Second fee increase requested

CHRIS TOWERS
Asst. News Director

Students reeling from constant reports of tuition and fee increases are in for more bad news. The Athletics Department is looking for an early increase in the fee students pay them and has approached the Student Government Association for a recommendation to that end. According to Cassandra Andrade, vice president of the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus, Athletics is looking to make up for a budget shortfall that has the department approximately $3 million over their budget. Andrade said she was told the problems had nothing to do with the construction of the new football stadium.

For the current 07-08 school year, Athletics received a fee increase as part of an agreement with the Health Services and Student Activities departments. All three departments receive a portion of the fee students pay them and have approached the Student Government Association for a recommendation to that end.

ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

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FOXY FALLACY

FOX news inaccuracies interpreted

OPINION

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VALENTINE’S DAY

What to do if you’re single

LIFE

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MOVING FORWARD

Women’s B-ball upsets contenders

SPORTS

PAGE 12

E-show highlights

love struggle

DANIELLA BAGCALUPO
Staff Writer

You probably never heard of the small web-series revolving around college grads simultaneously dumped and find themselves yearning to be one half of two again. “We Need Girlfriends” is a series many FIU students can relate to, especially with Valentine’s Day looming over their heads.

WNG is essentially about the “beta male,” as a New York Times article labels the series’ characters. The first episode begins with three young men – Tom, Henry and Rod – who are completely crushed by their recent break-ups. By the end of the episode, they realize the only way to patch up their broken hearts (and restore their self-worth) is to get back into long-term relationships.

Ivan Arguello, a political science major, believes since all humans are “social beings,” wishing to be in a relationship is essential.

“You are always happier when you are in a good relationship than when you are single,” he says, concluding that Valentine’s Day only heightens that feeling. “[V-day brings] a normal sense of desperation ... you feel you have to be dating someone for Valentine’s Day.”

He might be right. A 2006 Canadian Mental Health Association news release stated that the “Valentine’s Day Blues” are common among young adults to such an extent that “one in 10 felt depressed, insecure, inadequate or unwanted on Valentine’s Day.”

“I might be right. A 2006 Canadian Mental Health Association news release stated that the “Valentine’s Day Blues” are common among young adults to such an extent that “one in 10 felt depressed, insecure, inadequate or unwanted on Valentine’s Day.”

According to the series creator Steven Tsapelas, the beta-males of WNG (Tom, Henry and Rod) each have their separate long-term relationships but all three are rooted in a lack of self-esteem.

Tom needs a girlfriend because he needs to show the community and [why we] deserve to be funded,” Murphy said.

This year the Student Activities department is looking to make up for a budget shortfall that has the department $3 million over their budget. Andrade said she was told the problems had nothing to do with the construction of the new football stadium.

“We want to show FIU what a big impact we make on the community and [why we] deserve to be funded,” Murphy said.

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Networking Night presented by the International Business Honor Society

The International Business Honor Society will host a networking night as part of their bi-weekly meetings. The event will be an opportunity to meet and network with IBHS members. The networking night will take place in the MARC 125 building on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Networking Night will take place on Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. at the Biscayne Landing Sales Office. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call 305-919-5857, or visit http://www.ibhs.fiu.edu/networking.

Student Alumni Association accepting applications for Student Ambassadors

The Student Alumni Association is now accepting applications for its Student Ambassador Program. Student Ambassadors provide leadership programs, host alumni events, lead campus tours and participate in presidential hosting. Applications are due by March 3, and are available in MARC 510 or online at http://www.fualumni.com/ambassadors.htm. 

GEOFFREY ANDERSON JR.

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- Compiled by Christina Vea | Beacon Staff

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Feb. 11, 2008, the story titled “Budget gets cut, paychecks increase, but at what cost to students” incorrectly stated Cristobal’s annual salary to be $1 million. That figure represents his pay at the culmination of his entire contract.

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

Correction

The之意 is to have an event to raise awareness of the club and find new volunteers to run Yasumicon, an annual convention AGA holds.

The convention will take place in early August this year.

“We hope that we will be more visible to people on campus,” said Claire Daniels, AGA member and Yasumicon co-chair. “We’re trying to figure out who on campus might want to join us to work on the convention, since they’re likely to be interested, and since it’s a really fun event to experience.”

According to members, AGA has suffered a decline in membership the last few years.

“We’re looking to re-engage out of what we’ve been doing in the past, since we’ve really just been having a good time watching films on Thursday nights,” Perdon said. “We’re focusing more on FIU as a whole and what influence we have on our university as a club. This mixer is our way of getting to know prospective and current club members.”

The mixer will be held in Gracie’s Grill from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. It is free and anyone can attend. For more information, visit the club’s Facebook or its Web site located at www.fiu.edu/~soc.

