New global learning foundation courses debut

GABRIEL ARRARAS
News Director

After one successful pilot class this past spring semester, three new global learning foundation courses are set to debut this fall with another two debuting in spring 2011.

These global learning foundation courses were developed as part of the University’s Quality Enhancement Plan, “Global Learning for Global Citizenship,” in efforts to provide students with more interdisciplinary courses that incorporate active learning strategies.

“The purpose of the QEP is to enhance FIU undergraduates’ global awareness, global perspective and attitude of global engagement through global learning courses and co-curricular activities,” Hilary Lummendorf, director of the Office of Global Learning initiatives, said in an OGLI press release.

“The idea is that these would be large courses that would enhance student’s opportunities for global learning,” Stephanie Doscher, associate director of the OGLI, said.

According to Doscher, the courses were developed over the summer of 2009 during an eight week workshop where 17 faculty members from various disciplines joined forces to create the six new global learning foundation courses. The faculty members were chosen from a call for proposals across the university.

“We had another call of proposals this past spring. This past summer we’ve had five new courses that are in development currently, and will be submitted in the fall for approval,” Doscher said.

According to the Global Learning Initiatives “Global Citizen” newsletter, the workshops enable faculty to design global learning course outcomes, essential questions, assessments, and learning activities. Faculty members receive $500 in extra-state compensation for participation in the workshop and the submission of a global learning course syllabus for curriculum approval.

According to Doscher, the new courses must then go to the Ad-Hoc Global Learning Curriculum Oversight Committee, a Faculty Senate committee, which must sign off on the courses.

The courses must also be approved as core curriculum courses as well, which requires them to go through the University’s Core Curriculum Oversight Committee.


As part of these new global learning foundation courses, students can expect guest speakers, film series showings, field trips and participate in service learning opportunities.

For instance, in the class “Artistic Expression in a Global Society,” students will work with Miami based artist, Xavier Cortada, to create an art installation in the University for other students to enjoy.

“Those students will be working with this professional artist to create an installation here that will be ongoing. They’re providing an experience for other students who aren’t even attending the class,” Doscher said.

New global learning foundation courses debuting in the spring include: IDS 3214 “Our Coastal Environment from the Bay to the World” and the return of IDS 3309 “How We Know What We Know.”

“We can’t wait to see the response,” Doscher said.

As freshmen move in, FIU helps parents adjust to change

LAEBONY LIVINGTON
Contributing Writer

Among the madness of move-in week, there were cheers, anxiety attacks, cries of excitement and tears—and those were just the parents.

Orientation and Commuter Student Services realized that a freshman’s first experience living away from home can be a shock. To ease the adjustment, the Office of Orientation offers several opportunities that will help both students and their parents.

Peer Advisors are trained extensively to assist with all new student orientation programs throughout the year.

Their job is to help incoming freshmen begin their navigation through their new life.

Starting with campus tours and orientation, these people are the first to get a glimpse into what life at the University has to offer.

The Office of Orientation realizes what a difficult time this can be for parents as well as students. There are programs available at orientation to help parents adjust to their children being out of the house and on their own.

Certain parents attract unique attention. Some students are the children of “helicopter parents,” who insist on being there during every part of their student’s enrollment.

The peer advisors are familiar with that situation. “Helicopter parents can be intense and really assertive about their kids,” said Peer Advisor Coordinator Renee Barrantes.

According to the Office of Orientation, some parents registered their child’s classes, and spoke with their advisors while the students looked on without any attempt at being involved.

SUPER BOWL

Nicolás De La Cruz, a junior in recreation and sport management major, challenges a friend in the finals of GameStop’s Madden tournament on Aug. 28.

EUROPE

Bohemian group urges probe of video

An animal rights group has called on officials Wednesday to determine whether or not a video of a woman throwing six newborn puppies into a river was filmed in the country.

AFRICA

Uganda asks US for military aid

Uganda said Wednesday it is ready to send 10,000 more troops to Somalia if the U.S. provides the funding, a move that would see the African Union force double in size.

MIDEAST

Mid east peace talks begin

Under the shadow of fresh violence, President Barack Obama solemnly convened the first direct Israeli-Palestinian talks in two years Wednesday.

As fresh men move in, FIU helps parents adjust to change
Five University core curriculum courses redesigned

QEP, page 1

used as a “pilot” class this past spring semester in order to test out these new global learning courses.

