SPEAKING OUT

Conflicts between security, fans addressed

SERGIO BONILLA  RICK MARTINEZ
Student Media

During Saturday’s home football game, an incident involving a student and an FIU employee left many students with questions regarding conduct policy during football games. Panther Rage President Michael Halpert spoke to Athletics over the weekend hoping to have a representative from the department speak to students on Oct. 15. Senior Associate Athletic Director Julie Berg, along with Director of Special Events Sandra Perdomo, attended the meeting to answer students’ questions and concerns. Halpert was pleased to have students express their feeling following the meeting. “I completely understand them,” Halpert said. “That’s their right. It was good to see them get things off their chests.”

Berg and Perdomo answered every question based on the information they knew at the time of the meeting. Members of Student Media along with students asked a series of questions regarding the incident.

Rick Martinez: How did you guys become aware of the situation with the accusations of an Athletics employee assaulting a student?

Berg: It was seen. Most of us saw something going on. We didn’t see exactly how the whole thing started, but we saw it. We had a couple of employees. And unfortunately we had a couple of injuries as well: one FIU employee and one Contemporary Services Corporation (the crowd control company for FIU games) employee.

Rick Martinez: Student Media was in attendance at the meeting. How was the meeting?

Berg: The meeting was open to any students who wanted to come to the meeting. I completely understand them,” Halpert said. “That’s their right. It was good to see them get things off their chests.”

RC: Any time you deal with budget cuts it’s always a difficult situation. Not knowing exactly what FIU has had to deal with, it’s hard for me to comment specifically. But you know what I can say is, it’s my hope that we will generate funds that will soften that blow. Over time, there has been increasingly less and less.

Q & A

One-on-one with new VP

EDUARDO MORALES
Staff Writer

After 15 months, the new Vice President of Advancement, Robert Conrad, was hired on Oct. 1. He will begin working on Nov. 3 and comes to the position with over 20 years of experience in university advancement positions. As he begins his last two weeks at the Florida State University Foundation, he took the time to have a phone interview with The Beacon regarding budget cuts and acquiring private funds for the University.

The Beacon: For the readers, what does the new VP of Advancement do exactly?

Conrad: Hopefully, at FIU, I would say that I will be responsible for raising private support, maximum private support for the institution and in a way that is honorable, ethical and enhances the mission of the University. It’s done in a variety of ways: our student callers who call alumni, parents and friends, to folks who are going out to corporations, the people who are talking to donors and always trying to bring in that private philanthropy.

TB: How can FIU get by during the budget cuts?

RC: Any time you deal with budget cuts it’s always a difficult situation. Not knowing exactly what FIU has had to deal with, it’s hard for me to comment specifically. But you know what I can say is, it’s my hope that we will generate funds that will soften that blow. Over time, there has been increasingly less and less.

Hospitality team places first in rib competition

PAMELA DUQUE
Asst. News Director

Papaya-glazed ribs and a mojito shooter with coconut rum drove hospitality management students to first place in a rib cook-off.

Presented by the American Institute of Wine & Food – South Florida Chapter, a non-profit organization founded in 1981 to educate the community and create cultural awareness of fine food and wine, the Grand Western’s Third Annual Tri-Country Rib Cook-Off took place Oct. 12 at the Anne Kolb Nature Center in Hollywood.

Five different culinary schools in South Florida were chosen by the AIWF to compete for a $1,500 scholarship and trophy, according to Phyllis Festinger, AIWF-SF executive director, who also hosted the event. The FIU team, made up of Vincent Tien, Arthur Mindermann, Andres Villanueva and Bianca Rojas, all teaching assistants in hospitality management, was guided by Chef Michael Moran, chef instructor in hospitality management.

The team competed against teams from the Florida Culinary Institute Palm Beach, Johnson & Wales University, Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale and Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts Miami.

The teams prepared ribs with their own secret ingredients, as well as two side dishes. The winning menu, which was a collaborative effort between team members, consisted of papaya-glazed ribs with jicama mint slaw and a frozen mojito shooter with coconut rum.

“The entire team came up with the menu. I was just their adviser. My role was to take their ideas and try to bring them to life,” Moran said.

This is the third year that FIU students participate in the cook-off, but it is the first time they win first place. In the two previous years, they came in second.
Conrad looks to secure private funds

support of higher education by our state governments. I most recently came from the state of Ohio and prior to coming to Florida, we had experienced five or six percent budget cuts on a regular basis for four or five years. The universities that are going to do that at weathering those blows are going to be institutions that are successful in securing private support. Where we want to go and how progressive we want to be. The other factor would be how the economy is as of late, and we can’t ignore the economy so we have to pay attention to that.

