Public Affairs receives $1.6 million grant

Money to go toward refining risk control in the Americas

BRIAN ALONSO
Staff Writer

The School of International and Public Affairs has recently received a $1.6 million grant that will go toward the improvement of its Risk Management Program. The Paul C. Bell, Jr Risk Management Program seeks to improve coordination between research and field work in areas ranging from disaster relief to risk reduction throughout the Americas.

The grant was made possible by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The program, which began in 2004, was the effort of several people including Dr. Richard Stuart Olson, chair of the Politics and International Relations Department and Dr. Juan Pablo Sarmiento, director of the Bell Program and co-director of The Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas Program situated in the Latin American and Caribbean Center.

In its efforts in the previous years involved assessing how disaster relief is studied and practiced throughout Latin America and moved toward offering support to universities and institutions proposing more study in these areas.

The program created a network between FIU and several universities throughout South and Central America that share information on various fields of research; it emphasizing applications by coordinating the information with local authorities, engineers and field researchers in hopes of a long term commitment to improve the methods and practices of risk management in these areas.

SIPA, page 2

TOBACCO-FREE?

Initiative aims for smokeless campus

MEENA RUPANI
Staff Writer

According to the Center for Disease Control, the effects of smoking tobacco are the largest preventable cause of death in the U.S., leading to 439,000 deaths annually.

The center estimates the costs of smoking- related medical expenses and productivity losses at about $167 billion annually.

The University is introducing a smoke-free initiative, planned to be completed by May 3, 2010.

Smoking is already not allowed in buildings and within 20 feet of any building. However, according to members of the University Health Task Force, these rules are not being abided by.

Jesus Medina, the current volunteer project administrator for the FIU Smoke-Free Tobacco-Free Campaign, and a member of the University Health Task Force, has been and will continue to be an integral part of the initiative.

“Smokers are not respecting the current no-smoking policy of FIU,” said Medina, a graduate student pursuing a master’s in Health Promotion and Wellness.

Following the implementation of this initiative, smoking will not be tolerated on any of the campuses. Medina, however, understands that students will not comply with the initiative right away.

He said he understands that people will smoke even with a smoke-free policy, but they are working in an effective enforcement known as social enforcement.

Elisia Puig
Staff Writer

The economic recession has put education in South Florida in a precarious situation and the quality of Miami’s three public institutions suffer the consequences.

This was one of the main worries at the town hall meeting: “Education in South Florida: Challenges and Solutions,” which united FIU’s President Mark Rosenberg, Miami-Dade College President Eduardo J. Padrón and Miami-Dade County Public Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho at the Chapman Conference Center at the Wolfson Campus of MDC, on Sept. 30.

The town hall meeting, which was presented by Univision and WQBA 1140, was conducted in Spanish and open to the public.

Concerned students, parents and local journalists talked about the facilitating of education for undocumented citizens, the relevance of the FCAT and their concerns about increasing security measures in public schools. The lack of funding for education received the most airtime.

“It is a major challenge,” Rosenberg said. “We’re running a year-2009 University with a year-2008 budget.”

In a similar vein, MDC could not add any new class sections this Fall semester due to significant cuts in state funding. It is estimated that nearly 30,000 students at MDC could not take the classes they need to graduate.

The panelists spoke directly to the delegates of the state legislature, who were present at the town hall meeting, when they repeated the same student and parent concerns.

“We need more funds, we have no other option [but to increase tuition] if the funds are not coming from where they are supposed to,” said Padron responding to a question from the public. “Increasing tuition limits the opportunities of a lot of students.”

Superintendent Carvalho called for permanent funding solutions at the state and federal level that did not depend on revenue from property and sales taxes. He said

EDUCATION, page 2
UM doctor hopes to develop HIV vaccine

University of Miami’s Dr. Margaret Fisch is developing a vaccine that will help HIV patients battle the disease. According to The Miami Herald, the vaccine, though years away, is not a preventive measure. The goal of the vaccine would be to replace the “cocktail,” a mixture of two-three drugs, given to patients to allow their immune system to fend off the illness.

The vaccine is currently being used on research animals (monkeys) and will be ready for human testing in January 2010.

Barry offers discounted tuition to unemployed adults

Barry University is offering discounted tuition rates to unemployed students seeking new job training. According to The Miami Herald, the 20 percent tuition discount applies to both undergraduate and graduate programs of the university’s School of Adult and Continuing Education.

Those eligible for the program are active and inactive students and veterans who have lost their jobs. The discount period will begin during Barry’s Fall semester, which begins on Oct. 17 and will extend until the school’s 2010 Spring semester. The students will benefit from the discount until they graduate.

Internationally

Rio de Janeiro to host 2016 Summer Olympics

The International Olympic Committee has chosen Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to host the 2016 Summer Olympics. According to The New York Times, other cities under consideration were Chicago, Tokyo and Madrid.

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Research explores risk management

SIPA, page 1

countries.

Sarmiento called the efforts in promoting both study and implementation of disaster relief and risk prevention techniques “communities of practice.” FIU and the universities participating in this program form a network of “Bell Centers.”

Through the Bell Program, funding is given to these and other institutions in the allotments of $20,000 for large developed proposals, or $5,000 to improve smaller scale programs. The combined efforts of the Bell Centers have grown from conception to a large initiative in five years.

“This demonstrates there are different ways to approach problems and not just big projects with millions of dollars in which sometimes people expect miracles. This shows there are ways of implementing programs with a very small amount in a very efficient way,” Sarmiento said.

