

7-23-2011

The Beacon, July 20, 2011

Florida International University

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Florida International University, "The Beacon, July 20, 2011" (2011). *The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon)*. 600.
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CAREER SERVICES

Obama's job regulation to not affect University

NICOLE CASTRO
Staff Writer

U.S. President Barack Obama has enacted a new "gainful employment" regulation on career programs to ensure students across the country their money's worth for their education.

After an extensive series of public hearings and meetings, the Obama administration released final guidelines on "gainful employment" on June 2.

The regulation calls for career college programs to ensure students are being adequately prepared to obtain jobs in their chosen occupation after graduating or risk losing federal aid for the institution.

Under these regulations, career college programs will be considered effective and qualify for federal aid only if they meet one of the following: 35 percent of former students are repaying their loans (decreasing loan

by at least \$1), the average annual loan payment of a graduate does not exceed 30 percent of his or her income or the estimated annual loan payment of a graduate does not exceed 12 percent of his or her total earnings.

Career Services was unavailable to explain where the University stands under the aforementioned metrics.

Carlos A. Becerra, director of federal relations, and Patrick O'Keefe, president of Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus, told Student Media that currently the regulation only applies to for-profit educational institutions such as the University of Phoenix and others.

"I believe it is good in theory, but setting the regulation could be highly damaging to public institutions such as FIU, if instituted, unless it is funded, to be able to lower tuition," said O'Keefe.

Meanwhile, those who

FLASH MOB



PHILIPPE BUTEAU/THE BEACON

Justin Lacson, sophomore engineering major (second from left), and Kimberly Callasco, sophomore nursing major, joined other University students at Aventura Mall on July 15 for the South Florida School Expo Flash Mob. Students donned 'FIU' gear while breaking out dancing to the song "Dirty Bit" by the Black Eyed Peas.

oppose the regulation have brought into debate whether it aims to crack down on ineffective career programs or, more notably, make students repay their loans at a much faster rate than is possible.

"If career programs are working efficiently and

effectively to help students get their jobs and get everything on time, then once students get their jobs they will be able to repay those loans, so I don't believe it is impossible," said Randy Graves, a junior biology major.

Graves expressed his discontent about paying an institution a certain amount of money only to discover that job opportunities don't present themselves.

The July 8 joint hearing with the House Committee on Oversight and Government

Reform's Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending, further highlighted the negative consequences of the gainful employment regulation.

REGULATION, page 2

KENDALL BERRY

Witnesses hard to find for prosecution in Wyche case

IGOR MELLO
Asst. Sports Director

Kendall Berry's murder suspect may see daylight by the end of the summer, at least according to his defense attorney.

Quentin Wyche, 23, has been behind bars since March 2010 after he was charged with the second-degree murder of the star football player and according to public records he may find out whether he'll be released (pending trial) as early as Thursday, July 14.

Wyche's defense attorney, David Peckins, has filed the motion to dismiss the case on July 12. Peckins claims that Wyche acted in self-defense. He's also claimed that the summer break at the University has also been an issue, making it complicated to get in contact with witnesses who, for the most

part, are back at home for the break.

This comes after Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Milton Hirsch ruled on April 5 that Wyche would be held without bond before his trial for second-degree murder.

The judge found Wyche to be a "substantial" risk to the community if released early.

Wyche was confronted by Berry after being involved in an altercation earlier in that March 2010 day with Berry's girlfriend. According to Miami-Dade Police, Wyche armed himself with a pair of scissors and stabbed Berry on campus near the recreation center at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

Wyche's hearing is originally set for Aug. 2 but may be subject to change, according to Peckins, who says the prosecutors want the date rescheduled for Aug. 8.

Calls made to Peckins' office were not returned as of press time.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

Actors step into victims' lives by wearing their shoes

KATRINA BRUNO
Staff Writer

"When you walk in to the room, you'll see a line of shoes and a row of seats with a projection of a girl walking in the background," said Victoria Collado, a senior theatre major. "When the show starts, the actors come in and put on the shoes, symbolizing these actors are taking the place of the people who cannot speak right now. They are stepping into the victims' lives."

The University theatre students, hoping to shed some light on human trafficking, took their talents abroad this July to share their performance of "Body and Sold," a narrative, stage-read performance, directed by Phillip Church, associate professor of the Department of

Theatre, about eight young victims who found themselves tangled in the destructive web of human trafficking.

Teaming up with Southampton Solent and Kingston University in London, the students hosted their production on July 6 and July 8 at the International Youth Arts Festival in England.

The festival, which ran for its third year, showcased over 200 productions and 2,000 performers between July 1 and July 18. The free performances were hosted on July 6 at SSU and on July 8 at Kingston University at 8 p.m. for \$5.

The actors and actresses used "stage reading" throughout the production, acting out the play with the scripts in their hands and sharing the stories of victims

BODY AND SOLD, page 5

COMING UP | Life!

Check out "Cover to Cover" by Kelly Malambri for a review on "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch and Jeffrey Zaslow.

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Join Radiate FM on Thurs. July 21 at 10 p.m. at The Stage for The Local: Indie Night featuring Morningwar, Stop The Presses and Boxwood.

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NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Turtle completes rehab, returns to the sea

Cinco the turtle has completed his rehab program at the Miami Seaquarium.

To the delight of summer campers who bid him goodbye, Cinco swam into the water off Bill Bags Cape Florida State Park this week.

He had been at the Seaquarium since May, when he was found stranded off Dania Beach after a hook wedged in his mouth. The 12-pound turtle underwent a series of tests to make sure he could still dive, float and eat on his own.

He became a celebrity at the Seaquarium’s summer camp, where sign-bearing children cheered as animal care supervisor Judy Tazinski held him aloft.

NATIONAL

House passes energy bill \$6B below Obama’s request

The House has signed off on a nearly \$31 billion bill to fund Energy Department programs and Army Corps of Engineers water projects. The Republican-crafted bill is almost \$6 billion less than what President Barack Obama requested.

