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# The Beacon, November 07, 2011

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## MEMES AMONG US

### ‘FIU Meme Generators’ find humor in campus life

**ESRA ERDOGAN**  
Life! Editor

It’s hard to put a face to a meme.

The FIU Meme Generators are an anonymous group who have attracted attention for their internet memes about the life and humor at FIU. After quickly developing a following on Facebook, three men donning morph suits and Guy Fawkes masks can now be spotted on campus and sporting events as the “faces” for the group.

An Internet meme is defined as an idea, parody or imitation made into an image that spreads quickly. Memes are easily shared through social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr.

Since Oct. 3, the Generators’ Facebook page grew from obscurity to over 900 likes. In addition to making an appearance on ESPN2, the Generators were featured on [sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault](http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault), where they were snapped by a photographer in the stands at the football game against Troy.

Some of their most popular memes have been a comic depicting a student walking on a sidewalk at the University who is pushed off because of a rogue golf cart, Roary bragging about the Panthers’ football record and “Philosoroary” who asks “Does FIU win because I go to the games or do I go to the games because FIU wins?”



PHILIPPE BUTEAU/THE BEACON

[From left] Mr. Blue, Mr. Red and Mr. Green stayed anonymous and wore Guy Fawkes masks while they toured campus.

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#### PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

### Audit results discover costly violations

**PATRIK SIMMONS**  
Staff Writer

An audit conducted by the Office of Internal Audit this year found the Department of Parking and Transportation in violation of several of the University’s rules and regulations, resulting in a loss of more than \$100,000. Some of those violations were in relation to parking decals, temporary parking permits and citations and fines.

“The audit finding was that the rules and regulations weren’t being adhered to as specifically as they should,” said Bill Foster, executive director of Parking and Transportation.

According to the audit, duplicate decal abuse was the most costly violation.

In various instances, duplicate decals were purchased by employees “for vehicles owned by coworkers and/or acquaintances,” “for other relatives who were either employees and/or students,” and for their spouses who work at the University but do not own an original decal, the audit stated.

The University’s 2010-2011 Parking Rules and Regulations state that duplicate decals are to be purchased for “additional owned vehicles used alternately and for situations where the original decal must be replaced,” but prohibit that “a vehicle with a duplicate decal is [...] permitted on campus at the same time as the vehicle

with the original decal when two or more persons who are employed by the University reside in the same household and register more than one vehicle.”

The Office of Internal Audit requested that University employees found in violation provide compensation to the Depart-

“**The audit finding was that the rules and regulations weren’t being adhered to as specifically as they should.**”

Bill Foster,  
Executive Director  
Parking and Transportation

ment of Parking and Transportation, which resulted in several complaints from disgruntled faculty and staff.

Foster, however, assured that it was not his department’s decision.

“The Office of Internal Audit said not only would we have to correct [the duplicate decal abuse] moving forward, but there has to be some compensation on

the back end. They had discussions about that, and the decision was to go back two years for the compensation. This wasn’t a Parking and Transportation thing.”

Instead, it was a decision made by OIA, according to Allen Vann, director of OIA.

“The employees of the University are obligated to follow the rules, and it is appropriate to recover fees that were due to the University. Going back two years was based on available records.”

Brunhilde “Pupi” Tomassini, senior secretary of the International Forensic Research Institute, and an employee of the University since 1989, was among others found in violation of the rules and regulations because of a duplicate decal, and now has to provide compensation in order to park on campus.

“This issue is damaging morale at FIU. Not a good thing for a World’s Ahead university,” Tomassini said.

According to her husband, Lt. Frank Tomassini, an employee of FIU Police, they were found in violation because they were supposed to purchase an original decal, not a duplicate decal, according to the rules and regulations.

However, at the time when they purchased the duplicate decal, he said they were not asked any questions and, therefore, were handed the duplicate

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#### WOMEN’S SOCCER

### Panthers win SBC tourney

**ANTHONY GUIVAS**  
Staff Writer

With the Golden Panthers coming off a defining 3-1 win against the Denver Patriots, FIU now has the chance at making history if they defeat Western Kentucky for the SBC championship on Nov. 5.

The Golden Panthers have been on an absolute roll beating each of their opponents by decisive margins. On Nov. 2, FIU defeated Arkansas State 2-0 and on Nov. 3 beat Denver 3-1.

But the Panthers were not the only ones coming into play with momentum. With Western Kentucky coming off a dramatic win over North Texas in double overtime, the game needed to be decided by penalty kicks at the very end to propel them to the finals.

To make the stakes

even higher, the last time these two teams faced off it resulted in a 0-0 tie in double overtime on Oct. 7. But regardless, the Golden Panthers’ magical ride did not conclude with a fairy tale ending, as FIU defeated Western Kentucky 4-3 in a game for the ages.

With so many ups and downs throughout the year, the Golden Panthers were able to get the team running on all cylinders at the most opportune moment, delivering FIU their third SBC championship.

But this by no means was an easy task, as Western Kentucky came into the game with a ton of persistence and heart.

At exactly 2 p.m., the Golden Panthers and Western Kentucky took to the pitch and from the very start both teams were

**SOCCER, page 4**

#### COMING UP | Life!

Check out the Nov. 9 issue for the section’s column, Radiate Reviews, for a critique of Coldplay’s new album “Mylo Xyloto.”

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# Occupy FIU targets University misgivings



PHILIPPE BUTEAU/THE BEACON

During the Occupy FIU Teach-in on Nov. 3, adjunct professor of African & Afican Diaspora studies and professor of history, Ida Tafari [left] and Brian Peterson [right], respectively talk to attendants about University issues.

NICOLE CASTRO  
Staff Writer

The year-to-year tuition increases and fees students must pay have frustrated a University professor and he gave his opinions of them at a recent event.

“It is not the American dream. It is not what we should be about as a university,” said Brian Peterson, associate professor for the department of history.

Peterson spoke in an educational forum organized by Occupy FIU titled, “Rising cost of tuition and its relation to FIU’s graduation rate.”

Occupy FIU held a teach-in on Nov. 2 and 3 to persuade students tuition increases must be stopped.

The group did this in an effort to emulate the Occupy Wall Street protests by localizing the discontent of the protesters to the overall discontent at the University.

Over the last four years, the University’s tuition has gone up by 15 percent a year seeing a rise from \$3,000 to an approximate \$5,000 for in-state tuition, Peterson said during his presentation.

According to Peterson, the state decrees eight percent for all universities, and the remaining seven percent is left to the discretion of each university.

“The administration at FIU has a plan to keep on raising tuition by 15 percent a year until we reach the national average.

The national average increase this year is 8.3 percent percent and we are going at 15 percent.

It will take seven more years to catch up with the national average, and by that time tuition at FIU will be \$13,000 a year from \$5,000,” said Peterson.

He expressed his concern that there

will be a lot of students from low and middle income families that will not be able to come to the University as a result of that \$13,000 tuition.

Like most universities, Peterson said, FIU is taking advantage of the full remaining seven percent every chance they get, but he added that this is not a measure that a university interested in educating students would take, calling it a “bad social policy.”

In his speech, Peterson emphasized the strategy that the administration has taken to stealthily prevent complaints from students.

“Tuition increases are only for the new students coming in. Whatever tuition was as a freshmen, that’s what it will be for you, meaning no student at FIU has a personal self interest in stopping tuition increase,” he said. “It is an insidious and devilish policy, as far as I am concerned, to make it so that you guys will not protest tuition increases.”