Sarmiento and three graduate students are working on the latest phase of the program, phase five, by conducting research to improve building codes and standards for Latin American countries in an effort to identify new tasks and challenges in risk management.

“I’m doing research on the concept of resilience,” said FIU graduate Guy Metayer, a current research assistant in the program and Ph.D. candidate in political science. “I am definitely excited to be doing this research since it is currently under-theorized, but it is an important concept to approach since it will better our understanding of inter-development.”

Metayer also noted the importance of taking an interdisciplinary approach to the research as it would better its understanding.

Creating a long reaching network of institutions dealing with these topics presents several challenges.

“Timing is the biggest and most sensitive issue. Timing not only between academic and bureaucratic institutions, but also timing of risks and disasters. You need to synchronize and adjust your efforts,” Sarmiento said.

A three-year scholarship program has been created in the latest phase of the program open to students in related fields looking to conduct research.

“We must continue to raise awareness of what disaster risk reduction can bring to the region,” said Gabriela Hoberman, research assistant in Disaster Risk Reduction Program.

The department is looking to add more graduate students in fields ranging from economics to geographic information systems and presents an opportunity to students on campus and abroad.

“We are trying to gain an interdisciplinary group of students to form a community here in FIU,” Sarmiento said. “We are working with the internal community of FIU and the graduate students aiding in research, as well as the other universities in creating a network that can share information with other institutions in the future.”

Racoon art RACONTEUR

STORY-TELLING: The Hijabi Monologues, a performance where American Muslims share their stories through storytelling, come to Modesto Maidique Campus. Green Library 100 was filled to capacity on Oct. 2. The anonymous women talked about their experiences as American Muslims. Some women talked about how they are constantly stereotyped and that it is hard to have long-term relationships because of cultural differences.

Raccoon

Research explores risk management

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Gabriela Hoberman, research assistant
Disaster Risk Reduction Program

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Recession affects education funding

EDUCATION, page 1

that Miami-Dade County Public Schools were being sustained largely by federal stimulus dollars, which he foresees will be exhausted in two years.

Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus President Anthony Rionda said he believes that legislators understand the need to fund education.

“Funding shortfalls affects everyone,” he said. “It affects the amount of class sections offered to students, the less students we can accept and increased tuitions.”

He added that FIU is offering more class sections, with fewer resources and more students.

“This shows our commitment to getting out of Miami-Dade College, and those who would have gone to Miami-Dade are left to fend for themselves,” Rionda said.

However, Rionda said he believes that the collaboration between FIU, MDC and Miami-Dade County Public Schools is important in increasing state funding for education.
Project aims to end smoking on campus by May 3, 2010

In terms of the benefits versus costs for this initiative, both Dollinger and Medina explained both sides. According to Dollinger, this initiative will be no small feat and will require a dedicated budget, but is assured that the task force, which he is also a part of, will continue to do its part to make sure funding is received for this project. However, he also said that more will need to be done in terms of educating students and marketing the initiative. “The FIU smoke-free project will bring more profits than reduce costs because parents would like to send their sons or daughters to a healthy environment that focuses on their wellness and better future,” Medina said. “Community members will find FIU as a great place to plan meetings and conferences because guest speakers and participants like to feel comfortable in healthy environments during these events.”

The projected profits are hoped to outweigh the costs of the campaign. Medina explained that they are awaiting budget approval, but at the moment all flyers are being printed at the Wellness Center and they have many volunteers working on the campaign. FIU is not the only university trying to implement a smoke-free initiative. Universities such as Florida Atlantic University and the University of Miami have also proposed this campaign.

According to The Palm Beach Post, their smoke-free initiative will be completed by July of 2010. FAU is equally concerned about the amount of second-hand smoke that will be taken in by non-smoking students. However, FIU seems to be the only university in Miami to want the entire campus to be smoke-free. According to Dollinger, the University of Miami only has their school of medicine smoke-free and has yet to propose a smoke-free campaign for the entire campus.

For now, the initiative has plans to be completed by May of 2010. However, according to Medina, this can be changed. It all depends on the approval from the FIU Operations Committee. “We need a minimum of six months to apply an effective project plan,” Medina said. “The effectiveness of the campaign is the most important fact in the process to become smoke-free. A date will not make a change in the FIU community behaviors ... new applicants to FIU will know that they are coming to a smoke-free environment.”

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Students get into kitchen, can take the heat

DENISS JACENKO Contributing Writer

There’s a class in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management where students trade a classroom for a kitchen, a pen for a knife, and instead of writing, they prepare and cook meals.

These students come from the school’s Advanced Food-service Management class, a requirement for HTM majors.

Mondays are lecture days, and students spend up to seven hours learning advanced cooking theories from Chef Instructor Michael J. Moran, while Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays are cooking days.

The goal of the class is to help students become technically competent managers, Moran said.

“Students may feel intimidated when entering a $30 million cooking lab at first, but pretty soon they have a blast,” said Moran. “What’s beneficial is that when we visit the luncheon, they explain to us how they got themselves to work so well.”

On cooking days, students split into six teams, each responsible for a specific task, such as organizing, preparing, cooking and serving food in the school’s lunchrooms.

The lunchrooms were started in 1972 by Jerry Latin, former HTM dean. They are considered a combination of hands-on experience and unreflecting service for students, according to Moran.

Students serve the food in the lunchrooms every other Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and students, faculty and the public can reserve spots. Every lunchroom has a different theme, like South American or South Italian cuisine.

Seating starts at 11:40 a.m. and every lunchroom includes an appetizer or salad, a choice of one of two entrees, a beverage, which often is either coffee or wine, and dessert — all for $18.

