Continuing the Dream

University honors rights activist

PHILIPPE BUTEAU  Staff Writer

The 81st birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. is Jan. 15, and the University will commemorate it with a week of events on both campuses.

The events started Jan. 12 and will end Jan. 20. Multicultural Programs and Services, the organization planning and hosting the events, will have a break-fast Friday morning from 8 to 10 a.m. marked by keynote speaker Michael Eric Dyson.

Dyson, a professor of sociology at Georgetown University, will be addressing the theme of “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of the Dream.” After the breakfast, which is in its 19th year, Dyson will be signing books he’s written, which will be avail-

University reacts to devastation in Haiti

CHRISTOPHER NECUEZ  Editor in Chief

The magnitude 7.0 earthquake that struck near the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince late Tuesday afternoon sent shudders through the University’s Haitian community, with many students reporting little to no success in contacting their relatives on the island.

With preliminary death toll estimates as high as 500,000, as reported by The Associated Press, the possible catastrophe stands to be among the worst natural disasters ever recorded in the Western hemisphere.

Students reacted to the news by supporting peers with family members in the region, and by expressing utter shock that something so terrible could happen to such a poor country.

“It’s devastating because we can’t contact them right now,” said English major Vincncha Paulina, who was born in Port-au-Prince but moved to the U.S. when she was 4. “We just don’t know their status.”

Paulina, like many others, has relatives in Haiti’s capital city and has been unable to reach them due to the collapse of basic services such as water, electricity and phone lines.

“My father’s blood pressure actually went up the night we found out,” Paulina said. “We’re worried about him too; he’s worried about his sister … it’s very traumatizing.”

Though food and supply drives are planned and the initial public reaction in terms of international aid has been substantial, those with relatives on the island are particularly conflicted.

“It’s hard because we’re not physically there,” Paulina said. “So you feel kind of helpless.”

Junior international relations major Dalourney Nemorin was not born in Haiti, but travels to the country every year for mission work.

“I’ve talked to a lot of my Haitian friends, and we don’t know who’s going to go out and rescue these people,” Nemorin said. “They don’t have 9-1-1; the only people who can help them don’t even live in the country. They are depending on us.”

Even prior to the earthquake, Haiti was consid-
ered to be one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world, with an estimated 80 percent of its population living in poverty, according to the CIA World Factbook.

“When I got the news, I remember thinking to myself: what else can happen to these people?” said Nemorin, who also serves as the cultural chair for the Black Student Union. “These people had nothing and now they have even less. How much worse can it get?”

Even people on the island itself were having trouble communicating with loved ones who were only across town.

“I heard from my aunt who said her side of Port-au-Prince was not affected heavily,” said biochem-

ist major Hema Pierre. “But she has not heard
China censors Google's response against censorship

China news agencies censored news regarding Google's announcement that it will consider ending operations in the country after it imposed internet censorship against the search giant.

Media agencies in China began removing references to “free speech” and “surveillance” in Google's statements.

This situation stemmed from a series of cyber attacks launched against the company’s computer systems that targeted Gmail accounts of human rights proponents in China.

Subpoenas sent pertaining to AIG scandal

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York was subpoenaed by a House committee to provide all of Timothy Geithner's communications pertaining to AIG scandal. The report added that the New York Fed “had bought insurance from AIG. phone logs from various other New York Fed systems that targeted Gmail accounts of human.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York was subpoenaed by a House committee to provide all of Timothy Geithner's communications pertaining to AIG scandal. According to BusinessWeek, the order issued by the House Oversight and Reform Committee will help make a decision to pay back banks that bought insurance from AIG.

The report added that the New York Fed “had refused” to send over communications without a subpoena. The order also requested e-mails and phone logs from various other New York Fed officials.

Earthquake ‘could end country’

On the issue dated Jan. 11, 2010 the article titled "Obama’s foreign policy challenge," the writer name was credited as Brian Alonso. His correct name is Brian Alonso.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

GABRIEL ARRARÁS

University President Mark Rosen-

berg announced the appointment of Isis Carabjal de Garcia as general counsel for Florida Interna-

tional University.

In an e-mail to the members of the University community, Rosenberg thanked the previous general counsel, Cristina Mendoza, for her hard work and dedication.

According to Rosenberg, “Isis has served as deputy general counsel since 1997 and brings with her an exemplary record of legal work in both the public and private sectors.

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The southern part of Haiti lies along the Enriquillo-Plantain Garden fault zone, a transform slip-fault similar to the San Andreas Fault which runs through California and caused the famous 1906 San Fran-

cisco earthquake. Strike-slip faults move past each other horizontally.

