Wall of Wind teaches storm smarts at Epcot

SOLDANUS MUYICA
Contributing Writer

The College of Engineering’s Wall of Wind is now part of Epcot in the Walt Disney World Resort.

“Storm Struck: The Tale of Two Homes” is a new attraction that simulates hurricane weather for fun and education. Before entering the attraction, tourists are handed 3-D glasses to watch a video demonstrating how the project came about. Featuring the University’s “RenaissanceRe’s Wall of Wind,” the attraction is designed to help people learn about the risks of natural disasters, according to stormscope.com. Audiences can also team up to build storm-proof houses and even create their own mini-storms at the end of the attraction.

In the video, The Weather Channel’s Jim Cantore explains how the Wall of Wind works as it destroys a small house. Leslie Chapman-Henderson, who helped create the experience, said during the “Storm Struck” grand opening.

“The Wall of Wind will give us information to come up with better building designs and [construction] techniques,” said Arindam Gan Chowdhury, FIU’s lead wind engineer and researcher, in the Miami Herald article.

“We want families to know that there are things they can do when they confront natural disasters, that luck is not the best tool that they have available to them,” Henderson said during the “Storm Struck” grand opening.

We want families to know that there are things they can do when they confront natural disasters...
Leslie Chapman-Henderson, President IHRC

SOLDANUS MUYICA
Contributing Writer

Give audiences a demonstration to something similar as to what they will be experiencing in ‘Storm Struck,’” Henderson said.

The man behind the “RenaissanceRe’s Wall of Wind” is Stephen P. Leatherman, chair professor and director of IHRC. Leatherman’s Wall of Wind is the only one of its kind.

“Until you actually do it, you don’t know how these building materials and construction techniques will actually stand up,” Leatherman said in a Miami Herald article in 2006.

This wall of giant fans with wind speeds of over 100 mph was created to continue the revol- utionizing of South Florida’s construc-
tion in houses and buildings.

The six-fan prototype Wall of Wind was funded by the Florida Department of Community Affairs and RenaissanceRe Holdings in Bermuda.

“The Wall of Wind will give us information to come up with better building designs and [construction] techniques,” said Arindam Gan Chowdhury, FIU’s lead wind engineer and researcher, in the Miami Herald article.

“We want families to know that there are things they can do when they confront natural disasters, that luck is not the best tool that they have available to them,” Henderson said during the “Storm Struck” grand opening.

Wall of Wind teaches storm smart...

EVERYBODY WAS CAPOEIRA FIGHTING

FROST ART MUSEUM

Opening exhibitions attract community to new building

MONICA PUERTO
Staff Writer

It’s been 10 years since the idea was first conceived and the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum now occupies 46,000 sq. feet.

“It is built site responsive, meaning it is built in correspondence to the lake and curves around it. It’s also built from the outside in,” said Susan Thomas, the membership coordinator for the museum, giving insight to the architect Yann Weymouth’s reason of the build-
ing’s location and design.

In 2001, the Frost Museum signed an agreement with the Smithsonian Institution on sharing the use of its artifacts and resourc-es with Miami. Through private donations and local and state government agencies, the Frost Museum allows free admission to the public to all the exhibitions and public events. The Museum’s official opening was Nov. 29.

Exhibitions such as “Modern Masters” will consist of works from the Smithsonian Institution during the modern mid-20th cen-
tury, focusing on 43 key paintings.

These paintings depict three themes: “Grand Gestures,” which focuses on altarpiece art with bold colors; “Optics and Order,” which are balanced colored and “New Images of Man” which delves into the personal lives of the artists and search of their surroundings.

The museum will also feature an inaugural exhibition with works from its permanent collection, in-
cluding FIU alumna Luita Marie Basmeuño’s solo exhibition.

On Dec. 3, the museum will also have a Student Day sponsored by Target. Student Day will allow students to see exhibitions and take tours of the museum. Free food will be provided.

Along with all these new exhib-
tions and events, the Frost Museum is giving great opportuni-
ties to students interested in the arts to become a museum ambas-
sador, an intern or a volunteer.

