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A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

Vol. 24, Issue 26

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Friday, October 22, 2010

THE BEACON

SOUTH AFRICA

300 march over proposed press law

A proposed media bill that could jail journalists for exposing information that officials want kept secret, caused more than 300 people to march in a protest led by Mzwakhe wAfrika.

RUSSIA

Gunmen storm Parliament in Chechnya

Islamic insurgents including a suicide bomber stormed Chechyna's Parliament, killing six people dead and 17 injured in one of the most brazen attacks on the provincial capital in months, officials said.

AFGHANISTAN

Government throws out 1.3 million votes

Afghanistan has released full preliminary results from last month's parliamentary election, throwing out more than 20 percent of ballots because of fraud.

Collier talks poverty at summit

During the first plenary of the University's second ever geopolitical summit, Dr. Paul Collier took the stage to applause from "just the sort of audience [he] wanted to reach." Collier is a professor of Economics and director of the Center for the Study of African Economies at Oxford University. He is also the author of the influential book, "The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It", which explores the reasons why impoverished countries fail to progress despite international aid and support.

"Our emphasis on poverty, health and sustainability underscores the fact that we live today in a highly interdependent world," said University President Mark Rosenberg during his opening remarks. "Dr. Collier is a premier analyst of this interdependence, examining the relationship between environment, health, poverty, public policy and border relations."

Collier's presentation took place on Oct. 18 in the Graham Center Ballrooms of the Modesto Maidique Campus and focused on the world's challenges with poverty.

THE BOTTOM BILLION

Collier, who has worked on developing countries ever since he was a student, argues that people tend to think of the poor and developing countries as "everyone except ourselves." 

"[That's] no longer a sensible way of looking at the world," said Collier. "The world's problems are everybody's problems, and we need to act as such."

College dropouts costing taxpayers billions of dollars

Florida students who drop out of college after their first year are costing the nation billions of dollars and taxpayers across states are picking up the tab.

Students who end up dropping out of college after their sophomore year have cost the nation $9 billion between 2003 and 2008.

According to "Finishing the First Lap: The Cost of First-Year Student Attrition in America's Four-Year Colleges and Universities," the federal government invested $1.5 billion on grants for students who never returned to school their second year of college.

One of the states that have spent the most money on students who dropped out of college after their first year is Florida with $308,700,000.

In addition, Federal aid spent on first-year students is $41,500,000.

"I highly believe that there should be a penalty for those students who received funding from colleges, the state and the government, that end up dropping out of school after their first year," said Lisette Lifschitz, an FIU accounting student.

"Mark Schneider, vice President at the American Institute for Research, told The Huffington Post that their goal is to focus on how much it would cost them to lose students after their first year of college and go from there. However, the cost of college students who receive an education and choose to drop out their second year, account for between 2 and 8 percent of states total higher education appropriations.

"We're all about college completion right now, and I agree 100 percent with the college completion agenda and we need a better-educated adult population and workforce," Schneider said.

According to Robert Lerman, an American University economics professor, it is questionable to try to get individuals to go to a four-year university. He does not think that college is for everyone.

"Getting them to go a second year might waste even more money," Lerman told The Huffington Post.

"Florida Universities are ranked as one of the top states with the highest number of students who dropout before their sophomore year.

According to the University's Financial Aid Department, 86% of students receive aid. The average amount of aid for grants is $4,209 and loans $4,721.

Throughout the state of Florida, universities struggle with a high rate of dropout students.

The University of Central Florida has a retention rate of 87% of students who return their second year of college, Florida State University with 89% as well as Florida International University with a low 84%.

According to Delio Morato, senior academic advisor at the University's Department of Undergraduate Education, one of the challenges they are facing is trying to get students in the right direction.

"Most students don't return their sophomore year because of a bad GPA," Morato said. "Others are simply undecided about their major and choose to take a break, which in most cases they do not return."

The University Advising Center has come up with a plan to avoid students from dropping out of college.

ROCKY, page 6

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ

Life! Editor

Cult classic, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, is returning to the University for a third year of entertainment and will most likely be wrongdoing some people out with its quirky plot.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show is the 1975 film adaptation of the British musical stageplay, The Rocky Horror Show. The film is a parody of science fiction and B-movie horror films starring Susan Sarandon and Tim Curry.

