Candidates turn focus to stimulating Florida economy

AP WIRE SERVICE

Two of Florida’s U.S. Senate hopefuls, Charlie Crist and Congressman Kendrick Meek, on Sunday touted their plans to stimulate the lagging economy.

In an interview taped for CNN’s “State of the Union,” Crist said extending the $8,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers would help boost home sales in Florida.

Crist left the Republican Party this year to run as an independent.

“I think any time you can reduce taxation in order to spur the economy forward, that’s a good thing to do and that would be great to do,” he said.

Speaking live on the program Sunday, South Florida Congressman Kendrick Meek said he would push for green initiatives and green jobs to stimulate economic growth in Florida.

He also favored continuing tax cuts for small businesses and the middle class, partly paid for by rolling back Bush-era tax breaks for the wealthy.

Another way to pay for those tax cuts would be moving toward more diplomatic solutions in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, said Meek, the Democratic nominee in the contest.

He and Crist will face Republican Marco Rubio in November.

“Heck of a day, Aug. 28

NIGERIA

Politically inspired violence increases

Violence targeting politicians and their aides appears to be increasing in northern Nigeria as next year’s elections draw closer in Africa’s most populous nation.

SLOVAKIA

Armed rampage kills 7

A gunman went on a rampage in Slovakia’s capital on Monday, killing seven people and wounding 15, then committed suicide, officials said.

CUBA

Castro discusses health

Fidel Castro has given new details of just how sick he was when he was forced to give up power four years ago, saying that he thought at times he could not go on.

Welcome Aboard

Gonzalez-Arias joins FIU College of Medicine

Surgery has always been an interest of Dr. Sergio Gonzalez-Arias, the new medical director of neuroscience at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and chief of the division of neurosurgery at Baptist Hospital of Miami.

A Cuban native, Gonzalez-Arias was born in Buena Vista, Marianao and left the country with his parents at the age of 11, spending the rest of his childhood in Washington Heights, a neighborhood in Manhattan. Prior to graduating, Gonzalez-Arias played the drums and saxophone in his high school band, worked as a waiter and joined an independent band named The Barons.

Following high school, Gonzalez-Arias went on to study medicine in Zaragoza, Spain for seven years; one in general surgery and the rest in neurosurgery.

“The professor [at Zaragoza] that impressed on me the most was the neurosurgeon,” Gonzalez-Arias told Student Media.

“He returned to the United States in 1997 and began private practice in 1985. Gonzalez-Arias recalled one of the best moments of his life — the first time that a patient thanked him.

“It was a 16-year-old boy who was in an accident and had a life-threatening blood clot. Very often we, as doctors, forget that a routine day for us might be the worst day of our patient’s life,” said Gonzalez-Arias.

“As a leader in his field who has blazed a trail in the multidisciplinary approach to medicine, Dr. Gonzalez-Arias is a wonderful addition to our faculty,” said Dr. John Rock, founding dean of the College of Medicine at FIU.

The neurosurgeon began working with FIU in July, showing medical students the specialty and encouraging critical research.

Gonzalez-Arias described the FIU’s College of Medicine as “the most exciting structure put together” and that he was “dramatically impressed” by the students’ enthusiasm toward neuroscience.

“Through undergraduates and residents, he is caring for patients in the practice.”

“I’ve never been sued in 25 years,” said Gonzalez-Arias.

Aside from neurosurgery, Gonzalez-Arias enjoys travelling to Napa Valley, California several times a year to work with a winemaker producing wine. He also MEDICINE makes an appearance at the fifth annual Heat Stroke Pool Party on Saturday, Aug. 28

Tech fee adds near six million to budget

A year of the technology fee being implemented has yielded approximately six million dollars in funds to improve Florida’s University’s technological systems.

The fee is a $4.42 per credit hour technology fee that the University was authorized to implement in 2007, but did not do so until last year. The funds gained by the fee have been put to use by the University’s Technological Services in a number of ways in accordance with state law, which says the fee must be used to benefit students and faculty.

“Approximately $6 million was used to benefit students and faculty”

Tech, page 2

WELCOME ABOARD

Gonzalez-Arias joins FIU College of Medicine

Very often we, as doctors, forget that a routine day for us might be the worst day of our patient’s life.

