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# The Beacon, February 7, 2011

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## EGYPT

### Egypt unrest to act as peace impetus

European officials said Egyptian unrest should provide new impetus to the Mideast peace process, and whatever the outcome peace treaties with Israel need to be respected.



## MACEDONIA

### German sues Macedonia over CIA torture

A German man allegedly snatched by the CIA in Macedonia and tortured at a prison in Afghanistan launched a claim in court to demand official recognition and compensation for his ordeal.



## SWEDEN

### Assange's sex crimes file is leaked online

Leaked Swedish police documents on the Julian Assange sex cases raise key questions for both sides about the allegations. Assange denies any wrongdoing in separate encounters.

# Study shows Facebook can lead to lower GPA

**ANALIA FIESTAS**  
Staff Writer

With wall posts and comments, tagged pictures, "poking" wars and birthday calendars, what began as an entertaining social networking website, is becoming a threat to the grade point average of many of its college users.

A recent pilot study by Ohio State University, presented at the American Education Research Association, has demonstrated that college students who have a Facebook account spend less time studying, and consequently, have a lower grade point average than the students who do not have a profile on the popular website.

Here at Florida International University, for example, students can be seen checking their Facebook profiles on their laptops or smart phones as they sit through class lectures, instead of paying close attention to what the professors explain.

"Facebook has some positive things, but I don't think it should be done in class. However, if students want to waste their college dollar, and if that is their priority, that's okay. People can make their own choices," said Psychology Professor William Berry.

Berry believes that there is an "addictive aspect" to Facebook for some students that they "just can't seem to get away from."

"They check it compulsively," said Berry. "I think maybe that is one of the reasons why students that have any sort of online network—whether it be Facebook, Twitter, Tumbler, or whatever—are getting lower grades. Technology is a distraction."

The results of the conducted study revealed that students who have a Facebook account have grade point averages ranging from 3.0-3.5. On the other hand, the students that do not have a profile on Facebook have grade point averages ranging from 3.5-4.0.

"I think that Facebook is extremely time consuming. It is logical to think that because students are spending time on Facebook, instead of working on an assignment, their grades will drop," said Frances Gray, an English professor.

The study also concluded that Facebook users study about five hours a week, while non-Facebook users study about fifteen hours per week.

"I do believe Facebook causes students to study less because instead of doing their work, they log onto Facebook and they procrastinate," said senior, Jessica Alchosst.

## FACULTY JAZZ



ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON

The FIU Faculty Jazz Trio and the Amernet String Quartet performed on Tuesday Feb. 1 with well-known jazz musician Steve Allee in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center.

# Accutane use can lead to harsh side effects

**CHERYL MALONE**  
Contributing Writer

When Krystal Elizalde first began using Accutane to treat her cystic acne more than 10 years ago, she was willing to endure the harshest of side effects to clear her stubborn blemishes.

With lips beginning to peel to raw skin, lip balm was a quick solution to one side effect that lasted a few months until treatment was complete.

Elizalde's skin would be perfectly clear for several years.

But Elizalde is an exceptional patient, having mild, temporary side effects to Accutane. Many other patients are not as lucky, with side effects including Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Crohn's Disease, Lupus, Pancreatitis, emotional abnormalities, including depression and suicidal thoughts and birth defects while both using and after taking Accutane, according to the Food and Drug Administration's listed side effects.

"At my age now, in the near future I do want to have children and I don't want to have any sign of Accutane in my system," Elizalde said.

With potentially fatal side effects and a fear for personal health by many patients, Accutane still is administered and advocated by dermatologists nationwide.

Roche Holding AG, the manufacturer of Accutane, is facing approximately 5,000 personal injury lawsuits with potential damage awards in excess of \$33 million.

Isotretinoin, the key ingredient in Accutane, is normally administered to patients for a 15-20 week period.

Before a female patient can begin treatment, the patient must first complete an isotretinoin Pregnancy Prevention Program form, or "iPLEDGE," in which the patient agrees to use two forms of birth control while on Accutane, including the completion of a pregnancy test with negative results.

The urgency for pregnancy prevention is due to possible birth defects of the newborn, including "abnormalities of the face, eyes, ears, skull, central nervous system, cardiovascular system and thymus and parathyroid glands," as listed on the Accutane iPLEDGE packet.

Elvira Velez, health administration director of Florida International University's Health Services, refers students with severe acne to Jackson Memorial Hospital, where Accutane may be a treatment option. Due to the administration process of being prescribed Accutane and the close attention that follows its usage, a dermatologist is essential.

The patient must also undergo blood work

## ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Giffords' husband to space

**JUAN A. LOZANO**  
**MARCIA DUNN**  
AP Staff

The astronaut husband of wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords said his wife would be "very comfortable" with his decision to go back into space and he expects her to be at his launch in April.

Space shuttle commander Mark Kelly wouldn't go into details about her condition during a news conference Friday, and deflected questions about how he knows she supports his choice to fly.

"I know her very well and she would be very comfortable with the decision that I made," he said.

Kelly took a leave from training after Giffords was gunned down in Tucson, Ariz., on Jan. 8. NASA announced earlier Friday he would resume training for space shuttle Endeavour's two-week mission.

The astronaut said he plans for his wife to be at Cape Canaveral, Fla., for liftoff, targeted for April 19.

It will be Endeavour's final flight and the fourth spaceflight for Kelly.

Kelly said the congresswoman continues to improve in rehab in Houston. One doctor has described her recovery as "lightning speed," a key to his decision, he said.

Giffords was meeting with constituents outside a Tucson supermarket when she was shot in the head. Six people were killed and 13 were injured in the rampage; a 22-year-old suspect is in custody.

Rabbi Stephanie Aaron, who married Giffords and Kelly in 2007, said the couple has been communicating but she didn't elaborate.

"I think that once he saw that Gabby was so strong and on the mend .... that he made the decision based on, I'm sure, what her wishes would be," Aaron said.

# Some students not satisfied with Biscayne Bay courses

CURSE, page 8

“Basically, we put programs here that we didn’t have space for at the Madique campus,” said Vice Provost Steven V. Moll, who has been at the Biscayne Bay campus since 1989 and has witnessed much of the campus’ transformation.

Initially, going back about 30 years, the Biscayne Bay campus had only one building, the current hospitality building, and it sat on 200 acres that were sold to the state for a nominal fee on the condition that it be used for educational purposes.

“The state basically said okay FIU, this is in your county, figure out how to do something with it,” Moll said.

Early on, the campus housed majors that are no longer there, including nursing and engineering. Now,

nursing is a part of the FIU medical program at the MMC and engineering moved to Sweetwater, in a building that used to be a corporation headquarters and was bought for a “bargain basement price,” Moll said.

In the mid-80s, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication moved permanently to BBC, to become the campus’ first anchor program.

The School of Hospitality Management soon followed, as did the School of Marine Science.

But why was the journalism school chosen to be BBC’s first anchor program as opposed to, say the school of business management?

“It was economically driven” Moll said. “If you’re going to move a really huge program it means dedicating huge monetary resources to

locate It up here. If you move a smaller program up here, it doesn’t cost as much.”

Ultimately it comes down to a philosophical decision – is it better to offer upper level classes for nearly all majors at both campuses, or consolidate and offer different majors at each campus?

To this point, the FIU administration has clearly chosen the latter. It is clearly more cost-efficient.

