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REGISTRATION

Fall enrollment now merged with summer

AARON PABON

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Class registration will be off to an early start for the 2012-2013 school year.

Beginning on April 2, currently enrolled degree-seeking students will have an early start to register for the upcoming summer and fall 2012 semesters.

"The University wants to provide a first opportunity to students who are currently enrolled," said Steven Kelly, interim associate vice president of the University Registrar.

"One of the main problems that we have during enrollment is that classes are full for students who enroll at the last minute" said Kelly. "We are hoping to alleviate the situation by having students enroll ahead of time."

The registration appointments will begin on April 2, and continue until April 18. Registration will continue from April 19 till May 6 for currently enrolled degree-seeking students for fall 2012 and open registration for summer 2012 will continue.

Registration will be closed from May 7 until August 5, and will reopen on Aug. 6.

According to Kelly, one of the reasons for both the early enrollment and the enrollment being closed during the month of June, is to observe the enrollment patterns and make adjustments accordingly and add classes if necessary.

"The office of planning and institutional research, will be able to look at the enrollment patterns and say, we can see that all of our ENC 1101 classes are full, so we need to add some more sections before next fall starts," said Kelly.

You can see class schedules and registration appointment times on PantherSoft.

"Not everyone will have an appointment on April 2," said Kelly, "so be sure to check your PantherSoft for the exact date for your appointment."

New, transfer and transient students will still be arranged through orientation scheduling.

GO LOCAL



MELISSA CACERES/THE BEACON

Sophomore biology major Yainet Valle buys yellow tomatoes at the FIU Organic Farmers Market on March 21.

IN MEMORIAM

Journalism student dies in crash

ESRA ERDOGAN

Life! Editor

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A University journalism student died in a head-on collision on early Sunday, along with her sister and her sister's husband. The car accident occurred on the Gratigny Expressway around 5 a.m.

Senior Amy Lopez, her sister Germania "Germs" Huntington and Shawn Huntington, both alumni of the University, were killed immedi-

ately upon impact. The other driver, Anwar Janania, a law student at St. Thomas University, also died during the crash.

"Those of you who knew Amy remember her as a [School of Journalism and Mass Communication] bright light, as lovely in spirit as she was gifted in her studies. We all mourn her loss," said Raul Reis, the dean of SJMC in an email to journalism students.

According to Florida Highway Patrol, the accident may have been

caused by one of the vehicles turning onto a ramp in the wrong direction. All of the passengers were trapped inside when their vehicles burst into flames.

"It was a very bad accident," said FHP spokesman Joe Sanchez to the Miami Herald.

Lopez and Huntington's parents were unavailable for comment.

The journalism senior was set to earn her diploma in the fall after

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Proposed legislation to ban texting while driving

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Texting while driving has now become the new drunk driving, studies show.

A research done by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Motorists found that drivers using cell phones while driving are four times more likely to get into crashes than

those who do not.

"I [text and drive] all the time," said art history major Linda Aragon. "I think it's dangerous... but I can't help it. I still do it and that is most likely not changing."

Thirty-five states and Washington D.C. currently have varying degrees of a ban on sending text messages while driving, since the use of phones is a major cause of car accidents

nationwide.

"I would consider [texting and driving] more dangerous than talking on the phone and driving," said dietetics and nutrition major Karla Reyes.

Idaho may soon also be added to the list of 35 since its House passed a ban on texting and driving this week.

The bill was originally accepted by the Senate and an amendment is now being sent

back to the Senate for approval.

"I support laws against [texting and driving] in other states," said political science major Kenneth Dyches. "I would also support a ban here."

Florida is not among the 35, as it does not have a set law against using a mobile device while driving.

"I can't pull you over because you're texting," said Assistant Chief of the University Police

Alphonse Ianiello, "[but] if you're driving erratically, you can get pulled over."

The Florida Senate recently failed to pass a bill restricting the usage of cellular devices while conducting a motor vehicle.

"Even if there was a ban, it wouldn't stop a lot of people," Aragon said. "Phone providers need to come up with a better

SEE BAN, PAGE 2

COMING UP | News

Check out Monday's issue for a story on the New York Times national editor Sam Sifton's lecture about how the Times covers the run for the presidency.

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NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Former Fla. Gov. Jeb Bush endorses Mitt Romney

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush is endorsing Mitt Romney to become the Republican Party’s presidential nominee.

Bush made the announcement in a statement released Wednesday.

Bush urged Republicans to unite behind Romney, saying he believes the former Massachusetts governor is best suited to take the party’s message of fiscal conservatism and job creation to voters in the general election.

Bush wrote that the country faces “huge challenges.”

WORLD

7.4 quake apparently spares lives in Mexico

A powerful earthquake that shook Mexico from its massive capital to its resort-studded southern coast damaged hundreds of homes and sent thousands of panicked people fleeing from swaying office buildings, yet apparently didn’t cause a single death.

As of early Wednesday, there were still no reports of deaths from Tuesday’s magnitude-7.4 quake centered near the border between the southern states of Oaxaca and Guerrero, even after 10 aftershocks.

Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard said Wednesday about 300,000 people in the south side of the capital were without water after the quake damaged two aqueducts. He said two people were reported injured, including the driver of an empty bus crashed under a collapsed pedestrian bridge.

– Compiled by Melhor Leonor

Research indicates potential risks and effects of texting while driving

BAN, PAGE 1

way for us to text and drive.”

Senate Bill 0416, also known as Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving, was filed in October of last year and would potentially create the “Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law.”