“All ingredients are fresh, and every dish is made by our students from scratch,” Moran said.

Moran has been cooking professionally for 35 years, and has been teaching at the University for 20 years.

He has cooked around the world for leaders and royalty, like the king and queen of Jordan, for whom he made meals for three years.

In the school’s lab kitchen, he oversees all the cooking, stressing details like how precise the carrot pieces are cut. For him, cooking is a process that requires skill and practice.

“Anybody can read a cooking book, but you don’t just turn a stove on and let happen,” he said.

On Sept. 29, the lab was simmering with activity as the class prepared for the day’s themed luncheon: Southern Italy.

The line cooks, which are the students with the general task of preparing and cooking, were put into pairs, each in charge of a different task.

Seniors Anais Gutierrez and Matthew Mull were in charge of preparing their lunch for the day. “Though cooking is not my career choice, I love to cook and this is a great experience.”

There are six positions in the class, which are rotated among the students for each luncheon: general manager, who oversees all operations; executive chef, who makes sure the cooking process is in order; sous chef, who helps prepare the food; baking and pastry chef, who prepares desserts; dining room manager, who is in charge of the lunchroom’s progress; and steward, who helps with all other tasks, such as maintaining sanitation standards.

“If there’s a mistake, in two hours there’s no time to correct it, so everything has to be done just right the first time,” said A. J. Mindermann, a senior and the class’ teaching assistant, who has been working with Moran for the past two years.

“Out of the six student positions, executive chef is the hardest one,” Mindermann said.

A student in that position is responsible for the entire kitchen operation.

Senior Michelle Rodrigues was the executive chef for the day, and said her job was to make sure the food was cooked to perfection.

“I love to cook. This is like a restaurant, and I like to see how it works,” said Rodrigues. “The school made a good decision by making this class mandatory.”

Senior Luis Muñoz, the general manager of the day, was responsible for writing a 60-page training manual for how everyone in the kitchen, as well as overseeing all operations and ordering ingredients.

The manuals contain both instructional and exact schedules for every student.

But for him, all the responsibilities do not create a problem, not even having difficult customers.

“They present us with challenges,” he said.

All students must pass a certification exam at the end of Cooking II, a prerequisite for the class. They needed a score of at least 90 percent because the lunchrooms are where they put what they’ve learned into practice.

“Many students at one point or another start to panic. It is visible by their facial expressions,” said senior Manny Delgado, the sous chef of the day. “It’s a great class whether you’re pursuing cooking or not because it is something you can practice at home.”

Delgado also said that students should know about this program because it will help them understand what it’s like to make the foods they eat, and it will also allow them to give good critiques about what they’ve learned in the class.

“We’re like a family,” said junior Richard Reixach. “The instructors have a sense of trust in us, and they are there to assist us. This class is awesome!”

For more information or to reserve a spot for a luncheon, call 305-919-4500.

Author shares stories on Haiti

Winner aims to bring issues to light

SABRENA JOHNSON Staff Writer

Families in Haiti are struggling to survive mudslides, Hurricane Katrina and poverty, and a Hallmark novel came to campus to share her own stories.

Students and outside visitors filled the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater on Sept. 30 to listen to Edwidge Danticat, who won the Genius Award for her stories about the Haitian immigrant experience.

The $500,000 award is given every year by the MacArthur Foundation. Danticat was one of 24 winners this year.

Danticat was invited to BBC as a special guest after Jayne Klein, program assistant director of the Honors College, who happened to be reading one of Danticat’s books at the time, heard about her at the Overtown Youth Center, an organization that provides in-school and after-school programs for children.

Danticat, who has been working with the center to provide reading programs and SAT preparation courses for the children in that area.

“She muses the youth center have been reading some of Mrs. Danticat’s work and was very excited,” said Klein.

Danticat was paradigmatic and brought the audience to tears as she shared her own personal stories with the students.

“This class is fantastic. We’re like a family,” said Morales.

For more information on the Honors College, visit the Honors College website.
Haitian author speaks out about injustice

Danticat’s books, and we thought this would be a perfect opportunity for them to get a chance to have a conversation with her and ask questions about some of her work,” said Leslie Northa, dean of the Honors College.

During Danticat’s visit to BBC, Klein asked her different questions about her life and previous books. “I would have loved to have one of the authors of the books I used to read as a little girl come out to my school and speak with me,” Danticat said during the lecture.

“I see this as a wonderful opportunity to inspire young writers to dream big,” Danticat was born in Haiti but came to the United States when she was 12 years old to live with her parents in New York.

As a little girl, her grandmother used to tell her stories about Haiti. As she grew up, she remembered those stories and thought that writing would be a great way to tell stories of her own. She now uses those stories to expose some of the issues faced by the Haitian community. “I take pride in my past,” said Danticat.

Although I left Haiti at a young age, the memory of my people stays with me. The purpose of my writings is to help bring about change.

Edwidge Danticat, author
Genius Award recipient

“Although I left Haiti at a young age, the memory of my people stays with me. The purpose of my writings is to help bring about change.”

According to Danticat, her books are based on her experiences and the experiences of friends and family members. Brother, I’m Dying is one of Danticat’s award-winning books, which tells the story of her uncle, who died while in immigration custody.

“Many of the detention centers in the U.S. are privately owned by individuals whose bottom line is to make a profit. So a lot of the detainees’ basic medical needs are being ignored in order to save money, this should not be the case,” she said.