The vote was 219-196 with almost every Democrat voting against it. Democrats objected to environmental cuts and a decision to take \$1 billion that had been designated for high-speed rail projects and spend it instead on Midwest flood relief.

The legislation also bars the administration from using money to close the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository in Nevada and adds \$10 million for regulators to review a license application for Yucca.

WORLD

Yemenis protest on anniversary of Saleh’s rule

Hundreds of thousands of protesters are flooding the streets across Yemen to demand the ouster of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, while thousands of the embattled leader’s supporters are staging counter rallies to celebrate the 33rd anniversary of his rule.

Activist Nouh al-Wafi says demonstrators in the southern city of Taiz on Sunday carried black flags and placards that read “today is the fateful day.” Similar protests also were taking place in several other major cities including Amran, Saada and al-Bayda.

In the capital Sanaa, Saleh’s supporters raised pictures of the president alongside posters denouncing those seeking to topple him.

– Compiled by Melissa Caceres

STUDENT SUCCESS

Students, professors weigh merits of attendance; good discipline required

NARANBAATAR ERKHEMBAATAR
Contributing Writer

As much as students want to learn, the temptation to miss a class, or three, is always there. And their success in class depends on their ability to fight that temptation.

As much as students want to learn, the temptation to miss a class, or three is always there. And their success in class depends on their ability to fight that temptation.

“Obviously I have had more success with classes I have been at every day, and nearly failed the ones I have skipped all the time,” said Sabrina Heath, a sophomore sociology and advertising major.

Discipline is a major component of good performance in class, according to Ayssa Roza, an academic adviser and an SLS instructor who’s been with the University for two years.

“Some students are disciplined enough to read and do work on their own,” said Roza.

That can be easier said than done so certain professors make class mandatory.

Joyce Fine, associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, tailors her attendance policy to help the learning process.

“My policies regarding mandatory attendance in class are based on the concepts that all activities in class - including discussions, presentations by students, and the many ways that a sense of community are built - are essential for the part of the learning that takes place in class,” said Fine, a 20-year veteran with the University.

This tactic forces students to attend class, but Stephanie Perez, a junior nursing major thinks it causes undue stress, especially when emergencies come up.

“Knowing you have to be in class and that it is mandatory is just another stressor for students,” Perez said. “For example, there may come a day that something comes up and we cannot get documentation for missing class or at least any documentation that the teacher might consider ‘proper’ but the issue is sufficient enough that we have to miss class.”

Although Prince Arugu, a sophomore nursing major, thinks attendance is important, he also doesn’t think it should be mandatory.

William Berry, adjunct professor in the psychology department, shares some of Arugu’s opinion and compares the maturity level of college students to high school students.

“On one hand I believe students

are adults and should make their own decisions and be held accountable for their decisions,” said Berry who’s taught at the University for three and a half years.

However, Berry still thinks there should be some level of enforcement when it comes to attendance.

“On the other hand adults often demonstrate they do not have the capacity to make healthy decisions for themselves and so require authority to dictate their behavior,” Berry said.

Berry added students are especially vulnerable as the part of their brain that involves higher decision making skills is not fully developed until after 25 years old.

But students do have the capacity to distinguish which classes they can miss at times, such as Carlos Estevez, a sophomore history major.

“Missing classes does not affect my grade in certain topics such as English,” Estevez said “In science courses, I rarely miss class.”

John Makemson, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and director of Undergraduate Study, said it doesn’t matter what the attendance policy is “Mandatory or not, the poor students won’t show.”

Roza said students who want to be successful will attend their classes.

For-profit institutions demand regulation extended to everyone

REGULATION, page 1

It was argued that many employers, such as in the medical field, rely on for-profit institutions to train their workforce and the

implementation of the regulation will affect low-income minorities that seek opportunities.

O’Keefe, who staffed the hearing, described the scene in Washington.

“Right now it’s basically for-profits saying extend it to all or none and the big money lobbyists pushing the issue with Chairman Issa trying to figure out how to crack down on for-profits,” said O’Keefe. “Obama is pushing the issue and Congress doesn’t seem too thrilled.”

Nonetheless, Career Services at the University has had successful programs and events that are offered to current students and alumni in order to further develop their skills to become marketable in the workforce.

Some of these include the Federal Government State-wide Conference, the Practice Interview Program and

“What I really like about Career Services is that they offer to help you in your interviewing skills as well as in building up your resume which is highly important when it comes to getting hired.”

Gisaidy Caba,
Senior
Liberal Studies major

the Professional Development Workshops.

“What I really like about Career Services is that they offer to help you in your interviewing skills as well as in building up your resume, which is highly important when it comes to getting hired,” said Gisaidy Caba, a senior liberal studies major.

Caba, whose graduation is approaching, said she is worried about paying off her \$20,000 loan, but she remains confident that the University will help her find a job that provides her with an income with a comfortable salary.

With their recent election into SGA, O’Keefe and Denise Halpin, president of SGC-BBC, plan to include promoting Career Services into their agenda.

Specific plans have not been outlined yet, however, “if a student comes in to our office, we always refer them to Career Services to create a transparent connection with the student and the University,” said Halpin.



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



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BASEBALL

Garcia gets a chance with Braves after college

MALCOLM SHIELDS
Staff Writer

Nothing has ever come easy for former FIU closer Bryam Garcia. Throughout his early baseball career, he dealt with many obstacles to reach his goal of pitching professionally.

On June 15, Garcia signed a free-agent contract with the Atlanta Braves to pitch in the Gulf Coast League in Kissimmee, Fla. Before donning the Braves uniform, Garcia had humble beginnings to his collegiate baseball career.

LIFE AS A COMMODORE

Garcia began pitching for Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City.

