New global learning foundation courses debut

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
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 Landorf, director of the Office of Global Learning initiative, said in an OGLI press release.

“The idea is that these would be large courses that would enlarge 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.

He has held the position of Japanese Ambassador to the United States since 2008.

The ambassador began his lecture by stating his willingness to cooperate with the United States to achieve a faster global economic recovery.

“We should not take a pessimistic view of the economy,” Fujisaki said.

This past August, the world witnessed the People’s Republic of China surpass Japan as the number two economy of the world.

The ambassador, however, mentioned that aside from size, there should be an emphasis on the quality of the economy.

By U.N. and Department of Commerce numbers, Japan is the number two contributor of official development aid at the United Nations and contributes to U.S. trade with $260 billion in foreign direct investment, which, according to Fujisaki, demonstrate Japan’s commitment with both, the developing world and the US.

Fujisaki also said that the Japanese government is actively involved in the climate change issue and leading the world in initiatives.

According to the INTERNA

FUJISAKI, page 2

Bosnian 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.

LAEBONY LIVINGSTON
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 Renzo Barranites.

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.

FRESHMEN, page 2
Japanese ambassador returns to Miami after 40 years

FUJISAKI, page 1

ational Energy Agency, the Japanese contribute $203 million dollars more than the US in environmental issues. The ambassador expressed his eagerness to cooperate with China. Yet, he noted that, “China’s defense budget has gone up 15 percent per year and that has raised some concern in my country.”

Regarding Taipei’s position in China, and the effect of Japan’s willingness to cooperate economically with Beijing, Fujisaki said, “Clinton’s strategic ambiguity was good in that matter. The future seems to look toward economic integration and peace.”

On the topic of the possibility of a nuclear terrorism threat, Fujisaki said, “It is time to cope with this issue and not be a demander.”

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. 30

Advisors stress independence to parents

Barratres and other peer advisors try to reinforce parents with the idea of empowering their kids and allowing them to be on their own.

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Barratres and other peer advisors try to reinforce parents with the idea of empowering their kids and allowing them to be on their own. Parents who want to remain constant in their child’s collegiate life can receive monthly newsletters from the University or join groups such as the Panther Parents Association. Among the UCC courses to be redesigned were: ANT 3212 “World Ethnographies,” LBS 3001 “Introduction to Labor Studies,” COM 3461 “Inter-cultural 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.”

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.
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.

FRESH IMPACT

Joe Tomic, Head Coach

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

Una Trikulja and Jessica Gehlke immediately contributed on offense during the first weekend of the season, impressing Tomic and hoping that they will continue to make important contributions to the squad.

But Tomic made it clear that it would be important not to put too much of a burden on the freshmen as they get their collegiate careers off the ground.

“We are pleased but we are not going to put all the pressure on them,” Tomic said. “That’s where our upperclassmen come in and handle those responsibilities.”

Trikulja currently leads the Golden Panther offense with 39 kills so far while junior Andrea Lukovic has the second highest total with 34.

The trip will be a homecoming of sorts for Gehlke, 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 first team All-Big Twelve Conference selection.

Coach Danijela Tomic (left) has focused on improving her team’s defense in preparation for tournament.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

PERRY BEGINS TO PROVE WORTH; RAIMO STEADY IN THE GOAL

MATTHEW WITTYNGHAM
Contributing Writer

Junior 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 and was extremely accurate with her shots, continuing a trend of consistency leads the team right now with 15 shots, 10 and a key assist Kassandra Sorzano. Perry has been a force in the midfield in 2010, showing so at home against Delaware State on Aug. 27 with several shots on goal and a assist Kassandra Sorzano. Perry leads the team right now with 15 shots, 10 on goal, continuing a trend of consistency with her accuracy.

Perry attributes her good play to her team. “Especially getting our first two wins,” Perry said. “The team is getting more confidence and so I’m getting more confidence.”

RAIMO PLAYS WELL

Junior Goalkeeper Melanie Raimo has been strong in front of the goal, allowing 4 goals in 4 contests this season. Raimo has been a consistent fixture, one that head coach Thomas Chestnut has been able to rely on to replace the injured Kaitlyn Savage, who is recovering from a knee injury. The Golden Panthers have faced 46 shots and only 4 goals have gone in, largely due to Raimo’s presence behind the pipes.

Friday’s game against Fresno State will test her skills again as the Bulldogs have taken 36 shots over the past 3 games. Raimo only faced three this past Friday in the 4-1 blowout win vs. DSU.

“We get pretty good scouting reports,” Raimo said. “It’s not so much that they’re going to be a more difficult team but we’re going to be a more difficult team but we’re going to create the respect we had in the past.”

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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 champions 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 electrifying 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 quitting 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 Jonathan 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 me, along with the cornerback can talk about out there, so we can get better next time we go out there if we mess up on anything.”

