Delayed building designed with green initiatives in mind

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Senior Staff Writer

During the era of former University President Modesto A. Maidique, a building for the School of International and Public Affairs was planned, even before the school itself came together.

The plan for the $23 million building, which will be the home for the school’s international departments and centers, was brought up more than five years ago, while SIPA came together as a school in the Fall 2008 term, according to Sebastian Arcos, associate director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Accos represents FIU to the design and construction companies and has been involved with the building for three years.

The funds from the building came from Public Education Capital Outlay, a state program that provides funds for the maintenance, repair and construction of public education facilities. It is run by the state legislature.

The University put the SIPA building on the PECO list many years ago, Arcos said, and the money came three years ago.

The building will be called the SIPA building until the University finds a donor willing to donate either $5 million for the building naming right, or $20 million for the school’s naming right.

The building is being built by Suffolk Construction Company across from Deuxieme Maison, where the school’s administration is currently located.

Architectureonca, an architecture corporation headquartered in Miami, Fla., designed the building.

PAGE 2

Medical school to deploy relief to Haiti

ALEXANDER MILLER
Staff Writer

In support of Haiti’s recovery, FIU’s College of Medicine is putting together faculty and staff to mobilize supplies to relieve those affected by the disaster.

According to the university, a team composed of general practitioners, obstetricians and gynecologists, advanced practice nurses, disease prevention experts, an epidemiologist, a mental health specialist, a physical therapist and a dietician are ready to be deployed to the island.

The College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, and Public Health and Social Work are collaborating to benefit the needs of the people affected by the disaster in Haiti. FIU is also working in conjunction with the State University System to coordinate and maximize its resources.

“This response effort is not a sprint. It’s a marathon,” said Donald Smithburg, executive associate dean of finance and administration for the College of Medicine.

According to Smithburg, the process to get deployed is complicated. There is a state universities board of governors that coordinate the formed deployment of resources and assets, and the governors give order of deployment.

He added that due to FIU’s smaller staff in a relatively new college of medicine, they are not at the ideal size of a “first response” team ready to deploy and are more of a “second wave response.”

Smithburg also played a role as chief executive officer of the Louisiana State University Charity Hospital as a part of the relief efforts.

PAGE 2

New lot expands parking options

ALEXANDER MILLER
Staff Writer

The construction of a new parking lot associated with the FIU College of Medicine has begun between the Health and Life Sciences Building and the Graham University Center Ballrooms.

According to Bill Foster, executive director of the Department of Parking and Transportation, the parking lot is being built by stimulus money to support instructional and research activities.

The stimulus money has been provided by the federal government and allocated to the state for funding projects associated with instruction and research.

The lot will have premium access to visitors, clinical employees and researchers that will be visiting on a regular basis.

“The mere location of the lot will lend its focus to the College of Medicine and clinical activities in that area, but it is, of course, not limited to just one user,” Foster said.

The parking lot’s construction is being funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will contain 82 new spaces and will cost approximately $500,000. The ARRA was signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17, 2009.

The bill is intended to provide a stimulus to the U.S. economy in the wake of the economic downturn. It includes federal tax cuts, expansion of unemployment benefits and other social provisions.

Because this new parking lot will provide additional spaces to the Univer-

sity, there will be additional parking for visitors the area. When it initially opens, the lot will consist of metered visitor parking spaces, executive deco spaces and clinical needs spaces.

PAGE 8
New auditorium expected to be in ‘high demand’

SIPA, page 1

and it is set for a Nov. 10 completion date, according to Arcos. The building has a proposed silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification. This is in part due to 3 percent of the building’s daily power use being generated by solar panels on the roof. Another part of the building that adds points to its silver LEED certification is its 10,000 square foot green roof, a roof with plants growing from it.

All of the roof on top of the auditorium and lobby will be planted. The idea for the green roof grew as the building was still in the design process and as it became more energy efficient. The green roof added an additional $1.6 million to the overall cost.

Arcos said that the green roof will give back because the energy consumption of the SIPA building will be lower than that of DM, for example. The green roof also allows the building to use less water. It will dissipate heat from the sun and not allow cool air from the air conditioning to escape through the roof. Arcos couldn’t say when classes would be held in the new building. Though the “major completion date,” as the contractors refer to when the building will be completed, is Nov. 10, Arcos said he doesn’t know if that means furniture or electronics will be installed in the building by then. Arcos estimated that the people who will work in the building would be there by January of next year.