“Coming out of high school, I did not have that many Division I options,” Garcia said. “My brother went [there]... and their coach had been recruiting me so I decided to go play with my brother.”

Mike Kandler was Garcia’s head coach from 2007 to 2008. Kandler saw early on that Garcia had plenty of determination and talent.

“Bryam was the ultimate competitor,” Kandler said. “He would pull that hat down and get after hitters like he should. He had a big freshman year for us. He was an all-conference player for us.”

Coach Kandler pinpointed that Garcia’s potential would be maximized by coming out of the

[The Braves] told me that they were going to give me an opportunity... I couldn’t contain myself. I didn’t know what to do.

Bryam Garcia
Former FIU Closer

bullpen.

“He was very successful as a starter, but I saw ultimately down the road, coming out of the bullpen would be his true value because he has that right temperament,” Kandler said. “He’s such a bulldog that he is going to go get it going after [batters].”

With his success came adversity, as Garcia dealt with an injury to his pitching shoulder.

“Three-fourths in my freshman year, my arm started to bother me. I thought it was just regular tendinitis in my shoulder,” Garcia said. “So I just kept pitching through it. I got an MRI that summer and I ended up having a tear.”

After months of rehab, Garcia decided to have surgery in the fall of his sophomore year, hoping to be available by the start of the season.

After making one appearance in 2008, the discomfort remained and Garcia decided to redshirt for the year.

“It was tough,” Garcia said. “I [went from] throwing 90 mph to pretty much relearning how to throw again. [It] was tough.”

Garcia persevered and bounced back from the injury.

“A lot of guys who have had arm problems would give up,” Kandler said. “But he just fought through the whole thing.”

NEXT STOP: FIU

His pitching caught the attention of FIU Head Coach Turtle Thomas.

“We saw him in fall baseball in [a] tournament. He had a good arm and was developing a breaking-ball and a change-up,” Thomas said. “We got him down on an official visit. He liked it and we got a commitment from him.”

Garcia began his tenure as a Golden Panther in 2010.

“I became one of the go-to guys out of the bullpen,” Garcia said. “I made a month of appearances and then in the conference

tournament I pitched a couple of innings.”

In 2011, Garcia became the closer out of the bullpen for the Golden Panthers and was one of the leaders on the pitching staff.

“He is very respected and they look up to him,” Thomas said. “He was the leader of our pitching staff and he ended up being one of our two co-captains.”

It would be his best season statistically at FIU, going 3-0 with a 3.26 ERA in 28 appearances for the Golden Panthers while recording four saves.

“I was the closer and that was pretty much my whole role,” Garcia said. “To be that guy at the back end of the bullpen is a big role to close out the games and get the [win] for us.”

WAITING FOR THE CALL

After the season, Garcia waited to hear his name called during Major League Baseball’s First-Year Player Draft in June.

“It was definitely in the back of my mind,” Garcia said. “I definitely wanted to get picked up.”

Garcia was not selected by any MLB team, but the setback did not deter him.

“I told the coaching staff at the end of the year that I wanted to keep playing ball,” Garcia said. “My fastball, my breaking pitches and my change-up are good enough to get me to the next level.”

“I knew that if he was 6’2” he would have been drafted because he has a good arm,” Coach

Thomas said of Garcia. “[His velocity is] 90-93 mph and can touch 94 or 95,” “I contacted [the Braves] and they were very receptive to that idea. They talked to people in their farm system that they needed somebody and one thing led to another.”

Garcia spoke about the moment when he was given the news that he was apart of the Braves organization.

“I was in the Jayhawk League for a day and the Braves called. They told me that they were going to give me an opportunity...and that I was now apart of the Atlanta Braves. I couldn’t contain myself,” Garcia said with excitement. “I didn’t know what to do.”

Bryam Garcia took the road that many are unwilling to take to reach professional baseball. For Garcia, he does not regret the path he took. “I don’t regret anything. I love the fact that I went through FIU,” Garcia said. “I don’t regret anything at all.”

2011 STATS



BRYAM GARCIA

W-L: 3-0
SV: 4
ERA: 3.26
SO: 40
B/AVG: .263

NBA LOCKOUT

With season in jeopardy, Howard seriously considers going overseas

GEORGE HENRY
Associated Press

Dwight Howard’s frustration with the NBA lockout has caused the Orlando Magic star to strongly consider playing overseas.

In an exclusive interview Sunday with The Associated Press, Howard said he would consider playing in China or Europe if the NBA lockout doesn’t end.

Howard, a five-time All-Star who led Orlando to the NBA finals in 2009, stopped short of saying he’s in contract discussions with teams overseas.

“I’m not at liberty to talk about it,” he said, “but there’s a huge possibility about me going to China or me going overseas to play basketball.”

New Jersey guard Deron Williams said recently after

signing with a team in Turkey that Howard could become a worldwide star if he played in China.

Howard, who hosted a celebrity basketball game Sunday at Langston Hughes High School to raise money for his charity, didn’t disagree.

“The big thing for me is not giving too much information away, but at the same time I still need to let people know what’s going on with me,” Howard said. “I don’t want to just sit over here and forget about basketball and waste, you know, opportunities for me to get better.”

Howard wasn’t interested in discussing his potential free agency at the end of next season. Along with Williams and New Orleans guard Chris Paul, Howard is a marquee name for potential free agency in 2012.

I just don’t want to sit over here and forget about basketball and waste, you know, opportunities for me to get better.

Dwight Howard,
Power Forward
Orlando Magic

He saw no point in discussing the 2012-13 season when there’s no guarantee of an NBA season in 2011-12. That’s why an opportunity overseas could make sense soon.

“If I decide to go overseas, the main thing is for me to continue to get better, not to do the things that I normally do, but do better at the things

I’m not good at,” Howard said. “So I can use that talent to go overseas, working on my skills and staying in great shape.”

Howard recently hosted 400 kids at a youth basketball camp in Spain and was planning to host “a bunch of them in China, but the lockout messed everything up.”