Cyprien 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 real good 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 though.

“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

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 floor.

The 6-foot point guard is a three-star prospect on rivals.com.

TREY JUMP OPPORTUNITIES

The Golden Panthers softball team will hold an informational meeting on Sept. 13 for anyone interested in joining the team.

The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Student-Athlete Academic Center.

The FIU softball team will take a look at walk-on prospects during a tryout session on Sept. 13 at FIU Stadium from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Anyone interested must fill out a walk-on packet and will have from Sept. 6 through Sept. 10 acquire it and complete it.

Walk-on packets are available at the Football offices on the second floor of the R. Kirk Landon Fieldhouse.

Defence falling behind for FIUs

VOLLEYBALL, page 3

2009 Gatorade Player of the Year candidate.

Meanwhile, senior Natalia Vargas is one of the most disruptive forces in the conference.

The Golden Panthers will face Rice and Montana State after the conference home opener coming against Arkansas-Little Rock.

The Bears feature 6’8” Brittney Griner, a former LSU signee who failed to qualify with the NCAA clearing house this past season and committed to the Golden Panthers last week.

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Team looks to keep momentum

WOMEN’S, page 3

going to know how to play them.

UP NEXT

The Golden Panthers (2-2, 0-0 SBC) will take on the Bulldogs (2-2) in a non-conference match Friday at 7 p.m. on the road.

But a main focus in prac- tice this week has been improving defensively after opponents picked up 164 digs compared to FIU’s 132 over the three-game span at the FSU Invitational.

“We’ve been looking to see improvement in that area,” Tomic said. “We just have to keep working hard in practice and the results will show.”

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WOMEN’S, page 3

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LIFE!

TAP-TAP

Exhibit captures vibrant Haitian culture

ESRA ERDOGAN
Photo Editor

Art plays a 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 city and countryside), the exhibition takes the viewer on a journey through the Haitian landscape.

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

The collection is also very diverse and something easier to conceptualize like the untitled portrait of what seems to be a farmer and his wife.

The Twins are figures in the vodou religion, protecting the believers whenever they reach a crossroads in life.

Fortune has other works in the exhibition, like the untitled portrait of what seems to be a farmer and his wife.

This painting makes me wonder whether the artist intended to pay homage to the infamous American Gothic by Grant Wood.

Fortune’s work 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

FISTFULS OF TECH

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.

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

HP Pride 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 smartphone to save their lives.

Earlier this year, HP bought famed smartphone maker Palm in a surprise move that revealed HP’s plans to hit the smartphone 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 and turning away from business users.

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.

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.
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 regards toward 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 feels 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 in his last year of college and is accepted before they receive their charter will be listed on the document as a founding father.

“While still young, our brotherhood is as strong as any and will only get stronger with time,” Trujillo says about the growing colony.

Alpha Epsilon Pi, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Lambda Phi, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Gamma Delta, Phi Sigma Kappa, Pi Kappa Alpha, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Alpha Mu, Sigma Chi, Sigma Lambda Beta, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Tau Kappa Epsilon are the fraternities available for men to join.

The events range from barbecues to game nights, casual to semi-formal, with all of them aimed for potential new members to meet the brothers and even alumni.

Then there is a selection process to determine whether the men will receive a bid.

“Usually it is pretty important for all interested men to attend at least 2 or 3 of the rush events of the fraternity that they are interested in, in order to receive a bid,” said Perez.

It is important for the men thinking about rushing to have an idea of which fraternities they are interested in before the week begins.

Interested men should not let friends or relatives influence their decision because it may not be the right fit for them.

The week is meant to ensure that men who receive bids get along with the brothers and are comfortable in the organization.

“The decision ultimately has to be made by you because it is a life-long commitment and it isn’t one that you want to regret,” Trujillo said.

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 Mr. Richard Millhouse Nixon as mistakes compound themselves into an avalanche that would eventually destroy him.

In an earlier Stone film, JFK, the leader character, investigating the assassination and conspiracy involving the murder of John F. Kennedy, is told harshly, “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 run under the Watergate, we find Nixon holed up under siege, the woman of his dreams, Pat (Joan Allen).

As the film’s disclaimer notes, it’s Of course, as the film’s disclaimer notes, it’s reasonable to assume that Nixon may have well run under the Watergate.

Yet at the core of it, he’s not content.

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,” all the more poignant.

The best way to view Nixon is as a normal person.

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

He humbly 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 little light to forgive his bombing of Cambodia.

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

WEEKEND EVENTS!