John F. Stack, Jr., director of SIPA, said he’s very excited about the building. Stack said with the auditorium they would be able to host speakers from all over the world, such as heads of state. The auditorium allows them to simulcast lectures in six different languages. “We’ll be able to provide the ‘international’ in FIU’s name in a significant and meaningful way,” Stack said.

University units to help

HAITI, page 1

when Hurricane Katrina hit the city of New Orleans. The University is coordinating a number of support events involving a wide-range of people, including students, faculty and the public. Students, faculty, staff and alumni members collected approximately 40 tons of supplies in an immediate response to the earthquake.

“We feel extremely proud of our students. There was a sense of brotherhood,” said Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, senior vice president of external relations. According to Gonzalez-Levy, the University is constantly looking for volunteers to assist in collecting goods and cash donations to supplement the call to action. Events called “teach-ins” involve speaking to the public about the situation in Haiti, and the first was held in immediate response to the quake during the same week. “Everyone is very anxious to do something,” said Maydel Santana Bravo, coordinator director of the Office of Media Relations.

All sociopolitical and economic implications are discussed at these teach-ins in hopes of confronting the problem. “We wanted to give the students and those affected a way to talk about what they are going through,” said Gonzalez-Levy. “It has been very rewarding for us to be able to assist in any way.”

Gonzalez-Levy also added that the University contacted students, alumni and faculty of Haitian descent to see if they were affected by the earthquake. The University plans on having another teach-in toward the beginning of March and is looking for Creole-speaking volunteers for their partnership with Baptist Hospital of Miami.

The project will begin in approximately one month and the volunteers will assist in packaging supplies and feeding victims of the disaster in Haiti. Students can still get involved with the American Red Cross and many other organizations, giving cash donations, providing medical supplies and even water or tents. For more information on what FIU is doing to relieve the earthquake victims in Haiti, visit news.fiu.edu/hopeforhaiti.
MAUREEN NINO
Asst. News Director

With plates of food on their laps students listened as Univer-
sity President Mark Rosenberg made promises for a better University.

Residents of Bay Vista at Biscayne Bay Campus discussed issues with President Rosenberg during a housing forum on Feb. 8.

“We all care about the same thing: improving the quality of your experience,” he said. “We have to get it right and to get it right we have to listen to you and offer you solutions wherever we can.

President Rosenberg made it a point to stress FIU’s financial difficulties.

“This is the year 2010 and we are running the University on a 1999 budget and regardless of the challenges this might present, we are here for you,” he said.

President Rosenberg also emphasized on the importance of student resources and shared his understanding on the struggles of student living. He also promised to use the financial resources the University has responsibly.

“Our guarantee to you is to be as efficient with our resources as we can be. We are asking our faculty to be very careful with the use of our resources. When we find they are wasting resources, your money, we are not happy with that,” Rosenberg said.

With budgets causing such stress on the University, students present expressed interest on how this would impact them directly.

In response Interim Provost Doug Wassenar stated that with the rising cost of goods and loss of support, difficult decisions had to be made.

“The resources to run this University come from the state of Florida and your tuition. Those are the two basic resources to run the University. Over the past three years this University has had its operating budget cut back by about $20 to $40 million. That is going to have a huge impact on what we will be able to provide,” Wassenar said.

However, the main concern among students revolved around safety and maintenance.

“Some students also expressed anger about dorm inspections and disagreed with the protocol to allow inspections when student are not present in the room. James Wassenaar, executive director of student affairs, said inspections are announced to students ahead of time via e-mails and flyers. Wassenaar also defended the method of inspection.

“It allows us to operate efficiently and ultimately ensure your safety and maintain the building,” he said. “Typically the campus does schedule these inspections when students are present. Most students understand it is part of our community efforts.”

The students, however, stated that their grievances are not against the inspections but just the lack of proper notification and compared the situation to a repairman at an empty local home.

Isabel Angelora, a junior economics and international business major, stressed the need for increased security.

“During construction there were several people who have not been authorized to walk around our building. Our building has been unsafe for at least the last two weeks and has been accessible to anyone and everyone,” she said.

According to Angelora the floors are dirty and are not cleaned properly before being waxed. If the housing fees we pay should cover clean floors and security, Angelora agreed.

President Rosenberg agreed dirty floors are not acceptable. According to him, the University has over 100 buildings and hopes to improve all of them even with the limited amount of resources.

The lack of access to food was also an issue housing students agreed on.

