The Beacon, March 25, 2009

Florida International University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper/258

This work is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections and University Archives at FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon) by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact dcc@fiu.edu.
**SPOTLIGHT**

**AT THE BAY** 

**PAGE 2**

Police officers will start biking around campus as public safety improvements at once-favored patrol method.

**OPINION** 

**PAGE 4**

FID should be beyond the 10-hour week and once the summer in order to come cash.

**SPORTS** 

**PAGE 6**

The Golden Panthers’ two starters are big reasons why they are 15-4 this season.

**LIFE** 

**PAGE 6**

Colombia: Chis Cultural legs children should put for their own schooling now that the new financial aid trend governmental support, said: say, "What?"

**AT THE BAY**

**PAGE 3**

Cool off on the upcoming hot days – and save a few dollars – by making your own ice cream.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sony Ericsson Open, Today, 11 a.m. – A variety of sold-out packages are still available for anyone interested in attending the match to be held at the Tennis Center.

Students for Environmental Action meeting, Today, 3 p.m. – "Mother Nature's wrath could be brutal, but if you help her out, she'll help you out. Make your voice heard as an environmental activist at a meeting held at the CTC.

Coral Gables Wine and Food Festival, March 26, 7-10 p.m. – The annual Festival of Flavor features food, wine, and spirits from restaurants and retailers throughout the city.

Service for Peace meeting, March 26, 4-8 p.m. – Service for Peace will hold a meeting at the St. Jude's Mission Building to discuss ways to help the homeless in the city.

**WEATHER**

- **Maidique**, in a recent interview with Florida International University, said: "It's an awkward situation." said Ann Duffield, co-founder of The Presidential Practice, a group of former university presidents and chancellors who offer their advice and expertise to current presidents and chancellors in transition. "Many new presidents come into a new university and don't feel that the chemistry is right and wish to bring in their own staff - Executive Vice President and Provost Ronald Berkman and CFO Vivian Sanchez were given retention deals last summer. Under their current contracts, if Sanchez were to be replaced by the new president's appointment, she would still be entitled to another University position with her current salary of $334,090 for three years. If the incoming president decides to replace Berkman, he would be entitled to a one-year paid sabbatical where he would return to the school as a member of the faculty. The new president to fill.

**CONTACTS**

Editor in Chief — 305-284-1598

Phone/Editor — 305-284-1480

Fax — 305-919-7051

Email — editor@thebeacon.fiu.edu

Tips & Corrections — 305-284-2148

Advertising — 305-284-1094

Whether it's a question or comment, we want to hear from you.

Retention deals for the University's top officials may have an effect on the pool of candidates for the presidential search, as potential candidates may not be able to choose their own top two executives, according to outside observers of politics in higher education.

"It's definitely not common," said Paul Fain, a reporter who specializes on presidential searches for The Chronicle of Higher Education.

According to Fain, retiring presidents will usually come back to faculty at a lower salary, as well as leaving the positions of provost and chief financial officer open for the new president to fill.

"Typically, new presidents would want to choose their top two cabinets," Fain said.

Other higher education experts have noted the contracts could create a difficult situation for the new president, making it harder for candidates to bring in their own senior staff.

"It's an awkward situation," said Ann Duffield, co-founder of The Presidential Practice, a group of former university presidents and chancellors who offer their advice and expertise to current presidents and chancellors in transition. "Many new presidents come into a new university and don't feel that the chemistry is right and wish to bring in their own staff - Executive Vice President and Provost Ronald Berkman and CFO Vivian Sanchez were given retention deals last summer. Under their current contracts, if Sanchez were to be replaced by the new president's appointment, she would still be entitled to another University position with her current salary of $334,090 for three years. If the incoming president decides to replace Berkman, he would be entitled to a one-year paid sabbatical where he would return to the school as a member of the faculty. The new president to fill.

**BONUS**

Some members of the FIU community have defended the contracts of Maidique, Sanchez and Berkman, citing the need to retain each of these highly talented individuals who constantly receive offers from both the private and academic sectors.

Maidique, in a recent interview with The
Cigarette tax hike may aid healthcare

On Feb. 18, two FIU students attended Advocacy Day in Tallahassee with more than 500 other advocates to rally for a bill that would increase Florida’s cigarette tax.

Michelle Narganes, a senior and political science major, and Angela Baker, a sophomore majoring in political science and English, joined a group of 500 advocates who met at the Florida Capitol Building.

They met with their representa- tives, senators and representatives, in a rally in favor of the bill and a press conference.

The bill they are supporting is known as “Pass the Buck,” because it plans to increase the Florida state tax on cigarettes from 34 cents to $1.34, according to an article in the Tax Foundation – a nonpartisan tax research group based in Washington.

D.C. – titled “Florida Rep. Trying to Call Cigarette Tax a ‘Fee.’”

Narganes was able to speak with various representatives, including State Representative Juan C. Zapata and state representatives Marcello Llorrente and Richard Steinberg.

Supporters of the bill, like Narganes and Baker, argue that Florida has the sixth lowest state tax on cigarettes and that it deprives the state of necessary funds other states have, due to their high cigarette tax, to support hospitals.

They also argue that increasing the cigarette tax would reduce the number of smokers and, since smoking is linked to several diseases, it would also reduce the number of medical expenses.

Florida has the sixth lowest state tax on cigarettes in the country, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures Web site. The lowest state tax is 7 cents in South Carolina, while the highest state tax is in New York at $2.75.

“Florida should increase the state cigarette tax to save lives and benefit the state’s long-term budget,” Narganes said. “The state of Florida is the second highest cancer-affected state in the nation. Most important, this is a public health measure.

Studies show that for every 10 percent increase in the price of cigarettes, adult smoking rates go down by 4 percent. Teen smoking will decrease as well. A $1 increase will reduce the number of new teen smokers by 7 percent.

