4-5-2010

The Beacon, April 5, 2010

Florida International University

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**EDITORIAL PAGE 7**

Widespread problems with SGC-BBC elections hasten the need for reform of their council system.

**SPORTS PAGE 10**

DePaul coaching Reports indicate that Isiah Thomas may be interested in the DePaul coaching opportunity for these kids to see and experience.

**SGC-MMC**

Housing senate seat under review after alleged violation

**PHILIPPE BUTEAU**

Senior Staff Writer

Elections for Student Government Senator at the Jorge Mas Maldique Campus were done and over with on March 31. However, results of the Housing senate race have yet to be determined.

Chelsea Franco, a senatorial Housing candidate, filed a complaint against one of her opponents in the race for a Housing seat, Carlos Rodriguez.

He blatantly disregarded Housing posting policy,” Franco said. “If you’re going to campaign, at least know the rules.”

Franco said that she found out about the violations on the last day of campaigning, March 26, and presented the complaint the following Monday, March 29.

When contacted by Student Media, Franco said that he wasn’t sure of the complaint’s specifics, but knew there was one filed against him.

He said that to his knowledge he didn’t violate any rules and everything he did was based on the elections code.

“The complaint says that he violated two sections of the Elections Code,” Rodriguez said.

The complaint says that he was not in line regarding (the constitution) discussing with the case should be heard.

The complaint concludes by debating, reviewing student and government constitution.”

**WEATHER**

**WEDNESDAY**

Partly Cloudy

LOW: 67

HIGH: 81

**LOW:** Partly Cloudy

LOW: 67

HIGH: 81

**MONDAY**

Sunny

LOW: 67, HIGH: 82

**TUESDAY**

Mostly Sunny

LOW: 67

HIGH: 80 

**CONTACTS**

Editor in Chief...

305-458-1300

Info@fiu.com

UP Office...

305-458-3000

Students@mmi.com

BBC Office...

305-919-6122

B.Come@fcu.com

Tips & Corrections...

305-451-2769

Tips@beacon.com

Advertising...

305-458-0994

advertising@fiu.com

**PAGE 10**

**SPORTS:** Fine arts to connect University, community

**ARTS:** Fine arts to connect University, community
FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010
www.fi usm.com
THE BEACON

NEWS FLASH
NATIONAL

According to CNN the US Labor Department, employers have added 162,000 jobs in the month of March. This is the highest increase since the recession began. However, it is below the 190,000 jobs analysts expected and far fewer than economists’ forecasts. The 162,000 include 48,000 temporary workers hired for the census. Private employers have added the most jobs since May 2007, 123,000.

WORLD

The Russian counter-terrorism committee said last week the people who planned the recent terrorist attacks in Moscow and Kazylar have been identified, according to Ria Novosti, Russian news and information agency. The explosions at Moscow’s Lubyanka and Park Kultury subway stations on March 29 left 40 people dead and dozens injured. The counter-terrorism has only published the name of the female suicide bomber so far. She detonated an explosive device at the Park Kultury station.

Apple begins selling iPad to the masses

On Saturday, Apple began selling it’s much anticipated iPad device in the United States. According to CNN, long lines were seen at Apple retail stores everywhere as customers dropped anything between $499 to $699 for the 9-inch, multitouch device.

 Aside from launch applications, developers on the App Store are already posting their fl yers.

Housing senate race unsettled

The Beacon

BARRICADES

The University’s Student Media Board announced their selections for the positions of editor in chief for The Beacon, FIUSM.com editor and general manager of WRGP.

Luis Valens, current news director for Student Media and junior political science major, was named editor in chief of The Beacon.

“I’m very excited and honored to be chosen for the position,” Valens said.

Valens, known for his weekly Life! column “Fistfuls of Tech,” began his career at Student Media as a news writer for The Beacon in January 2009. By March 2009, Valens became assistant news director, a position he held until the end of the 2009 Fall semester.

“I have big plans for The Beacon. I have lots of things running through my mind. I am eager to get started,” he added.

Rodriguez replaces current Editor in Chief Christopher Necure, who has held the position since Spring 2009. “I think we’ve made a lot of progress in the past year and the Media Board picked a very capable candidate,” Necure said. “I’m confident he will do an excellent job.”

The position of FIUSM.com editor, which is in charge of managing content for FIU Student Media’s Web site, was given to current opinion editor for The Beacon, David Barrios. Barrios replaces current FIUSM.com editor, Pablo Penton. “I ran against some of the most qualified candidates within Student Media. I’m proud to have been given the job,” Barrios said. Barrios, a junior international relations major, started working for Student Media as a news writer for The Beacon in August 2007. Since then, he has been involved in several different facets of Student Media as a staff writer, SGA beat writer and opinion editor.

“It’s a new era for Student Media,” he added.

Sean Gonzalez, a junior liberal arts major, was selected as general manager of the University’s radio station, WRGP Radiate FM. “I won’t be too busy,” Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez first applied to work at the radio station during his first day on campus. Since then, he has been working at the radio station for three years, and has even been named as a DJ, eventually working his way up to training director. Gonzalez is replacing former WRGP GM, Pablo Penton.

