UPCOMING EVENTS
Target Wednesday After Hours, March 24, 4-5 p.m. | Join us for Target Wednesday After Hours where you will be able to discuss the art of comedy.
Wanderlust, March 24, 2-4 p.m. | Join us for Wanderlust, where you can enjoy a buffet of international cuisine and learn about different cultures.
Spotlight: The Art of Comedy, March 24, 7-9 p.m. | Join us for a night of laughter and enjoyment as we discuss the art of comedy.

WEATHER
WEDNESDAY
Mostly sunny
LOW: 62° HIGH: 80°
THURSDAY
Mostly cloudy
LOW: 67° HIGH: 80°
FRIDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 65° HIGH: 75°
SATURDAY
Mostly sunny
LOW: 62° HIGH: 88°
SUNDAY
Mostly sunny
LOW: 60° HIGH: 80°

SGC-MMC SENATE
Elections changes pass, GSA awaits verdict

Philippe Buteau
Senior Staff Writer

The Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus approved amendments to the Elections Code and pushed their final decision on the structure of the Graduate Student Association and other governing councils to their next meeting, after over two months of debate.

The council bill proposed to amend sections to the Elections code that relate to supplemental guidelines that the Elections board can create, and the qualification and registration of candidates. Of the four major amendments proposed in the bill the only one not passed was the one that dealt with candidates being able to campaign for one another which could not be limited or restricted by any rule according to the bill.

Loren Fraute, graduate senator, wanted that part removed because he felt it was too broad. He said that it would “make the strong stronger” referring to Greek organizations.

“Seventy-five percent of us are Greeks and if we had that advantage, I think it would create more harm than good,” Fraute said.

Muhammad Saleem, a graduate senator, authored the resolution to maintain GSA as a governing council. Honors College senator, Vignesh Doraiswamy and Fraute suggested the resolution be postponed until SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda was able to provide the “other side.”

In an interview with Student Media, Saleem said that he will stick with their current proposal and he “doesn’t see a big change to this resolution” happening by next week’s meeting.

José Toscano, SGC-MMMC adviser, said during the senate meeting the financial piece of GSA’s restructuring is set and all that’s left for GSA to figure out is the advocacy.

If the resolution passes the senate and students vote in favor of it, Saleem still plans to fight.

Saleem is counting on graduate students to vote against the proposed changes when they are voted on by students during the general elections on May 29-30. “I will try to get the graduate senators to reverse it,” Saleem said.
Courses reflect global learning initiative goals

SACS, page 1

The biology department is a family. We were in some respects a poor family, but a family nonetheless.

Stoddard said. "The biology department is a family. We had only two copy cards for the entire area.

"I wasn’t happy with how the previous mayor was running the city," Stoddard said about his inspiration to run. "I didn’t want to see the city continue to go – in no direction, really."

There was no effective leadership … So I filed a protestion “to the mat,” according to one critic of the previous mayor. Stoddard was Feliu’s support of an FPL plan that aims to bring high-voltage power lines to South Florida communities. He was 2.

"It took someone to be a professor and mayor, but I’m also a dad," Stoddard said. "And not everything seems to be getting as much time as it needs lately."

This year the couple is also hosting a 16-year-old exchange student from Russia, making Stoddard all the more demanding.

"I think one thing academics always long for is the opportunity to make a real positive difference in the world," Stoddard said. "Someone in basic science like myself, where my science is not curing diseases, feels that more acutely: that there is still the desire to give something back."
Vice President Battle eager to take over council presidency

MAUREEN NINO
Asst. News Director

Self-proclaimed “selfless leader” Christian “Cici” Battle, current vice president of the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus, is leading the BBC council,” she said. “Our campus is on a bay and we should celebrate our location.

A senior in psychology, Battle, an intern at the BBC, Battle has found areas of opportunity in the organization where college-educated women help empower young girls.

Battle is no stranger to leadership. During her time in SGC-BBC, Battle helped mold interns as a lower-division senator, and she is prepared to take on the role of president.

Battle plans to enhance student involvement and include the BBC. She said that she wants to make sure the right people are in the right positions, and that she is open to students who have the desire or the passion to learn.