Bringing chocolates to the event is encouraged if you received something special on Valentine’s Day.

White Day makes it possible to celebrate a love second time

Nadia Kuanka

Contributing Writer

Candy, flowers and jewelry are just some of the many gifts exchanged during Valentine’s Day. In Japan, if you like the person who gives you a gift on Valentine’s Day, the act is reciprocated one month later on White Day, March 14.

The Anything Goes Anime club at FIU will host a love-themed mixer March 14 to celebrate this cultural holiday.

“White Day is basically like a confirmation,” said Edwin Perdon, an Anything Goes Anime film club member. “White Day is a way to better express and reciprocate affection; it’s a way of giving back in their culture.”

The holiday is said to have been founded by a Japanese confectioner in the late 1900s called “The Marshmallow Man.” Supposedly, this proprietor capitalized on the impact of the Valentine’s Day holiday into the Japanese culture.

Ethan Thomas, Student Organizations Council representative for AGA has experienced White Day firsthand.

“It would be the equivalent of having two Valentine’s Days here. They have just as much chocolates, flowers and gifts to celebrate as we do for Valentine’s Day.”

Thomas plans to attend the mixer in traditional Japanese attire to help create an authentic environment for the holiday.

AGA hopes to have hula dancers or other dance routines planned for the White Day celebration. Other confirmed events include a limbo competition, karaoke and audio visual presentations, as well as free food and drinks.

Besides offering students a taste of Japanese culture, AGA is also hosting the mixer in an attempt to attract more members.

“Not many people know this club exists unless they go looking for it,” Thomas said. “Celebrating White Day is a great opportunity for AGA to make itself known to the public.”

The original idea for the mixer was to have an event to raise awareness of the club and find new volunteers to run Yasumicon, an annual convention AGA holds.

The 14th Annual Anything Goes Anime Club mixer will be held at Gracie’s Grill from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. It is free and anyone can attend. For more information, visit the club’s Facebook or its Web site located at www.fiu.edu/~soc.

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AGA will host White Day celebrations, honoring the Japanese tradition.

Join the Beacon Forums!

The Beacon office is located in the Graham Center, room 210, at the University Park campus. Questions regarding display advertising and billing should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 305-348-2709. Mailing address: Graham Center, room 210, Miami, FL 33199. Fax number is 305-348-2712. Display advertising should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 305-348-4722.

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

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Athletics attempts to inflate financial dues

**ATHLETICS, page 1**

funding from student fees.

As part of the agreement, the three fees go through a cycle. Every year, a department goes before a committee comprised of Student Activities, the president of Student Affairs, and the student body president to request an increase. If a department gets the increase, Student Activities will have to wait until the following year to request more funds.

**RELAY, page 1**

Government Council at UF gave RFL a $3,000 stipend according to Murphy. After the gimmicks and fundraising opportunities, the highlight of RFL will be the Relay Ceremony, which will take place at 8 p.m. on Feb. 15, the Luminarias Lighting Ceremony.

"This is the quiet and reflective time," Dalrymple said. "The Luminarias Ceremony is in honor or memory of someone who has dealt with cancer, and fit.

In addition to the Luminarias, Murphy said that the Relay will also be a Wall of Hope, where attendees can pay to write the names of people who have been affected by cancer, and fit.

The Music Saves Lives Club will be mixing fun, music, and awareness all at once during RFL and the day before.

"We are going to be having a lot of cool items to be raffled off that were donated to us," said Jackie Gadea, president of MSL, who said that they will be raffling include skateboards, XBox games and Rock Band bundles.

Besides finding ways to raise funds, MSL secured Club raises funds for cancer research, RFL

The Athletics fee was already increased for the 07-08 year at $11.66 per credit hour, to $13.05 for this academic year.

Last year, Athletics had an operating budget of $16.1 million.

Dr. Rosa Jones, vice president of Student Affairs and Undergraduate Education, is also involved with the process, reviewing the proposals before they reach the president.

According to Jones, there has only been one other instance when one of the departments has gone out of the cycle to request an increase. Last time this happened, the Health fee was increased.

"Some years ago there was one other point when they skipped the cycle," said Jones. "Similar to now, they were seeing a need in relation to the funds."

While SGA has no power to approve or deny an increase, the departments usually seek their recommendation before moving on to the committee that sends their recommendation to the president.

Sad to say, Athletics is planning to meet with Student Government Council at University Park to provide them with information regarding why they need the increase, according to SGC-University Park President Marbs Hernandez.

Acting director of media relations for athletics Rich Kelch said the department had no comment.

"One of our members, Tiffany Garcia, attended Warped Tour this year and spoke with Dyer who also attends all of the Warped Tours," Gadea said. "She stayed in contact with him and was able to get him to come down."

A key part of RFL is to have at least one person from every team walking the relay path. To mix things up, some laps will be themed.