“My main goal right now is to get the word out to students that WRGP is back on air and constantly broadcasting awesome stuff,” Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez, Barrios and Valens begin their new positions effective May 1, 2010.

Survey reveals students’ use of rating site

Kaplan Test Prep recently conducted a survey questioning 1,229 pre-law and pre-med students’ use of the popular university professor rating site ratemyprofes-
sors.com, owned by MTV.

The survey showed that 66 percent of the students selected a course based on the “easiness of the professor.”

Kaplan’s vice president of research Jeff Olson explained that the company “felt it was an unexamined story” about “a resource that would help students” with their course selection.

Based on the survey results, Olson said that the Web site was “not only used to find easy classes, but actually the most effective teachers” and that the use of the site was “a sign of the times.”

The purpose of the Kaplan survey was to find out the impact of professor rating sites on the academic environment.

The survey also found that 77 percent of student users felt peer opinion was the most influential. 70 percent cited the overall quality of the professor, and 66 percent felt that the “easy grading reputation” was the most important.

“The foremost use is finding the best professors to help students have the best possible experience in college,” Olson told The Beacon in an interview.

Ratemyprofessors.com is used by college students to contribute their opinion on a professor they have taught based on several criteria, including easiness, helpfulness, clarity, interest level prior to attending class, textbook use, whether attendance is mandatory and appearance. A comment box allows raters room for additional feedback.

“An underside [of the Web site] is rating the physical attractiveness of teachers, which has been a little unkind [but] only 3 percent of our respondents made a choice based on [physical attractiveness],” Olson said.

Subsequently, other students visit the site to read the reviews posted by their peers. Opinions vary from negative to positive, with responses from the professor’s point of view. Some find the site to be helpful while others feel it gives viewers incorrect information.

“I don’t think it’s wrong for students to use Rate My Professors because it gives you different points of view about all the teachers,” said political science major Annette Rodriguez.

“I think [Rate My Professors] is mostly just gossip and heresay—nothing firm I base my course selection on,” she added.
Obama, GOP reach consensus on oil drilling

By RAY HENRY Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Now that President Barack Obama has opened the door to drilling for oil and gas off Georgia, state Republicans are showing some willingness to back the proposal following a bitter debate over health care.

Obama’s decision this week potentially opens a large section of the Atlantic coast from Delaware to central Florida that was previously off-limits to energy firms. While it allows for studies of Georgia’s sea floor, any leasing of the rights to oil or gas found beneath it would not come until at least 2012, if at all.

Before the president announced his decision, a Senate environmental committee approved a resolution in February calling on the federal government to open all the East Coast — including Georgia — to oil and gas exploration. It was the first time in six years the measure survived a committee vote. The issue is one of the few supported by both Obama and Republican Gov. Sonny Perdue has approved a resolution in February calling on the state's Congressional delegation into supporting drilling.

The council is part of the American Petroleum Institute, a Washington-based energy industry group that lobbies for major drillers such as Exxon Mobil, BP America Inc. and ConocoPhillips.

Lawmakers have become more interested in drilling royalties as they struggle with a budget deficit. “This year there was more of an interest, and it was primarily budget-related,” Cobb said.

The rare note of harmony between Obama and several Georgia Republicans comes after deep strains over the president’s health care legislation. Recently, 31 Republican lawmakers introduced a resolution to impeach the state’s Democratic attorney general because he refused to file a lawsuit to block Obama’s health care reform bill.

Still, significant hurdles remain before drilling could begin. For example, no one is certain exactly what is below Georgia’s seabed.

The U.S. Department of the Interior estimated there could be more than $4 billion worth of fossil fuels in the south Atlantic waters off Georgia, South Carolina and northern Florida. But those figures are based on 25-year-old research.

At least five firms told the U.S. government they were interested in exploring regional waters, according to a 2009 federal report. The firms were not named.

Leasing rights were sold in regional waters from 1978 to 1983, before the president and Congress put a halt to the practice. Six exploratory wells were drilled, but no discoveries were made.

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Peer opinion major part of rating site usefulness

Ray Henry Associated Press

“[The project planning] is exciting because we are really organizing this event from scratch, which gives us some leeway to be creative and do it as we see it,” said Houry, whose class is responsible for the event. “However, it is also scary because again, we are organizing it from scratch, which means everything has to be done from zero and we sometimes have to make decisions about aspects for which the Honors College and my class do not necessarily have control over.”

While there haven’t been many students getting involved in the project, according to volunteer coordinator and honors freshman Vanessa Oxtoby, the honors students plan on continuing the project in the hope of expanding it throughout the coming years.

“Sometimes people pretend that there’s a wall between FIU and Sweetwater,” said sophomore Tatiana Martinez Pandiani, the performance coordinator majoring in theater. “But there’s a long-term project to incorporate Sweetwater as a ‘college town’ and the first step in doing that is to open up to the community.”