Students who gathered to hear Peterson applauded his effort to make known that, although there is no visible impact to current students, it is an altruistic move to take on a cause that will affect someone’s brother, sister, neighbor and low and middle income students in our society.

Peterson also urged the Occupy movement not get involved in electoral politics and instead remain representing the “99%.”

“The SGA has approved tuition increase and approved the athletics fee...,” he said. “They are going along with the program but you could get the word out that we want a student government that represents the 99 percent of students and not the 1 percent that are affluent.”

## WORLD Iran speaks out about US terror ‘plots’

ALI AKBAR DAREINI  
AP Staff Writer

Iran complained Friday to the United Nations about alleged U.S. “terror” operations, including assassination of its nuclear scientists, said its top nuclear negotiator, Saeed Jalili, at an anti-U.S. rally.

Jalili said the Swiss ambassador to Iran was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Friday to be handed “documents of U.S. terror plots against Iran.”

Copies of the documents was presented by Iran’s U.N. envoy to the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in New York later Friday, he said.

“The U.S. is employing terrorism to promote its objectives ... we will sue the United States,” he told an anti-U.S. rally in the capital Tehran. “The U.N. needs to take the necessary measures to prosecute and punish the U.S. government for directing terrorist activities (against Iran).”

Tens of thousands of people, most of them students bused in to the site, rallied to mark the anniversary of the seizure of the U.S. Embassy by militant students in 1979. The takeover of the embassy lasted more than a year.

IRAN, page 3

# Decal mistakes made among faculty and staff

AUDIT, page 1

decal instead of an original.

“Parking has not adequately controlled the sale of their duplicate decal because they have not trained the staff. They should be asking questions and explaining the rules. I think it’s their responsibility to inform the employees. And they should supervise the staff to make sure they’re following the training,” he said.

The department has more than 75 employees, according to its website.

The Tomassinis have decided not to pay the more than \$200 fine.

“My wife and I have now found an alternative off-campus parking because we cannot buy a decal [according to the rules], and we’re not going to pay that fee because we didn’t do anything wrong.”

Other complaints made by University employees blamed the department for distributing the duplicate decals without conducting proper research. And while Foster agrees that was a mistake which could have been avoided, he believes it was also the responsibility of faculty and staff.

“I think it’s everybody’s fault. I’m sure there’s some fault in us not stopping somebody from doing something opposed to the rules and regulations. We take people at their word that they need a duplicate decal for a specific purpose. And that’s what we did. The ultimate responsibility, of course, is with the faculty and staff member,” he said.

And although there were also complaints regarding the manner in which the employees were contacted, OIA believes the situation was handled appropriately.

“The Office of Internal Audit supports the decisions made by management to imple-

ment our recommendations,” Vann said.

The audit also found that more than a dozen temporary parking permits, which include loading zone, volunteer and new employee permits, were distributed incorrectly or displayed incorrect information.

Some of the loading zone permits were given to employees who did not purchase

“**Parking has not adequately controlled the sale of their duplicate decal because they have not trained the staff.**

Frank Tomassini,  
Lieutenant  
University Police Department

an original decal, and others displayed expiration dates between 2020 and 2031. A few volunteer permits were given to part-time University employees even though they had not purchased an original decal.

In reference to the volunteer permits distributed to part-time University employees without original decals, Foster said: “A lot of it is timing issues, [like] when they’re getting it, when their contract goes into place, so it wasn’t really a major thing.”

Between the period of July 2010 and

March 2011, Parking and Transportation issued more than 23,000 citations, resulting in more than \$580,000.

However, some students and faculty were issued parking decals even though the fines were not settled, which is against University rules. Several employees were also given their final paycheck without paying the outstanding fines.

“It’s just one of those things where [the University’s Division of Human Resources] needed to have a certain amount of information in a short period of time. There were sometimes when they didn’t get all the information they needed within that week or two weeks when the final paycheck was issued,” Foster said.

Because of the limited information the department receives from the student system and the payroll system – including entry-level turnover in the department, which makes proper training difficult – controlling decals, permits and vehicles can become challenging.

“When you deal with 50,000 people, and when you deal with mom and dad who own vehicles, or brother and sister who own vehicles, it can be very difficult to link a vehicle to a certain student or faculty member,” he said.

However, Parking and Transportation recently linked with the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles, a move which they hope prevents future problems.

“If you bring a tag and registration, we will make sure that belongs to you. And when you’re asking for a duplicate, we have to do more of an extensive check,” said Lissette Hernandez, associate director of Parking and Transportation.

Linking with the Florida DMV took

almost two to three years, according to Foster.

“It’s a long process to set up a link with a state agency. Until you have the systems in place that will allow that to happen, it’s a very arduous process. We were able to get agreements between the Florida DMV, FIU and Parking and Transportation to get these uploads automatically,” Foster added.

And instead of using an outside source for payroll, like ADP, the University’s PantherSoft system will be used come January.

“There’s limited information that we get either from the student system, the HR system and the University system to be able to get that information right. We are making changes into our system to better understand the classifications of each employee of the university,” Hernandez said.

Both Foster and Hernandez hope that, with the new and soon-to-be-available resources, most of the problems reported will be prevented by the next audit.

*Patrik Simmons is the beat reporter for FIU Police, Parking & Transportation and Public Safety.*

### DECAL DUPLICATE AND REPLACEMENT FEES

- Executive: \$30
- Administrative: \$20
- Faculty/Staff: \$15
- Alumni: \$15
- Student: \$15



NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Officials bust restaurants for buying illegal fish

Some central Florida restaurant owners are in hot water for purchasing black market fish.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said Nov. 3 17 restaurant owners and workers face charges or citations for purchasing the illegal fish.

Wildlife officers went to the restaurants in Brevard and Indian River counties as part of an undercover sting.

The undercover agents, posing as fish salespeople, told the restaurant owners and workers that they didn’t have the proper licenses to sell the fish. Out of the 44 restaurants tested in the sting, 11 restaurants purchased the fish anyway.

NATIONAL

Palin says Wall Street protesters seeking bailout

Sarah Palin told Republican donors Thursday that Occupy Wall Street protesters want the same thing as the “fat cats” they’re upset with — a government bailout.

Palin criticized the protesters as believing they’re entitled to other people’s productivity and money and said they’ve drawn the wrong conclusions. Instead, the former Alaska governor said people should look to the tea party.

“They say ‘Wall Street fat cats got a bailout so now I want one too.’ And the correct answer is no one is entitled to a bailout,” Palin told the crowd of about 1,000 at the Republican Party of Florida dinner. “The American dream, our foundation, is about work ethic and empowerment, not entitlement.”

WORLD

G20 governments sign anti-tax evasion agreement

Governments from the Group of 20 major rich and emerging economies have signed an agreement to work together to combat cross-border tax evasion.

The G20 governments on Friday marked the formal approval of the agreement whose supporters say it might help to raise tens of billions of dollars for cash-strapped governments.

Under the agreement, the governments pledged to share information and cooperate in audits to help prevent companies and wealthy individuals from evading tax.

Governments that have signed it include the United States, China, Russia, Germany, Japan and India.

– Compiled by Melissa Caceres

Tensions rise between US, Iran

IRAN, page 2

They responded to Jalil’s words by chanting, “Death to the U.S.”

“This question still remains that why people on the U.S. sanctions list are assassinated in Iran,” Jalili told the crowd, a reference to the killing of three Iranian nuclear scientists by gunmen in recent years. “What relationship exists between assassinations and U.S. sanctions other than terrorists being directed by the U.S.,” he said

The protesters held a poster of President Barack Obama with a captions reading, “wanted, dead or alive” and “Obama terrorist.” The poster showed the photos of three Iranian assassinated nuclear scientists. Iran has charged the killings were directed, financed and supported by the U.S. and Israel.