The Frost Ambassador Program recruits and trains students to gain more experience in the museum environment by conducting tours and researching the collections and works of art.

The Intern Program allows students to become tour guides to young children and teach educa-
tional workshops.

The Volunteer Program looks for people who want to help in event planning and promoting the events, which would be a valuable experience for people in the com-
munications and public relations field.

“It is so amazing seeing the transition from a student gallery to this amazing museum with a permanent collection, exhibitions and events and involvement with the students. There is no other mu-
seum like this. I am so lucky to have such a cultural institution near me,” said Museum Assistant Nicole Espallard, who used to be an intern.

Carol Damian, the intern dirig-
tor and the curator of the perma-
nent collection, emphasized how important it is to let students know the availability of the museum’s resources.

Damian is also involved in making the Frost Museum acces-
sible to students: she even allowed classes to take place in the muse-
um when there was lack of space in the University.

“Students come first, this mu-
seum was built on campus for a reason, it is a museum for the stu-
dents. They are our biggest focus,” Damian said.

For more information on the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, check out www.fiuartmuseum.org. 

MONICA PUERTO
Staff Writer

It’s been 10 years since the idea was first conceived and the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum now occupies 46,000 sq. feet.

“It is built site responsive, meaning it is built in correspondence to the lake and curves around it. It’s also built from the outside in,” said Susan Thomas, the membership coordinator for the museum, giving insight to the architect Yann Weymouth’s reason of the building’s location and design.

In 2001, the Frost Museum signed an agreement with the Smithsonian Institution on sharing the use of its artifacts and resources with Miami. Through private donations and local and state government agencies, the Frost Museum allows free admission to the public to all the exhibitions and public events. The Museum’s official opening was Nov. 29.

Exhibitions such as “Modern Masters” will consist of works from the Smithsonian Institution during the modern mid-20th century, focusing on 43 key paintings.

These paintings depict three themes: “Grand Gestures,” which focuses on altarpiece art with bold colors; “Optics and Order,” which are balanced colored and “New Images of Man” which delves into the personal lives of the artists and search of their surroundings.

The museum will also feature an inaugural exhibition with works from its permanent collection, including FIU alumna Luita Marie Basmeuño’s solo exhibition.

On Dec. 3, the museum will also have a Student Day sponsored by Target. Student Day will allow students to see exhibitions and take tours of the museum. Free food will be provided.

Along with all these new exhibitions and events, the Frost Museum is giving great opportunities to students interested in the arts to become a museum ambassador, an intern or a volunteer.

The Frost Ambassador Program recruits and trains students to gain more experience in the museum environment by conducting tours and researching the collections and works of art.

The Intern Program allows students to become tour guides to young children and teach educational workshops.

The Volunteer Program looks for people who want to help in event planning and promoting the events, which would be a valuable experience for people in the communications and public relations field.

“It is so amazing seeing the transition from a student gallery to this amazing museum with a permanent collection, exhibitions and events and involvement with the students. There is no other museum like this. I am so lucky to have such a cultural institution near me,” said Museum Assistant Nicole Espallard, who used to be an intern.

Carol Damian, the intern director and the curator of the permanent collection, emphasized how important it is to let students know the availability of the museum’s resources.

Damian is also involved in making the Frost Museum accessible to students: she even allowed classes to take place in the museum when there was lack of space in the University.

“Students come first, this museum was built on campus for a reason, it is a museum for the students. They are our biggest focus,” Damian said.

For more information on the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, check out www.fiuartmuseum.org.

NEWS FLASH

FIU Homecoming Council cancels naming of Homecoming King and Queen

The University has cancelled its annual Homecoming Court for the University Park campus. The Reacon repeatedly tried to contact the Homecoming Council, a branch of Campus Life, but the organization could not be met to comment at the time of publication.

The Beacon is currently looking further into the matter.

NEWS FLASH

FIU Homecoming Council cancels naming of Homecoming King and Queen

The University has cancelled its annual Homecoming Court for the University Park campus. The Reacon repeatedly tried to contact the Homecoming Council, a branch of Campus Life, but the organization could not be met to comment at the time of publication.

The Beacon is currently looking further into the matter.

