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College of Medicine gets official name

EDDITH SEVILLA
Asst. News Director

The FIU College of Medicine finally received a name amid great applause and fanfare during a meeting held by the Board of Trustees Sept. 29.

During a vote, the board agreed upon the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine at FIU as the new name. The decision was made in the Wolfe University Center’s Ballroom at the Biscayne Bay Campus. In attendance were guests, faculty and students, with 30 mock-up ads around the room set up to promote the college.

Other issues presented at the meeting included the proposal to develop a student support complex and an expanded football stadium, both on the University Park campus. However, the most highlighted proposal was the naming of the College of Medicine.

Armando Guerra, a board trustee, was asked by University President Modesto A. Maidique to make a nomination for the College’s name.

“I’m very honored and grateful for the opportunity afforded to present the motion to the board’s consideration,” Guerra said.

The college was named after Herbert Wertheim, a FIU board of trustees member and chairman of the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation. According to Guerra’s presentation, Wertheim has provided dynamic leadership to build FIU into a major research university.

Last year, Wertheim donated $20 million to the College of Medicine initiative, one of the largest contributions in the University’s history. This amount was eligible for a matching state grant, which raised the total to $40 million.

“I’m usually never lost for words, but this is truly one of the highlights of my life, being able to take the resources that my wife and I and my family have earned and redistribute them in a way that it will help other people to live a better life and to be able to help this university become all that it can be,” Wertheim said with tears in his eyes.

The Florida Board of Governors approved the College earlier this year. A national search for the College’s dean is currently underway. The first class is expected to be admitted in 2008.

Other significant proposals presented at the meeting were also passed.

Marcos Perez, vice president of external affairs, proposed the concept of a student support complex and an expanded stadium at UP to be developed in different phases.

“Currently, the stadium has 7500 permanent seats, and we spend quite a bit of money every year to bring in temporary bleachers in order to meet the minimum for stadium seatings,” Perez said during his address to the BOT. “This would expand the stadium to about 20,000 permanent seats, including some luxury suites and club seats.”

Perez said phase one would be completed by 2008.

Phase two would be the construction of a student support complex composed of a welcome center for services such as registration, advising, financial aid and admissions. This project is expected to be completed by 2009, according to Perez.

Although the proposal was passed, Alex Zyne, associate vice president of real estate development, spoke about the financial aspects of the proposal and said the University was creating an FIU athletic finance corporation to accommodate the financing structure. The finances were not expected to exceed $3.5 million.

“I feel terrific,” Maidique told The Beacon after the meeting. “It was a great day for our University, a day in which we had the opportunity to recognize one of the most outstanding contributors and supporters of the University during its history.”

SGA delays changing constitution until Spring elections

CRISTELA GUERRA
BBC Managing Editor

Major changes to the Student Government Association’s constitution were delayed during a meeting of the SGA University Wide Council, a decision council members said would give students more time to understand what those modifications would entail.

SGA is broken into two councils, one for each campus. They come together at least once a month as the UWC, which is comprised of the presidents, vice presidents, commissioners, and speakers of the houses from both Student Government Councils. Their latest meeting was Sept. 29 at the Campus Life office in the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Although SGC-UP President Alfonso “Alfie” Leon mentioned on Sept. 27 that he was confident the changes would be ratified Sept. 29, a motion was passed to table the issue. This caused a possible student vote to be moved to the spring elections instead of the upcoming special election Oct. 7.

The vote was unanimous and Leon said the delay was for “the benefit of the student body.

“We can’t expect votes to vote on something when they’ve only had five seconds to review them. We want them to be informed, not deterred,” Leon said.

The constitution has conflicting information regarding approval of its changes. Article 9, Part B, number 7, says that the UWC can propose amendments by a 3/4 vote to later be ratified by a majority of student votes in the election. However, article 15 states that only a 2/3 vote is necessary by the UWC.

Leon said that the UP judicial board stayed up until midnight at their last meeting working on the constitution’s potential changes.

Some of these changes involve the vice-president’s position and specific duties required of him or her, specifically his or her participation in on-campus meetings and committees.

The vice president currently receives a vote on issues brought up to the house or representatives. This means the executive branch is involved in legislative duties such as voting on appropriations, bills and resolutions.

The constitution, though, mentions that a separation of powers enforced by the judicial board is supposed to exist.

Another potential change would make the population of undergraduates and graduate students in each campus determine the amount of each school or college’s representatives within a council.

At some point next semester before the vote takes place, students would potentially receive a summarized or abstract form of the constitution with the major changes highlighted. A website would show students the entire SGA constitution in its redeveloped format.

“We can be ready by January to have information sessions held in housing as well as town hall meetings to let the students have the opportunity to review the changes and provide input,” Leon said.

Another issue discussed was in reference to the judicial board affecting bylaws during the special elections. In addition to the constitution, each council is governed by separate bylaws that dictate duties specific to their campus.

“Each campus is different in its bylaws; it depends on each of our needs,” said SGC-BBC President Camilo Silva.

“We’ve already been updating bylaws specifically for the judicial board at BBC and hope to have them completed soon,” said Gabriel Labrador, speaker of the house for SGC-BBC.

