Women’s soccer will have a target on their back as they look to build on successful season.

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The controversy surrounding the Arizona law has ignited discussion amongst FIU students as well.

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FBLA-PBL reels in awards

ZORAIDA PASTOR
Contributing Writer

FIU’s Future Business Leaders Phi Beta Lambda chapter has returned with a series of successful outcomes in this year’s National Leadership Conference, which was held in Nashville, Tennessee.

The conference is held annually in different parts of the nation; in which members compete in college wide divisions, according to FBLA President Bruno Cevallos, 19.

“FBLA is one of the largest business organizations, with 250,000 members nationwide,” states Cevallos. The purpose of the organization is to “enlarge the professional development of students. It was developed to promote the professional development of students,” Cevallos states.

“This year’s Nashville conference, which met from July 8th to July 12th, had chapter members compete in a variety of examina-

GRAND THEFT AUTO

Modesto Maidique Campus plagued by car related thefts

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
News Director

One graduate student’s negative experience with FIU Police has begun to make waves throughout the University, shedding light on a large number of car related thefts at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

In an email sent out to members of the University administration, Karylynn Beltz, a University graduate student, described her experience with a University police officer just after her car had been broken into. According to Beltz, the police officer informed her that she was the fifth person on July 19 to have her car vandalized or stolen. Already incensed by having her car broken into, the situation came to a boiling point after remarks made by the police officer attending to Beltz.

“He informed me that campus police has no intention of catching the culprits since they want to keep the campus safe so no one is going to report anything. They were forced to after people started to make waves about it on campus.”

“The behavior Ms. Beltz describes is not acceptable or typical of our officers,” said University Provost Douglas Wartzok in a statement to Student Media. “We have a dedicated team of public safety professionals who work around the clock to maintain our safety and who conscientiously report every incident.”

Beltz’s email was sent to a majority of the University’s administration, including Wartzok, as well as University President Mark Rosenberg and Public Safety Chief Bill King. Since July 20, the email has been widely circulated throughout the University.

“I’d like to apologize if my officer made the statement,” stated King referring to the officer’s “crime free” status comment, in an email sent out to the University community. “That is simply not true and it is contrary to the mission of this department.”

King then addressed the amount of auto thefts that have taken place at the Modesto Maidique Campus. According to King, since the start of 2010, the University has had a total of 92 vehicle related crimes reported. These included 19 thefts from a vehicle, 34 burglaries to a vehicle, 23 reports of vandalism to vehicles and 13 stolen vehicles.

Since June 21 there have been seven stolen vehicles reported on campus. Since then, there have also been ten burglaries or thefts which have taken place at parking garages or parking lots on campus, two of which were at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Theft crimes include items taken from outside vehicles such as “parking decals, hood emblems, hubcaps,” while burglaries include items taken from inside vehicles such as “cell phones, iPods, laptops and book-bags.”


Sarah Fantzi, a graduate student seeking a Ph.D in forensic chemistry who works with Beltz in the same office, also had her car broken into and was “absolutely disgusted” upon hearing about the alleged remarks of a University police officer. A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

FIU Police Service Technician Ricardo Carballo (left) and Brandon Montalvo (right) respond to students’ questions about car thefts on campus.

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On immigration, Obama seeks more bipartisanship

BILL, page 1

[Americans] from being diverse,” said junior engineering student Edward Anthony.

Miami-Dade County is home to over one million immigrants and both it and the FIU community would be affected by President Barack Obama’s plan for immigration reform involving the Development, Relief and Education of Aliens Minor Act and Arizona Senate Bill 1070.

“There are so many immigrants in America, that to kick them all out wouldn’t be good,” said third-year law student Alisher McKenzie, “we should give them a path to legalization and the best way to do so is through education.”

In his July 1 speech, Obama explained his views of immigration in the United States, describing what he called the country’s “creaky system of legal immigration.”

The President pleaded for bi-partisan action, calling on all members of Congress “to finally get it done” in an attempt to secure support from undecided Democrats while applying pressure on weary Republicans.

“Reform that brings accountability to our immigration system cannot pass without Republican votes. That is the political and mathematical reality,” said Obama.

Senators John McCain, Edward Kennedy, Russell D. Feingold and others reintroduced the DREAM Act into the political arena in March 2009. Obama exhibited his approval of the act when he stated that he “supported this bill as a state legislator and as a U.S. senator” and continues “to support it as president.”