NEWS FLASH

FIU Homecoming Council cancels naming of Homecoming King and Queen

The University has cancelled its annual Homecoming Court for the University Park campus. The Reacon repeatedly tried to contact the Homecoming Council, a branch of Campus Life, but the organization could not be met to comment at the time of publication.

The Beacon is currently looking further into the matter.
CAUGHT CUPPING: Hal Neal, junior majoring in public relations, clips coupons at the Wolfe University Center information desk on Nov. 10. The BBC bookstore provides the coupon booklets pictured above.

On-campus dance classes add exercise, fun to routine

DAIANA KUCAWCA
Staff Writer

These days, students lack the time to take care of themselves and exercise without following the same routine, but the University is offering a variety of free dance classes that can break the monotony.

The Student Programming Council at the Bicasey Bay Campus sponsors salsa, ballroom and hip hop classes as part of the “Dancing with the Wolfe” series, while Campus Recreation offers a Street Cardio class.

The salsa classes, instructed by Jimmy Chang, take place every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center, room 157.

The ballroom classes are on Mondays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in WUC 155 with instructors Richard and Karen Campbell, who have years of experience dancing professionally, according to Melissa Binnes, Student Programming Council’s Hispanic Heritage co-chair.

“The [ballroom] class is a mix of five different styles, including Argentine Tango, cha-cha and rumba,” Binnes said.

The hip hop classes, taught by Ekanem Essiet, take place Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in WUC 330.

The “Dancing with the Wolfe” series was formed by SPC in an effort to promote art, dance and fun exercise to students, according to Binnes.

“It’s exercise camouflaged with fun,” Binnes said, adding that with the growing popularity of programs like “Dancing with the Stars,” people are more enthusiastic about wanting to learn how to dance.

These classes have been offered since fall 2007, and ever since, they have had no less than 20 students in attendance.

“They will be open until the week before finals and will be offered every subsequent semester of school, except during the summer terms, according to Binnes.

BBC Campuses Recreation is also offering free dance classes for students, faculty and staff.

Similar to SOC’s hip hop class, there is a street cardio class that takes place every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at BBC’s Fitness Center in WUC room 155. The class is taught by Celeste De Palma, and is based on rhythms like hip hop, dancehall and reggae, according to De Palma.

De Palma is a junior majoring in biology and a certified professor of dance fitness. She commutes from University Park to teach this dance class.

On Nov. 5, five girls joined the street cardio class. De Palma showed them the routine as they copied her moves on the large mirrored wall.

She repeated the dance steps to help them catch up with her moves, and they all followed Britney Spears’ beat.

“A little bit more gracious, not like this,” said De Palma as she stopped the music.

De Palma speaks very little during class, and only talks to mark the beats and makes the occasional correction. She also stops to answer questions about a specific move on step, but as soon as the music comes on, with the students mimicking her moves, she becomes a virtual Britney clone.

De Palma’s background is in rhythmic gymnastics, and she has been dancing since she was 8-years old.

De Palma has been recognized as one of BBC’s Golden Stars.

“This is not supposed to be a hip hop dance class. It’s supposed to be the equivalent of a cardio class,” De Palma said.

According to her, people can go here for a dance class instead of staying half an hour on the treadmill.

“This class is scheduled with respect to heart rates,” De Palma said. “This class will never get your heart rate completely down.”

The street cardio class will continue to take place every semester, “as long as [De Palma] is happy with it,” according to Warren Shaw, assistant director of Campus Life, Orientation and Recreation.

For more information, call 305-919-5678 or visit bbcres.u.edu.
New players to make immediate impact

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

In FIU head coach Sergio Rouco’s five seasons as men’s basketball coach, he hasn’t seen anything quite like it.

“This is the group of kids, I think, I am the most pleased with coming into a season,” he said.

The intangibles the team has coming into the season with the additions of center Freddy Asprilla, guard Michael Dominguez, forward J.C. Otero, and guard Harley Fuller have given Rouco something to beam about.

“They like each other. They respect each other. They are very giving to each other. Selfless,” he said. “I really enjoy them, they make it very enlightening to come to practice every day.”