“I believe it should be made law,” Ianiello said. “[Using your phone while driving] increases the risk [of an accident].”

If passed, the act would be made effective in October of this year. Drivers using their phones to send text messages would be pulled over and issued “citations as a secondary offense.”

According to a Tampa Bay Times/Miami Herald/Bay News 9 Poll, 71 percent of Florida voters support banning texting while driving.

“It always annoys me to see people driving slowly or making stupid mistakes [because they’re] looking down at their phone,” Dyches said. “...It’s almost equivalent to driving drunk.”

A test conducted in 2009 by Car and Driver magazine showed that



MELHOR LEONOR/THE BEACON

If passed, the act would be made effective October of this year.

it takes a driver longer to hit the brakes while sending a text message than while driving legally drunk.

“I wouldn’t support a ban on texting and driving because I don’t want cops to have more reasons to pull you over,” said senior psychology student Armando Carrasquillo. “They’ll see a cell phone somewhere and give you a

ticket even if you aren’t guilty.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, about 6,000 deaths and a half a million injuries are caused by distracted drivers every year.

“Cell phone are too integrated in our society,” Carrasquillo said. “People will always text and drive.”

Family fundraising for burial costs

STUDENT, PAGE 1

completing her remaining six credits. The SJMC will be to be presenting her family with an honorary diploma.

“She was a hard worker,” said Mario Diamant, journalism professor who had Lopez in his news writing class. He added that he was grading one of Lopez’s assignments minutes before he received news of

her death.

“I had a really strange feeling that night before I found out through Facebook,” Pamela Vizcaino, senior journalism major who sat next to Lopez in Diamant’s class. “I just couldn’t believe it. We used to study together.”

Senior Jessica Secada, a biology major and president of the Sigma Kappa sorority, met Lopez in high school.

“She was more than a best friend to me, she was family. We met when we were 16 and were inseparable ever since,” said Secada.

Secada and her mother, Dolores Cachon, have set up a bank account for Lopez’s family in order to pay for the services for their children. The bank account is at TD Bank, and the account number is 4768013917.

“We set up the memorial fund to help the family because it’s three deaths that they weren’t

expecting. Students can go to any TD Bank and deposit into the Amy Lopez Family Memorial Fund with the bank account number. We’re going to give them a cashier’s check once the donations have stopped,” said Cachon, who remembers watching her daughter and Lopez’s friendship flourish over the years.

“Her family needs a lot of help,” said Secada.

The religious service for Lopez, her sister and brother-in-law takes place today at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, followed by a burial at Vista Memorial in Miami Lakes.

“I had a really strange feeling that night before I found out through Facebook,” said Vizcaino. “I just couldn’t believe it. We used to study together.”

According to several of her peers, Lopez was outspoken in her classes and was never “just another classmate.”

“It will take time to get use to the notion that a



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM

Amy Lopez

person we love and admire, is not there anymore,” said Monique Rodriguez, a senior journalism major.

Friends and classmates are flooding the victims’ social media sites with thoughts and memories.

“We promised we would be friends forever and losing her so unexpectedly has been really hard. Days just haven’t been as bright since she’s been gone,” said Secada.

Additional reporting by Melissa Caceres.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 23, Issue 77 of *The Beacon* in the Sports section, the baseball photo of Mike Martinez was not a Beacon file photo. The photo was taken by Alfonso Yec.

In Vol. 23, Issue 77 of *The Beacon* in the Sports section, the women’s basketball photo of Jerica Coley was not taken by Kristi Camara. The photo was taken by Jonathan Segal.

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



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AUTO RACING

Dion von Moltke shines in 12 Hours of Sebring race

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Like most students, Dion von Moltke may have had a midterm exam to focus on before he began his Spring Break. But that midterm may not have been his biggest test.

Von Moltke, an FIU student, and the rest of the Alex Job Racing team took home first place honors in his class at the 12 Hours of Sebring, an endurance race on March 17.

“It’s the first huge win in my career so far,” von Moltke said.

It was his second career victory, his first since winning the Memorial Day Classic at Lime Rock, Connecticut in 2011 for the Grand-Am series. The South African native raced nearly half of the 12-hour stint for the Alex Job Racing team.

“It was a pretty crazy race. We were really in the top three for the full 12 hours and I ended up doing six hours, so I was definitely worn out after the race,” von Moltke said. “It was all really problem-free which was what we wanted to do with 64 cars on the track. We knew that if we kept it clean, we would have a good shot to win.”

Von Moltke along with Bill Sweedler and Indy Racing League



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRNEWswire.COM

Dion von Moltke, an FIU student, [above] and the AJR team finished first in their class at the 12 Hours of Sebring race on March 17.

driver Townsend Bell dominated in the Gran Touring Car division of the race, finishing first in his class and 33rd overall out of 64 cars on the grid.

Von Moltke’s win did not come with ease. With less than

two hours remaining on the endurance race, von Moltke’s first-placed car was rear-ended on turn 17, the u-shaped sunset bend, by Danish driver Nicki Thiim of NGT Motorsport team.

“Through 11 hours we were

fine with no contact and going in to turn 17 with about an hour and a half to go, the second-placed car was right behind me and I’m not really too sure what happened but we got a huge hit from the rear and we

made contact,” von Moltke said. “Luckily the damage wasn’t as bad as I thought. I thought we were finish for sure.”

A couple of minutes in the

SEE RACING, PAGE 4

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heat bring in veteran big man in Turiaf

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Staff

Ronny Turiaf wanted a place where he could win, and the Miami Heat wanted some extra inside help.