School of Journalism and Mass Communication Professor Fred Blevens, along with English Professor Ben Lauren and University Librarian George Pearson, taught the “How We Know What We Know” course during its pilot phase. Blevens was delighted to see how students responded to the course content, which addressed how people obtain and use information worldwide.

“I believe the students got a much better understanding of information and source credibility and how social and cross-cultural values affect communication,” Blevens said.

While many of these global learning foundation courses are new to the curriculum, some courses that have been part of the University Core Curriculum have been redesigned and are now considered global learning courses.

These courses will also be available in the fall.

Among the UCC courses to be redesigned were: ANT 3212 “World Ethnographies,” LBS 3001 “Introduction to Labor Studies,” COM 3461 “International Communication,” REL 2011 “Religion, Analysis, and Interpretation” and REL 3308 “Studies in World Religions.”

The redesign of the courses, according to Doscher, was part of the QEP development team’s initial plan two years ago.

“There are many courses that are currently in the core that deal with global, international and intercultural themes,” Doscher said. “They were revised to beef up the interdisciplinary, the active learning piece, and the co-curricular portion.”

According to Doscher, the current focus of the OGLI is “faculty development for the creation of more of the global learning foundation courses and the upper division global learning foundation courses.”

Their goal is to eventually have one or two global learning foundation courses in every single upper division academic program.

Those will be a continually evolving list of courses in the upper division that will have a global learning designation,” Doscher said. “We mean the word global not just in global issues or topics, but global meaning three hundred and sixty degrees. The QEP is about the education of the whole student, and when there is an integrated learning experience, it’s a much richer experience for our students.”

Advisors stress independence to parents

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR RETURNS TO MIAMI AFTER 40 YEARS

FUJISAKI, page 1

Fujisaki, page 1

tional Energy Agency, the Japanese contribute $203 million dollars more than the US in environmental

Japanese ambassador returns to Miami after 40 years

In Vol. 24, Issue 5 of The Beacon, the article entitled “Gonzalez-Arias joins FIU College of Medicine” incorrectly states Dr. Sergio Gonzalez-Arias’ position as 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.

He is in fact the Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine as well as Chief of Neurological Surgery and Medical Director of Baptist Hospital’s Neuroscience Center.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

CORRECTIONS

In the article “Japanese ambassador to the United States Ichiro Fujisaki lecturing on Japan’s economic progress over the last 60 years at the MARC Pavilion on Monday, Aug. 9,” the Asian Studies Program, which gave the opportunity for students interested in Japanese and foreign affairs to hear and talk to an ambassador.

BARRIERS AND OTHER PARENT ADVICE TO REINFORCE PARENTS WITH THE IDEA OF EMPOWERING THEIR KIDS AND ALLOWING THEM TO BE ON THEIR OWN.

They try to stress the importance and benefits of independence, specifically preparing the students for life after college.

There are pamphlets provided by the Orientation Office that help parents deal with sending their children away to college.

Parents want to remain constant in their child’s collegiate life and can receive monthly newsletters from the University or join groups such as the Panther Parents Association.

During move-in weekend, freshman Maria Marquez, who is from Argentina, had her mother stay with her first week.

“My family is really close and I feel welcome and at home. “My roommates and I get along perfectly, more than I thought we would,” said Marquez.

“However, not all parents present at orientation were heavily looming over their children.”

A mix of compassion and acceptance, as seen in the parents of Gabriel Moyers, a freshman from Tampa, was not rare sight.

His involvement in Panther Camp, a program aimed to unite incoming freshmen, helped to ease his and his mother’s upcoming separation.

Panther Camp provided Moyers with information and a good start about being on his own.

“Mom was ready to let me go, though I will need her,” said Moyers. Other families are separating with the consolation that technology will keep them a plane and a click away.

“My family is really close and I will be visiting and going home for Christmas. Thank God for Skype and Facebook,” said Nancy Rodriguez, a freshman who hails from Puerto Rico.

Assistant Director of Orientation and Commuter Student Services, Korrin Stanek, sees thousands of freshmen come in every year.

Stanek advises freshmen students who are struggling to get out of their room and avoid isolation.

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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.
A MIDWEST WHIRLWIND
Golden Panthers look to stop struggles on the road

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

It’s not heaven, but the Golden Panthers will be traveling to Iowa for their second tournament of the season as the team continues its early season road swing out in the Midwest.