Iran is already embroiled in a spat with the U.S. over allegations that Iranian agents were involved in a plot to kill the Saudi ambassador to the United States. Iran has dismissed the U.S. claims as “absurd”, without any “legal logic.”

Two men, including an alleged member of Iran’s special foreign actions unit known as the Quds Force, have been charged in New York federal court with conspiring to kill the Saudi diplomat, Adel Al-Jubeir.

Tensions have increased further in recent days after several American neoconservatives, including retired U.S. Army general Jack Keane and former CIA agent Reuel Marc Gerecht, urged the Obama administration to use covert action against Iran and target some of its top officials, including Quds Force chief

Qasem Soleimani. The two testified last week before a U.S. Congressional subcommittee.

In Tehran, demonstrators chanted slogans backing the Quds Force.

“We support you, the Quds Force. We support you, Solei-

mani,” they chanted.

The U.S. is also highly critical of Iran’s nuclear program. Washington has accused Iran of seeking to develop nuclear weapons. The U.S. and other nations say they are stepping up their campaign to press Iran to halt the program, after several rounds of U.N. sanctions.

Iran has denied the charges, saying its nuclear program is geared toward generating electricity and producing medical radioisotopes needed to treat cancer patients.

HUMAN WRITES



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Joel Ayala, a senior communications studies and marketing major, signs up for updates from Students for a Free Tibet, which aims to spread awareness on issues facing Tibet.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:  
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
(305) 348-2709  
news@fusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus:  
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
(305) 919-4722  
bbc@fusm.com

Fax:  
(305) 348-2712

Editor-in-Chief:  
(305) 348-1580  
alexandra.camejo@fusm.com

Advertising:  
(305) 348-6994  
advertising@fusm.com

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WKU 10, FIU 9

## HEARTBREAKER

### Panthers lose on last-second field goal by WKU

JACKSON WOLEK  
Staff Writer

The conference match-up featuring the Sun Belt second and third best defenses proved to be just that, as FIU lost their third conference game to Western Kentucky in Bowling Green in the low scoring affair that came down to a last second score from WKU.

Jack Griffin won the battle of field goal kickers by going three for three with 40, 34 and 43-yard kicks, but the WKU kickers had the last laugh as Casey Tinius kicked in the game winning field goal with four seconds left to give the Hilltoppers their fifth straight win with a score of 10-9.

The Panthers (5-4,2-3 SBC) are now completely out of contention for winning Sun Belt title outright with the heartbreaking loss.

“Painful, painful. I feel real bad for our guys,” head coach Mario Cristobal said. “It’s a tough one to take and we have a long bus ride home to think about things we can do better.”

In the first quarter, FIU squandered multiple opportunities on the Hilltopper side of the field. The first drive, T.Y Hilton dropped a third down pass that would have picked up a first down, but instead he made the Panthers settle for a 40-yard field goal from Jack Griffin.

On the next possession, Wesley Carroll threw his fourth interception in four games at the WKU two-yard line, picked off by defensive back Kareem Peterson.

The Hilltoppers took advantage of the turnover and marched the ball up the field to the FIU two-yard line and ran in it with a touchdown run from fullback Kadeem Jones, putting them up 7-3 with 4:54 remaining in



COURTESY OF JABIN E. BOTFORD

Andre Pound [above, #75] tackles WKU running back Bobby Rainey in the first half of FIU’s loss to the Hilltoppers on Nov. 5

the first quarter.

The last drive for the Panthers in the first quarter started at the WKU 38-yard line after a 58-yard kickoff return from Hilton. But for the third straight time, the offense could not make it into the end zone and settled for Grif-

fin’s second field goal of the game. The 34-yarder gave FIU a 7-6 lead going into the second quarter.

In the second quarter, both defenses held each other to no points, although the Hilltoppers had chances to make two field goals that

never made it past the Panther defense. The first attempt resulted in a blocked 46-yard field goal that Richard Leonard picked up and took 21 yards the other way.

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#### WOMEN’S SOCCER

## FIU advances to NCAA tournament after win in PKs

#### WOMEN’S SOCCER, page 1

dead even, with each team having equal possession of the ball. But all the while that the contest was even, WKU gave FIU some scares early on as in the 12th minute, Kentucky was given a free kick but FIU was able to clear, it escaping the threat.

But WKU’s quick threat did not last long, as the Golden Panthers were able to have a quick offensive surge towards the end of the first half. In the 36th minute, Nicole DiPerna delivered a fantastic shot only to have it deflected by WKU’s goalkeeper.

The Golden Panthers’ continuous offensive onslaught lasted throughout the first half, but to Kentucky’s credit, their defense was performing strong. The first half ends 0-0, with FIU proving to be the stronger of the two, as they did not allow WKU a single shot in the first.

The second half began with WKU coming in hot with eight quick shots, six of which were saved by goalkeeper Kaitlyn Savage while the other two were high. But of all the shots, the most dangerous was the free kick awarded to WKU in the 59th minute that was saved by Savage.

After WKU could not record a single shot in the first half, they rolled off eight in a matter of 20 minutes. WKU then continued to dominate the second half, leaving FIU baffled, as they could not record a shot until the 84th minute.

The second half concluded with WKU completely dominating the offensive side of the ball, but FIU kept them at bay long enough to run down the clock down and begin overtime.

After a small reprieve, overtime began, and WKU started where they left off, attacking over and over again. But in the 92nd minute, Kaitlyn Savage

made the ultimate save diving to the ball, arguably saving FIU’s season.

Then FIU again suffered another heart stopping scene within the box when the ball rattled around Panther territory resulting in the ball sailing high. With WKU continuing to apply pressure, FIU was somehow able to hold them off leading to a second overtime.

This time around though, FIU was able to control the ball to begin the second half, but WKU was still able to manage great shots when given the opportunities.

But thankfully for the Golden Panthers, Savage was able to deny every single shot that WKU offered in the second half of overtime.

“[Kaitlyn Savage] played fantastic, she made great saves, and in the second half we were just holding [WKU] and she came up big for us,” coach Thomas Chestnutt said.

So with savage playing her best game of the year, the Golden Panthers’ season rested on her shoulders as the game was decided on penalty kicks.

WKU was first up and their shot hit off the crossbar game. FIU then came up and co-captain April Perry delivered a beautiful shot. The Panthers were then up 1-0.

WKU’s Mallory Outerbridge came up and scored, tying the game up at one a piece. FIU’s Nicole DiPerna came up and scored FIU, then up 2-1.

WKU’s Lindsay Williams came up and scored again to tie things up at 2-2. But FIU’s own Melanie Raimo scored to put FIU ahead 3-2.

Then WKU’s Kiersten Ottaway came up and shot, but Savage blocked it. FIU then came up with Chelsea Leiva who took a shot but it went high. The game stood at 3-2, FIU.

WKU then brought up Chrissy Tchoula, who made her shot

tie things up 3-3. So with the season on the line, FIU brought up Freshman Johanna Volz to the box. And she brought the FIU season full circle as she scored to have FIU win the shootout 4-3, delivering FIU their third SBC championship.

“It’s a fantastic feeling, it’s another step forward, we took the program to another level today, and I am so proud of the girls performance,” Chestnutt said.

The Golden Panthers’ 2011 season has now solidified itself as one for the FIU record books. But this win also marks the teams second time that they advance to the NCAA tournament.