The former overall No. 1 NBA draft pick loves working with kids in his native Atlanta, but he’s also longing to spread his appeal in other parts of the world.

“Being a role model lasts longer than being a basketball player,” he said. “Right now I have an opportunity to do a lot of great things. I’m blessed with a lot of talents, but one of my talents is being great with kids. Being a good role model, you just want to lead them in the right direction.”



TONY DEJAK/AP IMAGES

Dwight Howard [above] is one of a growing number of players considering going overseas for the upcoming season.

FOOTBALL

Golden Panthers predicted to repeat as champs

BRANDON WISE
Staff Writer

The FIU football team was recently selected number one in the Preseason Sun Belt Coaches Poll to win the Sun Belt conference championship for the second year in a row.

The Golden Panthers received five first place votes and edged out Troy for the top spot by nine points. The team is looking forward to another successful season, but Head Coach Mario Cristobal knows where games are really won.

“Being picked first is no different than last year,” Cristobal said. “No game of football has ever been won on a piece of paper.”

The reigning Sun Belt champions also had five players placed on the preseason All Sun Belt team, led by wide receiver T.Y. Hilton, who was also named Co-Offensive Player of the Year and All-Sun Belt Return Specialist.

The list also included offensive lineman Caylin Hauptmann, defensive lineman Tourek Williams, linebacker Winston Fraser, and cornerback Jonathan Cyprien. The Golden Panthers had more players on the list than any other team in the conference.

Cristobal credits the team’s unselfish play to winning the conference title

a season ago. “The hard work and unselfishness made the difference in the success of last season,” Cristobal said. “It takes the right coaches and right players to succeed in this league.”

The team heads into this upcoming year with a new look on the defensive side of the ball. New defensive coordinator Todd Orlando is taking over a defense that lost key players in defensive lineman Jarvis Wilson, cornerback Anthony Gaitor, and linebacker Toronto Smith.

But Cristobal has seen this happen before.

“Anytime that you lose senior leaders like Anthony Gaitor on the defensive side, there is a void to fill,” Cristobal said. “When that happens, you have to compensate with a lot of hours in the film room and player development among coaches.”

With the Golden Panthers winning the conference last season, Cristobal could not have been more proud of his team.

“It validates a four-year body of work,” Cristobal said. “From where the condition the program was in to where we are now just goes to the hard work that our guys have put in. It was very rewarding.”

While the Golden Panthers are expected to

win the Conference again this season, there is always an element of uncertainty. However, Cristobal does not want to pencil in a repeat Sun Belt Championship just yet.

“You are in for a challenge, year in and year out,” Cristobal said. “With the Sun Belt Conference you can expect the unexpected. Quality football and quality coaches makes for a quality Saturday.”

GETTING CREATIVE ON OFFENSE

This season, FIU will need to look for new and creative ways to put the ball in T.Y. Hilton’s hands.

The Golden Panthers are trying to work on creating more opportunities for their play makers as more and more teams start to understand what they are doing with the ball.

Hilton does realize that teams will begin to focus in on him more this season.

“I am learning to be more patient this year,” Hilton said. “I don’t want to rush things this year. I know that I can rely on my teammates to back me up if I cannot create anything.”

The running game will have to be improved this year with Darriet Perry carrying the load. The problem will be in replacing center Brad Serini, who graduated last year. Leadership will have to come from Caylin Haupt-



BEACON FILE PHOTO

T.Y. Hilton [left] was named Co-Preseason Offensive Player of the Year and will look to help FIU repeat as conference champions for the second straight year.

mann and others who have experience playing on the line. TY has high expectations for the runing game this

season.

“We expect them to get better,” Hilton said. “[Offensive Line Coach Alex]

Mirabal has done a great job with the offensive line that has helped pave way for our running backs.”

PRESEASON SUN BELT COACHES POLL

• FIU	75 (5)	• North Texas	33
• Troy	62 (2)	• WKU	28 (1)
• Middle Tennessee	54	• Louisiana	26
• Louisiana-Monroe	54	• Florida Atlantic	20
• Arkansas State	49 (1)	<i>First place votes in parenthesis</i>	

SUN BELT CONFERENCE

It’s time to complete the north side of the stadium

Like the rest of us, Athletics loved “Field of Dreams” so much they took the movie’s signature line, “If you build it, they will come” to heart. Or so we hope.

Although I’ve heard talks about finishing the north side of the stadium, the time is now. Especially while other football programs in the Golden Panthers’ conference are either building new venues or redeveloping existing stadiums.

For example, the University of North Texas will unveil its new Mean Green Stadium on Sept. 10 when it hosts Houston. The 30,000-seat facility, which cost \$78 million, was completed before the start of the 2011 season.

Or take rival school Florida Atlantic University, finally abandoning what is easily the worst venue in the Sun Belt, Lockhart Stadium. The tiny 20,000-seat facility in Fort Lauderdale has played host to the Owls since 2003. Like the North Texas Stadium, FAU’s will be able to hold 30,000 people on its opening home game on Oct. 7.

One of the older facilities in the conference, Malone Stadium has updated its technology: the home of the Warhawks will now boast a 15-millimeter high-definition video display board, making it one of the largest scoreboards in the conference in addition



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Although attendance records have been shaky in the past, FIU can’t fall behind in their completion of the north side of the stadium.

to expanding the seating of its 30,000-seat venue.

Last season, the Golden Panthers shared the Sun Belt Conference crown and won their first ever bowl game. Mario Cristobal has this program heading down the

right track and the Golden Panthers are the preseason pick to win the conference once again this season.

Let’s not kid ourselves: if this football program wants to grow, they’ll need to leave the Sun Belt for another Divi-

sion-I conference; if they want to eventually trade conferences, they’ll have to complete their stadium. This will make our stadium presentable to host big Division-I BCS-quality opponents, possibly even in-state teams such as University of Florida, Florida State University and the University of Miami.