After dropping two of three matches at the Florida State Invitational last weekend, FIU will be looking for more favorable results against a new batch of teams this weekend.

“Last weekend was a good opportunity to see where we were at as a team,” Head Coach Danijela Tomic said. “There were some good things and some bad things. It’s what we expected to see early on in the season and we are looking see improvement as we move forward.”

The Golden Panthers will begin with a match against South Dakota State on Sept. 3 before facing North Dakota State and Iowa State a day later to wrap up the tournament.

Iowa State, currently ranked No.12 in the country, poses the largest challenge of the weekend for the Golden Panthers who are still looking to reproduce the kind of offensive numbers they manufactured last season.

“It’s not going to get any easier,” Tomic said. “Every game is going to be tough.”

The Cyclones are currently 1-1 on the season, losing to No. 13 Florida in their season opener but then defeating No. 14 Kentucky in four sets.

The last time the two teams met was in 2008, when the Cyclones swept the Golden Panthers in three sets in a tournament in Murfreesboro, Tenn. on Sept. 6.

“We can’t fear anybody, but we have to respect everybody,” Tomic added. “We have to work hard to create the respect we had in the past.”

Last season, Iowa State finished second in the Big 12 standings with a 17-3 conference record and made it to the NCAA Regional Semifinal. Their season ended there, as they lost to conference rival Nebraska in three sets.

MATTHEW WITTYNGHAM
Contributing Writer

Senior Midfielder April Perry was named to the Preseason All-Sun-Belt Conference team on Aug. 19, and a few games into the season, she is backing the conference’s confidence in her play. Perry was third on the team in scoring with 4 goals in 2009, showing so at home against Delaware State.

“Especially getting our first two wins,” Perry said. “It’s not so much that they’re blowout win vs. DSU.

Junior Goalkeeper Melanie Raimo has enjoyed a solid beginning of the season. FIU goalie Melaine Raimo has enjoyed a solid beginning of the season.

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The trip will be a homecoming of sorts for Gehrke, an Iowa native and was a highly heralded two-sport high school athlete in the state. During her high school career at West High, she was a}

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FOOTBALL: ASH PARKER

Safety returns to field after second major surgery

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

Ash Parker knew exactly what happened when he felt a pop in his left knee. Bussed by last season’s opener against Alabama confident after sticking with the Crimson Tide for almost three quarters before the eventual national champion broke away to a 40-14 win, the team returned to Miami with their heads up – and Parker with an ice bag on his knee and the uncertainty of a potential serious injury.

The diagnosis was a similar one: a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

That meant missing the rest of the season and possibly nine months of rehabilitation.

Parker recognized the pain. Awarded a sixth year of eligibility by the NCAA, he suffered the same injury in the 2008 opener at Kansas. As a result, Parker has missed each of the last two seasons.

“No, not again” is what went through my mind,” Parker said. “I questioned everything at that time, like, ‘Do you really want to do this?’”

Parker still hasn’t had much experience as a defensive back since making the switch from wide receiver before the 2007 season. After earning an All-Sun Belt Conference honorable mention nod as a freshman receiver in 2006, Parker once again got honorable mention in his first year as a safety, when he finished sixth on the team in tackles. Parker was an electric player at times, when he developed into a hard-hitting competitor.

That development was stalled, however, by hours of therapy and arduous weight lifting sessions to strengthen the muscles surrounding the key ligaments in the knee.

Going through the rehab process for the second consecutive season was mentally draining enough to force Parker to have doubts; despite the tremendous support he received from his teammates.

“You just have your days in treatment where you come in and that day it got worse than the day before and you ask yourself why,” Parker said.

But Parker never took quitter seriously, and it was an easy decision to go through another lengthy recovery. After one surgery, he wasn’t content with spending all his time in the training room and watching the games on the sidelines. The Port St. Joe native took his replacement on the field in 2009, freshman Jona-

than Cyprien, under his wing throughout the season.

“He was a leader to me when I was playing and he was on the sidelines,” Cyprien said. “Now that he’s on the field with us motivating us as well, I think he’s even more of a leader. Sometimes when he was on the sidelines, he could tell me what he sees out there. Things that I’ve always wanted him to come in and tell me.”

Parker went on to make the All-Sun Belt Conference honorable mention group,

and will have a chance to team up with Parker in the starting lineup. He will be cheering on his healthy teammate as much as anyone.