Battle’s focus is on developing bonds. “I am very accessible and my door is always open. If you need me I am here. I like to develop bonds,” she said.

As president, Battle hopes to provide students with leadership that they can relate to. She wants to be the person that students can go to if they need help.

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As president, Battle will be responsible for addressing issues and problems that students bring to the council.

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In a 22-0-0 vote, the SGC-MMC senate recently passed the Student Body Constitution Act of 2010, a series of amendments to the SGA constitution. The act was drafted by the University-wide Council. SBCA will not contest the current legislation, a unification of the two councils.

For most graduate students, SGA made without the consultation of the Graduate Student Association is a worthwhile goal to pursue, but it could make strides in terms of the document’s integrity, as the case with Supreme Court justices, this helps ensure their impartiality. The steps in which hearings can be heard within the SGA constitute two roles in the amendment of a writ of certiorari, a statement of grievance against any SGA official.

Student Government for impeachment has also been enhanced. This new constitution would call three-fifths of the senate to move for impeachment proceedings. In the previous document, this right was reduced to a vote of a mere one-third of a student governing council’s senior leadership.

While the proposed constitution does indeed make strides in terms of the document’s integrity, it does not take into account future changes to the SGA council system. For years, different administrations have raised the question of whether or not SGA should even be governed by a two-council system, as is currently the case, or rather a single unified council representing all students and campuses. It is a stubborn issue that is yet to be discussed.

The Beacon itself argues that council unification is a worthwhile goal to pursue, but it could prove to be this document’s Achilles heel in the sense that the accompanying moves would almost certainly require a rewrite of any constitution, which has specific language on how power is distributed among the two councils. The new document also does not require role-call votes in the senate, and most votes are currently decided by a show of hands.

To call for a vote by acclamation in the senate, and most votes are currently decided by a show of hands. The rights of students within student government is thoroughly discussed within the document. In the partial ratification last year, students’ rights were sparingly noted, especially in regards to what role they may play within student government and restructure their petition or representatives.

The constitution currently calls for greater autonomy to the judiciary, with all justifications being appointed to two-year terms. This helps justices to be impartial or influenced by the need to be re-elected. As it is the case with Supreme Court justices, this helps ensure their impartiality.

Recently, the FIU graduate student community was disturbed by a contradictory decision of the Student Government Association on restructuring Graduate Student Association. For a University that strives to be one of the best research institutions in the country, this step can have drastic consequences. Several meetings were set up for understanding why such a change is needed; this included a town hall meeting that gathered about 80 graduate students. There are different aspects to this process that need to be looked at before a final decision is taken.

For most graduate students, the decision on dissolving and on reconstituting the Graduate Student Association is a surprise. Even though the University-wide Council voted on the financial restructuring of SGA, an SGA resolution was needed. The question about the clandestine character of the resolution on SGA was raised during the town hall meeting. Unfortunately, it did not lead to any response.

A more interesting aspect is the fact that SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda admitted that neither he nor any other member of the University-wide Council ever attended any of the GSA events. While waiting on SGA, a petition was organized against the reformation of the association. It was signed by over 140 students and professors. This petition, however, was taken lightly by SGA officials.

During the town hall meeting, representatives of the graduate student community took the two semesters. An SGC president must have previously held an SGC position for two semesters. An SGC president must have experience with how SGA functions prior to becoming SGC president. Future elected student officials should remember, however, that this increase in salary requires an increase in responsibility, workload and expectations.

While SBCA proposes positive change to the constitution, two areas present a basis for contention. Article 11, Section (1) (D) maintains that the salaries of appointed officials such as the elections commissioner, for example, are left to the discretion of the executive council at each campus.

While the elections commissioner may not receive compensation in excess of the Senate speaker’s salary, the primary concern is that the elections commissioners are not elected. Any student official being compensated for and acting in the best interest of the student body should be elected by the student body.

Additionally, Article 7, Section (4) (B) maintains that any student wishing to become SGC president must have previously held an SGC position for two semesters. An SGC president must have experience with how SGA functions prior to becoming SGC president. However, members of the student body are welcomed to possess a unique set of skills not obtained through SGC that would properly equip him/her for SGC presidency.