In the case of the Enriquillo-Plantain Garden Fault, pressure is built up as the more southern Caribbean Plate moves east in relation with the larger North Amer-

ican Plate. Eventually the plates “slip,” releasing the stored energy and causing an earthquake.

“What we know is that the motion along those faults is relatively slow, so it takes a long time for the pressure along the faults to build up,” said earth science professor Grenville Draper, who specializes in Carib-

bean geology. “So these big earthquakes occur more infrequently.”

“But their infrequency makes them particularly dangerous because many generations pass without people feeling anything more than a temblor,” Draper said. “So they don’t really have the perception that there is an earthquake hazard.”

Draper attributed the mass devastation with the epicenter being so close to the capital, and said that because Port-au-Prince was built primarily on a river gravel foundation, rather than a solid rock one, the vibrations from the earthquake were actually amplified.

Haiti is also missing set building codes, and build-

ings are often shoddily constructed due to a lack of resources.

“My colleagues and I have discussed about when we thought the big one was going to happen in Hispan-

iola,” Draper said. “Well this is just about as big as it’s going to get.”

The earthquake also has the potential to further devastate an already fragile political infrastructure on the island, according to Richard Olson, chair of the political science department. Olson teaches about the political repercussions of natural disasters.

“You always have to be particularly concerned when a major disaster affects not just an urban area, but the urban area that is the national capital,” Olson said. “When you have a disaster that affects the capital city, the seat of government, it raises all sorts of questions.”

Olson predicted that as more countries become aware of the extent of the destruction, foreign aid would start arriving, but not necessarily distributed, so the government would have to rely heavily on non-

governmental organizations to distribute aid.

With a population of nine million, the estimated 500,000 person death-toll would equal roughly 5.5 percent of the population.

“There is no good scenario for this. From a political point of view, this could set Haiti back 10-15 years,” Olson said. “That essentially ends the country, for all intents and purposes. 500,000 would be the worst disaster in the history of the Western Hemisphere – and by a wide margin.”

“The death toll will prob-

ably come down,” Olson said. “But if it doesn’t, then we are talking about a completely different phenomenon.”

Additional reporting by Gabriel Arrarás, Jaemyon Elliot and Jorge Valens.
MLK celebrated with events on both campuses

DREAM, page 1

able for purchase. The week of events is funded partly by student government, outside spon- sors and ticket sales. Tickets to the breakfast were sold for $55 each and are already sold out. A total of 550 tickets have been sold.

“We usually sell out by December,” said Jeffrey McNamee, asso- ciate director of MPAS at Modesto Maidique Campus. McNamee said the reason the breakfast is not free is because student government isn’t fully funding it. He added that the breakfast is the only event that isn’t free.

Student government has a table at the breakfast that McNamee said sometimes doesn’t get filled.

8 a.m. on Friday is a big deterrent,” McNamee said.

MPAS has support of the University administration, McNamee said, regarding to whom the tickets are sold. He said tickets are often sold to heads of departments that often buy tickets for their respective staff.

Freshmen students this year competed for three prizes by submitting an essay with King as the inspiration. The prizes were scholarships for $2,000, $1,000 and $500 for first, second and third place, respectively. Each of the prizes also included a $1,000 meal plan from Aramark, the University’s food service provider, and $500 from Barnes & Noble for books.

Immediately following the breakfast will be a speaker’s reception that will not be open to the public. The reception is for MPAS’ corporate sponsors, essay winners and Univer- sity administration.

There will be a “Day of Service” the day after the breakfast, Saturday Jan. 16. The day of service will be the beautification of Fruit and Spice Park in Homestead. Student volunteers will be at the park from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

According to a press release, there will be 150 student volunteers that will be working with students from the Yvonne Learning Center.

In addition, Dorret Sawyers, director of MPAS at Biscayne Bay Campus, said they are expecting between 200 and 250 volun- teers from local middle and high schools.

A dinner will be held in honor of the late civil rights activist Jan. 19 and Karlyn Hylton, assistant U.S. district attorney, will be the speaker. The final day of the events will be held Jan. 20 at BBC.

A MLK Youth Forum and Peace Walk, both in their 10th year, will be held in the Wolfe University Center Ballroom. The youth forum will be keynote by Dr. Pedro Greer, chair of the Department of Humani- ties, Health and Society. Sawyers encourages University students to attend the forum.

“The message will be important for everyone, not just middle and high school students,” Sawyers said.

After the keynote by Greer there will be a 15- minute peace walk behind the WUC as well as lunch from Papa John’s that will be sold for $5.

Greer, who received the Presidential Medal of Freedom at the White House last August, said that he wants to motivate people to follow in King’s steps.

Greer said that it is important to him because he will be speaking on times that he lived through and that people should know not only what King did, but why he did it.