TB: Is there anything else you’d like to tell the students and faculty of FIU?

RC: I’m very eager to get in and get a feel for the personalities, the culture of the institution, so it would be difficult for me to say now exactly how the dollar figures would be. One thing we deal with in advancement is the number of people. Additional copies are 25 cents. My impression is hard to describe right now exactly what the culture of the institution, so it would be difficult for me to say now exactly how the dollar figures would be.

One thing we deal with in advancement is the numbers. We can’t run from those, and in course we’ll figure out where we want to go and how progressive we want to be. The other factor would be how the economy is as of late, and we can’t ignore the economy so we have to pay attention to that.

TB: Do you have any expectations or goals set for your first year at the University?

RC: I want to get in and get a feel for the personalities, the culture of the institution, so it would be difficult for me to say now exactly how the dollar figures would be. One thing we deal with in advancement is the numbers. We can’t run from those, and in course we’ll figure out where we want to go and how progressive we want to be. The other factor would be how the economy is as of late, and we can’t ignore the economy so we have to pay attention to that.

The ceremony that followed featured speakers, including Dean Lesley A. Northrop, provost and executive vice-president Ronald Berkman, an associate dean.

Parading: Students hold flags during the Honors College Convocation on Oct. 13.

Christopher Lazaga
Staff writer

After the traditional year-long Honors College Parade around University Park, Honors College students and faculty made their way to the Graham Center ballroom for the highlight event of the day – the 8th Annual Honors College Convocation Ceremony. The ceremony recognizes Honors College students for outstanding achievement and work throughout the year.

Guests were greeted with bagpipe music and a podium stood in front of a large projection screen in the center of the stage with chairs lined up on either side. After the students – many wearing the Honors College signature polo – took their seats, Lesley A. Northrop, dean of the Honors College, stepped up to the podium and welcomed them. The color guard presented the American flag and the Florida flag, after which members of the FIU Big Band played the National Anthem.

The ceremony that followed featured speakers, including Dean Lesley A. Northrop, provost and executive vice-president Ronald Berkman, a associate dean.

Parading: Students hold flags during the Honors College Convocation on Oct. 13.

Christopher Lazaga
Staff writer

After the traditional year-long Honors College Parade around University Park, Honors College students and faculty made their way to the Graham Center ballroom for the highlight event of the day – the 8th Annual Honors College Convocation Ceremony. The ceremony recognizes Honors College students for outstanding achievement and work throughout the year.

Guests were greeted with bagpipe music and a podium stood in front of a large projection screen in the center of the stage with chairs lined up on either side. After the students – many wearing the Honors College signature polo – took their seats, Lesley A. Northrop, dean of the Honors College, stepped up to the podium and welcomed them. The color guard presented the American flag and the Florida flag, after which members of the FIU Big Band played the National Anthem.

Fellow John Kneisi, Honors College Fellow Charraine Del-razacso and Honors College Fellow Andrew Graf.

An assortment of musical performances took place in between the speakers. Musicians performed pieces ranging from hard rock to jazz to solo music. Among the musicians were Malen Palomo and Bradley Samore, Ayman Elsayien, Noel Hernandez and Nikolas Balseiro.

At the end of the ceremony, Honors College students were recognized for their academic excellence. Recognition and prizes were awarded to first, second, and third place finalists in the categories of photography, art, film, poetry, personal essays, short stories, critical papers and musical compositions.


The Beacon – October 15, 2008 www.fi usm.com

In a lot of ways it is hard to describe right now exactly what the culture of the institution, so it would be difficult for me to say now exactly how the dollar figures would be.

One thing we deal with in advancement is the numbers. We can’t run from those, and in course we’ll figure out where we want to go and how progressive we want to be. The other factor would be how the economy is as of late, and we can’t ignore the economy so we have to pay attention to that.

TB: Do you have any expectations or goals set for your first year at the University?

RC: I want to get in and get a feel for the personalities, the culture of the institution, so it would be difficult for me to say now exactly how the dollar figures would be. One thing we deal with in advancement is the numbers. We can’t run from those, and in course we’ll figure out where we want to go and how progressive we want to be. The other factor would be how the economy is as of late, and we can’t ignore the economy so we have to pay attention to that.

TB: Do you have any expectations or goals set for your first year at the University?