“The [Modesto Maidique Campus] cafeteria is open later and at four o’clock the cafeteria here is closed and we’re still hungry,” said junior and hospitality major Jason Davis.

According to Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones, the University is considering opening a small cafeteria next to the library, following a similar model at MMC since the library is open later than several other facilities.

Understanding the value of this forum, students also took the opportunity to not only voice complaints but also display their Panther pride.

“FIU is a beautiful university and I do feel proud to be a Golden Panther and I feel that it is an excellent university. I am excited to see FIU expand and become a more beautiful university,” said first-year resident assistant Daniel Jordan, junior and math major.

Students demand clean buildings, improved security

SABRENA JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The worst pick-up line ever?
“J might not be the best looking guy here, but I’m the only one talking to you.”

This, besides other bits of dating wisdom, comprised a lecture by David Coleman, the so-called “Dating Doctor,” who spoke at the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater on Feb. 10.

The Student Programming Council invited Coleman to BBC after hearing him speak at the National Association of Campus Activities showcase.

He was impressed by his presentation and thought it would be a good idea for him to come and speak to the students,” said Marie Wray, SPC Pan-African chair.

Coleman, who has a Bachelor of Science in speech pathology and a master’s degree in psychology, is known as the real-life counterpart for Hitch, the hit movie starring Will Smith, but Coleman has been doling out dating advice long before its 2005 release.

“He gets it every time he wants it, he has it every time calling her she will think

If you ever want this guy to take you seriously, then have you to keep your legs shut. Dale Coleman, “The Dating Doctor”

Daniel Jordan, junior mathematics major (left), addresses University President Mark Rosenberg (right) as University Provost Douglas Warten (center) observes during the Biscayne Bay Housing Forum held on Feb 9 in the game lounge of Bay Vista Housing.

with the audience in which each member had to write down three words that describe their favorite animal, their favorite color, and their favorite body of water.

“The ways in which you described your favorite animal symbolized how you want other people to see you. The favorite color described how you see yourself. And the body of water described how you view sex,” Coleman said.

The lecture was followed by a question-and-answer period from the audience. There was a question asked by a student concerning a physical relationship she has been in for about three years. She wanted to know if Coleman thought it was possible for them to ever become more than just friends.

After polling the men in the audience, all of which thought it was not possible, he offered her the following advice.

“If you ever want this guy to take you seriously, then you have to keep your legs shut. If he gets it every time he wants it, then he will have no reason to try and become more than just friends,” he said.

If you ever want this guy to take you seriously, then have you to keep your legs shut.

“If you want your significant other to stop playing games with you, then let them know that you will walk away from them forever. If they stand a chance of losing you, then they will not play games with you,” he said.

After the lecture Coleman distributed candy and signed copies of his book.

“It was awesome. It was very helpful because he talked about things that most people don’t really think about when it comes to dating,” said Rashiba Jones, a junior communications major.

Self-proclaimed dating doctor offers prescriptions to love-sick students
Mandatory health insurance debated

The Beacon Editorial

SQA drops the ball on a chance to help students

DEAN WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Health care reform became a topic of both contention and interest during the 2008 pres- idential campaign; with the passage of a public option, and regulating the cost of medical care as formidable options. The Florida Legislature is still considering a bill that would make health care mandatory for all students within the State University System of Florida. Students would be required to have health care coverage or enroll at any college or university within the state university system.

Many families and students struggle to maintain a household while paying college tuition and related fees, and cannot afford to purchase health insurance through their employers or independently.

Our student government representatives sought to speak on behalf of the student body in the form of a resolution plan. “In Opposition of Mandatory Health Insurance for FIU students”

Supporters of the resolution presented documenta- tion that helped convince fellow FIU senate members to pass the resolution at a weekly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

The resolution failed in a 6-11 vote.

As elected officials of the student body of the Univer- sity, student government has a responsibility to inter- ject in all affairs concerning the student body. Research is integral in securing one’s position on an issue. So the fact that supporters of the bill researched the issue and compiled evidence in support of their stand is plausible.

What, however, is unacceptable, is a student survey showing only 56 students (20 percent) of the 50,000 students in atten-
dance at FIU, only 56 were sampled for their opinion on the divisive issue. A sample anywhere from 10 percent (5,000) to 20 percent (10,000) of the student population would have been basically the same for years. I am a big fan of the saying “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” — but after 10 years of the same look, well, place for improvement.