The bipartisan legislation states that children of illegal immigrants who have been brought to the United States before the age of 16, have completed high school or earned a GED and have shown “good moral conduct” may have the opportunity to fix their immigration status. They must also have been residing in the U.S. for five years before the law is enacted.

“It is not a student’s fault if he or she was brought into the U.S. illegally,” said sophomore Ed Vega, “the child is a good student and has no misconduct, then he or she should be rewarded.”

While conscious of the recent spree of vehicle related thefts on campus, Jantzi says he’s not the type of person who worries much; however, many of her friends at Chemistry and Biology are “very worried.”

“A number of my fellow graduate students do not feel safe even walking into the garage in the evenings. The response of the campus police is very discouraging,” said Jantzi.

Student Media reached out to President Rosenberg for his thoughts on the vehicle related thefts and FIU police’s treatment of students; however, he was unavailable for comment.

“Every department at FIU is always looking to improve the way it interacts with our students and clearly this incident has brought to light an area where we need to focus some of our efforts,” said Watzko.

Public Safety Lieuten-ant Rick Torres met with members of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department on July 21 in an effort to help relieve their fears. According to Jantzi, Lt. Torres appeared “very apologetic” for the poor treatment by the officers and said things would be done differently.

In the email sent out by Chief King, he urged the campus community to “continue to be vigilant in the protection of their safety and their property,” and to always remember to lock car doors and conceal valu-able items when parking.

FBLA-PBL takes unique approach to fundraising

free enterprise project,” Cevallos states. This year’s community service project was “Tribute to Children Week.” The club’s goal was to raise funds for a local children’s hospital— in this case for Miami Children’s Hospital. FBLA-PBL members actively worked to raise funds for the hospital.

“We rolled a giant beach ball around Modesto Madison campus, and collected donations and canned goods,” Cevallos states.

The chapter also held a “Children’s Miracle Gala,” sponsored by Target. According to Cevallos, the event managed to raise $1,300.

According to founding member and participant, Abdel Perera, 21, FBLA-PBL also partnered with FIU’s Creative Learning Center, where the children from the day care center made get well cards for patients at the Miami Children’s Hospital.

“The chapter took home many prizes: ‘FIU beat out Berkeley and the University of Arizona,’” said Perera in the category of ‘Tribute to Children’s Week.’

The competition was sponsored by the March of Dimes, and the chapter took home $1,000 and a trophy, according to Perera.

Perera who considers himself “a public servant at heart, and is always looking for an opportunity to serve,” expresses his genuine love for the orga-nization and their work.

“To me giving back to children, is the greatest feeling in the world,” states Megan Lee FBLA-PBL alumni, who participated in ‘Tribute to Children’s Week,’ commu-nity service project.

FIU FBLA-PBL also won second Place in the nation in the division ‘Digital Video Production.’ Working in a team of three, the club created a recruitment video to motivate high school students to join FBLA-PBL.

(These victories) show the edge that FIU has over other top universities,” states Jose Betancourt, FBLA-PBL state president.

He was the recipient of the “Free Enterprise” award, winning $500.

“It wasn’t a personal success, it was a chapter success,” Betancourt stated.

The “Free Enterprise” project is also known as the “Business Olympics”: it is a full day of events ranging from skill competition, written exams, and a performance in which there is a presenta-tion on various business topics, and even impromptu public speaking according to Cevallos.

“In three years FIU has exceeded all expectations. I am looking forward to what [the chapter] will do this upcoming year, Cevallos states.
MANAGING EXPECTATIONS

Golden Panthers prepare to defend conference title

JOEL DELGADO
Assistant Sports Director

Some things have definitely changed since Thomas Chestnut stepped onto campus a little over three years ago to inherit the women’s soccer program. When he arrived and was announced as the head coach, the team was near the bottom half of the barrel in the Sun Belt Conference. In just his third season at the helm, after two years of transitional growing pains, Chestnut was able to guide the Golden Panthers into top contention for the first time in a nearly a decade.

The Golden Panthers will be returning most of the team that helped the program storm through Sun Belt Conference play in 2009, winning nine of their last ten games of the season to help FIU finish atop the SBC standings in the regular season for the first time since 2000.

But for all the talent the team will be bringing back it will lose in terms of leadership as it loses seniors Amy Jackson and captain Marina Pappas. Jackson picked up six points last season with two goals and two assists while Pappas was tied for the team-high in assists with four. After an early exit in the conference tournament after a heart-breaking 1-0 loss to UALR, however, there was a feeling that the team has something to prove heading into the new decade.