After The Rocky Horror Picture Show flopped at the box office, theaters started putting on impromptu productions where audience members would remanct what was happening on the screen and from there it grew into a Halloween tradition. To add to the quiriness of the show, shadow casts perform the show at midnight.

"The film is definitely a cult classic. It's a film that makes fun of all those Frankenstein films that involve sacrificing virgins. It pokes fun at classic romantic comedies and sci-fi films all in one," says Fadousa Hanine, a senior BFA performance major starring as Magenta, one of Dr. Frank-N-Furter's minions.

SHOWTIMES

Friday, Oct. 22 and Saturday, Oct. 23

• Time: 12:00 a.m., additional showing at 8 p.m. on Saturday
• Where: DM150
• How much: $5

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ

News Director

TRANSYLVANIA MANIA

Theater students “shadow” cult classic

Doug Kelly dressed in drag as Doctor Frank-N-Furter during last year’s production of the Rocky Horror Picture Show

VALENTINA HERRERA

Contributing Writer

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The University Advising Center has come up with a plan to avoid students from dropping out of college.
Collier stresses increased market access for poor nations

PLENARY, page 1

The second plenary of the geopolitical summit (shown here) focused on health care reform in the United States and beyond. This panel was led by Dr. Len Nichols, a leading health care economist. Check out FUSM.com for coverage.

Impact of humans on ecosystems discussed by faculty during summit

SUMMIT, page 8

building subsidies along the coastlines above the estimated rise in sea level.

Florida Law states that no sea walls are to be built, however, there tends to be a few exceptions. According to Babbitt, some of the main reasons for this law are that it will almost completely block the view of the ocean and will require much maintaining. In Layman’s terms this means a lot of unhappy residents, money needed to invest and South Florida may not be one of the top tourism retreats any longer.

However, James Forquean, professor of biological sciences, had a different opinion. “There will be absolutely no place for the beaches and dunes to migrate if sea walls are built,” Forquean said. “I propose we create a wetland; this would initially cost more than a sea wall but requires no later maintenance.”

Forquean feels that the negative impact on the natural ecosystems outweigh the positives in this particular case.

Laura Ogden, professor of global and sociocultural studies, states “a new kind of science is needed — one that requires proper leadership and new environmental governments.”

Keith Scott, English professor, concluded that “nature is a political concept; it is a public dumping ground that needs a literary imagination.”

Some of the attendees felt very passionate about the topic and demanded answers for their much sought after questions. “How can we stop the destruction of the environment?” Victor, a sociology major wondered. “We need to stop the logging and start conserving more,” Babbitt responded. “Every time we cut down a tree, we are destroying a home to wildlife.”

Forquean concluded with his statement that “nature is a political concept and we need to conserve it.”

University set on improving retention

DROPOUTS, page 1

The program is called Bridge Advisers, which will focus primarily on guiding first-year students on the right track.

According to Moreto, the Bridge Advisers program is set to improve retention and undergraduate rates at our university.

“We will find out which students need help, which are undecided about their major and what their goals and questions are,” said Moreto.

Some of the main ideas of the program will include more involvement from the advisors with the students, school spirit and a plan for critical investments.
FOOTBALL: DARRIAN MALLARY

RUNNING AWAY

Mallary adds strength and breaks out for Golden Panthers

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

During a 37-yard run in the second quarter of a win against Western Kentucky on Oct. 9, Darrian Mallary seemed to have a sure touchdown after sweeping down the sideline before getting brought down by a defensive tackle from behind.

Six-foot-five Quaterman Smith caught the five-foot-eight Mallary from behind to prevent the score.

"I didn’t see it coming," Mallary said. "I thought it was over with so I was just going to jog in the end zone. But when I looked back, I saw someone coming so I was going to get up but he already had me."

Mallary scored on the next play, and went on to finish with a career high 97 yards. He hasn’t been getting caught much this season.

