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 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 emphasizes 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.

Public Affairs receives $1.6 million grant

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 438,000 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 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 public administration. “Smokers are smoking in the front doors of FIU buildings, increasing the risk of second-hand and third-hand smoke, instead of the 20 feet distance from any building as stated in the FIU no-smoking policy. It is time for a change that will benefit FIU.”

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.

Social enforcement is known as SMOKE-FREE, page 3

Town hall meeting considers tuition costs

ELSIE 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 F. 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 FAFSA and their concerns about increasing security measures in public schools. The lack of funding for education received the most air time.

“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 from the state legislature, who were present at the town hall meeting, when they repeatedly emphasized the need for state funding.

“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 Padrón 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
UM doctor hopes to develop HIV vaccine

University of Miami Dr. Margaret Fischl 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 adults seeking new job training. According to The Miami Herald, the 20 percent tuition discount applies to both undergraduate and graduate programs at 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.

The Miami Herald

RIO DE JANEIRO

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.

Compiled by Jorge Valens

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 public education.

“This shows our commitment to getting out of the recession,” 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, a research assistant in the Disaster Risk Reduction Program with a master’s degree in political science from FIU.

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.”

Research explores risk management

Research explores risk management

Recession affects education funding

Recession affects education funding

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 am 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.”

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Recession affects education funding
Project aims to end smoking on campus by May 3, 2010

SMOKE-FREE, page 1

as a decentralized action by involved people in monitoring and reporting illegal or unethical action. Medina said that it will allow students to remind people who are smoking about the smoke-free policy. Smokers will then try to avoid these kinds of confrontations and not smoke on campus anymore.

Another significant actor in the smoke-free initiative is Robert Dollinger, assistant dean of student affairs for the College of Medicine.

“In order to be able to meet this timetable, we are trying to obtain much needed internal and external funding to hire at least a part-time health educator to coordinate this program and ensure that it continues with the momentum that the task force has created,” Dollinger said. “Also, we are awaiting funding issues from the University Operations Committee, as well as approval of our goal date for implementation, set for May 3.”

Medina said that the School of Public Health and the College of Medicine have given their full support for this goal. He started a petition online for students to voice their opinion about the initiative. So far, 89 people have signed and no one voiced any complaints yet.

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 futures,” 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 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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POP STARS

JAMMIN’: Sophomore Missy Franciscus, a theatre major, sings karaoke to Kenny Martinson in the Towers Lounge during RA Jennifer Rodriguez’s University Towers housing event.

Program in the Study of Spirituality
School of International and Public Affairs | College of Arts and Sciences

“Spirituality and Entrepreneurship: East Asian Perspectives”

Dr. Steven Heine, Director, FIU Asian Studies Program; Professor, Department of Religious Studies; Associate Director, School of International and Public Affairs

October 8, 2009 | 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Graham Center 140
11200 SW 8th Street, Miami

Co-sponsors: Pino Center for Global Entrepreneurship and Asian Studies Program
Students get into kitchen, can take the heat

Hallmark recruiters visit campus for new interns

LATOYA BURGESS
Contributing Writer

Biscayne Bay students need to get ready to think, create, inspire and innovate if they want to join Hallmark's writing team.

Representatives from the Recruiting Studio for Creative Talent Hallmark Cards, Inc. are visiting CBC to host a workshop Oct. 8 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Room 255 of the CBC library.

“Writing and Innovation: A Creative Workshop,” will teach students how to create cards, beginning with the conceptual stage and ending with the finished product.

Handicapped representatives will give students a first-hand glimpse of what it is like to work in a creative environment.

“The workshop is limited to about 20 students so that there is more interaction, because when there are so many people, it’s harder to work closely with them and we want to make sure everyone’s ideas are heard,” said Sarah Burton, recruiter for Hallmark’s writers, editors and designers.

Hallmark is hoping to recruit students from all majors for their summer internship program.

“This workshop is open to all students. It’s a fair shot for anyone who thinks creatively. It’s for music majors, engineers, history majors, and even if you don’t want to work with Hallmark, you can learn how to think differently.”

HALLMARK, page 5

Author shares stories on Haiti

Winner award aims to bring issues to light

SABRENA JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Families in Haiti are struggling to survive mudslides, hunger and poverty, and a Haitian novelist came to campus to share her own stories.

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 CBC 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.

Some of the students of the youth center have been reading some of Mrs. Haiti, page 5
Haitian author speaks out about injustice

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

"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," Danticat said. "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."

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 Northha, dean of the Honors College.

"The environment is very welcoming, and you feel like you are a part of something big."

This is Hallmark's third creative event held at BBC, and this time, their workshop is "all about conceptualization, finding a targeted audience and coming up with a package," Burton said.

"In the workshop, we had to rewrite a 'copy,' which is an existing card, and then check it for sendability, which is your targeted audience," said Zayas. "For example, if you are writing a card for your grandmother, you wouldn't use slang.