For more information, contact Professor Cecile Houry at choury@fiu.edu or 305-348-4100

The Beacon – Monday, April 5, 2010

www.fiu.edu

Honors College use art to connect with Sweetwater

TROY ELDER, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW

TUESDAY, APRIL 6th
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Lunch and refreshments provided.

 Presented by:

 Global Learning for Global Citizenship

 Global Learning

 The New York Times

 Student Government Association

 FIU

 ARTS, page 1

 “FIU College of Law wins $22 million damage award for victims of Liberian torture”

 Troy Elder, Associate Clinical Professor of Law

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It was a day full of entertainment, free food and giveaways as the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus showed students their appreciation. SGC-BBC hosted a “Barbecue on the Bay” outside of Panther Square on April 1 in honor of Student Appreciation Day.

“We wanted to let the students know that we’ve heard their concerns and that we are working for them,” said Keila Samuels, SGC-BBC elections coordinator.

The event was also held as a final wrap up of the SGA intern program.

“The SGA internship program is a year-long unpaid leadership program that teaches students the inner-workings of SGA and prepares them for future office positions. It’s also a good way to get students involved in campus activities,” Samuels said.

This was the first time the interns held a barbecue on the bay and they were in charge of putting the event together.

“The interns planned the barbecue. Samuels said this was their final project and they got to get hands-on experience with the process of planning an event.”

The cookout was held from 12 to 3 p.m. and the menu consisted of hot dogs, hamburgers, barbecue chicken, corn on the cob, baked beans and cole slaw.

The first 50 students also received a cup of Ben and Jerry’s ice cream. The flavors were strawberry cheesecake and chocolate fudge brownie.

“We were expecting a turnout of around 100 students, but we actually exceeded that amount. We had about 250 students show up,” said Isabella Lubin, SGA intern coordinator.

In addition to free food there was also live entertainment. Pro Club, a local hip-hop duo, performed songs for the crowd.

“I really enjoyed the barbecue. The atmosphere was nice and the food was good,” said Lorihanne Hopkins, junior English major.

CONSTITUTION, page 1

which Dl says proves the lack of involvement from BBC.

“This shows that it was basically all by MMC. Our judiciary had nothing to do with it,” she said. “I do not think that anyone has a say at BBC, it is always MMC’s way. We cannot even run our own SGC; it shows that there should be one council.”

According to SGC-MMC Chief Justice Luis Robayo, SGC-BBC had several opportunities to be involved.

“Every step of the way we included BBC, but SGC-BBC did not choose their own level of involvement and they chose to do nothing,” he said.

Robayo also adds that he e-mailed and contacted SGC-BBC Chief Justice Georgia Bedeur and former Speaker of the Senate Nickolay Chikishev several times, but both members, however, rarely responded, were unavailable to meet or did not meet deadline for assignments.

“Turned them to become involved and extended my hand to them,” he said.

Bedeur declined repeated attempts by Student Media for comment on the matter.

Additionally, Robayo said that in response to one of his many e-mails, Chikishev responded, “We have a culture of not responding.”

However, Robayo says he had a great working relationship with Neinstein, who recalled any concerns SGC-BBC may have.

The amended SGA constitution, according to Robayo, was available on both MMC and BBC councils since January 2010.

SGC-BBC journalism and Mass Communication senator says he has yet to see the changes.

“To have never seen the new constitution,” he said.

According to Rafael Zapata, SGC-BBC advisor and Campus Life and Orientation Office assistant director, the UWG may propose constitutional amendments after each SGC senate secures a majority vote approval as stated in SGA’s current constitution, Article VII, Section 4, subsection B.

“The senate saw it, but no one voted on it,” Zapata said.

However, the senate is scheduled to meet on Monday April 5 to discuss the revisions, said Christian “Cici” Battle, SGC-BBC vice president and current president-elect.

To inform students about the changes, Battle plans to provide students with large displays with SGA constitution changes around campus.

“We want to bring the new constitution to the students instead of having them look for it,” Battle said.

According to the amended constitution, according to Robayo, was supposed to be voted by the students during the current government elections, but BBC did not meet in time to pass the changes and missed deadline.

The ballots are made by a third party company and we missed our deadline to include votes for the referendum,” Robayo said.

“I was very disappointed that it was not voted by the students on Monday.”

According to Battle, students may have the possibility to vote on the new constitution during special elections, but no official date has been set by the senate.

“This is just the first draft; it is not official yet. On Monday, the senate will be able to offer suggestions and changes,” Battle said.

“We are just changing, nothing is concrete. [SGA’s constitution] must be approved by the students.”

Justice: council did not participate in talks

StoneWall2BBC, the student organization that supports the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender student community, is promoting a national movement to make the question of sexual orientation appear on the census.

“Queer the Census” is a campaign started by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, with the goal of including an LGBT-inclusive question on the U.S. Census.

According to the campaign’s Web site, including members of the LGBT will “paint a rich picture of communities all over the country” in addition to gain public funding for LGBT health services and hate crime prevention, among other things.

To support the movement, one may either sign the petition online or attach a pink sticker from the organization to their completed 2010 Census with one of the following choices checked off: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or a straight ally.

