Florida Senate race candidates exchange debate blows during CNN sponsored debate

BRENDAN FARRINGTON
TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

Florida Gov. Charlie Crist defends his changing positions on issues by saying as a former college quarterback he knows how to ‘call an audible.’

By the end of Sunday’s debate with his opponents for U.S. Senate, it looked like he was throwing a Hail Mary.

The debate spun out of control near the end as independent Crist and Republican Marco Rubio rapidly talked over each other.

Crist, who is down by double digits in multiple polls with just more than a week left before the election, repeatedly interrupted Rubio with accusations that as House speaker he steered money to a university and a hospital and later took jobs from them.

He also said Rubio doesn’t ‘advocate transparency because he won’t release credit card records from his state GOP-issued American Express card.

“I’ve never had a heckler at the debate, I’ve always had them in the audience,” Rubio said with a laugh.

“Welcome to the NFL,” responded Crist.

It was clear that Crist and Democrat Kendrick Meek stepped up their efforts to make up ground against Rubio.

Earlier in the debate, Meek, a congressman from Miami-Dade County, argued with Rubio about whether tax cuts passed under President George W. Bush should be extended.

Crist said, adding that Republicans went too far to the right for him.

“If your polling was higher than Marco Rubio’s you would have left the party,” asked Adam Smith, the Times’ political editor.

“Absolutely, because you have to right with yourself. When the party has those kind of views and represents that kind of intolerance, that’s not the way my parents, who are here today, raised me and my sisters. I couldn’t live with that,” said Crist, who criticized Rubio’s opposition to abortion rights and stem cell research.

Rubio pointed out the governor is running as an independent because he couldn’t beat Marco Rubio,” said Meek.

The move to online journals comes to the University at a time when digitalization of physical documents is becoming a prominent movement around the nation.

In 2008, it was found that 96.1 percent of science, technology and medicine journals and 86.5 percent of arts, humanities and social sciences journals were accessible online, according to a survey done by the University of Florida.

Once the facility is completed in 2013, university libraries throughout the state will begin to build a physical archival collection of 5.2 million volumes of journals and monographs.

“That’s given us an option for everyday access to the electronic copies,” said Probst.

Within the top ten, the University of Miami’s 19.7 percent and Stanford University’s 5.6 percent.

“We are always pleased when the excellent students, faculty, and programs are recognized” said Joyce J. Elam, executive dean of the College of Business Administration. “We are committed to providing our students an outstanding educational experience and getting the recognition for our accomplishment is very rewarding.”

The College of Business Administration opened its doors in 1972 along with the rest of the University and throughout the years it has expanded to include over 100 faculty members, 25,000 alumni, accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International and five research centers ranging from leadership to global entrepreneurship.

Both graduate and undergraduate students of the college are often offered internships from companies like Bank of America, the Microsoft Corporation, Merrill Lynch and Goldman Sachs. One fifth of College of Business alumni
Florida Senate race candidates argue over extension of Bush tax cuts

SENATE, page 1

nor’s changing positions on issues, Crist said. Crist said that Florida wants a senator that can change positions as circumstances change. “I remember calling a play in the huddle and literally as you’re walking up to the line of scrimmage, you survey the defense, the facts and circumstances before you, see where the line backers are, and realize that if there is going to be a blitz you’ve got to call an audible. You have to change to adapt the circum-
stances,” Crist said. Rubio said that’s not what Crist has often vowed to do.

“He changes position on the issues because he wants to win the election,” Rubio said.

Crist shot back, “This is so untrue and so unfair for you to interpret what’s in my heart.”

For nearly half the debate, the candidates talked about whether the Bush tax cuts should be extended.

Rubio and Crist think all the tax cuts should continue

College of Business ‘constantly seeking ways to improve quality’

BUSINESS, page 1

own businesses and 70 percent work in the state of Florida.