The councils agreed that each campus has the right to their own set of bylaws regarding policy in their specific area, but a standard constitution should pertain to both.

Additional reporting by Angie Troff, Beacon Staff
Campus walk sheds light on safety

Dark. Desolate. Dangerous. For some students at University Park, that’s what the campus can become at night.

Director of Public Safety Bill L. King met with student representatives Sept. 27 to walk around UP and discuss students’ safety concerns.

Wolfgang Acevedo, the student services chair for the Student Government Council at UP, led the walk around campus, which started in the Housing Quad at 7 p.m. He was joined by SGC-UP President Alfonso “Alfie” Leon and a handful of students.

The meeting was scheduled at night so that King could see first hand why they believe the campus is unsafe after dark, Leon said.

“The main concern is insufficient lighting,” Acevedo said.

He suggested more lighting be added, especially throughout the Housing Quad and on the path to the Recreation Center.

“If we could have the same lighting that was installed around Lakeview throughout campus it would be great,” Leon said.

The bulbs in the new light posts that surround the Lakeview housing building are whiter and brighter than bulbs used elsewhere on campus.

Almost all the light posts give off a yellowish and dim light. Some of the lights, such as the ones behind the Ryder Business building, don’t turn on at all and others turn on hours after darkness falls.

“Lighting doesn’t really fall under Public Safety, but at the same time, those poorly lit areas are of concern as far as patrolling,” King said.

He encouraged Acevedo to contact the facilities operations and maintenance department to discuss those issues.

Walking past the nature preserve behind the baseball stadium, Acevedo also addressed the wild dogs that often roam the campus and seem to be living in the preserve.

“We are concerned about someone getting bit,” King said. “But there are also students and faculty feeding them.”

King said they were looking into fencing off that area, leaving only limited access.

Throughout the walk, Acevedo also tested a few emergency call boxes to make sure they were in working condition. Although they were all functional, King said the call boxes are hardly ever used.

“Call boxes are fine,” he said. “But almost everyone has a cell phone and that is going to be closer to you than any call box.”

Acevedo also mentioned the lack of security in Lot Six and said there have been several reports of cars being broken into.

“We have made some arrests of people who are not students coming on campus and messing with cars,” King said. “But our statistics are not showing the same numbers of cars being broken into.”

He said the explanation for that is idle talk. If one person’s car window is broken and he tells two people, then those two people tell others. Soon, 10 people are talking about it, and it’s not that 10 cars were broken into, but that they’re all talking about the same car, King said.

“Don’t leave items in cars in plain sight,” King said. “And if you have a car that’s been broken into, come to us and report it.”

University of Miami Cosmetic Center*

is announcing a research study to test whether an investigational treatment improves mild to severe acne in adults ages 18 to 39.

For more information call the research staff at (305) 531-5788

*The University of Miami Cosmetic Center is located at Miami Heart Institute
4701 N. Meridian Ave., Nichol Building, Suite 7450
Miami Beach, FL 33140

**KORREKTIONEN**

In the issue dated Sept. 28, 2006, the editorial incorrectly mentioned a possible Metrorail station at 107th St. The correct address was 107th Ave.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.
Cuba expert addresses island’s political future

CHRISTOPHER LAZAGA
Contributing Writer

Is a free Cuba feasible or possible at all? Frank O. Mora, professor of international studies at Rhodes College, is not very optimistic.

Mora spoke on behalf of “Between Fidel and Raul,” a lecture sponsored by the Cuban Research Institute addressing the future of Cuba at the end of Fidel Castro’s leadership. Mora opened his presentation with remarks on the Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba released by the U.S. government in July 2006.

His argument is that the CAFCE report is fundamentally flawed.

The report assumes a crucial dynamic required for a movement toward democracy exists. According to Mora, it exists at an insufficient level.

In the 50s, Fidel Castro led a small group of rebels against Cuban president Fulgencio Batista. Castro and his rebels, calling themselves Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias (Revolutionary Armed Forces), succeeded in overthrowing Batista’s regime. Following Castro’s revolution, Cuba turned into a totalitarian government.

Mora believes Castro’s regime drastically changed after the fall of the Soviet Union.

“Castro dubbed this time span the Special Period,” Mora said. “To ensure that his reign over Cuba continued undisturbed, he tightened his hold by re-mobilizing the FAR to take care of most operations: civil, economic and military.”

The result was a small elite class made up of military officers and government members, many of whom fought alongside Castro during the revolution. An overwhelmingly large lower class made up of the rest.

“The crucial dynamic for change in Cuba is the strength of civil society force versus the strength and degree of cohesiveness of the regime,” Mora said.

In order for change to occur, there must be sufficient cracks and fissures within the government in power, he said.

“These cracks manifest themselves as unrest among government or military officials or defections of those in power to the opposing force,” Mora said. This, coupled with a strong civil society with a true yearning for democracy, is essentially the recipe for change.

The key is for unrest among those in power to give space for the people to mobilize against them.

Unfortunately for Cubans, in the eve of Castro’s life, his regime remains strongly united and the people remain collectively weak and oppressed, according to Mora.

An advantage is that Castro’s successor and younger brother Raúl Castro cannot rule like the dictator; he lacks the charisma and general pull of the revolution’s originator. Raul’s form of leadership must therefore be different.