“It is a great honor to be speaking in honor of someone that is so impor- tant,” Greer said in an inter- view with Student Media.

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The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy.

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

Date for elections agreed upon by both campuses

UWC, page 1

The discussion came a month before budget deliberations, where the $130,000 of student money is in route to be allocated for the band.

The UWC also took up the issue of elec- tions scheduling. The elections were going to be held during the week of Passover.

Newly confirmed SGC-MMC Chief Justice Luis Robayo explained to the UWC that current laws called for elections to be held on the second week after spring break, and campaigning the week before.

After some deliberation, it was decided that March 22-26 would be used for campaigning while elections would be held on March 29 and 30. Passover is set to fall on March 30 this year, and is typically observed starting on sunset of the prior night.

PANTHERS

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Men’s dress shirts 5 or more $1.50 each!
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Located in the 1st floor of the FIU Graham Center
GC 1238, 305.485.5984
College of Law professor to discuss genocide, war crimes, reform in Iraq

LORENA ESTRADA Staff Writer

The Middle East Society will host a lecture called “Justice After Saddam: War Crimes in Iraq” to discuss Iraq’s transition to democracy and how the prosecution of leading figures under the late Saddam Hussein’s regime has made way for political stability in Iraq.

Hannibal Travis, assistant professor at the College of Law and Harvard Law School graduate, will speak on Jan. 15 at the Biscayne Bay Campus at 2:30 p.m. in Academic I, Room 194. The event is free to the public and parking is free.

According to Travis, students interested in U.S. politics, international relations, international law, human rights, Middle East studies and the crisis in Darfur or Southern Sudan may benefit a lot from this lecture.

“I will discuss the possible implications of the findings of Iraqi courts in war crimes cases for the trial of the president of Sudan and potential trials of other leaders before the International Criminal Court,” Travis said.

In his lecture, Travis will define genocide, name those who have been found guilty of genocide in Iraq, and explain how criminal tribunals and legal reform can both reconcile former rebels against the state with their government, and further entice those deciding to remain as rebels.

The lecture comes at a time of greater interest in justice and human rights, according to Travis.

“Students may learn about the human rights that we are paying to States and what led the coalition’s case for invading Iraq in 2003,” Travis said.

Until the arrival of coalition forces in Iraq, leaders of Hussein’s Baath Party, such as Ali Hassan al-Majid (also known as “Chemical Ali”) and Taha Yasin Ramadan, were involved in heinous acts against fellow Iraqis which included systematic torture, mass killings and ethnic cleansing. Travis will explore some of the trials of these former leaders and talk about the prosecution process itself.

Travis teaches and conducts research in the fields of cyberlaw, intellectual property, antitrust, international and comparative law and human rights.

He has published articles in the American University Law Review, University of Miami Law Review and Yale Journal of Law and Technology, among others.

His works focused on copyright, antitrust law and trademark.

His article on copyright liability of Internet service providers in the U.S. and the European Union published in Europe. In 2008, his article on Google and intellectual property was selected by West Group as one of the best articles relating to intellectual property law.

Travis, who has book chapters forthcoming from the Oxford University Press, Thomson Reuters and Transaction Publishers, is the first author of the first comprehensive history of physical and cultural genocide in the Middle East and North Africa. He graduated from Washington State University with a major in philosophy, and graduated from Harvard Law School where he served as a member of the Harvard Journal of Law and Technology and the Harvard Human Rights Journal.

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SGC- BBC

Broward Pines Center senator removed from council

LATOYA BURGESS Staff Writer

As Claudia Ruby, senator for the Broward Pines Center, recalls Welcome Back Week, she may no longer be a welcomed member of the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus.

Ruby was voted out by the senate on Jan. 11. She said she “had no idea” about the unanimous decision.

“I had been doing Welcome Back Week, I haven’t been able to drive down to [BBC] every Monday and Wednesday because I live in Plantation,” Ruby said.

Ruby said she spoke to Christine “Cici” Battie, vice president of SGC-BBC, and Sholom Neinstein, president of SGC-BBC before the winter break.

At the Jan. 11 meeting, Battie asked between laughs, “Who is Claudia? I don’t even know what she looks like.”

According to Article VII, Statute E of the Student Government Council constitution, “Any discussion resulting from a recommendation for removal or censure of the accused from office, will be open solely to the voting members of the SGC and the student judiciary.”

The constitution also states that if a trial is deemed necessary, the chief justice, in consultation with the SGC advisor, will exchange an information session with the charged student informing him or her of the charges and their rights.

Thereafter the student has the right to challenge these charges in a scheduled hearing, according to Statute G of the constitution.

Other members of the council said they’ve noticed Ruby’s absences.