When asked about how happy the team was entering the NCAA tournament, Chestnutt answered, “Its one of our goals, so we accomplished two of our goals [SBC championship/NCAA tournament spot] of the year today so we will focus on that tomorrow, but as for today, we will enjoy the win,” Chestnutt said.



MEN'S SOCCER

# Panthers close season with comeback win over FGCU

**BRANDON WISE**  
Staff Writer

With the seconds slowly ticking off on the end of their season, the Panthers found themselves where they were most of the year: in a dogfight.

Their fight turned out to be that much bigger than Florida Gulf Coast. Freshman Colby Burdette and sophomore Nicloas Rodriguez-Fraile propelled the Panthers past the Eagles as they won 3-2 in their final game of the season.

In the 88th minute of play, with the game heading toward extra time with the score tied at 2-2, Burdette took a pass from the top of the box.

He then passed it off to Rodriguez-Fraile who had just the keeper to beat and buried it in the back of the net with his left foot. Burdette saw the play developing right in front of him.

“Nico’s [Rodriguez-Fraile] good to play up top with, and I saw him coming down the side so I laid it off,” Burdette said. “I knew if he had a shot, he wouldn’t miss the target.”



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

Senior Nicolas Chase [above, left] played in his final gmae as a Panther on Nov. 4, a 3-2 win over FGCU.

Before that, the Panthers got going early when senior Andri Alexandersson received a corner kick and rebounded it into the lower corner of the net.

But the Eagles bounced right back as Andres Navas put a shot through on a free

kick in the 22nd minute.

The Eagles then took the lead just five minutes later when Josey Portillo scored off a rebound of the crossbar. Rodriguez-Fraile knew the team had to bounce back after halftime. “They came back

on us after we jumped out early,” Rodriguez-Fraile said. “It was a total team effort, a real battle out there.”

Burdette scored the equalizer for the Panthers in the 58th minute off a rebound in front of the net.

“It was a juggle in the box,” Burdette said. “It just fell right in front of me and I saw the back post and placed it.”

The Panthers then finished it off with the Burdette to Rodriguez-Fraile connection in the

waning minutes.

**DISAPPOINTMENT**

The Panthers finished the season with a 5-8-4 record and 1-5-2 in Conference USA, finishing eighth. That record was not good enough for the Panthers to qualify for postseason play. The Panthers hung with the best of them, defeating the number 21 team in the nation, Kentucky. Then, just two games later, the Panthers tied against the number six team in the nation, Central Florida.

Burdette had to make some adjustments for his first season of college soccer.

“In college, you have to be fit to play this game,” Burdette said. “But it was enjoyable and we will have a good team next year.”

As for Rodriguez-Fraile, he is already thinking toward next season.

“It was definitely a season to forget,” Rodri-guez-Fraile said. “We lost a lot of games and suffered a lot of injuries. But, we have to learn from it and come back next season and be stronger.”

ADAM LEVINE  
LEAD SINGER  
MAROON 5

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VYV-03122 09/11



VOLLEYBALL

# Despite sloppy play, FIU defeats ULM in road sweep

**EDUARDO ALMAGUER**  
Staff Writer

Glance at FIU’s box score for the Nov.4 game against University of Louisiana Monroe and your first assumption is that the Panthers lost.

Star outside hitter Jovana Bjelica, often the catalyst for the Panthers’ offense, had a paltry .086 hitting percentage, one of her lowest marks of the season.

The offense managed its fifth-lowest hitting percentage of the season with a .165 mark. The team failed to record a service ace for the first time this season. To cap it off, they notched 17 errors.

Luckily for them, ULM was even worse.

FIU (17-7, 9-4 SBC) overcame numerous mistakes to beat ULM (9-14, 3-10 SBC) in three straight sets (25-17, 25-22, 25-18) to win its sixth straight match.

Despite Bjelica’s shortcomings, she was the only player with double-digit kills in the match (12). Setter Jessica Egan, the only bright spot for the team, notched her second career double with 18 assists and 14 digs.

FIU had more kills, digs and blocks than the Warhawks. The Warhawks had the lowest hitting percentage this season for a team facing the Panthers with an abysmal .039 mark to go along with their 25 errors.

As the two teams opened the first set, four of



SERGIO NASER/THE BEACON

Despite a sub-par performacne from Jovana Bjelica [above] the Panthers were able to defeat the Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks on Nov. 4.

the first five points scored were errors, quickly setting the tone of the match. Both teams were staunch as neither could manage more than a two-point lead until late in the set.

With the Panthers holding a slim, 16-15 lead, senior Sabrina Gonzalez slammed down a kill that completely rattled ULM. The Warhawks choked and committed five consecutive errors to give FIU a commanding 22-15 lead.

The deficit was too much for ULM as they fell to FIU 25-17.

Set two was the opposite of its predecessor. After a string of ULM errors, FIU built a 9-4 lead. A Warhawk kill and a Bjelica error shortened the gap to 12-11 as the Panthers saw their big lead slip away.

Though ULM never took the lead, they continued gnawing at FIU’s ankles, never falling behind more than one point. Egan and Bjelica spun off back-to-back kills to finally widen the gap. Senior Andrea Lakovic slammed down the final kill of the set to take it 25-22.

The Panthers carried over their momentum from the second set into the third as they wasted no time in building a big, 10-3 lead. ULM later managed to cut it down to a four-point deficit after an error by Gonzalez.

Once again, the Panthers saw their large lead evaporate as the Warhawks tore it down.

They constantly found holes on the Panthers’ side of the net, tallying consecutive kills to tip the score to 16-15, still in FIU’s favor.

The Panthers quickly regrouped however, and spun off seven straight points, punctuated by none other than a Warhawk error. The rally was more than enough for the Panthers to shut the door on ULM, eventually taking the set 25-18.

The final point for FIU, another Warkawk error, was the apparent breaking point for ULM head coach Ernest Vasquez, who was handed a yellow card as the match ended, often a caution for misconduct.

# Griffin sets FIU single-season record for field goals made but late mistakes cost Panthers much-needed road win

FOOTBALL, page 4

The second came on the last play of the half, after FIU gave Western Kentucky multiple second chances off penalties. A five-yard offside penalty on Greg Hickman

on third and two brought up a WKU first down, and then when FIU made a third down stop again, James Jones got called for a personal foul at the end of the play that resulted in another Hilltopper first down.

“We just have to be more poised and composed as a defense and limit the penalties,” said linebacker Winston Fraiser. “It’s just stupid penalties.”

However, a high snap on a field attempt from WKU,

with six seconds to go, halted the Hilltoppers from taking the lead going into halftime and kept FIU just a point behind going into the second half.

The third quarter stayed on the same course as the

second with defense being the key for both teams, as well as more field goals. Western Kentucky had a chance at their third field goal of the game, but it got blocked for the second time, and left the Hilltoppers with zero points of the board.

Griffin managed to make a 43-yard field goal at the beginning of the fourth quarter to give FIU the lead for the first time in the game.

The Panther defense held strong for all of the last quarter, until it mattered most.

Things started to come apart with 1:49 to go in regulation, when Carroll took a sack at his own five-yard line on third and three to force a punt by FIU and allowed WKU to start the last drive

of the game at midfield, with just a field goal needed to win the game.

“It was a mistake and we just have to get better,” said Carroll on the sack.

After a 12-yard pass to Bobby Rainey, plus a crucial 15-yard late hit penalty on Isame Facine, WKU got to the FIU 26-yard line with one minute left and slowed down the clock for the game winning field goal that went in by new kicker Casey Tinius.