Those against the passage of the bill, like the Tax Foundation, argue that a higher cigarette tax encourages smuggling and associated crimes. They also argue that it is a tax that affects mainly the poorest members of the state.

“Higher cigarette taxes also mean more smuggling, as many states are learning,” according to the Tax Foundation article. “Due mostly to federal, state and local taxes, the U.S. price for that same pack can reach many times the average of $1.25. When smugglers move just one shipping container with 200,000 packs into the U.S., the profit potential is a cool $1 million.”

Some FIU students are also concerned about the possible increase in crime.

“There are people who might not stop smoking and might steal to get the money for their cigarettes,” said Veronica Ferrer-Vega, a sophomore at FIU. “This might increase crime.”

As for it affecting mostly the poor in Florida, Alan Gummerson, an economics lecturer at FIU stated: “The tax increase would affect the poor more because poor people tend to smoke more. This tax increase will hopefully get them to quit smoking.”

According to Narganes, the cigarette tax revenues would go toward building Florida’s healthcare infrastructure.

“The state needs to invest this revenue specifically for programs, services and institutions that improve the state’s medical capacity and access,” Narganes said.

University since 1976, also mentioned that vice presidents have come and gone at the president’s discretion.

(Maidique) has made no bones about getting rid of a vice president. In my time in FIU, I have known four provosts, all gone,” Breslin said.

Breslin noted that if this situation were to occur, Berkman could return to teaching and Sanchez could be in charge of finances of the new medical school.

“She would be a welcome addition,” said Breslin, who worked with Sanchez to secure the University’s new medical school.

NO BONUSES

Breslin noted that Maidique has already taken steps to reduce his and his vice pres- ident’s salaries, as directed by the Office of the President, Maidique has decided not to award his vice president’s performance bonuses. In addition, the president has given his bonus of $50,000 awarded to him by the BOT to the College of Medi- cine, bringing his salary back down to $428,000.

Yet, the president as well as Breslin, may decide more salary cuts are necessary for the top three administrators.

“If the economic crisis worsens, the BOT may revisit their contracts,” Breslin said.

Faculty assesses modified contracts

On an info box that Brandon Quinones, Vanessa Yepes, Krishan Arora, Steven Cruz were candidates for the two arrests were debated as debates regarding the Marlins stadium escalated.

According to NBOC6.net, the two arrested were members of Power U, a local group protesting the stadium. The Power U protesters continued to chant, “Real jobs now. Shut stadium down.”

After long discussions and constant redshel- ling, the city commission approved the deal by a 3-2 vote last week. If the deal gains approval of the Miami-Dade County Commission, the county would contribute $359 million in construction costs.

DOW Jones soars almost 500 points

The Dow Jones was subject to a gain of 497 points on Monday.

According to CNN Money, the rally is in response to the Treasury buying bad bank assets and a better-than-expected existing home sales report. Insiders point to this as a possible sign that the market is stabilizing.

On Monday, the Treasury department introduced the second phase of the Troubled Asset Relief Program. The aim of this program is to purchase “toxic” assets from banks in order to facilitate lending to consumers.

“Real jobs now. Shut stadium down.”

Supporters of the bill, like Narganes and Baker, argue that Florida has the sixth lowest state tax on cigarettes and that it deprives the state of necessary funds other states have, due to their high cigarette tax, to support hospitals.

They also argue that increasing the cigarette tax would reduce the number of smokers and, since smoking is linked to several diseases, it would also reduce the number of medical expenses.

Florida has the sixth lowest state tax on cigarettes in the country, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures Web site. The lowest state tax is 7 cents in South Carolina, while the highest state tax is in New York at $2.75.

BONUS, page 1

Beacon, said he has been approached by 29 universities, while Berkman has been a finalist for the presidential position at several public universities. Maidique also said Sanchez has received many offers from the private sector.

“There are all highly competent people who are sought after,” said Bruce Haupli, former Faculty Senate chair and current faculty fellow of the Office of the Provost. “I’d be worried about losing these people.”

Haupli, who was a Board of Trustees member when Maidique’s contract was modified, admitted the negotiations were done before the budget crisis worsened, yet claimed he still stands by his decision.

“The deal had not been voted in favor of the modification if it were bad for the University,” Haupli said.

While Haupli claimed that the faculty supports the modified contracts, his successor in the Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees member, Thomas Breslin, disagreed with leaving the contracts as is.

Breslin, who is also a member of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, which is in charge of picking the next University president, said, “Change isn’t always good.”

“NO BONUSES

Breslin noted that Maidique has already taken steps to reduce his and his vice pres- ident’s salaries, as directed by the Office of the President, Maidique has decided not to award his vice president’s performance bonuses. In addition, the president has given his bonus of $50,000 awarded to him by the BOT to the College of Medi- cine, bringing his salary back down to $428,000.

Yet, the president as well as Breslin, may decide more salary cuts are necessary for the top three administrators.

“If the economic crisis worsens, the BOT may revisit their contracts,” Breslin said.

“NO BONUSES

Breslin noted that Maidique has already taken steps to reduce his and his vice pres- ident’s salaries, as directed by the Office of the President, Maidique has decided not to award his vice president’s performance bonuses. In addition, the president has given his bonus of $50,000 awarded to him by the BOT to the College of Medi- cine, bringing his salary back down to $428,000.

Yet, the president as well as Breslin, may decide more salary cuts are necessary for the top three administrators.

“If the economic crisis worsens, the BOT may revisit their contracts,” Breslin said.

“NO BONUSES

Breslin noted that Maidique has already taken steps to reduce his and his vice pres- ident’s salaries, as directed by the Office of the President, Maidique has decided not to award his vice president’s performance bonuses. In addition, the president has given his bonus of $50,000 awarded to him by the BOT to the College of Medi- cine, bringing his salary back down to $428,000.