“If I had to do it all over again, I do not know if I would major in journalism and that has little to do with the subject itself,” Lazaga said. “It’s just such a huge time commitment. I work and I have to factor in about three to four hours just for commuting, even if I’m only taking one class.”

For students like Lazaga, who live less than 10 minutes from MMC, this can mean a five-hour commitment to

simply attend one class at the Biscayne Campus.

There does not appear to be any plans to introduce journalism classes at the south campus.

“It’s economically not feasible,” Moll said. “You can’t have all the labs here and duplicate them at the other campus.”

But there are other schools, like hospitality management, that offer certain classes at both campuses.

“We offer our entire curriculum other than the food courses because of food labs at the Madique campus,” said Moll, who is also a professor in the school.

Some students believe that the same could be done within journalism and mass communication, as not all classes require computer labs.

“I’ve only just started using the computer rooms this

year,” Lazaga said. “All the intro classes were in normal discussion rooms.”

Ultimately, it appears as though it is more likely that more lower level classes will be brought to the BBC, rather than new upper level classes being introduced at the MMC.

“I think we are underserving the core freshman and sophomore level students that come from this part of the county from North Dade and South Broward,” Moll said.

Moll believes that technology could be the solution to commuting woes.

“What you’ll probably see is more online classes” Moll said. “More and more students are selecting online education as their preferred method of receiving their education.”

Although this may be a solution to some students, the extra \$200 fee for each online

course makes it a challenging option.

“I can’t pay an extra \$600 to take three classes online instead,” Ustariz said. “Even if I could, only two of my classes are offered online, so it doesn’t make sense to come all the way up here for one class.”

For students like Ustariz, it appears as though the trek to BBC is one that they will have to continue to make if they are passionate about any of the Biscayne-based majors.

“You certainly don’t want to encourage students not to pursue their passion,” Moll said.

Thomas Johnson, a December 2010 journalism graduate, produced this story in the JOURNAL 3303 Advanced News Writing course taught by Dr. Fred Blevens.

# University students divided on the ‘Facebook effect’

FACEBOOK, page 1

“To be honest, I do it too. I do admit that Facebook is a major distraction to college students.”

Ivan Garcia, a non-Facebook user, agrees that Facebook can be addictive enough to affect someone’s academic performance.

“If students have an online class, they are even more tempted to be on Facebook,” said Garcia.

However, more than three quarters of those surveyed in the study claimed Facebook does not interfere with their academic lives. Here at the University, some students

also disagree.

“I have a Facebook, and I do socialize online, but my GPA is above a 3.5. I do not comprehend how Facebook could be the reason why students are getting lower grades. How about the students that do not own a Facebook, and yet, have lower grades than

the students that do have a Facebook profile?” argued freshman, Kelly Mayorga.

Freshman Mario Lugo logs on to Facebook whenever he can, but keeps his college work as top priority. He believes that if a student sets his mind on a goal, nothing should serve as a distraction.

“If something were to serve as a distraction, it would certainly not be Facebook, when there are more exciting things to do such as partying, hanging

out with friends or even sleeping,” said Lugo.

According to Aryn Karpinski, doctoral student in education at OSU and co-author of the study, although the study did not prove that the use of Facebook leads to lower grades and less studying, it confirmed that there is a solid relationship between Facebook usage and lower grades.

“It may be that if it wasn’t for Facebook, some students would still find other ways to avoid

studying, and would still get lower grades. But perhaps the lower GPAs could actually be because students are spending too much time socializing online,” declared Karpinski.


There were no differences in the study results due to gender, racial and ethnic groups.

The study was relatively small, but it has been among the first to discover a relationship between college Facebook users and their academic performance.


## CORRECTIONS

In of Vol. 22, Issue 10 of *The Beacon*, in the At the Bay section, the names of the student organization who sponsored the event were misspelled in the photo caption. The organizations are the Student Programming Council and the Black Student Union. Also in the same issue, the photo credit on page 3 of the Sports section was incorrect. The photographer is Megan Kelley.

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



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ACCUTANE, page 1

for cell count examination and possible liver damage. With 30 percent of students at FIU without health insurance, it is not ideal for Accutane to be prescribed through FIU, Velez said.

Denise Glaser, mother of 16-year-old high school student Michael Huber, was recently offered Accutane as a possible solution to her son’s acne by his dermatologist. Glaser was quick to decline the offer.

“I would never let my son use a product that had possible dangerous side effects unless his life was in danger and the product was the only possible choice to cure him,” Glaser said. “Acne does not fall under this definition.”

Glaser would, however, purchase vitamins or try changing her son’s diet before using any prescription drug that is ingested. Medications with potentially fatal

or dangerous side effects are not worth the risk to treat her son’s skin, she said.

Other oral acne medications such as Minocycline and Doxycycline have potential side effects as well, according to the FDA. Minocycline can cause thyroid cancer with prolonged use, while Doxycycline can cause liver damage and severe allergic reactions.

Although Accutane successfully helps some patients with their acne conditions without any harmful side effects, there still lurks a very real danger of illness.

In Laura Sastre’s case, the benefits seemed to outweigh the costs of taking Accutane, after struggling with cystic acne that was leaving scars on her face. Emotional side effects did in fact take a toll on Sastre.

“I didn’t know it had anything to do with the drug,” Sastre said. “When I realized that it was the drug

causing this, I stopped the treatment.”

Denise Hale has helped run her father’s company, Hales Healthy Foods, Inc. for more than 20 years and has several customers who are taking a nutritional route to clearing their acne.

“Most of our customers are already health conscientious,” Hale said. “Parents come in to buy vitamins for their kids and then two weeks later the kids come in on their own to buy more.”

Hale suggested that all her acne-struggling customers, including her own daughter, use zinc, dry A vitamins and vitamin C as oral supplements, along with sulfur soap and tea tree oil for topical usage.

Cheryl Malone, a December 2010 journalism graduate, produced this story in the JOURNAL 3303 Advanced News Writing course taught by Dr. Fred Blevens.



## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Wright's late layup leads FIU past Troy

**JACKSON WOLEK**  
Staff Writer

DeJuan Wright's layup with seven seconds to go in overtime brought FIU a thrilling 81-80 victory that finally ended their six-game losing streak on Feb. 3 at Troy.

In a game that brought upon all the intensity and emotion you could ask for, they almost gave it up as they are so accustomed to doing in close games this year. This time, they were able to preserve and grab their fourth win in conference play and second win on the road.

"I liked the intensity of the game and the way both teams were competing. No one was giving an inch and fortunately we were able to come out with the victory," said Coach Thomas.

The first half the Trojans jumped out to a 9-0 lead over FIU just three minutes into action. The Golden Panthers would answer right back with a run of their own, as they scored 13 unanswered points to get a 15-11 lead with 13:11 remaining in the half.

They held Troy scoreless for five straight minutes thanks to their zone and press defense that gave the Trojans fits. Also, they were able to get leading scorer for the Trojans, Will Weathers, into early foul trouble and force him to sit out a majority of the first half.

At the end of the half, Domi-

nique Ferguson would get an easy dunk at the buzzer off a great pass from Phil Gary to give FIU the slight 35-34 lead.

The second half would go back and forth just like the first half, as the intensity of the game started to pick up as both teams battled against each other for each possession.

With the game tied at 72-72 and 54 seconds to go, both teams would finally reach their boiling points.

A mini skirmish broke out near the FIU bench when Gary missed a three and there was a battle for the loose ball. During the exchange, Eric Frederick, who was on the bench at the time, was involved.

