**Library moving toward digital journals**

**MELISSA CACERES**  
Staff Writer

With a growing use of electronic databases and online resources, the University library system is currently working on reducing the physical holdings of paper-based journals and increasing the use of digital journals. Many of the academic journals housed at the libraries will be physically moved to a different storage location in order to create more room. Digitizing these documents, according to Dean of Libraries Laura Probst, will allow greater online accessibility to the information while also increasing the amount of study space for students at all of the campus libraries. It’s a complex process that we’ll be working through with the faculty but, in the long run, it will help the library better serve the needs of the students by managing our physical space better and improving our ability to provide our collections to the faculty and the students,” said Probst. With the libraries reaching 100 percent capacity in shelving, the administration is joining a statewide collaboration to move lesser-used collections into a shared storage facility now being planned at 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 ensuring that while we won’t keep those print journals in storage locally, they’re accessible across the state and will be protected and preserved for the future,” said Probst. “We’ll then shift our reliance to regular everyday access to the electronic copies.”

**Florida Senate race candidates exchange 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 interchanged 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, Crist, a congressman from Miami-Dade County, argued with Rubio about whether tax cuts passed under President George W. Bush should be extended. The debate was sponsored by CNN, the University of South Florida and the St. Petersburg Times. At one point, Crist jumped in after an exchange between Rubio and Meek on taxes, saying that the partisan bickering they displayed was why he’s running as an independent.

Crist scoffed at the idea. “We know why the governor is running as an independent — because he couldn’t beat Marco Rubio,” said Meek. Crist was a lifelong Republican until deciding at the last minute to run as an independent. He was badly trailing Rubio at the time. “The reason I’m running as an independent is because it’s what the people want and it’s what’s right with my own heart,” 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, Adam. 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. Meek and Rubio pointed out the governor is running because he couldn’t beat Marco Rubio, said Meek.

**Business school ranks eighth for Hispanics**

**OMAR A. GUZMAN**  
Contributing Writer

The University’s College of Business Administration ranked eighth among best business schools for Hispanics by Hispanic Business magazine, making it the seventh consecutive year it places within the top ten. Hispanic Business takes into account the percentage of Hispanic enrollment, the percentage of Hispanic faculty and initiatives taken to increase the number of admitted Hispanic students in its rankings. The University’s Alva H. Chapman, Jr. Graduate School of Business had a 55.6 percent Hispanic graduate enrollment and 4.5 percent Hispanic faculty. In addition, Hispanic students earned 46.6 percent of the awarded MBA degrees, in comparison to the University of Miami’s 19.7 percent and Stanford University’s 5.6 percent. “We are always pleased when the excellence in our 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 cadidates argue over extension of Bush tax cuts

SENATE, page 1

nor’s changing positions on issues. Crist said 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 linebackers 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 circumstances,” Crist said. Rubio said that’s not what Crist has often sworn to positions. “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 while Meek said that they should not continue for people making more than $250,000 a year. Crist said he was willing to compromise his position, and Meek said he could agree to a higher income level, while Rubio said he wouldn’t support any proposal that would let the tax cuts expire. “Raising taxes on 30 percent of our consumer spenders or on the job creators that comprise 50 percent of small business taxes in America would be a disaster in the middle of this deep economic downturn,” Rubio said.

But Meek said not extending the super wealthy will cost the country $700 billion and without it, the national debt will continue to grow.

“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.”

One of the successes of trying harder, without people realizing it, is that you go right to the top.”

Marcos A. Kerbel
Department of Finance, Adjunct Professor

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. We are constantly seeking ways to improve our quality and by extension our rankings,” said Butchey.

College of Business ‘constantly seeking ways to improve quality’

College of Business ‘constantly seeking ways to improve quality’

University faculty aiding in digital library transition

Florida Senator race cadidates argue over extension of Bush tax cuts

URIBERGS, page 1

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 discussion 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 N. Stern School of Business administration has just begun the process of evaluating the library in the transition process are representatives from the University’s faculty who are identifying, which types of academic journals may be eligible for withdrawal once the print archive is established in the storage facility.

“As the faculty, we will be facilitating this change because some journals lend themselves well because of their content to being digitalized and being used that way. But there are other areas where the digitalization will not capture the quality of the pictures so the journal becomes an artifact in certain disciplines,” said Dr. Joyce Fine, chair of the Faculty Senate Library Committee, which has senators from every college in the University. “We, the faculty, need to help the librarians in identifying which journals can be moved.”