Because of the personal nature of her books, many people think they are based on her own life. But that’s not exactly the case. “My books are not autobiographies,” said Danticat. “I do use a lot of my personal experiences in my writings, but they’re not completely made after my life story. I get a lot of ideas from the stories of the people around me.”

The lecture lasted about two hours and ended with a book signing by Danticat. Whenever Danticat goes back to Haiti, she marvels at the beauty of the country, which is something that she was not able to enjoy as a kid growing up, she said.

But she is still faced with sadness because of the people around her, who are too poor to live and enjoy things taken for granted every day in the U.S.

“I cry out for my people through the pages of my book,” she said. “I also celebrate the victories of the progress that has been made in my country. But there is still more to be done.”
Chicago Sports Marketer Jeff Bail
on the U.S. 2016 failed Olympic bid

**STAFF WRITERS**

ANA AROCHA

**Editorial Policy**

Editorials are the unattributed voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The opinions are those of the individuals who are responsible for the material, and do not necessarily reflect the individual perspectives of contributors to the board. Also, during a radio interview Gov. Paterson claimed that the criticism against him was primarily racial and Obama would eventually receiving the same treatment. Obama's intentions may be simply to help Democrats by removing dead weight from the race. I believe what Obama is doing is wrong, because he is getting involved in party politics, which, as president, he should not do. A president should be neutral.

**Ana Arocha**

**Contributing Writer**

For the past summer, the FIU Board of Trustees to close various College of Education secondary education degrees, effective this semester.

Students intending a major in secondary education can certainly provide useful teaching techniques and tricks for the recent college graduates and the training and preparation takes away from what makes some of the best teachers memorable: the depth of knowledge they have.

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CONCERT PREVIEW

SA SACRED SHOW
Concert to be performed on 110th birthday of jazz legend D UE
ELLINGTON's Sacred Concert will be performed on his 110th birthday.

NATALIE LEVY Staff Writer

For the 110th birthday of Duke Ellington, one of the most famous names to come out of the jazz world, the School of Music will be performing a sacred concert. The performance will consist of a medley of pieces taken from Ellington’s three sacred concerts.

“They were very unusual for the time, in the jazz world to have sacred concerts,” said John Augenblick, director of choral studies. “But they’re really, really neat pieces.”

A sacred concert was commissioned by a church and Ellington’s first was received so warmly that he was asked to complete two more. The blend of jazz and religious music struck a chord with audiences.

Ellington’s three sacred concerts. The performance will consist of an assortment of “designer” colors for a full jazz band, a chorus and an orchestra called for has been an obstacle for the department in staging the concert. The sacred concerts call for a full jazz band, a chorus and soloists.

“It’s been challenging to pull all these pieces together,” noted Augenblick. “Each area kind of has its own rehearsal schedule so it’s been hard to find a way to bring everybody together. But everyone has really pulled together very nicely. It was a difficult project to do with difficult music but for me and the performers it’s been very fulfilling because of the fantastic music.”

For Augenblick, the concert is a joy to behold on many levels.

Ellington was really one of the giants of the 20th century jazz era. This concert makes for a worshipful piece if you’re coming to it for a religious experience as well as a great concert piece.”

The concert could prove to be a good experience, even for students who haven’t been exposed to much of Ellington’s work.

“I think the Sacred Concert could be a really good experience, especially for people who don’t know much about him. I could use the learning opportunity,” said Junior Carla Rosales, a vocal performance major.

WHAT: Duke Ellington’s Sacred Concert WHEN: Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m. WHERE: Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall Florida International University Modesto A. Maidique Campus TICKETS: $10-$25 CONTACT: 305-348-0496 or carta.fi u.edu Duke Ellington

HALLOWED GROUND: The Wertheim Center (above) will host the show.

Contact Us
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LE!

www.fi uam.com The Beacon – Monday, October 5, 2009

FISTFULS OF TECH!

Stun guns becoming commonplace as personal protection devices

NATALIE LEVY Staff Writer

As I was browsing the “inter-web,” this morning, I couldn’t help but notice that American cars really love to defend themselves with electricity. Originally I was planning to write about XBoxes, or a new cell phone, but then I decided to go off the beaten path and address the technological advances of a product category that tends to go unnoticed: non-lethal personal defense.

In the past few years, non-lethal weaponry, such as the stun gun, have really grown into something that is not just reserved for law enforcement personnel, but can be used by anyone.

The idea of the stun gun originated from the cattle prod – a long, electrically charged copper rod used to control and organize cattle in the 1950s. At some point, a farmer must have thought, “Well, if I can use it on a cow, I can use it on a human.” And, as he electrical engineers, casually shocking his friends, he gave us what we know today as the stun gun.

The technology has since evolved and gone mainstream, as most police officers and soccer moms are armed with small, personal stun guns capable of bringing down potential threats – such as robbers or little league referees who make bad calls – with 50,000 volts of electricity.

Taser, the company synonymous with the technology, hasn’t stopped improving on design and adding functionality to their line of stun guns, continually referred to as “electronic control devices.”

Currently, the company has an extensive line of Tasers that will no doubt be centrally controlled. The civilian minded C3, for example, is small, purse-friendly and comes in an assortment of “designer” colors including pink. This unit not only takes down a potential assailant, but also humiliates them at the same time. Honestly, I’d rather be shot than humiliated. This sort of consumer friendliness hasn’t stopped Taser from developing new and creative ways for law enforcement to electrify both offenders and aggressive drivers alike.