The Sun Belt officials threw Frederick out of the game for leaving the bench. When it was all said and done, the Golden Panthers ended up with the ball after a jump ball was called with the possession arrow in their favor.

They could not take advantage of the opportunity of having the ball with 22 seconds left and the shot clock off and Jeremy Allen turned the ball right back over to Troy when he got called with a five-second violation while trying to inbound the ball.

The Trojans let the clock dwindle all the way down until three seconds when Gary committed a foul by tripping up Weathers. Luckily, they were not

in the bonus at the time and did not send him to the line, where the Trojans were 14-15 on the night. They would then force Troy into a bad shot off the inbound, and proceeded to overtime.

In the overtime period, FIU would take control first by going on a 7-3 run to start out. At 1:27 left on the clock and Wright at the foul line with FIU up 79-75, it seemed as though they had the game won right there.

He would miss though and Troy would come back and take the lead as they went on a run of their own.

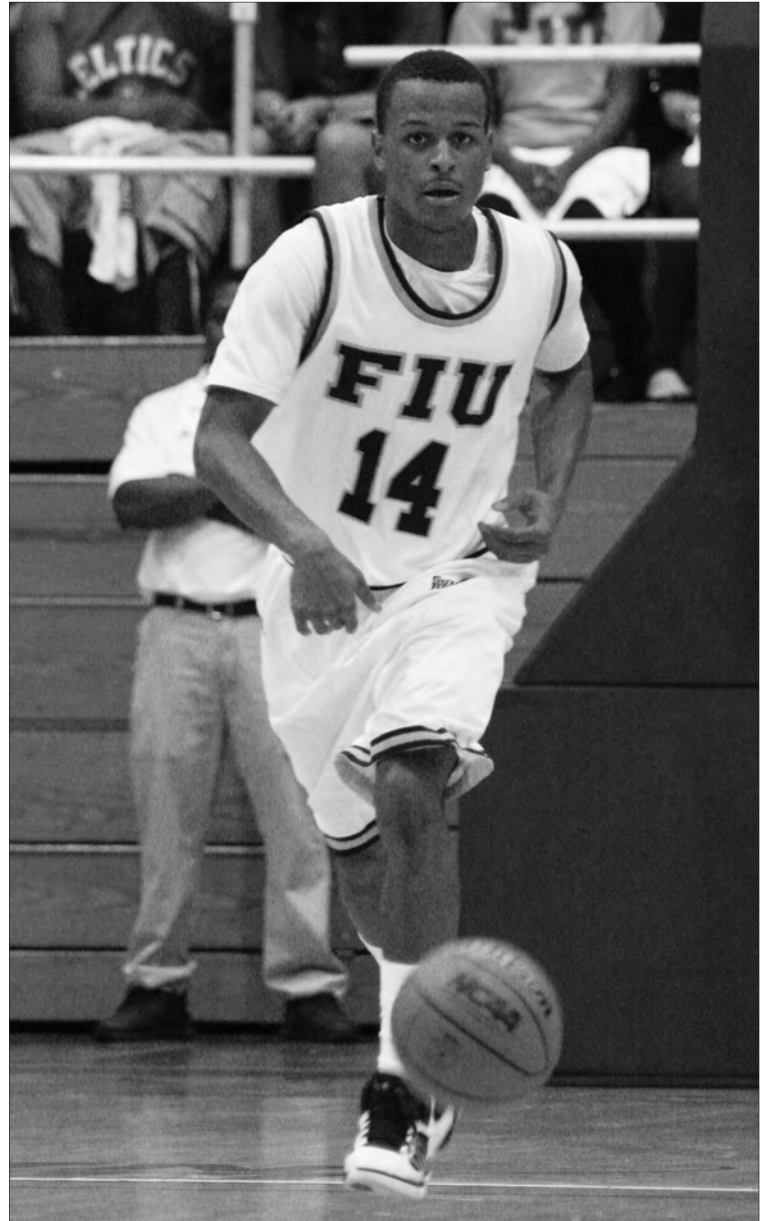
Then, with ten seconds to go and FIU down by one, they would have a chance to inbound the ball again, this time succeeding in doing so.

Wright came of a pick set by Gary and went right down the lane as Phil Taylor gave him the ball to put it in with seven seconds on the clock.

"Coach drew up the play during the timeout so I knew I was going to be rolling back to the basket and Phil Taylor gave me a good pass and position to make the shot," explained Wright on his late game heroics.

Five Panthers scored in double figures, and Gary led the way with 21 points, due in large part to making five of seven from beyond the arc.

"They were in a zone so I was just trying to take what the defense gave me," said Gary.



REBECCA VILLAFANE/THE BEACON

DeJuan Wright nails a jump shot in overtime on the road against Troy to snap a six-game losing streak.

## FOOTBALL

# Cristobal announces new defensive coordinator

**IGOR MELO**  
Asst. Sports Director

After spending three weeks without a defensive coordinator, head coach Mario Cristobal has finally found a replacement for that position.

During his National Signing Day party

at the stadium clubhouse on Feb. 2, Cristobal finally announced that Todd Orlando is a Golden Panther.

Orlando will become the defensive coordinator, replacing Geoff Collins who only served one season as FIU's defensive coordinator.

Both Orlando and the Golden Panthers

had something in common in 2010 – a conference championship

"He's fresh off a Big East championship and looking to get some more," said Cristobal, during his National Signing Day party.

It's the first time in FIU history that the team has hired a coordinator from a Bowl Championship Series (BCS) school.

Orlando, a Pittsburgh native, spent 12 seasons at the University of Connecticut, where his defense was ranked 48th in the nation, good enough to conquer the Big East and earn a bid to the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.

He'll try to improve a defense that was ranked first in the Sun Belt Conference in total defense and scoring defense.

While at UConn, Orlando faced numerous amounts of teams that ran the spread offense, which according to Cristobal, is a key reason why he was hired.

## HILTON MAY PLAY DEFENSE

During that press conference Cristobal entertained the idea of possibly playing wide receiver T.Y. Hilton on both sides of the field. In fact, Cristobal considered having Hilton on defense during the previous season.

"We thought about doing it with T.Y. [Hilton] this past year, but creating a

*“He's fresh off a Big East championship and looking to get some more.”*

Mario Cristobal  
FIU Head Coach

package instead of having a whole package on offense and an entire package on defense," Cristobal said. "I'm comfortable as long as they can handle it,"

Hilton, who already plays offense and special teams, caught five touchdowns as a receiver and ran for four touchdowns on the ground. Hilton also ran two kick returns back for a score.

"If a guy can handle it, then you're recruiting some pretty special guys," Cristobal said.

According to Cristobal, if Hilton does in fact play defense, he would be positioned at corner back. Hilton would only see the field on limited formations.

"[He would play] some nickel, corner stuff. Some boundary or field corner stuff

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## MOMENTUM



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Jerica Coley led the Golden Panthers with 14 points in a 57-53 win on the road against Troy, extending the winning streak to three games.

## Hilton could play defensive back next year

### FOOTBALL, page 3

as well,” Cristobal said. “Definitely somewhere where he can run stride for stride with a guy.”

Hilton has had some experience at cornerback.

While at Miami Springs high school, Hilton was a dual-threat player, playing offense and defense. Hilton played defensive back in his high school career.

Despite standing at 5-10, 183 pounds, Cristobal claims he’s got the size to play both sides.