“When you are younger and smaller you have to fight harder,” said Marcos A. Kerbel, participating adjunct professor in the department of finance, on the College of Business’ accomplishments. “One of the successes of trying harder, without people realizing it, is that you go right to the top.”

Kerbel, who has been teaching at the University since 1980, has witnessed the history of the College of Business. He believes the University has become a public institution with low tuition costs.

That considerable change, however, has come with “tremendous growth pains” due in part to state budget cuts. Despite such limitations, Kerbel believes the University will continue to receive recognition.

“Sometimes it’s not the size, but the quality [of the institution],” said Kerbel.

Among other institutions in the top ten of Hispanic Business’ list are New York University’s Leonard N. Stern School of Business and the University of Miami’s School of Business Administration.

NYU’s school of business ranked second with a total Hispanic graduate enrollment of 5.6 percent and 3.8 percent Hispanic faculty.

The College of Business ‘constantly seeking ways to improve quality’

University faculty aiding in digital library transition

by the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers.

Aside from the online convenience, the conversion is also a measure to save costs for libraries, allowing them to maintain access to the journals in the midst of budget cuts and rising journal costs.

“There is a national discus-
sion going on amongst libraries to what we can do with print journals and what are the criteria we need to have to ensure that we have access in the future and in the present,” said Joyce Fine, chair of the Faculty Criteria Committee.

The process is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the fall and spring semesters and a week before and after Spring Break. Five copy sets per publication. Additional deposits are due in cases of large works. The copy is not responsible for the cost of a deposit. The copying fee should be coordinate with the employee or versioner. The editorial staff is responsible for the accuracy of the data. The copy fit for the reader is the responsibility of the individual.

The deposit is not refundable.

Crist said he was extended.

Mr. Rubio and Mr. Crist start to stutter when we start talking about tax cuts for the super wealthy—it’s OK to borrow that money for it to happen,” Meek said. “It’s important that we save money, we bring the deficit down, but we don’t borrow $700 billion.”

University faculty aiding in digital library transition

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Department of Finance, Adjunct Professor

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Deanne Butchey, assistant dean of accreditation for the College of Business Administration, believes they must continue to improve.

“We are immensely proud of our many achievements but refuse to rest on our past laurels and are constantly seeking ways to improve our quality and by extension our rankings,” said Butchey.
ON THE EDGE

C-USA tournament hopes wane after Kentucky loss

MEN’S SOCCER

Team splits weekend road trip, lose in three sets to ASU

RICO ALBARRACIN

When a team dominates, it should provide enough momentum to carry them into their next match. This is not always the case.

After dominating the University of Arkansas Little Rock on Oct. 22, the Panthers saw themselves dominated by the Trojans.

FIU (11-9, SBC 5-3) put on a dominating performance in Little Rock to defeat UALR (2-16, SBC 0-8) in three sets, 25-18, 25-19, and 25-10.

Redshirt freshman Marjia Prsa put up a game high 15 kills, while adding 11 digs on the defensive side. Senior Natalia Valentin had a game high 36 assists, while leading the team with 17 digs and Spruill saw more playing and recorded a team high three blocks in the match.

The third set saw the Trojans take the lead and never look back, as they jumped out to a 18-5 lead. The Trojans could not do much, as they saw kills by Prsa and Renele Ford finish their chances at a come-back ending at 25-10.

ARKANSAS STATE 3, FIU 0

On a rare Sunday game, FIU looked to improve their record and build a foundation for the rest of their road trip. It turned out to be the exact opposite.

FIU (11-10, SBC 3-4) dropped a match in straight sets to Arkansas State (12-9, SBC 6-3), with all sets coming pretty close, 25-23, 25-21, and 26-24.

Trikula led FIU with 11 kills while Valentin had a team high 28 assists, along with 10 digs. Araujo led FIU on the defensive side with 17 digs and Spruill saw more playing and recorded a team high three blocks in the match.