By attracting bigger opponents, the program will have more money coming in. If they can attract big-name school to come down to S.W. 8th St., the quality of the team’s play will vastly improve, making the Golden Panthers one of the more attractable teams to join these new super conferences.

In the last three seasons since the stadium’s original expansion, the attendance at FIU Stadium has been shaky. The stadium, which can seat up to 23,500, has averaged 14,831 fans since 2008. Although that’s not a great number for attendance, the university is increasing, projecting to have around 45,000 students enrolled by fall semester.

If we continue to see a boom in our enrollment, so will our attendance for these games. And if our alumni decides to cough up the money to attend, and eventually they will, especially if the team stays successful, then this plan to complete the north side will make even more sense.

Coincidentally, the original plan was to finish the north side of the stadium, which would eventually be able to accommodate 45,000 fans. So 45,000 could be the magic number.

Homecoming festivities begins with clowns

BIANCA KHAN
Contributing Writer

Homecoming is that time of year when students show their pride in rich shades of blue and gold. When the Golden Panthers play Duke University on Oct. 1, students involved in the planning hope to see the results of the hours they've invested for the big day – 100 days of planning, to be exact.

As a precursor to Homecoming week, which will be held between Sept. 25 and Oct. 1, the 100 Days of Homecoming will include the FIU Dazzlers, football players and even the Miami Marching Band. The inaugural event took place on July 6, when the Homecoming Committee revealed this year's theme, "If Roary Ran the Circus..."

"The event is a pre-event to showcase the homecoming week of events," said Mercy Lavado, a senior majoring in psychology and Homecoming Committee chair. Lavado had previously served as co-recruitment chair and assistant director of production.

"The event made students aware of Homecoming ahead of time in a positive and entertaining way," said Lavado.

Packets were distributed at the Graham Center pit to give students an idea of what other events will occur for homecoming. Some of the events include the annual parade, a lip sync and talent show, t-shirt and banner competitions and the comedic duo



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

The homecoming committee holds up this year's theme "If Roary Ran the Circus..." on July 6 in the Pit.

behind "Scary Movie" and "White Chicks," Marlon and Shawn Wayans.

Natalie Montoya, a senior majoring in public relations, received the news eagerly.

"Oh my gosh, they are hysterical. I can't wait!" Montoya said. "This year looks the most promising and exciting, to be honest."

Steve Montalvo, a freshman, is excited as well. After admitting he felt he would have been the type to sit

on the sidelines and watch the events pass, the enthusiasm and spirit of his fellow Golden Panthers changed his mind.

"Hearing about the events is making me so much more anxious than I thought I would be," Montalvo said.

The event has also provided students with limitless ideas of how to get involved with the homecoming events and free University merchan-

dise: oversized foam paws, footballs, school-oriented water bottles, Sir Pizza slices and the newest baseball tee-style school t-shirts, which were tossed to the attendees.

All of the gifts are meant to encourage students to gather the energy that Homecoming captures months in advance, with the end result of having prideful Homecoming than originally anticipated.

With ample directing experience

on her side, Lavado was eager to show all the elbow grease that makes the 100 Days of Homecoming possible.

"Without the commitment of amazing people, homecoming would be lackluster; however, the diverse group of students from both campuses has created a star-studded, boastful celebration."

To see what Mercy Lavado and her homecoming committee have prepared or to get involved, visit hc.fiu.edu.

"IF ROARY RAN THE CIRCUS..."

Homecoming Week of Welcome Pool Party

- Time: 12:00-4:00 p.m.
- When: 08/20/11
- Where: MMC Housing Pool

King and Queen Voting

- Time: 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- When: 09/29/11
- Where: MMC & BBC Computer labs and online

Homecoming Game vs. Duke

- Time: 6:00 p.m.
- When: 10/01/11
- Where: FIU Stadium

Dates and times are subject to change.

Theatre students give voice to unheard victims with play

BODY AND SOLD, page 1

who were involved in human trafficking; they are reading the personal histories of the characters to the audience, sharing deep rooted traumas of their experiences with human trafficking.

Human trafficking is an even bigger global problem since the debut of "Body and Sold" in 2008. The United

Nations estimates 700,000 to four million children are sold around the world yearly.

Before the show, the actors hosted an open forum to discuss the issue in greater detail.

Throughout their travels Collado and Michelle Antelo, senior theater major, came face-to-face with women and men who were extremely moved by the

performances.

"In Washington D.C., we met girls who had gone through things, and after the show they would come up to us and say 'You just told my story,'" said Collado and Antelo nearly in unison.

"There is a sense of responsibility to keep students invested in the subject," Collado said.

However, time is running

out for the students who have made this production a big part of their college experience, and they acknowledge it is time to pass on the reigns.

"It is hard to be part of a project, and find people who are just as eager about that project, with as much commitment and consistency," said Antelo. "It has become an issue that is so

dear to us and it is so hard to let go of [our roles], but we can respect the idea of passing it on."

"It's not just a play; it's a play that says something. At the end of the day you want your life to mean something. When you do it through theater, which is the one thing you love, it's hard to let it go," said Collado.

The students still hope to

take the production over to Argentina and China over the next few months spreading the message around the world. To Antelo, it is like Phillip Church's generation passed the baton to hers.

"It's our responsibility to pass it down to the younger [students] because changes really come from the people in our generation," Antelo said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL BOCK

[From left to right] Tatiana Pandiani, Carina Skrande, Jair Bula, Krystal Joseph, and Michelle Antelo represent the victims of human trafficking in the play "Body and Sold."

REEL TO REEL

"Only I can live forever..."

Magical franchise ends with spellbinding finale

It has been 10 years since Harry Potter, which was adapted from the series of books written by J.K. Rowling, first opened in theaters. With "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2" wrapping up the Harry Potter film franchise, I decided to write a review of the final film and a few of my favorites from the franchise.