Sergio, Gonzalez-Arias, Medical Director of Neuroscience
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

ELECTIONS, page 2

Candidates turn focus to stimulating Florida economy

“Getting our combat troops out of Iraq is going to save this country money,” Meek said. “I support making sure that they are secured and that they are safe and that we have force protection, but at the same time, we have to look at the affordability of what we are doing.”

The last U.S. combat brigade was pulled out of Iraq this month.

Nearly 50,000 soldiers remain in the country even though they won’t be carrying out combat missions.

Later Sunday morning on CBS’ “Face the Nation,” Meek said he was confident President Barack Obama would return to Florida to campaign for him, as he did before the Democratic primary.

Meek defeated billionaire Jeff Greene for the party’s nomination.

Meek downplayed concerns that Crist will siphon away Democratic votes in a crucial election that will decide which party controls the Senate.

He also said Crist and Rubio would be fighting for the tea party vote, with positions “far right” of his own.

“I’m the only candidate in this race that has won by a popular vote in a contested primary,” he said.

“I look forward to capitalizing on that because there’s vast differences between myself and the other two candidates.”

UNIVERSITY, page 2
Police seize cocaine embedded in bologna

A man in Holyoke, Massachusetts has been arrested after a kilogram of cocaine was discovered inside a hollowed-out chunk of bologna delivered to his home, according to MSNBC.com. Postal inspectors in Puerto Rico tipped off Holyoke police after a man in Holyoke, Massachusetts has been arrested after a kilogram of cocaine trafficking charge. Police say the woman present at the home signed for the package, police executed a search warrant to a Holyoke address on Thursday. After a meat was repackaged, an undercover postal inspector delivered it to a Holyoke address on Thursday. After a woman present at the home tipped off the package, police executed a search warrant and arrested the 30-year-old suspect on a cocaine trafficking charge. Police say the woman present at the home signed for the package, police executed a search warrant.

John Lennon's toilet sells for $14,740

A toilet that belonged to late Beatle John Lennon was sold for $14,740 at an auction on Saturday, according to reports. The pre-auction estimate was between $1000 and $1600. Builder John Hancock stored it in his shed for 40 years until he died recently and the estimate was between $1000 and $1600. Builder John Hancock stored it in his shed for 40 years until he died recently and the estimate was between $1000 and $1600.

The LMS is a new technology that facilitates peoples’ ability to exactly connect. The LMS is a new technology that facilitates peoples’ ability to exactly connect. The LMS is a new technology that facilitates peoples’ ability to exactly connect.

Gonzalez-Arias to teach in spring

DOCTOR, page 1

parts of the world. Gonzalez-Arias said his favorite city is Miami, describing it as “the crossroads of the world” and “representing what the US has become.” He is a resident of Coral Gables and told Student Media that he loves the beaches at Key Biscayne. “A Cuban can never get away from the beach,” he joked.

TECH, page 1

collected during the first academic year,” said Dr. Min Yao, vice president of Information Technology and chief information officer for the University. During this same year, a total of 73 proposals worth over $11 million were submitted and evaluated by the Technology Advisory Council. Ultimately, 48 proposals were approved, ranging from small one time projects to major recurring initiatives,” said Yao.

ELECTIONS, page 1

Election officials are in this race.” On CNN, Crist evaded the question of whether, as an independent, he would caucus with the Democrats or with the Republicans in the Senate. “I think the important thing to do is, if I have the honor of winning, (is) ask tough questions,” he said. Crist also dodged questions about whether he still supported former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, who criticized Crist at a Jacksonville fundraiser last week for leaving the Republican party. “I believe that I will win. And what really matters is not somebody from Alaska, but my fellow Floridians, and that’s what I’m focused on,” he said. Rubio gave the Republican Party’s weekly address.

 Rubio focused on government spending
Serini makes most of lone scholarship offer for Golden Panthers offensive line

FOOTBALL: BRAD SERINI

ANCHORING THE LINE

IGOR MELLO
Staff Writer

The player on the team with the most experience might not have even been playing football if it wasn’t for Mario Cristobal and his recruiting staff. Now, he is widely considered one of the top 30 centers in the nation.

Brad Serini didn’t expect to get a football scholarship, let alone a Football Bowl Subdivision scholarship.

After attending Highland High School, he signed up at Milford academy, a prep school in New York.

“I went there for a day. I had a combine and coach Cristobal like me and offered me a scholarship,” said Serini. “For me it was a big deal. Not many kids get recruited for D-I football or D-I anything [coming from] where I’m from.’’