“At the end of the day, as a defense we know what we’re coached to do and we should have prevailed on that last drive,” Fraiser said. “We could have been in the redzone, at the end of the day we still got to finish the game and we didn’t make it happen.”

SUN BELT STANDINGS		
	W-L	PCT
Arkansas State	5-0	1.000
Louisiana	6-1	0.857
Western Kenutcky	5-1	0.833
FIU	2-3	0.400
North Texas	2-3	0.400
Middle Tennessee	1-3	0.333
Troy	1-3	0.333
ULM	1-4	0.250
FAU	0-5	0.000
*All records up to date as of Nov. 5		

## PLAYER *of the* GAME

Bobby Rainey

Rainey rushed for 155 yards on 28 carries in WKU's win over FIU.



## SCHOOL OF MUSIC

# A MUSICAL FEAST

## Electro-acoustic composers given a stage to perform

**MARIANA YERN**  
Contributing Writer

Get your fork ready for a feast of electronic music. Some people view electronic music as merely sounds produced by technology. However, music technology students at the University prove that this style of music is a genre that should be taken seriously.

The Florida Electro-Acoustic Student Festival is a student-run festival that will be held on campus on Nov. 18 and 19. The festival's base of operation will be the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center.

The festival started eight years ago as an initiative of the Electro-Acoustic Research Society. Since then, FEAST Fest has been organized every two years. Electronic music is a contemporary art form that uses elements of acoustic and electric sounds that can be manipulated through technology. Supporting this type of music is the visionary force behind this



MARIANA YERN/THE BEACON

**Left to right:** Paul Kinard, Giancarlo Aravena, Ricardo Lopez and Carlos Dominguez.

event.

FEAST Fest features two days of concerts, lectures from guest speakers and a juke box playing in the Patricia and Phillip Frost

Art Museum. All concerts will include live performances, video installations and fixed media works of this music genre composed by students worldwide.

"We want to give all contemporary young composers a chance to expose their work regardless of their location," said Ricardo Lopez, a music

technology major.

EARS members are also planning to set up sound installations all around campus. "I know students will be amused

by these physical media objects made out of sound. It is something unusual and certainly cool," said Giancarlo Aravena, a music technology major.

Every two years before the festival, FEAST organizers make a call for works that extend to students worldwide. After composers submit their works, the FEAST committee chooses the pieces that will be performed at the event.

"The elimination process is a dilemma because most of the compositions that we receive are all cool and innovative. Our brains are fried by the end of this procedure," said Carlos Dominguez, music technology major and president of EARS.

The FEAST committee has received submissions from Italy, Germany, Canada and the United States from students from universities such as the University of Miami, the University of Florida, Indiana University, the

**FEAST, page 9**

## SOCIAL MEDIA

# Popular Internet memes interpreted with an FIU twist

**MEMES, page 1**

The Generators' personas are Mr. Blue, described as "the muscle," Mr. Red, "the intellectual" and Mr. Green, "the wildcard." The idea to create the meme page arose while the Generators were watching a football game.

"We were at Sports Grill [the afternoon of the Duke game] and there was a little boy holding up a sign that said 'I like turtles' and right there I was like, 'You know what? FIU needs fans like that.' So we went ahead and decided to make Internet memes enjoyable to all FIU students," said Mr. Blue.

They have decided to stay in disguise to secure the attention around the humor.

"We are the fans that FIU deserves but not the fans that they need right now. If by any chance anyone were to find out who we are, the attention would be taken off FIU and [placed] on us. We really want the focus to be on FIU and the hilarity that we all deal with everyday at FIU. It's a love that comes from the frustration," said Mr. Blue.

The Generators showcased the hilarity at the Oct. 25 football game against Troy. Before the game, they posted a poll on their Facebook page, "The FIU Meme Generators," letting the fans submit and vote on which meme they would create posters of. Garnering much attention, the Generators were even knighted by the object of many of these memes, FIU mascot, Roary.

"We actually really do love Roary. We gave him a poster of the 'Three Roary Moon' [at

the last game]," said Mr. Blue. The hobby is a passion for the Generators, who spend their own money on the projects like making t-shirts and posters to give away to fans.

"There are licensing issues when it comes to the FIU logo, thus we are unable to sell anything. We are working with President Rosenberg on getting some form of licensing agreement but he flew out today so he couldn't meet with us," said Mr. Blue. The Generators will not reveal their identities or just how many faces work behind the masks.

"Numerous people are involved, we haven't actually counted," said Mr. Red. "We have alumni and we have students. I believe we even have faculty, but I'm not sure," said Mr. Blue.

There is a process in choosing which memes make the cut. "All our ideas are collective," said Mr. Green. "We have little committee meetings. We don't just throw things out there. This is not an anarchy," said Mr. Red.

Since the start, fans have asked about submitting their own memes, and so the Generators created a contest. The top three memes were voted on by fans and the Generators promised to make a sign with the winner to take to the next home game. They have decided to hold another contest for the final home game of the season on Nov. 12. Fans can submit their memes by Nov. 8 by emailing FIUmemes@gmail.com.

Expect the Generators at the next home game. "We have a few things up our sleeves," said Mr. Red.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FIU MEME GENERATORS

Parking on campus is the subject of a few memes and get a lot of comments from fans.



## CHANNEL SURFING

# “Once Upon A Time” puts a new spin on fairy tales

**DRAMA: “ONCE UPON A TIME”**  
ABC, SUNDAYS @ 8 P.M.

Fairy tales were never told through the writers of “Lost” alum, but in “reality,” I could not imagine it any other way.

## COLUMNIST



SANAH FAROKE

is no doubt that viewers will be able to reminisce the characters that lived in a dusty fable book, but they’ve got another thing coming.

“Once Upon a Time,” which is written by two of the writers from the popular sci-fi series “Lost,” is a show that merges every fairy tale we’ve been told

at bedtime with a modern twist.

Writers Edward Kitsis and Adam Horowitz claim that they were inspired by the fables and myths of their childhood. The show also resembles its outdated TV mini-series counterpart, the “10th Kingdom,” which fused the modern day world with Cinderella, Snow White and Red Riding Hood.

Since the “10th Kingdom” was only nine episodes, it has become a concern that “Once” may also follow their footsteps to TV exile. The plots are similar to each other except, instead of venturing into the world of fantasy, Kitsis and Horowitz fuse both worlds into one stage—a refreshing new take on the classic tales.

Flashbacks elongate the story—hopefully beyond nine episodes; they keep us on our toes and give us a history lesson of how things came to be, enticing us to learn more. They obviously have the

same characters and remain true to their traits in “Once,” but Kitsis and Horowitz plan to exploit the characters for who they truly are, their insecurities and what makes them tick in a world where there are no happy endings.

I love the symbolism alluding to the other world (which has been sprinkled lightly throughout), like the pear a student gives to his teacher, Sister Mary Margaret Blanchard—Snow White’s alter character, instead of the familiar apple.

Every show wants to reach a big audience; “Once” accomplished this by dazzling us with special effects and its affixed roots in Disney fairy tales that secretly instruct, yet entertain with PG-13 humor.

The pilot gives off a slight family feel but, at the same time, it is geared toward an older generation by introducing the darker reality of these fairy tale characters we thought we all knew as children.

Fairy tales were supposed to be for kids, but “Once” puts these mythical characters in everyday modern adult situations.

The writers of “Lost” kept the same iconic characteristics of the characters we love. In addition, they also give us insight to who these characters truly are. Attempting to put a live character behind the typical Disney archetypes is what makes the show fascinating and unique in comparison to other shows, such as “the 10th Kingdom.”