Taser’s most well known stun gun, the X26, is popular with law enforce- ment agencies and can often be seen clipped to police belts nationwide. It’s equipped with a sighting laser and flashlight which allows officers to deliver a 50,000 volt shock with Zeus-like precision.

According to the company’s site, the X26 delivers “neuro-muscular incapacitation” pulses which stimulate both motor nerves and sensory nerves. The site adds that this is especially useful for targets with a “high tolerance of pain.” There is no doubt in my mind that whoever this is being used on will be really, really, incapacitated.

The X26 is so popular in fact, it has been frighteningly modified to be housed inside a shotgun shell. The Taser XREP, which stands for “ranged electronic projectile,” can be fired from a 12-gauge shotgun and will indeed itself, wirelessly, into a target up to 100 feet away.

Recently, Taser announced the development of the “Shockwave Remote Area Denial System,” a stationary unit made up of 18 individual Tasers that can electrify anyone within 25 feet and can be controlled up to 100 feet away. The name alone is enough to have me scared for my life.

When technology meets weaponry, things can get out of hand very quickly. The great thing about technological advances in general is that they let us make things that we use everyday better. However, just because we can stack 18 Tasers in a 6-by-6 grid and actually find a use for that doesn’t mean we should.

Granted, stun guns have been known to save more lives than they have taken recently, though they have been taking a few. The very fact that a person, somewhere, can buy a “wall of lightning” and implement it in their homes or small businesses is terrifying.

Professor finds joy in directing, design

NATALIE LEVY Staff Writer

Equipped with a Persian accent, Marina Pareja might be confused for a student at first glance.

Her hair up in a messy bun, sporting big sunglasses, a nose- ring and pink scarf, it still may not be her appearance that surprises you, but what she is saying. “I have a lot of fun,” Pareja said. “I can say I’m one of those fortunate people who wake up in the morning and it’s ‘Yes! I’m going to work!’”

If you were to ask her what her full title here at the University actually is, she’ll tell you quite forwardly, “I have no idea.” Roughly referred to as the Costume Shop manager, Pareja also teaches, directs and designs all year round.

Her work for the Theatre department earns praise from one of her students. “Every show I’ve seen Marina design the costumes for, or direct, has come out beautifully. She has a great artistic eye. I always look forward to seeing her future work,” said Michelle Fraioli, a Senior Majoring in Theatre.

Along with Phillip Church, an associate professor in the theater department, Pareja was a founder of the FIU Alternative Theater Program. This program gives students taking summer courses the opportunity to open a show during the summer.

“I’m always dipping my hands into everything. I direct during the summer because I’m not building shows, and I’m not teaching classes. It makes the summer more worthwhile for me and the students, otherwise they would be stuck pushing boxes around all summer with no show going on. Who needs that?”

This past summer’s Reefer Madness opened to a warm welcome from the FIU student community.

“I said, ‘This time around I’ve got to do a musical.’ At first, we were like ‘I don’t know, I don’t know.’ But that’s how you learn,” Pareja said.

It would become quite the endeavor to put on any production. Pareja soon found out that staging even a single perfor- mance was going to prove itself difficult as cast and crew found themselves unable to continue.

“One of my singers, a lead performer, was not able to continue,” Pareja said.

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THE BEACON

CONTACT:
PAREJA, page 8

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$10-25
CONTACT:
305-348-0496 or carta.fi u.edu

WHERE:
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall Florida International University Modesto A. Maidique Campus

WHAT:
Duke Ellington’s Sacred Concert

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Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall Florida International University Modesto A. Maidique Campus

TICKETS:
$10-$25
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Duke Ellington
Ryan Morejon
Staff Writer

This past summer was a period of many things: boredom, perspiration, the beach and minimal clothing. The weather was usually a partly cloudy forecast with a chance of... haze? At least that’s what one can gather from the state of indie rock during the summer solstice. A movement of electro-nostalgia and low-fidelity sound quality, creating a relatively new wave of beautiful, albeit电子的, glo-d-i.

Music blogs attributed this sub-genre to a current rise in grime, threadbare dance music, which can arguably be traced to Swedish roots, The Tough Alliance, with their debut, The New School back in 2005. They introduced a blend of tropitalla – a type of Latin psychedelic music – and French house music that helped make the indie-rock community tremble from the fusion. Or, you can go even farther back to Stereolab’s indie-electro rock at its peak in the mid-90s.

As much as those records were influences, none of them really embraced the dilapidated sound of acts like Washed Out or Delorean.

One stand-out to come through in 2009 was Neon Indian. Mexican-born Alan Palomo is the man behind Neon Indian, his third moniker as a musician – the others being Ghosthunter and Vega. His project Vega drew on a similar sound to Neon Indian but, where Vega was a broad, grandiose burst of club music, Neon Indian is more minimal and battered with its aesthetic. Neon Indian’s debut, Psychic Chausson, is a lovely little gem filled with the types of bleeps and bloops that are reminiscent of late-80s, early-90s video games like Castlevania, Donkey Kong and San Francisco Rush. Manipulating video-game synths and lo-fi processes, Neon Indian creates a record that is somewhat stripped down, but beautiful in the way that it unfolds its themes of teenage innocence and boredom.

The intro, "(AM)" is a small track that begins with a loop, sounding very much like a 70’s television show theme song. All of a sudden there are lasers everywhere and bloop – the album’s first track, “Deadbeat Summer” comes on. It is a naturally dangerous record that has Palomo singing about summer boredom and the weather.

What’s interesting about Psychic Chausson is its overall mission. Its main mission is to offer free software to help users create a more complex and layered pictures to create a more complex and layered pictures to create a more complex and layered pictures to create a more complex and layered pictures to create a more complex and layered pictures.

