Organization provides support for Iraqi children

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

People magazine featured FIU junior Sky Choi in its Oct. 4 issue for his efforts in creating a non-profit organization called The List Kids, which provides toys, supplies and support for the children of Iraqi immigrants who have recently been brought to the United States.

The “Heroes Among Us” feature recognized the Honors College student’s work in sending over 1,000 care packages to the young newcomers to help aid their transition to America from war-torn Iraq.

“It’s hard to go from one culture and then randomly go into another and expect to make friends,” said Choi. “It happens step by step, so we help them ease through that process and let them know that someone out there is caring for them.”

Choi, who is a physics major and third degree black belt in Taekwondo, gained national recognition two years ago when he enrolled at the University as a freshman at the age of 12. Now at age 14, his service project has also developed a nation-wide standing as it expands in the number of children involved as well as community support.

“I just want them to feel welcome in the U.S. and get them on their feet,” stated Choi.

Founded in April 2008, The List Kids is part of the international organization called The List Project. It helps bring Iraqis who have helped the U.S. military during the Iraq war over to American soil, in order to escape the danger they face in their home country from having assisted the U.S. soldiers.

Choi, whose mother is an attorney with The List Project and represents the Iraqi refugees, eventually found out from her that her father had to pay ransom (using) pretty much everything that they owned,” said Choi, who began to wonder what happened to these children and their families once they reached the United States.

“They usually end up in really small apartments in bad neighborhoods and end up moving because it is nowhere near many job choices. It’s really a tragedy.”

In order to reach out to these kids, the Honors student provides them with monthly packages that are mailed to each child, containing books, toys, school supplies, sports equipment and homemade cards welcoming them to America.

In the beginning, only 14 children were on the “list” but the number began to grow over time until Choi and his cousins were mailing up to 130 care packages a month.

Publishing companies have also contributed to the effort, with Penguin Books donating 1,105 pounds of books and Teshkeel Media donating 1,005 pounds of books and Teshkeel Media.

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Law School faculty ranked ‘most diverse’ in the nation

NICOLAS SARAVIA
Staff Writer

The Princeton Review ranked the University’s College of Law as having the most diverse faculty in the nation through a selection process based on the percentage of minority faculty and on student assessments.

The College of Law was also selected second in the list of best environment for minority students, after the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law.

This news follows a series of recognitions and acknowledgements the College of Law has received recently, such as “tenth best law school in the country and that is something we should be proud of,” said College of Law Dean R. Alexander Acosta.

College of Law professors received the recognition with gratitude.

“The Princeton Review’s ranking of FIU as the most diverse faculty is a recognition of the number of wonderful law professors who teach at the College of Law and who represent diversity along multiple axes,” said Cyra Choudhury, professor of comparative law and international human rights. “The College of Law’s faculty is not only diverse in terms of race and gender but also sexual orientation, national origin, and religion.”

According to The Princeton Review, 53 percent of the University’s Law School faculty are considered minorities and 44 percent are women.

“The most important fact that often is left out of discussions of diversity is the rich intellectual contributions that are made by those who have had exposure to differing experiences,” said Acosta.

Committee finds plan lacking in academic preparation

MELOISA CACERES
Staff Writer

Members of the University’s Faculty Senate had much to say during their Oct. 26 meeting about the draft of the Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan for 2010-2015, which will lay out the future goals and initiatives for the University.

The five year plan was found by the steering committee to be lacking emphasis in certain areas, such as improving the poor academic preparation of incoming local students, expanding the University’s educational infrastructure as enrollment increases and further recognition of the Biscayne Bay, Downtown Miami, and Pines locations.

“The draft plan has been a living document as the administration has changed it in response to suggestions from the University community,” wrote Faculty Chair Thomas Breslin in his senate report.

Within it, the draft explains that the planned 25 percent increase in students “will require FIU to rethink every aspect of its academic enterprise: its approaches to teaching, learning, and research; its student support services; and the size and configuration of its physical and technological infrastructure.”

As one of the main agenda items, the senate expressed concern over how the growth would come to affect the environment in which all members of the faculty will be working during the next years.