“Once” is supposed to be meaningful and draw us into the story, keeping us there. The show reminds us of how there truly is a damsel in distress, a prince charming and a wicked drama queen in every one of us, or maybe in another land far, far away.

*Channel Surfing is a weekly TV review column. Look for it every Monday this fall.*

## GENDER STUDIES

## Program mentors young girls from “at-risk” backgrounds

**SYLVIA SIMIONI**  
Staff Writer

“My name is Jessica. I’m bringing jambalaya and this, ladies, is the Name Game.”

Jessica Cherubin, assistant director for the Strong Women Strong Girls program at the University, is one of 10 mentors who seek to teach young girls in South Florida lessons in interpersonal development and female integrity.

Founded in 2000 by Lindsay Hyde, a Harvard University alumna, SWSG is a nationally recognized outreach program that uses the study of contemporary and historic female role models to create skill-building activities and supportive relationships for girls aged nine to 12.

The initiative bears a heavy weight on the shoulders of its mentors.

“They look at us because we’re women. They’re young and we’re in college accomplishing our goals,” said Nadeige Raymanvil, a senior and biology major in the process of applying to medical school to become a pediatrician.

“We let them know it’s possible.”

Mentors go to designated sites, including the North Shore Community Center and Belafonte Tacoley Park, once a week and engage their students in fun after school exercises while they make Ants on a Log snacks—a mix of celery, peanut butter and raisins—or learn about Eleanor Roosevelt’s philanthropic works.

Other activities include Zip Zap Zop, a game in which the girls stand in a circle and “break the ice” while inciting laughter and the Knowledge Swap, a discussion in which

the girls talk about what they learned the preceding week.

“There was a certain girl; her name was Julie. She would come in and you could already tell she had her issues because she always separated herself from the group and she wanted nothing to do with what we were doing,” shared Raymanvil.

“We worked hard to get her to open up. Apparently, she had a tumultuous relationship with her family, but we made her feel comfortable and we taught her that it is okay to call for help.”

The University’s SWSG chapter focuses on reaching out to girls “at risk” of acquiring lower living standards.

“The term ‘at-risk’ is pretty inclusive,” said Brownen Bares, associate director of the Women’s Center at the University. “It could be based on their geographical area or their socioeconomic status. Most of these girls come from neighborhoods with high crime rates.”

According to Raymanvil, the mentors are teaching the girls about respect and growth—virtues that aren’t necessarily taught at home.

The benefits gained from the program—interestingly enough—are mutual.

“I think that what the girls get out of it is that they’re really learning a lot—that’s obvious. But what the college students get out of it and that’s why it’s truly mentoring, is that they’re learning how to adapt,” said Bares.

“They learn how to take something and say ‘Honestly, this isn’t working,’ and try something new that is not in the curriculum to see how it works. They develop skills without knowing it and that is



really exciting.”

Hyde created the program when she was a freshman in Harvard and was denied volunteer opportunities to help young children merely because she was a student.

“Lindsay felt that college students shouldn’t be turned down because they’re college students,” said Cherubin. “They should at least be given a chance to gain experience in helping children.”

Last week, the mentors had the girls demonstrate their talent by performing and creating a banner display. Some of the girls danced, others did flips and some even reenacted a sports play.

Cherubin said, “A few girls asked what my talent was and I said being me,” while popping her collar.

“They looked at me like, ‘Huh?’ and I said, ‘Yeah! Don’t change who you are so you can make other people happy. Just be you.’”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SWSG

Strong Women Strong Girls of South Florida works with young girls from different neighborhoods and socioeconomic backgrounds. Above, the mentors of Camp Katina, a part of the Jason Taylor Foundation, host games to teach mentees “virtues that aren’t necessarily taught at home.” Mentors say that they learn a lot from their mentees, as well. “They look at us because we’re women...we’re in college accomplishing our goals.”



MUSEUM BEAT

# Artists compete to create outdoor works for SIPA

MARCY DIAZ  
Contributing Writer

Since day one, the University has married structure with art to create a unique campus. The new School of International and Public Affairs is now calling for art.

SIPA was created to bring together FIU’s international studies and to give students and staff the opportunity to concentrate on a global scale.

SIPA was built in 2009 as a crucial part of the College of Arts and Sciences and includes graduate and undergraduate programs in international relations, political sciences, public administration and sociology . SIPA’s vision is to be a leader in aiding various types of organizations and being a primary center of international education.

In their most current attempt to heighten student involvement, SIPA has issued a call to all artists. A challenge has been made to those skilled and experienced enough to design an original sculpture for the North Side Entrance Planter and Outdoor Land-

scape Area adjacent to the auditorium. Although it is not the first time FIU has specifically asked for commissioned work, the project is creating a lot of excitement because of so many possible new additions to FIU’s famous collection. Fifty qualified

“  
Ever since Betty L. Perry’s donation to create a student gallery exhibition, we have encouraged every artist to come and take pride in their work.

Carol Damian,  
Director  
Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum

artists have already turned in their applications and are awaiting approval by Professor and Director of Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum, Carol Damian, and Staff Member Alexander Garcia. Artists include those who have completed other public commissions on a similar scale, have participated in exhibitions at major art

museums, or have received awards for their works. Nov. 16 is the official meeting date for Director John Stack and Dean John H. Coatsworth of SIPA to select the candidates alongside local urban planning corporation Arquitectonica. The same company which designed SIPA has been responsible for many major works on Modesto Maidique Campus. Once the winning designs are chosen, sculptors will have a budget of \$80,000 to share and make their creations come to life.

Challenges such as making sure their sculpture checks with hurricane codes and keeps within the given timeline of the project might weigh on their shoulders, but architects and staff members involved assure all trust and support in whomever they choose.

“FIU has always been supportive of student artists,” commented Damian. “Ever since Betty L. Perry’s donation to create a student gallery exhibition, we have encouraged every artist—in whatever stage—to come here and take pride in their work.”

## PULL SOME STRINGS



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Enrolled in the School of Music, Junior Meagan Slattery plays on for Professor Michael Vitenson, who plays violin for the Amernet String Quartet, Ensemble-in-Residence.

# Festival invites innovative guest speakers

FEAST, page 7

University of Missouri, Mills College and others.

EARS members were very excited to witness how the word about the festival has spread worldwide over the years. “[After] every festival, we get more submissions from foreign countries. This is a great deal for those of us who once came up with this crazy, innovative idea at FIU and now see it becoming a success,” said Dominguez.

The festival invites guest speakers who come to showcase their electronic musical compositions. Before every concert, guests give free lectures about their work

and their approach toward this contemporary style of music.

This year, the FEAST committee is ecstatic to feature guest speakers. Professor Jacob Sudol, head of the electronic music department at the University, Dr. Charles Mason, head of the electronic music studio at UM, Eric Deluca and Daniel Lepervanche, who are both University alumni.

“I could not be happier to have such great speakers whose careers have brought about innovation in the field of electronic music. I am looking forward to meeting them,” said Lopez.

Dominguez will also be showcasing one

of his compositions during the concert. The piece, titled “Contrabass and Electronics,” will be performed by bass player Kyle Molt, accompanied by technologically devised programs that produce electronic sounds, lending the piece a unique texture and flavor.

“This is the first time that one of the pieces will be performed at a concert. I am thrilled and looking forward to more of these experiences,” said Dominguez.

EARS members are still waiting for confirmation on sponsorship. They have sent out emails and letters to several sponsors but none have responded yet. Even though most of the funding is supple-

mented by the University, EARS wants to have financial support to compensate guest speakers adequately and offer a small reception.