In the first set, both the Panthers and the Red Wolves came out to play. With the score tied at 19, FIU took the lead and then a kill by Prsa gave the Panthers a 21-19 lead. The Red Wolves went on a 4-0 run to take the lead that they would not relinquish, eventually winning the set 25-23.

The Red Wolves jumped out in the second set to a big lead. The Golden Panthers were able to cut the deficit down to 3, 15-18. FIU then went on a 7-4 run to put the score at 21-22, including a kill by Medved and a block by Lakovic. Unfortunately, that was the last point the Panthers would score in the set, as Arkansas State scored 3 straight points to finish the set 25-21.

The third set was a back and forth battle, as neither team could pull away. With the score tied at 20, the Red Wolves scored a couple points to take the lead. ASU then made an error but scored right after to make it 23-21. Back and forth points, which put the Red Wolves in a match point, 24-22. Trikula and Medved scored back to tie the match at 24. ASU put themselves back into a match point situation, before eventually forcing a Panther error to finish the set and match 25-24.

FIU will look to regroup this weekend as they travel to South Alabama on Oct. 29 and Troy on Oct. 30. First serve for both matches is set for 8 p.m.

SPORTS

Contact Us
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Wednesday, October 27, 2010
Unlikely match up is captivating

BEN WALKER
AP Sports Writer

When the Texas Rangers and San Francisco Giants met the first time, it was a novelty. Now they’re set to tangle for much, much more.

Tim Lincecum and the Giants take on Cliff Lee and the Rangers in the World Series starting Wednesday night, a matchup of the teams that curiously played baseball’s first interleague game back in 1997.

It’s an improbable pairing and promises the trophy will be hoisted at AT&T Park or in the Lone Star State for the first time.

The Giants have not won the Series since moving to San Francisco in 1958. The Rangers finally made it this far in the franchise’s 50th season.


“Sounds delicious,” Brian Wilson said. “We’ll be coming.”

Unlikely MVP Cody Ross and the Giants clinched their spot Saturday night when Wilson struck out Ryan Howard to escape a ninth-inning jam and beat Philadelphia 3-2 in Game 6 of the NL championship series, denying the Phillies a third straight trip to the World Series.

Josh Hamilton won the MVP award as Texas eliminated the defending champion New York Yankees in Game 6 of the ALCS on Friday night.

Well before this World Series, these club helped change the baseball world. That June night in Texas more than a dozen years ago, Nolan Ryan and Willie Mays threw out the ceremonial first balls, players wore special patches on their sleeves and the bases were painted with a logo reading “First Interleague Game.”

“I remember that,” Rangers reliever Darren Oliver said this week, having thrown the first pitch in interleague history.

The atmosphere is sure to be even more charged for the opener at AT&T Park. The NL finally won an All-Star game to earn home-field advantage in the World Series, and that’s an especially good omen for the Giants — they’re 9-0 against Texas in their waterfront ballpark.

Overall, Texas has lost 11 straight at San Francisco dating to 1998. The previous time the Rangers won there? Oliver outpitched Orel Hershiser at Candlestick Park.

The Giants swept the Rangers in 2009 in the last time the teams met in the regular season. They both train in Arizona and in a spring training game this year, Nelson Cruz hit a long home run and Hamilton left the game after accidentally being hit in the left hand by a pitch from Giants rookie Madison Bumgarner.

There is a more direct link between the clubs. Eager to get rookie Buster Posey behind the plate on a regular basis, the Giants traded veteran catcher Bengie Molina to Texas on July 1. Posey blossomed into a Rookie of the Year candidate, excelling as a catcher and hitter. He homered on the final day of the regular season as the Giants clinched the NL West, then carried that momentum throughout the post-season as they reached the World Series for the first time since Barry Bonds led them there in 2002.

Posey also was praised for his handling of a staff that includes starters Matt Cain and Jonathan Sanchez and major league saves leader Brian Wilson. The franchise will try for its first World Series crown since Mays helped the New York Giants win in 1954.