Stop making cars for people with kids and heart surgeons who need a back seat for their briefcase and room in the trunk for their golf clubs. Make me last after a Porsche again — restore in me the aw-stricken love that 9- year old had when he stared at that red 993 on his wall.


definition of public health insurance for SQA president inconsistent with statewide examples

Jorge Valens
News Director

Amid failing auto industries and tough times, Porsche is an auto company that, though intact, has suffered a fate far worse than bankruptcy — a loss of direction. I have grown up around cars, and I remember being a small kid and awing at any Porsche that would pass by. Over the years it has lost its edge of the iconic red 911, the 993 Turbo, timeless in its design and a staple for any 9-year-old boy’s room.

I loved Porsches. I was young; I didn’t know why I loved them. I just knew that I liked it and knew that I would never stop.

But I think the end of Porsche’s tenure, as top dog of the performance car industry category, wasn’t one of a shift in consumer tastes or a rough economy.

Porsche’s downfall is a direct result of the company’s obvious direction. The 996s were the hey-day of Porsche. The 993 through 996 series were regarded as master- pieces, running contrary to the design and trends of their time and place.

However, in 1996, an early sign of Porsche’s inner conflict was released: the Porsche Boxster. The Boxster was expressly an “entry level” Porsche – a rapid depar- ture from its high-performance siblings. I’m afraid, is a constant reminder that the grass really is greener somewhere else. I have grown up around cars, and I know why I loved them. I just knew that I liked it and knew that I would never stop.

But I think the end of Porsche’s tenure, as top dog of the performance car industry category, wasn’t one of a shift in consumer tastes or a rough economy. Porsche’s downfall is a direct result of the company’s obvious direction. The 996s were the hey-day of Porsche. The 993 through 996 series were regarded as masterpieces, running contrary to the design and trends of their time and place.

However, in 1996, an early sign of Porsche’s inner conflict was released: the Porsche Boxster. The Boxster was expressly an “entry level” Porsche – a rapid departure from its high-performance siblings. I think Top Gear’s Jeremy Clarkson puts it best:

“If only life had dealt me a better hand. If only I’d sold one more model car and married a supermodel. Then I could have

a real Porsche,” Clarkson said. “The Boxster, I’m afraid, is a constant reminder that the grass really is greener somewhere else.”

The Boxster is not a real Porsche. It’s small, it’s slow, and it tries way too hard. But, at least the Boxster is still somewhat in line with Porsche’s principles. The company’s biggest departure and biggest trespasses are both the Cayenne SUV and the all-new Pana- mera sedan.

Cayenne is, without a doubt, Porsche’s oddest creation. The SUV comes in a few flavors, varying from a V6 model to a full-fledged Turbo S version that puts out 550 horsepower.

I never understood the idea of a high-performance SUV and Porsche doesn’t really do too much else, on that note.

Why? Why make a SUV that puts out that much power? Unless they are targeting parents whose kids are secret agents and constantly depending on them to evade swarms of pursuing terrorists, maybe it would make sense.

All of this for the low, low price of $126,600 for the Turbo S model. Leave this bad boy at home if you are planning on picking up a few things at the home and garden section of Home Depot.

Fast SUV’s don’t drive well and this vehicle is a prime example. The ride is hard, the gas mileage is terrible and may God have mercy on your soul if you take a sharp turn in it.

The recently released 2010 Panamera is an abomination to all things Porsche, and that is putting it mildly. The car is absolu-}

ly ghastly; a stretched out chassis, and a rounded, 997-esque rear-end that seems out of place and downright awkward. A toddler could have thrown up a better design.

The Panamera also features Porsche’s new interior styling, which at time of produc- tion, is near the same as it was in the company’s earliest days. The current interior styling is a monopoly in deciding who is fit to be our student body president. The current process has allowed SGA to create a monopoly in deciding who is fit to be our student body president.

Many neighboring state institutions do not ask for prior student government experience in order to run for an executive position.

For instance, Florida State University’s student government requires any experience in office prior to running for the president or vice president position. They only require basic candidacy qualifications such as good academic standing, among other things.

In addition, the student government association at Florida Atlantic University only demands similar basic prerequisites for eligibility, which include a minimum GPA of 2.5 and at least nine undergrad- uate credits or six graduate credits one must be enrolled in.

While FIU and FAU have markedly relaxed requirements, other state universities take a more democratic approach. Aside from attending a mandatory informational meeting, in addition to meeting minimum standards, those looking to become the student body president of the Univer- sity of South Florida must obtain 75 student signatures.