The surprisingly coherent stand-out track of the record and single, “Should Have Taken Acid With You,” has Palomo singing about regrets of love and losses (“Should have taken acid with you/Our clothes off in the swimming pool”) backed with a swirling keyboard loop and more distorted video game lasers.

"Mindo Drips" sounds like it was straight out of a Top Gun or Red Dawn montage, but shows Palomo’s voice range with the song’s breakdown. The album does suffer a little bit from its really short interludes, scattered all throughout the record. They contain bits of small instrumental loops and electronics that are there to, I guess, broaden the nostalgic ‘80s palette. It’s cool to hear Palomo having fun with the microphone chasms, but it only distracts from Palomo’s songwriting and fully rounded dance tracks. But, the tracks add to the overall atmosphere of longing and youth.

Listening to Psychic Chausson, one can easily dismiss it as some kind of novelty act that will only be as good as the first listen and slowly fall into obscurity.

Honestly, I wouldn’t blame anyone for thinking such a thing. It’s hard to predict the lasting future of a contemporary act.

Will Vampire Weekend be remembered when we’re all 30 years old? Will they be as prolific as Sonic Youth or Yo La Tengo? Or dismiss it as some kind of novelty act? It doesn’t go as far as creating a blob of noise, but it does take the cohesion down a bit. Palomo’s voice, while not in tune, sounds more minimal and battered with its aesthetic. Neon Indian is probably one of the very few acts that can be credited with keeping this sub-genre alive.

Web site offers photo editing tools on the fly

Ariadna Rodriguez
Contributing Writer

Run out of time on your 30-day trial with Adobe Photoshop and don’t have cash to fork out for the real thing? If you’re not a serious photographer and would like to mess around with some photos, then Aviary.com might be something you should look into.

Aviary is a visual design and editing Web site that offers tutorials and free software for “Creation on the Fly.” The Web site is a privately held company headquartered in Long Island, N.Y. run by a group of graphic design and photography and music and video production professionals.

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Will Vampire Weekend be remembered when we’re all 30 years old? Will they be as prolific as Sonic Youth or Yo La Tengo? Or dismiss it as some kind of novelty act? It doesn’t go as far as creating a blob of noise, but it does take the cohesion down a bit. Palomo’s voice, while not in tune, sounds more minimal and battered with its aesthetic. Neon Indian is probably one of the very few acts that can be credited with keeping this sub-genre alive.

A couple of weeks ago, Fader magazine’s online television network put up a video of Palomo and his band playing a cover of a 1950’s Argentine song, “Mi Vieja.” The arrangement was minimal with just a small Casio keyboard, guitar and tambourine. The song is about coming to terms with a father figure’s death. Though, what the video showed, besides a really eerie, cooing version of a beautiful death ballad, was that Palomo has a versatility about him, and that he doesn’t really need bleeps and bloops to emphasize stringwriting. It showed that Neon Indian is probably just the third of many different music personalities waiting to blast out of Palomo’s musical mind. Not bad for a 21-year-old.

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FIU alumna savors life as faculty member

Pareja, page 7

actor, got called in for ‘American Idol.’ At that point we couldn’t say anything. They were in the middle of talking to producers, and the day of his rehearsal would be our opening night. We had to recast, so two weeks in we had lost an actor, my choreographer had strained his back and people were starting to get sick. But, in the end, it was all a blessing in disguise. That’s how it happens in live theater. We just had a lot going on,” Pareja said.

She attributes the eventual success of the show to a tight-knit cast and, of course, YouTube.

“We had lost our choreographer after he had finished the first three numbers and I thought, ‘That’s it, it’s over.’ But instead, I looked up some videos of other performances, old swing dancing and big numbers, and YouTube finished choreographing the rest of the show!”

Pareja, who is an FIU alumna herself, shows the utmost respect for both her students and colleagues.

“It’s a give and take. I learn from my students, they learn from me. So far, it’s, you know, a great experience. Of course, if it wasn’t for Phillip Church who has always supported me, I wouldn’t have gotten far.”

Pareja enjoys her job, so much so that she says it barely seems like work at all.

“If it moves you and you can wake up every morning and be absolutely ridiculously happy to go to work, then it’s not work any more. Who could ask for more? If Miami had better weather and less traffic it would be perfect.

For more information on the theater department head to: http://tdsc.fiu.edu/school_theatre/index.htm.
STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

Turns out comedy isn’t dead. In fact, it’s uni-dead. Zombieland brings laughs to the silver screen with a veteran actor and Oscar nominee, and an up-and-coming young actor. The Beacon had the chance to talk to Woody Harrelson (Natural Born Killers) and Jesse Eisenberg (Adventureland) at the Clubhouse on South Beach for the Zombieland press day. Not only do these men manage to share chemistry on the big screen, but they also manage to carry it over off-screen.

The Beacon: How much fun was filming this movie?
Jesse Eisenberg: It was pretty fun, but all the things that are fun to watch are often a tedious process because it takes hours to set up those scenes. The fun I found was improvising with Woody in the dialogue scenes, which was more acting-intensive than holding-a-hammer-intensive.

Woodie Harrelson: It was very cathartic killing zombies. It is a nice way to release your inner rage.

The Beacon: How much improvisation did you two do in the movie?
JE: Every dialogue scene we did, we would probably improvise for 20 minutes at a time for each of our takes.
WH: It is nice to be able to wing it sometimes because you get a cool spontaneous things you might not get otherwise. Sometimes it might be absolute crap but, for the few jewels that are in the take, it is well worth it.