RC: I want to get in and get a feel for the personalities, the culture of the institution, so it would be difficult for me to say now exactly how the dollar figures would be. One thing we deal with in advancement is the numbers. We can’t run from those, and in course we’ll figure out where we want to go and how progressive we want to be. The other factor would be how the economy is as of late, and we can’t ignore the economy so we have to pay attention to that.
Med School accepts new students

The FIU College of Medicine is sending its first batch of acceptance letters to students across the country on Oct. 15. The students have four weeks to pay the $200 deposit and decide whether they want to reserve a seat. Members of the College of Medicine are not allowed to disclose how many letters are being sent. Director of Admissions and Records Betty L. Monfort said she is also unable to say how many students were accepted from FIU, but she was impressed with the University’s applications. “I’m very pleasantly surprised out of the pool of FIU candidates, how well they filled the community service requirement,” Monfort said. An approximate 2,700 students applied to the College of Medicine, and students from all IV League schools were accepted, according to Monfort. Some of the minimum requirements to be part of the inaugural class included a 3.0 GPA and a 23 MCAT score. Monfort said she could not say the mean MCAT scores of the students accepted, but she is satisfied with the type of applicants interested in attending the College of Medicine. “We’ve been overwhelmed by the number and caliber of the applicants,” Monfort said. All medical school hopefuls have until May 15 to have just one seat reserved, according to Barbara Roller, College of Medicine assistant dean for student affairs.

A hard look at football game security demanded

RAGE, page 1

Sergerio Bonilla
Asst. News Director

The University’s PantherSoft Student Administration system will be “frozen” to make way for a new upgrade. The system will be available with limited capabilities from Oct. 18-27.

During this time, students will be able to view their student information, but will not be able to request official transcripts, change system data, make online payments, or post any transactions on their accounts.

The system will also shut down between 2:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on Oct. 18 to make way for the upgrade.

Psychology students collect shoes for areas hit by hurricanes

A group of psychology students have begun a shoe drive for areas affected by hurricanes this year, such as Haiti.

The students are teaming up with www.shoestorhaitikids.com to collect shoes for children and are shipping them to Haiti using containers they have been able to secure by making contacts in Miami.

The students are asking for new and gently used shoes and anything flat (such as sneakers), as this is what is really needed in Haiti.

Local News

Florida to invest $15 million on renewable energy

Gov. Charlie Crist is asking public and private entities to submit renewable energy and energy-efficiency proposals for state grants.

Florida will spend $15 million in grants, with $8 million going towards bioenergy projects.

Compiled by Julio Menache

NEWS FLASH

FIU

University to freeze PantherSoft system

The University’s PantherSoft Student Administration system will be “frozen” to make way for a new upgrade. The system will be available with limited capabilities from Oct. 18-27.

During this time, students will be able to view their student information, but will not be able to request official transcripts, change system data, make online payments, or post any transactions on their accounts.

The system will also shut down between 2:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on Oct. 18 to make way for the upgrade.

Psychology students collect shoes for areas hit by hurricanes

A group of psychology students have begun a shoe drive for areas affected by hurricanes this year, such as Haiti.

The students are teaming up with www.shoestorhaitikids.com to collect shoes for children and are shipping them to Haiti using containers they have been able to secure by making contacts in Miami.

The students are asking for new and gently used shoes and anything flat (such as sneakers), as this is what is really needed in Haiti.

Local News

Florida to invest $15 million on renewable energy

Gov. Charlie Crist is asking public and private entities to submit renewable energy and energy-efficiency proposals for state grants.

Florida will spend $15 million in grants, with $8 million going towards bioenergy projects.

Compiled by Julio Menache

NEWS FLASH

FIU

University to freeze PantherSoft system

The University’s PantherSoft Student Administration system will be “frozen” to make way for a new upgrade. The system will be available with limited capabilities from Oct. 18-27.

During this time, students will be able to view their student information, but will not be able to request official transcripts, change system data, make online payments, or post any transactions on their accounts.

The system will also shut down between 2:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on Oct. 18 to make way for the upgrade.

Psychology students collect shoes for areas hit by hurricanes

A group of psychology students have begun a shoe drive for areas affected by hurricanes this year, such as Haiti.

The students are teaming up with www.shoestorhaitikids.com to collect shoes for children and are shipping them to Haiti using containers they have been able to secure by making contacts in Miami.

The students are asking for new and gently used shoes and anything flat (such as sneakers), as this is what is really needed in Haiti.

Local News

Florida to invest $15 million on renewable energy

Gov. Charlie Crist is asking public and private entities to submit renewable energy and energy-efficiency proposals for state grants.

Florida will spend $15 million in grants, with $8 million going towards bioenergy projects.

Compiled by Julio Menache
COOK-OFF, page 1

second place...second place

Pamela Duque can be contact-

Tender ribs, manners

aid in securing top spot

At the Bay

Tender ribs, manners

aid in securing top spot

Tien, a teaching assistant in hos-
pitality management.