STEVE MESA

Muggles beware, as this review contains spoilers.

"HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2" (2011)"

The best was certainly saved for last as "Part 2," which opened in theaters on July 15, is the epic finale to the franchise that will satisfy fans and moviegoers and will no doubt be the best movie of the franchise.

If action is what you want, then action is what you get with this movie. There are fire-breathing dragons, tons of wizard battles taking place within the walls of Hogwarts and the final showdown between Potter and Lord Voldemort.

For a PG-13 rating, the film also features a high body count with many people and some familiar faces sacrificing themselves for the greater good. The cinematography of Eduardo Serra is beautifully shot despite its dark and ominous atmosphere while Alexandre Desplat's score is the best of the franchise, occasionally echoing John Williams' original themes from the earlier films.

The performances are great all around, especially those of Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson as they deliver their strongest performances of the entire series. Among the adult cast, while all are great, Ralph Fiennes and Alan Rickman stand out among the rest.

"HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN" (2004)

Alfonso Cuarón ("Children of Men") takes over the director's chair for the third film, giving audiences not only one of the best films in the franchise—along with a darker story—



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLISON HERNANDEZ

Enthusiastic muggles wait in line for Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2.

but also more humor which seemed to be lacking from the first two films.

The cinematography is tremendously free and non-restricted with long takes in several scenes, creating a more realistic atmosphere.

In this one, Potter grows as a character, showing great potential as a powerful wizard as he defends himself against the guards of Azkaban, the dementors, who have a knack for hassling Potter throughout the film.

The cast remains the same, except for Michael Gambon taking over the role of Dumbledore and improving on the late Richard Harris' interpretation with his sense of humor and lively attitude. The new additions to the cast include: Emma Thompson as Professor

Trelawney, David Thewlis as Professor Lupin and Gary Oldman as Sirius Black, Harry's godfather.

"HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE" (2005)

As the first British person to direct this British-based franchise, Mike Newell ("Donnie Brasco") is an invigorating addition to the films. This time around, Potter finds himself in the deadly Tri-Wizard Tournament where each task puts contestants in mortal danger.

This film, adapted by Steve Kloves, has plenty of action, with various sequences involving dragons, mermaids and one not-so-lifeless maze, however, the teenagers of

Hogwarts—who are beginning to grow up and show interest in the opposite sex—remain at the center.

Comedy is also present with scenes revolving around Potter's predicament as he looks for a girl to ask to the Yule Ball and Ron Weasley's growing attraction to Hermione Granger. Irish actor Brendan Gleeson ("In Bruges") is a great new addition as Professor Alastor "Mad-Eye" Moody and Ralph Fiennes is perfect in the role of Lord Voldemort, even if he only makes his gloomy and ominous appearance near the end of the movie.

"HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX" (2007)

The fifth film has a new director, David Yates, at the helm. He is also the last director of the franchise, directing the rest of the films until "...the Deathly Hallows Part 2." The gang is back together again at Hogwarts as they begin to form an army with other students in order to prepare to fight Voldemort and his Death Eaters.

The kids get more play time in this one, with the older actors (Michael Gambon, Alan Rickman, Gary Oldman and Ralph Fiennes) getting brief but shining moments. With the majority of the cast returning, new cast members include Helena Bonham Carter as Bellatrix Lestrange and Imelda Staunton as Dolores Umbridge.

As Voldemort is more of a shadow than a character throughout the film, it is Umbridge who becomes the villain of the film as a tyrannical monster who loves tea, kittens and pink.

Even though this film is the shortest compared to the others, there are a couple of dull moments with the majority of the action happening in the finale.

Reel to Reel is a weekly column. Look for it every Wednesday this summer.

To continue your wizard training, please visit:

www.FIUSM.com

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Nicaraguan eatery serves an affordable, filling lunch

Finding a restaurant that serves Latin food in Miami is like trying to find grass that is green. Every street has at least two Latin restaurants serving food from any Latin country: Cuba, Argentina, Peru, Colombia and many others.

Recently, my taste buds took a trip to Nicaragua via Madroño Restaurant, 10780 West Flagler Street Suite 17, where a mere \$10 can get you a very filling lunch. The restaurant itself is quite small and very busy during lunch time, so go a little early if you are bringing a group larger than four people.

For an appetizer, I suggest you try their fried *machego*. The firm, slightly salty fried cheese makes mozzarella sticks seem like child's play. Served in a modest slab, it can easily be shared between two people.

It also serves as a great starter to almost anything they serve. Just make sure you eat it fresh from the fryer because once it cools it becomes tough and loses its flavor. Madroño makes it easy and inexpensive to try Nicaraguan cuisine through their daily lunch specials.

I suggest you try their *pescado a la tipitapa*, a lightly fried fish filet topped with a sweet and sour sauce served with vegetables, rice and beans. The tangy sauce offsets

the delicate flavor of the fish while their rendition of rice and beans proves to be a filling complement.

Another lunch special to try is the *mar y tierra*, or what we know as "surf and turf"—grilled skirt steak with sautéed shrimp. Cooked medium well, the steak is quite tender, almost to the point that one could cut it with a fork. Although pairing this with crispy fried *tostones* will cost a little extra, it is certainly worth it. Save this entrée for lunch though, since outside their lunch special it costs twice as much at regular price.

Madroño also serves *indio viejo*, a traditional Nicaraguan beef stew made with tomatoes, cornmeal and a blend of spices. Although it is

“Madroño makes it easy and inexpensive to try Nicaraguan cuisine.”

served in a moderately-sized soup bowl along with rice and sweet plantains, the thickness of the stew filled me up effortlessly.

The flavors were very mild and pleasant for the most part. There was an unexpected grassy element to it due to the vegetables, but a little salt cut out the freshness. Save this comforting meal for when (or if) it ever gets cold in Miami.