The truth is Mallary could have easily jetisoned ahead of Smith if he wanted to. The elusive running back runs a 4.38 second 40-yard dash, enough to make him among the fastest players on the team. His quickness and athleticism earned him the name "Ooh" when he was a youth player and was able to rely on a route leading Miami-Dade County in rushing during his senior year in high school at Gulliver Prep.

"Ohh," however, was bottlenecked up during his freshman season and didn’t even play in the last two games.

As a freshman at the University, speed wasn’t a problem. It was size and inexperience. Just last year, Mallary was struggling to find holes and explode like he is used to.

Mallary was held to just 103 yards on 31 carries, in large part to due a delayed adjustment to the speed of the game and a small frame.

"I worked on my lower body," he said. "I had small legs. I’m strong up top, I just had to get my legs stronger."

Mallary bench pressed 335 pounds, but only could muster around 200 pounds in the squat as a freshman. Now Mallary squats over 400 pounds, and has gained about 16 pounds from last season, up to over 190 pounds.

The former Gulliver Prep star also had to get used to the college game in regards to timing and being more instinctive in letting his blocks develop.

Head coach Mario Cristobal noticed the difference.

"It’s just a different speed of the game," Cristobal said. "Things close a lot quicker. Things that aren’t there upon receiving the football all of a sudden appear two steps later. He’s learned that and he’s playing fast."

Mallary has adjusted and is averaging almost twice as many yards per carry (5.6) than he did in 2009 (3.1). Although he profiles as a shifty running back and not a typical bruiser, he takes notes from his idol, Washington Redskins running back Clinton Portis.

Mallary talks occasionally with Portis and watches him every chance he gets.

Golden Panthers running back Darrian Mallary runs the ball against WKU. Mallary is one of the fastest players on the Panthers.

FANTASY CRUZ

Chris Cooley is biggest fantasy disappointment of season

The NFL is the most competitive professional sports league currently in America. There is only one team left with a single loss and no wins. The Jets are 5-1, while the Bills are 0-5. As to this, the Bills are 0-5. As to this, the Bills are 0-5. As to this...
Ivory is the real deal; Santana Moss should still not start off lines

CRUZ, page 3

him.

HOT PICKS

Deion Branch (New England Patriots)- Bill Belichick's injury increases with every trade and free agent move he makes. Reunited once again with Tom Brady, Branch looks like he has left not the Patriots since he won a Super Bowl MVP and championship in 2002. Against the untouchable defense of the Ravens, Branch had nearly 100 yards and touchdown. Brady has not lost chemistry with Branch and their connections will continue throughout the season. Ryan Torrain (Washington Redskins)- Torrain has no problem handling the defensive terrains he faces since replacing an injured Clinton Portis. Torrain rushed for 100 yards and 2 touchdowns on Sunday. As long as Portis is injured, Torrain will continue to receive carries under Mike Shanahan's run down your throat style of coaching.

Chris Ivory (New Orleans Saints)- The Saints finally played a decent game this season. Ivory had a solid 158-yard game and set up Brees’s pass game. With Julius Jones creeping behind Ivory for a starting job, Ivory has to consistently have these types of games and I think he will. The Saints finally are gelling and Ivory is one of the reasons why.

SANTANA SCRUTINY

I mean he did have a mediocre game with 77 yards and 8 receptions. He is lucky Chris Cooley isn’t getting balls thrown to him. As much attention as he is receiving from McNabb, the progress is minor and inconsistent from week to week. I said it before and I’ll say it again, Santana should not be starting in your line-up.

I would rather start Jags receiver Mike Thomas.

Portis mentors sophomore back

MALLARY, page 3

Although Mallary can’t emulate a power running style, he doesn’t mind mixing it up in the blocking game, especially with his incredible strength.

“That’s what I take pride in, because I’m a smaller guy but I’m not afraid to stick my nose in something,” he said. “At Gulliver, I was just running. Last year, they were just running through me, so I had to get my legs stronger.”

Mallary’s production has paired with the rest of FIU’s running backs to give Cristobal the best backfield he has had since he arrived in 2007. The Golden Panthers are averaging 153 yards per game, good for fourth in the Sun Belt Conference.