“T.Y. is a very strong individual. Don’t let his stature fool you. He’ll get in that weight room and put 290 pounds on the bar and power plant it in a snap,” Cristobal said.

### NO COMBINE INVITATIONS

Despite having two Golden Panthers participate in collegiate all-star games (Anthony Gaitor and Brad Serini), none

were selected to partake in the 2011 NFL Scouting Combine.

Five players from the Sun Belt were chosen to participate in the combine, but none were selected from FIU.



TODD ORLANDO

Rival school FAU, surprisingly, had three players selected to participate. Quarterback Jeff Van Camp, tight end Robert Housler

and wide receiver Lestar Jean were among the players selected. Troy’s Jerrel Jernigan and Derek Newton out of Arkansas State were the other Sun Belt’s players chosen.

The scouting combine is on Feb. 24- Mar. 1 in Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN.

### SPRING DATES

According to Cristobal, the school has announced the spring practice schedule. Practices begin on Mar. 3, leading up to the annual spring game on April 1.

## ING MARATHON

# Students compete in annual downtown event

ANDRES LEON  
Staff Writer

What started as a small idea in 2003, the ING Marathon has become Miami’s largest marathon and, with over 20 companies and corporations funding the marathon, has become a key charity and athletic event in South Florida.

The event this year, which took place on Jan. 30, drew over 21,000 competitors, including a number of FIU students such as running enthusiast Andres Iglesias, who enjoys these types of marathon events and tries to get involved in any way he can.

“It’s a great experience getting involved, and even your if not interested in running, you can volunteer to help set up the event and all the other promotions that go along with it,” Iglesias said.

For Iglesias, it was the third time he had ran in the marathon although this year was the first time he took a shot at the full marathon.

He believes that the FIU

community should be more involved with running in marathons and being more active on campus.

“It would be great if FIU students can start a marathon group or club to participate in community events like the Miami Marathon,” Iglesias said.

It was an event that not only brought Miami together, but also people from around the nation and the globe.

Over 100 different countries were represented in the race, which also had at least one participant from each state in the U.S. Over 20 disease-based charities were represented as well and close to 100 Para-athletes came out to display their athleticism.

These athletes rode speed bikes propelled not by their feet but, by their hands. Diseases like autism, cancer, leukemia, breast cancer, lupus, and even HIV were represented in the 2010 Miami marathon.

Being active in the community is important for many who participate in the race, especially for student Andres Wu, who has ran in

the annual event for the past several years.

“I do it for self motivation and to help the different causes. It keeps me active and in shape.” Wu said. “The half marathon I did the last two years, it’s only 13.1 miles and I ran track in high school so I needed to step up this year and I ran the full Miami marathon.”

The full Miami Marathon is 26.2 miles and starts in downtown Miami. The course continues through Miami Beach and crosses over back to north downtown.

The half marathon stops once you cross back into downtown Miami while the full is little more challenging, taking participants halfway into Key Biscayne by going up the Rickenbacker causeway.

Then it doubles back through Coconut Grove as well as some of the northern parts of Coral Gables.

At the end you finish at the same finish line as the half runners on Biscayne Boulevard right by the American Airlines Arena and Bayside mall.

## NBA ALL-STAR GAME

# Chris Bosh joins Wade, LeBron as late addition to All-Star roster

TIM REYNOLDS  
AP Sports Writer

No YouTube campaign. No lobbying for a spot.

This year, Chris Bosh let the numbers do the talking for his All-Star candidacy. And the voters listened.

Bosh is heading back to the All-Star game, named Thursday as an Eastern Conference reserve and giving the Miami Heat along with starters Dwyane Wade and LeBron James three players in the league’s annual midseason showcase for the first time.

There was some speculation about whether Bosh would merit the All-Star nod, but the Heat power forward never worried.

“Once I set my mind to something, it’s there for me,” Bosh said Thursday night after the Heat beat the Orlando Magic 104-100. “Anybody else in my position, they would have been ranting and raving about my numbers.”

Bosh will enter Friday’s game at Charlotte averaging 18.4 points and 8.1 rebounds, numbers easily worth All-Star consideration.

But his value to the Heat,

who were just the third team in the league to hit the 35-win mark this season, goes far deeper than what shows up on stat sheets. To hear coach Erik Spoelstra tell it, James may be the league’s reigning MVP, but Bosh is perhaps more critical to Miami.

“He’s having a very efficient year and he’s playing on one of the winningest teams in the league and he’s had a major impact,” Spoelstra said. “You have to look no further than when he’s been out and what happens to our team. I’ve called him our most important player and that’s for a reason. He anchors our defense and he facilitates our offense.”

It’s the sixth All-Star trip for Bosh in eight seasons, his fourth as a reserve, although this nod came without the fanfare of past appearances. He filmed some now-infamous videos as a used car salesman in one particularly memorable spot that were posted to YouTube before the 2008 game in an effort to entice fans to vote for him as a starter.

Not this time. He simply sat back and awaited official word.

“I did it one time and you’ll never be able to top that again,” Bosh said. “I believe in keeping things great. You can’t do it again. People wanted me to do it, but I was like, ‘I can’t do that again. People are looking for that.’ The reason that was so fun was that it caught people off guard, and I’ll never catch anybody off guard with something like that again.”

The reserves were selected in voting by the head coaches in each conference, who had to vote for two forwards, two guards, a center and two players regardless of position.

Rajon Rondo, Paul Pierce and Ray Allen will accompany Boston Celtics teammate Kevin Garnett, who equaled Jerry West, Shaquille O’Neal and Karl Malone by being selected for the 14th straight year.

The other East reserves along with Bosh are Atlanta’s Joe Johnson and Al Horford.

For the West, the reserves are Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili of the NBA-leading San Antonio Spurs; forwards Dirk Nowitzki of Dallas and Pau Gasol of the Los Angeles Lakers; and guards

Deron Williams of Utah and Russell Westbrook of Oklahoma City, who joins Blake Griffin of the Los Angeles Clippers as the lone first-time selections.

The game is Feb. 20 at Los Angeles.

“It matters,” Bosh said. “But I made it in my head a long time ago.”

Bosh is dealing with some lingering aftereffects of a high left ankle sprain sustained last month, and half-kiddingly talked about the notion that Celtics coach Doc Rivers who will lead the East side, and just so happens to coach the team Miami is chasing in the conference standings. “Çö might want to play the Heat trio for major minutes with hopes of wearing them down.

It won’t happen that way, of course. Even though Bosh’s ankle perhaps could use some time off, the rest of him is thrilled to be All-Star-bound.

“Who feels good right now at this point of the year?” Spoelstra asked. “We have a lot of guys that are banged up. ... He’s good enough to play. Is he 100 percent? No, but he doesn’t want to miss any games right now.”



# Collections on display in warehouse

KATHY PAZ  
Staff Writer

Judging from the banal surroundings, a warehouse is among the last places you'd expect to find one of the most diverse, vintage and contemporary art collections in the South Florida area.

The Margulies Collection at the Warehouse is located on NW 27th St, near Downtown Miami.

It opened to the public in 1999 with Katherine Hinds as curator and holds works from Martin Z. Margulies' ever-expanding collection. It is a place that promotes debate among visitors and fosters an appreciation of art.

The space offers a mixture of both new and old artworks, varying between sculptures, installations, videos, paintings, drawings, photographs and videos. Innovation and creativity resonate from within the warehouse.