“I feel great that we won. We
were competing against culinary
schools, and we are not a culi-
nary school. We are a manage-
ment school. I feel very proud
of being on the team.” Tien said.

The judges - John Tanasychuk,
Sun-Sentinel food writer, Howie
Kleinberg, a former contestant
on the show “Top Chef,” and
Kelly Sheehan, chef at Kitchen
305 in Sunny Isles Beach - an-
ounced the winner after tasting
each dish.

“The FIU team’s dish” had a
true, traditional flavor with some
innovations. It was chewy but also
tender,” Tanasychuk said. “The
frozen mojito shooter also gave
us a cosmo-like sensation.”

“The judges not only evaluated
the teams’ dishes, but also their
service. FIU’s attention to guests
and judges was also a plus, accord-
ing to Tanasychuk, who said they
were “cordial and very nice.”

“FIU did an outstanding job,
and we are happy to present them
as the winner,” Festinger said.

Pamela Duque can be contact-
ed at pamela.duque@fiusm.com.

Tender ribs, manners

aid in securing top spot

Speaker to address marine sciences in lecture

Sarah Handy, a graduate from the University of Mary-
land, will be speaking on Oct. 17 at 12 p.m. in room 105 in the
Marine Sciences building.

Her lecture, titled, “Molecular tools to study ecology and
systematics of protists,” is going to be focused on determin-
ing and understanding the microbial role of algae, according to an
e-mail sent out to the department.

Handy’s lecture is the third installment in the Marine Sci-
cences lecture series.

The deadline to apply for the positions
is Nov. 7. Selection workshops will take
place Nov. 14 at both campuses. The work-
shop at UP will take place from 7 a.m. to
7 p.m. in GC 243, and the session at BBC
will be from 1 p.m to 3 p.m in WUC 155.

For more information and session
schedules, visit the Campus Life offices
at 305-919-5804.
New club puts African culture on the forefront

HEATHER DULMAN
Staff Writer

In an effort to promote African culture, history and heritage, Esther Hamilton came up with an idea for a new club at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The hospitality management senior said it took her three months of preparation, and that the club’s main goal is to travel to different nations in Africa each year, starting with Egypt.

“Our club has a lot to do with history. We want to inform students about the rich history and heritage of Africa,” said Hamilton, who is the club’s president. “Africa is a continent, which many people are shamefully not aware of. There are over 50 countries, each with many different ethnic groups, history, religions, languages, cuisine, fashion, music, etc. . . .”

Club Africa has been active since August 2008, and it already has 30 members, according to Hamilton. Its executive board members include Hamilton, as well as Vice President Lidj Tafari and his mother, Ida Tafari, professor of anthropology of the African and African Diaspora Studies Program and the faculty adviser.

“Africa is still the center of the world. Most of the world is fighting to be there, to own African resources and become Africa, gain a deep understanding of its importance,” Tafari said. “Since we hear nothing of Africa in this hemisphere, we think it is essential to understand this very strange relationship the Western world has (had) with Africa historically and today.”

Hamilton said the club will be sponsoring several events in the Fall semester, ranging from wine tastings and movie nights, to a trip to Bush Gardens, Fairchild Tropical Gardens and a group dinner in an Ethiopian restaurant.

“We are planning an African festival in April 2009,” said Hamilton. “It is only in its preliminary stages. It will combine culinary arts, music, fashion, art, celebration of natural hair and beauty, entertainment, dance and retail with vendors who have access to imports directly from African nations. We are currently seeking sponsors to help us promote and develop our event.”

The festival’s goal is to raise money for the club’s trip to Egypt, which will be its first international trip.

The club is also hosting a South African Wine Tasting with the Friends of Wine club on Oct. 27. It is in the Hospitality Management dining room at 4 p.m. There will be a $5 admission fee for the event.

According to Hamilton, Publix in Aventura and Fresh Market on Biscayne Boulevard has Golden Kaan wines imported from South Africa; one of their well-known blended wines is called Pinotage.

A side from funds from the Student Organization Council, the club has set up an online fund raiser at www.magnfundrais ing.com/clubafrica where instead of paying dues, members receive a magazine subscription, and Club Africa receives 40 percent of all the profit from the Web site. The magazines are available to anyone who would like to purchase them, not only members.

Club Africa’s meetings are held every Tuesday, in which they discuss various issues currently affecting children, men, and women in Africa and African Diaspora, according to Hamilton.

“The majority of the educational part of our club will be discussed in our meetings,” Hamilton said. “Including China’s development in a wide variety of African nations, the genocide in Rwanda and Sudan, tourism, education, epidemics [such as] HIV/AIDS, Ebola and Malaria, sexism in political systems, female genital mutilation, religion, sports, shamans, famine, etc . . .”