Besides Otero, who will miss the start of the season with an injury, the group will be looked upon to play heavy minutes on the floor. One of the new Golden Panthers, Dominguez, showed exactly in what capacity he will contribute to FIU in the team’s lone pre-season contest.

“SHARPSHOOTER”

Dominguez netted four 3-pointers in a 61-57 victory against Nova Southeastern on Nov. 6, including a decisive one to win the game for the Golden Panthers.

The shooting guard from Northeastern Junior College is expected to be a mainstay on the perimeter, especially with forward Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

“I’ll go out on a limb and say that Freddy is the most talented and touted basketball freshman ever to sign here,” Rouco said.

The Colombian native is listed at 6’10”, and is probably generating most excitement of any of the newcomers this fall.

Harley Fuller, a steady point guard, will be forced to contribute right away for FIU, who is dealing with the loss of Josue Soto for an extended period of time with an injury.

“I’m excited to contribute immediately,” Fuller said.

Josue is a great player so I’m going to have to step up my game.”

A GOOD MIXTURE

Fuller also see’s the Golden Panthers creating opportunity by depending on each other. When healthy, the Golden Panthers have a chance to exhibit a solid amount of depth.

“Freddy just brings a post presence besides [Hicks] that teams are going to have a tough time matching up against,” he said. “Mike is a great three point shooter who is going to stretch out opposing defenses and make it harder to double down in the post.”

Dominguez senses a unity.

“From what I’ve heard and what I feel like, this is more of a team and we all look out for one another,” he said.

“It feels good. I came from a junior college team and we had a good team but a lot of people had their own agendas and wanted to do their own thing. It feels good to come here and fall more like a family.”

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

When Rouco was asked about Dominguez’ role in the lineup, he only had to reference to the amount of minutes he played in the lone exhibition.

“He played 39 minutes, I think that answers that question,” Rouco said about his new gunner playing all but one minute.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big’s in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.
Loss of top guards leaves inexperience in backcourt

AUDRENA BIGOS
Staff Writer

Ending last season with a 13-18 record was considered successful for the women’s basketball team after losing three starters to injuries.

Senior guards and team leaders Sibby Adels and Jaire Grissett were a focal point for their experience and production for the conference.

At the Golden Panthers beat the season with 10 returners and 1 newcomer, head coach Russo is focusing on developing the team and maximizing their potential.

“We are a very inexperienced team, especially after the loss of our two lead guards,” said Russo. “However, if we can stay healthy, then I am convinced we will make it for this season.”

As the team works with young players to prepare them for college play, others on the team are returning to lead the team into a rebuilding phase and fill the voids made during the off-season.

FOREST COURT

The front court is stocked with experienced returners.

Leading the team with 120 rebounds last season, 6-foot-2 senior forward Jasmine Jenkins is expected to contribute to scoring and defense. Jenkins started in 30 of the team’s 31 games and averaged 13.5 minutes over 27 games in 2010-11.

She also had five rebounds in the conference in the 70 minutes against the University of South Florida. At the time, Adels was averaging 9.2 points and 8.5 rebounds per game.

Elisa Carney, 6-foot-2 junior, returned after her knee surgery in 2007 that ended her season after two games.

6-foot-4 sophomore mop Knapp and 6-foot-4 sophomore Liane Jakabsone will also contribute to the front court. The pair was thrust into the line up last year due to injury, and gained valuable experience.

Alondra Gonzalez is newcomer to the 6-foot-7 freshman and 6-foot-1 sophomore Liene Jakabsone.

JASON RAMOS
Assistant Sports Director

POSITION BREAKDOWN
The Golden Panthers saw a few breakdovers during the 2009-2010 campaign when senior guards White and Michael James left the team for undetermined reasons. Coming into the new season, local Civicus deputus Maja Krajacic, 6-foot-1 sophomore, has already seen a few breakdowns in a different form as a result of injury point.

The team’s highly anticipated rehabilitation, back court minutes. was a member of the ’06 6A state championship team.

The FIU community will be able to face their cross-town rivals.

Asst. Sports Director

The Sun Belt Conference Tournament will take place right after the Golden Panthers loss the league’s leader in block shots, with 43.