The Rangers took over first place in the AL West on June 8 and stayed there the rest of the season. They beat Tampa Bay in the deciding Game 5 of the first-round matchup behind Lee, a late-season pickup, and beat the Yankees in the ALCS.

Even though World Series rookie-to-be Vladimir Guererro and the big boppers got a lot of attention for the way they battered the Yankees, the Rangers made it to late October because of their arms.

Ryan, the team president who added the title of part-owner to his resume this season, preached a culture of pitching and exhorted his starters to go deep into games. The all-time leader in strikeouts and no-hitters led by example — asked to throw out another ceremonial first ball in the playoffs, the 63-year-old Hall of Famer cracked up for a heater that got the home crowd buzzing.

Closing at home

MEN’S SOCCER, page 3

Kansas Texas/Boston Fut Pro Photo

Kelsey Rene and the Golden Panthers couldn’t stop ULL.

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

The women’s soccer team fell to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette 2-1 on Oct. 24, losing for the fourth time in five games after a five game win streak.

Going into the game, it looked as if FIU (9-6-1, 4-4-4) SBC) had the advantage statistically, as ULL (9-10-4) SBC) did not have any player cracking the top ten lists in the Sun Belt Conference, and FIU did.

The Golden Panthers may have been emotion ally spent after a big win the night before in a senior night win over the University of Louisiana Monroe.

Whatever the reason was, Louisiana fought its way into the SBC tournament as FIU, who has already clinched a berth in the event, failed to gain ground in the seeding, remaining in fourth place in the SBC.

The game started out fast for FIU, as junior Kelly Ann Hutchinson recorded her first goal of the year from April Perry on a corner kick.

That lead did not last long though, as Louisiana struck back just two minutes later as Chelsea Balexter, the leading goal getter for ULL, headed a ball into the back of the net from off a cross from Shelby Isley, and the game suddenly became even again.

The game was actually even the whole match, as both teams each had the same 13 shots in the game. Toward the end of the first half, FIU put on an onslaught of shots, four in all, but could not take the lead going into halftime.

Going into the second half of action, a grand total of 40 hard fought minutes went on as both teams would not concede.

That’s when Louisiana was able to get a free kick, and took full advantage of it, as Cayla Chatman fired one in off the combined assist of Courtney Hollander, who led her team in assist going into the days match, and Melissa Minton. That was Chatman’s third winning goal of the season. It was now FIU’s turn with just five minutes to play to tie the game up and put it over time, but that was not to be. The last ditch effort from Perry and Katrina Rose went a-rye, as Perry’s got blocked, and with 49 seconds left, Rose put the ball too high over the net.

“I like the told the team, we have to be focused the whole game and we let Louisiana back in it,” Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt told fiusports.com. “They had their backs against the wall because it was a must win situation to get into the tournament.”

The Golden Panthers now go to their last game of the season at rival FAU on Oct. 29, who also clinched a playoff spot of their own.

Panthers drop fourth game in five contests to ULL
HEALTHY BITES

Redo tips for healthy diet

We all want to eat healthier, but temptations around us can prevent us from doing so. Changing the foods that are available to us and creating a better “food environment” can encourage and promote healthier choices and consumption. You are more likely to eat healthier if those types of food are readily available to you. Use these easy tips to makeover your kitchen and stock up on the right things to help you eat healthier everyday.

1. TRADE OUT WHOLE GRAIN
You can’t always choose whole grains while eating out, so capitalize on whole grains when eating at home by having them readily available. Swap regular pasta for whole wheat bread and brown rice.

2. STOCK UP ON HEALTHY SNACKS
Replace chips and cookies with healthier options such as 2% milk string cheese, whole-wheat crackers with low-fat cheese, baby carrot bags, Orville Redenbach’s 100-calorie smart pop popcorn, 100% real fruit leather, almonds and dried fruits. If you do this, the next time you are craving for a snack, you are more likely to reach for these healthy options.