"Using a warehouse in such a way was an interesting take on a gallery set-up. Everything paid mind to detail, from where and how it was placed to what it was placed next to," says Kharla Salazar, a junior and Philosophy major who recently visited the collection. "You really don't realize how much work is put in installing artworks because it becomes part of your world. Part

of what you're walking into. To me, that's what makes an amazing exhibit."

Between an alleyway lies a mirrored room with an Emerald City feel and twist. Constructed to take up the whole space, *Mirror Alleyway* features elevated walls, vivid green color and strategic mirror placement lining the walls. The goal was to impede basic human instinct to look at one's reflection in the mirror. Even the tallest among visitors had a hard time catching a glance.

"In my case, my first instinct was to jump so I could see myself. It was a subconscious sort of thing, I didn't really question it once I did it and that's where the ingenuity of the piece comes in," said Salazar. "By surrounding you and making it difficult to see yourself, it propels you to become part of the work by interacting with it. Once our tour guide told us so, it all made sense. It was pretty amazing."

Currently included are the exhibitions *Africa*, featuring over 250 photography and video pieces by artists such as Peter Friedl, David Goldblatt and Kendell Geers, and *Contemporary Paintings 1980-2010*, with selections that include Vincent Desiderio, Oliver Dorfer, Jonathan Meese, Tal R, Christian Eckart, John Torreano, Massimo Antonaci and Fabian Marcaccio. This will be the

## VIRTUOSO



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

Senior Michael Maniloff, an environmental studies major, plays the Native American flute to entertain no one in particular. Maniloff has been playing the flute for less than two years and was exposed to it through traditional Native American ceremonies.

first time the Margulies collection will be exhibiting paintings.

"Some of which have been in storage since we acquired the works, others of which we have added to the collection recently. One of the works is a gigantic 30' diptych from 1988 by the American painter, Vincent Desiderio, which has never been seen since it was exhibited at the Denver Art Museum in 1990,"

said Hinds in a press release.

Also featured are Jene Highstein's *Large Stone Carvings*, Brian Alfred's *Digital Animation* and Michelangelo Pistoletto's *Broken Mirror Painting*.

The Margulies Collection at the Warehouse is free to students with a valid ID. Tours are available by appointment, and visiting hours are every Wednesday through Saturday

from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

"I loved 'L'Hospice' by Gilles Barbier. This piece stood out the most to me. It portrayed American superheroes in a retirement home, age and their trade having taken a toll on their physical appearance. I have always loved comics, and it was cool to see how someone perceived these characters from an outside perspective," said Salazar.

## FASHION FINDS

# One for One: TOMS do more than provide comfort

When I first saw one of my friends wearing

### COLUMNIST



ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ

TOMS shoes, I thought she was hungover and accidentally put on her grandma's slippers.

Then she told me the message behind TOMS and the idea of a shoe that gives made the canvas slipper very appealing.

The way the company,

which originated in 2006, works is by donating a pair of shoes to a child in an underdeveloped country for every pair purchased. That's where the motto, "One for One" comes from. American traveler Blake Mycoskie befriended children in Argentina and found they had no shoes to protect their feet. Wanting to help, he created TOMS Shoes. A year later, Mycoskie returned to Argentina with 10,000 pairs of shoes made possible by TOMS customers.

The TOMS mission chose shoes as their focus because bare feet is a leading cause of disease in developing countries because many of them are soil-transmitted diseases. Another major factor is how many times children can't attend school barefoot because shoes are required as part of their uniform. If the children don't have shoes, they aren't permitted to go to school and receive an education.

It took me about a year or so to jump on the TOMS bandwagon, but when I finally did I was totally surprised.

TOMS are the most comfortable shoes that have ever graced my feet. My first pair was a pair of silver sequined TOMS. I admit they're a little flashy, but I love them. As I did some research for this column, I discovered that my new favorite shoes were from the TOMS wedding collection. It was surprising to me that TOMS would even have a wedding shoe line but it speaks volumes when trying to explain how far the company has come.

I love my TOMS. After I got them for Christmas this year, I wore them just about every other day for weeks. No, they don't smell. TOMS' practicality reaches out to a wide variety of people. My mom even likes them and she bought her first pair of TOMS just a few weeks after I received mine.

TOMS look cute with literally everything. I can wear them with shorts, leggings, jeans and dresses. One of my initial fears when it came to wearing TOMS was the cut of the shoe. Where it ends on the arch of your foot isn't always flattering. It can make your leg

look chunky and my "cankles" and I can't afford to be cut off in such a way. Thankfully, I was proven wrong. The shoes are quite flattering to the leg.

If choosing to wear TOMS with jeans, cuff your jeans at the ankle. Most of the time jeans are a bit too long and bunch at the bottom. This look doesn't work as well with TOMS as it would with a sandal or a ballet slipper. Cuffing the jeans helps out the proportions.

The company started off with a just few basic colors: red, olive, black and navy. Once the brand's popularity grew, it started added fun colors, patterns and styles.

After the success of the sequined wedding style shoe, TOMS came out with a pink version. It's too much Oz for me, but I can appreciate them. My next purchase will be one of the Cordones style. By the looks of it, it is like a Ked and Converse hybrid and still maintains the ease of a classic TOMS. The only TOMS style I object to is the wedge style.

TOMS are designed for guys and girls. I think the basic colors look great on both. I've heard plenty of people debate whether the red is in fact a unisex style but I think it is.

Next time you're at the stores and you're just in the mood to spend, spend wisely and buy a pair of TOMS. At least your impulse buy will help out someone else in the world.

*Fashion Finds is a weekly column on style. You can look for it every Monday. Reviewers are not compensated for favorable or positive reviews.*

## 2011-12 HISPANIC LEADERSHIP TOUR

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In partnership with the Center for Hispanic Leadership, FIU kicks off the 10-city Hispanic Leadership Tour March 16 - 18, 2011. The mission of the Center is to educate businesses on how to gain a global competitive advantage by allowing their Hispanic talent to utilize the characteristics that make them great leaders.

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ON THE PROWL

# Make sure to do some research before a big date

While spending last summer vacation at home with my family in New Orleans, I spent a lot of my free time exploring the city’s nightlife opportunities.

My sister and I decided to go to the local college hangout we had gone to on numerous occasions before and on a particularly fun night I met Marley. He was 23-years-old, enrolled at a nearby community college and very passionate about pursuing a music career.

He seemed super down-to-earth, charismatic and knew how to keep a conversation going.

It wasn’t until our third date that he finally dropped the bomb: he was an ex-convicted felon that had only been out of prison for about a year. Marley told me he had just got caught up with the wrong crowd and had made bad decisions, but that he had recently found God, joined a local church and found new friends.

When I got home that night, I went straight to my computer and put the skills I had learned in journalism classes to work. After a few hours of digging, I had found the names of all of Marley’s family members, all his past addresses and his criminal records. Low and behold, Marley was a felon- a nine-time felon to be exact.

Besides some drug charges, there were some battery charges that scared me.

While every case may not be this extreme, after this experience I got in the habit of doing a little background research for new people entering my life, especially romantic interests. After all, it is public information and I’m entitled to know who I surround myself with.

And I believe everyone should too. Here’s how to get started:

For starters, never underestimated the power of Facebook. If you’ve never experimented with the search box past making a fruitless name inquiry, try narrowing your search. Facebook lets you search by location, education and workplace.

It even will sift through your friends’ posts and extends its reach out to the web if you ask it to.