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3

AADS & GSS Graduate Colloquium

WHEN: 1:30 p.m.
WHERE: WC 110

FIU BIGGEST LOSER Registration

WHEN: 9:00 a.m.
WHERE: Rec Center 101

TIPS AND TOOLS TO USE THE TELEPHONE TO HELP PEOPLE

WHEN: 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: GL 220

FIU Women’s Soccer vs. Fresno State

WHEN: 7:00 p.m.
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

SATURDAY, SEPT. 4

GREAT GROVE BED RACE

WHEN: 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: 3300 Southwest 27th Ave; Coconut Grove

FIU BIGGEST LOSER Registration

WHEN: 9:00 a.m.
WHERE: Rec Center 101

GROUP FITNESS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

Registration begins:

WHEN: All day
WHERE: Rec Center 101

CHURCHVILLE’S 375TH BIRTHDAY

WHEN: 9:00 p.m.
WHERE: 5501 NE 2nd Ave; Miami FL

FIU THEATRE A BICYCLE COUNTRY

WHEN: 8:00 p.m.
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

FIU THEATRE BLUES PICNIC

WHEN: 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: 16701 SW 72nd Ave; Miami FL

SUNDAY, SEPT. 5

FIU BIGGEST LOSER Registration

WHEN: 9:00 a.m.
WHERE: Rec Center 101

FIU THEATRE A BICYCLE COUNTRY

WHEN: 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

LABOR DAY BLUES PICNIC

WHEN: 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: 16701 SW 72nd Ave; Miami FL

LOS DICTADOS DEL FUEGO

WHEN: 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: MIAMI SHORTS

BEST OF THE SOUTH COMEDY TOUR

WHEN: 8:00 p.m.
WHERE: Art Speaken

529 SW 12th Ave; Miami FL

REGISTRATION
Right to marry should belong to all

FEDERICO LASTRA
Contributing Writer

The preamble to the Constitution of the State of Florida promises “equal civil and political rights to all;’ not “equal civil and political rights to all, unless you’re a homosexual.” Yet the law in our state denies LGBT citizens equal civil rights which impede their “pursuit of happiness.”

Florida Statute 741.212 defines marriage as the legal union between one man and one woman, and states the term “spouse” applies only to a member of such a union. Furthermore, civil unions and domestic partnerships were constitutionally banned by Amendment 2 on November 6, 2008 with 62% of the vote.

According to The Human Rights Campaign, married couples are automatically granted over 1,138 federal rights, protections and responsibilities. Take, for example, the right to make decisions on a partner’s behalf in a medical emergency. If an individual is unmarried, the legal “next of kin” automatically assumes this right. This means that a gay man with a life partner... of many years may be forced to accept the financial and medical decisions of a sibling or parent with whom he may have a distant or even hostile relationship.

There are also family-related Social Securi- ty benefits, income and estate tax benefits, disability benefits, family-related military and veteran’s benefits and other important benefits.

Some LGBT families are forced to consult attorneys to draw up legal documents such as powers of attorney, co-parenting agreements and wills that at least permit them to declare who they wish to make health care and financial decisions for them if they become incapacitated or how they wish to share parental responsibilities or, in the event of a breakup, custody of a child.

However, these are not a substitute for legal protection under law and cannot provide the broad range of benefits and protections provided by law.

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution reads: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . .” This means that religion and government must stay separate for the benefit of both, including the idea that the government must not impose religious beliefs on Americans or create any law requiring it.

Yet religion, as one of the nation’s planned socializers, is influencing the decisions and fueling the laws that deny gays the right to marry.

For example, the Catholic Church has made it clear that they accept homosexuality may be a matter of gender inclination. Therefore, homosexuals must be embraced and accepted and homosexuality is not to be viewed as wrong. However, the Catholic Church opposes same sex marriage because it presupposes that married couples engage in sexual acts.

Making laws which deny gays to freely express love and marry each other, while watching and sharing the same is not to “love thy neighbor as thyself.”

All LGBT Americans are asking for are the same civil rights as other tax paying citizen, like the right to choose to marry as part of “the pursuit of happiness,” to reap all the benefits of a meaningful, monogamous, traditional American relationship and to even fail and lose half their stuff, just like everyone else.

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SAY WHAT?

Should a new student services complex be built?

“I think it’s a great idea because the students will go if they want any help, if they have any questions, or if they have any concerns they can go to the building and they will find all the services available for them in the same place.”

-Cintiya, Graduate Student, Higher Education

“I think of one of the problems is that they’re so discarded right now. There’s one part here, one part there. It possibly they build a new building for it, having everything in one spot might help a little bit. I’m definitely hoping it helps me and students in similar situations.”

-Andrew, Sophomore, Art

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Opinion searching for varied perspectives

RUSSELL QUINOA
Staff Writer

I’m opposed to unhealthy food. I’m not opposed to fast food, which is considered unhealthy food. I’m opposed to eating rotten tomatoes, bread with mildew and bruised bananas, which are unhealthy food.

Classifying rotten tomatoes with a Big Mac is like using a brush whose width is too wide.