Although the Census includes a question that asks the relationship status of “Person 1” to “Person 2,” it does not include an option that explicitly identifies same-sex couples. The Census only provides “Husband/Wife” or “Unmarried Couple” options, as well as not offering a question to disclose a person’s sexual identity.

According to Daniel Anzueto, a senior psychology major and Stonewall2BBC president, this affects 90 percent of counties that have LGBT communities.

“In order for more government support to go to the LGBT community, they need to know that there is a number of us out there,” Anzueto said.

A generous crowd of students line up to receive their food during the Student Appreciation Barbeque held on April 1 on the patio of the Wolfe Center.
Anzueto: We still have time

CENSUS, page 4

been slow.

“People have not noticed it as much on campus, because we haven’t really pushed it. We just gave the stickers to our members,” he said. “But I know nationally this campaign is really being recognized. There are still people who have yet to turn in their Census, so it still leaves a large window. We still have time to get the stickers out.”

The results of this campaign won’t be known until the U.S. Census reappears in 2020, determining whether or not Queer the Census continues its movement.

“I don’t know if [Queer the Census] will officially be recognized, but it is very much a notice to the government to let them know we need to be counted,” Anzueto said.

For more information, visit QueertheCensus.org.

“The Big Chill in Washington: Prospects for Climate Change and Energy Legislation”

A Discussion with John Broder of The New York Times

TUESDAY, APRIL 6TH
2 - 3 PM

MARY ANN WOLFE THEATRE (WUC 100)
WOLFE UNIVERSITY CENTER
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

John M. Broder became a political correspondent for the Washington bureau of The New York Times in August 2006. Previously Mr. Broder served as the Los Angeles bureau chief since the summer of 2002; the Washington editor since December 2000; and the White House correspondent since October 1997. He served as the newspaper’s BizDay Washington reporter covering regulatory and legal issues, including tobacco negotiations, anti-trust enforcement, consumer and financial regulation when he joined The Times in 1996. After covering the 2008 presidential campaign, Broder took over coverage of energy and environment in Washington. He is responsible for following domestic legislative issues, advances in energy technology and international climate change negotiations.

Brought to you by the Student Government Association and the Journalism & Mass Communication School.

Admission is Free

For further information, please contact SGA BBC at (305) 919-5680. Qualified individuals with a disability requesting an accommodation to attend this event must make the request no less than five working days in advance by calling (305) 919-5680 or TTY via FRS 1 (800)955-6771.

The New York Times
Film explores quest to patent ‘orgasm drug’

RONALD CALERO
Staff Writer

Orgasm, Inc., a documentary about the pharmaceutical industry’s quest to help women achieve orgasm, was screened at the Wolfsonian-FIU in collaboration with FIU’s Women’s Studies Center and the World Erotic Art Museum as part of their “Advertising for Health” series.

Among the attendees were several University faculty members, friends of the museum and the filmmaker herself, Liz Canner, who introduced us to her latest piece of work. As the documentary rolled on, it was clear that she felt the idea that using drugs to help women enjoy themselves in intimacy is not a good one. Through a series of very interesting, informative and often humorous interviews, Canner’s film explores both sides of what had become a race for pharmaceutical companies to come up with a Food and Drug Administration-approved drug to treat what they call “Female Sexual Dysfunction.”

Similar to what would otherwise be known as frigidity, FSD describes a woman’s difficulty to get sexually aroused and/or to achieve an orgasm during sex.

On one side, you have representatives of these drug companies claiming that they can cure this “disease” with their product and, on the other, you have several experts on sexuality arguing that this “disease” cannot possibly be treated simply with the use of a drug.

The film explains that, unlike men, there are several more issues that come into play in order for women to get aroused.

For men, arousal comes as easily as the flipping of a switch. While women may have a similar switch of some sort, the procedure to turn it on is infinitely more complicated.

And, while the detractors in Orgasm, Inc., admit that physiological issues certainly have something to do with it, they say that the idea of a pill taking care of this made-up “disease” is ridiculous.

The movie culminates with Procter and Gamble’s hearing at the FDA advisory committee to put their latest creation, Intrinsa, up for approval.

Intrinsa is a patch that women would apply on their skin, much like a nicotine patch to quit smoking, which releases testosterone instead.

Why testosterone? Because apparently, testosterone should apparently, testosterone should be something wrong with them.

Ultimately, the FDA committee rejected Procter and Gamble’s request, mostly due to the fact that the drug did not achieve any solid results. While the police have a different theory: Sam killed Thursby – who was shot the night Miles died – in revenge. Spade has no choice but to run the killers out.

Museum aims to enrich Miami

Art pieces include works by renowned Renaissance artists

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

In 1964, art collectors John and Johanna Bass donated their old masters collection to the city of Miami Beach hoping to enrich the culture of the city.

The agreement was established when the city of Miami Beach accepted the gift of the Bass art collection on the condition it would openly exhibit the collections and make them available to the public.

The Bass Museum of Art’s mission is to collect and exhibit the finest art the world has to offer from the past through the present to further enrich Miami Beach’s vibrant culture.