Mora said the younger Castro can choose one of two paths: he can respond to the people’s needs to obtain favor or he can further oppress them to prevent any sort of uprising. Either way, he won’t have much time.

“Raul Castro will not remain in power for long. He is very old. So are the rulers. He won’t have much time,” Mora said. “Raul Castro will not remain in power for long. He is very old. So are the rest of those who fought in the revolution fifty years ago,” Mora said.

Professor among finalists for award

BEN BADGER JR.
Staff Writer

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars has announced their top 10 finalists for their Faculty of the Year Award and FIU’s Marcia Magnus, an associate professor of dietetics and nutrition, is among the top 10.

The NSCS is an honors organization based in Washington D.C. that, according to its web site at NSCS.org, recognizes first and second-year students for outstanding academic achievement.

The faculty of the year program was first introduced in 2004.

The winner receives a $1000 stipend and $5000 donated in his or her name to a scholarship fund for his or her university.

Magnus was one of a thousand professors nominated for the award.

“I was nominated anonymously by a student,” Magnus said. “So there is no way for me to know who nominated me. But I was delighted when I found out I reached the top 10.”

Magnus was notified Sept. 20 that she was in the top 10, but when she was first told she had made the initial group of 1000 nominees, she reacted in a unique way.

“I had never heard of the group before, so I threw the documents they sent me away.”

Magnus, page 4

THE JET PROGRAM - CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

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Nutrition professor nominated for faculty award

MAGNUS, page 3

SO YOU KNOW

Ongoing Research Projects at FIU

Luis Salas
Center for Administration of Justice

Yi Deng
School of Computing and Information Science “CREST: Center for Emerging Technologies for Advanced Information Processing and High-Confidence Systems” Awarded by: National Science Foundation May 2003 – July 2008 $9,288,600

Michael McClain

GEOFFREY ANDERSON JR.
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA

COPY EDITOR

BBC ASSISTANT

ASST. NEWS DIRECTOR

PHOTO EDITOR

OPINION EDITOR

EDITOR IN CHIEF

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Alfonso “Alfi e” Leon)

• Five representative positions open for October elections:
  SGC paid for new DJ equipment for improved sound quality
  no longer have to pay for room reservations or Audio/Visual
  Student organizations funded by Activity & Service fees will

• Absences: Rolie Marcet, Architecture Rep. (third absence), Shavonna McNair, Graduate Rep., Arthur Al Meyer, Rep.-at-Large


- Compiled by Angelina Troff, Beacon Staff

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First students admitted to China campus

MEKALA AUDAIN
Contributing Writer

At the end of August 2006, FIU students began the Fall semester, including FIU's students in China. As of this past summer, FIU’s Hospitality and Tourism Management Center now has a campus in Tianjin, China.

Although Miami is halfway around the world, the Chinese government invited FIU to build a university in its country nearly two years ago. The government stated it wanted to do this to modernize its tourism and hospitality facilities – not only to accommodate tourists who have Western standards, but also to prepare for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing and its increasing tourist appeal.

“[China’s] going to be the number one tourist destination,” said hospitality and tourism management major Shaneel Sibblies.

FIU’s presence will prove to be an advantage to students. Attending FIU in China allows Chinese students to obtain an American university education.

“We take the school there, instead of them coming here,” said Associate Dean Lee Dickson, who recently returned from his new center.

Despite China’s Communist government, both Qureshi and Dickson assured that it is safe for American students to attend.

“I would feel safe because it’s directly affiliated with FIU,” said Zoraida Suarez, a hospitality and tourism management master’s program student. Although this center is new, FIU plans to expand programs to other countries in the future. However, there are no concrete plans at this time.

Right now, the primary focus is getting the program exposure in China and Asia.

Anyone interested in the program can visit their website at http://hospitality.fiuf.edu/tianjin.htm.

SJMC faculty noted how happy they were with the students coming to China, all of the students are of the same age group and do not have after-school jobs. In addition, because its dorm can hold 1,000 students, all of its current 313 students live on campus.

Although the school was officially inaugurated Sept. 15, only one class, Beverage Management, was available to the students over the past summer.

Mohammad Qureshi, adjunct hospitality and tourism management professor and food lab manager, taught this class for three weeks over the summer to 38 juniors.

“I felt more like a pioneer because I was the first teacher from FIU to teach here,” Qureshi said.

Qureshi also said that the students had learned English from Scott Kass, the Reader Services Department head at the BBC Library and hospitality and tourism management professor, and that the over-all test scores were satisfactory.

According to Kass, this education will not only serve as a benefit to graduating students but to the students over the past summer.

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Institute offers lifelong learning

EDDITH SEVILLA
Asst. News Director

Before Dorothy Harris retired last November from her position as a business manager in a neurosurgeon’s office, she could understand some Spanish but could not speak the language. After retiring, though, she began speaking the language. After some Spanish but could not understand her position as a business accountant for The Sports Authority Company who is now retired, decided to take the “Basic Spanish” class to help prepare for her upcoming trip to Mexico.