One themed lap is for attendees to skate instead of walk, so naturally Dyer was excited about is the founder of Skate or Die. The procedure is painless and only involves a cheek swab, Murphy said. This free registration would normally cost $75 and does not constitute any kind of obligation. In the chance a compatible marrow recipient is found, it is up to the registered person if they want to donate their marrow.

The marrow registration will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Betty Chapman plaza in front of the Graham Center.

Gadea commented that a goal of MSL is to raise funds for leukemia research which goes hand in hand with the goal of RFL.

"Relay for Life will conclude at 8 a.m. on Feb. 16 when the winner of the Spirit Award will be announced. The award is given to the team who has been the most active in all RFL events."

A closing banquet open to RFL teams will be held on Feb. 20 in GC 242 at 8 p.m.

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Besides finding ways to raise funds, MSL secured College stereotypes: the cool "alpha" males, such as those in fraternities, have more success with girls than the rest of the non-frat population.

"I think we have easier opportunities [to get girls]," said Mike Kennedy of FIU’s Tau Kappa Epsilon, quickly pointing out that this occurs because of the frequent networking between fraternities and sororities, rather than any automatic advantage that comes from being labeled a fraternity boy.

In reality, Kennedy believes it is all about "game," that elusive ability that some guys have to attract girls with more ease than others.

But does this suggest that frat guys might have more game than non-frat guys? According to Delio Regnell, journal major, it is quite the opposite.

"A guy that’s not in a fraternity and picks up a girl that is in a sorority has more game than a guy who is in a fraternity and picks up a sorority girl."

But, "Picking up sorority girls" might not be as impossible as the WNG boys might think.

Yami Viera of Alpha Xi Delta points out that she’d rather date someone outside everyone in Greek.

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**“We Need Girlfriends” explores love, love lost**

V-DAY, page 1

"A girl likes him. Rod ... needs a girlfriend because he is emotionally messy and angry without one," said Tsopelas in an email.

Comedy ensues in their search for their "squirrels" (an idiom of Rod’s), including wonderfully awkward moments at parties and on the street, in bedrooms and bathrooms, with girls and with each other.

The web-series has been successful – CBS recently picked it up – because it has created comedy out of its characters' emotional needs. Tom, Henry and Rod's mentalities toward relationships transcend far beyond the web-series.

Though Tsopelas agrees "Henry would fret about [Valentine's Day] and write a blog detailing his loneliness," and although special Valentine's Day episode was uploaded last year, the show does not concentrate on the sentimental and even less on the psychology behind each character's desires.

What it does do is possibly solidify a common college stereotype: the cool "alpha" males, such as those in fraternities, have more success with girls than the rest of the non-frat population.

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**THREE DUDES, ONE QUEST: Longterm relationships are sought in the web-series “We Need Girlfriends.”**

"We Need Girlfriends" explores love, love lost

V-DAY, page 1

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James Davis, Anewick

"Hilarious! Martin McDonagh Comes The Hit Comedy of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival!"
Fifteen student club members unanimously voted Jessica Senorin as the new Student Organizations Council vice president on Feb. 11. The vice president position became available after Joe L Mintz, the former SOC president, resigned and Didier Georges moved from vice president to vice president of marketing.

"The position is vital to our organization because I'm not here all the time so who will [students] go to if I'm not here? Every club wants to speak to the president," Georges said. "They don't want to speak to anybody but the president so if I'm not here I want a vice president who they can talk to," Georges said.

The organization was uncertain as to whether they would leave the vice president position open or hold special elections for it, according to Senorin. Senorin is the organization's former marketing director.

"I did agree that it would be better to have a vice president and the rest of the positions without marketing director as opposed to leaving vice president open.

Senorin's duties as vice president consist of making sure that all members of the board keep their hours, ensuring members are doing what they're required to do and delegate to the executive board.

Even though the position has been filled mid-semester, Georges is content that Senorin was elected.

"I feel good about this because it is already close to the middle of the semester so to have a new person come in, we have to teach them everything and that takes time and that’s more burden on me.

"To have someone that already knows pretty much almost everything makes it a job a little more easier," Georges said.

LATIN FLAVOR

Dancing with the Wolfe's salsa class practices routines

SPANISH MOVES: Dancing with the Wolfe's salsa class practices routines in WUC 155 on Feb. 12.

NEWSFLASH

Dancing with the Wolfe offers classes, fun

Students Program Council is providing a variety of dance classes in the WUC for almost every day of the week at 6 p.m. Ballroom dancing is held Mondays in WUC 155, Salsa is Tuesdays in the same room, Belly Dancing is Wednesdays in WUC 330 and Hip Hop is Thursdays in WUC 160. No experience is necessary.

SPC presents Step Afrika!