Yet, the president as well as Breslin, may decide more salary cuts are necessary for the top three administrators.

“If the economic crisis worsens, the BOT may revisit their contracts,” Breslin said.
Public Safety to start biking around campus

SERGIO MONTEALEGRE
Staff Writer

Campus Public Safety is shifting gears as a new patrol squad rides in to improve security.

Starting Fall 2009, University police officers will begin patrolling on bicy-
cycles around both the University Park and Biscayne Bay campuses, alongside the force’s squad cars and officers on foot.

The new force isn’t something new to the University, according to Bill King, chief of police. About seven years ago, there were bike patrols on campus, but they were discontinued due to the difficulty in finding officers that were adequately trained to patrol on bicycles.

“We didn’t have enough people on staff,” said King. “It was only now that we had enough people to bring back the patrol.”

King pushed for the return of the unit, sending out e-mails to other officers for volunteers. In response, several officers applied.

In order to work in the bike patrol squad, officers must complete a two-week certi-
cation program at the Miami-Dade County Police Academy.

“We’re already some officers who are qualified,” said Sgt. Edward Degel-
smith of Public Safety.

The bicycle patrol will be covering all areas of the campuses, including the walking trail along Biscayne Bay at BBC.

According to Jesse Scott, captain of Public Safety at BBC, the idea is to provide more safety to students and visitors in the parking lots and buildings by increasing police visibility.

“It’s part of our philosophy of being in contact with faculty and students,” Scott said. “The extra staffing will let us do this.”

David Silberberg, Sophomore English major, said the bicycles will improve offi-
cers’ response times.

“On a bike, it’s much better than being on foot or in the squad car,” he said. “Because the officers are more elevated while riding the bicycle, they’ll be seeing and hearing things differently. Each type of patrol has an advantage, so it’s advantageous for us to use all three. It will let us interact with people in a different way.”

An example of this interaction is that students and visitors will feel police officers are more approachable. Some people may not want to disturb officers in their squad car, especially with the windows rolled up, according to Scott. An officer on a bike will make people more comfortable with asking questions.

Despite the promise of approachability, the cost of the bike patrol squad is a concern for certain students.

“While it’s a great idea and eco-friendly, it might cost a lot of money to start the unit,” said Roxette Miranda, freshman political science major.

However, the patrol won’t be too expen-
dive for the department, according to Scott.

“The bikes we have were the same ones we had seven years ago,” he said. “They’re practically brand new. We’ve had them in the storage all this time and recently took them to get new tires and cleaned up.”

In total, according to King, the cost should be around $500 per officer on the squad, which includes the costs of the uniforms and safety equipment such as helmets.

“It’s only running us just under the thou-
ands range,” Scott said. “It’s a very small fraction of the Public Safety budget allo-
cated from the school.”

The bicycle unit will operate at both UP and BBC everyday between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. but the use of a bike patrol will depend on the number of police officers available during the day.

According to Scott, if there are only two officers working, they will patrol either in the police car or on foot. The bikes will be used if a third officer is on duty.

“The use of bicycles is very efficient in time and resources,” Scott said. “There’s less fuel burning involved, which makes it much more environmentally friendly.”

PEDAL POWER: Police bikes, similar to the one pictured, will be implemented in the University’s police squad.

COOL DOWN: Tasty and fat free, homemade mango sorbet makes a perfect spring treat for those craving ice cream but not the calories.

BRIANNA ROJAS

Spring has finally arrived! While the rest of the coun-
try rejoices the passing of winter, we can say goodbye to our 80-degree windy days and welcome the sweltering Miami heat.

My prescription for steamy hot days and final-week nausea is a scoop of ice cream, homemade, like cookies and cream, peanut butter cup or Chunky Monkey – hungry yet?

Ice cream is nostalgic, sweet and sticky, but most of all, it’s a food group that has the power to relax and chill you on a hot day, but I know how fast a student on a budget can be forced to liquid coolant for eight hours.

For a student budget-friendly ice cream maker, I recommend the in-
termediate machine such as the Cuisinart ICE-20 model. It’s compact and makes up to 1.5 quarts of fresh ice cream in less than 20 minutes.

This machine works by pre-freezing the ice cream canister, which is filled with liquid coolant for eight hours and then turning it on for an easy half hour with the ingre-
dients – and voila, it’s home made ice cream.

The first time I attempted to make my favorite treat at home, I was terrified.

How could I, an at-
home chef and professional foodie, recreate something so delicious in my kitch-

It was easier than making chocolate chip cookies, and now I whip up batches of ice cream at least once a week.

There are two styles of ice cream: Philadelphia, which is ice cream made with basic ingredients like cream and sugar; and French-style ice cream, which is made with an egg custard base that makes it richer and smoother, but a little bit difficult for a first-
time home churner.

I stuck to the basics and made a Philadelphia-style Cookies and Cream ice cre-
mom. She taught me how to properly mix ingredients, like xanthan gum and water.

When I make my ice cream, I try to make it as simple and with as few ingredients as possible. It makes for a perfect beach-day indulgence because you don’t have the heaviness of cream and milk weighing you down.

For the mango sorbet, heat up the sugar and water on a stove top until the sugar is dissolved and the water is clear; this is called simple syrup and is the base sweet-
ener to all sorbets.

Once the syrup is clear, add the mango cubes and turn off the stove, letting the mixture cool. Once cool, place the fruit and syrup in a blender, mixing until smooth.
Add this mixture to the ice cream canister and churn for 30 minutes.

The result is a refreshing and light tropical fruit sorbet, the perfect summer treat.

Making ice cream is just a matter of having the right equipment and simple household ingredients. Not only is your favorite flavor possible at home, but it is an astonishingly easy cooking experience.

Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or Foodgasm ideas to bianca. rojas@fi usm.com.

The columnist pays for all food and experiences.

COOL DOWN: Tasty and fat free, homemade mango sorbet makes a perfect spring treat for those craving ice cream but not the calories.

BRIANNA ROJAS

NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

Bonnier

Cookies and Cream:

Ice cream: 1 cup whole milk
½ cup granulated sugar
2 cups heavy cream
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
6 Oreos cookies crushed

COOL DOWN: Tasty and fat free, homemade mango sorbet makes a perfect spring treat for those craving ice cream but not the calories.

Mango Sorbet:

1 cup granu-
lated sugar
1 ½ cups water
2 cups fresh or frozen mango, cubed

Sorbet is a frozen dessert made simply with fruit, sugar and water. It is possible, and you can enjoy it mostly for the fact that you are no longer paying more than $4 for a pint of mystery ingredients, like xanthan gum and other preservatives.

Another plus is that you can control the tastes your ice cream canister and set the timer for 30 minutes.

It’s part of our philosophy of being in contact with faculty and students,” Scott said. “The extra staffing will let us do this.”

David Silberberg, Sophomore English major, said the bicycles will improve offi-
cers’ response times.

“Being on a bicycle is much different than being on foot or in the squad car,” he said. “Because the officers are more elevated while riding the bicycle, they’ll be seeing and hearing things differently. Each type of patrol has an advantage, so it’s advantageous for us to use all three. It will let us interact with people in a different way.”

An example of this interaction is that students and visitors will feel police officers are more approachable. Some people may not want to disturb officers in their squad car, especially with the windows rolled up, according to Scott. An officer on a bike will make people more comfortable with asking questions.

Despite the promise of approachability, the cost of the bike patrol squad is a concern for certain students.

“While it’s a great idea and eco-friendly, it might cost a lot of money to start the unit,” said Roxette Miranda, freshman political science major.

However, the patrol won’t be too expen-
dive for the department, according to Scott.

“The bikes we have were the same ones we had seven years ago,” he said. “They’re practically brand new. We’ve had them in the storage all this time and recently took them to get new tires and cleaned up.”

In total, according to King, the cost should be around $500 per officer on the squad, which includes the costs of the uniforms and safety equipment such as helmets.

“It’s only running us just under the thou-
ands range,” Scott said. “It’s a very small fraction of the Public Safety budget allo-
cated from the school.”

The bicycle unit will operate at both UP and BBC everyday between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. but the use of a bike patrol will depend on the number of police officers available during the day.

According to Scott, if there are only two officers working, they will patrol either in the police car or on foot. The bikes will be used if a third officer is on duty.

“The use of bicycles is very efficient in time and resources,” Scott said. “There’s less fuel burning involved, which makes it much more environmentally friendly.”

PEDAL POWER: Police bikes, similar to the one pictured, will be implemented in the University’s police squad.

COOL DOWN: Tasty and fat free, homemade mango sorbet makes a perfect spring treat for those craving ice cream but not the calories.

BRIANNA ROJAS

NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

Making ice cream is just a matter of having the right equipment and simple household ingredients. Not only is your favorite flavor possible at home, but it is an astonishingly easy cooking experience.

Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or Foodgasm ideas to bianca. rojas@fi usm.com.

The columnist pays for all food and experiences.

COLUMNS:

COOL DOWN: Tasty and fat free, homemade mango sorbet makes a perfect spring treat for those craving ice cream but not the calories.

BRIANNA ROJAS

NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

Making ice cream is just a matter of having the right equipment and simple household ingredients. Not only is your favorite flavor possible at home, but it is an astonishingly easy cooking experience.

Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or Foodgasm ideas to bianca. rojas@fi usm.com.

The columnist pays for all food and experiences.

COLUMNS:

COOL DOWN: Tasty and fat free, homemade mango sorbet makes a perfect spring treat for those craving ice cream but not the calories.

BRIANNA ROJAS

NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

Making ice cream is just a matter of having the right equipment and simple household ingredients. Not only is your favorite flavor possible at home, but it is an astonishingly easy cooking experience.

Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or Foodgasm ideas to bianca. rojas@fi usm.com.

The columnist pays for all food and experiences.
Do as I say, not as I do.

Last week, talking heads that transcended party lines and branches of government bashed failing insurer American International Group for its lack of oversight in spending its $180 billion in bailout money, most of it going to foreign banks or employee bonuses.

Oversight? Who gave Congress and the president the right to complain about oversight of the $180 billion who gave all of that money without any pan to account for where it goes. You guys did teach a course on oversight, all right.

Do as I say, not as I do.

Charlie Crist ran to become governor of Florida on the premise of a transparent and open government even before Obama used those buzzwords for his presidential run. The Sun-Sentinel recently reported, however, that the Governor has been accepting flights on the private jets of influential businessmen, such as the flow of money usually runs dry.

Bernard Madoff is facing the rest of his years in prison for orchestrating perhaps the largest of what is known as a “Ponzi scheme” in history. In a Ponzi scheme, earlier investors are paid back money from the money of later investors. Eventually, the flow of money usually runs dry.

This setup seems strikingly similar to our current Social Security system. It is no secret that the government-run retirement program is in dire need of repair and might eventually run out of money, as current worker inputs are paying retiree’s benefits.

What is so wrong with letting workers invest their money how they please? Of course, if some were to opt out of Social Security, the government wouldn’t have that money for most of the person’s lifetime.

At least Madoff’s investors had a choice. Do as I say, not as I do.

Gaming is a dangerous, addictive activity that destroys families. At least this is what the Florida Legislature must think, considering how much time it spends doing everything it can to prevent gambling from becoming prominent in the state, by creating petty rules about what types of machines are legal or illegal, based on how much skill is involved.