So the sides turned to each other.

Turiaf signed with the Heat on Wednesday, and the 6-foot-10 center is aiming to practice with his new club for the first time on Thursday. Turiaf has played for the Los Angeles Lakers, Golden State, New York and Washington so far in his seven-year pro career, and was waived by Denver earlier this month after being included in a three-team trade between the Wizards, Nuggets and Los Angeles Clippers.

“Welcome aboard,” Heat owner Micky Arison wrote on Twitter, announcing the deal.

Turiaf has appeared in only four games this season, the last of those coming Jan. 1 when he broke his left hand.

“We are very happy to be able to add an experienced veteran center at this stage of the season,” Heat President Pat Riley said. “Ronny’s energy will be a great addition and bolster our front line.”



JOHN RAOUX/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turiaf (right) signed with the Miami Heat on March 21. He has averaged 5.2 points per game in his career.

The Heat have been looking for inside help for several weeks. Joel Anthony — a key defender for

the Heat — ranks 37th in scoring (3.2) and 36th in rebounding (4.2) among centers who have started at

least 10 games this season. Miami’s backups at center, Dexter Pittman and Eddy Curry, have combined to

score 62 points in 36 appearances this year.

Miami does not typically look for offensive production from the center spot anyway — the Heat rank third in the NBA in scoring — but has been seeking additional depth and had a roster spot free after Mickell Gladness’ 10-day contract expired earlier this month.

And Turiaf won’t be asked to be an offensive force in Miami, either. He’s scored 20 points only once in his career.

“It’s a good fit,” said Mark Bartelstein, Turiaf’s agent, who noted that Turiaf generated interest from several clubs.

Turiaf has averaged 5.2 points and 3.8 rebounds in his career. He was the Knicks’ starting center in last year’s playoffs, when they were swept out of the first round by the Boston Celtics.

Turiaf was a college star at Gonzaga and was taken by the Lakers in the second round of the 2005 draft, before a physical revealed his heart had an abnormality — an enlarged aortic root that required seven hours of open-heart surgery. His first contract with the Lakers was voided, but the team paid for his surgery and signed him again less than six months later.

WOMEN'S RUGBY CLUB

FIU captures Ruggerfest with wins over rivals

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The FIU women’s rugby club went from being underdogs, according to the Florida Rugby Union, to champions the following season. They completed that turnaround against upstate rivals University of Central Florida in the Ruggerfest. Panthers rugby club defeated the Golden Knights 19-5 to become Ruggerfest Champions.

Not only did the FIU Women’s Rugby Team win the Ruggerfest Title, they silenced their in-city rival Miami with a score of 86-0. The Panthers have outscored the Hurricanes rugby club 158-12 in their last three meetings. They dominated Miami again recently in the beginning of the month as well, 22-0 respectively.

Head coach Trevor Alfred compared his team’s play to a masterpiece painting.

“A work of art, they’re like poetry in motion, beautiful like a Picasso

painting,” Alfred said.

Victoria Villa, the president of the rugby team was optimistic about the club’s future.

“I believe we can go anywhere they want, we just need to put our name out there,” Villa said.

But despite their recent success, there was a time when the team didn’t have proper uniforms, or adequate transportation.

In 2009, Genna Goldsobel, an alumni and member of the club saw a future for women’s rugby at the university and that dream came to fruition later. Goldsobel trained with the men’s club to improve her skills and revive the passion she had for rugby. Soon, others saw the dream she was aiming for, and the FIU Women’s Rugby Team was formed.

Even then, they still had difficulties. They did not have a coach, or even a proper training facility, let alone training equipment.

Goldsobel’s parents reached out and gave the club some financial support by paying for them to get into tourna-

GOODBYE NORTH BLEACHERS



ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON

The football stadium is beginning the construction on the north side of the stadium. Today, University President Mark Rosenberg, FIU Executive Director for Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia, FIU Head Football Coach Mario Cristobal, Members of the Stadium Campaign Task Force will break ground for phase three of the project.

ments and even assisted with transportation.

The squad has had to do fundraising, from car wash to bake sales and canning in order to maintain competitive in tournaments. According to Villa, the club is still in search for permanent sponsors, as transportation is still an

issue for them.

“When training first started, the girls weren’t able to make a full lap, or do regular push-ups, as well as passing the [rugby] ball. Now they have advanced to the point where they can train by themselves, and their ball-passing skills have

improved dramatically,” Alfred said.

Alfred has his team watching highlights of professional rugby players so that they can learn their techniques.

“The girls even watch professional players and study how they maneuver in their position, then they

work on their skills,” said Alfred.

Despite their low budgets, Alfred’s club still hopes to become the top team in Florida.

When asked about the Team’s future Alfred said, “The sky’s the limit. I want the team to be state champions.”

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.COM

Sports

Wreck does not prevent win for AJR

RACING, PAGE 3

pits were enough to get von Moltke’s Porsche back out on the track for the final stint.

“The crew guys told us that it was just a bent rim and we went back out and somehow the car held together for the last hour and a half, because it was a pretty big hit,” von Moltke said. “It ended up bringing a little extra drama to the race.”

Despite overcoming the right rear wheel damage, von Moltke still had some worries about the performance of his car during the rest of the race.

“The first time that we went through a double left hander, which was flat out 150 miles per hour, I kind of closed my eyes a little bit and hoped that the car was going to hold together and it did. Every single lap through there I was a little bit nervous but it held together,” von Moltke said.