T.Y. Hilton, will join the team at some point this season.

Nonetheless, the team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning for her season after two games.

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 and 20 games this season.

The team is led by a 6-foot-4 frame and can open the floor with his perimeter ability.
From 5240 miles away, a leader emerges for FIU

AUDRINA BIGOS
Staff Writer

Monika Bosilj’s tenure as a Golden Panther women’s basketball player is only a foreshadowing of what is to come for this junior shooting guard.

Her career began at FIU in 2006 after being scouted while playing for her country of Croatia during the European Championships at the end of the 2005-2006 season.

“I was playing for a national team in Croatia and last year’s team manager, Gordana Bedalov, recommended me to the coaching staff at FIU,” said Bosilj.

During the 2005-2006 season with PGM Ragusa, Bosilj helped the team to a third-place finish and was named MVP of the “Viudi Kup” in 2003 and 2004.

Bosilj competed with a club team in Croatia beginning at age 14. She continued her career with the PGM Ragusa for six years until she moved to the United States to become a Golden Panther at age 20.

“I miss my family, my mom’s food, and my friends, but I came to Miami to follow the dream of becoming a better basketball player,” said Bosilj.

Language barriers and alternative playing styles were some of the most difficult aspects of her transition to the United States.

“I knew English before I moved here but it is hard to understand and speak all the time in English,” said Bosilj, “but luckily I received help from friends and teammates that came to the states with me.”

Former teammate Eva Makela along with current teammate Maja Krajacic are also from Croatia, and according to Bosilj, played an essential role in transitioning to an English-speaking team.

Bosilj began at FIU with an undecided major, but now, she is pursuing a bachelors degree in criminal justice.

She hopes to gain experience at a local police station instead of traveling home to Croatia in the coming year.

“Because of the schedule I have, I usually only go home once a year to visit my family during summer A,” said Bosilj, “but this year I’m going to stay here (in Miami) and focus on getting an internship,” said Bosilj.

Although she is spending the year focusing on her degree, Bosilj first priority is preparing for a post-college basketball career.

“Well, my dream is to become a CSI agent but with practices and traveling I have no time to focus on forensics, which is important for my major,” said Bosilj.

Instead, she is fulfilling her desire to play in the WNBA upon graduation or maybe even playing professional basketball back home in Croatia.

For now, Monika is focused on the season and fulfilling her role as a team leader after the loss of two leading scorers during the off season.

She will not have a problem with this after finishing in the top 20 of the Sun Belt Conference scorers with an average of 11.4 points per game.

Her performance last season also place her among the top 10 in 3-point field goals made.

Bosilj is fully recovered from a shoulder injury that plagued her throughout the end of last season.

“A torn labrum in her shooting shoulder did little to limit Bosilj’s scoring although I did slow her down in practice. Bosilj averaged 15.6 per game after being injured, more than four points higher than her season average.

“Although there are many injuries slowing the Golden Panthers early in the season, FIU is hanging much of its potential success on newcomers like Harley Fuller (left), and Michael Dominguez (left), as well as highly touted big man, Freddy Asprilla.

NO ENTRY FEE TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

PREPARE TO BE SCHOOLED

FantasyFishing.com
FLWOutdoors.com

Boost your GPA! We’re talking about your Graduation Plan of Attack. Do it with 100% Tuition Assistance, low-cost healthcare, a supplemental paycheck, a career jump start, and up to a $20,000 bonus for specific jobs. All this as a member of the Air Force Reserve with no prior military experience needed.

FRESH FACES
We exist in a world full of secrets and disguised horrors. After the American Revolution, the nation took the first steps to voice an opposition to slavery in the United States. The American Civil War paved the way that later abolished chattel slavery — or so we thought.

To date, we regard slavery as a thing of the past. Unfortunately, it is not. We have yet to realize that slavery grew to be more than a mere dark chapter in American history. It is a universal chapter, and modern-day slavery — known as human trafficking — is a hidden secret in the world today.

Slavery is alive and thriving, and in fact, there are more slaves in the world today than there ever were in history.