As part of the Pan African Heritage Celebration, Student Program Council is presenting Step Afrika! Offi ce. Located in GC 2240 or WUC 141.

CLS to host leadership conference for women

On Feb. 29 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the Center for Leadership and Service will hold a conference designed to enhance the leadership development of female students. Registration is available at www.fit.edu/career and is required to attend. The event will be held in HM Auditorium 135 and meals will be provided.

Forum to discuss body image, sex, health

As part of the Wild Succulent Women Series, the Women’s Center will host Love vs. Lust on Thursday Feb. 21 from 9 to 11 p.m. This discussion forum, which will be held at the Bay Vista Housing, will include topics such as positive body image, sexuality and women’s health.

"I mostly enjoy it when students walk away with confidence thinking they can [cook] great food by themselves," Moran said. "That’s the best feeling in the world." But it’s not the students alone who deserve credit for the luncheons’ success. Joiven Jean, lead teaching assistant, praised Moran’s leadership.

"I call him dictionary because he always has an explanation for everything.

"I like that because nobody knows everything, nobody is perfect, but for me, he is the biggest mentor I’ve had in my life," Jean said.

Abid Malik, a former student of Moran’s, also shared his experiences working with Moran.

“When I took the course with him, I didn’t even know what to do in the kitchen and where to start, where the table knives go or the way the plates should be positioned,” Malik said.

The luncheons are open to the public. For reservations, call (305) 899-9500 or visit www.sobewineandfoodfest.com.

For more information, visit www.sobewineandfoodfest.com.
Government should give the uninsured solutions

JOSEPH MARHEE
Opinion Editor

Watching or reading the news online, Fox News specifically, you get the feeling that you’re either watching a re-creation of an early 1900’s freak show or you’re the butt of some kind of sick joke.

In a lot of ways, the Fox News Web site is something of a time capsule. On Feb. 11, Fox News reported on a story that was very reminiscent of the one involving John Ritter’s untimely demise on their homepage. As shocking as that is, I can only imagine it being more shocking five years ago—when the death and subsequent investigation actually took place. Fox didn’t mention when the investigation was finished, CNN reported it concluded in 2004. This is just a prominent example of a typical busy Fox News day.

Apparent cat-fighting is news-worthy as well: Natalie Cole asserted that Amy Winehouse didn’t deserve to win a Grammy. She then elaborated by calling Winehouse “crazy” and stated that she is teaching younger artists that behaving badly can be rewarded with a Grammy, according to Fox News. Absolutely breaking news that HAD to be on the home- page to prevent some natural disaster in Virginia.

You get the impression that you’re watching “Entertainment Tonight,” but a version that is just a lot more entertaining. Where else can you hear about Britney Spears having her children taken away, then moments later, hear about her “long lost cousin,” then a Senatorial Candidate Mitt Romney?

Whoever the high school drop-out in charge of picking Fox News’ features is needs to learn how to prioritize. A story about an attempted rapist, who convinced his victim he was both a werewolf and a vampire, was a lead story—appearing under “Latest News” in bold, blue print, as opposed to the thin, black text of “inference” stories such as the ones Fox News is publishing in Virginia keeping the presidential candidates from visiting, or a missing Afghani ambassador in Pakistan.

So, a story about a murder trial, but a lawyer with an overtly firm handshake—See Fox News’ report “Death Grips: Lawyer accused of ‘Handshake Attack’”—is of critical and national coverage.

I’d love to say that all of the other respectable news outlets are just as reckless with their choice in content, but that’d be almost as big a lie as when Fox News declared Florida a victory for George Bush in 2000.

After visiting the MSNBC page, I was shocked at how relevant the articles were. Their feature stories were of some actual importance: a story about the pending death penalties of six convicted terrorists to 9/11 and another story about the influence of corporations on the Maryland ballot.

CNN was no different in terms of professionalism and good journalism. It was a different perspective than MSNBC, but there was still a presence of relevant and newsworthy stories, but what stood out the most about these outlets was that their entertainment stories weren’t placed on the front page as breaking news or as features; they were in the sections so aptly labeled, “Entertainment”.

By what stretch of the imagination did it ever seem like a good idea for Fox News to have its own news network to begin with?

While every news outlet has its biases and slow news days, Fox News definitely is the most conspicuously irrelevant socially and the most biased from its reporters up to its director, Roger Ailes.

It’s coverage like the 2000 election and unprofessional reporting like Ailes’ blog (most recently, “BREAKING NEWS: America gives the finger to Mitt”) that prompted Fairness and Accuracy In Report (FAIR) to annoint them, “The Most Biased Name in News.”

Ailes himself is no slouch in terms of political banae. He’s been described as having, “two speeds — attack and destroy” by George H.W. Bush’s aide Lee Atwater, according to FAIR’s commentary of Fox News.