“This is a very motivated group of players and they are hungry,” Chestnut said. “They were talking about that loss in the conference tournament last year in the spring and they feel they can do more.”

For a team coming off a breakthrough season in which the team went 11-6-3, Chestnut acknowledges that there will need to be changes in how the Golden Panthers approach this upcoming season if the FIU wants to prove that their 2009 season was not a flash in the pan.

The challenge will be amplified with FIU sporting a target on their backs.

“We are not going to be sneaking up on anybody this year,” Chestnut said. “Everyone is going to be looking to take you out, so this season we’re going to need a different mentality and belief system.”

But what the team loses in the leadership department will power up for in the new, incoming freshmen that will provide something that was missing last season: depth.

“Much like last season, the Golden Panthers will be faced with a rigid non-conference schedule that includes teams from a number of different conferences that Chestnut said. “There are many different styles of play in the Sun Belt and I think the tough out of conference schedule last year helped us be successful against the conference last year.”

With UALR making a trip to Miami to open conference play for the Golden Panthers on Sept. 24, the team will have an opportunity to even the score in a rematch of the first round of last year’s conference tournament.

The Golden Panthers end their season away from home, playing four of their final five regular season matches on the road.

FALL SPORTS OUTLOOK

A look at seven athletes who will break out this fall

In a blowout home win against North Texas on Feb. 6, FIU center Elisa Carey dropped a career high 26 points. The very next day, a win at South Alabama, Carey dominated and scored another 26 points to continue her scoring streak.

It was the best basketball Carey has played in her Golden Panther career.

Carey’s mid season run was one of the highlights amongst FIU’s best breakout performers during last season’s fall sports campaign. And she had company.

Andrea Lakovic led the FIU volleyball team in solo blocks, block assists and total blocks as the team stormed into the NCAA tournament in her first full season as a starter. Despite a losing season on the gridiron, wide receiver Jason Friesen established himself as a constant target in the Golden Panthers spread offense last fall. Women’s soccer star Katrina Rose kicked the stitches off the ball for five goals on the way to a 1st team All-Conference nod after a promising first season.

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Freshman like Sebastian Frings, Jovana Bjelica, Kaitlyn Savage and Jonathan Cyprien bursted onto the playing field as big time performers in their own right too.

And that leaves us looking toward this fall, forecasting who will be the next slew of FIU athletes to emerge into leading roles. This list of names will probably be spoken of a lot when their respective season’s come around.

1️⃣ AARON DAVIS
FOOTBALL, LINEBACKER:
Davis is arguably the most impressive physical specimen in the entire university. At 6-foot-1 and a sturdy 245 lbs., Davis is powerful enough to be a elite run stuffer in the middle, but also nimble enough to get into the backfield if asked. Despite coming in as a starter until a Toronto Smith injury halfway through the season, Davis was the team’s third leading tackler with 59. Expect him to easily lead the team in that category next season.

2️⃣ RAKIA RODGERS
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL:
After a promising freshman season at Hofstra, Rodgers only got to play in ten games last season after sitting out the first half under NCAA transfer rules and sustaining a bothersome knee injury. In those ten appearances though, Rodgers was a spark off the bench, featuring impressive shooting range and a hefty handle in scoring 12 points per game.

Head coach Cindy Russo praises Rodgers when mentioned, and has a starting spot waiting for her as long as she earns it. If Rodgers can improve her shot selection...
FRESHMAN FERGUSON SHOULD IMPRESS; PRSA FILLS SHOES

The Los Angeles Angels made a move to keep up with the Texas Rangers in the AL West by trading for infielder Albert Pujols last week. The next step was to add a quality pitcher, one who could counter the Rangers' acquiring former Cy Young winner Cliff Lee. A three-time All-Star, who's one of the most durable pitchers in baseball should do the trick.

The Angels bolstered their already-solid rotation by acquiring right-hander Dan Haren from the Diamondbacks on Sunday in a deal that sent left-hander Joe Saunders and three other players to Arizona. The last-place Diamondbacks also get right-hander Rafael Rodriguez, left-hander Patrick Corbin and a player to be named in the deal.