“The Steering Committee is deeply concerned about the poor preparation of no
Man swallows 2,060 diamonds packed in condoms

A Sri Lankan man swallowed more than 2,000 diamonds packed in several condoms but was arrested while attempting to smuggle them through an Indian airport. Mohammed Shakif, 43, of Galle, Sri Lanka, is accused of attempting to smuggle 2,060 diamonds worth up to about $670,000 through Chennai airport. Shakif was taken to the police station and later to a hospital where an X-ray of his stomach was taken. Shakif then confessed to the police that he had been hired to smuggle the stones. Shakif was given bananas to eat. The diamonds were then collected.

Man likely shot himself while sleeping

Police said a Boulder man who told police he woke up to a “bang” and realized he suffered a gunshot wound to his knee likely shot himself while sleeping. The Daily Camera reported that 63-year-old Sanford Rothman told investigators he had no recollection of the incident. No one else was in Rothman’s home at the time. Police said that Rothman keeps a 9 mm hand- gun near his bed and takes prescription medication for pain. Police said no alcohol or illegal drugs played a role in the incident. Rothman was treated at a hospital and released.

Minority organizations part of school competition

Competency levels ‘vital’ for plan

When our students graduate, they should have a demonstrated competency in both math and writing skills as well as in their major discipline. Sadly, that is too often not the case.

List Kids, page 1

providing 250 subscrip- tions of their Arabic-English come to "The List."  “One of the most impressive things about this idea is that he’s actually making a success of it. We’ve often seen students with great ideas and sometimes they don’t take off,” said Lewis Northup, dean of the Honors College. “It takes more than a great idea. It takes management ability, the ability to see the big picture and a lot of hard work. And in the midst of all that hard work, he’s still got top grades and now going to the China study abroad program next summer.”

Since its inception, The List Kids has responded to the parents stating how grateful they are “to see that there are people that are remembering kids and want to make them happy from time to time” and saying “thank you to Sky and all those who worked in this tremendous effort to help newcomers.”

“Personally for me, any student who decides to adopt a cause and feels so passionate about something that they decide to create, whether a small group, non-profit or student organization and do some- thing to change a problem or contribute to somebody’s wellbeing, I respect that a lot,” said Cecile Houry, director of student programs for the Honors College. “Who is helping Choi honor Honors students in The List Kids? He never said it, never told us.”

Hoping to eventually spread the word throughout the University, Choi plans on seeking further support through methods like organizing campus fund- raising events, inviting guest speakers like The List Project Founder, Kirk Johnson, and showing a film documentary based on the project.

It’s not just tiring but fulfilling because there were these twin girls who used to put their cards on their wall and their father told me that every night they would look at them and again and again, said Choi. “It’s really touching me and that is why I do this.”

For more information on The List Kids visit www. thelistkids.com or email Sky Choi at sky@thehlistproject.org.
FOOTBALL: WESLEY CARROLL

Paul McCall, the team’s starter over the last two seasons’ prior to 2010, was an afterthought as a recruit out of Hollywood Hills High. With no pass protection and no run blocking up front, however, McCall was very formidable for the Golden Panthers.

He was sacked over 50 times in his two years as a starter from 2008-09, but managed to keep his interception total down in single digits both times and average over 2,000 yards a season, his senior year one in which he was banged up for the majority of.

Carroll has been fortunate to enjoy the benefits of an offensive line that has made strides in 2010. FIU has allowed the least amount of sacks in the Sun Belt Conference this year, and for the first time in Mario Cristobal’s tenure, have managed to sustain a decent running game.

Those are a couple of luxuries McCall didn’t have. Taking into account the first three games of McCall’s first season as a starter, the team was 2-1, just like this season, but McCall had to face conference powers in Middle Tennessee and Troy during that stretch. McCall threw seven touchdowns and four interceptions in those games, and averaged nearly 250 yards a game at a serviceable completion rate.

Carroll’s numbers through that span: two touchdowns and four interceptions, as well as less yards in a similar amount of attempts against arguably the SBC’s three worst teams.

Despite improvement’s around the board for the Golden Panthers, they haven’t gotten better quarterback play, and probably have regressed thus far.

MAKING A PUSH

Carroll may not be a prototypical quarterback in the sense of physical tools and admirable size, but it’s not as if he isn’t capable of playing better.

Even if Carroll is not better than McCall, there should be better play at the position if not for the fact that past protection has improved and he has a running game to back him, in addition to the best group of wide receivers in the SBC.