The obvious way to find more informa-

tion about a person would be to Google them, but remember that there are also other search engines that are likely to pick up a variety of other sites Google might not. Try *yahoo.com*, *ask.com*, *bing.com* and *alltheweb.com*. Also, keep in mind that search engines only scour the “surface” of the Internet.

The Whitepages online can be really handy, but there are also many online background check websites dying to charge you for information that is already floating around the Internet for free.

Deep web searches such as *pipl.com*, *123people.com*, *peekyou.com* and *spokeo.com* all find information referring to a vast repository of underlying content, such as documents in online databases that general-purpose web crawlers can’t reach.

This is because most personal profiles, public records and other people-related documents are stored in databases and not on static web pages, so a lot of information about people is simply “invisible” to a regular search engine. The deep web is estimated to have 500 times more content than the surface web and barely anyone is aware of it.

If your date is a little more high profile and you’re interested in finding out what people are saying about them, sites like *whostalkin.com*, *socialmention.com*, *samepoint.com* and *icerocket.com* are social media tools that allows users to search for conversations about topics, or people in our case, that interest them.

Try searching for yourself to test it out, you might be pleasantly or unpleasantly surprised.

Some of these websites might ask you for information you might not know, but as long as you have at least two pieces of information, such as name, birthday, phone number, address or previous addresses, through the tools I’ve shared, you can slowly piece a puzzle together.

Now, let’s not be naive and forget to check sex offender registries, incarceration records, criminal searches, court records and property records.

After avoiding Marley for some time, he noticed I might have been a bit startled by his

confession and tried hard to get me to understand that was his past. I believe everyone deserves a second chance and I extended one to him. I’m glad I did because while the romantic interest fizzled, he turned out to be a friend. He had indeed drastically changed his present, mostly due to his four-year-old daughter’s motivation to succeed in the music industry.

Sometimes being a little paranoid can pay off and be a healthy preventive measure to take on behalf of your own safety.

Call me what you’d like, but I just like to be on the safe side when letting a new person into my life.

*On the Prowl is a bi-weekly column on dating. Look for it every other Monday.*

COLUMNIST



LIANAMAR  
DÁVILA  
SANABRIA

Rapper to speak at BBC

COMMON, page 8

Common has recorded eight studio albums and is currently working on a ninth album with Kanye West, set to come out later this year. He has starred in a number of films such as “Smokin’ Aces,” “American Gangster” and “Date Night,” to name a few. Common has also written several children’s books.

In 2007 Common embarked on a philanthropic endeavor to enrich the lives of underprivileged urban youth in the U.S. and launched the Common Ground Foundation, Inc., a Chicago based global initiative focused on empowering urban youth and fostering the desire for knowledge.

Common’s music is heavily saturated with socially conscious material that often sheds light on issues that plague the youth in today’s society. As an acclaimed pioneer of hip-hop, common has seen it all from the “Golden age” of hip-hop to the rise of gangsta-rap.

“We have a smaller budget than [the Modesto Maidique Campus] and it was hard to bring [Common] because he is recording an album with Kanye West, but I think we did a good job,” said Director of Lectures Emilio Collyer Jr.

The lecture series serves as a platform for professionals to discuss issues of pertinence to society. During the Spring 2011 semester the series has featured author, journalist and editor Dan Savage who discussed the “It Gets Better” YouTube project, a program where Savage asks individuals to upload videos about positive experiences in the LGBT community, in hopes of easing tensions between gay-straight relations and reducing the rate of gay teen suicides. The series will also feature Fabien Cousteau, an aquatic filmmaker and oceanographic explorer.

“Common is a very popular artist and we’re seeing a bigger demand for his presence. We are already getting a lot of phone calls about the event,” said Angelena Adams, the Student Government Council at BBC elections commissioner.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

MOTOWN ON THE BAY



First event of the Harlem Renaissance Week!

WHEN: 12-2 p.m.

WHERE: BBC Flagpole outside of WUC

KARAOKE NIGHT: A NIGHT IN MOTOWN

Get ready for a night of fun and karaoke! A tribute to the Motown music of the Harlem Renaissance.

WHEN: 8-10 p.m.

WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

FIU FEDERALIST SOCIETY PRESENTS: ALAN GURA



WHEN: 11:30 am-11:30 p.m.

WHERE: MMC RDB1000

SAVE A CHILD’S HEART

WHEN: All day

WHERE: Inside GC and by the Green Library Breezeway

7TH ANNUAL SKI TRIP TO TENNESSEE REGISTRATION OPEN

Early registration for the 7th Annual Ski Trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee!

WHEN: 10-3 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$275 FIU Students, \$300 Non-Students.

WHERE: MMC RC 103

SEA KAYAK & SNORKEL ADVENTURE



WHEN: 9:30 a.m.

HOW MUCH: \$70

WHERE: Crandon Park Visitors and Nature Center

MAKING THE SCENE: NICHOLAS GARNETT

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$170 for public, \$120 for MDC faculty and students

WHERE: Florida Center for the Literary Arts

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2011

REC SERVICES PRESENTS: BURLESQUE DANCE



WHEN: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

WHERE: MMC RC 224

MR. AND MISS BSU PAGEANT

WHEN: 8-10 p.m.

WHERE: MMC TBA

BATE-PAPO

WHEN: 5:45-6:45 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: MMC Piano Room in GC

BEGINNER’S SUNSET YOGA



WHEN: 5-6 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: Organic garden

BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDIES

WHEN: 7:30-8:15 a.m.

WHERE: ROTC Trailer next to W10A

NEGRO LEAGUE EXHIBIT

A traveling exhibit in tribute to the black baseball league.

WHEN: 12-4 p.m.

WHERE: BBC Panther Square

ISA AT BBC’S VALENTINE’S DAY BAKE SALE



Chocolate lollipops, cake, cookies and cupcakes! Donations will be given to Camillus House.

WHEN: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

WHERE: BBC AC-1

AUTISM & RELAY FOR LIFE

WHEN: 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

WHERE: MMC GC Hallways

Global Learning for Global Citizenship

Tuesday Times Roundtable

at Modesto A. Maidique Campus (MMC)

Moderator & Theme

Sarah Clegg-Crawford, Student Conduct

Can Civility Survive the Age of Technology?

Sadiq Abdullahi, College of Education

Rethinking Global Education

Pallab Mozumder, Earth and Environment

To Be Announced

Rev. Paul Massingill, FIU-MDC Wesley

Is Pure Altruism Possible?

Mariam Willis, Architecture & The Arts

The Repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell

Abuzar Kabir, Chemistry & Biochemistry

The Complex Immigration Policies of the U.S.

Steve Schwartz, University Advancement

To Be Announced

Divina Grossman, Vice President of Engagement

Deaths in Childbirth: Preventive Care & Policy

Michael Brillman, History

To Be Announced

Laura Boudon, College of Medicine

International Adoptions after Natural Disasters

Alan Gummerson, Economics

The State of the Economy

Cem Karayalcin, Economics

Debt and Unemployment

Marc Weinstein, College of Education

Do Straight "A" Students Live Longer?

Every Tuesday from 12:30-1:30pm in ZEB 150

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FIU Student Government Association Office of the Provost

FIU Global Learning

ECON WITH NEDA

## Egyptian uprising elicits global impact

The economic impact of Egypt’s political turmoil should not be underestimated or ignored by investors and citizens of the world. The current revolutionary uprising taking place in Egypt should trigger severe concerns about the already unstable global economy, which is going to be further destabilized.