The jailling of Gale Fontaine, a woman who was 56 years old when she was arrested in 2006 for operating an arcade where seniors won prizes such as grocery store gift cards, shows how dangerous gambling might be.

The state knows what is best for us. Apparently, they are the only ones who know how to operate a casino, too, or at least eliminate competition if you want to gamble in Florida, turn to the state. Curious how much the jackpot is? Just check the government-sponsored billboards on any highway. The Florida Lottery Power Ball jackpot was $81 million at press time.

Do as I say, not as I do.

FIU, along with essentially every school in the nation, has an academic integrity policy that holds harsh penalties for those caught plagiarizing, including expulsion.

Why is it then, that whenever our leaders and representatives in government give a speech, we know that it was not written by them? You could say that this is not the same because we expect politicians to have someone else write their speeches for them, but could you not also say that it is somewhat expected for a college student to at some point use someone else’s words in a paper?

Whether it is a student’s thesis or a politician’s speech, the audience wants to hear what that person has to say, not meaningless fluff. I’d quite like to see politicians who can’t bother with speaking directly to their constituents, be sent to Conduct and Conflict Resolution for discipline.

Do as I say, not as I do.

Pay your taxes. It’s the right thing to do, as a citizen of this country reaping its benefits. Plus, if you don’t oblige, the Internal Revenue Service will come after you with an audit so that Secretary of the Treasury Tim Geithner can make sure the nation’s coffers are fully stocked.

They should be fine now. See as if they’ve eaten lemons.

Do as I say, not as I do.

Back by popular demand, FIU will adopt a four-day, 10-hours-a-week day this summer. This will be effective from June 19 through July 31, 2009. According to a University-wide survey, the three primary reasons for the return of the summer schedule are: increased savings on gas and tolls, a better work-life balance and increased savings to the University. Last year, the University saved approximately $250,000 by implementing this schedule.

As I look at my academic calendar, I couldn’t help but wonder why the four-day week isn’t in effect as soon as the Summer term begins. FIU could do better in saving money. Forty-three days are great, but 81 days would be much better. We could save an additional $250,000.

In addition to implementing the four-day work week, the University should also extend the rules to class times. If employees work from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., then the University should offer classes within that time frame as well. That way more buildings can be shut down after 6 p.m. This could earn the University more savings because lights and air conditioning units are not in use.

The only buildings that should be exempt from this proposed implementation are the libraries; these will be havens for students who need to do their homework or study for important exams.

As a senior majoring in advertising, I prefer to get my classes in the mornings so I can stay longer at my potential job. Every time I mention that I might have class in the late afternoon during my interviews, the employers’ faces constrict as if they’ve eaten a barrel of sour lemons.

They don’t like the idea that in the middle of an important project I have to stop and say, “Well! I have to go to school now.” See

TIME SAVINGS
FIU cutbacks should be modified

KIMBERLY C. ENGELHARDT
Staff Writer

But hey, desperate times lead to desperate measures. When the economy is not functioning ... it’s necessary to cut back.

Do as I say, not as I do.

Back by popular demand, FIU will adopt a four-day, 10-hours-a-week day this summer. This will be effective from June 19 through July 31, 2009. According to a University-wide survey, the three primary reasons for the return of the summer schedule are: increased savings on gas and tolls, a better work-life balance and increased savings to the University. Last year, the University saved approximately $250,000 by implementing this schedule.

As I look at my academic calendar, I couldn’t help but wonder why the four-day week isn’t in effect as soon as the Summer term begins. FIU could do better in saving money. Forty-three days are great, but 81 days would be much better. We could save an additional $250,000.

In addition to implementing the four-day work week, the University should also extend the rules to class times. If employees work from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., then the University should offer classes within that time frame as well. That way more buildings can be shut down after 6 p.m. This could earn the University more savings because lights and air conditioning units are not in use.

The only buildings that should be exempt from this proposed implementation are the libraries; these will be havens for students who need to do their homework or study for important exams.

As a senior majoring in advertising, I prefer to get my classes in the mornings so I can stay longer at my potential job. Every time I mention that I might have class in the late afternoon during my interviews, the employers’ faces constrict as if they’ve eaten a barrel of sour lemons.

They don’t like the idea that in the middle of an important project I have to stop and say, “Well! I have to go to school now.” See

But hey, desperate times lead to desperate measures. When the economy is not functioning ... it’s necessary to cut back.

Do as I say, not as I do.

Back by popular demand, FIU will adopt a four-day, 10-hours-a-week day this summer. This will be effective from June 19 through July 31, 2009. According to a University-wide survey, the three primary reasons for the return of the summer schedule are: increased savings on gas and tolls, a better work-life balance and increased savings to the University. Last year, the University saved approximately $250,000 by implementing this schedule.

As I look at my academic calendar, I couldn’t help but wonder why the four-day week isn’t in effect as soon as the Summer term begins. FIU could do better in saving money. Forty-three days are great, but 81 days would be much better. We could save an additional $250,000.

In addition to implementing the four-day work week, the University should also extend the rules to class times. If employees work from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., then the University should offer classes within that time frame as well. That way more buildings can be shut down after 6 p.m. This could earn the University more savings because lights and air conditioning units are not in use.

The only buildings that should be exempt from this proposed implementation are the libraries; these will be havens for students who need to do their homework or study for important exams.

As a senior majoring in advertising, I prefer to get my classes in the mornings so I can stay longer at my potential job. Every time I mention that I might have class in the late afternoon during my interviews, the employers’ faces constrict as if they’ve eaten a barrel of sour lemons.

They don’t like the idea that in the middle of an important project I have to stop and say, “Well! I have to go to school now.” See

But hey, desperate times lead to desperate measures. When the economy is not functioning ... it’s necessary to cut back.