Among other things, the network is made up of conservative clones just like Ailes, right-wing editorialist for the Wall Street Journal and Fox daytime Anchor, David Ashman.

Even Fox’s top rated talkshow, “The O’Reilly Factor” is hosted by outspoken Republican, Bill O’Reilly (who recently won Keith Olbermann’s “Worst Person in the World” designation on Olbermann’s MSNBC talkshow).

What amazes me is that when Fox News could succumb to slow news days, the rest of the world seems to press on, but at what point does the real journalism begin and the “National Enquirer 24/7 News Channel” end?

There’s a time and place for everything, and according to Fox News, it’s the right time 24 hours a day.

MIX OF NEWS, GARBAGE?

Fox News: only place you can watch a 24-hour circus!

ERIC FELDMAN
Staff Writer

America’s health insurance debacle does the solution lie with free market enterprise espoused by anarchic capitalists, mandated socialized coverage proposed by big-government statists, or somewhere in between?

Not surprisingly, the public is misinterpreting the meaning of the 47 million report. A Feb. 8 editorial in The Sun-Sentinel stated that 47 million “citizens” were uninsured, further adding confusion to the data.

In addition to the millions who are not for example (or those who are eligible for government health programs but do not apply, of which the Investors’ Business Daily estimates there are many.

These revelations do not necessarily mean government-controlled insurance is not the answer, however, it is important to know for those who are uninsured for only a portion of the year (due to a change in employment, the facts and also to realize that the people purposefully inflating and distorting these numbers are the one that will receive more power if we implement this system.

Proponents of the system, such as the National Coalition on Health Care, argues that many Americans who procure insurance do not have an adequate level of coverage

Granted, in some parts of the country this is not that much money, but it does call into question whether all of those without insurance cannot afford it, or if they make poor financial decisions. America should ideally be the land of rights rather than that of responsibility.

Within those 47 million are 10.2 million individuals who are not citizens. This already draws into question the use of the term “Americans” when describing those of us who do not have medical insurance. Another 9.2 million of the total have an annual salary of over $75,000.

Approximately, 47 million Americans are uninsured. This number comes from a report published by the United States Census Bureau.

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These revelations do not necessarily mean government-controlled insurance is not the answer, however, it is important to know in premiums, and that health care spending is far outpacing inflation, all indicators that a government-controlled system could help stabilize costs.

It is also said that the uninsured illegal alien is already permitted to be treated in our nation’s emergency room and that it would be cheaper to insure them under a universal program than to continue bankrupting urgent care centers.

Logically speaking, it makes sense for the government to make sure that health care is accessible, rather than a commodity. After all, the government does run other vital services, such as public safety and education. For example, in Florida, auto insurance is mandatory to prevent the uninsured from driving up the costs for everyone else, so why shouldn’t health coverage be the same?

Should the same federal bureaucratic system which has a difficult time administrating health services to seniors and veterans be responsible for doing so for the nation at large?

It is not clear which system operates better. Stories are circulating about Canadians having to wait years for surgery to remove a tumor, while Americans have to pay exorbitant amounts for a simple X-Ray.
Group hopes to boost social work’s credibility

Tiffany Shelton
Contributing Writer

Exploring FIU’s Student Social Workers Association may redefine your ideas about student professional organizations.

Many people join such organizations simply because they look good on their resumes.

Another stereotype seems that of a profession, Christianne Ruiz believes it is a social and advocacy association. Ruiz dismisses any idea that living in a loveless self is not a part of one. As you pair off friends smile widely at you with heart-shaped balloons and Sweethearts emblazoned with “1 <3 U” in hand; it’s impossible not to feel like you’re missing out on a big part of the year.

There’s good news for you, however, you’re not missing out on anything (besides love). Living in Miami, single guys and girls have an assortment of options to entertain themselves while someone else is spending their future tax rebate on lavish dinners and gifts.

Here are some suggestions for keeping your mind off the fact that nobody except your father seems to love you:

**STRIP CLUBS**

What’s an adequate replacement for true love and affection? That’s right, fake love and affection. For about $20, such abstract concepts can be yours for at least three minutes in the form of a lap dance at a local club such as Toosie’s Cabaret in Miami Gardens. Granted, this V-Day suggestion is aimed toward men, but there are male strip clubs in Miami, too, for those ladies (and men) seeking male attention, particularly Goldfellas in Doral. Just remember that you’ll probably end up spending more on a stripper than you would on a significant other during this holiday.

**COFFEE SHOPS**

For the less foolish and more budget-conscious, stopping at a nearby Starbucks for a cup of Joe might help relieve one’s feelings of unrequited love. Not only do you have more than enough time to read “Things I’ve Learned From Women Who’ve Dumped Me,” but also it’s a prime opportunity for meeting other people — unless they’re already with someone else. Nevertheless, there’s bound to be someone sitting alone waiting for that perfect stranger to engage him or her in conversation. More than likely, you aren’t that perfect stranger, but it’s worth a shot.