ASST. OPINION  
EDITOR



NEDA GHOMESHI

Revolting against the government and the act of protesting is like the flu - highly contagious. The contagion is already spreading across the region to Yemen, Jordan, Algeria and other nations. All of these nations are members of the global economy and, more importantly, are in the Middle East, where the majority of the world’s oil supply is located. Unstable governments in these countries mean an unstable Middle East. That is detrimental for both the Middle East and the world economy.

Mubarak made a statement on Egyptian State television announcing that he does not intend to run in September’s presidential election. No one knows who is going to be the next president, and that is precisely the concern. Although, his recently chosen vice president, Mr. Suleiman, has a standing if the government does not fall apart altogether.

Under the Mubarak government, Egypt

“The world economy is becoming more integrated and it is impossible to insulate ourselves from what is happening in Egypt and the rest of the world.”

has been a strategic ally of the United States and other countries in the West. If Mubarak is no longer in power, his replacement - except for Suleiman - can and may change the direction of Egyptian politics in a negative way. Obviously, this will have an impact on the world economy.

An indisputable impact is the rise in the price of oil. In fact, we are currently witnessing an increase in oil prices. According to The Washington Post, “The price of oil rose to \$92.19 on Monday [Jan. 31, 2011], its highest level since October 2008.” This increase should come as a warning for everyone: the economy is going to further suffer from these current political turmoils.

Although Egypt is not a major oil exporter, a disruption in oil delivery through the Suez Canal will cause gas prices to rise. The 120 mile canal is the key connector between Europe and Asia. According to the U.S. Energy Department, “Every day about 3 million barrels of oil — or about 3.6 percent of the world’s crude produc-

tion — moves through the Suez Canal or by overland pipelines in Egypt.” So far, the canal has remained open. However, I think that every nation should be concerned that the canal may be blocked, which will affect global trade.

Disruptions in shipping along the Suez Canal impact goods, too. Goods from Asia are shipped around the world via the Suez Canal. If the canal is closed to shipping, alternative, more expensive routes are going to have to be considered. Eventually, those costs will be passed on to consumers around the world. The combination of higher energy prices, plus higher prices for goods, will stifle the already depressed worldwide economy.

The world economy is becoming more integrated and it is impossible to insulate ourselves from what is happening in Egypt and the rest of the world. Citizens of the world should be concerned.

*Econ with Neda is a bi-weekly economics column. To submit story ideas, email neda.ghomeshi@fiusm.com.*

THE BEACON | Editorial

## New class schedule worth the inconvenience, sacrifice

A class scheduling change took away the three-day weekend University students and faculty grew accustomed to, but the trade-off is worth every penny.

The University changed from a Monday through Thursday schedule to a Monday through Friday one in Fall 2007, meaning that classes that were once an hour and 15 minutes on Monday and Wednesday, are now 50 minutes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

This change was in response to a projected decrease in funds from the State Legislature’s Public Education Capital Outlay fund in 2006-2007 and a study from Florida’s Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability which showed the University was lowest in the state in term of classroom utilization.

In an article *The Beacon* ran on Jan. 31 both students and faculty found the new class schedule to inconvenience students’ work schedules, and didn’t provide professors enough class time.

We empathize with students who have difficulty syncing their school and work schedules. However, we feel professors’ complaints are petty and don’t take into account all the benefits the new schedule has brought to the University.

For the 2010-11 school year the University was awarded \$34 million in PECO funding, more than any other university in the State University System received. The previous year the University only received \$10 million in funding, according to a June 2010 *Beacon* report, accounting for an increase of 340 percent. Without more classroom utilization the University would not have seen such a dramatic increase in funding.

Jefferey Gonzalez, associate vice president of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, said in the Jan. 31 article the University used the PECO funds to renovated classrooms. The funds will also be used for a student support services building, a neuroscience center and a four-story astronomy observation platform.

Stephen Luscher, a business instructor, said in the Jan. 31 article the schedule was a waste of time due to “the loss of time due to the professor getting ready taking attendance.”

Furthermore, Meri-Jane Rochelson, English professor and chairwoman of the English department at the Biscayne Bay Campus, said during a recent interview with Student Media faculty in her department found 50 minutes to not be enough time. “Class would end just as a discussion was getting started,” Rochelson said.

A solution to similar problems would be to arrive to class early enough to take care of tasks such as taking attendance and making announcements, in addition to making an effort to use the time they have efficiently by avoiding going into unrelated tangents during their lessons.

Due to low enrollment numbers for upper-division courses, the English department at the BBC now offers these courses only on Tuesday and Thursday, according to Rochelson. Despite the setback, we feel these adjustments are necessary for a full increase in classroom utilization.

Also, the new schedule is helpful to freshman students said Howard Rock, professor in the history department, in a Nov. 2007 *Beacon* article. “It helps students stay focused, especially in the lower division classes,” Rock said. “The classes are shorter, so they are easier to handle for the students coming in fresh from high school.”

In all, we feel that the benefits of this scheduling change outweighs the minor gripes faculty may have, and the University is more than capable of making the needed adjustments.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Idea of censorship of sexuality unwise

In Response to “Sexual Content in Media in Need of Censorship” by Shedwin Eliassin:

The idea that we should apply more censorship to sexuality in the media is a misguided one. First of all, who would decide what should be censored and what should not? While there are lines regarding moral behavior, I do not feel it is proper for one person to impose his or her moral code upon anybody else.

Morality is subjective and is directly linked to an individual’s personal beliefs. The type of censorship you speak of would be indirectly imposing on people’s beliefs.

Secondly, should such censorship occur, where would the line be drawn? While it is wrong to objectify women, what is wrong with celebrating the beauty of the female form? Women are beautiful! To censor female beauty is just as undermining to an aspect of their humanity.

Would you prefer that all women in media wear turtlenecks and other form-concealing attire? Perhaps we should make it a standard that women in media wear veils or masks—after all, a beautiful woman’s face can be just as sultry and arousing as her breasts or rear-end.

On another note, why

is everybody so up in arms when it comes to sex in the media? Sex is natural. Sex is a part of what makes us human beings. Sex is a good thing! Why attack sex when media is inundated with violence? Bringing harm to another human being is much more wrong than sexuality, yet it is infinitely more pervasive in our media.

Just do a quick recap of the movies and television programming you watch, the video games you play, even some of the music you listen to! It’s all rife with violence!

In my opinion constant exposure to violence is much more detrimental to the minds of individuals (let

alone impressionable children), yet there are significantly fewer calls to censor such material.

Lastly, the censorship of sexuality opens the door to more media censorship. What’s to say those on the hypothetical “Censorship Board” are partial to some political or religious organization? Who’s to say the censorship won’t extend into other aspects of the media?

An overly censored state is an ignorant state. Its people confined to what those in power deem acceptable. No thank you, Ms. Eliassin. I’ll keep my sex.

-Chris Lazaga, Senior, Journalism

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.

VERBATIM

“But Mr. [Paul] Ryan is widely portrayed as an intellectual leader within the G.O.P., with special expertise on matters of debt and deficits. So the revelation that he literally doesn’t know the first thing about the debt crises currently in progress is... interesting — and not in a good way.”

Paul Krugman,  
Winner of Nobel Prize in Economics

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters (500 words maximum) regarding or in response to its editorials, send them to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (500 words maximum) in to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com) or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.