“We’re going to be going to Mexico and it would be nice to be able to negotiate a little bit and to know what’s going on,” Dimaio said. Other students such as Minerva Andino, a nursing assistant who retired a year ago, decided take the “E-mail Skills and Internet” course to get up-to-date with the ever changing technology.

“I’m learning e-mail and Internet to get busy and do something constructive, you know. That’s really what it is and I would like to learn the new technology before I die.” Andino said with a laugh.

Reaping the benefits from such programs comes at a price, but not a high one, especially if the student is a member of the institute.

“Students can become a member with a membership fee of $25 for the entire term between Oct. 30 and Dec. 15, including other workshops,” said Susan Jay, director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. She began operating as the Academy for Lifelong Learning and prior to that, it was known as the Elders’ Institute.

“When [the college of continuing and professional studies] took over the program, I changed the name from Elders’ Institute to Academy for Lifelong Learning. The participants were very happy about that because they certainly liked the idea of being part of a lifelong learning program much more than being part of an elders’ program,” Jay said.

“Our students don’t like any of the connotations that come with getting old and that’s why you really won’t find any courses in here that deal with aging.”

For more information, call 305-919-5910 or visit www.caps.fiu.edu/academy.

Our students don’t like any of the connotations that come with getting old and that’s why you really won’t find any courses in here that deal with aging.
New Fuels: All Hype, No Hydrogen

Politicians should focus on realistic alternatives, not fantasy cars

KRYSITAN MORENO Contributing Writer

Seldom do we associate the term “visionary” or “innovative” with the politicians who make up our government. In today’s world where sound bites, press releases, and photo opportunities are the bulk of what we hear out of Washington, we find very little dissonance on a theme like the hydrogen economy.

When going on the record about solutions for our current energy crisis, we hear politicians from all sides rave about the future role hydrogen will play in our society. Surely, the possibilities of hydrogen lead us into an entirely new world. But what if that world never arrives?

The idea of running our cars and powering our world on the universe’s most abundant resource can be captivating to the imagination. At this stage in the game the hydrogen economy has about as much chance of coming into fruition as do teleportation or flying cars.

You don’t hear the politicians shooing that from the hilltops. The energy politicians invest in creating hoopla about hydrogen would be put to better use by creating and implementing policies that bolster awareness and support for more promising alternative fuel sources such as cellulosic ethanol — a way of creating viable fuel from refuse — and hybrid cars.

Not only are there questions about the true environmental benefits of hydrogen — the vast majority of hydrogen production comes from natural gas and coal — but there are also serious questions as to the economic viability of creating, transporting and distributing it.

With today’s inadequate technology and high consumption rates hydrogen would be about four times as expensive as gasoline at the pump, untaxed, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Billions more will be needed to build the necessary distributing infrastructure.

There are cars on the road today that run on hydrogen, but creating a hydrogen powered car is only the tip of the iceberg. The real problem is finding a way to take oil out of the equation and replace it with hydrogen in a cost-effective, environmentally conscious manner that won’t make the whole system go boom.

The real problem does not lie in manufacturing an arche-type of a “green automobile,” it lies in getting that automobile into the hands of American drivers. It requires doing away with 100 years of infrastructure surrounding the internal combustion engine and replacing fuel stations, tanker trucks and even mechanics.

This won’t be easy.

To understand the scope of the changes involved in implementing the economy of the future, you must first understand the role played by fossil fuels in our current economy.

Everything we use in today’s world requires fossil fuels at some stage of production, especially where the transportation and energy sectors are involved.

No matter what your opinion of them, fossil fuels are an eco-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Excellence comes to those who ‘labor’

“Excellence therefore, is not an act but a habit.” Aristotle misquotations aside, it used to be that we studied in order to broaden our horizons, to challenge our preconceptions, and to get beyond the narrow confines of our present-day culture.

Some consider that unfair. Please, have some cheese with your whine!

Fortunately for the students at FIU, there’s an institution that actually defends the integrity of education. The Honors College at FIU may be accused of being “elitist,” but it is ludicrous to claim that they measure excellence through “really high GPA’s!”

We’re all pretty talented at spewing empty intellectual rhetoric. Honors students might agree that it’s a necessity. Yet, however eloquent it may be, it’s never fared well when standing up to hard facts.

The facts are that the Honors College, as well as its faculty and staff, tirelessly promote six separate skills in their students: interdisciplinary knowledge, strong analytical skills, engagement in research collaborations, mentoring and internship experiences, responsible civic engagement, and an appreciation for the individual person.

Most importantly, they succeed in fostering a sense of community among the students as individuals with unique talents and responsibilities to the self, the community and society.

The Honors College accomplishes all six aims with excellence, in every sense of the word. You can’t beat that, brotha!

Furthermore, the vast majority of Honors College students work part time, get involved in extracurricular activities, and still find time for their family, friends, and community! Despite all this, they maintain at least a 3.3 GPA — I think their ability to keep their priorities straight is what’s really excellent, impressive and praiseworthy.

An even deeper truth is that the Honors College not only cares for our success, but also does everything it can to guarantee it. This includes fighting so you can keep your scholarship, awarding you with a computer so you can do your schoolwork, or distinguishing you for your superior talents.

Knowledge and integrity are indispensable to a successful future.