“We are hoping to have the funds to make both guest speakers and the public experience something out of the ordinary,” said Lopez.

University students will have discounts to the performances.

“We encourage everyone to attend all these cool events to have a blast and support music in general,” said Dominguez.

“We want to make the most out of this event, showcasing electronic music in all its diversity,” said Lopez.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MONDAY, NOV. 7

- **Dinner with future leader Ralph Rios, Vice President Professional Services, Baptist Health:** 7-9 a.m., West Kendall Baptist Hospital
- **Where the Jobs Are-Key to Government Employment:** 12-1 p.m., MMC GC 230
- **How to Choose a Major Workshop:** 2-3 p.m., MMC GC 230, Open to all FIU students and alumni
- **Benefits Open Enrollment:** Ongoing, MMC PC 224
- **FASA Art Talk:** 7-9 p.m., MBUS Gallery, 420 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach

### TUESDAY, NOV. 8

- **International Business Honor Society (IBHS) Panel discussion:** 7-9 p.m., MMC GC Panther Suite
- **Entrepreneur’s How To Webinar-Deliver a Winning VC Pitch:** 11 a.m.-12 p.m., online seminar, \$25 per session
- **Navigating Art Basel:** 7-9 p.m., MMC Green Library Rm. 220

WRITE TO  
CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM TO  
HAVE YOUR EVENT  
FEATURED!



## Tweet Beat

@SherriEShepherd:

W Hotel if U are on Twitter...I cannot believe you don’t carry Bibles. If I didn’t have to work, I’d be protesting. Does #Jesus have an App

@RuPaul:

My brain automatically loses interest in any message longer than 140 characters,  
Thx alot Twitter



## BORDERLESS WITH BROOKLYN

# Scott Olsen: a poignant icon of the Occupy movement

As we speak freely about the Occupy movement, police brutality and wealth inequality, we should collectively think of Scott Olsen, who American police officers rendered indefinitely speechless.

COLUMNIST



BROOKLYN  
MIDDLETON

Olsen, a Marine and two-tour Iraq veteran, suffered brain damage during the Occupy Oakland protest when police projected a tear gas canister and it struck him in the head.

A skull fracture has taken away Scott's ability to communicate verbally.

Olsen is now the quintessential face of the Occupy Movement, not just in Oakland, but nationally. Putting a face to a political or social cause is pivotal; it humanizes the movement and makes it become more personal and easier to relate to.

In Iran, they had Neda Soltan. In Tunisia,

they had Mohammed Bouazizi. Now in America, we have Olsen.

People who become symbols of revolutions and movements often do so unintentionally, much like Olsen.

In Soltan's case, the young woman accidentally shot during a protest in Iran, and in Bouazizi's case, the man whom set himself on fire in protest against the Tunisian government – they do so posthumously.

The trauma Olsen has experienced is both staggeringly tragic and inexplicable. A soldier who defended our country at war has been injured at home in what is supposed to be a country where the freedom to protest peacefully and the freedom to speak openly is not just expected, but ensured by people just like Olsen.

The irony that Olsen, literally exercising his freedom of speech, has now been violently silenced has outraged fellow Marines.

On the site Reddit, in a thread titled,

“Putting a face to a political or social cause is pivotal; it humanizes the movement and makes it become more personal and easier to relate to.”

“How I feel, as a United States Marine, about what occurred in Oakland,” is a photograph of a marine holding a sign in one hand that says, “You Did This To My Brother” and in the other hand, a photograph of Olsen, blood dripping down his face and lips just moments after being hit by the tear gas canister.

In response to the haunting photograph, a commenter writes, “This man is my brother. All Marines here know that we'd fight to our last breath and let NOTHING stand in our way when it comes to helping one

another. That being said, violence isn't the answer here men... Let's come together as a band of brothers once more and help make a change.” It is hopeful that even in the face of betrayal, Olsen's brothers are calling for non-violence.

His injuries, despite how unnecessary and unwarranted, have cultivated some good. The Occupy Movement and the ongoing police brutality protesters are experiencing just became that much harder to ignore.

“Borderless with Brooklyn” is a biweekly column examining world events.

## Alternative transportation saves time, money, space

CHRISTIAN BELTRAN  
Contributing Writer

On any school day, I see at least one student riding across the Modesto Maidique Campus on a long-board, bike, scooter or any other form of an easy-to-access vehicle. There are many benefits to using these different modes of transportation.

“These vehicles can even help you reach campus earlier and arrive to your next destination faster.”

One primary benefit for all students is that they can venture across any campus at a faster pace, which is especially helpful since both the MMC and the Biscayne Bay Campus, as I have experienced, have a vast walking distance between buildings, and one can get extremely hot when walking outside.

Because this form of transportation stimulates healthy activity, this can help students find time to

exercise, stay awake and relax while eliminating traffic and helping cut back on pollution.

Another benefit, when used responsibly, is that they are fully supported by the police department.

As advised by Lieutenant Rick Torres, head of security at the University, “We encourage the students to be safe. Any vehicle – scooters, bicycles, skateboards, longboards – can be ridden, it's legal here after all. Just have good common sense. Be cautious of others. Look out for other riders and cars. Have courtesy.”

They can also improve the efficiency of arriving to campus, especially to those that live close to campus or that are part of the 3,000 students that live on campus.

After all, with only six garages supporting a body of 46,000 students, it is understandable as to why there is usually trouble in finding a parking spot in time for a class.

Furthermore, the problem may only grow with the innovation of GreenRide, the University's carpool program, and the expanding body of students and faculty, as more and more parking spaces will be used and harder to conceive.

Alternatives to getting to

school, such as carpooling or public transportation, have their own flaws as well, including the unreliable variation of arrival and departure times, having to rely on someone else and the cost factors.

These different modes of transportation, especially bicycles, can eliminate these flaws, including the parking dilemma, because skateboards, longboards and scooters can be carried, and bikes can be parked at any of the 400 bike racks that are located across campus.

Also, any cost factors in maintaining these vehicles concern only minimal repairs, like pumping air into bike tires.

In some cases, these vehicles can even help students reach campus earlier and arrive to their next destination faster, primarily those students that live in the dorms or apartments that neighbor the area.

With the rising costs associated with reaching campus with a car or bus, buying a bike or longboard is a considerable investment that will serve students well, even after they graduate.

These unique vehicles can not only help students cross the campus efficiently but can also promote a broader sense of diversity, a mission of the University.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### SGA disregards Florida Sunshine laws

FIU is the top university in the world. With that said, it pains me to see that the Student Government Association has fallen into such a sad state of affairs when it comes to transparency, in other words, blatant disregard for Florida Sunshine Laws.

The SGC-BBC's disregard for Sunshine Law in recent weeks is my first area of concern. As reported in The Beacon, the topic of SGC-BBC President Denise Halpin's impeachment has been an embarrassment. There have been closed door meetings and many abstention votes in the Senate. Pursuant to Sunshine Law Section 286.012, F.S., abstention votes are expressly prohibited.

There are few circumstances in which they are allowed, primarily conflicts of interest. However those abstaining must state why on record. I've yet to see any documentation on why the SGC-BBC senators were abstaining.

A key aspect of Sunshine is the requirement that all meetings be open to the public and publicized. One could describe SGA's methods in advertising their meetings inconsistent at best. While BBC utilizes a calendar feature, MMC does not.

Both councils in SGA have statutes regarding Sunshine, (both also in severe incompliance) and the SGC-MMC has a specific statute for transparency in addition to its Sunshine ones. (Section 2.05 Transparency and Accountability).