“You’ve got to root for him because for somebody to go through so much trouble with two surgeries on one knee, it’s something that a lot of people don’t come back from,” Cyprien said. “It’s like a blessing.”

FIU Head Coach Mario Cristobal has been pleased with Parker’s play in camp, and Parker has not been hesitant to be his own self. Certain instances in practice have forced him to think about his next move through.

“You can’t help but think about it after two years in a row,” Parker said. “But if it happens it happens.”

Parker looks forward to being one of the most disruptive forces in the conference. Cristobal joked about potentially holding him out the first game of the season to stop the trend, but the fourth-year coach will rely on his veteran safety to help improve one of the worst defenses in the SBC.

Women’s basketball schedule includes opener against Final Four team Baylor

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

The Golden Panthers 2010-11 schedule was released on Tuesday and the team will begin the season with a tall task at hand, figuratively and literally.

FIU will start the slate facing Baylor on Nov. 12, an NCAA Champion Final Four team that went 27-10 in 2009-2010.

The Bears feature 6’8” Brittney Griner, a 2009-2010 All-American and watching the games on the sidelines.

The team’s Sun Belt Conference opener on Jan. 2 at ULM with the conference home opener coming against Arkansas on Jan. 5.

The Golden Panthers will face cross-town rival FAU on Feb. 5 in Boca Raton and on Feb. 29 at home.

FIU went 14-15 last season before bowing out to North Texas in the opening round of the SBC tournament.

CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

FIU Cross Country team announced its 2010 schedule on Aug. 31.

The six-meet schedule includes four out-of-state meets and the scheduled to begin on Sept. 3 at the Green RI
tree Invitational in Coral Gables, Fla.

FIU will then participate in the Mountain Dew Invitational hosted by Florida on Sept. 18.

FIU’s only meets out of state will be at the Cardinal Classic on Oct. 2 and the Sun Belt Championships in Bowling Green, Ky., on Oct. 30.

The rest of the schedule will feature meets at the Disney Invitational in Orlando and the Stetson Hatter Invitational in Tustinville.

NEW TRANSFER

Amid the uncertainty surrounding 2010 signee Phil Taylor, the Golden Panthers added K.C. Ross-Miller, a former LSU signee who failed to qualify with the NCAA clearing house this past season and committed to the Golden Panthers last week.

Ross-Miller will sit out a season before joining his new teammates on the field.

The 6-foot point guard is a three-season starter.

JAN COKE/AI IMAGES

Ash Parker makes a tackle vs. Kansas before he suffered the first of two torn ACL’s.
Art plays a powerful role in preserving the culture and traditions of a country and Tap-Tap: Celebrating the art of Haiti does exactly that.

Tap-Tap is a vivid and animated collection of artwork that allows glimpses into a life very unlike our own.

But after taking a look, it’s not hard to imagine the colorful island life that is depicted in the paintings after immersing in Tap-Tap.

Tap-Tap is not an exhibition solely for high brow art enthusiasts. The collection is very accessible, so any fan of the arts is sure to enjoy the vivacious nature of the collection.

Through a series of paintings and a few sculptures of the aforementioned tap-taps (small trucks that transport people in the country and countryside), the exhibition takes the viewer on a journey through the Haitian landscape.

Scattered amongst the paintings are the papier mache tap-taps. The colorful trucks carrying both people and goods give the collection a sense of movement and continuity from canvas to canvas.

The paintings depict all sorts of scenes of Haitian life, from religious tradition to scenes of daily life in the market.

One painting called Ayida Whedo by Edouard Duval-Carrié depicts the contemplative female water spirit in West African tradition.

This particular painting stands out because of its frame with sand and sculptured detailing of symbols and animals, a thoughtful addition to the already beautiful painting, that emphasizes the spirit’s connection to the natural world.

Another painting of a spiritual nature is the Marassa twins by Gerard Fortuné.

The twins are figures in the voodoo religion, protecting the believers whenever they reach a crossroads in life. This painting is striking in an almost disturbing way.

The wide, penetrating stares of the twins’ eyes connect you to their mystical nature.

They reach a crossroads in life. This painting is similar because of the contrast drawn between the genders and their roles.

Overall, the collection is exciting and easy to empathize with, a welcome change of pace to the sometimes difficult to comprehend exhibitions that the Frost has to offer.

Don’t get me wrong, I understand that art is supposed to puzzle and challenge us, but it is nice to sometimes settle in with something easier to conceptualize like the work in Tap-Tap.