Neville Gayle, a club member and senior in sociology, said he was passing through a club fair and thought the idea was great for a club.

“The idea of Club Africa, for me, presented a good learning experience that could be shared with peers,” Gayle said.

The club wants dedicated and active students to join, Hamilton said. She wants to focus on portraying and presenting the many positive sides of Africa.

CAMPUS TALK

What was your first reaction to the new cafeteria?

Adriana Egozcue
Junior
“Not a lot of diversity. They have a lot of places to eat at the other campuses.”

Brian Harris
Sophomore
“Finally, it’s open! They are really cheerful at Moe’s. It has a nice view.”

Hannah-Grace Oxar
Sophomore
“The place is nice, but I wish they had healthier choices.”

Roshana Gassoff
Junior
“Lowering A&S Fees because a lot of money is going to places we don’t know.”

Brian Krass
Sophomore
“It’s great. If I would have had Subway one more time, I would have thrown up.”

Natalie Lopez
Senior
“Where’s Subway?”

Lianamar Davila
Junior
“It’s beautiful, nothing on the campus looks like this.”

Yagen Gutierrez
Junior
“I love it! It’s so different than the other campus.”
Right to vote: a choice that shouldn’t be forced

MATTHEW RUCKMAN
Staff Writer

It seems strangers with clipboards approach you at every square of sidewalk, asking if you have registered to vote. Their mission: to combat the voter apathy so prevalent at FIU.

But is voter apathy a problem? Something is troublesome about these solicitors, apart from their ability to make you lie; because while they may have good intentions, promoting participation in the democratic process, they are also making the statement that there is no other criteria besides having a pulse.

In a 2005 Harris Interactive Survey, only 55 percent of adult Americans surveyed could correctly identify the three branches of government.

The survey suggests that a little under half of the U.S. population does not understand how the government works, much less what that guy in that White House actually does.

A scary thought given, that those, motorists, most people think they’re above average, when in all probability they’re just average.

The average are unable to explain the Presidential powers, which would only delude them into even more of a political rut, once they vote and act upon.

What votemongers like Rock The Vote, Youth Voter Strategies or those people1 who gather you on the street, don’t seem to get is that being a citizen isn’t so much defined by your ability to vote, but rather, by your ability to understand.

Any monkey can pull a lever after all.

So soliciting a voter, who may not know what they’re voting for, negates another possibly informed vote. These solicitations essentially deconstruct what democracy is meant to accomplish by this gradual addition of ignorant votes.

The sum effect: an unpolitical individual casting an ignorant vote that leads to the inauguration of an ignorant president into office.

With this in mind, what’s wrong with a little voter apathy? According to the U.S. Census, only 47 percent of 18 to 24 year olds voted in the 2004 presidential election. Some see this as horrible, an affront to democracy and equate it to a right to vote with an obligation to vote.

They tell the average student, that if they really feel that it is a form of expression, they should be allowed. It is a stretch to call wearing a shirt that promotes a particular candidate should not be allowed. It is a stretch to call wearing a shirt electioneering.

While I do agree that wearing a politically musical hat under this law would be considered an electioneering.

I think wearing shirts should be allowed. It is a stretch to call wearing a shirt electioneering; it is so passive that it is not really campaigning and it should not be prohibited.” Smith said.

State Democratic Party Chairman T.J. Rooney said GOP support for the dress code is a partisan effort to scare away new voters.

To go [to the polls] and engage in an expression of democracy can say is, “I don’t know,” and withdraw, rather, by your ability to understand.

They say that there’s nothing substantive to associate to. So apathy is understandable. Withdrawal is a symptom, abandonment is a sign, not just of a disinterested citizen, but a failure by government, and by extension the election.

What happens when the voter turns out will be this time around, but if only a portion of those who are eligible turn out, it will be no surprise.

When a citizen is given the choice between poison and poison, big government and bigger government, they, for good reason, don’t want to make a choice, and apathy seems the only rational alternative. Maybe it is.
World’s cleanest car now headed stateside

KEVIN CASTRO
Staff Writer

Driving the world’s cleanest car is no longer a luxury for the affluent environmentalists. Motor Development International, a French-based company, has finally developed what is believed to be the first affordable and efficient air car.

The air car, recently renamed FlowAIR, uses a new compressed air engine in addition to gasoline and biofuels to run. This new engine is what separates the air car from any other car. Unlike hybrids, which need either large amounts of electricity or water and gas, the air car only needs air and little to no gas.