While the statute has been in effect since last year, it has only started to be partially followed. A very important part of the statute states that all SGC-MMC meetings be recorded and

posted online. At the time this letter was written, only one video has been posted.

In a recent Judiciary hearing, SGC-MMC President Patrick O'Keefe stated that he did not know whose responsibility it was to record and upload videos. It is concerning that the SGC-MMC President did not account for this when creating his cabinet and assigning job responsibilities. This was either due to an oversight, or simple ignorance of the SGC-MMC statutes.

Technology Coordinator Sergio Pantoja produced and uploaded the mentioned video. However, the timing of this also coincides with a Judicial hearing against Pantoja on a grievance filed by myself on grounds of misfeasance and malfeasance.

I am highly critical of SGA because I care about the organization. The problems it's facing with transparency (a platform on which more than 95% of all SGA elected officials ran on last spring) are easily corrected. However, those in charge have to stop making excuses. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse. Campus Life being slow is not an excuse. I don't know who should be doing it is not an excuse.

SGA is a vital part of FIU. Those in SGA have a responsibility to meet the standards of excellence set forth to them. I know that they can do it.

I implore the members of SGA, please, live up to your responsibilities to the student body. With a small amount of real effort, you can succeed. You not only owe it to the student body, but to yourselves.

-Ben F. Badger Jr.

Non-Degree Seeking Student

## 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.

## SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts in (500 words maximum) to neda.ghomeshi@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.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

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



## THE FALL COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE HAS BEEN REVISED TO ACCOMMODATE MORE GUESTS

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011

10:00 a.m.

**College of Education** (was originally scheduled at 3p.m.)

**College of Engineering & Computing**

3:00 p.m.

**College of Arts & Sciences**

- School of Environment, Arts & Society (SEAS)
- School of Integrated Science & Humanity (SISH)

7:30 p.m.

**College of Arts & Sciences** (was originally scheduled at 10:00a.m.)

- School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011

10:00 a.m.

**College of Business Administration**

- Landon Undergraduate School of Business

3:00 p.m.

**College of Architecture + The Arts** (was originally scheduled at 10:00a.m.)

**School of Journalism & Mass Communication**

**College of Business Administration**

- Chapman Graduate School of Business

7:30 p.m.

**Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work**

(was originally scheduled at 3:00p.m.)

**College of Nursing & Health Sciences** (was originally scheduled at 3:00p.m.)

**School of Hospitality & Tourism Management**

(was originally scheduled at 10:00a.m.)

*For more information, please visit*

*<http://commencement.fiu.edu>*





## WUC lab cuts free printing

JONATHAN RAMOS  
Asst. News Director

Beginning Nov. 14, the Wolfe University Center will cut the amount of free printing allowed at the computer lab from 30 pages to five. The policy was officially announced on Nov. 4, to give students a week of notice.

The resolution, which came about through a cooperative agreement between WUC Senior Director Greg Olson and the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus, was made for environmental and financial reasons. Olson was not available for comment at press time.

“I expect students to not be excited about it, but I believe students will adjust and see that it is a better use of their fees and it is better for the environment,” IT and marketing coordinator Zach Trautenberg said.

According to Trautenberg, SGC-BBC sets aside \$2,000 to cover the cost of printing on a yearly basis, but the printing lab was costing WUC between \$3,000 and \$5,000 a month. In addition, the computer lab had over 7,000 log-ins in October alone. WUC was able to pay for the excess in costs mostly because of the revenue they create by renting rooms and space in the building.

The computer lab will not limit the amount of pages students can print overall. Students can only print five pages for free, but have an unlimited amount available after that, available at eight cents per page plus tax.

“There was a serious waste going on,” SGC-BBC Senator-at-Large Oluwatamilore Odimayo said. “And nobody was swiping their card before to get in, so people were just coming in and printing out whatever they wanted.”

The computer lab will institute a policy to enforce the new system, by making students swipe their FIU One Card with the computer lab managers inputting the amount of pages they have printed daily. A similar rule was in place before, but was not always enforced.

Adekoya believes the cutback is a fair one.

“Five pages is still very reasonable. If I’m getting more than five pages, I can just pay with my [FIU One Card],” he said. “This will encourage students to be more efficient.”

Freshman Juan Escobar, thinks some will be shocked by the news initially.

“If we’re paying this much in tuition, I think it should be at least 30 pages allowed [to print],” Escobar said. “But if you have to cut it, at least do it in increments and have a balance.”

Trautenberg encourages students to inform staff of any need that may arise for students. “We always want to hear from students about what we can offer besides free printing,” Trautenberg said of the lab, which already has added software to assist students with disabilities. “We’re always looking to expand with new technologies and software.”

“We’re still the only lab in the University that offers free printing, and a few years ago we didn’t offer it, so we’re not going back to that.”

## THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR



PHOTOS BY ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

On Nov. 3, the John Lennon Educational Bus Tour made its way to BBC where students such as **[top]** Anthony Alume, hospitality junior, Henry Zelaya, biology senior; **[middle left]** Marco Fiorentino, advertising senior, Abel Ramos, international relations senior; **[bottom left]** Sebastian Leon, journalism senior, Allison Howard, biology sophomore; and **[right]** Gloria Arsty, advertising junior and Willyne Chery, occupational therapy senior, all take part in the musical experience.

## Late night domino game a WUC staple

HAYTHAM AL-RABEAH  
Contributing Writer

The domino games in the Panther Square of the Wolfe University Center at Biscayne Bay Campus have struck ongoing interest among in the area. From the initial players to students and even administrators, the Panther Square domino games have garnered the attention of many.

According to some members, the games began several years ago when a group of friends began to gather around in Panther Square to have fun. Staff and students would gather after hours to play the game and discuss intense topics, such as football, which is a staple crop for the gang.

It all started at the WUC information desk, which, according to Omar Tolbert, has a set of dominoes and is in the habit of lending them out. Although, the community desk is a main source of dominoes, they also claim that there are other sources around.

According to most of the players at the table, the games usually start at around 5:30 p.m., when the offices close and the buzz and bustle of activities and students cools

off in Panther Square. Apparently, once the games start, they may close only when the doors of the building close, although, according to frequent players, in most cases the games usually close at 11 p.m.

One frequent player states that this phenomenon has been going on for “at least a year and a half.” Although it started with a bunch of friends, the group has seen an increase in staff and student involvement. The group acknowledges that there is increasing appeal to students who pass by after peak hours.

Concerns have been expressed by some of the working domino players about administrative run-ins. Since many players in fact bare the FIU emblem on their uniforms as employees of the University, administrators have also taken notice of their employees’ involvement in these after hour domino games. It does not stop there, however, as some players who work more closely with administration join games from time to time, causing rifts in the offices if they get recognized after hours.

This is different, however, from the concerns of FIU employees being recognized by their uniforms, and being indis-

cernible as being on or off the clock at the time of play.

The students-turned-staff began playing these games off the clock, to blow off steam and have fun after work. However, with the new attention of students, administrators and other staff members, these players see a future that insists on a move.

With the increase of student appeal, the group is hoping that the games would eventually pass into new game room that has been built, but yet-to-be officially revealed, on the second floor of the WUC. The game room, they hope, will provide a safe environment for staff not on the clock and space for the increased flow of students interested in playing the game.

When asked about where he sees these games going, Tolbert says he sees the possibility of more open gaming for the students-turned-staff, some of which still study at FIU. He also hopes for increased student led activities, such as domino tournaments and possibly even a student-run club.

“I can see tournaments happening,” Tolbert said. “I say it’s just matter of time.”