## CUBA

### Cuba to free 4 opposition prisoners

The government has agreed to free four men convicted of trying to flee the island by hijacking boats, and will send them into exile in Spain, a Roman Catholic Church official said on Feb. 2.



## VENEZUELA

### Chavez: ‘Battle has begun’ for 2012 election

Hugo Chavez celebrated his 12th anniversary in power on Feb. 2 saying he is ready to battle for six more years in next year’s election. He touted his government’s programs and also apologized for his errors.



## HAITI

### Gov’t-backed candidate out of Haiti’s election

Electoral officials dropped the government-backed candidate from the upcoming presidential runoff on Feb. 3, ending a standoff with the U.S. and other international powers over the results of the first-round of voting.

## SGC-BBC LECTURE SERIES

# A not-so-Common lecture will take place this week



NELL REDMOND/AP PHOTO

Hip-hop performer Common, seen here reaping ofr poet Maya Angelou at a garden party in her honor at Angelou’s home in May 2010, will lecture on the effects of hip-hop on American society on Feb. 9 in the Wolfe University Center Balrooms

## DEBORAH SOUVERAIN Staff Writer

“I met this girl, when I was 10 years old, and what I loved most, she had so much soul,” are lyrics from Chicago-Born rapper Common’s critically acclaimed single “I used to love H.E.R.”

It is an ode to hip-hop expressing his disappointment in the path that hip-hop had taken in the late 1980s and early 1990s during the fall of conscious rap, brought on by the rise of gangsta rap.

Two-time Grammy award winning hip-hop artist Common is scheduled to discuss “The Effects of Hip-Hop on American Society” on Feb. 9, 2011 on the Biscayne Bay Campus, as part of the ongoing Lecture Series coordinated by the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Student Government Council.

The discussion on hip-hop and its effect on American society will be held in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms, on Wednesday, Feb. 9. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the event will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The event is free for students, faculty, staff and Alumni Association members, but seats are limited. It is encouraged tickets are picked up prior to the event. As of Feb. 1, over 300 tickets were given out at BBC and only three tickets remained at MMC. For non-FIU members, tickets are being sold for \$5 pre-sale and \$10 at the door.

As one of the more popular faces of the dwindling, less mainstream, sector of hip-hop referred to as “conscious rap,” Common rose from his roots in underground hip-hop to becoming one of the most famed artists in hip-hop.

**COMMON, page 6**

# Time, money are major concerns for majors on campus

## THOMAS JOHNSON Contributing Writer

Daniela Ustariz glances at her watch for the third time in five minutes. Clearly agitated, she stands shoulder-to-shoulder at the crowded bus stop, near the bookstore at the Modesto Madique Campus.

She’s not alone. Nearly everyone else at the bus stop has the same

concerned expression and there is a constant craning of necks and scouring of the landscape.

For many students living at or near MMC, majoring in journalism or hospitality means commuting between two and three extra hours per day. To make it to class, students are faced with the choice of either paying two dollars to ride a sometimes erratic shuttle service, or drive themselves

and face traffic and fuel costs.

“I just don’t understand why I have to come all the way up here for one class,” said Ustariz, a senior who’s pursuing a second degree in hospitality management.

Some students believe the University has chosen to locate certain schools solely at the Biscayne Bay Campus based on geographic reasons.

“I guess it makes sense to have the

hospitality school here since it’s a lot closer to hotels and tourist hotspots than the main campus,” said Roshini Rampersaud, a University alumna who graduated in 2009 with a degree in hospitality management.

This does not necessarily apply to other schools, though.

“I don’t see the point of having the journalism school here,” said Chris Lazaga, a senior journalism student. “I

mean we’re no closer to news agencies than we would be at the other campus. It would make sense if it was located downtown because at least that way we’d be way closer to *The New Times* and *The Miami Herald* buildings.”

The reasoning has nothing to do with geography, but everything to do with economics and practicality.

**CURSE, page 2**

## SGC-BBC

# As empty seats still exist, so too do appointments

## BECCA GRIESEMER Staff Writer

President Christin “CiCi” Battle appointed an executive assistant to the president in under five minutes in the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus general meeting on Jan. 26.

Battle prefaced the senator’s vote by saying she hoped they would approve Deedee Bing because the hopeful assistant had been “stalking” Battle in order to help her.

Bing’s introduction to the senators included where she was from (China), her major (hospitality), and finally her dorm room number so that anyone who is interested is welcome to come by for her cooking.

The room was filled with laughter and applause. Bing stepped outside and was the senate approved her without any deliberation.

The constitution gives the president the right to appoint the executive cabinet, elections board, and chief justice, but at a vacancy-laden council

like SGC-BBC, appointments are an ever-occurring procedure, and into the legislative branch as well.

Senators can approve or deny all appointments and recommendations that the president presents to the senate body, yet many officials feel there is scant need to deny a recommendation made by the president.

“Usually the senate is confident with the executive board’s decisions because they know what it entails to have a big position on campus,” Denise Halpin, SGC-BBC vice president said.

The difference between a recommendation and an appointment, Halpin explained, is that a recommendation is given for a person who would be a strong candidate because they are heavily involved and possess good qualities, whereas an appointment is: “You are appointed into the senate; you are officially now a member.”

Christopher Lawton was appointed to chief justice in the first general meeting of the spring semester. Halpin

said Battle went through an interview process with about seven different candidates for the position.

“CiCi brought Chris before the senate so they could approve or disapprove of him, but she gets to appoint him at the end of the day, though,” Halpin said.

Even if the senate disapproved, Battle could bring her chosen candidate before the senate again, Halpin said.

Former SGC-BBC president, Sholom Neistein, said the process for the president appointing one person out of seven candidates is completely accurate.

“The constitution states the president has all the rights to decide who is fit for that position, and if CiCi felt like that person was fit, than it’s within her right,” Neistein said.

But there is no regulation or stipulation in the constitution that says the president can’t present more than one candidate and let the senate vote with more than one option before them.

On this, Neistein expounds: “I have

a question for you, on the national scale, in the whole political spectrum that you see: how do they run it? Do they get all the candidates and they all go before the senate? Or does the president pick one person and they can shoot that person down or accept that person? I’m sure CiCi would have loved to put a couple people in front of the senate.”

SGC-BBC senator Jerveris “Jey” Floyd was unbothered by Lawton’s appointment either, because he’s sat in on an interview process before and it’s not a closed door process.

“We’re always open to it, the door is open. There’s nothing that says no senator can come and sit in on someone who is trying to be in the senate,” Floyd said.

Another comforting factor for Floyd is that, as Halpin assumed, he holds the belief that whoever was thought to be best would be the person to be appointed.

In the case of senators, the constitution says they are to be elected by plurality vote for a one year term,

and that if the seat becomes vacant, the senate may appoint a substitute to fill the seat until the next election.

Floyd and Sagine Delly are the two hospitality management senators and the senate voted both of them in.

For a hospitality student, this can be discomforting.

Laura Marrero, a hospitality senior, said knowing the student body didn’t elect the senators to represent their school, there might be bias from the senators being voted in by the senate.

“If we didn’t propose them there, we don’t know how they feel about the issues,” Marrero said.

Not enough marketing is a student government-admitted reason that students possibly aren’t running for senate of their respective schools.

Marrero doesn’t take that for an excuse.

“I know all about South Beach Food and Wine. I see flyers for study abroad in China. But I don’t see anything about elections,” Marrero said.

*Read the full story on fiusm.com.*