A according to manufacturer, Zero Pollution Motors' online center, the air car can be refilled with air at home or in your parking garage by plugging it into a power outlet. The air tanks are each comprised of 3,200 cubic feet of compressed air at 4,500 psi. “That’s 306 atmospheres of pressure. It’s a lot,” said Dr. Brian Raue, an associate professor in the University’s Physics department.

Current plans at ZPM indicate that refilling the air tank will only cost consumers $2 a month. In addition, the compressed air tank automatically refills when driving at higher speeds.

According to ZPM, these attributes are not the primary benefits of the air car. They say it will also be the world’s cleanest vehicle.

ZPM states that when travelling under 35 mph, the air car is running exclusively on compressed air, emitting only air and therefore releasing zero pollution.

The air expelled from the tail pipe is actually cleaner than the air used to fill the tank. This is because before compression, the air is run through carbon filters to eliminate dirt, dust, humidity and other urban air impurities that could harm the engine’s performance.

A speeds over 35 mph the air car uses small amounts of fuel; either gasoline, propane, ethanol or biofuels. These fuels are used to heat air inside a heating chamber as it enters the engine.

This process produces emissions of only 0.141 pounds of CO2 per mile. “It is four times less than the average. Yes, it is significant,” said Dr. Krish Jayachandran, associate professor of soil science for the Environmental Studies department.

ZPM states that the air car is designed to make a major difference in urban areas, especially where motor vehicles are the single largest contributor to ground-level ozone, a major component of smog.

The air car is also touted as safer than most vehicles. The body is composed of fiberglass and injected foam, which, according to ZPM, is safer, easier to repair and does not rust.

To guarantee a secure joint, the chassis is composed of aluminum rods and is glued similarly to aircraft.

“You could have a strongly built car with epoxy [glue], after all, airplane wings are largely held on with glue,” Raue said.

ZPM is planning to release the car in the spring of 2010 for a manufacturer suggested retail price of $17,800. “I highly recommend it,” Jayachandran said.
LIFE!

The Beacon – October 15, 2008

www.fi usm.com

JOIN OUR STAFF!

The BEACON is always looking for talented individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

Artists draw inspiration from their morbid fascinations

On Oct. 11, the Wynwood Art District had its monthly gallery walk. All participating galleries in the art district are open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the second Saturday of every month serving wine, cheese and very contemporary art.

My top pick from the galleries and their exhibitions this past Saturday is “The Living Dead” exhibition. It is located at the Harold Golen Gallery and showcases two contemporary painters, Pooch and Paul Torres.

There is much hype in the Miami art scene but, at this gallery, with extremely bizarre, affordable art, neither hype nor inflation was an issue. Both artists’ work repulsed me - in a good way. I felt removed from the social commotion as the paintings sucked me in while strolling through the exhibition. The potency of some of the work was so bad it was good, and the renderings clearly portrayed the art being alive and taking over the world, at least in that moment.

Pooch and Torres express a common zeitgeist in pointing out our love for corruption, greed, sensationalism, violence and desensitization. When I looked at Pooch’s work I saw influences of HR Geiger, who fathered the blockbuster series “Alien,” starring Sigourney Weaver. I also see early childhood influences of Guns N’ Roses album covers and tattoo parlors.

He states his influences are a range of arenas from world and other tourist traps, to early artists such as the geometric genius M.C. Escher and the surrealist mastermind Salvador Dali. Beyond tourist traps, Pooch has even a darker side. He mentioned Hieronymus Bosch, and this is significant. Bosch was a famous painter from the Netherlands during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The artist’s work is well-known for the use of grotesque imagery to illustrate moral and religious concepts and narratives of his time, receiving numerous commissions.

Much like Bosch, Pooch seems to have his own stigmatas to reinvent and depict current society, clearly defining our love for vulgarity and desensitization. I see this translated in his “Absinthe Drinkers,” as well as in “Sawblade Salute.” One would think he was making a statement about the blockbuster horror series “Saw.”

However, Pooch mixes issues and war commentary and also references a variety of cultures including symbolic figures from Tibetan rituals and the M exican Day of the Dead.

Considering that Pooch is a self-taught artist, he renders his whimsical ideas well. I highly recommend the second Saturday at the Design District and encourage a visit to the Harold Golen Gallery, where admission is free.

www.haroldgolengallery.com

EVIL HAS A NEW FACE.
TWO OF THEM, TO BE EXACT.

HOWL-O-SCREAM
at Busch Gardens

SELECT NIGHTS
NOW THRU NOVEMBER 1

SAVE UP TO $28 ON ADVANCE PURCHASE

WWW.RAVENTWINS.COM OR CALL 1-888-800-5447

SPONSORED BY FLEX

28 The Beacon – October 15, 2008
Members of the Jewish faith reaffirm their commitment

I haven’t had a morsel of food or a sip of water for 23 hours – almost a full day. I’m getting a little bit dizzy. It’s tough to stand. I’ve been in synagogue for almost 10 hours since sundown last night. I sit down in my seat for a minute to compose myself, regain my concentration. I look around, take some of the environment in.