3. PORTIONS, PORTIONS, PORTIONS
Try buying snacks such as chips or cookies in single-serve bags or portion them out yourself by making little baggies that contain one serving of the snack. This will help you from mindlessly eating which can happen when you eat out of family-size bags or a box.

4. SKIP HIGH-CALORIE DRINKS
Drinks such as soda and juices are high in calories and sugars yet do not satisfy hunger like solid foods do. By reducing the availability of these drinks at the house and always having water handy, you can avoid the equivalent of a 15-pound weight gain per year. If you must have soda, enjoy it while eating out or trade 2 liter bottles for 100-calorie cans and have only one per meal.

5. FILL THE FREEZER
Load up your freezer with frozen vegetables. Staying good for a long time and pretty cheap, these veggies can be used in a variety of ways to spice up any meal. Get your favorite vegetables such as broccoli, green beans, peas or carrots and aim to make them a part of your dinner this week.

6. CANNED GOODS
Stock up on all types of beans such as garbanzo, kidney, black or pinto from the canned food aisle. Beans are a part of a healthy diet, low in calories, high in fiber, high in protein and low in cost.

Remember to rinse the beans well before using them in order to reduce the

HEALTHY BITES, page 6

LATINOS UNIDOS

On Oct 14, RHA and SPC sponsored Latinos Unidos, a celebration that was a part of scheduled events for Hispanic Heritage Month. The entertainment was provided by the Colombian band Guaramo (pictured here).

Homecoming week to be ‘baddest’ yet

LANIAMAR DAVILA SANABRIA
Asst. News Director

The countdown to Homecoming Week, taking place Nov. 1-6, is well under way. This year’s theme for both campuses is “See the World in Blue and Gold” and will include a Pep Rally, Homecoming Prowl, Lip Sync/ Talent Show, the Student Programming Council’s Variety Show, a Homecoming Dance, the FIU Music Festival (formerly FIU Ultra) and the Game Day Panthermash.

“Impiration came from many different avenues such as President Rosenberg and the Worlds Ahead campaign, our surrounding community, our very diverse student population and the great pride of being a Golden Panther,” said Alex Parayuelos, overall director of Homecoming Council.

“This year’s logo is a TV set in the place of Roary’s head with a globe insert in blue and gold colors. All homecoming events are free to students, but some events require tickets that have to be picked up using your Panther ID.”

Homecoming Week is officially kicked off by the Homecoming Pep Rally taking place on Nov. 1 at 12 p.m. in the GC Pit at the Modesto Maidique Campus and at 12 p.m. in the south University Center’s Panther Square at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The Panther Prowl Comedy Show, one of the biggest events and traditions at the University, will take place on Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. in U.S. Century Bank Arena at MMC.

It will feature well-known comedians DL Hughley, Kyle Duncan from Reno 911! and Iliza Shlesinger, winner of NBC’s Last Comic Standing Season 6.

The Lip Sync/Talent Show competition is on Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. Lip Sync is a competition where students put together and prepare their own song/dance/cheer and perform it in front of judges and their peers.

The routine must relate to the homecoming theme in some way and exhibit as much school spirit as possible. This year they are continuing a talent show portion where students are free to showcase talents ranging from singing to dancing to acting.

The SPC Variety Show featuring Psychic of the Year/Mentalist Jonny Zavant, Team Roodbrey’s extreme entertainment and magician Ran’d Shine is on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. This year there will also be the inaugural Variety Show at the Bay presented by SPC BBC.

On Nov. 4, voting for the Homecoming Court will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Graham Center computer lab at the MMC. King and queen candidates are chosen from their respective organizations to represent University tradition and homecoming spirit and are announced during the football game. Prior to homecoming week, the king and queen candidates will participate in the TSC Walk on Oct. 23.

The Homecoming Dance hosted by SPC will be held on Nov. 4 at 8 p.m. in the WUC Ballrooms at BBC.