Since coming to FIU in 2007, Serini has started in all 36 games as a Golden Panther. Now as a senior, Serini has used his experience to become a smarter player on the field.

“I can honestly say that I know what people are doing before they do it most of the time on defense,’’ Serini said.

Cristobal wants all of his players to gain as much from Serini as they can before he graduates.

“The stuff that they try to teach off of film, he’s actually seen it live. He’s competed against it live. That type of experience is invaluable,’’ Cristobal said.

Despite being part of the dreaded 1-11 season his freshman year in 2007, Serini believes that last season was the most frustrating campaign of his career.

“Last year was probably my most frustrating year,’’ Serini said. “We battled through injuries and... stupid things with the ‘[Offensive line]. The chemistry wasn’t there. We tried our hardest obviously, but sometimes things just doesn’t work out for you.’’

Since last season, Serini is a new man. Looking for a fresh start, he has gone on a rigorous workout and diet regimen, shedding 30 pounds, dropping his weight down to 283 pounds. Serini’s plan consisted of mostly running and dieting.

It took Serini a long time to reach his goal because he wanted to lose weight “the right way” without shedding critical muscle and strength. According to Cristobal, Serini is in the best shape that he has ever been at FIU.

“He’s lean. He’s much stronger. He looks much more athletic and his football IQ has gone through the roof,’’ Cristobal said.

Although it took a while for Serini to get in shape, he didn’t lose 30 pounds without flirting with the idea of giving up during his workouts in the off-season.

Nonetheless, Serini will once again be anchoring the offensive line in 2010.

“If you’re just out there doing stuff, people are doing before you do it most of the time on defense,’’ Serini said.

“Of course. There was always a point like that, but you can’t. It’s not in my nature to do that. You got too many people following you or looking out for you,’’ he said.

“One of those people looking out for Serini is his father, Mike Serini.

“I got a lot of experience from my father, more on how to be a dirty football player from him than anything,’’ he said. “He grew up back in the ’70s so he was one of those rough type of football players.’’

His father was an All-American high school football player. He played two years for the University of Kentucky before blowing out both of his knees.

Serini is his father, Mike Serini.

FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

Defensive unit paces scrimmage as Lee impresses

IGOR MELLO
Staff Writer

The FIU football team held their third scrimmage of the fall on Aug. 27 and like the previous scrambles, the defense stole the show once again.

This time, the pressure came from the front seven.

“We’re definitely playing the run better.

“We’re allowing our linebackers to get downhill,’’ said head coach Mario Cristobal after the scrimmage. “We’re forcing our linemen to get off of double team... we’re doing a lot of things up front that’s aggressive in nature.’’

Cristobal has stressed that the defensive line is one of the keys for this team to play better than last season.

The team finished last in the Sun Belt Conference in total defense in 2009, largely due to a leaky run defense that allowed opponents to gain 5.4 yards per carry.

The team hopes a lot of that can be remedied by the presence of defensive coordinator Geoff Collins and a hybrid new scheme, in addition to improvements from young players like Tourek Williams and Jonathan Jackson along with an impact from freshman such as Jerrico Lee and Jordan White.

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Serini is his father, Mike Serini.

Green Panthers center Brad Serini directs the offensive line during a recent scrimmage.

The senior has started 36 consecutive games for FIU.

QUARTERBACK TO CENTER EXCHANGE

Center Brad Serini was shelved with an undisclosed injury and did not participate in the scrimmage.

According to Cristobal, Serini’s injury is not significant at all. Cristobal felt like giving Serini a rest in order to see more from the backup centers.

“We’re resting him, because he tweaked himself about four or five days ago. We need to develop our centers. Those guys are invaluable,’’ Cristobal said. “If you can’t snap the ball at all, you’re going to have problems.’’

And that’s exactly what happened.

On the fourth series, Wesley Carroll mishandled consecutive snaps from Giancarlo Revilla, which led to the defensive pinnning the offense down to their own one yard line. Cristobal put the fault on Carroll for mishandling the snaps.

“I like the fact that our snaps were good for the most part [but] our quarterbacks have to do a better job handling them when they are on the money like that,’’ he said.