“We are different players. [Darriett Perry] is a pounder. [Kedrick Rhodes] got speed. We play off each other,” Mallary said. “At camp time, I was thinking ‘It’s going to be crazy this year,’ but I’ve been playing football since I was four years old. There’s always competition.”

Golden Panthers to begin a five-game road trip

RICO ALBARRACIN Staff Writer

FIU will be going on the road this weekend for a two game set against Sun Belt Conference teams from the West Division.

The Golden Panthers will face University of Arkansas Little Rock (2-15, 0-7 SBC) on Oct. 22, and Arkansas State (9-6, 4-3 SBC) on Oct. 24, which happens to be a rare Sunday game. These two games will start off a five-game road trip that will include teams with a combined conference record 11-24. That won’t let the Panthers put their guard down.

“I’ve told this team from the beginning, we can not take anything lightly and assume a team is worse than us,” Head coach Danjela Tomic said. “We can’t underestimate any team,” said libero Ines Medved. Colon, junior, who currently has 188 digs, good for second on the team. “I’m just excited to go there and take care of business. Teams have a tendency of stooping down to the level of the other team if the other team is on a lower level.”

When it comes to playing the lower tiered teams of the conference, there has to be a preconception to a possibility which junior Sabrina Gonzalez is well aware of. “The way we approach them is as if we were playing Middle Tennessee or Western Kentucky,” Gonzalez said. “They aren’t the best teams in the conference, but they can be the underdogs. They definitely could beat us if we don’t play to our potential. So we need to come with our poise and our dominance.”

UALR seems to be in a rebuilding year, as they went 16-14 a season ago, including a 10-8 conference record. This season they only have 11 players on the team, and 9 of them are either freshman or sophomores. Nevertheless, Tomic still feels that the Panthers can’t treat them lightly.

“You never know when a team is gonna have the performance of the year. They’re getting better,” Tomic said. “That’s my former coach, and I talk to her every week. Her teams always fight, and every team that we go is always going to fight because they’re tired of losing to FIU. I know that. Doesn’t matter what this season is, what our record is, they want to beat FIU because we have a history with all those teams.”

Senior Natalia Valentín mentioned last week that she feels the team will win when it matters.” This road trip should count as those moments. The road trip could be the defining point for this team, as to whether they should be considered a top tiered conference team, or a mediocre team that needs to restrengthen what they’ve been doing. Angélica Colon feels that this team has the talent to be at the top level and just needs to keep working on it.

“I almost feel that we’re a completely different team than when we started,” Colon said. “We’ve developed so much in the short period of time. We’re not at the point where we want to be at, we’re not satisfied yet, so I’m excited to see how we progress through the rest of the season.”

Coming off the tough loss against Western Kentucky, the players feel very confident and focused for the road trip, including Colon.

“I think this weekend we’ll take care of business and make sure we beat the teams the way we’re supposed to,” Colon said.

**SPORTS**

**INTRAMURAL FOOTBALL STANDINGS**

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**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**

**HOT PICKS**

Deion Branch (New England Patriots)- Bill Belichick’s injury increases with every trade and free agent move he makes. Reunited once again with Tom Brady, Branch looks like he has left not the Patriots since he won a Super Bowl MVP and championship in 2002. Against the untouchable defense of the Ravens, Branch had nearly 100 yards and touchdown. Brady has not lost chemistry with Branch and their connections will continue throughout the season.

**VOLLEYBALL**

UALR | Time: 8 p.m. | Where: UALR

ASU | Time: 2 p.m. | Where: ASU
ASHLEY MARIE LAPADULA
Contributing Writer

Greisy Padron has a lot on her hands these days. In addition to going to class and having a social life, Padron is the author, editor, and publisher of How to Lose Yourself in One Year or Less, a full-length novel due for release on Dec. 25, 2010.

Born in Camaguey, Cuba, she moved to Miami when she was only six years old. By the time she was eight, Padron had developed a desire to write short stories. After graduating from Ferguson High School in 2008, she pursued a degree in English Literature at the University of Miami. Padron says her primary motivation is to “write stories, more specifically about girls and people like myself who want to be entertained and will not settle for a throw away plot.” She’s taken on the role of editor for her work because she wants to control the editing and distribution portions of her work. Padron feels she needs to be the one to determine her audience, not a publishing company. She even started an organization for young writers called Andromeda Literary Group for Teen Authors.