Do as I say, not as I do.

Back by popular demand, FIU will adopt a four-day, 10-hours-a-week day this summer. This will be effective from June 19 through July 31, 2009. According to a University-wide survey, the three primary reasons for the return of the summer schedule are: increased savings on gas and tolls, a better work-life balance and increased savings to the University. Last year, the University saved approximately $250,000 by implementing this schedule.

As I look at my academic calendar, I couldn’t help but wonder why the four-day week isn’t in effect as soon as the Summer term begins. FIU could do better in saving money. Forty-three days are great, but 81 days would be much better. We could save an additional $250,000.

In addition to implementing the four-day work week, the University should also extend the rules to class times. If employees work from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., then the University should offer classes within that time frame as well. That way more buildings can be shut down after 6 p.m. This could earn the University more savings because lights and air conditioning units are not in use.

The only buildings that should be exempt from this proposed implementation are the libraries; these will be havens for students who need to do their homework or study for important exams.

As a senior majoring in advertising, I prefer to get my classes in the mornings so I can stay longer at my potential job. Every time I mention that I might have class in the late afternoon during my interviews, the employers’ faces constrict as if they’ve eaten a barrel of sour lemons.

They don’t like the idea that in the middle of an important project I have to stop and say, “Well! I have to go to school now.” See

STEP ONTO THE SOAPBOX

Officer of a student organization? Student government member? University official? Have something to say? Contact us at opinion@fiusm.com and we’ll give you 500 words to share your opinion with the FIU community.
How much does the average FIU student know about the human immunodeficiency virus? That was the question that plagued demographer and Professor Maria Aysa’s mind when she conferred with a graduate student in 2006 about his own findings, which “were missing data” she said. She set out to fund a study to conduct a two-year survey on FIU students’ knowledge of and stigmas toward HIV as well as the effects religion has on both of these subjects. She was granted the necessary funding for her survey by the Crusada Center.

During Spring of 2008, Aysa conducted the first half of the survey at University Park, with the help of her Research Method’s class, surveying 1012 students about their knowledge and stigmas associated with HIV. In the Spring of 2009 she conducted the second half of the two-year project, choosing a smaller data pool, only 500 students.

The survey consisted of six parts. The first four, which were given by the interviewer on demographic information, HIV knowledge, religious attitudes and stigma scale. The last two parts, sexual habits and alcohol and drug abuse, were confidential.

According to Aysa, in the HIV knowledge section there were questions such as “Do you know what a female condom is?” and the four vital HIV transmission questions, “Can you get HIV by kissing someone on the cheek who has it? Sharing a glass with someone with HIV? Being around an infected person while they cough? Using a toilet after an infected person?”

The results shocked her. “Only 70 percent of the [surveyed] students knew, consistently, the correct answers to the transmission questions. That’s a much lower number than I was expecting, given that it is a higher learning community,” Aysa said. “I was expecting 86-90 percent to have the correct knowledge.”

This seems to go hand in hand with what Jason Valdiva, senior and anthropology major, said he noticed during his surveying of people in the past few months. He was quite shocked at how the stigma of HIV affected the student’s attitudes toward people living with HIV.

“A much greater number of respondents than I expected were not totally opposed to separating off people with HIV/AIDS from the rest of the public. It seems a bit barbaric to me.” Valdiva said.

Aysa talked about how stigmas affect HIV knowledge and testing. “A stigma puts you at a lower risk of getting tested. The stigma works against the prevention of HIV,” Aysa said.

Valdiva noticed how sensitive students on campus were to the survey. “People tended to respond to the way we, as interviewers, stated a question,” Valdiva said. “There is more stigma toward HIV/AIDS persons than I expected.” Aysa stressed how important it is for students to learn about the virus. “We need to talk about this disease. That’s the only way we are going to overcome the stigma’s toward it,” Aysa said. “Get tested, get educated, go to the Wellness Center. Be proactive in how you go about getting information, go online and learn.”

For more information on HIV testing and prevention, contact the Wellness Center at (305) 348-2401 or visit www.fiu.edu/~health.
CABRALITICS

Who needs education when there’s a ball game to go to?

Amid a federal, state and county budget crisis, we should all take a moment to salute our leaders for recognizing what’s really important: baseball.

Miami City Hall recently approved the construction of a $600 million stadium with taxpayer money for the Florida Marlins, and the county government looks poised to do the same.

Of course, a deal as brilliant as this one has its share of critics, some of whom decry spending jobs of money on a facility for a professional baseball team when millions of dollars are being taken from education.

What about the children, they ask.

Sure, kids are all well and good, but baseball is clearly much more important than their precious “education.” I mean, just look at the entertainment value alone. Baseball is an exciting and enthralling display of man’s triumph over objects hurled at him at high speeds.

Think of all the books, toys and candy that our own country’s children could be purchasing with their $15 if it weren’t for these federal regulations!

Putting jobs and money in the hands of our state’s children could really stimulate the economy, and we wouldn’t have to worry so much about educating them. Florida’s kids could stop learning about art, music and history and instead learn something useful, like how to operate a boom or fork lift.

Thankfully, our state government has been working hard to stop all the wasteful spending on educating children, cutting nearly a billion dollars from education in the last year alone.

Yet despite their best efforts, our state still spends hundreds of millions of dollars on books, teachers and classrooms, just to ensure that children have basic reading and math skills. That’s money that could be going to important things like more stadiums or lower taxes on liquor and tobacco products.

Florida is beginning to lead the race to defund education. Every dollar spent on these freeloaders children signifies in a very real sense, a cigarette taxed too high, a corporate tax break withheld, a baseball team forced to build their own stadium.