“She has only come to one meeting and she hasn’t been present by phone,” said Tanya Williams, SGC-BBC speaker of the Student Government Council.

Ruby told The Beacon that her dad fell off a roof and she has now been spending her days taking care of him, but admits she hasn’t spoken to Battie or Neinstein about it.

Neinstein said he did not know that Ruby was up for removal, but he knows it is “very hard for her” to get to BBC.

Ruby said that she meets her responsibilities as senator for the Broward Pines Center.

“SGC had one meeting here at the Broward Pines Center and some of the council members weren’t even there. I am doing my job,” said Ruby. “I just am unable to get to all of the meetings.”

Going to all the meetings is a part of Ruby’s job.

The SGC-BBC constitution states that a senator cannot miss more than three senate meetings or two consecutive senate meetings.

“We need all of the senate or most of the senate to have an official meeting,” said SGC-BBC clerk Larissa Adams. “[Senators] have voting power. If they’re not there, their vote can’t be counted.”
Olympic medalist returns to games after hardships

PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

For Jennifer Rodriguez, the crying finally stopped last month. The Olympic medalist has endured so much pain over the past couple of years: the death of her mother, the end of her marriage, financial problems that left her all tapped out.

For months, hardly a day went by without some sort of breakdown, the tears streaming down her face as she struggled to cope with one blow after another.

Finally, she turned a corner — and just in time for her fourth trip to the Winter Games.

“I would be in my hotel room, crying all the time,” Rodriguez said this week. “But just about a month ago, I kind of stopped that. Maybe I’m kind of going through the healing process, getting over the part where I’m crying all the time, where I’m feeling so sad all the time. That’s kind of going away a little bit. It took a long time, a good six months. But I think I’m actually on the way back up. Things are starting to look bright again instead of looking so gloomy.”

The 33-year-old Rodriguez was a pioneer at the speedskating rink, among that first batch of warm-weather inliners who made the switch to ice.

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The 33-year-old Rodriguez was a pioneer at the speedskating rink, among that first batch of warm-weather inliners who made the switch to ice.

A Cuban-American from South Florida — hence her nickname, “Miami Ice” — she made her first Olympic team in 1998 and won a pair of bronze medals four years later in Salt Lake City.

“Sometimes I wish I hadn’t quit, because I know I could be even better than I am now,” said Rodriguez, who’ll skate three individual events in Vancouver (500, 1,000 and 1,500) as well as the team pursuit.

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“But you really don’t know. Maybe if I hadn’t quit, I would have been so burned out by now that I wouldn’t be skating well.”

Coming back after such a long layoff is always a struggle, especially for an athlete in her 30s. But at least Rodriguez found some measure of peace at the rink — gliding along the ice, escaping from her troubles.

Last month, Rodriguez finished third in the 1,500 at a World Cup meet on the Olympic oval in Utah, where she won those two bronze medals in 2002.

But she’s realistic about her chances in Vancouver, a sea-level track that won’t be nearly as fast as those high-altitude rinks where she’s had more success.

Rodriguez wants to savor the experience at one last Olympics, knowing there won’t be another comeback for 2014. She wants to feel better about her skating than she did after the disappointment of 2006, even if she doesn’t finish any higher.

“I didn’t enjoy Torino, not one bit,” she said. “I’d really like to enjoy these games and leave this sport with a good taste in my mouth.”

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Senator Harry Reid should be on top of the political world at the moment.

The 70-year-old senior from Nevada has been a healthy hill to the brink of becoming law; a hill bringing significant changes to a flawed health care system. It should have been his year not only for his party but for himself.

Reid is under fire and being called to step down from his position by Michael Steele, chairman of the Republican National Committee and other members of the GOP for racist comments made over a year ago that, though show great ignorance, also expose ignorance from his accusers.

In the newly published book Game Change the Senate majority leader is quoted as saying in early January that Barack Obama would be a possible winner in the election because Obama was a “light skinned” African-American with “no negro dialect.”

There is no defense of Reid’s statements. Though made in private, they show extreme ignorance on his part with his choice of words. Yet Reid speaks with the president, who accepted an apology. Obama said to the media that the matter was closed.

 Cue Michael Steele: Steele called for Reid’s resignation and on last Sunday’s Meet The Press, he said, “What’s interesting here is when Democrats get caught saying racist things, an apology is enough. If that had been [Senate Minority Leader] Mitch McConnell saying that about an African-American candidate for president of the United States, trust me, this chairman and the DNC would be screaming for his head, very much as they were when Trent Lott.”

When asked by young reporters earlier this year about his plans to bring diverse cultures with Trent Lott.