And it’s not that Carroll has been bad either. He just hasn’t been as good as his talent or weaponry would indicate.

The offense hasn’t been very explosive through the air, with the team tied for last in the SBC in yards per completion. A lot of that goes into the play calling of offensive coordinator Scott Satterfield.

The defense has been good, but not enough to single handedly win games.

If the team is going to win four of its next five games and to be eligible for the first bowl appearance in team history and compete for the conference crown, Carroll will need to do more.

The man behind the mask with burlly locks of blond hair coming out of his helmet, whom the team rarely allows to talk in public, will need to do some talking on the field for the team to reach their season goal.

STAT BREAK

Wesley Carroll by the numbers

Carroll has thrown six touchdowns and nine interceptions.

Carroll is eighth in the SBC in passing efficiency out of 10 players.

Leiva leads team into tournament vs. upset Troy

Leiva leads team into tournament vs. upset Troy

JACKSON WOLEK

FIU (10-8-1, 7-4 Sun Belt Conference) will start conference play today at 2 p.m., against Troy (11-7-1, 6-5 SBC), a team they beat earlier in the year 28-7, as the number four seed in the tournament.

Though they did not need a last-second game winning goal in that game, Chelsea Leiva would be the person to count on if they did, as she has five game winning goals this season.

Her contribution to the team this year has been a big impact overall, as she is tied in the SBC for game winning goals and third in goals overall, only as a freshman. They have been put into close tight games many of times this season, some resulting in losses, but most of them ending up in wins.

“I know that [Chelsea] will tell you that it doesn’t come without hard work, and it doesn’t come without a team. We have plenty of players that are capable of scoring. We backs can score goals, our midfielders can score goals, and certainly our forwards can score goals,” said Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt.

“I don’t know if there’s any pressure to get the ball to Chelsea at the end of the game. It’s more like let’s keep our composure and we will find a way.”

After starting the conference play off on a five game winning streak, it looked as the team had was a contender for winning the regular season again like last year.

They then proceeded to go on a slide, and ended up finishing with the number four seed in the tournament. By not having the number one seed, and instead getting the fourth, it does not put any more or less pressure on the team according to Chestnutt, who has brought them to the tournament now three years in a row.

“The familiarity of us being in the tournament from years past will maybe make things easier for those that tend to put pressure on themselves. But I don’t think that in terms of being number one or number four really matters to us.”

On Oct. 1, they were able to jump out to an early lead on Troy just 15 minutes into the match, on an unassisted goal by Leiva. The game remained without a goal for the rest of the way until finally in the 72nd minute, Kassandra Sorzano put in the game winner off a corner kick from Kim Lopez. It was a defensive type of game, as they outshot Troy 8-2. Troy has the lowest amount of shots in the conference, which should work out for FIU, as they’ve sustained a sturdy defense, not allowing much shots at their goal.

The shots at goal have much to do with time of possession, as well as less yards in a similar amount of attempts against arguably the SBC’s three worst teams.

Despite improvement’s around the board for the Golden Panthers, they must look out for as she is the main source of the Trojan’s offense, taking 52 shots on the year with nine goals along with fellow teammate Mary Morris who put in the same amount.

“They’re going to be a well-organized team,” said Chestnutt about Troy. “Our composure, aggressive-ness, and team defense are going to be the biggest things for us. I think everything else will take care of itself, but if those things are in place I think we will do fine.”

If the Golden Panthers win, they will then take on the winner of the No.1 seed Denver versus No. 8 seeded University of Louisiana-Lafayette match up on Nov. 4, at 4 p.m.

All games will be played in Bowling Green, Kentucky.
The men’s soccer team will not qualify for the CUSA tournament.

**TAMMED PANTHERS**

The men's soccer team alumni at halftime. 

There to support their team but to honor Panther fans. Panther fans weren't only of the season high crowd of 419 Golden (3-3-1) put up five goals that night in front notably the worst loss of their season.

Key conference match on Oct. 30. It was Tulsa humbles Panthers.

**MEN’S SOCCER: TULSA 3, FIU 0**

**ANDRES LEON**

Staff Writer

The men’s soccer team lost another.

As half time came around the fans had little to cheer for as FIU (7-9-0, 1-6-0 C-USA) was down 3-0 to the Hurricane.