Article 1, Section (3) (B), however, gives members of the student body “…the right to call for a University-wide campus specific initiative, referendum, and/or recall…” via petition. If the student body so wished to contest these aforementioned articles, Article 1 Section (3) (B) provides a platform upon which the student body’s voice is heard and acknowledged.

The SBCA is no doubt a formidable piece of legislation allowing the study body to be involved in the legislative process, as it calls for important amendments to the constitution.
ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

FLU freshman Gabriel Bonilla is everything you picture in a Broadway leading man. He has the handsome features, debonair personality and a presence that lights up a stage.

Bonilla plays Sky Masterson, the lead character in Guys and Dolls playing at The Roxy Performing Arts Center across the street from FIU’s Modesto Maidique Campus. The play is set in a post World War II New York City and is a hilarious story of love, money and salvation.

The bulk of the action surrounds Sky’s bet with cunning gambler Nathan Detroit, played by Joel Santana, 17, to take religious zealot Sarah Brown out on a date. What happens next is a fast-paced collection of song and dance in the pursuit of Sarah, played by Stephanie Volero, 16, and a place to play crazy. Bonilla heard about the show from a friend he was working with at a summer camp teaching theatre, who got a job at Roxy and called him to audition for the part.

“He is the character is the highest roller there is, he makes crazy bets and never loses,” Bonilla said of Sky. “Guys and Dolls is Bonilla’s first major role in a musical production even though he’s been acting since the third grade. Besides the shower and with the radio, Bonilla had not done any professional singing, a challenge for the actor.

“The concepts you have to grasp, singing with your diaphragm and all that stuff was completely different and new to me. So, I had to work on it but the teachers work really well with us so I was able to learn,” Bonilla said.

“Im came in and had a great audition,” said Nora Onate, chairman of the Board of Directors of Bonilla. The actor, who is currently working on a degree in psychology, sees himself working toward a career in film once he is finished with school and, hopefully, further developing his voice as well.

How does he manage textbooks and sheet music? “He did it with the help of understanding professors and putting in a lot of hard work and effort.”

“Rehearsals run late. We get out of here at around 9:30 and [I] just hit the books until I’m done turning in all my work. I just get by as much as I can to get them both done,” Bonilla said.

Bonilla does a great job at capturing the slick attitude of Sky Masterson and has great chemistry with his leading doll, Volero.

“Though Sky and Sarah are the leads, the musical would be nothing without the quirky relationship of Miss Adelaide, a nightclub player performed by Sonia Roman, 18, and Nathan Detroit, a couple engaged for 14 years. Both were strong actors and singers and offered non-stop giggles for the audience. There’s plenty of Panther pride at the Roxy – the majority of the staff are FIU alumni,” said Jillian Torgas, FIU alumna, dance director and choreographer of the show, makes a special appearance in the show’s biggest dance number, “Mamma.”

Along with Bonilla, other University students in the production are Melissa Gonzalez, Alex Machado and Elizabeth Nickerson. Alex Machado is hilarious as Harry the Horse. His crazy expressions and accent give his character the perfect amount of physical comedy and his timing is impeccable.

He even got a congratulations from FIU theatre professor Phillip Church after the show.

The Roxy Theatre Group is a non-profit organization funded by The Children’s Trust. Its main mission is to spread a love of the performing arts to children across Miami-Dade.

Actors discuss movie scenes, co-star John Cusack

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

Leg warmers, the jerry curl and hair-metal rock bands are some of the things that really stand out from the 1980s.

In Hot Tub Time Machine, four guys (John Cusack, Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson and Clark Duke) are vacationing at a desolate ski resort when a night of drinking and debauchery causes them to be teleported back in time to 1986. The Roxy was able to sit down with the stars of the film, including Corddry, Robinson, Duke, Lizzy Caplan (Cloverfield), Crispin Glover (Back to the Future) and Collette Wolf (Observer and Reporter), along with the director Steve Pink (Accepted) to discuss the upcoming release.

Lizzy Caplan and Collette Wolf both admired how the director allowed them to develop their own comedy style, while getting feedback from him.

“Steve was always open to having our ideas and telling us to improvise, which is not always the case, especially in comedy,” Caplan said. “He is the most diplomatic guy, because whatever was the funniest take fell Caplan said. “He is the most diplomatic guy, not always the case, especially in comedy,” getting feedback from him.