Yet with time, if the people of Florida are consistent enough to stand behind their leaders in Tallahassee and in county and city government, we will some day return to the good old days. The days when traditional values prevailed, baseball was the national pastime, big government didn’t exist and children put in an honest day’s work at the factory instead of learning about art, music and history and instead learn something useful, like how to operate a boom or forklift.

Thankfully, our state government has been working hard to stop all the wasteful spending on educating children, cutting nearly a billion dollars from education in the last year alone.

Yet despite their best efforts, our state still spends hundreds of millions of dollars on books, teachers and classrooms, just to ensure that children have basic reading and math skills. That’s money that could be going to important things like more stadiums or lower taxes on liquor and tobacco products.

Florida is beginning to lead the race to defund education. Every dollar spent on these freeloaders children signifies in a very real sense, a cigarette taxed too high, a corporate tax break withheld, a baseball team forced to build their own stadium.

Yet with time, if the people of Florida are consistent enough to stand behind their leaders in Tallahassee and in county and city government, we will some day return to the good old days. The days when traditional values prevailed, baseball was the national pastime, big government didn’t exist and children put in an honest day’s work at the factory instead of learning to count.

Keep fighting, you fearless defenders of the dream!

Cabralitics is a bimonthly column that looks at the current political state, then points and laughs at it.

This week on campus

Roary Rage Wants You to Vote on April 1 and 2!!!

Cast your vote at My.FIU.EDU

Don’t miss the candidate debates on March 25 in the Rec. Center Courts at Noon

WHAT: Sony Exhibition Open
WHERE: 11 a.m.
WHERE: Crandon Park Tennis Center
CONTACT: 1-800-725-5472

WHAT: Abstract Cinema and Technology Opening Reception
WHERE: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Museum of Contemporary Art
CONTACT: 305-893-6211

WHAT: African & African Diaspora Studies - Meeting
WHERE: 3 p.m.
WHERE: SC Pk
CONTACT: 305-348-1069

WHAT: Students for Environmental Action - Meeting
WHERE: SC Pk
CONTACT: 305-348-1069

WHAT: Jupiter Club - Meeting
WHERE: 2 p.m.
WHERE: GC Pk
CONTACT: 305-348-1069

WHAT: Art in Action
WHERE: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Museum of Contemporary Art
CONTACT: 305-667-1651

WHAT: Coral Gables Wine & Food Festival
WHERE: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
CONTACT: 305-524-4657

WHAT: Spring Fashion Week Miami Beach
WHERE: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Crandon Park Tennis Center
CONTACT: 305-348-1069

WHAT: Casino Golden Wine & Food Festival
WHERE: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Giralda Avenue
CONTACT: 954-524-4657

WHAT: Bayfront Park Farmer’s Market and Lunchtime Experience
WHERE: 11 a.m.
WHERE: Bayfront Park
CONTACT: 305-358-7550

WHAT: Service for Peace - Meeting
WHERE: 3 p.m.
WHERE: GC Pk
CONTACT: 305-348-1069
The Beacon – Wednesday, March 25, 2009

CLASSIFIEDS

PAGANET

Caribbean Pageantry is seeking contestants for their 4th Annual Miss Miami Carnival Pageant, being held Sunday September 20, 2009. For more information please call 786-356-0869.

JOBS


SPORTS

Gniadek provides only win in series

McClendon said. Jessica Landau also went 3-for-3 including an inside-the-park home run. Senior Kim Rodriguez knocked down her fourth homer of the season and drove in two of the runs for FIU. The Trojans were able to get something going early on when Hayden Gann drove in the first run after sailing a double into left field to put her team up 1-0.

It was in the second inning when the Golden Panthers began to claw. Landau’s inside-the-park home run tied the game at 1-1. Rodriguez then laid down a sacrifice fly to score another run, giving FIU a 2-1 lead over the Trojans. The fourth inning was also explosive for FIU. McClain knocked down her first career home run directly over the centerfield wall followed by Rodriguez, two batters later, who crushed her homer to put the Golden Panthers ahead 4-1.

Senior Katie Bell followed up with an RBI double and Landau kept clawing with an RBI single all in the fourth inning to give FIU the 6-1 lead.

Following a rain delay, neither team seemed to be able to manufacture much more, at least not in the fifth or sixth innings when both teams went hitless.

In the seventh, Troy scored two more runs but Gniadek would pull out safely from the inning, allowing the opponent to get no closer than 6-3.

After going 1-2 for the weekend, the Golden Panthers have a record of 17-19 with just a 1-5 Sun Belt Conference record.

Coach McClendon seems to feel that her team is still prospering and remained with a positive outlook for next weekend’s series against North Texas.

“We’re just going to prepare for North Texas and have our normal week,” said McClendon. “I think that they’re playing better all of the time. We’re still getting decent efforts on the mounds; I wish they could have been a little bit sharper this weekend but I think we’re starting to swing better every time out.”

JOIN OUR STAFF!

Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

Call and you could save.

Class dismissed.

- Convenient local office
- Money-saving discounts
- Low down payments
- Monthly payment plans
- 24-hour service and claims
- Coverage available by phone

GEICO

Local Office

CALL FOR A FREE RATE QUOTE.

305-595-2911 | 8514 SW 8th Street | Miami (In the Festival Plaza)

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans, and features are not available in all states or by all GEICO companies. GEICO auto insurance is not available in Miss. Government Employees Insurance Co. • GEICO General Insurance Co. • GEICO Indemnity Co. • GEICO Casualty Co. These companies are subsidiaries of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. GEICO: Washington, DC 20076. GEICO Geico Image © 1999 – 2009. © 2009 GEICO.
PAIR OF ACES
Junior transfers make big impact through 19 games

By STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Staff Writer

The final game of a three-game series vs. the Troy University Trojans came down to a battle of staminas.

But the Troyan’s Ashlyn Williams would outlast FIU’s Kasey Barret to win 5-2 in 11 innings. Williams kept the Golden Panthers from winning their first opponent of the season.