**BARS**

Although I don’t regularly condone the use of alcohol to drown one’s sorrows, plenty of local bars are offering drink specials to those people seeking some way to

**ONLINE PERSONALS**

Although the previous examples actually involve leaving the comfort of one’s own home, this suggestion has only two simple requirements: An Internet connection and desperation. For free, or a slight fee, Web sites such as Friendfinder.com can help track down someone who is an acceptable partner for you (God-willing). As you look through hundreds of fake supermodel pictures in an attempt to find your soul mate, you can upload your own pictures of a thinner you from five years ago — the opportunities for deception in the name of love are endless. Individuals looking for a night partner rather than a life partner should consider looking there first.

**HUGS & KISSES**

All it takes is a fast Internet connection and desperation. For free, or a slight fee, Web sites such as the ever-popular Friendfinder.com, Match.com, and links to other sites such as the ever-popular Bondage.com.

As you can see, singles have a lot of freedom when it comes to Valentine’s Day, especially when living in a party city such as Miami and having a fast Internet connection. Even though you might not have a date on what is otherwise known as Single Awareness Day, be confident that you have a family that loves you unconditionally or at least a pet that does. Godspeed.
The Department of Campus Life oversees most of the student service organizations such as the Student Programming Council and the Student Organizations Council. “This is a great opportunity for any students interested in working in a team setting, managing bookings many of the events for the fall semester,” Gates said. W.O.W. committee members are responsible for creating an overall theme as well as planning all of the events for the entire first week of the fall semester and spreading the word about all W.O.W. events.

Last year’s welcome week had over 30 different events which were all free to FIU students, as are all W.O.W. events. Last year’s welcome week had over 30 different events which were all free to FIU students, as are all W.O.W. events. W.O.W. committee members are responsible for creating an overall theme as well as planning all of the events for the entire first week of the fall semester and spreading the word about all W.O.W. events. Last year’s welcome week had over 30 different events which were all free to FIU students, as are all W.O.W. events. W.O.W. committee members are responsible for creating an overall theme as well as planning all of the events for the entire first week of the fall semester and spreading the word about all W.O.W. events.
Information gap a gulf between generations

RHONDA BODFIELD BLOOM
AP WIRE

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — In type that scrolls up the screen like the prefacer for Star Wars, a YouTube video reads, “For years, parents could not text message. They could not figure out how to record a voice mail. They could not even connect to the Internet without using AOL.”

Warning that parents are adapting to technological gadgets, it flips to a short clip of a man learning to use the video capabilities on his cell phone.

“Watch with caution,” it closes, “and pray that your own parents do not gain these powers.”

Techno-tweens and teens relax. According to a new study from the Pew Internet & American Life Project, there’s a long way to go before adults embrace interactive online media to the degree that teens have.

An estimated 64 percent of those ages 12 to 17 have created some form of online content. While only 8 percent of adults have created a blog, 28 percent of teens have.

Although 55 percent of online teens have a profile on a social network, such as Facebook or MySpace, only 20 percent of adult users do.

And while 27 percent of teens have created or worked on their own Web pages, 14 percent of adults have.

The report also gives insight into some popular stereotypes.

Boys and Meen do indeed post more content, with as many as 89 percent of teens reporting that they get feedback on shared postings.

“The nature of conversation and communication is changing in a world in which young people are becoming very comfortable with expressing themselves through video and audio and mixing it together,” said Mary Madden, a Pew senior research specialist and one of the report’s authors.

That’s a very different kind of expression. It’s not as controlled. It’s more chaotic. And that’s difficult for adults to understand, how teens can navigate these spaces.

One surprise for Madden was that older technologies, such as landline phones, aren’t being displaced.

The traditional media channels aren’t going away, but the new technologies are just being layered on what’s already there.

The super-communicators are seeing a plethora of possible outcomes that could result due to the dawn of this unprecedented age of human interconnectedness.

“Has been the case with any new communications technology, there will be trade-offs and we don’t know what those will be,” Madden said.

“We know that young people are embracing these tools in ways that adults haven’t done to the same degree. What we don’t know is how that will change patterns in society and in the workplace over time.”

Some of these questions are analyzed in a paper written for the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation an organization that hands out grants to innovative thinkers.

In the foundation’s report, the authors argue that the educational system must strengthen reading, writing and research skills for students to be able to fully engage with the new participatory culture.

But educational institutions and facilitators of higher learning are also in the position where they need to do a better job of training students for a new literacy, which will demand experimentation, collaboration and interpretation.

The burden falls to parents, too, in helping children gain competencies.