Research conducted by Free the Slaves, a non-profit organization dedicated to liberating slaves around the world, suggests that the modern-day slavery industry is among the most profitable in the world. Evidence suggests that in 2007, slave traders made more money than Google, Nike and Starbucks put together — all on the backs of 27 million people.

These 27 million are comprised of child slaves, labor slaves, sex slaves and child soldiers — mostly found in India and African countries. One of the most difficult aspects to swallow is the magnitude of the success behind these occurrences.

The United Nations estimates that human trafficking generates $7 to $10 billion annually for traffickers, making it the third largest profitable activity, behind arms dealing and narcotics trafficking.

A cross-a-child, children are sold into prostitution or hard labor, sometimes by their own poverty-struck parents. According to the International Labor Organization, at least 1 million children are prostitutes, with the largest numbers in Thailand, India, Taiwan and the Philippines.

The ILO also indicates that Africa has the highest percentage of child laborers in the world with 80 million or 41 percent of African children. That’s almost half of all the children in the entire continent.

In Burma, some are actually kidnapped by the state and forced to become soldiers. Over 300,000 children under 18 are fighting in wars in over 30 countries.

The facts sound even darker when we can envision this occurring in our own backyard. Although some may assume atrocities of this nature only occur overseas, they are mistaken.

A additional research conducted by Free the Slaves with the University of California, Berkeley found documented cases of slavery and human trafficking in over 90 cities across the U.S.

The figures are disheartening because I, like many others, naively thought this kind of thing could only happen within corrupt countries and governments, it is not a matter of having a crooked government or having the perfect democracy. It’s a matter of becoming aware and taking action.

Simply put, governments are not stepping in, including our own. The situation is being ignored and the modern-day slavery industry becomes bigger and stronger every day.

In Africa, traffickers face a low risk of arrest and punishments. They exploit the lack of law and enforcement of existing anti-slavery laws. These loopholes allow perpetrators to go unpunished.

Weak government systems and the ignorance of poverty-ridden people also help allow these atrocities to happen. No one takes action — not in their own country or any other form of intervention.

While the most cited statistics on trafficking comes from the U.S. State Department’s annual reports on trafficking in persons, specific data on sexual exploitation is not provided. The U.S. State Department has undergone criticism from anti-trafficking advocates and failing to cite government complicity in trafficking and for failing to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs that exist to help victims.

Some governments are not playing the role they should, it is up to international organizations, businesses, and individuals such as you and me. The first step is knowledge becoming aware and helping others become aware of the problem at hand.

There are things we can do to improve the world we live in. By informing others about organizations like Free the Slaves, including anti-slavery.org and child-soldiers.org, you can help spread the knowledge about modern-day slavery and what is happening to victims worldwide.

Finally, write to your senators, representatives and other officials. Holding them accountable can lead to action.

Vanessa Espinel
Contributing Writer

The peace sign turned 50 this year, and with age comes a few facelifts. Its skeleton has been beyond complementing your jeans. In other words, wears were rebels with a cause: an active anti-war promoting cause. Some history might help to put the flashback into perspective. In 1958, it was designed by Gerald Holtom and adopted by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

“Symbols are adopted and used in society to galvanize members of society and unify individuals concerned with a cause,” said Felix E. Martin, professor of international relations, specializing in war and peace.

“This is done by using a very simple graphic symbol that entails a host of concepts, precepts, socio-political positions and messages,” he said. According to the Aug. 2008 issue of National Geographic, it was purposely never copyrighted, which has made the symbol an easy target for commercial use.

“I want to believe that it still has the same meaning as it did 40-50 years ago but I really don’t think it is so,” said Natalie A. Arias, a junior majoring in hospitality.

“I think that it is just popular now and everybody is going along with the trend because of the high popularity in Hippies and the counter culture,” Arias said.

“Symbols keep their original and intended meaning but become diluted by other individuals who use them to profit from them, particularly when the urgency and intensity of the message have ceased or when the historic meaning has faded into the annals of history,” said Martin. The peace symbol has certainly come a long way from its initial intent. However, despite all the exploitation of the peace symbol, the meaning has been skewed with time, but it has not lost its value.