When the lunch specials end at 3 p.m., Madroño's entire menu hits

the mid-price range with no entrée exceeding \$25, making it a fairly affordable eatery.

Although food is decent, but do not come here if you are in a rush, as the service tends to be slow whether or not it is crowded.

Nonetheless, Madroño is a delicious and affordable asset to Miami's Latino influence.

Food for Thought is a Bi-weekly food column. Look for it every other Wednesday

CLASS DISMISSED

Access should be present despite budget cuts

Legislating equal access to education is a necessary measure our nation must take in order to raise the quality of our nation's education.

COLUMNIST



JASMYNE ELLIOTT

Part One of the 2009-2010 Civil Rights Data Collection conducted by the United States Department of Education is proof that action must be taken.

According to the report, students are still suffering from an education gap fueled by economic disparity, especially in Kansas and Maryland. Even now, the trend in education is that students from impoverished areas tend to have little or no access to Advanced Placement courses in comparison to their affluent peers.

Florida, with its apparent socio-economic divide, has managed to beat this trend by making it mandatory to offer AP courses in all of its high schools. In 2004, former Gov. Jeb Bush signed the Florida Partnership for Minority and Underrepresented Student Achievement Act, which partnered the Florida Department of Education with the College Board, the non-profit organization

“Florida shows that a lack of funding is no longer a valid excuse to shut less fortunate students out of the opportunity to take AP courses.”

behind AP classes and testing.

This partnership mandated funding for AP class development, resulting in the professional development of AP instructors, mandatory testing for all students in the 10th grade to determine AP class eligibility and giving schools access to the necessary materials.

To date, 50 percent of Miami-Dade County's high school students are enrolled in at least one AP course. In fact, Florida has the highest number of students enrolled in AP courses in the nation.

As someone who took AP courses, I appreciate the advantage of already having college credit in my freshman year. As for the tests I did not pass, I still was able to use the education I earned to my advantage.

It amazes me that other states have yet to follow suit. Instead of taking charge and ensuring all students have the chance to access high-level coursework by putting it

into law, state governments, such as those in Michigan, Washington and California, continue to use shoestring education budgets as a scapegoat, thus perpetuating the cycle of haves and have-nots in schools according to social status.

Florida shows that a lack of funding is no longer a valid excuse to shut less fortunate students out of the opportunity to take AP courses. In fact, it would be to every state's advantage to achieve equilibrium, as there may be a large population of impoverished students that, despite the odds, are very intelligent and are more than capable of excelling in AP courses.

Even with education budgets being slashed nationwide, unequal access to AP classes could be put to rest if state education departments ensured that equal access to education was the law.

“Class Dismissed” is a biweekly column.

Recycling bins need to come out of hiding

YANSSEL GARCIA
Contributing Writer

Although the University does manage to recycle a very large amount of the garbage that it produces, it is not enough.

According to the

“
Recycling bins should be strategically placed in areas that are clearly visible by passing students.”

Office of Sustainability, “27 percent of all trash produced at FIU is diverted to be recycled.” Although this is an accomplishment, this is nothing compared to what could be done if the University made some changes to where it places its recycling bins.

The Office of Sustainability states that with all of the campuses combined, the University has over 4,200 recycling bins. However, I find them nearly impossible to find.

Garbage cans are around campus at every turn, but when it comes to recycling bins, they are all hiding in deserted offices or behind columns instead of being in convenient and easy to locate areas.

One of the following two options should be done to increase the visibility and usage of the bins: either the current positioning of the bins needs to change, or more bins should be added to the campuses.

Everywhere that there is a garbage can, there also should be a recycling bin.

This would make it less of a hassle for students to recycle whatever they are currently holding, make it easier to toss what is recyclable, and it would also cause the recycling bins to

stand out more.

Ernesto Paz, senior accounting major, said “[The bins’ locations are] usually too inconspicuous. They are never next to the trash cans. The only recycling bin that I even know of is the one in the [Frost Museum’s] art gallery.”

This is a sign that change is necessary.

Recycling bins should be strategically placed in areas that are clearly visible by passing students, and scattered throughout the halls. The bins also should be placed on the way from one building to another.

The University does not have a horrible recycling problem. However, this is not a reason to not hold the University to a higher standard.

The repositioning of the current recycling bins, or the addition of new ones, is a simple task that would require minimal effort and would benefit the University.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Students, parents need to protest Pell grant cuts

The greatest source of equality in this nation is coming under attack and there has not been near enough outrage from the community. Many complaints have been driven towards Social Security or Medicare cuts, but Pell Grant cuts are on the chopping block too.

A Pell grant provides children that do not come from an affluent background the ability to receive a college education and gives them unlimited potential. In South Florida, there are over 60,000 students that rely on Pell Grant funding.

Over 20,000 Florida International University students alone rely on the funding and 50 percent of those students are the students that need the most money. The proposed cuts would drasti-

cally impact students and do not attempt to incentivize students to achieve greater heights. Reforms are needed, but they should be through discussions with students.

As Student Body President at Florida International University and External Vice Chairman of the Florida Student Association, I intend to fight for correct reforms that help students in a fiscally responsible manner.

We urge parents and students alike to speak out against cutting a program that provides one of the few paths to equal opportunity in this country.

-Patrick O’Keefe, SGC-MMC President
To share your personal stories for lobbying purposes, send an e-mail to pokeefe@fiu.edu.

BEACON | Editorial

Fee for online courses should be reduced

The University wants to increase online offerings from 14 to 20 percent. For the 2011-2012 school year, students are required to pay \$174 in addition to the cost per credit for each online course. *The Beacon* believes this add-on is an unnecessary complication for students.

In the Spring 2011 Strategic Plan town hall meeting, University President Mark Rosenberg and Provost Douglas Wartzok presented an ambitious five-year plan for the University's future. Their plan includes the increase online course offerings and the expansion of enrollment from 42,000 to 52,000 students by 2015.