The Greeks got it right in believing that “every man a man, every woman a woman, every person a person, but naught without labor.”

The Honors College believes students are capable of achieving excellence. It just takes a little labor.

Rocio Perez
SGA Honors College Representative Junior

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Letters to the Editor must be dropped off in GC 210 at University Park, WUC 124 at the Biscayne Bay Campus or sent to beaconopinion@yahoo.com. Letters must include the writer’s full name, year in school, major/department and a valid phone number for verification purposes. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 300 words.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? Would you attend an FIU home football game to win a free ticket to the FIU-UM match?

• Yes — I like to attend FIU home games anyway.

  33%

• Yes — I’d do anything for “Canes tickets.”

  20%

• No — Nah, I’m not the football type.

  47%

Total participants: 49

Cast your vote at www.beaconnewspaper.com
Under the Radar:
The Women’s Center

Helping women recognize their potential

GEORGE ANDERSON JR.
Asst. Life Editor

If you’ve walked through the Campus Life hallway on the Graham Center’s second floor and been distracted by the large number of flyers posted on the bulletin boards, then you might have missed the Women’s Center.

Financially supported by the Student Government Association, the Women’s Center is intended to create awareness of issues affecting women while developing women’s potential.

The center does this by offering several services and programs. According to Suzanne Onorato, associate director of the Women’s Center, the Mentoring Partnerships Program and the Wild Succulent Women forum are among the center’s notable programs.

The mentoring program, done in partnership with the Office of Alumni Relations, encourages students’ growth in certain aspects of their lives by pairing them up with a FIU staff member or alumna.

“The mentoring program... builds a community of mentor-
It’s where barefoot hippies meet Burberry-clad yuppies, biker babes hang with beach bums and haute cuisine is served with a side of bluegrass.

For years, this one-time general store and current Picolo’s Restaurant and Red Bar have anchored the Florida Panhandle artists’ enclave and celebrity hideaway of Grayton Beach.

The Red Bar is best known for its crab cakes – a recipe perfected by Belgian-born chef and co-owner Oliver Petit – its funky decor and its live music.

“People have been attracted to this area for years – artists, musicians, cooks. It was the place in the Panhandle where a band could come and do something besides covers. And this building was the center of that, it is one of the oldest buildings in the county,” said Kyle Ogle, guitarist for the popular bluegrass band Dread Clampitt, a favorite at The Red Bar.

Petit, who has co-owned the establishment with brother Phillipe for 11 years, said the decor is modeled from a night club their father once owned in Liege, Belgium. He calls the look his “tribute to pop culture.”

The ceiling of the Red Bar’s small main dining room is covered in foreign film posters and red Christmas lights adorn its walls. A silver disco ball and crystal chandeliers add light along with an illuminated plastic Santa Claus. A collection of random street signs, black and white photos, statuettes and an antique cash register add to the eclectic look.

Mismatched tables and chairs are tightly packed on the worn wood floors.

Sheryl Crow and former fiancé Lance Armstrong are “friends of the restaurant,” as well as NFL quarterbacks Peyton and Eli Manning, Petit said. Willie Nelson has hung out at The Red Bar and pop star Steve Winwood told a record producer friend about Dread Clampitt after hearing them perform there.

Petit said Dread Clampitt’s take on traditional bluegrass stylings and the band’s original songs have been a huge hit at her festival, which marks its 10th anniversary Oct. 19-22.

“I think seeing them play at the Red Bar is like seeing them play in your living room because it is so relaxed,” she said. “I love their songs, their music, it’s happy music, it makes everyone want to get up and dance.”

Band members Ogle and Balder W.P. Saunders grew up in the area. Their songs often pay tribute to their Panhandle roots with lyrics about the ban on commercial net fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi tourists and the beauty of the white sands and turquoise waters of this region.

“Grayton Beach is like a diamond in the rough,” Saunders said.
Think boldly.
Act decisively.
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**MUSIC**

**The Scissor Sisters – Ta-Dah!**

**BOBBY JOE BRACY  
Copy Editor**

The Scissor Sisters return to profitable prominence with the glitzy pop of their sophomore album, Ta-Dah! This five-piece group, named after a lesbian sex position can be trusted to make infectious pop music, if not tortillas. In the UK, where the group has been more warmly received than its US counterparts, the group put on a free concert in Trafalgar Square to promote the album — people danced and cavorted happily in the public fountains with the fiery swagger of the like “Ghost” and “I Wanna Go and synthesizer. Slower tracks, instruments like the tambourine around two and a half minutes, the next, refraining from soundlessly moving from one track to another, such as “Gone” bring Jett’s early work into the very landscape, which makes exploring the world of Loco Roco an enjoyable experience. The soundtrack complements the atmosphere even further with a unique vibe that is as cheerful and childlike as the Locos who provide vocals throughout the score in their own language. It’s great to see more original titles like this one finding a place in the current market.

With the advent of the next-generation systems, some can easily overlook portable systems, where we have seen many new, unique and innovative titles. Loco Roco continues this push toward using simplicity to create an experience that is enjoyable for anyone.