With little hope Eketebi looked towards USA) was down 3-0 to the Hurricane.

**VOLLEYBALL**

Team sweeps two on road

**RICO ALBARRACIN**

Staff Writer

Coach Daniela Tomic has had a big problem with this year’s volleyball team: consistency; not being able to put streaks together, almost resembling Jekyll and Hyde in their approach.

All Tomic wants is consistency. The past weekend could be a sign of good things to come.

The Panthers (12-10, Sun Belt Conference 6-4) went on the road and took out South Alabama (10-17, SBC 2-8) on Oct. 29 in straight sets 3-0, winning 25-22, 25-21, 25-17. The win came after much needed rest for the Panthers, who have been dealing with injuries. The rest seemed to help, as the Panthers came out fresh and ready to play.

The first set saw the Golden Panthers jump out to a 22-18 lead over the Jaguars, before South Alabama went on a 4-1 run to close the gap 23-22. That would be the last point the Jaguars would score, as kills by junior Andrea Lakovic and redshirt freshman Marija Prsa put the set away for the Panthers.

Both teams fought hard in the second set, as the score was tied at 21. Errors proved costly for the Jaguars, as they committed two errors and FIU pounced with two kills to finish the set 25-21. Once up 2-0, the Panthers never looked back, as they blasted past the Jaguars in the third set, 25-17. Lakovic led the Panthers with nine kills while Una Trkulja added eight kills. Junior Sabrina Gonzalez, who had missed the two prior games with an abdominal strain, came back and had seven kills. Senior Natalia Valentin led the team with 33 assisted while adding 14 digs. Defensively, sophomore Chanel Araujo had a team-best 18 digs and junior Andrea Lakovic led the Panthers with six blocks.

**FIU 3, TROY 0; BJELICA BACK**

In her first game of the season, sophomore Jovana Bjelica picked up where she left off last season with a career high 20 kills, as the Panthers cruised past the Troy Trojans in straight sets, 25-19, 25-23, 25-22 on Oct. 30, a day after dropping Troy. FIU (13-3, SBC 7-4) has now won three of their last four matches, while Troy (10-18, SBC 2-9) has lost seven straight matches in a row. Bjelica has not played all season, which Tomic said was not related to conduct. The first set was not much of a struggle for the Panthers, as they jumped out to a 22-18 lead. A kill by Bjelica and a service ace by senior Natalia Valentin pushed the score to 24-20, Troy scored two more points before junior Andrea Lakovic finished the set with a kill, to give the FIU the third set 25-22 and give them the 3-0 win.

Along with Bjelica’s career-high 20 kills, Lakovic added 14 kills. Valentin put up a team-high 48 assists and added a squad-best two service aces along with Bjelica.

Defenso, Lakovic recorded a team-best five blocks and sophomore Chanel Araujo tallied a season-high 19 digs.
Musical kicks off theatre season

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Life! Editor

Love, heroin addiction and a couple of lesbians: that’s what audiences will experience at the School of Theatre's production of Rent.

The rock opera, opening Nov. 4, is based on Giacomo Puccini’s opera La Bohème, and tells the story of 20-something year-olds struggling to survive and persevere in New York’s Lower East Side in the thriving days of Bohemian Alphabet City.

With famous songs like “Seasons of Love” and “La Vie Bohème,” the Broadway hit ran for 12 years, the eighth longest running show of all time, and garnered a major cult following.

“Rent” is an experience that speaks to any time, so the fact that the show is over fifteen years old doesn’t really matter,” said Marilyn Skow, chairperson of the School of Theater. “Ultimately it is about learning to rely on oneself while at the same time finding a sense of family, regardless of what form that family structure takes. And, of course, it is about our need to love and be loved, a theme that is as old as time itself.”

FIU Theater alum Andy Señor, Jr. is directing the show and he said he doesn’t see the piece as dated.

“The story delves into the lives of people living in the time of the HIV/AIDS epidemic that hit in the 1990s. Nowadays, the disease isn’t seen as much of a death sentence.”

“Rent” is wonderful. I’ve loved it every minute of it,” said Jennifer Jean-Louis who plays Joanne in the show. “Rent is a unique show...I’ve never directed that before... You basically mold the show around the people that are in it,” said Señor. “The students here are so unique. I’ve never directed before, so I’m learning as they are... They’re willing and they’re very fearful with all the college fear. But once they let that go, they just burst.”