The collection is also very diverse and enlightening.

I think it gives the observer an idea of what is important in Haitian society.

We live in a city that is enriched by Haitian culture but it’s so easy to be ignorant of the roots that the traditions came from.

I was glad to be educated by these artworks.

In the wake of the tragedy that occurred in Haiti this past January, I can’t help but feel grateful that the Frost Museum has chosen to share part of their collection of Haitian art. I hope they choose to display more in the coming years.

The exhibition opened on May 26 and will remain up until Sep. 5 at the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum.

For more exhibit information, visit thefrost.fiu.edu or call 305-348-2890.

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**Hewlett-Packard should focus on mobile phone market**

Hewlett-Packard. The name echoes in the world of Windows. They are one of the giants in the computer industry, but that’s about it. Until now.

HP has famously been known for building three things: ugly computers, calculators, and the printer, something they are best known for.

Palm that printer horse to the top of the market, gouging customers on cheap machines and expensive toner and ink refills. But the times are a changin’ as the world is slowly switching to digital and the age of the printed-paper is coming to an end.

With printers riding off in to the sunset, HP needed to fill the void. Ugly computers and calculators would simply not suffice and they couldn’t build a smart phone to save their lives.

Earlier this year, HP bought famed smart phone maker Palm in a surprise move that revealed HP’s plans to hit the smart phone market hard.

Palm was a shell of its former self, once the originator of the smart phone now it was losing out to the big players like Android and Apple.

But Palm still had one thing that made the company worth the $1.2 billion, WebOS.

WebOS was developed by Palm as a new, from-the-ground-up operating system. When it debuted at the Consumer Electronics Show in 2009, the software, coupled with the phone’s impressive design, led the industry to think that Palm had made it.

But a lacking developer community and poor business choices made Palm go from being the comeback kid to getting bought up by HP.

So HP, what should you do now? First off, you shouldn’t listen to former HP CEO Mark Hurd.

“I think in this case of Palm, ...it really has more to do with the intellectual property and the fact that when you look across the HP ecosystem of interconnected devices, it is a huge family of devices. When we think of printers, you’ve now got a whole series of web-connected printers that, as they connect to the web, need an OS.”

WebOS on a printer? Really? You have a powerful mobile operating system and you want to smack that on a dying technology? That’s like putting a GPS unit in a Ford Model T.

HP needs to focus on the mobile market, 100 percent. They need compelling hardware and a strong marketing budget if they want to make a dent in a market controlled by three companies.

HP needs to think mobile phones, tablets, and even a netbook, not a dumb printer.

Another important move that HP should make is to dedicate their efforts to not only refining WebOS, but to create a strong developer community around Palm OS devices. Doing that is actually very simple.

A lesson for anyone who wants to make their mobile OS compete is to simply go to the bank, take out bundles and bundles of money and shower it over developers who design apps for your platform.

Microsoft is doing it with Windows Phone 7, and darn it, so should HP.

This will ensure that Palm OS will have a strong developer library at launch that will bring users in.

Ultimately, HP has a major opportunity in their hands. Google and Apple are too busy quarreling with each other over market share and Research in Motion is losing it by the second, as BlackBerry phones are getting uglier and less competitive.

Windows Phone 7 is looking good, but is clearly leaning toward the standard consumer and turning away from business users.

No doubt, HP and Microsoft will be fighting it out for third place in the coming years.

If HP puts some effort to WebOS and makes it appealing to both regular and business consumers, it can be the next BlackBerry, only better.
Fraternity Rush Week to dispel Greek stereotypes

JANET CAREAGA  
Staff Writer

There is more to fraternity life than just throwing themed parties.

Unfortunately, movies have given Greek life a bad reputation, particularly stereotyping fraternity men as arrogant meatheads with nothing but the desire to prove their manhood and no regard for the feelings of others.

“People that give it a chance will be surprised to find that there’s more to being in a fraternity than the stereotypes portray,” said senior Jephren Perez who has been an active member of Pi Kappa Phi for many years.

There are many benefits to joining a fraternity.

They promote brotherhood, scholarship, campus involvement, philanthropy, and personal development.

“You become more confident and it is amazing for networking for the present and future,” said Christian Rodriguez, vice president of Delta Lambda Phi and director of Chapter Relations for IFC.

Fraternity Rush Week is a week of events hosted by the 13 Interfraternity Council fraternities available at FIU and are open to any male FIU student.