“We really felt good about our starting five moving forward with what we had but this is a huge opportunity for us to upgrade not only now but for the next several years,” Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. “This guy still has his stuff and it gives us a deeper front end of our rotation, and that’s what every championship-caliber team is really striving to do.”

One of the most prized pitchers available as the July 31 non-waive trade deadline approaches, Haren was the type of pitcher the Angels had been after since Texas traded for Lee in July that sent rookie first baseman Justin Smoak and a package of prospects to Seattle. Los Angeles has a rotation that’s strong enough on the front end with Ervin Santana, Jared Weaver and Joel Piniero, but is missing injured left-hander Scott Kazmir.

A three-time All-Star, Haren has averaged 15 wins over the past five seasons and is 7-8 with a 4.60 ERA in 21 starts this year. “A top-of-the-rotation guy that’s going to help us not just this year but years down the road,” general manager Tony Reagins said in Texas before his team played the Rangers. “The addition of Dan gives us five guys that are really talented.”

At this point, being on the West Coast has a lot of value to me, being near my family and going to a ball club that is dedicated to winning,” Haren said after Arizona’s game against San Francisco. “I am very excited for the opportunity. I am sad to go from here, all the guys and I had a good time here but I am really excited about going there and having a chance to win.”

SPORTS REPLAY

Golden Panther minor leaguers developing well

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

BASEBALL: PRO PANTHERS HEAT UP

Similar to their days as teammates with the Golden Panthers, Ryan Mollica and Tyler Townsend are doing their part as minor league baseball players this season.

Townsend, who is currently playing for the Frederick Keys in the Baltimore Orioles organization, is hitting for a .328 average this season to go along with 31 runs batted in. The highlight of Townsend’s dominant play came on July 21, when he was a triple shot of a cycle in a three-hit game while suiting up for the Delmarva Shorebirds. That game helped Townsend, who smacked 24 home runs in 2009 for FIU, be promoted to Fred- erick. The first baseman has had a bounce back season after stumbling to a .143 average last season for the Aberdeen Ironbirds.

Mollica, who has fully recovered from April wrist surgery, has recently come on for the St. Lucie Mets of the New York Mets organization. The former FIU star is hitting .333 in 16 games and could be on the cusp of a promotion to a higher-level club soon.

Both players were drafted in the 2009 Major League Baseball June Amateur Draft, with Townsend going in the third round and Mollica being taken in the 47th.

BASEBALL: FLORES EMERGES

FIU first baseman Rudy Flores, who hit .357 as a freshman in 2010, is turning heads for the Haymarket Senators for the Valley Baseball League. Despite having to adjust to using wooden bats in the summer league, Flores managed to hit over .400 in the first half of the season for the Senators.

“It’s just getting more at-bats,” Flores told insidemoves.com. “The more at-bats I get, the more comfortable I get at the plate.”

Flores, hitting in the third spot in the lineup, made the VBL, North all-star team for his impressive first half.

FOOTBALL: MARS INJURED

FIU sophomore linebacker Larvez Mars hit .357 as a freshman in 2010, is turning heads for the Haymarket Senators for the Valley Baseball League. Despite having to adjust to using wooden bats in the summer league, Flores managed to hit over .400 in the first half of the season for the Senators. The highlight of Townsend’s dominant play came on July 21, when he was a triple shot of a cycle in a three-hit game while suiting up for the Delmarva Shorebirds. That game helped Townsend, who smacked 24 home runs in 2009 for FIU, be promoted to Frederick. The first baseman has had a bounce back season after stumbling to a .143 average last season for the Aberdeen Ironbirds.

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THE LOS ANGELES ANGELS acquired 16-year-old choirleader Larvez Mars will miss the start of training camp after breaking an ankle in a car accident last month. Mars was a U.S. Army All-American in 2008 and a highly heralded recruit, but didn’t crack much playing time as a freshman. Mars has had successful surgery, however, and is expected to play this season.

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JOIN OUR STAFF!

The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.
July 10 marked the 75th anniversary of the Miss Florida pageant, a day Miss FIU Stephanie Jimenez prepared months for. “I knew that only one girl would walk away with the crown so I was prepared to give it my best shot and make lasting memories,” Jimenez said. “The Miss Florida Organization really pushes you and brings the best out of every girl.” With the support of her friends and family, Jimenez made it through an intense week of rehearsals, appearances, and competition in St. Petersburg, Fla. Jimenez said she enjoyed the rush and overall her favorite phase of competition was the interview portion. “It gives me a chance to show the judges who I am and how ready for the job I am,” she said. Although Jimenez did not win the title of Miss Florida, she did not leave empty handed. She walked away with two preliminary awards, evening gown and the scholastic achievement award.