Wolf said. “I really appreciated it because he will give me feedback on my scenes,” always gave me something positive and then dirt.

However, there is a scene in the movie which was not planned where Duke fell accidentally on his snowboard.

“They taught me how to snowboard, but they did not teach me how to stop,” Duke said. “I went down the mountain doing all kinds of different turns, but I never practiced stopping. That was the only thing I really had to learn.”

“All the stuff on the boat was fun too,” Corddry said. “It was the last day of shooting and we shot that green screen bullcrap at night at three in the morning. I also got drunk as I drank a whole bottle of white wine.”

Crispin Glover is no stranger to the 1980s as he had roles in quintessential 80s films such as Friday the 13th Part IV: The Final Chapter and Back to the Future. Glover said he thought it was interesting that Hot Tub Time Machine and Back to the Future have a similar structure in terms of the plot of the film.

“This movie has interesting correlations and talking about this film has made me think about certain things I have not talked about for a while,” Glover said. “It has been an enjoyable experience on the whole. I am grateful and happy that I am in this film. I feel like this is a film that can do well and I think people will enjoy and get good things out of it.”

Hot Tub Time Machine opens everywhere on March 26.
The show on ABC was actually where Bruce Lee had his break in America while playing Kato. In long history is part of the reason why The Green Hornet has managed to survive for so many years, especially with reminders from people such as Kevin Smith, who had been in talks to write and direct a movie based off the character a few years ago.

Talks apparently fell through but recently production has begun on the project with Michel Gondry directing and Seth Rogen starring as the hero. Smith’s loss chance to write one of his childhood heroes was not passed up because he writes one of the five titles for Dynamite comics. With the new movie coming out and writers like Smith working on the books, it’s no surprise that The Green Hornet is experiencing a surge in popularity. After picking up a few issues of the comics, I can honestly say that the hype is not taken for granted.

The Green Hornet Strikes! invokes the hero in a dystopian future. Even Kato has his own book, where he teaches his daughter the art of the old school feel of the 30s without being too campy.

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Visit www.sudoku-puzzles.net for answers. Puzzle ID 715665344
Thomas looks for changes as season nears midpoint

BASEBALL, page 8

Two runs.

Th omas then opted to go with Eric Berkowitz to get the final three outs to close the game. Berkowitz, making his third appearance in as many days, failed to record an out and gave up the lead after a three-run blast by Shohei Fujita to complete the Trojan rally. Fujita’s home run proved to be the deciding blow as the Golden Panthers failed to answer in the ninth after Pablo Bermudez struck out with two runners on base.

BULLPEN ADJUSTMENTS

Turtle Thomas had his bullpen arrangement just about figured out until last week, when the team learned that emerging closer Bryam Garcia will be out indefinitely due to an unspecified injury to his throwing arm. The injury forces Thomas to resort to a revolving door to fill in the closer role and said that Jorge Marban and Alberto Cardenas would fill the gap left by Garcia. But it was Eric Berkowitz who appeared to have Thomas’ trust throughout the weekend. The right-handed senior pitched three consecutive games over the weekend against Troy, picking up two saves before blowing the save on March 21.

OFFENSIVE POWER

The Golden Panthers may have dropped the final game of their series against Troy but they stand as the Sun Belt Conference’s leading offensive unit as of March 22, batting .342 as a team.

Mike Martinez (.431), Garrett Winets (.431) and Pablo Bermudez (.407) rank among the top 10 hitters in the conference. Albert Cardenas would fill in as many days, failed to make his third appearance to complete the Trojan rally. But it was Eric Berkowitz who appeared to have Thomas’ trust throughout the weekend. The right-handed senior pitched three consecutive games over the weekend against Troy, picking up two saves before blowing the save on March 21.

Pablo Bermudez (.407) rank among the top 10 hitters in the conference.

Towers is tied for most doubles (11) in the conference this season while Jabari Henry, who now has a team-high 30 RBI on the season, ranks third in that category and is first in slugging percentage (.769).

The starting pitchers were overused in the early parts of the season and the bullpen, which was shielded early, was not able to pick up the slack when the starting pitching stalled.