Did mess something? Double standard? But it’s OK, Mr. Steele because no major network has picked up on your quote yet. Does anyone else believe that a racist was political and would be a kicking and screaming Republican Party, doing their best to unite for the upcoming midterm elections? Protestating for the sake of protestating?

Reid referring to Obama as a “ negro” is absurd. It is shameful, disgusting and unjustified. It is much more troublesome.

Reid certainly didn’t advocate a heartless and unjustified discrimination. His words show great ignorance, also expose ignorance from his accusers.

I could very easily get away with calling Mother Teresa a beautiful person but, admittedly, I’d be a crime to her.”

When asked by young reporters earlier this year about his plans to bring diverse cultures with Trent Lott.

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I thought as seems though everyone in Miami wants the cold weather to go away. Frankly, I’m starting to get annoyed by the growing number of complaints. There are home- less people out on the streets with no protection from the cold. What’s worse is that some of them are being turned away from shelters. How do you do that?

This is what many home- less sex offenders in Miami have to deal with. Not only are they literally quar- tined under the Julia Tuttle Causeway, but now even a night in a shelter to get away from the cold seems perfectly absurd. The Weather Channel reported low temperatures of 38 degrees on Jan. 9.

As the temperatures broke and lowered broke records, county, state and city wide opened emergency cold- weather shelters for the home- less. However, not all the homeless were welcome. According to The Miami Herald, the homeless sex offenders, living under the causeway say they were turned away by the county’s home- less shelters due to strict laws imposed on sex offenders in Miami-Dade County.

Under Florida law, sex offenders can’t live in shelters within 1,000 feet of schools, child- care centers or parks or areas where kids congregate. Miami-Dade County, though, is stricter and places a 2,500-foot ban on its sex offenders.

To follow through with the law, the only place they can live in is under the Julia Tuttle Bridge. And here he is, trying to escape from the cooler breezes by the bay – being turned away from shel- ters on some of the coldest nights yet.

The law is clearly not on their side. Of course, many could easily say that they deserve this kind of treatment because they are dangerous criminals who prey on innocent children.

Not all sex offenders are guilty of the same offenses. Some sex offenders may be on the list for things like dating a minor. They are not what we should be looking at.

The law forces them to cluster under highways like the Julia Tuttle. The law also forces shelters to ban them in near freezing temperatures.

We have to end the wars and get these people back home to their families and also, get them the help they need to be turned away from shelters.

Julia Tuttle homeless long for shelter
...there was never a time when they pretended to unfair and completely predictable, even though background lent itself to criticism that was both it based on factors other than the music. Their white kids with a little too much education and a sounded like what they are: upper middle class strange. former Columbia University classmates, so Vampire Weekend, a foursome composed of their true self might be.

And yet, the backlash was swift – much of On their sunny, self-titled debut, they career. It made him a life” and was gunned down the same way a common drug dealer might be. It made him a more Miami Beach Jackie Gleason Theatre, Lincoln Theatre, Colony Theater and the Lincoln Road Stage on Euclid Avenue, which is home to the festi- val’s nightly, free outdoor comedy stage.

For the first time, special shows and official events will be held at some of South Beach’s hottest clubs. Kicking off the festival will be Mad Cat Theatre Company’s “Shepherd’s Pie” on Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Colony Theatre. Thursday night will be Mike Birbiglia’s shot at getting some laughs. Audiences will get a live view of his funny man stunts that they might have seen on one of his three Comedy Central specials. The Massachusetts born comedian will bring his acclaimed storytelling to the Lincoln Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

Also performing on Thursday is Gabriel Iglesias, who performed at FIU back in 2005. The self-proclaimed “Fluffy” comedian, who resurrects his personal and daily issues and experi- ences, will perform at the Fillmore Miami Beach Jackie Gleason Theatre at 8 p.m. Tickets for Iglesias’ show are on sale for $34. Another past FIU performer is Kevin Hart, who participated in UP-Roar back in November 2009. Hart will take the stage Friday night at the Fillmore Miami Beach Jackie Gleason Theatre. Hart got his first big break when he was cast as the lead in MGM’s Soul Plane opposite funny man Tom Arnold and hip-hop heavy weights Snoop Dogg and Method Man. Hart’s recent film credits include Drillbit Taylor, Epic Movie, The Last Stand, Scary Movie 4. In The Mix and The 40 Year Old Virgin. Tickets are $35 and the show will kick off at 8 p.m.