TB: When you guys got the script, what were your first thoughts?
JE: When I saw the title page, I thought, “I cannot imagine a good part there could be for an actor.”
WH: You thought it was going to be stupid.
JE: Well, within the first line of the script, I realize this is great because it is funny and witty. The characters are good and everything is well defined. It is actually the first script I read over a period of several months of reading scripts. This one stood out as the cleverest character-driven script, even though it is a zombie comedy.

TB: What was your favorite zombie kill to film?
JE: There is one where Woody uses two chainsaws.
WH: How about the one with the butter knife?
JE: Which one was with a butter knife?
WH: No, I just thought it would be funny. The supermarket scene might have been my favorite to shoot. It made me laugh because it was funny how I had to wait for Jesse to tell me to swing, so I can hit the zombie with a but instead of Jesse himself.

TB: Do you have a favorite zombie film?
WH: I liked Shaun of the Dead, but to me, zombie movies really scare the crap out of me. The one movie with Will Smith (I Am Legend) was so terrifying, and so was 28 Days Later. Those movies can really give you sleepless nights. I just prefer comedy.

TB: Can you two relate to your characters?
JE: My character has an obsession to stay alive and I do not like to walk on cracks on the sidewalk.

I have OCD in a lot of different things that I am trying to work on with my dialectical behavior therapist. He is also trying to survive in a world overrun by zombies and if you mess with my family ... (laughs). No, it is just a joke. Woody met them yesterday.

WH: They were sweet, sweet zombistic kind of people.

TB: Do you pull any pranks on the set of Zombieland?
JE: It was the director’s (Ruben Fleischer) first movie so he was secretive with us and he wanted his actors to be happy and to take care of us. We used Abigail Breslin to pretend that her last take was too traumatizing for her that she could not do another one. She would go to him in hysteries and because she is one of the best actresses in the world, she would turn it on like that. We did this to him for like half a dozen times and he would say, “We do not have to do another one, I am so sorry.” Fifteen minutes later, she would be fine.

TB: How was working with Abigail?
WH: She is the smartest one in the room compared to both of us.

WH: She is incredible. You forget that she is 12 years old and she seems more mature than the rest of us. She is also an incredible actress. There is a scene where she has to cry. Not only does she do it beautifully in front of the cameras but, when the camera was on, she is still crying. That is an incredible ability to access emotions.

TB: There is a lot of action throughout the movie, but do you actually hit any zombie by accident?
JE: Emma Stone did at the time of shooting, but she did not know until we found out while promoting the movie. She actually hit a guy, who was 60 feet off the ground and on a wire, with the gun so hard that he instantly fell down. He had to go to the hospital to get stitches, but he is fine now. He is an incredible stunt man who was actually Toby Maguire’s stunt double in the Spider-Man movies as Spider-Man.

WH: Are you sure he was the Spider-Man guy? Because I met another guy who said he was the Spider-Man guy. Huh.

TB: Did you guys have any funny blooper during the shoot?
WH: I do not remember that thing, do you?
JE: I try to forget them immediately. We would improvise so much that, inevitably, you say things that you immediately regret. I said something about the Incur and I felt embarrassed. Hopefully, it is not going to be on the blooper reel because we might get a defamation lawsuit or something.

For more interviews and film reviews, check out www.flms.com. All the quotes from the preceding article were compiled by the author.
Offense starts strong; defense unable to contain Warhawks

FOOTBALL, page 12

Revell, who ranks fourth in the SBC in total offense per game, was able to use his feet and his arm to keep the Golden Panthers offense on balance. The junior signal caller threw for 273 yards and ran for another 82.

“Revell was amazing,” Bryant said. “He has great footwork and an arm. We had to make sure we contained him. We were able to get him for another 82.”

The Golden Panthers defense was able to keep the Warhawks offense in check for much of the game, limiting their yardage to just 304. The defense was able to force turnovers and make big plays, leading to a 48-35 shutout victory.

With six shots in the win, the Golden Panthers defense limited the Warhawks to just 10 rushing attempts for 77 yards. The defense also had three interceptions and forced two fumbles, one of which was recovered for a touchdown.

But despite the strong performance by the defense, the Golden Panthers offense was able to put up 413 yards of total offense, with three touchdowns and no turnovers.

The win brings the Golden Panthers to 3-0 on the season and 1-0 in Conference USA play. They will next face off against the University of Kentucky on Saturday.

FIU goes undefeated vs. Sun Belt

FIU's offense was led by sophomore quarterback Jamil Bryant, who threw for 273 yards and ran for 82 more. The Golden Panthers were able to put up 413 yards of total offense, with three touchdowns and no turnovers.

Defensively, the Golden Panthers were able to limit the Sun Belt conference's second-ranked offense to just 237 yards. The defense had three interceptions and forced two fumbles, one of which was recovered for a touchdown.

The win brings the Golden Panthers to 3-0 on the season and 1-0 in Conference USA play. They will next face off against the University of Kentucky on Saturday.

Golden Panthers end losing streak against Pioneers

Soccer, page 12

to capitalize. With six shots in the first half and four in the second, Denver outshot FIU 10-8, but Savage was able to notch four saves on the night, giving Savage her second career shutout win in as many games.

“I don’t even know how to describe it,” said Savage. “I just feel amazing. I think we’re getting better and better with communication.”

For Golden Panthers coach Thomas Chestnutt, the victory is another step in the right direction. “Denver played well,” said Chestnutt. “They’re a quality side and to get a win like that is huge.”