Working with Señor has proved to be a valuable experience for the students, as well.

“It was a great experience working with Andy, working with someone who is in the professional world. Being able to feel comfortable being just an actor who is learning and growing with people who haven’t been on stage before and it’s wonderful. I’ve loved every minute of it,” said Jennifer Jean-Louis who plays Joanne in the show.

SEASONS OF LOVE

The cast of Rent during Crew View rehearsals on Oct. 28.

Zombies not as scary as humans in graphic novel

Zombies pervade our culture as a staple of the horror genre just as easily as they pervade the cities and homes of the people in movies, TV and video games.

Despite being handled by comic books before, never had zombies been dealt with in such a serious and thoughtful way as in Robert Kirkman and Tony Moore’s The Walking Dead.

It may seem ridiculous to say that throughout decades of being staples of horror comic books, zombies never became a real threat. Include movies where the average zombie is a shambling corpse with no sense of direction or motive aside from biting the nearby human, fans of the genre have become accustomed to laughing during the newest zombie movie more often than actually being scared of it.

Even though the “corpses” in The Walking Dead are the same classic type of zombie, it’s how the living cast deals with them that really makes this book stand out.

The first person you meet in the book, and one of the lead characters throughout it, is Rick Grimes, a police officer from a small town in Kentucky.

After waking up from a gunshot induced coma, he finds that the hospital is empty except for a passing zombie or two. Running home, he tries to find his wife and child, but instead finds an empty house and a shovel to the face.

He was attacked by his new neighbors, a father and son who had been hiding out in Grimes' neighbor’s house.

From them, he discerns that the whole town is under attack.

From them, he discerns that the whole town is under attack.
There was a time when there was just about nothing I enjoyed more than going to a concert. Back when I was in high school, I would probably go to 2-3 shows every month, bumming a ride from someone or getting dropped off and picked up at the venue. Finally I went on my parent’s dime.

Going out to see live music was just about the best way I could think to spend a night, so I did it as often as I possibly could.

More and more now, though, I find myself staying away from the live experience. Sure for my one yearly excursion out to Bonnaroo for 4 days in the summer, every year I go to fewer and fewer concerts, generally reserving it for the big hitters in my pantheon of bands. This year that list includes Wilco, Paul McCartney, Vampire Weekend, the Flaming Lips and… that’s it.

That’s right? I’m not sure how I’ve gotten to this point, but we are 2 months from the end of the year and something’s not quite right at the horizon that I’m even more interested in seeing.

Is it that I’m less interested in music these days? That’s probably part of the problem. I find it harder and harder to stay up with new music lately, especially because what used to be a 45-minute commute (the perfect album length, by the way) has become a five-minute one. The highway commute in a car is probably the best possible way to absorb a new album, and I’ve lost that.

But that doesn’t explain it all, as I used to just go to shows to check out new acts, even if I’d never listened to a second of their music. I think I’m just reaching a point where the convergence of high ticket prices, poor venues and my own cummudgeonly ways have combined to create an experience that is no longer enjoyable to me.

I’m not going to abort music from this. I’m 22 years old, but there are times when I can border on Andy Rooney-levels of grumpiness, and very few things in recent memory have brought this out more than the hour and a half traffic jam that met me as I tried to leave the parking garage for the recent Vampire Weekend show at the Fillmore.

Back in April and May, there was some talk that the expansion of the Miami Convention Center might lead to the demolition of the Fillmore, which is probably better known as the historic Jackie Gleason Theater.

It would be a sad day for the arts in Miami if this were to come to pass, but as the 14th car cut me off in the parking garage with its driver ignoring my desperate pleas for charity and reason, I was willing and ready to push the plunger to blow the whole place up.

I’m not sure I’ll ever be able to give up on the live experience altogether, but I find it harder and harder to justify it between the hassle and the prices. It’s starting to make more and more sense just to pack a year’s worth of concerts into one festival in the summer.

Dead comic on TV

DEAD, page 5

comes in contact with that truly scare the reader.

From farmers who are stockpiling zombies in their barns, holding on to the hope that their family will be cured, to highly fortified prisons that protect against zombies but lock Grimes inside with the surviving inmates.