All too often, though, the report acknowledges, parents are led by anxiety about new forms of media that weren’t available in their own childhood.

Katelyn Millette, 17, a junior at Catalina Magnet, said she’s fortunate — both her mother and father are unabashed computer nerds with five computers in the house.

Millette, who said cheering competitions help balance out her screen time, sends about 3,000 text messages a month and posts digital photos and videos online.

Some of her friends have a greater challenge, she said. “I have some friends whose parents don’t want them on MySpace or don’t want them to go on the computer at all because they think something bad is going to happen.”

“They should know we use it as a tool and that’s how we communicate now,” she said.

Additional material added by Christopher Cabral
Ever wonder why all your friends call you Mandy?

Ever wonder why everyone can sing along with Copacabana?

Ever wonder where your parents had been the night you were conceived?

Wonder No More

MANNYLOW
an evening of music and passion

February 24, 2008
American Airlines Arena

Tickets start at 10 bucks and are available at 561-966-3309 or www.ticketmaster.com
Florida Panther player fine after neck laceration on ice

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Wire

Upon hearing Richard Zednik’s recovery from a life-threatening neck laceration could last six to eight weeks, Olli Jokinen checked his calendar.

That would be playoff time in the NHL.

And suddenly, the Florida Panthers have a huge source of postseason motivation.

Zednik continued what some termed a remarkable recovery Tuesday, when his condition was upgraded to good and he was moved out of the intensive care unit at Buffalo General Hospital. That was just two days after Jokinen’s razor-sharp skate blade sliced the 32-year-old forward’s neck, cutting his carotid artery and stopping just shy of his jugular vein.

As Zednik recovers, so do the Panthers, who returned to the ice Tuesday, albeit still somber and shaken, yet somewhat uplifted by the continued good reports about their teammate.

“We’ve got 24 games to go,” Jokinen said. “If we do our jobs, there is a possibility Richard’s going to play with us and join the team in the playoffs.

“They have to set it aside now and play hockey,” said Florida defenseman Jassen Cullimore, who helped Zednik off the ice.

The Panthers hope Zednik can travel home to South Florida by the weekend.

He has a photo of his 4-year-old daughter at his hospital bedside, and NHL commissioner Gary Bettman has phoned to check on Zednik’s condition and progress.

“He is awake and in good spirits,” Noor said. “He has minimal neck swelling, or discomfort. He is speaking quite well. His voice is not hoarse. He’s hungry. He wanted eggs for breakfast.”

Noor said Zednik will be asked to sit up and walk a few steps over the next couple days, and if he can do those things, a discharge plan will be discussed.
### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDING

<table>
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*All records up to date as of Feb. 12*

### WOMEN'S, page 12

**Florida International**

Johnson, Nigel | 4-8 | 1-3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 36

South Alabama

Middle Tennessee

Western Kentucky | 18-6 | 11-1 |

Team Totals | 23-49 | 15-26 | 30 | 14 | 13 | 66 | 200

### FIU MEN 75, UNO WOMEN 60

**UNO 70, FIU WOMEN 60**

Nyangue, Erick | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 13

Fuller, Chris | 6-10 | 2-2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 36

Queen, Emily | 1-6 | 9-10 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 27

Holt, Amber | 6-15 | 9-12 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 35

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDING

FIU FG FT REB A TO PTS MIN

Ciglar, Iva | 2-2 | 0-0 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 10 | 40

Jenkins, Jasmine | 3-8 | 0-1 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 27

Neal, Asha | 6-10 | 1-2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 13 | 30

Ciglar, Iva | 2-2 | 0-0 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 40

FIU FG FT REB A TO PTS MIN

Nsangou, Erick | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 13

Fuller, Chris | 6-10 | 2-2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 36

FIU FG FT REB A TO PTS MIN

Queen, Emily | 1-6 | 9-10 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 27

Holt, Amber | 6-15 | 9-12 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 35

FIU FG FT REB A TO PTS MIN

Queen, Emily | 1-6 | 9-10 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 27

Holt, Amber | 6-15 | 9-12 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 35

### FIU MEN 75, UNO 62

**FIU MEN 75, UNO 62**

Kenan, Kevin | 4-11 | 2-2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 36

Buechele, Nolan | 6-10 | 2-2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 36

Buechele, Nolan | 6-10 | 2-2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 36

DISHING: Freshman guard Russell Tremayne has taken over point guard duties the last few games.
The 2007-08 season for the Golden Panthers parallels to the Greek mythology of Sisyphus. Like Sisyphus, the Panthers roll their huge boulder of burden up a hill towards victory only to have it roll back down as soon as they near the top.

The Golden Panthers entered the season without a true center after the departure of senior Lasma Jekabsone. Yet, strong interior play from Elisa Carey and Marquita Adley had the Golden Panthers rolling the boulder towards victory.