**The Ettes – Shake the Dust**

**SAMANTHA QUINON  
Staff Writer**

Blending Nancy Sinatra style with the fiery swagger of the Stooges, the Ettes are the latest band to hit garage punk. This five-piece group, named after a lesbian sex position can be trusted to make infectious pop music, if not tortillas. In the UK, where the group has been more warmly received than its US counterparts, the group put on a free concert in Trafalgar Square to promote the album — people danced and cavorted happily in the public fountains with the fiery swagger of the like “Ghost” and “I Wanna Go and synthesizer. Slower tracks, instruments like the tambourine around two and a half minutes, the next, refraining from soundlessly moving from one track to another, such as “Gone” bring Jett’s early work into the very landscape, which makes exploring the world of Loco Roco an enjoyable experience. The soundtrack complements the atmosphere even further with a unique vibe that is as cheerful and childlike as the Locos who provide vocals throughout the score in their own language. It’s great to see more original titles like this one finding a place in the current market.

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The Ettes are a prime example of the lyrical flair that can be found on this album. It’s hard to classify the Scissor Sisters, and that is a big part of their charm. Thus, labeling them as “gay music” (even though Shears is an out musician) is both unfair and inaccurate. Good music should be fun and exciting – and what’s more fun than a surprise?

The Scissor Sisters know this, the songs reflect that philosophy, and they have produced an album that won’t fail to surprise or amuse. The music is fresh and exciting because it’s contrary to what people will expect – that’s a great theme for a band that has been wrongly judged before.

If that somehow makes them “gay,” then I guess we all better throw on a feather boa and some body glitter – this album will get you to dance, even if you don’t feel like it. Surprise, surprise: great music doesn’t need a name or label.

**GAME**

**Loco Roco**

**LUIS H. GARCIA  
Staff Writer**

The PSP has been seeing an emergence in quirky titles as of late, such as *Mr. Exit and Me* and *My Kamisama*, the portable spin-off to the PS2 hit. *Loco Roco* is the latest title in this trend to offer simple and enjoyable gameplay with an original, colorful atmosphere.

You collect fruits and berries for points while avoiding obstacles like the Moja. Within various environments, you’ll see many new, unique and innovative titles. Loco Roco continues this push toward using simplicity to create an experience that is enjoyable for anyone.

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Loco Roco continue...
Looking smart despite the reality

More often than not, the most important tool for looking more intelligent than you actually are is your appearance. Luminous skin, jewel-encrusted glasses and a tight perm are just the tip of the iceberg for people trying to look smarter than they are. And usually they aren’t too far off. People tend to judge your worthiness based on a plethora of factors beyond your actual knowledge. It’s too often that we will see one person, and evaluate them based on their appearance instead of their actual intelligence (which makes your charm look like the twin that survived).

Therefore, in order to get through these difficult social situations, you have to lie. Well, if you don’t like lying, you have to “play pretend” that you’re actually smart. If you don’t, you’ll never get a date with that bookish raven-haired hottie from Starbucks (call me).

THE LOOK

The proper “smart” costume can overcompensate if you’re shy, mute or have a voice like Gilbert Gottfried (I’d prefer to be mute). Start with anything ironed. Smart people love starched shirts. You can also add flair with maybe a blazer or anything corduroy and you’ll look like you came straight from the cover of an Ivy League school’s catalog.

Another option is to wear an item of clothing from another culture. You can show up to a party in a kilt — because when you don’t, some basis of knowledge will have with the air of an expert, especially in a group of people in the know, who you need to have some basis of knowledge — because when you don’t, you look like a jerk.

As an example, I’ll tell you the true tale of a co-worker (unlike the usual web worker, in the usual rundown of lies I spin for you each week). We had an employee here at The Beacon (let’s call her Lady Ladyson) who would often make it a point to mention how well read she was. One of us became wise to this deception and one day, in the usual rundown of conversation of what books we’ve read, he mentions “the Necronomicon.” This co-worker then goes off on a tangent about how illuminated she was by this book. Now, for those of you who don’t know, this “Necronomicon” is a non-existent book containing occult tidbits in the horror short stories of H.P. Lovecraft. We had an employee here at The Beacon (let’s call her Lady Ladyson) who would often make it a point to mention how well read she was. One of us became wise to this deception and one day, in the usual rundown of conversation of what books we’ve read, he mentions “the Necronomicon.” This co-worker then goes off on a tangent about how illuminated she was by this book. Now, for those of you who don’t know, this “Necronomicon” is a nonexistent book containing occult tidbits in the horror short stories of H.P. Lovecraft.

THE TALK

Smart people don’t necessarily have a swagger, but they carry themselves with confidence that says, “I know the capital of French Guiana.” In any case, you have to walk like you have a purpose. If you furrow your brow while you walk, people will think you’re contemplating the world’s problems. Don’t look too occupied, though; people will think you have an intestinal problem to solve.

The capital’s Cayenne, get the point. I didn’t know either.

THE WALK

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The capital’s Cayenne, get the point. I didn’t know either.

THE TALK

The most important part of feigning intelligence is to gauge when to open your fat mouth. Since smarites are usually choosy with their words, you should cap yourself about three interjections a conversation. Make them vague, but have some basis of knowledge — because when you don’t, you look like a jerk.