Rather fast food is convenient food because it’s cheap and readily available for people on a limited income like single parent-families and college students. Naturally grown food is more expensive and doesn’t fit into many people budgets.

Especially now that the economy is suffering, many of the customers that dine at fast food restaurants do so because of its convenience and cheap price. Fast food is a matter of survival.

For many low income Americans the options isn’t between healthy food and fast food; it is fast food or no food.

Americans paid minimum wage earn just $10,712 a year. I’m not holding a microphone for the fatter America of tomorrow sponsored by McDonald’s. I’m not ignoring the serious issue of obesity. Produce is necessary for a healthy life.

What I do support is the need for a place in the American market for convenience, which only fast food provides.

A survey from the Journal of Obesity, Relationship of 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 answered the question, “Why Eat at Fast-Food Restaurants? Reported Reasons among Frequent Consumers.”

According to the study that tie together these food choices with our current obesity epidemic, the best hope for changing eating habits would be to make healthy choices just as fast and convenient, or 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 too 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 to give you perspective of what I was facing: I average roughly $10 per meal with about three meals a day. That may be a natural inclination that I would be out of money by day five out of 14 days. Where do I turn? Conven- ient food.

With a mish mash of $200 worth of Dominos, 79 cents hamburgers and a combina- tion of dollar menu selections I didn’t spend a day hungry.

The thing is that as a 20-year-old American, I have no 20 plans or even will have plans to go hungry.

CHRIS DIAZ
Opinion Editor

Fast food a matter of cost, convenience

As some of you may have noticed, Opinion has begun to take a literal slant. This goes against what I envisioned for this section.

Opinion, whether it be in print or via radio waves, centers around the concept that different perspectives should be shared because doing so contributes to the health of society and individuals. Reasonable disagreement is good for progress.

Thus, I truly welcome opinions from those anywhere in the ideological spec- trum. However, those who have approached Opinion to write have been overwhel- mingly liberal.

So I ask: where are the conservatives on campus? To be sure, you are outnumbered, but hopefully not subdued by campus liberals. Opinion needs your voice if it is to present different views and perspectives.

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@fi usm.com.

"It will help especially when it’s packed with all those students in the beginning of the semester. Instead of waiting in the line for so long and coming out with nothing, maybe those in the student support complex will know what they’re doing and thing will get done faster."

-Amy, Junior, Finance

"I think it of one has not to do here, one part there. It could possibly build a new building for it, having everything in one spot might help a little bit. I’m definitely hoping it helps me and students in similar situations."
definitely has its advantages. Big city lights can be distracting for any college student, but actually attending college in a city like Miami might be Laidback, but his music is anything but. 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 the attention of the musically driven society.

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 most successful year of their 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 The Twilight Saga, the group experienced their claim to fame when they were quickly nominated as “Best New Artist” in the 2008 Grammy.

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 Eothen Records, will be heard all throughout their set as well as NFG classic’s “My Friends Over You” and “All Downhill From Here.”

Follow up NPG on the roster, comes the Canadian indie group Tegan and Sara. “Famous for their transcendent melodies” as stated by the official Honda Tour website, the twins signed their contract right out of high school with Warner Bros. and began their musical journey.

The duo produced intimate sounds that stray away from the other large bands on the tour bringing the variety. Usually performing at small venues, Bayfront Park should not only house their underground loyal fans but also other Honda Tour junkies as well.

And if two girls are just too much to handle for the concert setting, here comes Kadawatha. Sri Lankan native Daniel Kadawatha emerged in winter of 2008 bringing not only his musical abilities on the plane ride over, but his songwriting as well.

After flying solo for a year, Kadawatha finally received publishing deals and recruited four more band members: Andreas Edstrom, Jacob Milton, Andreas Pihlgren, and Arvid Pesson. The prices may be steep, but if you’re the risk taking type, give Y100 a call and tell them you’re a struggling student following the advice of another struggling student.

So put those dirty Chuck Taylors on, wear a flashy bandana, and be prepared to crowd dive into awesome music for the Labor Day weekend.

**LIANAMAR DÁVILA 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. 5.

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.”

Ranken number one by DJ Magazines “Top 100 DJs poll” 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 Chris-tian Falcero. From the hit singles “Let the bass kick in Miami B’ch” and “Moonbath,” 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 Giving” to help promote the release of his sixth album Losow’s Way 2.

Laidback Luke will be at LIV 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 SIE on Sept. 4 alongside resident and good friend Chico Secci.

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 VEGA, Like Mike, David Solano, Kerubkeane, 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. Macario, DJs Knowledge and Legacy.

The upstairs candle room will feature Latin/reggaeton music with DJs Iceloc, Chill Willz 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 indefinitely, now we all know that it will indeed come back in the fall; they just needed a little break.