Injuries to both players dropped the Panthers to the bottom of the hill. Playing through injuries and giving fresher extra minutes allowed the Golden Panthers the opportunity to find a groove – winning four consecutive games. Once again, the boulder was on its way up the hill.

During the first half of their Sat game – fourth straight win – the team’s leading scorer, LaQuetta Ferguson, left the court with a knee injury.

In one play, the Golden Panthers found themselves at the bottom of the hill with the boulder on their big toe.

The Panthers lost its leading scorer of the last two years in the same game they captured their biggest win of the season.

With five games remaining, finishing the season strong and entering the Sun Belt Conference Tournament confident really does seem like a Sisyphean task.

Is it too soon to determine whether the Panthers are down and out? As of this moment, the Golden Panthers are still pushing the boulder.

They are not holding it with the same firm grip as before. In fact, a slight breeze or a misguided pigeon could make the Panthers lose control.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL: FIU 74, MTSU 62**

**SOUND DEFEAT**

Team breezes past four-time defending conference champ

**DARREN COLETTE | Staff Writer**

The women’s basketball team (11-13, 7-6 Sun Belt) notched a fourth consecutive win on Feb. 9 against Middle Tennessee (14-10, 9-4).

FIU was led by sophomore forward Monika Bosilj, who scored a team, game and career-high 32 points.

The Blue Raiders started the game strong and built a quick 20-10 lead. Freshman guard Anne Marie Lanning had eight points, including a couple of 3-pointers, in the opening minutes.

Blue Raiders senior forward Amber Holt scored six of MTSU’s first 12 points, most of which came in the paint.

FIU’s comeback was sparked by senior guard LaQuetta Ferguson who connected on a 3-pointer on FIU’s next possession.

Freshmen forwards Liene Jekabsone and Fanni Hutlassa would score the next two field goals as the lead was trimmed to three points, 20-17.

With five minutes left in the half, Ferguson put in a lay-up that made the score 24-23.

On the next play, Ferguson nailed a 3-pointer from NBA range that gave FIU its first lead of the game, 26-24.

That 3-pointer, however, may have been Ferguson’s final basket in her outstanding career as an FIU Golden Panther.

With a little less than four minutes to play in the first half, Ferguson was ahead of a fast break and was fouled under the basket by Lanning.

Ferguson fell to the floor in considerable pain.

A timeout was called and Ferguson was helped off the court and into the team training room.

Senior guard Asha Neal would respond to her teammate, friend and fellow senior’s injury by scoring six of FIU’s final eight points of the half.

The Golden Panthers dominated the final minutes of play and took a 36-25 lead into halftime.

**PRESSING: Senior guard LaQuetta Ferguson drives to the basket as she was unable to participate in the second half of the Golden Panthers.’**

**WOMEN’S page 11**

**MEN’S BASKETBALL: FIU 66, MTSU 60**

Concerted offensive output leads Golden Panthers’ to fourth conference victory

**ANDREW JULIAN | Staff Writer**

Chris Fuller’s off-season practice paid off on Feb. 9 against the Middle Tennessee St. Blue Raiders (11-12, 8-5).

Fuller notched a season-high 16 points helping lead the Golden Panthers win 66-60.

The Golden Panthers improved their record to 7-16 overall and 4-9 in Sun Belt play.

Fuller, who was 6-of-10 from the floor, including 2-of-4 from beyond the three point arc, raised his team leading 3-point shooting percentage to 42.9%.

“Work,” remarked the senior from Las Vegas, Nevada when asked how he was able to up his percentage from long distance from 29.3% a season ago.

“I worked really hard this past summer,” Fuller said. “Teams were playing off me, and doubling down in the post and I needed to make them respect my shooting abilities to give our big guys better looks.”

FIU’s front court made a living close to the basket with leading scorer on the season, junior center Russell Hicks, and sophomore forward Nikola Gacesa each tallying 11 points.

Cedric Essoula recorded nine points on 3-of-4 shooting in 22 minutes of action.

Gacesa, who was benched for the previous game, responded well, and head coach Sergio Rouco was pleased with his team’s effort.

“We had to sit Niko for an entire game so that he could get it, and he didn’t point. He came out and played well tonight.”

It was a see-saw game throughout the first half with five ties and three lead changes.

The Golden Panthers led by as many as six while the Blue Raiders led by as many as four.

FIU headed into halftime leading 30-29. This continued into the second half as neither team was able to mount a run until the Golden Panthers launched a 16-2 charge over a seven minute span in the second half.

During this run, the Golden Panthers rolled the boulder of burden up a hill in a groove – winning four consecutive games. Once again, the boulder was on its way up the hill.

**MEN’S, page 11**

**BONILLA, page 11**