Similar rules apply to those at the University of Florida, which requires a possible candidate to acquire 300 student signatures, and the Univer- sity of South Carolina, which requires a candidate receive 500 signatures from their peers in addition to GPA and credit hour requirements.

Such a change would most likely decrease student apathy when it comes to voting, as students feel they truly have a say in choosing who is fit to be their new student body president.

The alternative could be to include a petition- tion similar to that of many other student govern- ments, which could have a requirement for poten- tial candidates to receive a reasonable amount of student signatures and remove this two semester service requirement.

Such a change would most likely decrease student apathy when it comes to voting, as students feel they truly have a say in choosing who is fit to be their new student body president.

In the case of applying for any position in student government, having prior experience is an advantage. However, prior experience is a requirement that could possibly disenfran- chise an otherwise qualified candidate. Such could be the case at FIU.

According to Article V, Section 3 of the FIU Student Government Association constitution, anyone who is interested in pursuing the position of SGC president on either campus is required to serve in an SGC position for at least two academic semesters. Furthermore, the candidate must be at least in their sophomore year and the only person exempt from the former requirement is a vice president looking to succeed the position.

The current process has allowed SGA to create a monopoly in deciding who is fit to be our student body president. The current process has allowed SGA to create a monopoly in deciding who is fit to be our student body president.
Dexter author shares character’s intricate relationship with Miami

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Coral Gables is a unique and almost mystically foreign-looking area of Miami: It’s dressed in Spanish moss, covered in robust banyan trees and populated by some of the most alluring businesses in the city. One of these charming nooks is Books & Books, located at 265 Aragon Avenue, a dark stretch of road.

If you’ve never been, don’t mistakenly think of the store as a smaller version of dry old Barnes & Noble. Books & Books is a quaint, yet fresh café/bookstore combo with the hospitality of a country home and actual food and drinks included.

The store has resided in an almost lonely street of the Gables for 14 years and is one of three locations in the Greater Miami area.

The relaxed coffeehouse atmosphere of the store’s encircled, open-air courtyard invites one to read, making it a perfect study environment.

Better yet, it’s equipped with a bar towards the entrance. Should hunger strike, it provides patrons with lunch or dinner from their very own cafeteria.

The inside resembles a genius’ warehouse: seemingly cluttered, barely imposing, lined in wood and just messy enough to be welcoming. Not only do the employees have an air of long-time acquaintance and leisurely entertainment, they also organize a plethora of interesting events throughout the week.

The most popular, perhaps, are the author readings. Sometimes they hold up to three readings in one day and, after each one, authors migrate to another room to engage in lively chit-chat and sign their readers’ books. Book readings provide audiences with a sense of intimacy with a specific story, or part of a story. When the author himself is there, it provides audiences with a more or less first-hand account, adding to that intimacy.

Some books are more personal than others, and those who are familiar with the Dexter series, or have seen the TV adaptation on Showtime, will know just how private that particular story can get. After all, a serial killer who only kills serial killers has to have a pretty intricate psychological makeup.

As a special treat to Miami, on Feb. 9, author Jeff Lindsay of Darkly Dreaming Dexter and all following titles visited his (and Dexter’s) native city for an animated book reading of his newest novel, Dexter By Design.

Following the reading there was a vigorous and hilarious Q&A session in which Lindsay bared what seemed like intimate details of his mind, such as the ease with which he bursts into tears and his conflicting views on capital punishment.

After the long line of eager readers had their books signed, Lindsay took a little time to tell The Beacon about his experience, both on that night and with writing in general.

Lindsay explained how in the past, when he’s read for large audiences (at a sold out show at a Sydney university, for example), there is always an “initial moment of intimidation” because he, as a “dedicated neurotic,” could never think there could be more than two people interested in his works. Not to say that he prefers small audiences, but at Books & Books, the moment of initial adjustment was subtle and more welcoming than intimidating.

The character Dexter, Lindsay’s biggest claim to fame so far, is originally from Miami, just like his creator. The author explained that he felt Dexter should be a part of Miami, just as Miami is a part of Dexter.

In dealing with this, something “too intricate to be explained,” Lindsay settled for saying that the city is more than a place, “and if you drive on I-75, you’ll know that.”

Miami has a character of its own, and it pervades Dexter’s being as much as he extends himself over city grounds.

Lindsay attributes his success to luck, quoting Ernest Hemingway in saying, “It’s more important to be lucky than to be good.” And with a hearty chuckle he added, “and if you can be good, if you get lucky, that’s better.”