Currently, the library administration has just begun the process of evaluating the journals and has yet to work out the specific details to the location of the new open study space and how much will be available.

“This is really an evolution,” Fine said. “Technology has advanced society and we are at a point where we have 4,000 print journals but we license over 44,000 online journals. That gives us much more access to knowledge. So this evolution is just another step for the world.”

University faculty aiding in digital library transition

A heavy visual component to them, like under art history, which rely on pictures that would not be reproduced well electronically, are those that will not be considered for removal.

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SENEGAL, 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. While UM’s school of business was ranked fourth with a Hispanic graduate enrollment of 19.4 percent and 19.6 percent Hispanic faculty.

Despite the positive attention FIU’s College of Business Administration has garnered recently, Dr. Marc A. Kerbel

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After defeating Hartwick College, the Golden Panthers fell to Kentukcy 1-0, dropping to 9-1 in Conference USA play. The team will now close out the season at South Carolina before finishing the campaign on a two-game home stand.

**FIU, HAWTHCK COLLEGE 1**
FIU (7-6, 1-3 C-USA) easily defeated Hartwick College (2-11-1) with a final score of 3-1 on Oct. 22, keeping alive their hopes of reaching the C-USA tournament.

“We are coming together more and more as a team,” said Nico Rodriguez after scoring the closing goal after Friday night’s win.

The goal came unassisted as some fancy footwork helped him get past a defender and embarrass Hartwick goalkeeper Nolan Brown by chipping it over him to find the back of the net.

Brown allowed three goals on the night and tied a season high five saves on the night.

For the Golden Panthers, Shane Lopez came up with four saves only allowing one easy goal get passed him early in the second half. The goal came from a quick pass up the middle and Evan Dook from Chris Garces gave the Hawks some hope of beating the Panthers.

The Golden Panthers scored two more times on the night. Early in the first half Joseph Dawkins fired a long shot from 22 yards out side the box to fall past Nolan Brown.

This put the Panthers ahead past the first half. After conceding the early second half goal, Michael Muehseler, the scoring leader for the Panthers fired a shot past the keeper to put FIU ahead again in the 80th minute.

The pass came Joseph Dawkins, who had received a soaring cross from Chris Garces. Muehseler finished the play scoring his sixth goal of the season for FIU.

“It feels great to score my sixth,” said Muehseler. “Certainly off to a better start than last season, just wish we could have had the shutout,”

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“We should have had a shut out game. Our defense and midfield fell asleep on that one, given the way we played there should have been more goals and none conceded,” Head Coach Munga Eketebi said.

**KENTUCKY 1, FIU 0**
A windy afternoon in Lexington, Kentucky brought the Wildcats 9-0 against FIU.

The loan goal came in the 87th minute with a cross from Charles Pettys that beat FIU keeper Shane Lopez. Tyler Riggs finished the play by firing the ball in the back of the net. Shane Lopez had two saves on the night and Tyler Beadle had four for the Wildcats.

The Panthers had problems keeping their composure as they came off the loss with 11 fouls. The Wildcats had three shots on target compared to FIU’s four shots on target.

“We needed to put the ball with our forwards, although we dominated possession, we had costly turnovers that never gave us the chance to develop any kind of attack,” said Eketebi after losing to Kentucky.

Muehseler only played four minutes as he came out of the game early with a knee injury and Sebastian Frings played only 17 minutes with zero shots on the match.

TOURNAMENT HOPES

With Muehseler and Rodriguez out on injury status and Frings cold play in the match against Kentucky, the Golden Panthers’ conference tournament hopes have become out of reach.

“We need to find rhythm to win, and we need to win to qualify for the tournament,” Eketebi said. “Without rhythm we won’t find the back of the net.”

The Golden Panthers faced off against another conference opponent as they took on South Carolina.

**MEN’S SOCCER, page 4**

**MEN’S SOCCER**

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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 (9-8-1, 4-4 SBC) had the advantage statistically, as ULL (9-10, 4-6 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 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 Balestra, the leading goal getter for ULL, headed a ball into the back of the net from off a cross from Shelley 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 Holland, 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 into overtime, 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.

“Like I told the team, we have to be focused the whole game and we let Louisiana back in it,” Head Coach Thomas Chestnut 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.

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. No’s they’re set to tangle for the World Series starting Wednesday afternoon.

When the Texas Rangers opened at AT&T Park. The NL West, then clinched the second round behind Lee, a late-season winner to get rookie Buster Posey into the NLCS.

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 clinched 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 to win 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 decisive Game 5 of the first round behind Lee, a late-season winner, 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 it was a must-win situation to get into the tournament.