Martha Lopez, a junior broadcast journalism major, said she’s not too excited about this year’s lineup compared to past years but does feel that SBCF redeemed itself with the inclusion of Iglesias and Hart. “I’m not that excited for this year’s festival. In previous years, they’ve had better comedians. The only two comedians I’m looking forward to seeing are Kevin Hart and Gabriel Iglesias. I’ve seen both of their Comedy Central specials and their perfor- mances here at FIU and I think they are amazing,” she said. “They both have these outrageous personal- ities and comedy routines that make you laugh so

English,” this seems an album consciously attempting to lash back at some of the critics, making an effort to be more “weird” than the first. It seems like a step back, but one that is not wholly without merit through the first few listens. But it is an album that rewards repeat listens. It might never lend itself to in-concert sing-alongs like the debut but, as a whole, it is just as rewarding a listening experience. Where the first album took very few risks, staying well within the realm of guitar pop, this one isn’t afraid to go further, delving into low-key electro pop with “White Sky,” or moody atmospheric ballads like “I Think Ur a Contra.” What is most striking about the album is how much more confident the band sounds being themselves. They had only been together for a couple of years at the time of the debut and the intervening time has been good for the quartet.

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There’s a certain type of strength in taking criticism and being able to use it to your advantage, and that’s just what happened. It’s refreshing to see a band so comfortable being who they are, and it’s great to listen to as well. The Beacon does not accept any free food or services in exchange for positive reviews.
I hate 3-D content. There, I said it.

The Consumer Electronics Show, a yearly expo which tends to dictate the tech trends for the year, was dominated by 3-D television sets by Sony, Samsung and Vizio, to name a few. Sadly, that can only mean that 2010 will be the year of 3-D technology – God help us all.

Capitalizing on the success of James Cameron’s 3-D epic, Avatar, television makers are very quick to make 3-D a staple in the living room, but I don’t think we’re ready for that yet.

3-D technology has had its successes and failures. In the late 90s, the technology was rolled out to many IMAX theaters as a ploy to get people to watch cheesy nature documentaries narrated by Laurence Fishburne and Tom Hanks. However, after the three-hour migraine that was “Secrets of the Serengeti,” I came to the conclusion that perhaps 3-D technology wasn’t ready then, just as it is not ready now.

Avatar was a great proof of concept that 3-D movies can bring in serious money and it can be done right. That being said, Avatar’s 3-D experience is very similar to its distant 3-D predecessors, apparent by the migraine that I endured shortly after.

I don’t see myself, or anyone for that matter, getting home after a long day of staring at a computer screen, slipping on a pair of 3-D glasses to strain my eyes to watch something in 3-D.

3-D is a gimmick, something to get people to show up to a movie that has a lackluster story and a big budget to pay back. This isn’t something that movie studios put in to make the movie watching experience more enjoyable.

Movie studios are putting everything behind 3-D movies because a 3-D movie is impossible to pirate and it ensures higher revenues and a secure stream of viewers who won’t be tempted to hit the torrents to catch a highly anticipated movie.

I am not going to pay Sony $5,000 for a 3-hour migraine, no matter how oddly attractive blue Zoe Saldana may be.
Museum backdrops electronic music concert

Passersby strolling past the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum at FIU will witness quite a treat on Jan. 16.

As the second of a six-part concert series, The New Music Miami International Society for Contemporary Music Festival will be presenting an audio/visual show in the Avenue of the Arts in front of the museum.

Differing from the first concert of the series, which featured woodwind instruments including several performances by famous flutist, Margaret Lancaster, this concert will incorporate electronic arts and music, including video that will be projected on the outside walls of the Frost Museum.

The event will feature the FIU Laptop and Electronic Arts ensemble as well as faculty and well-known electronic music composer, Diego Garro, and animator and composer, Dennis Miller.

The New Music Miami ISCM Festival, initially named the May in Music Festival in 1997, is the brainchild of Orlando Jacinto Garcia, director of graduate music programs at the University as well as a member of the composition faculty.

Throughout its existence, the festival has featured a plethora of internationally renowned composers and, as of 2002, it is an official affiliate chapter of the FIU School of Music, incorporating the works of faculty members and students.

Past festivals have seen and heard the works of composers from the U.S., Canada, Spain, Mexico, Italy and Cuba and many of the composers have even held music workshops and question and answer sessions for students.

Among the faculty involved in the event is Paula Matthussan, director and professor of music technology. Composer of both electroacoustic and acoustic music, her work has been performed in numerous venues around the U.S. and Europe including Merkin Music Hall, WAX and the Aspen Music Festival. Matthussan will be debuting her piece, Hommage à Salon Bœuf.

“I collected actual noise samples from Berlin and used them to create my piece. As it is named, it is a homage to the salon brazil e, a place I admire very much,” Matthussan said, referencing a non-commercial theater in Berlin that allows for composers and animators interested in the electronic arts to display and present their work.

Although very much a tribute to the city as well as the venue, Matthussan mentions that her piece is in no way a peaceful orchestration.