Although the race was served as the opening round for the FIA World Endurance Championship and the American Le Mans Series, von Moltke still plans to race for APR Motorsport in the Grand-Am series, the team he originally raced for in 2011.

APR Motorsport gave von Moltke permission to go behind the wheels of the Porsche 4.0 L Flat-6 for AJR.

“Alex [Job] is another South African like me and we always



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRNEWswire.COM

Von Moltke (center) won his second career race on March 17.

wanted to work together but never just never really found a way to work,” said von Moltke. “They needed a third driver before they [AJR] start their Lotus program in North America.”

As for his midterm: von Moltke

scored a 92 percent, still not as high as his ranking on March 17 at Sebring.

“It’s very difficult [dealing with school and auto racing]. It has been a balancing act to say the least,” von Moltke said.

IPHONEOGRAPHY

Cell phone pictures can be considered art, too

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Scrolling down a Twitter feed, one could easily come across a tweet like the following: “I love Instagram, but I kind of hate that [it promotes] the idea that iPhone photography makes you a [legitimate] photographer.”

This kind of statement, which has become increasingly popular, brings up an interesting discussion: whether or not cell phone photog-

raphy can be art. Instagram, the popular application for the iPhone, allows users to take and edit photos in various filters and then upload them to social media sites like Facebook and Twitter. Other apps like it exist for Android and BlackBerry phones. The apps focus on improving pictures taken with cell phones to make them appear as though they’ve been taken with a much better camera.

Cell phone cameras have improved a lot over the years, with some featuring megapixels that come close to rivaling digital cameras that can cost hundreds of dollars more. But the thing that makes cell phone photography so appealing is that a cell phone goes wherever its owner goes, meaning that the photographer will always have a camera with them.

“I like to photograph things in everyday life that make me happy or I want to remember and it’s way quicker because it’s right there on your iPhone,” said junior Anna Drescher, an architecture major.

Now, with a variety of apps that can enhance, distort, decorate and

he or she captures it.

Sometimes, the camera doesn’t matter. Photographers use their skills to make an image: lighting, focus, contrast, texture and other techniques. The camera is only a tool and it can’t teach photographers any approaches to a “good” image without the photographers having the knowledge or experience themselves.

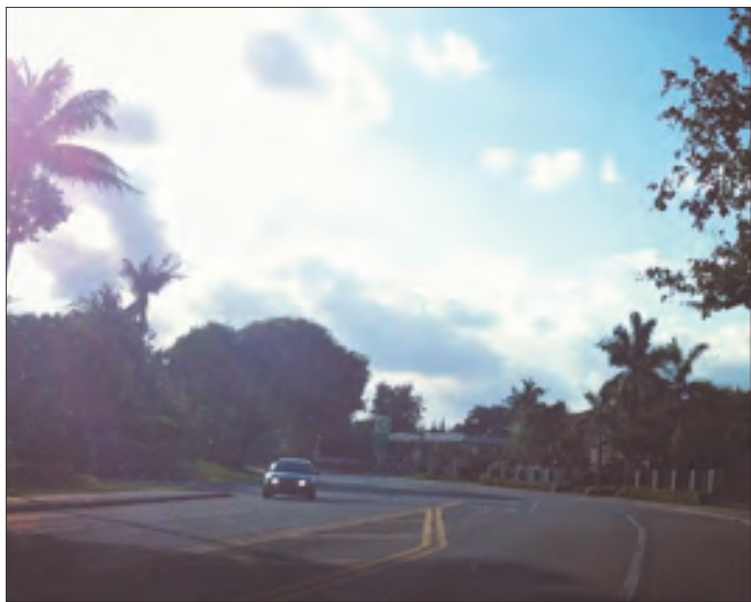
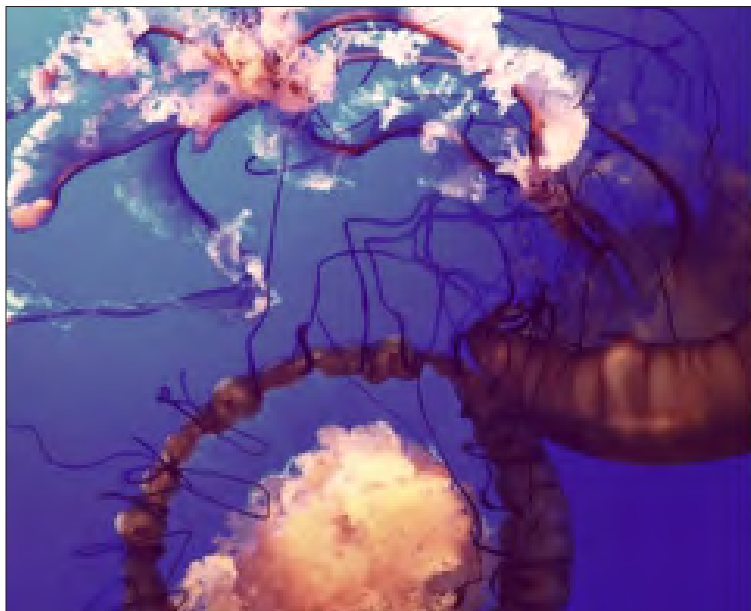
Where a cell phone camera lacks, the photographer can make up for by using their technique and creativity. A cell phone camera can also provide a different perspective for photographers than through the lens of a film or digital camera.

“Whenever I didn’t have my camera, I always took pictures with my phone. It would help me out when I didn’t have my camera because it helped me notice a different view,” said senior and photographer Sophya Vega, a fine arts major.