As an example, I’ll tell you the true tale of a co-worker (unlike the usual web worker, in the usual rundown of lies I spin for you each week). We had an employee here at The Beacon (let’s call her Lady Ladyson) who would often make it a point to mention how well read she was. One of us became wise to this deception and one day, in the usual rundown of conversation of what books we’ve read, he mentions “the Necronomicon.” This co-worker then goes off on a tangent about how illuminated she was by this book. Now, for those of you who don’t know, this “Necronomicon” is a nonexistent book containing occult tidbits in the horror short stories of H.P. Lovecraft.

THE BACKFIRE

Sometimes trying to look smart can completely backfire on you. When talking with the air of an expert, especially in a group of people in the know, you need to have some basis of knowledge — because when you don’t, you look like a jerk.

As an example, I’ll tell you the true tale of a co-worker (unlike the usual web worker, in the usual rundown of lies I spin for you each week). We had an employee here at The Beacon (let’s call her Lady Ladyson) who would often make it a point to mention how well read she was. One of us became wise to this deception and one day, in the usual rundown of conversation of what books we’ve read, he mentions “the Necronomicon.” This co-worker then goes off on a tangent about how illuminated she was by this book. Now, for those of you who don’t know, this “Necronomicon” is a nonexistent book containing occult tidbits in the horror short stories of H.P. Lovecraft.

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his is all so freak-
ing childish.
I would have thought
that people would have
learned how
to play nice in
grade school,
but I guess
Florida Marlins’
owner Jeffery
Loria and the
rest of the Mar-
lins’ executives
must have been
taking a nap at
the time.
Not even the average
25-year-old Marlins’
players bicker like this.
From the moment Mar-
lins manager Joe Girardi
was hired to lead this year’s
team, with a $15 million
payroll and comprised of
22 rookies, he was on the
hot seat.
Larry Beinfest, who was
hired to lead this year’s
Marlins’ organization,
was never high
on Girardi and a nasty fight
between management and
Girardi, following a loss
to the Los Angeles Dodg-
ers on Aug.
6, sealed his
fate.
What I find
strange is why
Loria wasn’t
question-
ing Girardi’s moves or
fired with as
when the
team’s record was
11-31 in May?
A couple of
months ago, Loria was in
love with Girardi and now
they can’t even speak with
one another. Talk about
a marriage gone bad.
Nobody expected any-
ingthing from this team.
Base-
ball writers thought the
2006 Marlins would lose
more than 100 games.
The only person that
had different expectation
from his players was Girardi.
He kept the team loose
and focused when the time
called for it and he is the
perfect fit for this club.
His cool demeanor,
which he picked up while
watching New York Yan-
kees manager Joe Torre
in 2005, proved vital to this
season.
Both parties are will-
ing and eager to separate
already. Girardi will move
on to a team where he will
be properly appreciated
and the Marlins will be
able to hire a manager they
will be able to control.
And the loser in the
middle of this soap opera
will be Marlins fans.
Within the 13 years of the
Marlins’ existence, fans
have enjoyed two
World Series’ champion-
ship parades, gone through
two firesales and now
witnessed an owner run off
a great manager who won
the hearts of fans.
There is no possible
way for Loria to spin this
positively.
Even from the get go,
Girardi came in here thinking
he was going to have
Carlos Delgado batting
clean up, Josh Beckett
striking out batters every
fifth day and the rest of
the $60 million team that
barely missed the playoffs
in 2005. Instead, he’s been given
the same treatment South
Florida has received from
the Marlins’ organization.
Cold fish.
With behavior like this,
Loria and the other Mar-
lins executives shouldn’t
have to wonder why South
Florida hasn’t embraced
their franchise.

ONE MORE TIME

ANOTHER HONOR: For the second time this season, freshman Yarimar
Rosa was named Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Player of the Week.
The outside hitter, who is fifth in the nation in kills per game, led her team
with 6.2 kills per game in FIU’s first ever undefeated start in SBC play
with victories over conference opponents Louisiana-Lafayette, Louisiana-
Still eager to go further with her basketball career, the native Nigerian seized the opportunity to participate for her home country's national squad at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece before a short stint with the Dallas Fury in the National Women's Basketball League.

Now that she has landed her first big coaching gig at FIU – where her responsibilities will include assisting with recruiting, on-floor game and practice coaching, promotions and camps – Aluka-White says she is looking forward to gaining as much knowledge as she can from team coach Cindy Russo, who she believes has a wealth of experience and knowledge, and will do everything that she can to better the team.

[Russo] has been here almost 30 years and she has always had a good team so I couldn't imagine going somewhere else,” said Aluka-White. “I am coming here because I know that I am going to learn from one of the best in women’s basketball ... I just want to gain more experience and learn about coaching women's basketball.”

She firmly believes that the team has a lot of talent and potential for the upcoming season.

“I think hat we have an opportunity to make it to the NCAA tournament,” Aluka-White said.

Besides looking forward to the upcoming season, White looks forward to getting to know the team better.

“Off the court, they are a great bunch of girls who are very respectful and hardworking. On the court, I can see that they are hungry for it and they want to do well and whatever we can bring to give them in practice they are ready for it,” Aluka-White said. “The girls know that, even [though] I am older, it wasn't that many years ago that I was going to school and I have been through what they are going through now.”