“Miss FIU,” page 5

Florida International University’s Wolfsonian Museum is celebrating its fifteenth birthday this year with a lengthy list of events that commemorate the museum’s accomplishments. Considering how young the museum is, the Wolfsonian’s endeavors are notable as its reputation is one of making the university very proud. In only fifteen years, the museum’s accomplishments consist of developing an international reputation; producing innovative and provocative exhibitions and programs that encourage the public to consider the historical significance and contemporary relevance of collection themes; forging collaborations and affiliations with local, national, and international museums, universities, and cultural institutions; received competitive grants from major local and national funders; establishing and maintaining a renowned fellowship program and producing several award-
Beauty and brains wins

PAGEANT, page 5

Dance for the talent portion.

Scholarship pageant and last year’s director of contestants,” Jenise Fernandez, fourth runner-up at Miss Florida and Miss FIU 2007 said.

Although she had a sprained ankle the day of the pageant and was on crutches for an entire contest.

“From the moment Stephanie Jimenez walked in the room, there was something about her that caught everyone’s eyes,” said Maribel Chaluja, the 2011 executive director of the Miss FIU Scholarship Pageant and last year’s director of contestants.

Jimenez decided to compete for Miss FIU so she could take the experience previous pageants had provided her with and continue to grow as a confident young woman.

“Miss Florida, Jimenez also knew that the crown would serve as a vehicle to promote a cause dear to her heart: advocating on behalf of people with intellectual disabilities with the People First organization as her philanthropic platform.

“She is an extremely motivated, dedicated and respectful young lady that represented the University with great pride, and still continues to do so. She has been involved with the University in numerous ways and holding the title is something she greatly deserved,” Stephanie Lozano, a senior nursing student who held the Miss FIU title in 2009, said.

“Pageants prepare you for life and every obstacle that comes your way,” Jimenez said.

“Stephanie is a hard working, levelheaded, strong willed individual who remains very humble although she has accomplished many things,” Chaluja said.

Online magazine satisfies literary demand

WOLFSONIAN, page 5

The Wolfsonian joined forces with Florida International University in 1997 and demonstrated a solid commitment to its constituents.

“The Wolfsonian, situated in a wonderful old furniture storage building in Miami Beach, is one of the finest applied arts museums there is. From the antique steel book stacks of the café and bookshop to the ornate art deco fountain in the main lobby, the building embodies a purpose for design. The collection focuses on a clearly defined era and uses design to illuminate social history,” wrote Edwin Heathcote in the Financial Times.

The Wolfsonian is celebrating its fifteenth birthday in several ways, one of which is by publishing an autobiography titled 1995-2010 and Beyond: Portrait of an Institution on its 15th Anniversary, that compiles key information from the past, present, and future in one well designed package available through the online bookstore Blurb.

The autobiography is a gift to the museum’s constituents and to the museum itself.

Wolfsonian director, Cathy Leff, hopes the book will disseminate the museum’s history.

“We hope you read it and then re-gift it to a friend to help propagate our achievement, it is our hope that through learning our story, the remarkable accomplishments of our first fifteen years, and our future goals, we will motivate others to help us achieve our long-term objectives.

Wolfsonian artist director Tim Hosler designed the 114-page, highly illustrated, full-color publication, Portrait of an Institution.

The publication is a compilation of facts about the institution, lists of accomplishments such as grants and awards received, images from the collection, and quotes about the museum’s impact.

A variety of sources including renowned art critics and local educators who have participated in Wolfsonian programs contribute to the publication explaining the Wolfsonian’s impact.

The sources include late New York Times architecture critic Herbert Muschamp, who called The Wolfsonian, “One of America’s most remarkable museums.”

As well as Steven Heller, art director and author of more than one hundred books primarily on graphic design, who wrote in Print magazine, “The Wolfsonian has emerged as a well-spring of design artifacts. The vast range of its permanent collection—from matchbooks to Machine Age murals, from political posters to architectural elements—represents the highest standard of popular art.”

A section of the book is devoted to goals for the future, providing readers with a fascinating glimpse at ways in which The Wolfsonian plans to build on the strong foundation of the first fifteen years and how it will continue to grow.