The Bass art collection consists of more than 500 European works from the 15th to the early 20th century, made up of more than 200 paintings and a collection of textiles and sculpture. The collection provides a solid foundation to develop a major institution with one of the most comprehensive collections of European art in the Southeast.

The collection of paintings from the 19th and early 20th century are mostly from Austria, John Bass’ birth country, and is
Egyptian gallery to open at Bass Museum

**BASS, page 6**

larger than any other museum’s collection of Egyptian art. Notable artists from the collection include Jacob Jordans, Peter Paul Rubens, Ferdinand Bol, Giovanni Barbagelata, as well as an altarpiece by Italian Renaissance masters, Bottecelli and Ghirlandaio. The famous altarpiece from the Permanent Collection is one of several Bottecelli pieces on public view in the U.S. The collection also contains sculptures, works on paper, decorative objects and textile selections. Most notable from the textiles collection is the 16th century Flemish tapestry “The Tournament” once owned by King Henry VIII.

There’s also the 19th century tapestry, “The Hunt,” by French designer Louis-Marie Baader. The tapestry fills two walls on the museum’s Grand Ramp, the room designed to provide adequate space for hanging and proper viewing of tapestry pieces. Current exhibits include “Where Do We Go From Here? Selections from La Colección Jumex” and “Mika Tajima.”

“Collección Jumex” posits art as a cultural index paring intergenerational artists from or based in Mexico with international counterparts. The exhibition has four sections: art about art, art and urban anthropology, text in art and a series of artist profiles. The exhibit ties together a narrative between works that explore art in a global sense.

Mika Tajima connects Modernist geometric abstraction to the shape of our environment. Tajima’s “The Double” constructs a phantom performance space, referencing sources ranging from Herman Miller’s conflicted office furniture system from the late 1960s to the 1970s cult film *Performance*.

Freestanding panels that merge aspects of sculpture, painting and graphic design to form a wall of pattern and reflection divide the exhibition space.

Later this month, the Bass will reveal its newest gallery, The Egyptian Gallery.

The gallery offers viewers a unique opportunity to learn about one of the world’s oldest civilizations. The gallery has an Egyptian sarcophagus and mummy.

The project was conceived when the Bass’s Executive Director and Chief Curator Silvia Karman Cubitá identified a polychrome wood inner sarcophagus and mummy from the 25th or 26th dynasty (808-518 B.C.) in the museum’s collection.

“With the opening of The Egyptian Gallery, the Bass Museum will appeal to a wide audience of art, culture, archeology and history lovers; children and adults alike. It will serve as the place in Miami to experience a long history of object-making and what these objects say about humankind from 700 B.C. through the present,” Cubitá said.

The museum is in the original Miami Beach Public Library and Art Center. Russell Pancoast, grandson of Miami Beach pioneer John A. Collins, designed the landmark building in 1930. It’s Miami’s first public building with an exhibition space for the fine arts. The building preserves the formal gardens of Collins Park, which had been Collins’ gift to the city in the 1920s. The building is now the centerpiece of the city’s historic district and was placed on the National Register in 1978.

The Bass Museum is located on 2121 Park Ave. in Miami Beach. Admission is $6 for students with ID. Visit www.bassmuseum.org for more information.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The University Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on **Wednesday, April 7, 2010**

**BBC - WUC 155 at 10:00am**

**MMC - GC West Ballrooms at 2:00pm**

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Student Health Fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2010 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

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**P&G’s patch legal in Europe**

**ORGASM, page 6**

After the film, attendees and staff moved to a reception that had been prepared for them at the nearby World Erotic Art Museum.

It was then that I had the opportunity to ask Liz Canner a few questions about her documentary. Ms. Canner, a filmmaking graduate from Brown, had a lot to say regarding how this project came to be and her motivations behind it.

Despite the fact that the women represented in the film are all well into their 40s and beyond, Canner was careful to note that those women did not grow up in an environment where sex education existed.

It is the women of our generation, and the generations that will follow, who need to be aware of these issues and who should educate themselves about these drugs, as well as their own bodies and sexuality, so as to avoid falling victim to pharmaceutical companies who would sell them the cure to a fictional disease.

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**LGBTQA PRIDE WEEK**

**THE BEACON – Friday, January 15, 2010 www.fi usm.com**

**MONDAY, APRIL 5**

**FIU SMOKE-FREE TO-BACCO-FREE EVENT**

Lunch, exposition, and conversation.

WHERE: Between GL and PC

HOW MUCH: Free

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6**

**FIU SMOKE-FREE TO-BACCO-FREE EVENT**

Lunch, exposition, and conversation.

WHERE: Between GL and PC

HOW MUCH: Free

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**UP-ROAD CONCERT**

Featuring Pitbull and Kid Cudi.

WHERE: Doors open at 7 p.m.

HOW MUCH: $10

WHEN: 10 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7**

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Lunch, exposition, and conversation.