The IFC at FIU does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, race, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

“No man should be discouraged from rushing for any of these reasons,” said David Trujillo, President of Sigma Chi.

Sigma Chi is currently a colony at the University and according to Trujillo any man that receives a bid and is accepted before they receive their charter will be listed on the document as a founding member.

“They promote brotherhood, scholarship, campus involvement, philanthropy, and community service,” said Christian Rodriguez, president of the IFC.

Fraternity Rush Week takes place Sept. 7-11.

MODERN CLASSICS

Nixon gives a look into the life of infamous president

Oliver Stone’s Nixon is not so much a film about American politics as it is a tragedy in the Shakespearean vein.

Paranoia and power corrupt the soul of one Mr. Richard Millhouse Nixon as mistakes compound themselves into an avalanche that would eventually destroy him.

In an earlier Stone film, JFK, the leader, the character, investigating the assassination and conspiracy involving the murder of John F. Kennedy, is told hardly; “Politics is power! Nothing more.”

In that film, we were outsiders looking into the cracks of the American system from the point of view of a dogged New Orleans district attorney. At the end of the day, there is a hero that you can grasp to.

Nixon, made some four years after JFK, is the complete inverse of the earlier work in mention; rather than being fed information by back room sources and deep suspicions, the corruption and moral decay are in full display for us.

The greatest similarity between both films that can be raised is the presence of John Kennedy, looming over the proceedings and moving the action forward, driving our lead protagonist forward, except that in JFK, New Orleans D.A. Jim Garrison is seeking the truth in a great tragedy.

Richard Nixon, as written by Stone and interpreted by Anthony Hopkins, is part of the machine that had Kennedy killed and lives with the guilt of it on his shoulders.

Opening during the final days of Watergate scandal, we find Nixon held up under siege by the press and the American people, fidgeting with his bottle of painkillers with whiskey in hand, listening to Richard Rodger’s score to “Victory At Sea.” The flames from a nearby fireplace set the mood perfectly.

On his mind is the famed 18 and a half minute gap left on the White House tape subpoenaed during the Watergate investigation. It’s implied early within the film that the discussion during this gap trails to E. Howard Hunt’s (Ed Harris) involvement with the famed break-in and his possible ties to the Kennedy assassination.

The film claims that Nixon may have well known of a government plot to kill Kennedy. Of course, as the film’s disclaimer notes, it’s all conjecture. Yet knowing what the film tells us, Stone doesn’t make him into a simple monster.

During a scene re-enacting his erratic midnight visit to the Lincoln Memorial, Nixon discusses the war in Vietnam with demonstrators who tell him that he has no power to change the system.

We see “Tricky Dick” try to arrange a buy off of sources after the Watergate break-ins and, at one dinner party on a yacht on the Potomac, he contemplates using the hydrogen bomb to ensure an American victory in the Far East.

Nixon is certainly held accountable for his failures yet he’s constantly the victim of his own hubris mixed by a seeming lack of self-esteem from his childhood, to being used by a system he must wrestle to control.

Making that moment when Henry Kissinger (perfectly played by Paul Sorvino) notes that, “He had greatness within his reach,” that much more tragic. Anyway you crack it, Richard Nixon’s life is the great American story, born into relative poverty, working his way into college and law school and marrying the woman of his dreams, Pat (Joan Allen).

Yet at the core of it, he’s not content. Pat, the one person to know Nixon before Erichman (James Woods), Kissinger and the bevy of cast and characters that make up his cabinet, sees through Dick and sees his need to be loved by the public. She sits there as faithfully as the wife of a tired politician can to support him.

But the walls are closing in on Dick; J. Edgar Hoover, Richard Helms, Chairman Mao zip by as he slowly implodes. The supporting cast is impressive but it is Hopkins who leaves the lasting impression.

He wanders the White House in the middle of the night, arms crossed, portraying the broken man that was never seen by the media during the closing days of his presidency.

Hopkins is free to break away from any caricaturing or parody of Nixon and play him as a normal person.

He mournfully realizes; when they look at you, they see what they want to be. When they look at me, they see what they are. Some would claim that blaming Nixon’s failures on his childhood to a stern father and emotion- ally remote mother is far too simplistic and too light to forgive his bombing of Cambodia.

Yet even the greatest tragedies have a simple beginning to it all.

WEEKEND EVENTS!