The Wolfsonian will be celebrating its fifteenth birthday through various events during the second half of 2010.

The birthday celebration events will include: the annual fundraiser A Very Wolfsonian Weekend, which takes place November 11-13, and the Wolfsonian Quichecafe that Friday evening, hosted by The Wolfsonian Visionaries at the Eden Roc Hotel.

Museum to commemorate birthday with book launch

FAMILY MATTERS

DADDY ISSUES: Matthew Mur and Daniel Nieves play a troubled father and son in the last production of the Alternative Theatre Festival, Prodigal: The Execution of William Spencer.
**Sarah Palin: it’s not that funny**

Former governor Sarah Palin managed to embarrass herself, again, this time via twitter.

What she posted was not only an abomination to the English language, but a total showcase of xenophobia and intolerance.

“Ground Zero Mosque supporters: doesn’t it stink you in the heart, as it does thousands throughout the heartland? Peaceful Muslims, pls peacefu.”

Her abysmal command of the English language, and her usage of the non-existent word “refudiate” revealed, once again, the racism that underlies all of Islam and terrorism.

In the laughter at the vulgarity of her idiocy, Palin’s ignorant sentiments complete with sanctimonious xenophobia and blatant intolerance, were drowned out.

In a piece titled, “Palin Speaks Fibberish To Express Xenophobia” 11th century writer Anna North articulates the collective response to Palin’s blunder and the danger in letting the comedic value overshadow the despicable stance Palin is taking on this particular issue. Fully agreeing with North’s assertions prompted the writing of this piece.

Palin’s tweets are referring to her disagreement with the building of the Cordoba House, a Muslim community center and place of worship near the World Trade Center.

It’s a mission statement as written on The Cordoba Initiative’s website reads: “Cordoba House will provide a place where individuals, regardless of their backgrounds, will find a center of learning, art and culture, and most importantly, a center guided by Islamic values in their truest form - compassion, generosity, and respect for all. This organization is seeking to extinguish the very fires of misunderstanding and hatred that Palin is fueling. It is tragic that Palin is so impervious to how damaging and untruthful it is to perpetuate the myth that Islam and terrorism are synonymous.

In her disgust, which on her Face- book page, Palin refers to as “just common decency,” Palin has contributed to the myth that Islam instead of radicalism is responsible for the despicable September 11th attacks.

She hasn’t had about as much to do with the 2001 terrorist attacks, as Christianity had to do with the murder of abortion doctor George Tiller in 2009.

An opportunity that seeks to destroy stereotypes and forge true cultural understanding is being presented. Palin and citizens who oppose this community center are consciously choosing to continue the volatile West vs. Islam mentality.

Let us not be so blinded by a profound nationalism that it makes us reject this opportunity thus furthering the reality of an evolution towards a more diplomatic, respectful relationship between Islam and the West.

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**The Beacon**

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**Public Reason**

A stance to garnering opinions and presenting diverse viewpoints.

**Quote of the Week**

"It is true that there’s a big difference between the Tea Party and the [National Black Panther Party]. The former has quickly become a potent political force in America, while the latter is few in number and brain cells." - Bill O’Reilly

**Editorial Policy**

Editorials are the opinion of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, managing editor, and the editors of each of the four sections.

The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding an issue or story in the paper and will print them in the opinion section.

**Send Us Your Letters**

Get a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU?

Send your thoughts to opinion@fiu.edu.

**About Us**

The Beacon is the official student newspaper of Florida International University.

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www.fi usm.com

Wednesday, July 28, 2010
Council lays out goals for year, meet administrators

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
BBC Managing Editor

Mentorship and "The Panther Den" are two goals the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus announced during a kick-off event held to introduce themselves and their goals for the 2010-2011 school year to the campus and the University community.

University administrators listened as Christin 'Cici' Battle, SGC-BBC president, reviewed her 2010 elections campaign for their benefit. "Customer service" and "council visibility" are examples.

Those are but two of the goals Battle and her vice president, Denise Halpin, presented to the moderately-sized crowd. Among those in attendance were Rosa Jones, vice president of Student Affairs; Cathy Akens, assistant vice president of Student Affairs; Gregory Olson, senior director of the Wolfe University Center and Oscar Loyañas, interim director of University Health Services.

"Vote 2010" is a goal meant to get University students registered to vote. The council wants 75 percent of students registered in time for this year's midterm elections, and 75 percent of those students to actually vote.