“In my research of other universities and their respective homecomings I have found that every university has a signature homecoming event. Our signature event is FIU Music Festival,” said Parayuelos.

The FIU Music Festival will be held on Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. between the blue and gold garages at MMC. Ever since 2005, this Homecoming event has grown into one of the University’s most attended events with over 5,000 students attending each year, according to the Homecoming Council. This year, DJs Scribble, Irie, Kaeno and Zog are scheduled to perform.

Homecoming Week culminates on Nov. 6 at MMC with Panthermash, an all-day celebration including events such as the Homecoming Parade, a new added Game Day concert with the popular alternative rock band Lifehouse, a student tailgate, coronation of the king and queen and the homecoming football game against the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Homecoming day will start at 11 a.m. with local acts performing on a stage near the football stadium. At 2 p.m., the Homecoming Parade will start on the north side of MMC and will end up next to the stadium. At 3 p.m. the newest addition, the Pre-Game Concert, will take place while students tailgate. Finally, to wrap up the day, the football game against ULM will start at 6 p.m.

“We have been working closely with the Office of the President, Human Resources, Athletics, Alumni Association, External Relations, The Biscayne Bay Campus and numerous other departments within the university to bring the FIU Community the biggest, ‘baddest,’ and the best homecoming that FIU has ever seen!” said Parayuelos.

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www.fiuam.com Wednesday, October 27, 2010

HEALTH, page 6

President Mark B. Rosenberg and his wife Rosalie at the 2009 Homecoming Parade.

Homecoming week to be ‘baddest’ yet

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

University Alum’s Cupcake Franchise a Sweet Discovery

Hector Mojena

WRGP Radiate FM will host the annual first Chucapura Fest 2K10 in the DM Amphitheatre on Thursday, October 28th.

To all FIU students and will be to the nearest voting location that I pass until a “party starting” session held on-campus where Misha’s supplied dessert.

The cupcakes themselves are tiny, bite-sized confections even with delish buttercream tufts that complement the cake flavor. I had the pleasure of trying the vanilla, coconut and peanut butter chocolate varieties.

In addition to the films being shown, various DJ’s from Radiate FM will be playing field recordings and other musical pieces to contribute to the overall, “Exploding Plastic Inevitability of Events” experience.

“Odd” will also play prominently in the night’s events, so don’t forget your dildos, lutes, and hurdy gurdies.

“Misha’s” is just gonna be very weird but very fun. There’s gonna be food and drinks and everyone can come in costume,” said Morejon.

The organizers wish to bring in new listeners with the multi-media gathering while still establishing an event that can be appreciated by dedicated listeners as well.

This being the first Chucapura Fest 2K10, the station’s members are banking on the surreal undertones of the event being so new that a vast segment of listeners.

The station wants to create an eerie atmosphere similar to that of an event’s distinct purpose.

“There are some things people are going to enjoy, whether it’s for the movie marathon or for the use of a multi-media celebration that would make Luis Buñuel blush.”

As a pre-Halloween rave-up, Chucapura Fest 2K10 should be the perfect way to get some Cupcakes in before the season ends.

“It’s like a messed up version of Mystery Science Theater [3000],” Morejon said.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Library laptop thefts accounted for
LAURA PROBST Chief Bill King

Library staff regularly patrol the study areas of both libraries.
We also post signs warning students to not leave lap tops unattended.
Over the last two years, all but one of the laptop thefts in our libraries occurred while a student left a laptop unattended.
We are looking into additional usage should be regulated instead of putting marijuana in jail for smoking, or for having marijuana in their possession, the government could turn it into a valuable cash crop and use its revenue to help fund other programs. According to an article on CNN.com, America's illegal drug problem has cost taxpayers more than $2.5 trillion.

Marijuana is a major source of income for those that smuggle it, including for key demographic groups, like 15- to 19-year-olds. Drug trafficking is still illegal, but individual cool off. They are offered treatment, but not forced to comply and drug use has decreased among students.