For a schedule of upcoming events and author readings at Books & Books, visit http://booksandbooks.com or call (305) 442-4410.

Taiwan: life meets creativity at exhibit

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Taiwan Discovered: In Place and Time, a new exhibit at the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum which opens Feb. 19, introduces the innovative designs of Taiwanese artists to the South Florida arts scene.

The exhibit will display the works of seven artists from the diverse Taiwan art world.

“It is art quite unfamiliar to most people. Asia is receiving more attention than any other continent in the art world, and Taiwan competes for this attention and has the same quality of artists, doing the same innovative things – especially when it comes to technology. People who know Asia today will expect to see the video component, others know Asia today will expect to see the video component, others know Asia today will expect to see the video component, others know Asia today will expect to see the video component,” said Dr. Carol Damian, director and chief curator at the Frost. The exhibit will feature both traditional work and modern work.

The works of Chao-pang Hsu, Tsung-chen Chang, Yao Jui-chung, Tseng Yu-chin, Huang Tsung-chen Chang, Yao Jui-chung will feature both.

The exhibit consists of works of traditional calligraphy, landscapes and the extraordinary craftsmanship of painting made from slices of rock. Photography is incorporated to put all of the works in the context of the unique geological environment of the island – an island so beautiful it was originally named Ilha Formosa, meaning Beautiful Island.

The island’s beauty inspired the work of photographer Chao-pang Hsu. He captures the range of geological formations – sea and shore, mountain and gorge, ancient rock formations and placid lakes. Landscape has been a part of Taiwan’s art repertoire for a long time and Hsu’s skill brings “another dimension to its appreciation.”

Tsung-chen Chang works with “one of the most difficult and revered artistic techniques in the world.” He uses rocks, selected based on their unique textures and beauty, and slices them to reveal an image alive and organic coming from an inert rock. He creates vistas of mountains and valleys, impressionistic landscapes, and abstract interpretations of a river gorge or ancient cave that emerge as a result of “his innate aesthetic sense and extraordinary craftsmanship.”

Yao Jui-chung’s “Heaven” depicts the surreal nature of the environment of his country where there is a collaboration of traditional and international. Look for the large piece which will take up most of the grand gallery, according to Damian. He will be doing the installation himself in time for the opening on Friday.

All of the works have a sense of history coping with what Taiwan has become. You see it in Jui-chung’s work and Tseng Yu-chin’s. In his work, he questions the “weakening power of tradition, especially within the family and community, through the new
Exploding Head

The Knife’s latest opera brings eerie realization

It’s always really fascinating to watch a band mature into a more developed and refined faction of pop music bravo, while still experimenting with aesthetics.

The Knife started out within the norm of European electro-pop, flauting hints of bubblegum from their self-titled and then walking the plank between twitched vocals and luscious house music.

Once Silent Shout was released, though, they initiated a brand of mystery and intrigue associated mostly with shamans and Dracula. Also, to be honest, they just became really freakin’ creepy.

The music was dark and crude, but contained a high ratio of dance-floor abandon able to host many a haunted house party.

They also sport really cool bird masks with matching black cloaks. By the way, I just found my Halloween costume for 2010.

Karín Drejer Andersson, one-half of The Knife, upper the ante on creeping-ness with her solo path as Fever Ray. Dealing more with the visceral aspect of the music.

Her videos are spectacles in and of themselves and aren’t used as marketing tools but more as color for The Knife universe. I mean, if you think Lady GaGa pushes costume/makeup envelopes, then you’ll see that Lady GaGa’s is kiddie fodder in comparison. No disrespect to Lady GaGa. I truly do believe she is some kind of ridiculous genius.

In collaboration with Berlin-based producer Mr. Sims and the equally cryptic Planningtorock, The Knife made an opera called “Tomorrow in a Year.” Cool.

What’s it about? Uh, it’s based on Charles Darwin’s On The Origin of Species. That, oddly, sounds like the most logical step for The Knife. And if we know anything about their style, it’s that they’re a bit odd.

One of the tracks released early was “The Colouring of Peguins,” an 11-minute epic about birds and stuff. Put a little less emphasis on birds and more on epic, and maybe the 11-minute part because, man, this is epic. Think tribal percussion, film scores and a good use of electronics to convey a foggy and mythic atmosphere.

The song starts out with a really simple drum arrangement that builds on different drum tracks throughout the beginning. It’s like no Knife song you’ve ever heard. A drowsy strong pattern streams with hovering volumes, and then a woman sings in operatic voice. This song doesn’t sound like The Knife, but it possesses the same eerie qualities and determinants of their previous songs.