Last weekend, the Golden Panthers took two out of three from conference foe Troy in their conference opener, winning a couple of close games thanks to timely hitting and a bend, don’t break showing from the bullpen, but by Sunday, the pen finally broke, allowing nine runs in three and two thirds innings.

For much of the season, the bullpen has been something of a strong point, relative to last season, and the starting pitching has failed to hold up their end of the bargain.

If last season’s pattern follows, it’s likely that the wheels will come off before long, and FIU may not be able to sustain a deep run in the tournament.

LOOKING FORWARD

The biggest change for FIU from this season to last is the pitching, and it’s been a mixed bag. The bullpen, a real weak point, has mostly improved from last year, but the starting pitching hasn’t been there now.

The bullpen has had to take on a large amount of innings, so much so that against Southern Utah University on March 18, starter Daniel DeSimone threw a 130 pitch complete game to try and save the bullpen for the weekend series.

While they’ve certainly improved upon last season’s showing, the question remains how much of a load can the bullpen carry, and whether they have the depth to pick up the starters as the season wears on.

The key will be for the starters, especially Rembizs, who had his best performance of the season against Troy, and Corey Poliziano, the two seniors, to pick up their game.

While the bullpen may be improved, both in talent and in depth, it may not be enough to make up for the starting pitching’s regression.

The hitting is there to make FIU an elite program, as coach Turtle Thomas has a knack for finding young, talented hitters with mature approaches at the plate, but finding arms to take the next step has been a much tougher task.

Last year, it was the starters who carried the brunt of the load, and now the pressure’s on the bullpen to pick up the slack.

And that may prove to be their undoing.

A Friend Dies. Who Cares?

Toxic drinking is an epidemic on campuses all across America.

It means consuming so much alcohol the drinker passes out. But while “sleeping it off,” the victim may be quietly dying.

When you come right down to it, students themselves are the best ones to tackle this problem. So, in growing numbers, Stony Brook students have joined together in the Red Watch Band movement.

Working with experts, they fine-tuned a course in techniques to handle these alcohol emergencies. Red Watch Band members can act fast, when every second counts. They know the quick steps they can take to rescue a passed-out student from a drinking death, and can immediately summon professional help. Everyone completing the course is given the distinctive red watch for identification.

Since its inception at Stony Brook University in March 2009, approximately 40 schools across the country have signed on to implement this lifesaving program.

To prevent toxic drinking deaths, go to redwatchband.org
The Golden Panthers failed to secure a series sweep as the Troy offense awoke late and overcame two large deficits to steal the victory from FIU.

**Key to season success falls on pitchers’ arms**

It is, of course, a little bit too early to take anything definitively out of this season. Twenty games is a very small amount of time in baseball, and there is still a large amount of change or fluctuation possible for this FIU team. But we are starting to reach a point where this team is forming an identity, and I’m not sure if it’s one that can lead to post-season success for the Golden Panthers.

**Looking back**

At this point last year, FIU was 15-5, just two games better than their mark through 20 this season. But the way they went about that record through 20 games was a little bit different than this season’s team.

Buoyed by dominant starting pitching from new junior college transfers Scott Rembisz and Tom Eiber, the FIU softball team thought they were set up to drive in three runs during the first inning while Ashley McClain and freshman Jessy Alfonso.

**Overworked pen struggles**

Despite rebuilding their lead, the Trojans proved to remain resilient as Chad Watson crushed a three-run home run to right field in the eighth to pull Troy within two of three games to the Trojans.

The Golden Panthers failed to secure a series sweep as the Troy offense awoke late and overcame two large deficits to steal the victory from FIU.

**Softball: Troy 5, FIU 3**

The FIU softball team thought they were ready.

**Baseball: Troy 14, FIU 12**

The Golden Panthers held the lead for the first eight innings of their series finale against the visiting Troy Trojans. But the team ended up falling behind after the one inning that mattered most.

The FIU softball team thought they were ready for Troy.

**Commentary**

**Chris Towers**

**Joel Delgado**

**Asst. Sports Director**

**Troy 14, FIU 12**

The Golden Panthers failed to secure a series sweep as the Troy offense awoke late and overcame two large deficits to steal the victory from FIU.