Marijuana is the most popular illicit drug in the United States, and its not going away anytime soon. According to the 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 15.2 million people in the U.S. reported smoking marijuana and 76 percent of Americans recognize the drug war has failed.

According to Safesource.org, alcohol is one of the most toxic drugs and only requires about five times the legal limit in order to become lethal. On the other hand, there have been multiple cases of overdose on marijuana. Marijuana is very hard to overdose on and is not physically addictive.
Alcohol can be addictive, and is very easy to overindulge in, yet it remains legal. Those who become too intoxicated with alcohol and pose a threat to themselves or others are the ones who face criminal charges and the same approach should be taken towards marijuana smokers. People should be able to smoke marijuana and not be penalized, unless they are engaging in activity that could be considered dangerous. The long term dangers of marijuana usage also fail in comparison to that of drinkers and cigarette smokers.

Those who drink often may become alcoholics and develop liver disease and those who smoke may experience heart attacks, strokes, blood clots, emphysema and lung cancer. The health risks of smoking marijuana consist of an increased heart rate, lowered blood pressure and impaired memory.

Marijuana was made legal and regulated by the government it could become a valuable source of income to the U.S. According to a new official analysis of Proposition 19 by California’s Legislative Analyst’s Office, the regulation and taxation of marijuana would result in increased state revenues amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars.

Instead of wasting taxpayer money American citizens in jail for smoking, or for having marijuana in their possession, the government could turn it into a valuable cash crop and use it to fund other programs. According to an article on CNN.com, America’s illegal drug problem has cost taxpayers more than $2.5 trillion. In 2010, President Obama first declared the war on drugs. In California alone, the illegal market for marijuana has been estimated to be worth about $14 billion per year, whereas the State Board of Equalization has estimated that taxation could generate $1.4 billion a year in new tax revenue.
Also, incarcerating those caught with marijuana fills courtrooms and takes up jail space that should be used for those with more serious offenses. According to Projecttencensored.com, marijuana arrests comprise about 44 percent of all drug arrests in the U.S. Regulating marijuana will also decrease organized crime.

Marijuana is a major source of income for those that smuggle it into the country and those that sell it on the street corner. Because it is illegal, obtaining it is made much more dangerous, yet it has a higher demand. The legalization initiative aims to redirect the flow of massive profits from violent drug cartels towards government funds.

People seem to think that if marijuana were to become legal it would spark some type of “reefer madness,” implying that there would be an overwhelming increase in those that smoke it, including the nation’s youth. However, that is the opposite effect.

According to an article on Politico.com, 10 years ago Portugal passed a full-scale decriminalization for all narcotics. Drug trafficking is still illegal, but individual marijuana users have decreased among students.

Marijuana usage in many categories has decreased in absolute terms, including for key demographic groups, like 15- to 19-year-olds. Portugal’s drug problem was at one point one of the worst in Europe. Now they possess 10 years of data proving what really happens when marijuana and other drugs are controlled.

Criminalizing marijuana is failing, impractical
ON THE PROWL

Canadian pleads guilty to all charges

Omar Khadr, a Canadian prisoner at Guantanamo accused of killing an American soldier, pleaded to guilty to five charges including murder in a plea agreement with military authorities.

GUANTANAMO BAY

Trial starts in CentAm parliament killings

Manuel Castilla, a former congressman, proclaimed his innocence on Oct. 21 at the start of his trial on charges tying him to the killing of three members of Central America’s regional parliament in 2007.

GUATEMALA

Haiti

Cholera outbreak spreads toward capital

An outbreak of cholera has spread outside a rural valley in central Haiti, intensifying worries the disease could reach squatter camp towns across hundreds of thousands of earthquake survivors in the capital.

GLOMANN BAY

ON THE PROWL

Interracial dating still struggling in U.S.

Even though the leader of the free world, one of the U.S.’s top golfers, and the all-time most influential reggae artist are products of intermarriage, others see it as “sellout” intermarriage.

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