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3

FACULTY EXHIBITION  
WHEN: ALL DAY  
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

AADS & GSS Graduate Colloquium  
WHEN: 1:30 p.m.  
WHERE: LC 110

FIU BIGGEST LOSER Registration  
WHEN: 9:00 a.m.  
WHERE: Rec Center 101

FIU BIGGEST LOSER Registration  
WHEN: 9:00 a.m.  
WHERE: Rec Center 101

FACULTY EXHIBITION  
WHEN: ALL DAY  
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

TIPS AND TOOLS TO USE THE TELEPHONE TO HELP PEOPLE  
WHEN: 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
WHERE: GL 220

FACULTY EXHIBITION  
WHEN: ALL DAY  
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

GREAT GROVE BED RACE  
WHEN: 4 p.m.  
WHERE: 3300 Southwest 27th Ave; Coconut Grove

FIU Women’s Soccer vs. Fresno State  
WHEN: 7:00 p.m.  
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

FIU Theatre A BICYCLE COUNTRY  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Wertheim PAC

FIU Theatre A BICYCLE COUNTRY  
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WHERE: Wertheim PAC

LABOR DAY BLUES PICNIC  
WHEN: 5:00 p.m.  
WHERE: 16705 SW 72nd Ave; Miami, FL

LOS DICTADOS DEL FUEGO  
WHEN: 5:00 p.m.  
WHERE: FIU Theatre

BEST OF THE SOUTH COMEDY TOUR  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
WHERE: ArtSpace 529 SW 12th Ave; Miami, FL
Opinion searching for varied perspectives

As some of you may have noticed, Opinion has begun to take a liberal slant. This goes against what I envisioned when it was launched.

Opinion, whether it be in print or via radio waves, is meant to be the unifying voice of students, not a political mouthpiece. While I respect the opinions of others, I cannot agree with what the previous editor has been promoting.

Opinion searching for varied perspectives, whether it be from faculty, students, or liberal or conservative perspectives, is what it is intended to be. I’m opposed to unhealthy food. I’m opposed to fast food, food that is processed and unhealthy. I’m opposed to what we call ‘throwaway’ food—food that is readily available for people on a limited income like single parents and college students. Natural foods are more expensive and don’t fit into many people’s budgets.

If I were to tie together these food choices with our current obesity epidemic, the best hope for preventing eating habits would be to make healthy choices just as fast and convenient, or to get the fast food chains to make healthier items.

With all the knowledge of tomorrow sponsored by the fast food restaurants? Reported in the journal of the American Heart Association, a study that answered the question, “Why Eat at Fast-Food Restaurants?” answered that knowing the frequency of fast food intake and attitudes toward fast food and frequency of fast food intake in adults found that knowing fast food is unhealthy isn’t stopping us from eating it. The Journal of the American Dietetic Association published studies that asked, “Why Eat at Fast-Food Restaurants? Reported Reasons Among Frequency Consumers.”

According to the study that tie together these food choices with our current obesity epidemic, the best hope for preventing eating habits would be to make healthy choices just as fast and convenient, or to get the fast food chains to make healthier items.

With all the knowledge of the long-term effects of fast food over long periods of time, why do people keep going to fast food? Survival. Take me, for example. I was recently given 150 dollars from my parents before they left for vacation for two weeks. Here is some shorthand math for you. Given that I was facing an average roughly $10 per meal with about three meals a day. That means that I would be out of money in 3 1/3 days. How do I do? Consume fast food. With a mishmash of small pizzas from Dominos, 79 cents hamburgers and a combination of dollar menu selections, why not? Fast food is so convenient and cheap because it’s readily available for people on a limited income like single parents and college students. Naturally grown food is more expensive and doesn’t fit into many people’s budgets.

So write Letters to the Editor if you are in disagreement with an opinion presented, better yet, consider joining The Beacon’s staff. Opinion is always accepting applications.

Stop by The Beacon office or email me at christopher.diaz@fiusm.com.
Labor Day Weekend

Rockers driven to Bayfront Amphitheater

The Tennessee based rock band Paramore with frontwoman and vocalist Hayley Williams will be one of the headlining bands at this year's Honda Civic Tour in Bayfront Park.

Yazmine Granthon
Contributing Writer

The Honda Civic Tour is coming to Bayfront Park in Miami this Labor Day Weekend, Sept, 4.

Headlining the event are bands Paramore, Honda Civic tour veterans New Found Glory, Kadawatha and sister-act duo Tegan and Sara.