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Padron’s role model is Cassandra Claire, an author who wrote many years for an online audience before moving to print. Students will likely catch Padron writing in her preferred medium, the Internet. Padron says, “I did not like how teenagers were being depicted in today’s life. I know teenagers come in but where is everything else? I wanted to portray teenage characters in a slightly more authentic way than a commercial would show.”

How to Lose Yourself in One Year or Less is set in a prestigious college. The story follows a boy whose imaginary girlfriend becomes a dangerous hallucination, and he must seduce the real life girl, Elena, who wears the imaginary girl’s face.

The cover for the book was originally drawn by Marlene Freimanis, who allowed Padron to use the art for her first book. It was chosen because the girl on the cover resembles how Padron imagines Elena, specifically the imaginary version of her. In anticipation of the book’s release this Christmas, she will post four related short stories, The Companions, from the point of view of the four main characters: Adam, Dev, Elena & Miles, will tell the story of what happens before, during and after the events of the novel.

Padron is also currently working on a trilogy that will be published after her first book is released. The trilogy follows a supernatural romance theme. According to Padron, her work is not intended for children due to the mature content of her writing. Her characters will usually curse, occasionally use drugs and almost certainly have sex. Something she isn’t afraid to talk about in her work.

Padron doesn’t see her accomplishment as something so out of the ordinary. “Read a lot, write a lot, there are no limits, no restrictions, no reason to stop doing what you love,” she advises fellow students.

How to Lose Yourself in One Year or Less will be released on Dec. 25, 2010 and will be available through Barnes & Noble, the Kindle store at Amazon.com, and www.gpadron.com.

Cover art for How to Lose Yourself In One Year or Less designed by Marlene Freimanis.

Fistfuls of Tech!

iPod proving itself to be more than an

When the iPod first released I said something to the effect that it was a really feature rich, overpriced eBook reader that didn’t shift any paradigms. In hindsight, now that the device is approaching it’s first year on the market, I may have been just a tad harsh.

Let’s analyze a few generalizations folks make about the iPod.

THE IPOD IS A DEVICE GEARED TOWARD CONTENT CREATION MORE THAN CONSUMPTION.

In Steve Jobs’ eyes, the iPod is a device that users can create content on. With apps like Sketchpad and Apple’s iWork suite, it seems like that is what he wants to see. The iPod is still not a device to create.

Writing a paper, or a column for that matter, on the iPod is difficult and demands a lot of resources. The input method is intuitive but nowhere near as accurate as a computer.

The iPod is the ideal device to consume content. Readers such as the popular Reeder and Instapaper apps allow you to consume RSS feeds easily and efficiently.

Magazines and newspapers are also taking advantage of the platform by thinking outside the box a bit in terms of layout. Publications like Esquire Magazine and Popular Mechanics are creating some really unique ePubs that offer readers a good mix of multimedia.

The only problem is that now publishers are forced to split their profits with Apple, so there goes the whole “iPadiot saving journalism” thing. But that’s a whole other column.

My iPod exists to help me digest something to the effect that it was a really accurate as a computer.

And efficiently.

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So what is the iPod then?

The iPod is ultimately two, very important things: a fantastic device for consuming and sharing content and proof of concept that this way to interact with a computer simply works.

By the time you read this, Mac OS X Lion would have been released. Rumor is that more and more iOS will be making its way in to the full desktop experience.

I think what we are seeing here is Apple making a move to integrate this type of input method with a more robust computing experience unfettered by governance, or so we think.

If we are truly to see an OS X with more multi-touch and more iOS than I hope Apple’s iron fist stays on my iPhone and doesn’t find its way to my Macbook.

Fistfuls of Tech! is a weekly column about all things technological. For more tech news and commentary, check out Fe2? online at fistfulsoftech.fusam.com

BEHIND THE AUTHOR

University student publishes novel at 20

www.fusam.com Friday, October 22, 2010

LIFE!