Three Hallmark representatives will conduct the workshop: Sarah Burton from the recruiting department and two editors from the Sinceremente team, Hallmark's bilingual line for cards in Spanish.

"This workshop is for students to understand the overall process," said Burton. "Our ultimate goal is to hire someone permanently, but an internship is a great opportunity to get their foot through the door to see if they like Hallmark and if we like them.

The deadline to register for the workshop is Oct. 5. To apply, visit www.Hallmark.com/careers.
students graduating in 2009 and forward may have to fork over some cash in order to bring their abuelitas to their commencement ceremony.

The University recently announced that students would have to pay $5 for three of their four commencement tickets in order to help offset the costs of the six ceremonies, which a University press release puts at $135,000. This news made headlines statewide and sparked ire among some students, and understandably so, as tuition costs and fees are at record highs.

Though it is certainly a hard reality to face for students, The Beacon feels that the University made the right decision in charging for tickets and that the University has acted in the best interest of the students' fiscal well-being. Meanwhile, it’s the biggest issue for ceremonies at the Leon County Civic Center in Tallahassee, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies, whereas most Florida universities hold six ceremonies.

The number of jobs lost in September, raising the unemployment rate to 9.8 percent. This is not surprising, considering the financial downturn caused by the bursting of the housing bubble and the subsequent collapse of the real estate market. However, the number of jobs lost in September is a cause for concern, as it indicates that the economy is still struggling to recover from the effects of the recession.

The Beacon feels that this option is worse than charging for tickets; students should be able to overcome an abysmally low political intelligence by being more active and involved in the political process. While Obama asked Gov. Paterson not to seek reelection, his political advisers were advising the governor to run for another term. 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.

Federal agency. The government has no right to intervene. Obama’s antics don’t end in the private sector; recently, the president has involved himself in state politics, more specifically in the Empire State’s governor’s race.

While Obama asked Gov. Paterson not to seek reelection, his political advisers were behind the decision. Obama subsequently approved and signed off on the request. As president, he should not do. A president should be neutral.

Future teachers better prepared for classroom

All that training and preparation takes away from what makes some of the best teachers memorable: the depth of knowledge they have.

It is crucial to have teachers that make you feel that way when you’re getting ready for college and need that little push that will help you decide what field to get into. Teachers who inspire their students can help make the college process more enjoyable because they can shed light on what that student really enjoys.

A by-the-book teacher that follows the curriculum strictly and does not allow for creativity or innovation is not the best teacher. A teacher that is able to inspire and motivate students to think critically and creatively is a better teacher. Teachers need to be able to adapt to the needs of their students and be flexible in their teaching methods. They need to be patient and understanding, and they need to be able to connect with their students on a personal level.

The more knowledge a teacher has, the better they can help their students understand the material. Teachers who are well-prepared and knowledgeable in their subject matter are better able to engage their students and make the material more interesting and relevant. It is important for teachers to stay current with the latest research and developments in their field, and to continually improve their teaching skills. This will allow them to be more effective in the classroom and to better meet the needs of their students.
FOR AUGENBLICK, THE CONCERT IS A JOY TO BEHOLD ON MANY LEVELS.

A S I W A S B R O W S I N G THE “INTER-WEBS” this morning, I couldn’t help but notice that American ears really love to defend themselves with electricity. Originally I was planning to write about Xboxes, or a new cell phone, but 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 shock 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 was passing, 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.

The company synonymous with this technology, Tasers, has stayed popular by improving on design and adding functionality to their line of stun guns, conventionally referred to as “electronic control devices.”

Currently, the company has an extensive line of Tasers that will no doubt take down a potential assailant, and the name alone is enough to have me scared for my life. 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.

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.

If you were to ask her what her full title here at the University actually is, she’ll tell you quite frankly, “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 Philip 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.

“The main goal of the program is to attract people to the theatre during the summer, who otherwise would not,” said Pareja.

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 the Summer production.

PAREJA, page 8
WEB SITE REVIEW

Web site offers photo editing tools on the fly

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

Ran out of time on your 30-day trial with Adobe Photoshop and don’t have cash to fork out for the real deal? 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.com 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 artists from all over the world. Its main mission is to offer accessible tools for artists of any stage.

The site offers editing tools in imaging, color, effects, vector, computer-generated script, image markup and its newest acquisition – audio editing.

Aviary names each of its tools after a bird, linking characteristics of the bird to the features of the tool. The site’s most popular is Peacock. It is a visual design and editing tool. The site’s most popular is Peacock. It is a visual design and editing tool.

Aviary offers a lot of programs with many features but the software is a little too much for older computers so, if you have an older computer, use caution.

In regards to its pricy competitor, Adobe Photoshop, Aviary claims to have red-eye reducer consumers. We serve more advanced hobbyist creators.” True, because the software is a bit tricky so it definitely geared towards more tech-savvy users.