The song is mostly percussion-based and, of course, follows a story that’s ommitted from listening to the song by itself. But judging the song from a singular perspective, it’s arguably one of the Knife’s most realized and complex songs.

And the opera itself is a treat to listen to, mixing most of the Knife and Mr. Sims’ career-defining sound is a cohesive, and sometimes incohesive, opus.

I’m not quite sure whether Charles Darwin had this kind of control with mood in his book, but it makes you wonder how The Knife views existence. Obviously, this is complete speculation on my part, but if we’re trying to understand how the Knife operates in music and, maybe, in life, then I’d say we’re hearing music made by individuals who view man’s beginnings as non-comprehensive and bleak.

Exploding Head is a weekly column covering all things music. Look for it every Monday.

Artist brings geology to life in paintings

TAIWAN, page 5

media of video. FIU students will find the exhibit appealing because it is different, incorporates very interesting work, and gives them an opportunity to educate themselves about Taiwan, Asia and its artists.

“This exhibit should be interesting because it’s not a display of work from a bunch of dead old guys,” said Martha Maria Lopez, a junior journalism major.

Admission is free for all and the exhibit will run from Feb. 19 to May 16.

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Write to calendar@fiusm.com to have your event featured.

This Week on Campus

Monday, Feb. 15

International Student Club
General meeting
Where: 2 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: MMC Rec Center
305-349-6885

Japan Club
Second general meeting, Anime and much more
Where: 6 - 9 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: PC 441

Exile and Creativity: James Joyce and the Problem of Exile
Lecture led by Michael Gillespie
Where: 7:30 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: GC 243

Tuesday, Feb. 16

Garden Club
General meeting.
Where: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: BSU 117

Amernet String Quartet
Smoke-free Tobacco-free Official Panther Partners
General meeting.
Where: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: MMC Rec Center
305-349-4096

Miami Heat Invasion at Coral Gables
Presented by FIU Music.
Where: 7:30 p.m.
How Much: $10 students, $15 faculty, $25 general
Where: WMC Concert Hall
305-340-0496

Practice Interview Program
Hosted by Career Services.
Where: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: WMC 255

International Rescue Program
Second general meeting.
Where: 2 - 3 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: GC 110

Wednesday, Feb. 17

YogaDen
Join the Yoga Club in relaxing and de-stressing.
Where: 7:30 p.m.
How Much: Free
Where: GC 150

globalluf.edu

Exploding Head

The Knife’s latest opera brings eerie realization

It’s always really fascinating to watch a band mature into a more developed and refined faction of pop music bravo, while still experimenting with aesthetics.

The Knife started out within the norm of European electro-pop, flauting hints of bubblegum from their self-titled and then walking the plank between twitched vocals and luscious house music.

Once Silent Shout was released, though, they initiated a brand of mystery and intrigue associated mostly with shamans and Dracula. Also, to be honest, they just became really freakin’ creepy.

The music was dark and crude, but contained a high ratio of dance-floor abandon able to host many a haunted house party.

They also sport really cool bird masks with matching black cloaks. By the way, I just found my Halloween costume for 2010.

Karín Drejer Andersson, one-half of The Knife, upper the ante on creeping-ness with her solo path as Fever Ray. Dealing more with the visceral aspect of the music.

Her videos are spectacles in and of themselves and aren’t used as marketing tools but more as color for The Knife universe. I mean, if you think Lady GaGa pushes costume/makeup envelopes, watch the “Stranger Than Kindness” video and you’ll see that Lady GaGa’s is kiddie fodder in comparison. No disrespect to Lady GaGa. I truly do believe she is some kind of ridiculous genius.

In collaboration with Berlin-based producer Mr. Sims and the equally cryptic Planningtorock, The Knife made an opera called “Tomorrow in a Year.” Cool.

What’s it about? Uh, it’s based on Charles Darwin’s On The Origin of Species. That, oddly, sounds like the most logical step for The Knife. And if we know anything about their style, it’s that they’re a bit odd.

One of the tracks released early was “The Colouring of Peguins,” an 11-minute epic about birds and stuff. Put a little less emphasis on birds and more on epic, and maybe the 11-minute part because, man, this is epic. Think tribal percussion, film scores and a good use of electronics to convey a foggy and mythic atmosphere.