Aluka-White joins former University of Miami standout Desma Thomas, who will also serve as an assistant under coach Russo this coming season.
Face Off

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Fun for the whole family with the Golden Panther DJ, dancing, FIU mascot Roary, games, giveaways, face painting, catered food, prizes and more.
LEADER OF THE PACK
Senior quarterback has hope in final season

Jannel Palenzuela
Staff Writer

As a freshman, Josh Padrick was not supposed to be the starting quarterback for the FIU football team. But when injuries pushed him to starting duty, everything was changed.

Completing nearly 50 percent of his passes, Padrick was named FIU’s Most Valuable Player during his first season as a Golden Panther. That same year he became the first FIU quarterback to throw for over 300 yards in one game; he passed for 370 yards against nationally-ranked I-AA Georgia Southern. He also had 12 touchdowns that year, including a couple of three-touchdown games against Georgia Southern and Jacksonville.

However, the 6’3” senior quarterback from Merritt Island, Fla., admits that he was not very confident when he first stepped into the starting role.

“I was a little nervous [about starting] at first,” Padrick said. “It was a different offense and the game was faster.”

Padrick remained the starting quarterback and continued to improve as a sophomore during the 2004 season. He became the first Golden Panther to pass for more than 4,500 career yards. That same year, Padrick also improved his percentage of completions to 56.7 percent and his passing efficiency to 113.74. He had 28 touchdown passes versus nationally-ranked Georgia Southern – where he also completed nine consecutive passes – and Western Kentucky. He threw touchdown passes in eight of 10 games finishing the year with 12 touchdowns, including four games with two scoring passes.

“He has only continued to get better every year,” said coach Don Strock. “He improves every game.”

During the 2005 season as a junior, Padrick was named a second-team All-Sun Belt Conference quarterback that ranked at the top in passing yards per game, averaging 223.7 per game. He was ranked second in total offense (224.8), and second in passing efficiency (122.6).

Before the season was over, he totaled four games this season, he has thrown for 724 yards.

Tragedy inspires player’s decision to coach

Rinaldo Smith
Contributing Writer

While playing professional basketball overseas two years ago, Joanne Aluka-White had to deal with the most disappointing news in her life – her father’s death.

Ironically, it was that great loss that played an instrumental part in her travel- ing along the road of coaching, a path that has recently led her to the bench of the women’s basketball team.

According to Aluka-White, she realized she had more than a knack for coaching during the time-off she took after her father’s death.

“When I was overseas playing basketball, I had a great experience,” Aluka-White said. “It was kind of a bitter-sweet situation because my father was sick and, about three months after I played in the Olympic Games, my father passed away.”

Following the death of her father, Aluka-White took a year off from basketball to settle some things with her mother.

“I have always been interested in coaching and during that year I coached camps over the summer and became an assistant coach at Hethrzip High School [in Augusta, Ga.],” Aluka-White said. “It would say, during that year, I saw that I really wanted to work with young ladies and open doors for them.”

The 27-year-old recently opened a new chapter in her life by getting married this past summer and is now looking forward to a new and exciting start as Golden Panther assistant coach.

After a successful four-year stint at Middle Tennessee State University – where she obtained her M.S. in sports management and served as graduate teachers assistant in the school’s athletic department – Aluka-White went overseas to compete play basketball in Portugal.

PUTTING IT UP:
Senior quarterback Josh Padrick attempts a pass against Bowling Green Sept. 16 at FIU Stadium. Through the first four games this season, he has thrown for 724 yards.

WILLIAMS

Two seniors on the football team received national honors this week. Linebacker Keyonvis Bouie was selected to the Las Vegas All-American Classic and wide receiver Chandler Williams was put on the watchlist for the Biletnikoff Award, which is awarded annually to the nation’s best college receiver.

Bouie is the first Golden Panther to be named to a collegiate post-season All-Star game.

As of Sept. 29, Bouie leads the Golden Panthers with 41 tackles – 29 solo and 7.5 tackles for loss – and has also recorded two sacks.

The Las Vegas All-American Classic will take place Jan. 15 at the home of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Rebels – Sam Boyd Stadium.

The game features two teams of 50 players – one representing the east and one representing the west – and will be televised on the NFL Network.

Prior to the game, players get to participate in practices and combines open to scouts for professional teams.

“[Bouie] could get invited to other all-star games as well and I’m sure several other of our players will be selected to some of these all-star games, too,” said coach Don Strock in a press release. “Congratulations to him. It’s an honor to be the first from our program to be accepted to an All-Star game.”

“It means we’re going out and attracting some talented players.”

Williams is one of five finalists in Division I-A for the award, which is named after former Florida State and Oakland Raiders wide receiver Fred Biletnikoff and is awarded annually by the Tallahassee Quarterback Club.

As of Sept. 29, through FIU’s first four games this season, Williams has caught a total of 26 passes for 294 yards and has averaged 73.5 yards receiving per game and 6.5 receptions per game.

He leads the Sun Belt Conference in all those categories and is ranked 11th in the nation in receptions per game.

The Biletnikoff Award recipient will be announced at the ESPN College Football Awards Show in December at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.