Today is Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, is a phenomenon unlike any other in the world. A Jew participates in Yom Kippur mainly for himself, to refill his own moral gas tank.

Today, I start anew, no baggage. I will wake up tomorrow ready to shock the world, all while being the best Jew I can. In order to repent completely, show dedication to myself, my family, my community, my people and, most importantly, to G-d, I will refrain from eating and drinking for 25 hours.

Humility, a pillar of Judaism, overtakes someone when the simplest pleasures in life, such as food and bath, are not allowed.

Although each of us is just a small part of a whole, the things we do affect other people, so it is very important to neither desecrate nor shame Judaism – we have enough trouble in the world.

I apologized to my father, not for anything I might have lost five or six pounds along the journey, but what I’ve gained can’t be put on paper.

I’m glad I was able to share this unbelievable experience with my community, my synagogue, and Jews worldwide.

A Jew participates in Yom Kippur mainly for himself, to refill his own moral gas tank.

HONORABLE MENTION

Delivering FIU sports to your door, radio and computer

Listen live to FIU Football on Radiate FM

Arkansas State
November 8th
7 PM
Louisiana At Monroe
November 22nd
7 PM
@ FAU
November 29th
4 PM
Western Kentucky
December 6th
7 PM

Serving the latest FIU sports through three mediums:

Mondays - Wednesdays - Fridays

ALWAYS AVAILABLE AND UPDATED 24/7
NOTEBOOK: FOOTBALL

Bosilj ‘Shocked’ to be named to All-Sun Belt team

ANDREW JULIAN
Sports Director

Gone: LaQuetta Ferguson, Iva Ciglar
Insert: Monika Bosilj.

The leading returning scorer for FIU women’s hoops, Bosilj, was named to the 2008-09 Preseason All-Sun Belt team at the conference media day Oct. 13. “I’m shocked, I’m happy and I’m glad I played through last season, and that I didn’t quit in the middle because of my injury,” said Bosilj of her accomplishment. Bosilj played much of last season with a torn labrum in her right shoulder, her shooting arm.

“I’m fully recovered, so I’m happy to start playing again,” said the junior from Varazdin, Croatia, who averaged 11.4 points per game a season ago. She stepped it up tremendously for the Golden Panthers after Ferguson’s injury.

Bosilj averaged 19 points per over the last seven contests, leading up to the Sun Belt tournament in Mobile, Ala. Bosilj has a positive outlook on the upcoming season despite the team having lost its leading scorer and starting point guard in Ferguson and Ciglar, as well as its main perimeter defensive stopper in Aisha Neal.

“We got two players back from last season that were injured, [Marquita A diey] and Elisa [Carey], we are really excited; we have a good individual team, we just need to put it all together.” Carey and A diey started on the front line for FIU last season, but both were lost for the year after just six games. A diey to torn ligaments in her thumb, and Carey to a torn ACL.

NEW LEADER: Monika Bosilj must carry more of a leadership role in her third year.

SIGH OF RELIEF

VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

FIRST VICTORY: Sophomore forward Claudia Cardenas netted the game winner for FIU against ULM on Oct. 12 in overtime. It was FIU’s first win of 2008.

GAILTOR BAIT: Sophomore cornerback Anthony Gaitor, who tied a school record with two interceptions against Middle Tennessee, and returned one for a touchdown, was named Sun Belt conference defensive player of the week for his efforts in FIU’s 31-21 victory.

Young players leading the way for FIU at midterm

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

FIU cornerback Anthony Gaitor had a career game in Saturday’s win against Middle Tennessee and was rewarded for it on Monday.

Gaitor, a sophomore, was named Sun Belt Conference defensive player of the week for the first time in his career for his stellar performance.

The former Miami Northwestern High defender had two interceptions that accounted for 98 yards overall. The first takeaway of the game was a 71-yard return that set up the Golden Panthers at their opponent’s 12-yard line, and the second interception was returned for a touchdown that gave FIU its biggest lead of the game.

Gaitor also became the second Golden Panther to win an SBC player of the week award this year, as T.Y Hilton was named on September 13th after a win at Toledo.

He now has a team-leading three interceptions this season.

BREAKING OUT

Freshman receiver Junior Mertile has seen his fellow 1st year teammate Hilton break his share of big plays on his way to 4 touchdowns and a team-leading 66 yards through six games.