COLUMINIST

JORGE VALENS

Fistfuls of Tech! is a weekly column about all things technological. For more tech news and commentary, check out Fe2? online at fistfulsoftech.fusam.com
The plot of the play centers around Janet Weiss and Brad Majors, a newly engaged couple whose car breaks down. In search of a safe haven, they stumble upon Frank-N-Furter’s castle. Futter is a transvestite from Transsexual, Transylvania.

Robert Alter, a senior BFA performance and design major who plays the doctor, found it hard to explain his character.

“He’s an alien transvestite who is bent on controlling and harnessing human life through any means necessary. He’s a scientist who creates Frankenstein, the perfect human. He’s a man of perfection in a golden Speedo,” said Alter.

When it comes to the extreme and ridiculous plot of the movie, Alter said the film wasn’t meant to be taken seriously and that’s how the idea for “shadowing” the play came about because it gives an audience a chance to poke fun at the movie.

“The movie is ridiculous. [Shadowing] the movie gets people in the atmosphere and it’s a fun way for people to ridicule the movie,” said Alter.

Tale as old as time still speaks to modern audiences

There’s a scene early in the play where Belle is told the story of how her parents died. It almost feels like a panorama from a Terrance Malick film like Days of Heaven or恋恋笔记本. It’s a fun way for the audience can witness singing tea cups as they move and dance candlesticks who are far more charming than most flesh and blood characters in films; characters who lead us into a world that is not just fantasy but a reflection of our own fears and desires.

Belle wants out of her mundane existence in 19th century France. She’s expected to close the books and schlep because he’s set his sights on her, and of course she’s expected to obey the book which inspire her imagination.

Her father, the typical absent minded professor, journeys through the woods and is lost only to come upon a castle inhabited not only by talking household items but by a giant Beast who takes him captive.

The prologue to the film explains that the Beast was once an arrogant prince, cursed to inhabit his current form for his selfishness and cruelty. He has until the eve of his 21st birthday to love and be loved by a woman to break the spell.

Belle agrees to remain a prisoner of the Beast in exchange for her father’s freedom. The servants of the house, cursed to remain in the form of teacups and clocks, watch urgently hoping that she’ll be the girl to break the curse.

"Cue show-stopping musical numbers like Gaston’s or Be Our Guest.” The latter is orchestrated with the legacy of choreographer Busby Berkley in mind featuring overhead shots of dancing plates and champagne bottles rollicking in the best Broadway tradition. Lumiere, the licking candlestick voice by Jerry Orbach, channels 1930’s musical film star Maurice Chevalier at his finest.

The beauty of what the artists at Disney Animation Studios were able to do in the 1990’s, particularly with this film, lay in their ability to create a whole new legacy for the studio which for all intents and purposes had refused to change styles and sensibilities during the 1970’s and 1980’s.

There’s a famous story of a young John Lasseter being fired from the studios for proposing to make a full-length movie animated with computer graphics back in 1982. He went on to direct Toy Story and be the founder of Pixar.

Of course, the animators of this film would end up using computer effects during the film’s title musical number, a sweeping shot of the Beast and Belle gliding across a dance floor as Mrs. Potts, voiced by Angela Lansbury, sings on.

This film set up the blue print for the following decade of Disney releases: vast scales, fictional numbers and musical traditions.

The townspople at the climax of the film are at arms, marching towards the Beast’s castle to eliminate him. We see the mob in the reflection of a puddle in the woods. Images of the Seven Dwarves play through my mind as I watch this.

The film embraces the best of Disney tradition: haunting images with a definite good and definite evil force pushing the plot along with great imagination.

The definite evil here is not Gaston, however, who’s intent on killing the Beast and stealing Belle’s heart. The evil is ignorance, the unwillingness to see beyond the exterior of people.

The good at hand here, then, is the willingness to embrace new people and ideals and dreams.

Reel to Reel is a weekly movie column. Look for it every Friday.
The United States operates as a capitalist country with a free market and limited government, which implies that those who work hard for their wealth should get to keep what they earn. “Laissez faire” economy, a French term for “let it be,” speaks towards the need for limited government interaction. It promotes the contracting of trade between the two parties involved in the transaction: the buyer and the seller. These two parties must agree on the cost and the quality of the product they are buying without corruption from government interference either promoting the system or denoting it. This makes the system fair.