WHERE: Between GL and PC

HOW MUCH: Free

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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**THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS**

**THE BEACON – Friday, January 15, 2010 www.fi usm.com**

**MONDAY, APRIL 5**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 8**

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**TAKING TIME AFTER THE BEACON**

**THE BEACON – Friday, January 15, 2010 www.fi usm.com**

**MONDAY, APRIL 5**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 8**
Conference promotes benefits of natural birth, importance of midwives

MARIA MURRIEL
Staff Writer

Celebrating womanhood – its perks and its trials and tribulations – the Women’s Studies Student Association hosted a conference to inform the public on the healthy practice of natural birth.


Four panelists, all experts on midwifery and well-care woman, congregated for two hours in Graham Center’s conference room to explain the dangerous nature of surgical births and the benefits and history of midwives.

Presenting statistical data, among other study results, Sheila Simms Watson, a midwife at Spirit of Life Midwifery, made a case against doctor births. She stated that in countries like Sweden, the Netherlands and New Zealand, maternal and infant mortality rates are incredibly low, and this is directly related to the fact that in those countries, midwives are the primary caregivers to pregnant women.

In Miami-Dade County alone, the rate of births by Cesarean section (C-section) is alarmingly high: from 50 to 70 percent. Our maternal mortality rates are about 34 percent higher than other industrialized nations, yet we claim to have the highest quality in healthcare.

According to Watson, sending pregnant women to a hospital for prenatal care and birth is like treating them for a disease, and pregnancy is far from an illness. Therefore, healthy pregnant women should not be sent to an obstetric-gynecologist for treatment; there is nothing they need treatment for.

An obstetrician is a specialist trained to deal with problems and complications, so until these arise, and only if they do, pregnant women need not seek medical care. Because birth is a natural process and women are equipped with all the necessary organs and functions to see it through, all they need is friendly supervision, emotional and psychosocial support, and guidance. These are things midwives provide.

Justine Clegg, former chair of Midwifery at Miami-Dade College, talked a bit about the historical role of midwives and the shift from midwifery to medical care. Up until the industrialization of the United States, doctors and modern medicine were regarded as highly dangerous and untrustworthy.

Then, at some point, the medical industry began to promote itself as the safer way to treatments and advertised the ability of drugs to take away birthing pains. As explained by Clegg, the pain associated with birth cannot truly be taken away, because after the drugs wear off, there will either be surgical pain in the case of a C-section, or soreness.

An activist in well-woman care since the 1970s, Clegg has fought to bring credibility back to midwives and make America a primarily natural birthing country. Though her combined efforts with other activists have brought them to national accreditation exams for midwives and licensing schools, support is scarce.

In Florida, there are only three midwifery schools and few birth centers. Recently, with the passing of the controversial healthcare bill, midwifery was introduced into Medicaid coverage. However, the number of women willing to engage in midwife care is small.

Although midwives work with pregnancy and birth in the home, at birth centers and even at hospitals, most women are unaware of the process and its benefits.

In an effort to propagate knowledge and inform women about safe choices, the midwife coalition at the conference portrayed their trade in what they believe is its essence.

Clegg spoke of midwifery, the oldest profession in the world, as an act of civil disobedience. She clarified that the responsibility of a midwife is to befriend and protect a woman, shielding her from authorities that may not have her best interest in mind.

Midwifery is a high-touch, low-tech process aimed at keeping a woman, her child and her family happy and healthy during pregnancy and after birth.

Looking at birth from a political point of view, and speaking from the heart of a 70s hippie child, Clegg drew from biblical excerpts and facts about wild animal behavior to demonstrate the importance of midwives in a community.

“I’m a midwife,” she said, “is essential to survival.”

The Maltese Falcon still relevant today, revolutionizes film industry

MODERN, page 6

Casper Gutman (Sidney Greenstreet in his first film), another character on the search for the bird, is willing to turn in his bodyguard (Eisha Cook, Jr.) to the police as a fall guy for the series of murders that occur...

Gutman tells his bodyguard with regret: “I couldn’t be fonder of you if you were my own son. But, well, if you lose a son, it’s possible to get another. There’s only one Maltese Falcon.”

These are hard, cold people in the middle of the Great Depression. The film, based on Dashiell Hammett’s 1929 novel, is almost a note-for-note recreation of the source novel.

There are people driven by basic human motives: revenge and greed. Certainly, the film may emphasize atmosphere over the sheer logic of the plot. But that’s here nor there.

Spade is certainly no saint. But he has a conscience. He’s hardened and unsentimental but with a strange sense of moral obligation.

“When a man’s partner is killed, he’s supposed to do something about it. It doesn’t make any difference what you thought of him. He was your partner and you’re supposed to do something about it. And it happens we’re in the detective business,” Spade explains.

The film is nothing more or less than a turning point in American film history. Bogart was not dated at all. Whereas a film like Casablanca can suffer from being propaganda, The Maltese Falcon separates itself from its time and place.

It is timeless. Modern Classics is a bi-weekly movie column reviewing modern day classic films. Look for it every other Monday.
GOV favors “fuzzy handcuffs” of intolerance

The Republican Party may not like gay marriages, but there is one thing they do enjoy: hot girls on gal action. The Republican National Committee is dealing with a scandal at the moment, and all great scandals, this one involves improper use of funds and half-naked lesbians. 