The Golden Panthers defense is looking to rebound from an abhorrent campaign in 2009 under new defensive coordinator Geoff Collins. The defensive line will be key.
VOLLEYBALL: FLORIDA STATE INVITATIONAL

Team drops two of three at invitational; Lakovic excels

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

LINEMAN follows footsteps of NFL veteran grandfather

ANDRES LEON
Staff Writer

SERINI, page 3

Cheeseborough emerges

DEFENSE, page 3

MEN’S SOCCER: BARRY 3, FIU 0

Team falls in exhibition to Division II opponent

Cristobal feels ready to name him part of the first team during the game, start with the first team during the game, while the second team saw playing time during the bench. This goal came off the keepers finger with 22 kills in the victory.

Lakovic, who finished the weekend with 22 kills and a team-best four blocks, earned a spot on the Florida State Invitational All-Team for her all-around performance.

The Golden Panthers were not so fortunate, as the Golden Panthers had a lead late in the second set, only playing one man up on the ball to close up their back. Switching to this formation opened up weak spots in FIU’s midfield, however.

Their formation into a 4-3-2-1, only playing one man up on the ball to close up their back. Switching to this formation opened up weak spots in FIU’s midfield, however.

The Golden Panthers look to get their starters back and make a statement as they travel up to Chicago for their next two matches on Sept. 3 at the University of Illinois at Chicago and on Sept. 5 against DePaul.
The soft ring of a trumpet, wrangling with the open wounds of Cuba, lingers in the background. The stage is dim and tainted in tones of oppressive reds. This is the opening for one of the early plays of Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Nilo Cruz.

The play, A Bicycle Country, is set in the early '90s in the midst of the underlying angst atop the decrepit economic state of Cuba. The story revolves around three Cubans craving for freedom. They ironically find imprisonment in the only way to freedom: on a raft surrounded by water. The play takes you through the harsh physical conditions of survival driven by the psychological distortion of a breaking fine line between truth and the reality set before them.

The characters allude to their past in illusions and lose themselves in deep thought as their monologues weigh in heavy stages of anxiety of Cuban life and refuge. Cruz’s rendition of the Cuban language is beautiful and reminds us all of a rich culture. The music in the background helps set in the authenticity to this.

Julio is reduced to a wheelchair after a stroke. Ines is the nurse hired to care for him. And Pepe is Julio’s friend. After months of struggling with the realities of Cuba and the failing economy, all three are in a state of desperation.

It is the lead female character Ines who breaks her silence and yearns for a better life in a drunken state. She falls in love with Julio and drives him to grant her a raft—an escape. All three decide to embark on a journey to the land of endless opportunities.

Playing Julio is Michael Fernandez. His performance was phenomenal. The veins on his forehead pumping as he struggled with the wheelchair gave the audience chills and captivated the aggressive machismo embedded in his character. His intensity reverberated through the air as the audience breathed in his performance as a man in need of freedom from the two wheels that weigh him down. John Guzman’s performance as Pepe was uplifting and charismatic. He illuminated the stage with a kind of kindred spirit that still floats around Miami. The chemistry between Julio and Pepe was palpable and really delightful.

However, the plot is driven by Ines, played by Victoria Collado, whose performance did not resonate amongst her exceptional castmates. Rather, her accent was heavy with Miami-like dialect. The very raw and poetic words written for the role were stale and whatever profound substance of what Cuban women have burning inside felt superficial.

Despite that, her performance did not overshadow the roles of the other actors.
Male leads shine in 'Country'

**BICYCLE, page 6**

male leads. My praise goes to Collado for approaching an uncomfortable love scene with ease and making it really lovely to witness.

Besides the distracting transitions between scenes, the set was simple and modern; the air was damp and smoky; the progression of the plot was cohesive.

The singular moments of vulnerability from the monologues by Pepe and Julio reopened a gash left somewhat unhealed that may resonate with Cuban refugees.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**A good pick for picky eaters**

I’m back and my appetite is bigger than ever. During my hiatus, I have had a chance to eat at many more places, try my hand at preparing my own recipes, and search the web for more savory sites, all of which I’m more than ready to share with you. Speaking of which, surfing the web for the next great meal is a hobby of mine. So, I’ve decided to come back to “Food for Thought” after a much-too-long hiatus with a new website that is perfectly filled with the most finicky foodie. Yummly.com is a recipe search engine that seeks out delicious dishes and recipes from your favorite foods and excluding the ones you can’t even bear to glance at. After creating a free account, Yummly will first ask you to list your preference of the five main flavors of salty, sweet, sour, salty and bitter along with a list of your favorite and most-hated foods, flavors, and cuisines. Love Asian food? Obsessed with apples? Think chili peppers are the devil? Let them know. They will also ask for your cooking skill level, preferences for dietary and allergic needs and your budget. Once they have that information, every recipe they recommend will be tailor-made to your preferences, including the ingredients you love and eliminating the foods you love to hate. If the smell of lemons makes you sing, best believe that several of the recipes listed will include your citrus-y comrade. However, if onions make you cringe, not one recipe will list even a trace of them among its ingredients.