The applications were a bit difficult to use, especially for someone who can barely handle Windows’ Paint, but the accessibility is a huge plus and the fact that it’s free will be refreshing to those who are hard-core designers and used to costly programs.

The Web site is an interactive one with message boards full of other Aviary users ready and willing to help new users and share their newest creations. Users even get their own profile page, much like a page on Facebook, where they can show off the work they’ve done on the site. There is also a newsletter via message boards and talk about anything from how to use the software to coming up with new projects.

Aviary.com is an innovative Web site run by people who seem to want to make the site easy and friendly atmosphere for everyone involved. It is a great tool that with the friendly part, but not so much with ease.

**Beacon Reviewers receive no free goods in exchange for positive reviews, and the views expressed represent those of the author alone.**

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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 been, 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 anymore. 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.
Ask A Zombie Killer

Beacon talks with ‘Zombieland’ actors Harrelson, Eisenberg

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

Turns out comedy isn’t dead. In fact, it’s un-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 Shore Club 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 it 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.

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

TB: 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 cool spontaneous things 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 have been 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?
JE: 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.
WH: 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 meet my family … (laughs). No, it is just a joke. Woody met them yesterday.

WH: They were sweet, sweet zombietastic 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 hysterics 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?
JE: 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 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 us, 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 bloopers 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 Incans 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.fiusm.com. All the quotes from the preceding article were compiled by the author.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2009

UNICEF @ FIU
Effect change with our UNICEF chapter.
WHERE: 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 343

STUDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION
This club presences will be at the State of the University.
WHERE: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 102

COLLEGE DEMOCRATS
Share and discuss politics with this meeting.
WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 314

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009

DANCE MARATHON
Gladness Kick auditions today!
WHERE: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 340

PREKSHA MEDITATION
Get in touch with your spiritual side.
WHERE: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Pit

TRUTH FOR LIFE
Learn something new about the Bible with this meeting!
WHERE: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 343

CAREER FAIR EXPO
Find great opportunities with this event!
WHERE: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009

VENEZUELAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Watch a soccer game with these club members!
WHERE: 3:14 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 340

CATHOLIC STUDENT UNION
Follow your faith with this club meeting!
WHERE: 2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 340

ZOMBIKILLERS: Jesse Eisenberg, left, and Woody Harrelson in Zombieland.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ZOMBIELAND.COM

FRENCH CLUB
Get to touch with the country/culture today!
WHERE: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 314

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009

CIRCUS
Join this weekly musican party today!
WHERE: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: $5
WHERE: Churchill’s

STUDENT ASSOCIATION CAMPUS UNION
Learn how to protect yourself with STD awareness day.
WHERE: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 243

THE CITIZENS FOUNDATION UP CHAPTER
Go to this meeting to help children get an education!
WHERE: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 340

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009

STUDENT ASSOCIATION CAMPUS UNION
Learn how to protect yourself with STD awareness day.
WHERE: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 243

LECTURE BY STEVEN MEENE
The School of International Relations hosts this event.
WHERE: 3:10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 140
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 defense off 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 put in our game plan to stop him and not get outside our defense." Cristobal echoed to missed assignments as the culprit to Revell and Goodin getting loose. "It’s assignment football. Every single call has an assignment," Cristobal said. "We repl that a lot and in the heat of the moment when the play is called you have to make those plays. You see when you make them it’s a heck of a play for the defense but when you lose your focus it’s a gash." NOT ENOUGH

After a Jarvis Wilson fumble recovery brought FIU back to ULM’s 15-yard line in the third quarter, the Golden Panthers had another short field and they capitalized. McCall connected with tight end Dudley LaPette to bring FIU to within three at 31-28. FIU could not stop ULM from scoring though, as the Warhaws scored their lead to 48-35 midway through the fourth quarter, a deficit the Golden Panthers could not recover from. "The bottom line is there is no magic potion. There is no magic formula," Cristobal said. "We need to make it happen. There is a clear understanding of that in the locker room and the only way to do that is through persistence. Persistence will fix half the problems in this world and we are no different."}

FIU goes undefeated vs. Sun Belt

Volleyball, page 12

On Saturday, Warhawks starting running back, Frank Goodin, ran for 163 yards and three TDs, and FIU’s front seven was pushed around. Their mobile quarterback, Trey Revel had another 59 yards and a touchdown.

The Golden Panthers once again rallied in the late moments of the game to make the final score more respectable, but it’s very hard to be positive about anything in this game.

In fact, it’s starting to get to the point with the Golden Panthers positives it isn’t worth it. All it’s doing is glossing over what has been, for the most part, a series of losses in which this team has seemingly completed long.
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SPORTS

SPORTS CONFERENCE DOMINANCE

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,” Tomic said.

FOOTBALL: ULM 48, FIU 35

Golden Panthers drop fourth consecutive game

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asta 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 McCall 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 Reverel 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

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 to do so.

SOCCER, page 10