RNC Michael Steele has had to answer some tough questions after it was revealed that someone in the family-values wing had spent nearly $2,000 of RNC money at an S & M club featuring topless women performing simulated lesbian sex acts. The RNC has promised to investigate the matter, and fervently denies Chairman Steele personally visited the “bondage themed” club.

Some may take this revelation as evidence of the Republican Party hypocrisy on gay and lesbian issues, considering many prominent Republicans repeated claims that they and their party stand for all that is Christian and pious. However, on closer examination, there is absolutely nothing hypocritical about the RNC spending money at a strip club featuring S & M engaging in bondage and “simulated sex.” It doesn’t really fit into the Republican Party’s vision for America.

There are a number of valid explanations for Steele’s move, and all of them reinforce Republican views on morality. The GOP platform includes no statement of opposition to bondage. In fact, with its emphasis on placing restrictions on the parties involved, bondage is a metaphor for how the Republican Party feels homosexuals should be treated legally: tied up by laws against their rights, and bound by restrictions on their right to adopt or serve in the military.

Moreover, S & M also fits perfectly into their political world view. It is understandable that Republicans would enjoy watching lesbian S & M, since they believe that very few, if any, homosexuals have been very, very bad girls. If anything, one would be hard pressed to find a form of entertainment more in keeping with Republican Party philosophy.

This scandal is merely a manifestation of Republican Party values, and it perfectly represents a key difference between the Republican Party and the Democratic Party on issues relating to gays and lesbians. While Democrats generally feel that homosexuals should be treated equally, Republicans feel that they are best kept behind closed doors, preferably tied up for their amusement.

The RNC has vowed to punish those responsible for this expenditure, and an official staff member has already been fired. However, the GOP has shown no signs of changing its position on equal rights for gays. They still have problems with homosexuals doing “dirty” things like defending our country, but engaging in simulated sexual acts on stage is apparently fine.

Some people, perhaps, gays and lesbians will be able to break the fuzzy handcuffs of intolerance. For now, Republican leaders in both houses of Congress have indicated that they won’t back a repeal of “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell.”

Several GOP officials refused to condemn “Tea Party” protesters (members of a voting bloc they enthusiastically court who yelled anti-gay slurs at a gay Democratic Congressman). One Republican congressman even implied Democrats were “asking for it.”

Despite its dabling with Lesbian S & M, the Republican Party is still not into ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, and is more than willing to court the votes of those who call Democrats the “F-word.” Some judgmental Democrats may call that perverse, even immoral.

However, those people need to learn to accept the Republicans for who they are: They’d just rather see lesbians naked and tied up than in a military uniform. Some people are just into that sort of thing. Who are we to judge?
FIU avoids sweep with walk-off run in the seventh

STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Asst. Sports Director

The FIU softball team got their fight back. After dropping two consecutive contests to North Texas on April 2, the Golden Panthers rallied back in game three to avoid the sweep on April 3.

UNT 10, FIU 2

Kasey Barrett didn’t seem herself. The FIU pitcher, who had a 1.38 earned run average coming into the game, gave up 10 hits and six earned runs in 5.1 innings.

Meanwhile, the Golden Panther offense offered very little run support against a power hitting team, North Texas. After being tied 1-1 after one inning, FIU went scoreless through the next four. Their second run didn’t come until the bottom of the sixth. By that time, the Mean Green was up by five runs before adding three more in the final inning.

FIU senior Paige Cassady pitched the final 1.2 innings and gave up three earned runs and two walks.

“I think a lot of the pitching staff’s struggles can be some credit given to North Texas, which is a very good offense,” FIU head coach Beth McClelland said.

UNT 5, FIU 1

Game two didn’t get much better. The Mean Green offense got going early and FIU failed to match it.

In the first inning an FIU error led to UNT’s first run of the game. The Green Mean increased their advantage to 2-0 after Mariza Martinez singled to drive in Megan Rupp. Before FIU was even able to score, the deficit got worse. UNT racked up two runners on base off of FIU errors in the top of the fourth before the Mean Green scored their third run on a wild pitch.

Not long after, Martinez plotted a two-run shot out of the park to put UNT up 5-0.

“I think they’re just really young and they have moments where they lose focus,” McClelland said.

“But we knew all year long that they would be up and down because they are young. We were expecting that.”

FIU showed a spark in the bottom of the fourth as freshman Bri Rojas led off with a single to centerfield before sophomore Jenny Welch also singled to put runners at the corners for FIU. Gniadek then reached first base on a UNT error, allowing Rojas to reach home for the lone run. The fifth, sixth, and seventh innings were scoreless for both teams.

In the circle, Jennifer Gniadek pitched a complete game posting six strikeouts and one earned run.

UNT 9, FIU 10

In game three, FIU was back to character.

The Golden Panthers
**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

**Golden Panthers add five new players**

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

The FIU women’s soccer team won the 2009 regular season Sun Belt Conference Championship for the first time since 2000, only to lose in the first round of the SBC tournament afterward.