Yummly is also a great networking tool. The site gives its members the option to become “Taste buds” with others that share a love of fresh fish or a loathing for garlic. Better members may also submit recipes of their own for Yummly members to enjoy. I hope: your recipe for French toast could be the answer to a breakfast fiend’s prayers.

However, what if you simply need a quick recipe for a friend who’s coming to town that loves asparagus, hates carrots, and is a vegetarian with a gluten allergy? Yummly has a tool for that called the “Index.” Where you can quickly type in your needs and a host of recipes will become available to you. With over 400,000 recipes and counting in their databases, you would be hard-pressed to have an unsuccessful search. So, don’t worry if you end up stuck to the strict diet—there’s still hope. Yummly is here to help.

It’s a fantastic resource for casual cooks and serious chefs alike looking to stream-line their search for the next great meal.

**Presented by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, this prestigious award show kicks off the fall television season by paying homage and honor to the teams behind evening programming.**

Fox’s breakout series “Glee” led the pack with 19 nominations and AMC’s “Mad Men” followed closely in second place with 17.

The glister and glamour of both old and new Hollywood graced the screen, celebrating a night of the creative process. And, of course, there was plenty forced laughter; this is, after all, an award show.

The evening opened up with a parody of “Glee,” featuring both part of the cast and numerous other familiar faces, including Tina Fey, Jon Hamm and Joel McHale, to numerous other familiar faces, including Tina Fey, Jon Hamm and Joel McHale, to

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Bringing a new meaning to the phrase “a wolf in sheep’s clothing.” The Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Florida seems to thrive off of its controversial slogans and slander. Hiding under the title of “church”, this center does not display the values of love and kindness normally teach its members like unconditional love, kind- ness and obedience.

Their most recent act of controversy was an announcement that on September 11, in honor of 9/11 victims, they will be burning copies of the Qur’an at their center and encourage others to do the same. The Qur’an is the holy book in Islamic religion; it is equivalent to the Bible in Christianity. Rev. Terry Jones, the head of the Dove Outreach Center has praised to his congregation that the Islamic religion is “is of the Devil”, and by burning the Qur’an they are ridding themselves of the devil.

Though many religions believe may not be the same, this does not give anyone the right to burn the others holy literature. The Nazi’s burned non-German and Jewish literature to express their superiority over other religions and suppress all other non-Germans. That is exactly what this center is trying to do, but instead to those who follow Islam.

By burning the Qur’an, Dove World Outreach Center is trying to spark fear into those who follow the Islamic faith and convert them to Christianity. When asked about this event Rev. Jones replied, “The goal of these and other protests are to get Muslims an opportunity to convert”. This is hypocritical for a so-called Christian “church”, because the Bible teaches that we are to love our neighbors like we love ourselves (Matthew 22:39).

Another incident that the center was involved in is the posting of the sign, “Islam is of the Devil” on their front lawn in July of 2009. They also produced t-shirts printed with the same slogan, which are still printed with the same slogan, which are still.

As voters in Arizona have expressed, we are losing our country with every child born here in the U.S. by an illegal immigrant. Given enough time, they will take over government! Government is far too large and dangerous now; I can’t begin to imagine what it’ll be like when people of different creeds and ethnicities fill the halls.

Now I know this may come across as racist. It is not racist to be xenophobic. In fact, it is my duty as an American, as a patriot, to defend this country from invaders. Illegals bring with them drugs and crime. Illegals prevent hard-working Americans from gaining employment and feeding their kids. It is definitely not the fault of the companies who knowingly hiring illegals. It is the fault of aliens. Words are not enough though. Actions must be taken. I propose that in addition to tearing down the Statue of Liberty, we invest in defensive countermeasures. Fellow patriarch Paul had it right when he suggested larger walls along the border and electrified fencing. We can’t have Canadians coming into this country willy-nilly.