When one has a grasp on at least this brief definition of how the economy works, it becomes easy to discard this notion that the poor stays poor because the rich take it all. The market allows equal opportunity for all.

Milton Friedman, one of the most influential economists, political commentators and essayist of the century once said, “The most important single fact central to a free market is that no exchange takes place unless both parties benefit.” On the subject of wealth distribution, taxing the rich heavily in order to raise in more cash to assist the lower caste would in fact serve its purpose, that is move the wealth from the top to the bottom.

However, it would also hinder economic expansion because of the absence of the “profit motive,” which lies at the center of business enterprises. In the long run if the system reaches equilibrium the economy cannot expand without entrepreneurs and everyone will suffer.

In a perfect world, a free market economy is able to bring complete efficiency bringing optimal distribution of a country’s resources. However, since we aren’t living in a perfect world, prices never reach equilibrium, which is necessary to bring optimal distribution of a country’s resources. They are very volatile depending upon the vagaries of the market forces.

This is most certainly not beneficial for those who are living under the poverty line or those included in low income groups who are unable to pay high prices in cases of demand shortage. However, one flaw in the system does not exist and that is reducing the stance for an entire change of the market system.

Apart from the economic consequences of socialist policies, it raises many social concerns as well. This notion of taking from the wealthy, who have worked the system and for the system to accumulate their wealth is theft. Theft in its purest form, taking without consent, regardless of the fact that it is an elected body perpetuating the act “Forced Charity” is not charity, it is theft. With the general populace now depending on the government to provide their bread and butter it causes a tremendous reliance on government, a blatant contradiction to our culture that cherishes freedom. Freedom to accumulate wealth should not be exempted. Adopting a wealth distribution policy as one that has been the subject of mass speculation and argument could hurt us towards becoming a socialist nation. Use this dramatization to show trends in history and even today. No communist nation other than the Soviets has reached the level of success that the United States and we were all there to witness their fall. Even in societies where this socialist practice takes place indeed everyone is equal, equally poor that is.

We cannot really say that these countries are better off than the United States. If adopting wealth distribution made everyone equally wealthy, I’m sure no one would refuse. Nevertheless this is not the case. Why, then, should we distribute the wealth? Why should we punish the success of others?

Originality killed by constant branding

PERSPECTIVES
Should government make laws to prevent cyber bullying?

"Too many people are getting hurt, too many people are committing suicide. They need to pass a law or else people will keep dying for nothing. That's government's role, to make changes when things aren't right."

-Mark Dink, Senior, Biology

"Cyber bullying has become very everywhere with teens. It drives other people nowadays and we need to protect them. Some people treat it as minor, but cyber bullying is becoming an effective way for bullies to get to their victim."

-Kenisha Tonne, Sophomore, Biology

"I feel that there should be some regulations on cyber-bullying, but I also feel people should get a sense of humor. I can understand if it's something really offensive, but other things you've got to let it slide and laugh a little." 

-Marcos Alejandro Valencia, Sophomore, Music

Compiled by Jaquyn Elliott.
Barbados opposition picks ex-PM as leader

The opposition Barbados Labor Party has elected Owen Arthur, a former prime minister who led the island from 1994 to 2008, as its new leader on Oct. 19 replacing Mia Mottley.

Bruce Babbitt discussed future of Fla. environment

The summit, titled “Challenges of Poverty, Health, and Sustainability,” was a University-wide event held in tandem at BBC and Modesto Maidique Campus early in the morning of Oct. 19.

“Florida has been heavily and indirectly compromised by the BP oil spill,” said Babbitt, who served as secretary of the interior from 1993 to 2001.

“BP should be taxed by the Federal Law. This mitigation fund should then be used to pay for the necessary adjustments in infrastructure needed to save South Florida’s coastlines,” said Babbitt.

A topographical map was shown illustrating the outcome from the rise in sea level in South Florida if people choose to do nothing about it. According to Babbitt, Fisher Island and South Beach will be completely submerged and the collateral damage will be beyond any scientist’s expectations.