On March 31, however, the disappointment from last season’s conclusion began to be replaced with optimism with the signatures of five prospects to the Golden Panthers 2010 recruiting class.

FIU signed Paige Covington, Nicole DiPerna, Kim Lopez, Crystal McNamara, and Chelsea Leiva to reinforce a team looking to replace the contributions of departed seniors like Marina Pappas and Amy Jackson.

The team made a seven win improvement from 2008 last season, and FIU’s reigning SBC coach of the year, Thomas Chestnutt, will look to guide the team further.

“I think it’s a pretty good group in terms of what their capable of doing skill and condition wise,” Chestnutt said. “They are all very competitive players and they offer us some versatility. This is really going to help us.”

Every player in the group plays midfield or forward, with three of them playing multiple positions.

McNamara is a gifted passer from Indian River State College who brings vision to the field. Leiva, a prolific goal scorer, kicked 29 goals in her last season at Royal Palm Beach High. The 5-foot-8 forward should help the attack of a Golden Panthers team that finished sixth in the SBC in goals last season.

Lopez, DiPerna and Covington offer position versatility at the forward and midfield spots.

Lopez was a four-year leading scorer at John Carroll, where she also participated on the track and field team. DiPerna is considered to have good enough speed to play different positions and as a captain at Melbourne High, she led her team to the No. 1 ranking in the ESPRIse’s Fab 50 poll. Covington, the daughter of former NFL player John Covington, should bring depth to the Golden Panthers.

“They are all technically good players and for the most part are offensive minded. We wanted to add some more of that to our team,” Chestnutt said. “We wanted some players that could play different positions. We are adding speed to our team, some toughness as well and overall competitive spirit.”

Covington is the only incoming prospect from outside of South Florida. Chestnutt grabbed the 5-foot-3 wing out of Carmel, Indiana.

“We recruit all over the country and we go all over the world as well,” Chestnutt said.

Chesnut also expects that room to be room for more players before next season, and that the goalie and defender positions could be addressed then.

This class, however, will bring more firepower to the Golden Panthers, who could complement All Conference goalie Kaitlyn Savage with more scoring. FIU was 4th in the conference in shot attempts last season.

The Golden Panthers are set to return 10 starters to the team next season.

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**BASEBALL, page 10**

took a 3-2 advantage after freshman Jessy Alfonso recorded a three-run homer in the bottom of the first. FIU then found themselves down by four runs heading into the bottom of the third inning after combined for seven runs in the second and third innings, but it didn’t matter.

The FIU defense left the Mean Green scoreless over the final four innings before FIU freshman Briie Rojas scored a winning run in the bottom of the seventh for the walk-off win. Sophomore Jackie Tello hit a single, which resulted in an unt error that enabled Rojas to score.

“I was confident that either I was going to get it done or someone else was going to get the job done,” Tello said. “I knew that we were going to come back and fight today.”

Freshman Kayla Burri led the FIU offense with a 4-for-4 effort while Alfonso notched a team-high four RBI. In the circle, Barrett struggled again for the Golden Panthers. The freshman left-hander allowed five runs in the first three innings before FIU freshman Kayla Burri led the Golden Panthers with five earned runs in 1.2 innings. Gaussian took over and had five strikeouts along with five earned runs.

“I thought [Gniadek] came in and did awesome,” Barrett said. “It’s great to know that whenever I struggle she can go in there and do her job.”

**FIU offense and pitching come together in victory**

BASEBALL, page 10

ace Zach Osborne came into FIU pitching like one of the best pitchers in the Sun Belt conference.

Unfortunately for the Cajuns, Scott Rembisz was able to match his counterpart’s performance with a stellar outing of his own and helped the Golden Panthers secure the victory in the series opener on April 2.

“[Rembisz] is a very good competitor,” head coach Turtle Thomas said. “When he’s on his game, he’s tough to beat. He beat a very good club.”

Osborne and Rembisz matched each other in each of the first three innings as the game moved along at a quick pace.

Rembisz blanked first, giving up a run in the top of the fourth after committing an error that put Alex Fusiler on third base, setting up a sacrifice fly by Jordan Poirrier to drive him in.

FIU struck back against Osborne in the bottom half of the inning, scoring three runs thanks to a series of singles to take the lead. Both pitchers held their ground until the seventh inning, when Osborne gave up a home run to Tabari Henry. The solo shot was the seventh home run of the season for the freshman left-hander, a team-high.

The Golden Panthers chased Osborne out of the game in the eighth inning and were able to add more cushion to their lead with a four run inning powered by another string of singles and timely hitting.

“We’ve been able to focus on Osborne all week,” Tim Jobe said after going 5-for-4 with two RBI.

“We were tired up and ready to go.”

Rembisz pitched seven innings and allowed one unearned run while striking out five Ragin’ Cajun hitters with no walks.

“I just tried to go out and throw the same way I try and throw every night,” said Rembisz. “It’s always good to get the win on Friday night.”

Chris Adams/THE BEACON


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