Shows and exhibitions of cell phone photography are already popping up. The Lunchbox Gallery in the Wynwood Art District, which focuses on contemporary photography by emerging artists, has premiered a show called “iPhoneography: Updated Visual Dialogs.” The show will be running through April 7 at 310 N.W. 24th St. Miami, FL 33127.

The show features the work of 134 “iPhoneographers” from around the world, with images that act as a visual diary of the photographers.

SEE INSTAGRAM, PAGE 6



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

TOP: Snapped with an iPhone, this photo displays a peculiar animal, the jellyfish, in a very interesting way. **BOTTOM:** A more simplistic approach to a photograph is shown where a sunny day captured with an iPhone.

REEL TO REEL

Sex, lies, singing and god: “Elmer Gantry” has it all

This Tuesday night, I attended a special screening for Turner Classic Movies’ “Road to Hollywood” programming at the Olympia Theater in Miami. While the TCM television channel is dedicated to showing classic films 24 hours a day with no commercials, this short tour features a few standout classics in 10 locations in the U.S. and Canada.

Each screening shows the feature film and a short interview between the hosts—Robert Osborne, Leonard Maltin and Ben Mankiewicz—and stars or directors from the film. The film shown in Miami was none other than the Academy Award winning film, “Elmer Gantry,” with special guest Shirley Jones who won an



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

“Elmer Gantry” shows elegance that was displayed in films back in the day

Oscar for her supporting role in the film.

While many people may not have heard of “Elmer Gantry,” it was quite the controversial picture at the time of its release in 1960. Winner of three Academy Awards for acting and writing and

nominee for Best Picture, “Elmer Gantry” brings many surprises in its handling of subjects like prostitution and religious corruption in a time period where censorship ruled the nation.

The film focuses on Elmer Gantry, a traveling salesman

who can get around any situation. Cheating his way from town to town, he stumbles upon Sister Sharon Falconer, a woman whose revivalist preaching has gathered a large following within religious communities.

With an extensive knowledge of the Bible and his impressive way with words, Gantry works his way into Sister Sharon’s road show, becoming an indispensable part of the tour. It isn’t until he encounters Lulu, a prostitute he knew long ago, that things get heated and his shady past begins to catch up to him.

The true magic of “Elmer Gantry” comes in the performances of the cast, not only from those who claimed Oscars for it. Burt Lancaster, whose rich performance is so real that one can almost claim that he was born for this role, delivers a performance well-deserving of an Oscar from start to finish. With each sermon he gives, Lancaster

dives deeper into Gantry, giving it his all and making the audience forgive and embrace this despicable character.

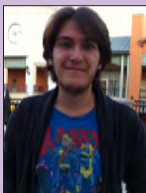
Shirley Jones, who was as much of a delight during the pre-film interview as she was in the film, stuns viewers during her short time on the big screen. Her work as a vengeful prostitute was brave and risqué for the times; the scene where she tells her brothel sisters of a sexual encounter with Gantry was enough to lock her in for the Oscar she won.

Jean Simmons catches attention within minutes of her first appearance in her role as Sharon Falconer by emitting the purest of auras in her character’s naive and religious ways.

Arthur Kennedy plays Jim, the investigative reporter who provides a voice of reason and compassion in a world full of corruption and conflict.

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COLUMNIST



JUAN BARQUIN

EDIBLE INFO

The perfect place to get a late night meal in Brickell

Packed with bars, lounges and other places that are hard to categorize, Brickell is growing into a robust alternative to the South Beach scene. Nothing helps ease a tough day like cold drinks,

COLUMNIST



RENE GONZALEZ

which would explain why Brickell sees a lot of me during testing weeks. There are plenty of places to help you maintain the liquid diet, but what about when the night is over? Your stomach is looking at your kidneys, picturing them next to a side of fava beans and a nice Chianti. Time to eat, but there is a problem: it is long past happy hour and the kitchen is closed. Not to worry — just a few blocks down lies a tasty solution that can be healthy if you control yourself.

La Baguette is a place I frequented when it opened in late 2010. I have a friend who works in the area, so it was the default “let’s meet for lunch” spot. Since then, they have added tons of stuff to the menu. Hot dogs, burgers, smoothies and an array of sandwiches round out a very extensive menu for a place that is open 24 hours.

Now, they offer delivery; from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. you can call in and place your order. I would not recommend it, though. They are notoriously understaffed with about two to three people helping out in the front and the cook in the back. Naturally, this situation will turn into long periods



LEFT: Out of all the food choices on La Baguettes menu, the sandwiches are a popular choice for late night eaters. RIGHT: Fully loaded hot dogs can also be found at this joint.



RENE GONZALEZ/THE BEACON

of waiting for any type of service. All is well since they counter that with great quality food and free parking. I recommend trying the prosciutto and mozzarella on your first visit. The prices are more consumer-friendly than you might expect for a place near Brickell; the sandwiches range from \$6 to \$8. As I was waiting for my entree, I put in an order for the salchipapas, an appetizer that consists of sausage over curly fries. These are definitely a good way to help

kill time as you wait for your entree and it will be the best \$4.75 you spend there. Soon after, I started my Wi-Fi hunt. On the menu, you can find the Facebook and Twitter icons. Considering their totally free Wi-Fi (no need to sign up), I immediately “liked” their page and tweeted that I was there working on my figure. I decided to try one of their new menu items, a Hawaiian-inspired hot dog brilliantly named “The Hawaiiano,” a beef frank topped with house sauces, a pine-

apple glaze and those prolific potato sticks. I really got to figure out what these house sauces are made of because they are delicious. Growing up in the northeast, hot dog toppings are traditionally mustard, sauerkraut, cooked onions and relish, so these novel toppings were a welcomed sweet variant for just \$5.49. My food actually came out in good time and the guy helping me out was a rather funny character. For not much more than standard street corner food, you get more care, taste and better portions at La Baguette. My appetizer, hot dog and cold beverage of choice totaled around \$20, so if you are not like me and become a “hungry, hungry hippo” at the table, you can eat a decent late night meal for around \$10.