We all have a good fortune smiles on the people occasionally, something always happens to set them back, and it’s these instances where the story evolves in incredibly realistic and interesting ways.

The Walking Dead has done a lot to bring attention to its stellar likely realistic and interesting where the cast evolves in incredible fortifi ed prisons that their family will be cured, to holding on to the hope that comes in contact with that truly.

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The Walking Dead has done a lot to bring attention to its stellar likely realistic and interesting where the cast evolves in incredible fortifi ed prisons that their family will be cured, to holding on to the hope that comes in contact with that truly.
The midterm elections held on Nov. 2 saw millions of Americans headed to the polls to have their say in the direction of our country. I believe it is imperative for college students to make sure that they continue to go out and vote in future elections.

For many of us, midterm elections were seen as trivial when compared to presidential elections, but I would like to remind everyone that the results of those midterm elections will no doubt have an effect not only on the presidential election of 2012, but on the issues that most of us care about as college students.

One issue that unites most of us regardless of political ideology is higher education funding. This is a matter of great importance to the University community. Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, or “The Stimulus Package,” $15 billion was included to increase federal funding for higher education, which was to pay for an increasing in Pell Grants from $4,731 to $5,350 annually.

Additionally, Congress has also passed the Student Loan Reform, which will make more funds available to students by ending federal government subsidies to banks, which encouraged them to loan to students while having the loans insured by the government and administering student loans through the Department of Education.

At the same time, President Obama’s bipartisan deficit commission is due to give a report in December on how best to get a handle on our $15 trillion in debt, in the world of which means that should the report be taken seriously on both sides of the aisle, spending cuts are almost certain. As we all know, when it comes to spending cuts, entitlements like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security are seemingly off the table because of the political consequences associated with cutting them. After all, seniors are the age group that votes more than anyone else and with the baby boomers aging and approaching retirement age, it would seem likely political suicide to even utter the notion of cuts to these entitlements.

Conventional wisdom might say that young people as a whole don’t vote, therefore higher education is one of the most politically safe places to trim the budget. I say that if we are to prevent more cuts to our higher education system, we must rise up. I encourage every student, whether you voted on Nov. 2 or not, to stand with future candidates, regardless of party affiliation, that will make higher education one of their signature priorities should they reach the position they are running for.

As college students we have to hold our elected officials accountable. I remind them that cuts to higher education could come with just as much backlash as cuts to entitlements for seniors, and the only way to do that is with the power of the ballot.

Make your voice heard and show that college students will not be taken for granted.

Donovan Dawson is a College of Arts & Sciences senator in the Student Government Association.

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DONOVAN DAWSON Contributing Writer

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VERBATIM

But we live now in hard times, not end times. And we can have animus and not be enemies.

Jon Stewart, Rally to Restore Sanity

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VERBATIM

But we live now in hard times, not end times. And we can have animus and not be enemies.

Jon Stewart, Rally to Restore Sanity

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VERBATIM
**BRAZIL**

Ex-guerrilla to be first female president

A former Marxist guerrilla who was tortured and imprisoned during Brazil's dictatorship, Dilma Rousseff, was elected Sunday as the first woman president of Latin America's biggest nation.

**CHINA**

Door-to-door for world's biggest census

China kicked off a once-a-decade census, a 10-day head count that tests 6 million census takers scrutinize apartment blocks, migrant areas and rural villages to document massive demographic changes.

**HONDURAS**

5 men rob plane from military

Five armed men broke into a military base at La Mosca International Airport in San Pedro Sula on Monday and made off with a small airplane that authorities seized last year in an anti-drug operation.

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**HOMECOMING 2010**

This year’s dance will be a ‘gala-like’ affair

Now that Homecoming Week is here it’s time to see the world in blue and gold.

The Student Programming Council of Biscayne Bay Campus will be hosting the annual Homecoming Dance, the theme for which goes hand-in-hand with the overall theme of homecoming: “See the World in Blue and Gold.”

The dance is free to University students, will take place on Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. in collaboration with the Consulate General of Israel to Haiti.

**BERLIN**

Biran, in which he will provide a firsthand account of the sights and experiences that the Israeli delegation encountered in their mission to Haiti.