“It’s a very noisy piece, actually,” she said.

With the use of sound bytes of all sorts, street noise included, the focus of the pieces is inspired from things one may listen to every day, but never listen to as music, or even think of as being a possible musical instrument.

Something as everyday as the sound of snapping fingers serve as the musical notes of the compositions. The sounds of the springs of a trampoline will be used in a piece composed by Kristine H. Burns, associate dean of cultural affairs for the College of Architecture and the Arts, and will be performed live by students.

The New Music Miami ISCM Festival, Concert II, will begin at 8 p.m. outside the Frost Art Museum on Jan. 16.

More information about the festival and other concert dates can be found at www.orlandojacintogarcia.com.

Ex ‘Fear Factor’ host among this year’s comedians

As the second of a six-part concert series, The New Music Miami International Society for Contemporary Music Festival will be presenting an audio/visual show in the Avenue of the Arts in front of the museum.

Hard it hurts. I cannot wait to see them live again and have a good laugh.”

Jon Lajoie, known for his crude subject matter, will take the stage on Friday night with two back-to-back performances at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

In his set, Lajoie talks about everything from his private body parts to getting high. Coupled with smart lyrics, his retelling of everyday parts to getting high. Coupled with smart lyrics, his retelling of everyday music, including video that will be projected on the outside walls of the Frost Museum.

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SPORTS

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SECOND TO ONE

As a staff we collectively want to run, jump and throw against the best in the country week in and week out to raise our program’s level to new heights.

Eric Campbell, Head Coach
FIU Women’s Track & Field Head Coach

Track and field releases schedule for 2010 season

STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Asst Sports Director

After a successful outdoors season last year, FIU track and field announced its 2010 schedule on Jan. 11.

The women’s team finished with runner up honors in the 2009 Outdoor Sun Belt Conference Championship while third-year head coach Eric Campbell also added success by being named the SBC Women’s Coach of the Year.

The team will kick off the new season at the Great Dane Classic on Jan. 22.

The meet is hosted by the University of Albany and will take place indoors at the Armory Track & Field facility in New York.

Although the women and men’s teams graduated a combined 12 seniors, Campbell seems confident about the schedule that lies ahead.

His confidence is helped by his largest-ever recruiting class, which includes a program-high 26 student athletes.

“We are so excited about the direction this program is moving and it’s going to be very exciting to see how these young people help push this program to the level it can really be,” Campbell said to fiusports.com. “We are excited about our schedule and believe it is one of the best in the state of Florida.”

Following the Great Dane Classic, the Golden Panthers will head to Gainesville for the Jimmy Carnes Invitational on Jan. 30.

The third meet on the schedule will take FIU back to New York for the ninth annual New Balance Invitational from Feb. 5-6. The Golden Panthers will face previous NCAA champions such as Texas A&M, LSU, Florida, USC, and UCLA.

FIU will then travel to Michigan to compete in the Green Valley State University Big Meet on Feb. 12-13, which is a new addition to this season’s schedule and the final meet before the SBC Championship in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The outdoor schedule begins with the UNF Spring Break Open in Jacksonville on March 5 followed by 10 more matchups before the NCAA regional’s and championship on June 9-12.

“At FIU, we always want to nurture and cultivate a competitive spirit at all times,” Campbell said to fiusports.com. “As a staff we collectively want to run, jump and throw against the best in the country week in and week out to raise our program’s level to new heights.”

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Collins looks to improve rush defense

GC: The only thing I can speak of to that is that when I went to Western Carolina University, I inherited one of the worst defenses in the country. We are going to be one of the best defenses in the country. Whether it happens this year, next year or the year after, we will make significant improvement if the kids buy into the scheme and the fundamentals that we are going to teach them. By the fourth year at Western Carolina, we were top 20, so this kind of thing doesn’t intimidate me.

Jonathan Ramos conducted this interview

Global athletes discuss experiences

SHIBATA, page 12

Haitian descent were devastated by the earthquake that struck the capital of Haiti, and that he has not been able to contact them.

Berto, a 25-0, 19-KOs victor who is heavily involved in charity work and relief efforts in Haiti for years, is working on another charity initiative to help Haiti’s recovery from his training camp in Winter Haven, Fla.

A Sophomore has traveled almost 10,000 miles from her home in Australia to come to FIU.

Earthquake hits home for FIU and national athletes

Pierre Garcon waited for word as his mother frantically tried to reach relatives in Haiti.

The parents of WBC welterweight champion Andre Berto are from Haiti, and he has many relatives in the country for his grandmother’s funeral, and he planned to return in April with his charitable organization, the Pierre Garcon Foundation.

Garcon, a second-year player who is also Australian, who made the transition to being independent, and has been able to make the adjustment to college life on her own, thanks to her teammates and others.