Rene Gonzalez is a musician and writer. He spends his weekends searching for a new spot to get some late night bites.

La Baguette

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The rise of iPhoneography

INSTAGRAM, PAGE 5

Oftentimes, cell phone photos can capture smaller, intimate moments in a photographer’s life that can be overlooked by the lens of a more traditional camera. Applicants were asked to submit up to three photos for the show. The submissions were accepted from anyone who took a picture with their cell phone—photographers or not. “In order to be honest with the iPhoneography movement (since nowadays everyone is taking pictures with their phones), everyone who applied was accepted. That was our sincere approach: the good next to the not so good, next to the conceptual, next to the landscape, next to the artistic, next to the quotidian,” said Elaine Minionis, a gallerist. The aim of the show is to mimic an Instagram feed; the viewer walks through

the gallery and, instead of scrolling, a number of images are taken to communicate something, or nothing. “Many of them aren’t necessarily artists or photographers. That’s the fascinating thing of taking images with mobile phones; it can really expand you at some point, and you don’t have to be this or that to take a wonderful picture,” said Minionis. Cell phone photography, whether it has been edited to look older or is grainy and rustic on its own, offers a different perspective. If the image was calculated by the artist, it doesn’t matter which camera he used, whether it was a Nikon or an iPhone. The images have flooded social media, which may lead artists and critics to dismiss many if not most of them, but they are still undeniably art. Additional reporting by Alexia Escalante and Sana Ullah.

Satire key in Brook’s film

GANTRY, PAGE 5

Due to the limitations placed upon filmmakers in the 1950s and 1960s, Richard Brooks’ film raises critical commentary on Christian revival meetings from the 1920s in blatant, yet subtle, ways. Rather than showcasing nudity, explicit language and extreme violence like many of today’s films, it addresses such controversy through satire. Sinclair Lewis’ satirical novel of the same title is

adapted for screen in the best of ways; it presents humanity in all its beauty and ugliness. It shows religion as a double-edged sword— one that can provide a helping hand for those in need while leading the most devout souls to disaster. Whether or not you were able to attend TCM’s screening of “Elmer Gantry” at the Olympia Theater, you can always keep track of future showings on TCM or watch them on DVD. If you’re lucky enough to have TCM available, you can experience a few other films directed by Richard Brooks, such as “Take the High Ground” on March 28, “Lord Jim” on April 12 and “Cat On A Hot Tin Roof” on April 26.” The Last Time I Saw Paris” and “The Happy Ending,” which also features Jean Simmons, are now available to watch on Netflix. Reel to Reel is a weekly film review column. Juan Barquin was an intern for the Miami International Film Festival.



Barry Law students (L-R) Brian Kozlowski, Leanne Palmer, John Berry

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KONY 2012 activists mislead by inaccurate video

PAOLO RAMOS
Staff Writer
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The recent phenomenon of the Kony 2012 campaign by the interest group Invisible Children has exhibited the enormous utility of the Internet as a mass medium for the dissemination of information, or, in the case of Kony 2012, misinformation.

The campaign, heralded by the 30-minute video produced by Invisible Children co-founder Jason Russell, is an attempt to educate viewers on the injustices committed by Joseph Kony, the head of a Ugandan guerrilla group known as the Lord's Resistance Army, which seeks to mold the Ugandan government according to its theocratic beliefs.

The investment of Invisible Children in this issue stems from the fact that the LRA recruited children as sex slaves and child soldiers in its activities.

The video, which was released on March 5, capitalizes on the devastation caused by Kony and the LRA in Uganda and serves as a call to action for people worldwide to increase awareness of the affairs of the Ugandan government and its people.

There is a commercial aspect to the video too. Invisible Children is advocating the purchase of items, such as bracelets and t-shirts, to spread the message, and to encourage viewers to

The video dramatically oversimplifies the issues concerned with Kony's movements, neglecting to mention that Kony has not had any significant impact in Uganda since 2006... and fails to mention the actual state of affairs in Uganda today.

donate to the cause.

The video also dramatically oversimplifies the issues concerned with Kony's movements, neglecting to mention that Kony has not had any significant impact in Uganda since 2006.

Kony is estimated to have less than 300 fighters, most of which are now located outside of Uganda in several regions of Central Africa.

The Kony 2012 campaign, though successful in the proliferation of its message, fails to mention the actual state of affairs in Uganda today.

The video uses footage from nearly a decade ago, when Kony was still active in Uganda.

As of today, Kony is of little rele-

vance to the political activity in the country.

In response to the Kony 2012 campaign, Ugandan Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi said, "Kony is not in Uganda. The country is not in conflict."

The Ugandan people have also expressed anger with the Kony 2012 campaign.

An article in *Al Jazeera* covered a public screening of the video. It was followed by negative reactions, particularly towards the lack of perspective from actual Ugandan people.