Mertile, however, is quietly developing into the most consistent pass-catching threat on the Golden Panthers.

There are four offensive linemen and three defensive backs among the commitments. The Golden Panthers signed 24 recruits in the 2008 class.
HITTING THEIR STRIDE
Volleyball holds serve at home with weekend victories

JONATHAN ALPERT
Asst. Sports Director

The FIU women’s volleyball team remains unbeaten at home (7-0), topping the Denver Pioneers in an exciting 5 sets Friday night (24-26, 22-25, 25-21, 25-18, 15-13) and disposing of North Texas, sweeping the Mean Green in 3 sets on Sunday afternoon (25-18, 25-17, 25-20).

FIU 3, DENVER 2
It was looking bleak for FIU early in a 5 set marathon win vs. Denver Friday night (24-26, 22-25, 25-21, 25-18, 15-13). Denver hadn’t lost in nearly a month and was in control of the match early, winning two sets to none. FIU held a 24-21 first set lead until Denver strung together 5 straight points to take the set 26-21. Denver edged FIU 25-22 in the second set, controlling the set and trailing to FIU only once, 1-0. The last time FIU was down 2-0, they were swept at Iowa State.

In the third set, FIU led 23-18 until Denver fought back to make it 23-21. FIU called a timeout in an effort to avoid being swept by giving up their second late set lead of the match. Isadora Rangel won the next two points and FIU took the set 25-21.

FIU dominated in the fourth set, and led 21-18 late, Yarimar Rosa served the next four points to help FIU tie the match at 2 sets a piece and FIU took the set 25-21.

FIU dominated in the fifth set, and won 25-20. The Golden Panthers improved to 3-1 in five set matches this year with a 15-13 5th set clincher. With FIU up 14-13, Denver committed one of their eight service errors of the match to give FIU the set and match.

“When we were in the locker room [after the second set] we knew we couldn’t lose our first home game,” All-American Outside Hitter Yarimar Rosa said. “I think after coach talked to us, everyone changed their attitude.” Rosa, leading the nation in kills per set, notched a season high 33 kills hitting an excellent .452. Rosa added solid defense with 16 digs. Outside hitter Isadora Rangel committed one error and added 21 kills, hitting .408. Setter Natalia Valentin set a career-high with 64 assists and added 13 digs on defense.

“We turned it up in the third set,” Head Coach Danijela Tomic said. “I told the team in the locker room ‘we are playing for the Sun Belt Championship’. I’m just very proud of them. They are such a young team and be able to come back after losing the first two sets says a lot of about the character of our kids.”

FIU 3, NORTH TEXAS 0
FIU won via sweep for the 9th time this season, taking care of North Texas in sets (25-18, 25-17, 25-20). FIU led for most of the match; with North Texas efficient play from both squads. FIU hit a .367; their best of the afternoon, and North Texas hit .280. FIU led for the entirety of the third set, and won 25-20.

A tale of two games: Volleyball continuing to mature

The FIU volleyball team has put the Sun Belt Conference on notice, going 3-1 over the last two weekends, and improving to 15-4 over all and 5-1 in league play. Taking the focus off the wins, and placing it on the how, some interesting questions arise, and projects an interesting dichotomy is projected on the volleyball court.

On the Friday hand (vs. Denver), you have a team that started sloppy, but was able to play a close opening two sets, despite the fact that FIU held a hitting percentage average over the Denver Pioneers. FIU was still able to come up with a thrilling five set win over a previously unbeaten conference opponent in a match that could hardly be described as anything but epic.

On the Sunday hand (vs. North Texas), the Golden Panthers picked up a sweep of SBC West celtar dweller North Texas, but in an uninspiring fashion. FIU allowed a season best, .054 hitting percentage and 12 team blocks, but was not satisfied with its defensive performance. “Every time we play a team not on [our] level, we seem to go down [to their level]” said FIU setter Natalia Valentin.

The let down that Danijela Tomic looked to avoid after the five set Western Kentucky win came to pass, but her team was still able to find a way to defend its home court for the seventh time in as many tries this season.

I mentioned earlier in the season that it takes time for young teams to learn how to win, when the Golden Panthers won their first five set match of the season, over Old Dominion. Now the Golden Panthers, who are 3-1 in five setters this year, are hitting that point in the season where sophomores become juniors and juniors become seniors.

Maturity is setting in for the Golden Panthers, and it can be seen in the two ways seen this previous weekend, and those manners were far different, first fighting through a slow start to rally in a marathon win over WKU, and finding the energy to make short work of UNT.

ROLLING ALONG: Mariana Drumeva, the lone senior starter for the Golden Panthers, has an excellent defensive season.