For Savage, the victory shows how far the team has come, but also how far they have yet to go. “There is still a lot we have to work on,” said Savage. “These last two teams being the top teams in the conference, it’s just a good feeling and it gives us a lot of confidence going into the rest of the season.”

Wanted: a defense that can stop the run

Perhaps Coach Mario Cristobal can sell out some coin for a series of milk cartons advertising what he’s looking for.

Combine Ellington’s disappearance with the total lack of a running game, which put up another spectacular effort with 7 yards and a sub-1 per carry average, and it’s basically become the Hilton one-man show on offense.

It would be a grave injustice to forget to mention Hilton, who was an absolutely shining star once again, snagging 11 catches for 117 yards and a touchdown and continuing his streak dating back to last season of nine games with a touchdown.

You start to feel bad for the sophomore when, in week and a half, he can win the rest of the team to fail and his performance.

Andrea Lakovic, who compiled nine kills for the match, gave FIU a spark in the third quarter, the Golden Panthers defense off balance. The junior outside hitter and one of the team’s leaders, was able to notch four points in the match, including her career-high 13 kills.

The match was filled with exciting moments, including a late comeback by the Golden Panthers, who were able to pull ahead in the first set and then hold on for the win. Lakovic’s performance was key in helping her team secure their second consecutive win.

In the first set, the Golden Panthers were able to jump out to an early lead and maintain it throughout the set, winning 25-19. In the second set, they were able to bounce back after losing the first set, taking it 25-20.

The third set was a close one, with the Golden Panthers winning 25-23 to secure their second consecutive win. Lakovic’s 13 kills were the most by a single player in a single set this season.

With the win, FIU improves to 2-0 in the Conference USA, and is now 5-0 overall on the season. Lakovic’s performance was key in helping her team secure their second consecutive win.

"We still have a tendency to turn it on," Tomić said. "WKU is tough, they never give up. They have an ability to come back and they certainly did in that third set and we were a little bit lucky to pull that on off."
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VOLLEYBALL: FIU 3, WKU 1

Winning streak extends to season-long six games

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers (13-2, 3-0) did not repeat last season’s misfortune as they defeated the visiting Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers (11-6, 0-2) in four sets on Oct. 2 in the U.S. Century Bank Arena. The Hilltoppers won last season’s match in Miami, but this time around they only managed to win the first set before dropping the next three to the Golden Panthers.

Golden Panthers coach Danijela Tomic was pleased with her team’s performance, beating a WKU team predicted to finish second behind FIU in the Sun Belt East Division prior to the start of the season.

“We beat a very good team...”

FOOTBALL: ULM 48, FIU 35

Golden Panthers drop fourth consecutive game

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers kept a few season-long trends going into Louisiana-Monroe on Oct. 3.

T.Y. Hilton continued his stretch of offensive prowess en route to tying a team record with 11 catches in a game, while staying ahead of last season’s freshman All-American pace.

FIU also lost its fourth consecutive game in large part due to breakdowns in run defense and an inability to sustain momentum throughout the course of the game.

It was a similar setting as University of Louisiana-Monroe (3-2, 2-0 Sun Belt) defeated FIU (0-4, 0-1) 48-35 at Malone Stadium, where the Golden Panthers have never won before.

“We started fast like we wanted to do and then we stalled and let them get back into it,” said Golden Panthers coach Mario Cristobal. “I think we have these drive killers that have to be eliminated. There is no other way about it. After shutting down their offense for a quarter, to buckle like we did in the second quarter. The same plays, the same calls, and they start making plays and we don’t. The inconsistencies are what are hurting us.”

Despite a promising start, the Golden Panthers allowed ULM to amass more than 300 rushing yards and nearly 600 yards of total offense. FIU also was hurt by 11 penalties for 106 yards.

FAST START

The Golden Panthers capitalized on linebacker Scott Bryant’s first interception of the season in the first quarter to set up a 21-yard pass from Paul McCull to Greg Ellingson on the very next play. FIU forced four punts and did not allow a first down until there was 4:44 left in the quarter. After an Anthony Gaitor interception to end that drive, the Golden Panthers took a 7-0 lead into the second period.

ULM scored on its next four drives, however, and took a 24-14 advantage at halftime. After Warhawks quarterback Trey Reveill scored on a 9-yard run to tie the game at 7, he connected on a 52-yard pass to LaGregory Sapp to set up touchdown run by Frank Goodin that gave them a lead they kept the rest of the afternoon. Goodin had a career-high 163 rushing yards.

“When they started running the ball successfully it opened an entire new offense for them with play action and exposing the middle of the field,” Cristobal said. “We have not put four quarters of football yet and it showed today.”

FOOTBALL, page 10

WOMEN’S SOCCER: FIU 1, DENVER 0

Team shuts out Denver for fourth win of season

CHRIS GREEN
Staff Writer

It had been nine years since FIU had come out on the winning end of a matchup vs. Denver.

The defending Sun Belt champions came to FIU hoping to extend the nine-year winning streak but instead found themselves losing to the Golden Panthers.

It took only 53 seconds for forward Thaisa Moreno to find the back of the net, FIU’s first goal against Denver in three years. From that point on, it was up to freshman goalkeeper Kaitlyn Savage to keep the home team ahead.

“Kaitlyn has stepped up so much as a freshman,” said sophomore defender Jessica Gambill. “It came out of nowhere; she’s a good asset to our team.”

The match featured plenty of opportunities for both Denver and FIU to add to their scoring tallies, but neither were able...