Garcon changed the plan. Instead of jumping to conclusions, Garcon intends to use the pictures out, the word out; that’s what it’s all about, others is really what it’s all about, spreading the word and helping Haiti, and this is the best situation to do that now.

Garcon, a second-year player from Mount Union in Ohio, was born in Carmel, N.Y., and attended high school in Florida. But his parents immigrated to the United States from Haiti and most of his relatives still live there. Garcon said there are too many to count.

Garcon, a second-year player from Mount Union in Ohio, was born in Carmel, N.Y., and attended high school in Florida. But his parents immigrated to the United States from Haiti and most of his relatives still live there. Garcon said there are too many to count.

Garcon was her first time living away from home.

“It’s different,” she said. “Shihata is soaking in her new surroundings and has been able to make the adjustment to college life on her own, thanks to her teammates and others.

Shibata joked. “It’s different,” she said. “Shihata is soaking in her new surroundings and has been able to make the adjustment to college life on her own, thanks to her teammates and others.

Shihata is soaking in her new surroundings and has been able to make the adjustment to college life on her own, thanks to her teammates and others.

It’s unthinkable. Imagine all the people just inside, and the building just collapsed.

“In addition to notable professional athletes who have endured hardship, a few FIU student-athletes have also been affected by the tragedy, including Golden Panther football players O’Darris Laporte and Dudley Laporre.

D’Haiti said that most of his stepfather’s family is based in Haiti, and that he has not been able to contact them.

Most of D’Haiti’s family is in the United States though, and he has not been directly affected.

Laporre’s situation is potentially more ruinous, however, as most of his family, besides his siblings and mother, live in Port-au-Prince.

“I still haven’t spoken with them. all communications are off, so we cannot even email them,” Laporre said. “My Grandma, cousins and almost everybody. Were just praying and hoping for the best.”

Laporre, a junior, remains optimistic but can only wait at this point.

“The only thing I can speak of to that is that when I went to Western Carolina University, I inherited one of the worst defenses in the country. We are going to be one of the best defenses in the country. Whether it happens this year, next year or the year after, we will make significant improvement if the kids buy into the scheme and the fundamentals that we are going to teach them. By the fourth year at Western Carolina, we were top 20, so this kind of thing doesn’t intimidate me.”

Jonathan Ramos contributed to this story.

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

SPORTS

The Beacon – Friday, January 15, 2010

www.fiusm.com
New coordinator discusses team

Geoff Collins was announced as the Golden Panthers next defensive coordinator earlier this week, replacing Phil Galiano after a season in which FIU was ranked 119th in the Football Bowl Subdivision.

Collins joins the FIU staff after serving as Central Florida's linebackers coach last season, but previously worked under Nick Saban at Alabama, in addition to a stop at Western Carolina as a defensive coordinator.

Collins was a big part of UCF's nationally fourth ranked run defense in 2009, and will look to have a similar effect on FIU's defense.

Why did you decide to come to FIU? Geoff Collins: I have been aware of the program since coach [Mario] Cristobal took over. Any time a Division I program is in the state of Florida, you know you're going to have an opportunity to get some great talent.

It's just my job now to get them in the right situations and right alignments, with a little energy and a little enthusiasm. A good scheme to help them show their talent on the field.

What did you learn the most out of your experience working for Nick Saban at Alabama? GC: Coach Saban is one of the best college coaches in the game. The biggest thing coach Saban always talked about was the process that it takes to be great. We live in a results-oriented world, but the process you take on a daily basis to be successful should never change. Whether you are winning or losing you have to stick to the process as long as it's a sound one.

I think the results speak for themselves, and just being around somebody like coach Saban who preaches and believes in the things that I have always thought were the way to do things.

Also with coach Saban, recruiting is the No. 1 deal. I have been a recruiting coordinator before, and recruiting has been a big part of how I make a name for myself, and even though I'm a defensive coordinator, the focus on recruiting will not change.

I want the best defensive players in the country to come to FIU and build something special here.

What is your defensive philosophy and what will you run here? GC: The defense we ran at UCF was highly successful, we led the conference USA in defense. That defensive scheme is based out of a 4-3 quarters coverage formation with a multitude of coverage and a multitude of blitzes is an NFL-style defense. I want to sit down in the next couple of weeks, watch every game from last year, study the offenses we're going to play against and see the personnel we have and take all my years of experience and exposure to basically every type of defensive system you can run, to figure out what works best for FIU.

And individual players you are impressed with? GC: There are some that stand out. The most important thing to me is finding the guys that are hungry, the guys that want to be great. Guys that are embarrassed by their performance last year and want to improve.

What is your expectation for next season?