The most significant effect of the Kony 2012 campaign is the encouragement of "slacktivism" through its viral

marketing techniques.

The campaign utilized Youtube, Facebook and Twitter to perpetuate the message.

The spread of information through these portals calls for inevitable simplification, which should not be applied to situations occurring in Uganda.

By simplifying the details, the nearly 80 million viewers of the video are left with nothing but a gross generalization of the conflict.

Also, the usage of social networking has created a false sense of responsibility among the technological savvy younger generation.

By simply sharing the information through social media, people feel like they have done their duty when it simply isn't enough.

True activism requires careful consideration and full understanding of the issue.

Kony 2012 has shown that although the Internet has increased the flow of information, it does not have safeguards against inaccurate information.

What younger generations need to realize is that rarely can you ever get a full understanding of anything through social networking alone.

Objective analysis is a tool that seems to be at risk in the social networking age.

Everything online needs to be taken with a grain of salt, no matter how noble the cause.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SGA presidential hopeful feels wrongfully accused

To the Student Body,

I have been a member of the Student Government Association for the past two years. I joined this organization so that I could make a positive difference for the students of FIU. I was democratically elected as a College of Education Senator and this year as one of the At Large senators.

I have been involved in many areas of FIU including Relay For Life, Alternative Breaks, numerous Council for Student Organization clubs, and most recently, the very first political party open to all students at FIU, the Coalition of Students for Reform. And this is where problems start.

In an attempt to have me impeached from the office to which I was democratically elected, a grievance has been filed against me for an alleged code of ethics violation.

The basis of claim is essentially that I am a member of the CSR.

This was not an easy journey, as my initial entry into SGA was rejected as freshman intern. But I did not let that rejection stop me from being active in student life.

Likewise, this grievance will not deter me from doing what is right to achieve the SGA that we all deserve.

The grievance does not even attempt to hide its malice towards the CSR, which has done nothing illegal or wrong.

In fact, most of the grievance is pure accusation, holding no actual fact. It alleges that CSR meetings were nothing more than meetings to decide how I would vote in the Senate on matters affecting the student body.

To be clear, this is an outright lie. It is not illegal to have a philosophy on how to vote, nor is it a crime to consult with my constituency on how they think I should vote.

The CSR IS the student body.

I will not beat around the bush. This grievance is an obvious attempt to try and disqualify me from participating in the SGA elections.

More importantly, it is an attempt to denigrate my image and the student body's perception of me.

The CSR stands for change in SGA, and there are those in SGA who fear change, as it would mean an

end to business as usual.

Had more CSR members been listed on the CSR website, the baseless grievance filed against me and fellow Senator Carlos Rodriguez would have included more names for impeachment proceedings.

Currently there is a witch hunt going on in SGA, and CSR members are the target.

I implore the student body to pay very close attention to upcoming SGA elections. Do your research on who you are voting for.

Decide for yourself who you want representing you. The candidates you elect will be the ones who will determine the course of our government for the next year.

You have a choice between those who would resort to dirty politics using SGA's time and resources for outright political persecution, or those who strove to bring you a better SGA and a better FIU.

-Samir Kiran Patel
2012 SGA Presidential Candidate

To read the Writ, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/6sskqka>



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FACILITIES

Renovations hope to create a more lively experience

JONATHAN RAMOS

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The architectural designs for the renovation of the Wolfe University Center have been finalized. The project's commencement is pending the approval of the activity and services fee money allocations for the 2012-13 fiscal year by the Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Rosa Jones.

Following focus group discussions with student leaders at Biscayne Bay Campus and an evaluation of the facility by architecture firm MC & Harry Associates Inc., Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus Speaker of the Senate Pablo Haspel divulged the three-phase plan to renovate the facility.

It will include replacing the floor with blue tiles and adding glass balconies on the second and third floors. SGC-BBC and WUC Senior Director Greg Olson collaborated on creating the outlook.

"I'm extremely excited for what will possibly turn out to be the vision," Haspel said.

"The vision" also includes a new



PHOTO COURTESY OF MC & HARRY ASSOCIATES INC.

student lounge where the current computer lab is located in WUC 200, similar to the game room that was opened in Fall 2011 in WUC 222. The computer lab would be relocated.

According to Haspel, the students desired more lounge space on campus. In addition, a structure will be added to the Panther Square similar to the "Pit" in the Graham Center at Modesto Maidique Campus. Haspel said the upgrades will help create more of a "panther spirit."

However, plans didn't always exist to renovate the entire facility.

During 2011 budget allocations, money was allocated to replace the tiles in the building. But Haspel said that plan was shortsighted.

"We came to the conclusion that it was kind of illogical to replace the tiles without thinking of the building as a whole," he said. "If you would have started to replace tiles then you have to start changing other elements of the building."

The funds for Phase one were allocated during the Spring of 2011, when \$259,000 were supposed to be used to replace the tiles and upgrade the Mary Anne Wolfe Theatre before

renovation plans. The funding for Phase two of the project is awaiting Jones' approval of the 2012-2013 A&S budget for an additional \$250,000.

Haspel said the funding for Phase three is expected next year.

The plan will be completely funded by activity and services fees, given the building's standing as a student-funded facility.

Former SGC-BBC President Sholom Neistein feels that it is a good use of A&S fees and the change is needed.

"When I was president, that was one of my main priorities, to change that tile up there, because there was plenty of people that were complaining, especially women, who had heels tripping over because there is an uneven structure on the tiles," Neistein said. "It was also hard for the custodial workers. I think it is a very good use of it. One, for aesthetic reasons, and two, it also has to do with the functionality of the whole building."