The council visibility goal is about getting students to know the individual council members. Battle said during this part of the presentation that SGC-BBBC will implement a "guerrilla marketing" campaign that, if successful, will get every student to know the council.

The mentorship goal is aimed at getting students of the nearby high and middle schools, Alonso & Tracy Mourning Senior High and David Lawrence Jr K-8 Center respectively, involved in campaigns and with campus events. "These are students that could eventually come to FIU, so let's start getting them involved now," Battle said.

SGC-BBC has a plan that will increase the quality of customer service on campus if things go their way. Details of the plan include sending a random SGC-BBC member to places students frequent, such as the offices of Financial Aid and Multicultural Programs and Services, and rating his or her own experience.

Also under the umbrella goal of customer service is an online newsletter SGC-BBC is planning called "BBC Today" and a campaign called "You Have Questions? We Have Answers!" The latter is to "empower students of their rights and to increase engagement," said Battle during the presentation.

"The Panther Den" is a larger goal for the council aimed at renovating and re-branding the BBC cafeteria. Among the shared goals of SGC-BBC and its Modesto Maidique Campus counterparts are greater cohesion, increased presence at their respective campus, improving University transportation, and improving public safety.

Battle said for the last two goals she and Helena Ramirez, SGC-MMC president have had meetings with Bill Foster, executive director of Parking & Transportation. Battle ended the presentation by giving two long-term goals for SGC-BBC, an amphitheater and increasing the dorms available on campus, and asking the staff and faculty to keep the council accountable for the goals they've set.

Theme for Homecoming, week of events revealed

SANDY ZAPATA
Contributing Writer

More than four weeks remain until the fall semester, but it’s never too early to think about homecoming.

"100 Days Until Homecoming," sponsored jointly by the Student Programming Councils at Biscayne Bay Campus and Modesto Maidique Campus, was held on July 21 to introduce this year’s theme, "See the World in Blue and Gold," revealed to both campuses and at the same time in order to show a unified University. The theme itself has a TV set displaying blue and gold colors, nothing more. The school colors take up the whole screen to symbolize "everything FIU!"

Even though freshman criminal justice major Aaron Roberts is a South Florida native, he decided to live on campus at Bay Vista Housing to take full advantage of the college life. "The celebration was real fun, and all of the events coming up look real promising," Roberts said while hanging out with his fellow classmates after the event.

Upcoming events include tabling, students game nights in Bay Vista Housing, giveaways and Sammer Splash on July 29 in the Hospitality Management field and pool area from 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., both campuses have split the calendar of days filled with different events to get students hyped up for Homecoming.

"As [University President] Mark B. Rosenberg asked for bigger and better events for the school year, we are taking the initiative to do just that," said Tannah Dil, a public relations major and president of SPC-BBC.

The Homecoming committee at MMC thought up the theme and, although SPC at BBC did not have much involvement in the theme itself, they were there every step of the way to bring it all together, according to Dil. SPC-BBC didn’t have any say in the theme for Homecoming but did after the fact. The events coming up for both campuses and the scheduling was worked out between both SPCs. The theme was the responsibility of the Homecoming committee.

Students and staff of BBC gathered around Panther Square and the atmosphere began to fill with enthusiasm and excitement.

The festivity that took place on July 21 on campus was the kickoff event meant to get students excited for homecoming week. There were free giveaways, free food, information about SPC and this upcoming year’s theme and activities were revealed.

With blue and gold balloons, cupcakes, table clothes, boards from different student organizations and a video with music of past homecoming week events on replay, the vibe at BBC that day was definitely "thumbs up, and the ambiance was amazing," according to Semaya Lane a freshman marine biology major.

"One school that works together, that is our new initiative," said Dil about how the Homecoming theme will be implemented to reflect the University and Rosenberg’s plans more traditional University with homecoming being one of the biggest events to take place during the school year.

Both SPCs will be hosting small events and teasers throughout the 100 days left until homecoming week, which is November 1-6.

"With the assistance of Panther Power and the Council of Student Organizations on campus, homecoming week should be a great success," said Wolfgang Acedvedo, a graduate assistant at SPC-BBC and higher education administration major, after the kickoff celebration was over.

"We have been really successful with both campuses working together and hopefully can continue with this success to the point that we can have a greater community of FIU alumni and students together pumped up for homecoming and FIU Pride," Acedvedo said.