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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 WHITE FLOUR
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 with Smart Pasta or Barilla Plus pasta, try whole-wheat crackers such as Triscuits and opt 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 keep 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

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 Guarama (pictured here).

HEALTH, page 6
Festival kicks off Halloween Week

HECTOR MOJENA
Staff Writer

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

A pre-Halloween celebration, the event is open to all FIU students and will essentially be a grindhouse-cinema lovers’ dream. Speaking of the film selection, Ryan Morejon, WRGP promotions director for the station, promises an array of splat classics such as Lucio Fulci’s Zombi 2 and more alongside Alejandro Jodorowsky’s classic surreal film Holy Mountain.

More films and other video projections will be shown throughout the night.

The event is from 9 p.m. to midnight.

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 the event.”

“The scene in Twister was so perfect. The tornado wreaks havoc on a drive-in movie theater that Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt happen to be at. I believe they’re playing The Shining and it’s just like really eerie and cool… just the whole feel of the drive-in movie mixed with weird sounds,” he said.

The second part of his analogy involved an allusion to the destruction of a bridge…I want people to get that same reaction when walking through campus and hearing all this racket.

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

As such, she offers a 10 percent discount for University students. This discount will come in handy, as the mini cupcakes cost $1.25 and a regular sized cupcake cost $2.50 each. Yes, it is pricey, but well worth it.

Misha’s also donates cupcakes to charity events on a regular basis, as it supports various causes including victim advocacy, child advocacy, breast cancer and homelessness.

For Food For Thought is a bi-weekly food column.

Pantry makeover

HEALTH, page 5

sodium content

7. FRESH FRUIT
Buy fresh, in-season or on sale, fruit at your local supermarket. Wash the fruit upon arrival from the supermarket and keep the washed fruit in a bowl on your kitchen counter. Now on your way out, or when you’re hungry, just grab a fruit and enjoy it.

Apples are a good choice because they last for a long time without going bad.

8. BETTER DESSERTS
Cake fans stay away from the supermarket cake. These cakes and cookies are very high in calories and saturated fat. Try baking your own cakes and cookies with a box mix, substituting apple sauce or yogurt for oil (recipes available online or on the box of cake mix.) You can also purchase 100-calorie pack cookies and sweets and eat only one following a meal or as a snack.

9. SUGAR
Switch out white sugar for Turbinado sugar. Now commercially available in your sugar aisle, this sugar is less processed than both white sugar and brown sugar. It was scared some of the refining that white sugar gets and therefore is a better option. Use in your drinks or while baking, but still watch your portions because it is just as high in calories as regular sugar.

Healthy Bites is a bi-weekly health column.
Voicing prejudicial fears legitimizes them

CHRIS TOWERS
Columnist

We are designed to make split-second decisions based on our first reactions. Our unconscious brain often overrides our conscious brain, and this is where our uncontrollable fears come from, and those fears often lead to prejudiced actions.

When Juan Williams admitted to being nervous when he sees a man in traditional Islamic dress on a plane, he was not admitting to a deeply held bigotry or a hatred of Muslims.

When you know that the men of Al Qaeda adhere to a strict, extreme version of Islam, it is natural for the brain to make that kind of associ- ation, especially if you know nothing or next to nothing about Islam. Ignorance fuels fear.

I don’t have a problem with someone believing what he said, inasmuch as it’s not a reaction he can control. It is as visceral as your response to a deeply held bigotry or a hatred of Muslims, “I think that if the Republican Party says abstinence only is the only way to be then we’re going to lose a lot of young voters and I think I wouldn’t want to practice anything I didn’t preach.”

Voicing prejudicial fears legitimizes them. It is as natural and instinctual as the fight or flight response is.

Juan Williams should be smarter than to express a belief that on Fox News, but I think it’s clear that he doesn’t care.

What an intelligent, thoughtful and reason- able person should do in this situation is to realize that the first reaction is not always the best, and perhaps think before giving voice to it.

Juan Williams may not be a bigot, but he is doing less than nothing to work against the legiti- mation of bigotry in our society.

Seeing a person in Islamic garb and associ- ating that with terrorism, is, perhaps, an under- standable prejudice, but every single instance of attempted terror in our nation by Islamic ter- rorists, who represent and infinitesimally small portion of the Muslim population both nation- ally and worldwide, has been carried out by Islamic radicals who made every effort to appear normal.