Lordana Guillaume, a sophomore health services administration major, feels that the campus experience will

improve with renovations.

"I feel like the renovations would be positive for BBC," Guillaume said. "Maybe with the addition of the renovations people will feel more motivated to participate more when they have events at the [Panther Square]."

Guillaume added that Panther Square could use the added appeal.

"It's a square. It's not much," she said. "It's a TV in a square with a couch. It's awkwardly positioned. If I want to sit and relax I usually don't pick there."

Ned Chandler, a sophomore art major, isn't sure a new structure in Panther Square is the answer to the lack of student life.

"I do feel that we are missing something that the other campus has, but I don't think that building up a 'pit' would bring it to this campus," Chandler said.

According to Haspel the process would take two to three years. There could also be delays in the project if a roadblock occurs, which Haspel says they are anticipating. Olson chose not to comment until the deliberations were approved.

JUDICIAL REVIEWS

Court demands elections board to 'read the statutes first'

JONATHAN SZYDLO

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On March 21, the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus Supreme Court met to rule on two cases, but were only able to move forward with a decision on one of the grievances submitted due to the court's inability to follow procedure.

The court first heard the case that presidential hopeful Pablo Haspel brought up against the SGC-BBC Elections Board March 7 decision as being in violation of the SGC-BBC Elections Code.

"What [Oluwatobi] Adekoya had asked for was in the interest of the

student body," said Fu Zhou Wu, SGC-BBC elections board member, in reference to the Election Board's decision to allow Adekoya to drop Haspel as his running mate and create his own presidential ticket. "Since we live in a capitalist society, competition would always lead to progress. [Our decision] would give students the opportunity to elect who they want to elect and not have to make due [with a single candidate]."

The SGC-BBC Supreme Court ruled against the SGC-BBC Elections Board.

"The court has found the elections board in violation of 706.06 Subsection XII, and will not recognize the split ticket," said Martha Ochoa, SGC-BBC Supreme Court Chief Justice in her

The court has found the elections board in violation of 703.06 subsection XII, and will not recognize the split ticket.

Martha Ochoa

SGC-BBC Supreme Court Chief Justice

ruling. "If we don't follow our statutes then no one else will. Before the elections board makes any more decisions, read the statutes first."

As a result, all positions in the 2012 SGC-BBC elections will be

uncontested.

The court then began hearing procedures on a petition for legal review filed by Adekoya contesting Haspel's eligibility to run for president.

The court decided to hear the case

on March 19. The petition was officially filed on March 21, the same day as the hearing.

"So you want me to prepare my defense in five minutes?" Haspel asked the court after being handed the official petition that was filed against him that same morning.

Along with the petition being filed on the day of the hearing, Adekoya, the accuser, was not present.

The SGC-BBC Supreme Court scheduled to reconvene on March 26 at 8 p.m. to hear the petition filed by Adekoya. If the court rules in favor of Adekoya, it will disqualify Haspel as a presidential candidate and allow Adekoya to run for SGC-BBC president by default.

THE ARTS

Alumna portrays her roots using bold techniques

CHRISTIAN PORTILLA

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Whether it's dipping a brush into paint, using a palette knife or wood burning, Katey Penner is a local artist infusing her Miami roots and love for music with artistic endeavors.

According to Penner, with the exception of a couple of marketing classes, there was rarely ever a dull moment during her education at the University. Penner worked while she was in school, but always made sure to put time into the pool since she

mostly attended Biscayne Bay Campus.

Penner majored in Marketing and enjoyed a colorful education from "some sharp and amazing advertising, marketing, public relations, and journalism professionals." According to Penner, she learned a lot about working with groups, creating good group dynamics, and resolving bad ones.

Using her bold colored technique, she brings to life artists such as Celia Cruz and puts one into the middle of a tropical landscape. Projects reflect her inspiration from living in

South Florida, the colors and the portraits she paints all being representatives of her home town.

The FIU alumna recognized her passion for art at a young age.

"I loved all my required art classes growing up," Penner said. "My work was often singled out during art classes when I was young, so I knew I had some artistic talent, and I knew I loved it because I spent so much of my spare time drawing."

Music is another influence to Penner's art.

"I have no musical talent at

all and can't carry a tune to save my life, so I express my love [for] music by trying to paint it through my musician series," she said. "People inspire me. I first started painting portraits of people that were close to me: family, friends. Now I also paint actors and musicians that I like and respect."

Penner also makes sure to stay involved with the community and attend art shows showcasing her paintings. Recently, the artist was at the Carnival on the Mile art festival. She is also heavily involved with Viernes Culturales, the Calle 8 Hispanic

version of Art Walk.

Moving forward, the artist would like to explore different techniques from what she usually paints. Sculpture is a medium which she has not tapped into yet. Also, she would like to revamp her landscape series using the same bold colors but using only palette knives, unlike her usual style with a brush in hand.

In one of her paintings, Passion of Tango, the artist manages to translate the "gaze" of a couple dancing tango onto the canvas effortlessly. The couple in the painting is Jeri-

miah and Mariel. The actual couple still dance for a company out of Miami.

"I saw them perform a few times a week for over a year and never failed to get goose bumps when I watched them dance," she said.

When asked about what is more important, the subject of her paintings or the way it was executed, Penner said, "Definitely how it was executed. I have been asked to paint many objects that don't seem extremely exciting but turn out to be pleased with a colorful new version of it that I created."