In 2001, Honda Motor Group began this tour promoting not only their ecologically friendly motor vehicles, but also to grab the attention of the musically driven society.

In the past, Honda Motor Group has invited bands; Blink 182 and Incubus in 2001 and 2002, respectively.

Tickets are currently on sale and range from $40.50 to $48.50 on Ticketmaster.com.

The tour continues with its roots in Downtown Miami and adds Paramore to this year's playlist.

Paramore was formed in 2004, and embarked on what MTV.com called “their illustrious career,” with the release of their 2007 album Riot! Hit singles like “Misery Business” and “crushcrushcrush” topped 2007’s Billboard Charts.

With punk rock musical stylings, the vocals of lead singer Hayley Williams, Paramore invests in great guitar melodies and has even been featured with artists like B.O.B. From back to back hit singles on both radio waves and movie theaters, featuring another hit single “Decode” in the Twilight Saga. The group experienced their claim to fame when they were quickly nominated as “Best New Artist” in the 2008 Grammys.

If Paramore isn’t enough, Indie Rock alums and Florida natives New Found Glory join the playlist with a new sound and album to the tour. Not Without A Fight released in March of 2009 under their new label Epitaph and the group experienced their claim to fame when they were quickly nominated as “Best New Artist” in the 2008 Grammys.

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Spinning and rapping from the beach to downtown

Lianne Mar Devila Sanabria
Asst. News Director

Big city lights can be distracting for any college student, but actually attending college in a city like Miami definitely has its advantages!

This Labor Day Weekend is filled with a bevy of club events to celebrate this three-day weekend in the Magic City.

Mansion will be hosting Snoop Dogg on Friday, Sept. 3. Roger Sanchez on Sept. 4 and Pal van Dyk on Sept. 5th.

From music to movies, to TV shows and Twitter, Snoop Dogg has done it all and has remained one of the most distinctive voices in hip-hop since his 1992 debut, Doggy Style.

Grammy award-winning House DJ Roger Sanchez, will be spinning alongside Laurent Simec. In 2003, Sanchez won his first Grammy Award for Best Remixed Recording for his remix of No Doubt’s “Hella Good.”

Ranked number one by DJ Magazine’s “Top 100 DJs” twice, Grammy nominated Paul van Dyk, will be joining the No Sleep Till Miami crew this weekend.

Cameo will be hosting DJ Chuckie on Sept. 3 and Fabulous on Sept. 4. Chuckie will be stopping in Miami during his U.S. tour and lighting up a musical storm alongside Digital Fridays resident Christian Felero. From the hit singles “Let’s Get Bass” in Miami B*tch!” and “Moombah,” his contributions to the Dutch dance industry are indispensable.

Presented by The 400, Fabulous will be performing his new single “There Is No Competition 2: The Grieving” to help promote the release of his sixth album Loser’s Way 2.

Laidback Luke will be at LVN on Sept. 4 with Ross One. His name might be Laidback, but his music is anything but.

He’s worked with the likes of David Guetta, Diplo, A-Trak, Steve Aoki and Lil John. He even landed in the twenty-seven slot in the Top 100 DJs Poll of 2009.

Britain’s best-loved dance DJ Pete Tong will be at SEIT on Sept. 4 alongside resident and good friend Chico Secchi. He’s been the host of Radio 1’s ground-breaking Essential Selection show for eight straight years. Although working within the mainstream, he still retains his respect among the underground crowd.

On Sept. 5, the Gansevoort Hotel will host the “No Sugar Added” Beach Party at their rooftop pool from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Robbie Rivera is returning from his second home in Ibiza to play alongside Dimitri Vegas, Like Mike, David Solano, Carlacian, Donnie Low and a surprise guest.

If you want to get the most bang for your buck, head over to Dream on Sept. 5 to catch six DJs in two rooms all in one night.

Their main room will feature hip hop music with Mr. Mauricio, DJs Knowledge and Legacy.

The upstairs candle room will feature Latin/reggaeton music with DJs Cecollo, Chill Will and X.

On Sept. 4 and 5, Space will host season closing parties. After 10 successful years in Miami nightlife hosting anything from New Year’s parties to Miami Music Conference, they try their hand at an Ibiza-style closing party.

After rumors circulating about the club closing indiscriminately, now we all know that it will indeed come back in the fall; they just needed a little break.