Juan Williams goes on television and says “Every time I walk down the street at night and see a young black man wearing baggy pants and a hoodie, I get nervous”, I don’t think any serious person would defend him. But it has become defensible to express bigoted thoughts about Muslims because there is a portion of our political figures that don’t think twice about associating Islam with terrorism.

That is an issue, and I don’t think any thought- ful person would defend this, because it’s considered and thought out. What your brain decides in a split second is out of your control and largely based on your subscriptions.

What you write into a speech or say on TV is something you have thought about and decided consciously is right. This is the difference.

Juan Williams may not be a bigot, but he is doing less than nothing to work against the legitimization of bigotry in our society.

Criminalizing marijuana is failing, impractical

LAURA PROBST
Chief Bill King
Letter to the Editor

The University Libraries are working closely with Public Safety to provide a secure environment for students studying in the Green and BBC Libraries. We have an evening security guard in Green Library, and library staff regularly patrol the study areas of both libraries.

We also post signs warning students to not leave laptops unattended. Over the last two years, all but one of the laptop thefts in our libraries occurred while a student left a laptop unat- tended. We are looking into additional ways to safeguard laptops and other personal property in the library.

We need your help to make certain that the library is a safe and comfort- able space. Please do not leave your laptop unattended.

If you see suspicious behavior while you are studying in any of the FIU libraries, please call Public Safety (305-348-2626) or notify a library staff member.

Laura Probst is the dean of libraries. Chief Bill King is chief of public safety.

KAYLA MCGREGOR
Staff Writer

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 has war-fied.

However, the government insists on banning a drug that is far less toxic and addictive than alcohol and tobacco. Marijuana usage should be regulated instead of prohibited because it has been proven that its regular use is not nearly as detrimental as that of many other legal drugs.

According to Safechoice.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 no reports of over- doses 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 crim- inal charges and the same approach should be taken towards marijuana smokers. People should be able to smoke marijuana and not be penal- ized, 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, embolysma 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 because it could become a valuable source of income for 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 valu- able cash crop and use its revenue to fund other programs. According to an article on CNN.com, Americ- a's illegal drug problem has cost tax payers more than $2.5 trillion. President Nixon first declared the war on drugs. In Cali- fonia alone, the illegal market for marijuana has been estimated to be worth about $14 billion per year, whereas the State Board of Equalisa- tion has estimated that taxation could generate $1.4 billion a year in new tax revenue.

Also, incapacitating those caught with marijuana fills court rooms and takes up jail space that should be used for those with more serious offenses. According to Projectmesoned.com, marijuana arrest comprise about 44 percent of all drug arrests in the U.S. Regula- ting 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 difficult, yet it has a higher demand. The legalization initiative aims to redirect the flow of massive profits from violent drug cartels toward 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 decriminaliza- tion for all narcotics. Drug traf- ficking is still illegal, but individ- uals caught with drugs in Portugal are no longer arrested or treated like criminals. They are offered treat- ment, but not forced to comply and drug usage has decreased among them.

Drug 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.

Legalizing and controlling marijuana will have a more positive effect on the public than prohibit- ing it has. People need to realize that marijuana is not the big bad monster that it’s made out to be.

I think that if the Republican Party says abstinence is only the way to be then we’re going to lose a lot of young voters and I think I wouldn’t want to practice anything I didn’t preach.”

Meghan McCain, daughter of Senator John McCain

PUBLIC REASON
Editorials are the unifi ed voice of the editorial board, which is comprised of the editor in chief, and the editors of each of the sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding opinion to be submitted, either digitally or printed:

Send your letter to:

The Beacon – 7

Opinion Editor
christopher.diaz@fi usm.com

Lauren Probst is the dean of libraries. Chief Bill King is chief of public safety.
GUANTANAMO BAY

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.

GUATEMALA

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.

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 squalid tap camps that house hundreds of thousands of earthquake survivors in the capital.

INTERRACIAL DATING still struggling in U.S.

ON THE PROWL

golfers, and the all-time most infl uential reggae artist are products of the American melting pot won’t be very surprised to hear that my closest friends still frown upon me when I date someone outside their own race.

My parents had a tough time accepting me when I started dating my African-American boyfriend. His skin color didn’t match my own. This made my parents so uncomfortable that they broke up my relationship. Walking hand-in-hand, we would attract blatant staring from adults and peers while they muttered under their breath.

My parents had a tough time accepting me when I started dating a Puerto Rican boy, or any other type of Hispanic, because my skin color didn’t match his. Walking hand-in-hand, we would attract blatant staring from adults and peers while they muttered under their breath.

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