The song starts out with a really simple drum arrangement that builds on different drum tracks throughout the beginning. It’s like no Knife song you’ve ever heard. A drowsy strong pattern streams with hovering volumes, and then a woman sings in operatic voice. This song doesn’t sound like The Knife, but it possesses the same eerie qualities and determinants of their previous songs.

The song is mostly percussion-based and, of course, follows a story that’s ommitted from listening to the song by itself. But judging the song from a singular perspective, it’s arguably one of the Knife’s most realized and complex songs.

And the opera itself is a treat to listen to, mixing most of the Knife and Mr. Sims’ career-defining sound is a cohesive, and sometimes incohesive, opus.

I’m not quite sure whether Charles Darwin had this kind of control with mood in his book, but it makes you wonder how The Knife views existence. Obviously, this is complete speculation on my part, but if we’re trying to understand how the Knife operates in music and, maybe, in life, then I’d say we’re hearing music made by individuals who view man’s beginnings as non-comprehensive and bleak.

Exploding Head is a weekly column covering all things music. Look for it every Monday.

Artist brings geology to life in paintings

TAIWAN, page 5

media of video. FIU students will find the exhibit appealing because it is different, incorporates very interesting work, and gives them an opportunity to educate themselves about Taiwan, Asia and its artists.

“This exhibit should be interesting because it’s not a display of work from a bunch of dead old guys,” said Martha Maria Lopez, a junior journalism major.

Admission is free for all and the exhibit will run from Feb. 19 to May 16.
Medlock’s expectations high despite injury history

MEDLOCK, page 8

made to Jake. And to me, that speaks volumes about the kind of character they represent at FIU and that said a lot to me.”

A NEW BEGINNING

With those obstacles behind him, Medlock can finally focus on his future and the new obstacles that await him this fall.

While he might not immediately feel pressure to compete right away with Mississippi State transfer Wesley Carroll expected to take the helm in his first season, Medlock has a reputation as a fierce competitor who believes, despite all his setbacks, he is ready to compete from the moment he steps on to the turf at FIU Stadium.

“I want to learn from [Wesley], but I also want to fight for the job,” said Medlock. “I’m one of those guys that doesn’t care what grade or what year he’s in. I want to be the guy. And I’ll do whatever it takes to get on that field.”

The long road that has led Medlock to FIU has been a bumpy one, and the road ahead looks to be just as challenging. Medlock wouldn’t have it any other way.

Defense contains Trojans; Florida Atlantic up next

WOMEN’S, page 8

at the 7:26 mark.

Troy cut the lead to six before the half and continued to chip away in the second half as they came within one point of tying the game when McNair scored on a layup with 12:41 to play.

Gonzalez, however, was able to come up with two big scores late in the game and then went 5-for-4 from the free-throw line with 28 seconds remaining to seal the win.

The Golden Panthers shot 45.5 percent on the night and won 12-of-17 from the free-throw line. Russo was not only pleased with the team’s effort offensively but also defensively.

The Golden Panthers held the Trojans to 29.5 percent from the field and 58.3 percent from the free-throw line.

“I’m just very happy with the way they played,” said Russo. “We played some tough defense.”

FIU will travel back home to face Florida Atlantic on Wednesday, which is one of three games remaining before the Sun Belt Conference tournament.

“We’re going to surprise these teams for our last few games,” Rodgers said.

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Football

Quarterback recruit hopes to contribute immediately

JOE DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

It didn’t take long for Jake Medlock to fall in love with the idea of becoming a Golden Panther.

There are still a few months left of high school for Medlock, but the young field general is eager to make his way down to Miami during the summer and begin to prepare for the next level of his playing career.

“I’m ready to get out of here,” Medlock said about the prospect of leaving home. “I fell in love with the campus and when I came during my official visit; I didn’t want to leave.”

The 6-foot-3 signal caller from Fletcher High in northern Florida was among the first Golden Panther commitments for the 2010 recruiting class, considered by recruiting analysts to be one of the best FIU has ever had.

And he has big dreams and aspirations about his time at FIU, and the coaching staff believes that those dreams can come to fruition with Medlock at the helm.

“I want to win conference championships and get the team to be bowl-eligible,” said Medlock. “I want to get Coach Cristobal his first bowl win and I want to do it all four years that I’m here.”

Fans got a sneak peek of what Jake Medlock could do with the football when video clips from his high school career were displayed for all to see on the projector at the FIU Stadium Club as Coach Cristobal introduced the recruiting class for the 2010 season.

The video quality was amateur, but what he’s doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was chucking the ball down the field, weaving through the defense, and doing on film was anything but. He was...