In accordance with the plan, online learning is an essential part of the University's growth. Unfortunately, there is a significant cost associated to each online class, an issue that most students at other state universities do not deal with. Some Florida public universities such as University of Central Florida do not charge any fees, while the University of Florida only requires students to pay an additional \$100 for each online course.

The Beacon believes students should not be financially penalized for enrolling in an online course. If the administration seeks to increase the number of courses taken online, we believe students should have cheaper access to these courses.

According to FIU Online, the department in charge of completely online classes, the \$174 online course fee covers “the cost of managing and maintaining the learning management system, along with the tools, additional software, and technical support to help and guide you along the way of your educational career path.” However, FIU Online does not provide the specific details of how this fee is partitioned within the department. When we asked how the fee was allocated, FIU Online referred us to Media Relations, where our questions remained unanswered.

Media Relations provided us with a statement by Joyce Elam, executive dean of university college, executive dean of the college of business administration and vice provost of FIU Online, which did not address our inquiry.

She said, “As FIU Online and online education at FIU continues to grow, we have been able to take advantage of economies of scale to reduce our cost of operations per student enrollment and the distance learning fee has been adjusted to reflect this.” This statement does not provide the necessary specifics for students to comprehend why we are spending around 75 percent more than other Florida public schools.

We believe that if students at other public universities are able to take online courses and pay a smaller fee, FIU should provide the same service to its students.



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Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (500 words maximum) to 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. The Beacon reserves the right to edit for space, content and clarity.

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NAMASTE



Right: Danielle Garcia, senior and public relations major practices yoga every Monday at the Recreation Center. Yoga classes are one of the most attended activities offered at the BBC Recreation Center that is free to University students.



PHOTOS BY CRISTINA MIRALLES/THE BEACON

Removal of BBC portable classrooms put on hold

ANTHONY BURGOS
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty who are eager to see Biscayne Bay Campus' very own trailer park removed may have to keep waiting.

The 20 year old portables, located on the eastern side of the campus between the Hubert Library and School of Hospitality and Tourism Management Complex, have been unoccupied for two years due to mold and other deterioration.

On April 14, during a Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan Town Hall Meeting, Vice Provost Steven Moll announced that mold had been found within the trailers and as a result will be removed from BBC within six to eight weeks.

That was 13 weeks ago, the trailers still receive electricity and are kept at a cool 73 degrees.

According to Moll, it will cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000 to remove the portables.

"There are permits involved, you have to get the equipment out

here, there's electrical outlets you have to remove," Moll said. "With budget cuts coming from the state, it's just a challenge."

Students understand the administration's position and the lack of available funds as a result of recent budget cuts to the University, as a whole.

"Well, everything's got rules. I mean if we take the money to take out the portables then [another] department wouldn't have enough money to do what they need to do," said Prem Barbosa, a junior and

computer programming major.

As of press time, no tentative date or scheduled plans to remove the trailers exist.

According to Moll, the space the trailers occupy will be used by the School for the Environment Arts and Society, but no specifics were given.

In the past, the trailers were used as auxiliary classrooms and meeting places for organizations, and most recently by the BBC Mulifaith Council. However, according to Moll, the trailers have

gone unused in the past two years

According to Moll, the University's Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell is aware of the situation and they both want the trailers removed as much as anyone else.

Jessell's office was unavailable for comment.

"Yesterday is when we want them gone. As soon as we get the money to remove them we will. There are many other programs that could be used in that space," said Moll.

Summer Splash brings DJ Zog, free festivities to Aquatic Center

REBECA GARCIA
Staff Writer

Every year, Biscayne Bay Campus' Student Programming Council likes to kick-off the academic year with a splash.

Hosted by SPC and the Student Government Council at BBC, Summer Splash welcomes new freshmen, as well returning students, to the FIU community by hosting a pool party. The event will be held on July 21 at 7:30 p.m. and will go on until 11 p.m. at the Aquatic Center pool.

Summer Splash is free and open to the public with music provided by Power 96's DJ Zog, who was also featured at FIU LIVE during the spring 2011 semester.

There will be giveaways, raffles and a hot dog stand on the pool deck for students in

attendance.

Some of the giveaways include Hawaiian inspired bags, movie tickets, promotional movie items, school supplies and laptop cases.

"Students will get a chance to know SPC in different ways. As far as recruitment, we'll have SPC members out and about talking, mingling and getting to know students, while providing entertainment for everyone else who wants to hang out," said SPC President, Catherine Vega, a senior majoring in international relations and psychology.

Students should wear comfortable, casual clothing and bring their bathing suits and towels. Students are also encouraged to bring pool accessories.

Summer Splash will also be the start of SPC's new theme, Rubber Duckies, which will be carried out throughout the year.

Students who collect the most rubber duckies each semester will receive a grand prize that consist of a bundle pack of SPC sponsored items.

This includes all of the different colored sunglasses, laptop cases, pens, pencils, booklets and shirts.

"Summer Splash will give students a way to get a feel for what to expect from SPC for the rest of the year. We expect over 200 students to attend and it's a great way to get to know other students and start the year off right," said Vega.

In the case of rain, SPC will move the festivities indoors to Panther Square and will turn the pool party into a dance party with glow in the dark material.

For more information, please visit the Student Life office at WUC 141J.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Speed Trap
N.E. 151 Street ,East of Biscayne Blvd

SPEED
LIMIT
30

Citation Pricing Schedule

Non-school zone speeding

- 6-9 MPH - \$144
- 10-14 MPH - \$219
- 15-19 MPH - \$269
- 20-29 MPH - \$294
- 30 MPH and over - \$369

School zone speeding

- 1-9 MPH - \$169
- 10-14 MPH - \$319
- 15-19 MPH - \$419
- 20-29 MPH - \$469
- 30 MPH and over - \$619