To those who say taller walls and elec- trified fencing won’t solve our immigra- tion problem: you are right. That is why we propose order helicopters to patrol the borders, 24/7, which is another great idea by Rand Paul. To those who think these measures are extreme, I say you aren’t afraid enough. We are afraid, at least real Americans are. If you aren’t afraid then something is wrong with you. There is no limit to how much we should fear. And we need to take that fear into our daily lives, and if nothing else take it to the polls.

There is no middle ground. This, my fellow patriots, is the new Alamo. President Barack Obama and other socialists want to offer illegals citizenship if they agree to pay back taxes and spend hours doing community service. Did George Washington back down to the Brits? No! Did Truman succumb to the Japanese? No, he introduced them to Little Boys.

Make no mistake, this fear we cling to puts us at war. Marg Baker understands this and has said that we can “ship [illegal immigrants] to the middle of the country and put up high walls and leave them there”. Bravo Marg Baker, bravo Mitch McConnel and bravo Rand Paul. You are all patriots and I salute you.

Pearls of Wisdom by J. Jingo is a satirical series.


degree seeker needs a reality check

As we begin yet another school year in the midst of a recession, many students, particularly incoming freshmen, may remind themselves why they are at FIU in the first place: to avoid the fate of millions of jobless Ameri- cans, many of them blue-collar workers, facing elimination of their degree. Indeed, the prevailing trend in our society has long been to obtain a stable, knowledgeable-based career as provided by a degree awarding university. A survey of 17-year-olds in 2003 found that 86% aspired to join a four-year university, doubling the percentage level from 20 years ago. But getting a degree really all that it is cracked up to be? At first glance, there are many positives to back it up. Most people who were laid off during this recession were those lacking degrees, as has been made manifest in every past recession.

Wages for graduates also tend to be higher, and have grown much faster your pay of laborers without degrees. With the decline of blue-collar industries like manufacturing, most of the decent employ- ment opportunities that remain require some degree of education.

On the other hand, degree- awarding universities are not the surefire path to success and stability that they’re often touted to be. Inevitably, many students don’t finish school, and more than half take longer than the standard 4 years to get their degree, and many more are also over- saturated or have limited appli- cations, leaving fresh graduates without use for their hard- earned and expensive degree.

Do so, the benefits of obtaining a degree outweigh costs and risks? Ultimately, that assessment falls on the individual student. Degrees may not be the guar- antee to wealth and stability that we, our parents and society as a whole have touted, but they’re certainly not all over- priced scams or useless pieces of paper that growing body of critics would believe.

The fact is that we students usually don’t make as much an effort to be informed as we should. We remain entrenched with the school mentality of getting the good grades and getting out. We go into school set on a dream occupation, and obtaining it quickly, without looking into the viability of the career, what it really entails and the risks involved.

Every degree has its appli- cations, assuming one is wide- open, aware of the possible limita- tions and risks. A degree is only as useless as what you actually had in mind for it.

If you’re going into under- water basket weaving with the intention of making a lot of money, don’t count on it. But if it’s what you want to do, then who’s to say it’s a failure? It’s simply a matter of knowing what you’re getting into.

That leads to another impor- tant point. Critics presume that degree-seeking, as an expen- sive and often longer-running pursuit, is by that very nature alone a poor choice.

Indeed, many students take longer than they had planned to get their degree, and may even rack up years of debt after- ward, only to be stuck with a job they didn’t want (or wasn’t even there to begin with).

But what outsider critics don’t consider is how many students found all these trou- bles to be well worth it?

Sometimes it costs extra time and money, but you get what you want to do. And we’re quick to forget that school isn’t just about getting a piece of paper by a certain deadline, it’s about discovery and exploration, and like any experience it should be left to the individual’s discretion.

Ultimately, seeking a degree is like any other grand adven- ture, such as starting a business. It’s going to be hard. A lot of winners and losers, its exploiters and beneficiaries and its pros and cons.

We students simply need to keep on top of what we plan to do and, most importantly, for that.
HTM students get Carnival Student Center

LEONARDO OBREGON
Contributing Writer

A donation by Carnival Cruise Lines will help give the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management facilities worthy of its national recognition. The renovation, totaling $1.6 million, was made possible by a $900,000 gift from Carnival Cruise Lines and $700,000 in matching state fund.

Joan Remington, interim dean of HTM, shared her anticipation for the building renovation in an interview with Student Media.