The Florida Everglades will be hugely impacted as well. Babbitt states that with the help of Florida leaders and residents, land has been purchased for promoting the way up to Okeechobee; this means that the ecosystems and animals living within them will be able to retreat north and most likely adjust to this change.

Babbitt did offer comfort to all who attended the summit by informing them of the available options, such as sea walls and new building codes.

Babbitt’s example of a new building code would be Silosville, a collection of houses built on stilts in shallow water, in Biscayne Bay.

Babbitt suggested beginning

SUMMIT, page 2

JAMAICA

Arty to lead probe into Coke case named

Emil George, a prominent lawyer, has been picked to head an inquiry commission that will look into the government’s handling of a U.S. extradition request for alleged drug baron Christopher “Dudus” Coke.

Students can help beautify and maintain the gardens on Nov. 4 and Dec. 2 at 3 p.m. Butterfly gardeners will meet by the gazebo located in front of the BBC library.

Monarchs, native plants call campus gardens home

Butterfly gardens around the Biscayne Bay Campus invite butterflies all year round.

The butterfly gardens, achieved by growing host plants that nourish butterfly offspring and nectar plants that adult butterflies like to feed on, are mainly composed of native plants. These are plants that grow naturally in the South Florida environment and because of this require less maintenance thus making the gardens easy to maintain.

In the garden there are a variety of plants such as: beach sunflowers, portulacaceae, tick-seeds, black-eyed susans, pentas, moss verbenas, scarlet milkweeds, coonties, blanket-flowers, twinflowers, muhlygrass, mimosas and bromeliads.

The butterfly gardens are a collaboration of ideas from Joseph West, former vice provost and current restaurant management professor; Julissa Castellanos, director of Operations; and Jennifer Grimm, environmental coordinator.

Not many students on campus know where the butterfly gardens are located, but many have seen their effects.

“Butterflies always mean a sign of life to me, much like ladybugs are to other people,” said Michelle Serrano, a junior advertising student “So it makes me happy to see the butterflies on campus.”

Students can see the result of the gardens creating habitats for Queen Monarch butterflies and their offspring at the three gardens on campus: one by the gazebo in front of the library, the other next to the flagpole in front of the Wolfe University Center, and the final one is behind Academic Two.

The gardens were funded by various organizations: the Student Government Council at BBC, the office of the Vice Provost, and grants from State Farm and the Munson Foundation. The grant amounts were not available as of press time.

“We hope to create more gardens on campus, but we need to secure more funds and locations,” Grimm said.

“It would be great to see more of South Florida’s native and innocuous bugs,” said Mauricio Vera, junior marketing major.

The gardens are maintained by different organizations: SGC-BBC, freshmen experience classes and volunteers.

Community service hours may be given to qualified clubs or students.

Michelle Beckman Contributing Writer

Bruce Babbitt, the former secretary of the interior in the Bill Clinton administration, was the main speaker at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ geopolitical summit and brought issues to attendees’ attention regarding the drastic rise in sea level that will occur within this century.

Tax bureau workers accused of fraud scheme

Two employees of the U.S. Virgin Islands’ tax bureau are accused of leading a scheme that purportedly paid as much as $500,000 from the government using fraudulent tax refund checks.

Jane Pauley said it best, “New Yorkers, by reputation, are fast-talking, assertive and easily annoyed: I fit right in.

The busier most people are the easier it is to deal with change, somewhere down the road the lesson is learned and you can stop and smell the roses, but for right now my pace is based on a New York minute.”

Bleeker Meets Biscayne

Enjoying the entire weekend in a New York minute

I think at this point with my “no-relationship” mentality, I’d rather spend my Sundays with the boys at Boy Bar and avoid all the awkward getting hit on and bad pick-up lines from “normal” bars.

In a New York minute life changes, friends become foes and lovers turn strangers but if you stop too long and waste away on all the meaningless questions of what, if, and why, you lose out on the good memories.

Bleeker Meets Biscayne is a bi-weekly column published on Friday. The columnist pays her own way and receives no special treatment.

Contact Us
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Jazz Festival.”

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