The Trojans defeated the Golden Panthers in two of the series, with an unbeatable pitching effort by their No. 1 starter, Williams, who entered the weekend with a 1.75 earned run average.

“We needed to have better at bats if we were going to do things,” said head coach Beth McClendon. “We had a pretty quick team,” catcher Steven Stropp said. “They also have a great first step and mechanics.”

The Golden Panthers will face the University of Louisiana Ragin’ Cajuns for a three-game series on March 27-29.

The Ragin’ Cajuns are right behind the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles in the Sun Belt Conference.

BASEBALL: FIU 11, FDU 10

Panthers complete sweep

STEFANIE GABRIEL
Staff Writer

After outscoring the Fairfield Dickinson University Knights 46-8 during the first three games, the Golden Panthers faced an exhausted pitching staff trying to avoid the four-game sweep.

The Knights used just three pitchers but could not salvage the final game of the series. The Golden Panthers kept the Knights at bay in an 11-10 victory on March 22 at University Park Stadium.

Garrett Wittels and Doug Joyce hit their first collegiate home runs as the Golden Panthers improved their record to 15-4.

“Everybody practices hard every day, and everybody deserves an opportunity to play,” said head coach Turtle Thomas.

The game capped off a series that saw the Golden Panthers score 57 runs and sweep their first opponent of the season.

Tyler Townsend continued to prove he is one of the best hitters in the Sun Belt Conference by going 7-for-14 with two home runs and eight RBI. He leads the conference with a .500 batting average. The man preceding Townsend in the lineup, Ryan Melonica, went 7-for-18 with seven RBI for the series.

Daniel DeSimone pitched five innings and gave up three earned runs for the Golden Panthers.

He fell behind early 3-0 through the first three innings, before the Golden Panthers reclaimed the lead with a six-run third, which included Townsend’s two-run blast and Joyce’s three-run home run five batters later.

DeSimone led the game in the fifth with a 6-3 lead and Wittels extended the lead to 8-3 with his two-run homer.

Mason McCay came on to relieve DeSimone but he struggled with his control of his off-speed pitches and he was responsible for four of the six runs in the inning.

Aaron Arboleya replaced McCay, but a Lannar Guy error led the Golden Panthers to relinquish the lead. Down 9-8 in the bottom of the sixth, Ryan Hennessey entered the game. He gave up six runs without recording an out during the first game of the series.

On Sunday, he would allow two runs and still get no outs, Hennessey coughed up the lead, his team would never recover.

Jorge Maban entered the game in the eighth and closed the game in two innings. He earned his third save of the season.

Arboleya won his first game of his collegiate career. He allowed two runs but they were both unearned.

During the series, the Golden Panthers stole so many bases they jumped to the No. 1 spot in the conference. He earned his third save of the season.

Arboleya won his first game of his collegiate career. He allowed two runs but they were both unearned.

During the series, the Golden Panthers stole so many bases they jumped to the No. 2 spot in the conference.

“We have a pretty quick team,” catcher Steven Stropp said. “They also have a great first step and mechanics.”

The Golden Panthers will face the University of Louisiana Ragin’ Cajuns for a three-game series on March 27-29.

The Ragin’ Cajuns are right behind the Golden Panthers in the Sun Belt standings.

TOUGH AT BATS: Third baseman Carolina Rojas swings against the Troy University Trojans. The Golden Panthers dropped two of three against the Trojans on March 21-22.

THE BEACON – 8

SERGIO BONILLA
Asst. Sports Director

VICTORIA EWEN/THE BEACON

Dominant pitcher stifles offense

By STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Staff Writer

The final game of a three-game series vs. the Troy University Trojans came down to a battle of staminas.

But the Trojan’s Ashlyn Williams would outlast FIU’s Kasey Barret to win 5-2 in 11 innings. Williams kept the Golden Panthers from winning their first opponent of the season.

The Trojans defeated the Golden Panthers in two of the series, with an unbeatable pitching effort by their No. 1 starter, Williams, who entered the weekend with a 1.75 earned run average.

“We needed to have better at bats if we were going to do things,” said head coach Beth McClendon. “We had a pretty quick team,” catcher Steven Stropp said. “They also have a great first step and mechanics.”

The Golden Panthers will face the University of Louisiana Ragin’ Cajuns for a three-game series on March 27-29.

The Ragin’ Cajuns are right behind the Golden Panthers in the Sun Belt standings.

TOUGH AT BATS: Third baseman Carolina Rojas swings against the Troy University Trojans. The Golden Panthers dropped two of three against the Trojans on March 21-22.

THE BEACON – 8

SERGIO BONILLA
Asst. Sports Director

VICTORIA EWEN/THE BEACON

 Dominant pitcher stifles offense

By STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Staff Writer

The final game of a three-game series vs. the Troy University Trojans came down to a battle of staminas.

But the Trojan’s Ashlyn Williams would outlast FIU’s Kasey Barret to win 5-2 in 11 innings. Williams kept the Golden Panthers from winning their first opponent of the season.

The Trojans defeated the Golden Panthers in two of the series, with an unbeatable pitching effort by their No. 1 starter, Williams, who entered the weekend with a 1.75 earned run average.

“We needed to have better at bats if we were going to do things,” said head coach Beth McClendon. “We had a pretty quick team,” catcher Steven Stropp said. “They also have a great first step and mechanics.”

The Golden Panthers will face the University of Louisiana Ragin’ Cajuns for a three-game series on March 27-29.

The Ragin’ Cajuns are right behind the Golden Panthers in the Sun Belt standings.

TOUGH AT BATS: Third baseman Carolina Rojas swings against the Troy University Trojans. The Golden Panthers dropped two of three against the Trojans on March 21-22.