Biran, head of Israel’s Advance Team to Haiti, will be presenting his lecture, titled “Mission to Haiti: Israel’s Relief Efforts After the Earthquake,” in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at Biscayne Bay Campus on Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. in collaboration with the Consulate General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico.

**DODGING FOR PEP**

Kicking off this year’s Homecoming Week, the Student Programming Council put on a pep rally in Panther Square on Nov. 1. Students at Biscayne Bay Campus played dodgeball, double-dutch and other games.

**FOODGASM**

Home cooking worth the effort

While going out for food isundeniably great, cooking at home can be another way to enjoy good food, especially if you have some helpful tricks and tips.

A home-cooked meal may take some time and effort, but the outcome is tremendous.

For someone who already likes to cook it can be a great fun, but someone who does not enjoy it might learn to. Not only does it save money, as opposed to going out, but the at-home cook controls everything that goes into the food. This is a great benefit to those who need to watch what they eat, which should be everyone.

While we cannot all be the next Julia Child, or the rat from "Ratatouille," I believe anyone has the potential to prepare decent food.

When I first started cooking I found marinating to be a very helpful technique. The easiest step helps to provide flavor to your food, tenderizes and even has health benefits. It’s also incredibly easy.

A marinade is a liquid that is used to soak food. Anything can be marinated but it is mostly used for meat, fish, seafood and vegetables. Marinating food can make a huge difference and the process is quite simple.

To make a marinade you start by making a liquid base. This commonly uses oils, vinegars and wines. Practically any liquid can be added to the base depending on what flavor you’re looking for. Next, various seasonings can be added to this base for flavor. Salt, pepper, sugar and all kinds of other spices are also good in marinades.

The last step is to pour the marinade over any food you want to marinate. Let the food marinate from an hour to overnight for the best result.

One dish that I love to make which involves a marinade is grilled shrimp skewers. The marinating process adds so much flavor to the shrimp that I would never make them without it.


Foodgasm is a bi-weekly cooking and all-around food loving column published on Wednesdays.

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**JONATHAN SZYDLO**

**Contributing Writer**

The University’s Middle East Society will be presenting a lecture by Ambassador Danny Biran, in which he will provide a firsthand account of the sights and experiences that the Israeli delegation encountered in their mission to Haiti.

Biran, head of Israel’s Advance Team to Haiti, will be presenting his lecture, titled “Mission to Haiti: Israel’s Relief Efforts After the Earthquake,” in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at the Biscayne Bay Campus on Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. in collaboration with the Consulate General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico.

“Biran’s lecture further confirms the University’s place at the forefront of discussions and analysis relating to the disastrous event in Haiti and subsequent relief efforts,” said Shlomi Dinar, director of the Middle East Society.

University President Mark Rosenberg will deliver the opening remarks. The event is open and free to the public.

In the aftermath of Haiti’s 7.0 magnitude earthquake in January the global community scrambled to assist in the relief effort. One of the first nations to be on the scene after the disaster, which affected an estimated three million people, was the nation of Israel.

Just two days after the disaster, Israel’s state run MASHAV humanitarian relief division arrived in Port-au-Prince with a 220-member delegation in two Boeing 747 jets. Aboard were the necessary equipment for a Home Front Command field hospital and rescue unit, as well as teams from Magen David Adom (Israel’s version of the Red Cross) and Israeli Police, according to a press release by the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Israeli delegation was the first to set up a field hospital, which included two surgical tents, a pediatric tent, a radiology tent and a tent for newborn or premature babies, according to a report by The Allentown Examiner. Within the Israeli field hospital, over 1,100 patients received treatment and 16 babies were delivered on site in a span of 11 days.

Biran will speak on what Israel has done, is doing and will continue to do in support of relief efforts in Haiti. His presentation will include a never-before-seen video capturing firsthand accounts of the aftermath of the earthquake and Israel’s involvement in Haiti.”

“It also demonstrates the University’s continued commitment to bring the community and student body together on matters of great import,” Dinar said. “In this fashion, students and community members have the opportunity to increase their awareness, engagement and involvement with local, regional, and global issues.”

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**GENE KRAVETS**

**COLUMNIST**

**CAROL KAMINSKAS**

**Contributing Writer**

Israelian ambassador to Haiti to recount his post-quake experience