“T raveling dinner party: two courses in two cities, desert on campus

Along with new facilities is new technology. Widescreen televisions in the lounge area will feature “digital signage” which breaks up the TV signal into different segments allowing students to watch different channels like CNN, ESPN and the Food Network.

But what is brand new to University campuses is Microsoft’s Surface technology. The multi-touch, multi-user table is, “basically like a four-by-three-foot wide iPhone” said Dale Gomez, coordinator of Computer Systems Control and webmaster of HTM.

According to Microsoft’s website, the technology is already being used by private companies in finance, health and hospitality sectors and in some universities.

The giant touch screen will allow multiple students to browse the Internet, look up job openings, research companies’ information and even find them through Google maps.

Student advising will also be enhanced, as the near full catalog of graduate hospitality classes are already video recorded, snippets of these and other courses with additional information will be available at students’ finger tips. Remington suggested it would help facilitate better student satisfaction and advising outcomes without necessarily increasing the number of advisors.

Gomez explained some ways Microsoft Surface is already in use in the hospitality industry offering

orders and pay the bill right into the table they’re being served on.

In addition to these renovations, the school plans to update its fine dining room in the next year. By expanding two floors of the HTM building out to the bay water enhancing and beautifying the facility.

Gomez shared Remington’s excitement about the new technology coming to the Carnival Student Center and it’s potential.

“It’s great,” Gomez said. “It will put our hospitality students one step ahead of the rest.”

Traveling dinner party: two courses in two cities, desert on campus

The Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship is sending out an invitation to all University students to attend their annual Welcoming Traveling Dinner Party.

This moving event is taking place for the second time on Sep. 3, in three different locations. “A traveling dinner is when you go to different homes for different parts of a dinner. One house is the centerizer, one for main course and one for dessert,” said Didier Georges, vice president of IVCF and senior business management major.

The dinner party will start at 7 p.m. at a former members home in North Miami Beach, followed by the main course at another former members in Aventura, then making its way on campus where desserts will be served.

“The event will go on till the party stops,” said Beatrix Jourdain, president of IVCF and senior biology major. Jourdain highly encourages anyone who is interested in becoming a part of an organization such as this.

Georges tells almost every student he meets that IVCF is all about forwarding God’s kingdom on campus by his power and for his glory. And every student wants to be a part of something, and whether they are Christian or not, IVCF provides a community where they can be themselves and feel wanted and a part of something.

In Jourdain’s point of view “IVCF is about showing the love of Christ, not judgment. It is about a relationship with Christ, not religion. We are a fun loving community with support, honesty and most importantly Jesus.”

IVCF’s Facebook page reads: “If you are a Christian college student, you may be searching for a witnessing community on your campus where your faith can deepen and bear fruit among like-minded friends. Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship exists on hundreds of campuses to transform students and faculty, renew the campus, and develop world changers. Many students are part of authentic Christian communities where they witness to Gods transformative work in their lives, and in turn become agents of God’s transformation on their campuses and in the world.”

“The IVCF has been around for five years and growing, and the fellowship will be delighted to see a great number of students attending this year’s Traveling Dinner,” Georges said. The group usually meets off campus for Bible studies three times a week. IVCF also has made it a tradition to attend camp and take Trips yearly. Organizations like IVCF encourage all students to join the club to help spread the word of Jesus.

“The traveling dinner party is not only about eating exquisite food and sharing conversation with peers, but also meeting life-long friends that will make you a better person for a better tomorrow,” Georges said.

For further information as far as addresses details contact Jourdain, at bjourn@fi u.edu, or Georges dgeorge002@fi u.edu IVCF also invites students to join their Facebook group “Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship FIU-BBC.”

COMING UP ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2
Volunteer Fair 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Panther Square
Late Day Latte 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3
Multifaith Fair 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 1
REC Expo featuring Tony Horton
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fax Center/ Pool

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5
Labor Day School Closed

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6
Panther Power Bonanza
Noon to 2 p.m.

Tuesday Times Roundtables 12:30 to 2 p.m.
WUC 159

SPC Fall Fest 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. WUC Ballrooms

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management’s Carnival Student Center is being built near the HVA Field and will house refurbished student common areas, lounges, offices, and large glass windows overlooking Biscayne Bay.

INTER-VARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Traveling dinner party: two courses in two cities, desert on campus

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management’s Carnival Student Center is being built near the HVA Field and will house refurbished student common areas, lounges, offices, and large glass windows overlooking Biscayne Bay.

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