To read the full version of this article, with a more extensive history, visit fi usm.com/opinion.
Net-minded notebooks
go easy on the wallet

If you've been itching for a new notebook computer but have a lint colony in your pockets to comfort, then an ultraportable Netbook might be for you.

Starting at $350, these tiny computers are made for those with budgets and needs in mind. Weighing between two and three pounds with 7 to 10-inch wide screens, Netbooks are small enough to fit into a snug backpack and powerful enough to handle a full day of notetaking, paper writing or presentations for classes.

Before you run out to buy one, there's a crucial thing you need to know: These are not substitutes for full-sized notebooks. They're called Netbooks, as in Internet Book, because they're designed for light Web surfing and text-based work like e-mailing and writing. You won't find CD-ROMs, more than one gigabyte of upgradable RAM or high screen resolutions here, just a basic wedge design compared to Acer and Asus's mid-nineties box-top inspiration and prefers camouflaging the case's “Swirl” pattern of maze-like camouflages.

But these limitations should mean nothing next to saving a few hundred dollars to those for whom “disposable” and “income” won't play nice in the same sentence. "Winning next to saving a few hundred dollars in the name of convenience is a big plus," comments one student. The Eee PC is a geek's efficiency dream for a friendlier transition to light computing for new users.

HEP, MINI 1000 SERIES
For those still clinging over how small these previous Netbook screens are, HEP’s Mini Series wants you to stop.

Offering both 8.9 and 10-inch screen size options, HP’s Netbooks understand that not everyone may be ready to sacrifice too much desktop space for form just yet. HP Mini’s preference for Windows over Linux and choice between eight or 16 GB SSD and a 60 GB HDD makes them the casual computer users’ Netbook.

Geeks in love with the scratch and ding scavenger hunt might find the case’s "Swirl" pattern offers can always wipe the drive and upload their favorite Linux version to extend battery life.

ACER: ASPIRE ONE
Other than its 8.9-inch screen, Acer's Aspire One is all about options. You can pick between eight and 16 GB solid state or 120 and 160 GB hard disk drives and five fashionable colors: black, blue, brown, pink or white.

You drive choice, however, will depend more on your work habits than your wardrobe: Go SSD if you work long hours and store your data externally, HDD if you work shorter periods but prefer keeping files at hand.

Like-wise, you have an operating system choice between Linpus Linux Lite or Windows XP Home Edition that translates into functional ugliness or battery draining prettiness.

Choose ugly: The Linux interface may not be easy on the eyes but it’ll keep you company on long campus days. Penny-pinchers beware, though.

If you plan on saving some cash by opting for $12 MB of RAM over the one and a half GB configuration, there’s a headache waiting for you when you’ll have to remove the keyboard just to upgrade that little bit more.

ASUS: EEE PC
Although the fashion conscious will appreciate the multiple case color offerings sim-ilar to Acer’s Aspire. Asia’s Eee PC is aimed more toward the chic geek than the wannabe sneaker with its four to eight GB max SSD standard. Sorry, data-mongers, you’re not welcome here.

The Eee PC is a geek’s efficiency dream with a Windows friendly Linux OS. There’s an option to install Windows XP Home Edition, but why slow down this lithe little minx with that? You can pick between a 7 or 9-inch screen size to keep your eyes happy. Weight remains the same two pounds regardless of screen size but the 7-inch screen takes advantage of the spare real estate by placing the system speakers outside for clearer sound than the 9-inch’s interior ones.

DELL: INSPIRON MINI 9
Dell's Inspiron Mini boasts a sleeker wedge design compared to Acer and Asus’s mid-nineties box-top inspiration and prefers SSD economy to HDD bloat but goes further into space saving by abbreviating its letter key system.

Shortcut enabling function keys are gone in favor of a single function and letter key combination similar to Apple’s command and control key system.

In compensation, the Mini’s 1024 by 600 pixel screen resolution makes reading its 8.9-inch screen easier and crisper for your eyes.

As its preference for Windows XP’s familiarity over Linux’s functional but spartan interface makes for a friendlier transition to light computing for new users.