friendships and the advancement of the university experience. It also gives participants incentive to come in and explore the facility, as well as learn about new up and coming events held by the BBC Recreation Department," stated Torrey.

Bardawil was unavailable for comment as of press time.

The possibilities in which to earn Rec Bucks are many, and for all of the different Recreation Events, different quantities of bucks are given. According to Torrey, the winner of the 2010 Madden Tournament received \$50 Rec Bucks as a grand prize.

Still, one of the best parts about collecting is that you don't have to do it alone; anyone whose goal is to get fit and stay fit is eligible for participation, be it students, staff, alumni or even community members.

"I think the Rec Bucks are awesome! I exercise every day with or without being rewarded

for it, so having this extra incentive only makes me feel better about my workout," said Sher-ezade Rodriguez, a senior public relations major.

The benefit of the buck is its encouragement for one to return on a continuous basis, and since all prizes are fitness related, they aid in preparing anyone for further fitness endeavors. For example, some of the prizes for lesser values include: a steel mug, a workout towel, an ultimate sport bag and more. The Grand Prize, which is worth 100 Rec Bucks, is a day spent on an adventurous Kayak Excursion with 8 other participants.

Every visit to the Rec Center counts, and the more students go, the more they will know about special events taking place.

REC CENTER EVENTS

- Madden Tournament on Feb. 2
- NBA 2K11 Tournament on Feb. 16
- Islands of Adventure on March 14

FOODGASM

Churrascaria good pick on special nights

It was my 21st birthday last weekend, and I was faced with a dilemma: after already having visited a bar, where do I go out to eat?

Decisions — boy can they be tough sometimes. Especially when it comes to something as important as this. However, I did have a craving. It wasn't like a pregnant woman has a craving though. This was more along the lines of a hunch.

I had been turned onto Brazilian barbecue years ago at a small stand. Since then I have heard the legend of the Churrascaria (Brazilian Steakhouse) many times, yet had never been to one.

The concept sounded very appealing to a barbecue lover like myself. A cornucopia of different meats, freshly grilled on a rotisserie, brought to you and sliced directly onto your plate. Not to mention in endless supply.

I couldn't imagine making a better choice for where to go. There are many Churrascarias in

our area, but I picked Texas De Brazil in Hallandale.

The food, most importantly, was great, but so was the service and décor of the restaurant.

The meats that were brought around included sirloin, filet mignon, and flank steaks, as well as lamb chops and leg, and chicken wrapped in bacon. Included with your meal is a lavish buffet of salad items, cheeses, antipasti, and some delicious side items like sauteed mushrooms, potatoes au gratin, and jasmine rice.

Trying a little bit of everything offered at a Churrascaria could make a good episode of Man vs. Food. I decided to play it smart and not overeat (too much). I still got to try everything I wanted to, and enjoyed all of it.

Try a Churrascaria if you too are having trouble picking a place for a special dinner.

Foodgasm is a bi-weekly cooking column run on Fridays. Kravets is a hospitality major.

COLUMNIST



GENE KRAVETS