Student acts as city council-member

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

Student profile

Student acts as city council-member

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
JONATHAN SZYDLIK
Student Media Staff

U-wide council allocates funds

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In what a University administrator called a “first-of-its-kind” event, the University-wide Council met on July 30 to redistribute $547,610. Money from the activities and service fee that the Student Government Association gives out to the University’s various student organizations, centers and events was initially more than $12 million, but because of the University’s increased enrollment, a little more than $500,000 was available.

The UWC met to reconsider budget requests made during the budget deliberations in March — whether to give more money or leave as is. They could not lower or consider new requests.

The council is comprised of both campuses’ student government council president, vice president, senate speaker, speaker pro tempore and the visiting comptroller if a tie-break vote is necessary. Rosa Jones, vice president, student affairs and the person who approves the SGA budget, said this was a historical event and compared what was being done as to baking a cake.

“Someone already made the layers and you’re putting icing on the cake,” Jones said during the meeting.

The University’s “big five” in terms of funding are recreation services on both campuses, the Wolfe University Center, the Graham Center and the Aquatic center at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

In September 2010 to serve on the Board of Commissioners for the Hialeah Housing Authority. In January, Robaina announced his campaign for mayor of Miami-Dade County which meant he had to resign as Hialeah mayor because he is illegal to hold two positions at once.

When Robaina announced his resignation, the president of the city council of Hialeah took over his duties. Hernandez then submitted his resume to be considered for the open position on the City Council. Hernandez’s youth was a major factor in the decision making process.

The council eventually decided to split the money $50,000 to go to special projects and operations, respectively.

“Inconsistency in the numbers pitched by a ‘sales-person’ surrounded the possible funding of The New York Times Readership program. The previous UWC did not fund the program for another year, but Jones suggested that the current council consider funding it because of how important it is to the University’s Quality Enhancement Plan. The plan, which falls

The University has started a partnership with Wells Fargo to establish the “FIU One Card,” which will link numerous school services with a free bank checking account.

The partnership began on October 28, 2010 and developed the idea now known as the “FIU One Card” idea. Jeffrey Krablin, assistant vice president of Business Services and Nancy Cadavid, marketing manager of Business Services, said this partnership is becoming quite common. The University is not the first in the State University System that partnered with Wells Fargo. The University of Florida also has a partnership with the company with its Gator One card.

Wells Fargo has offices in the first floor of the Gold Garage on the Modesto Maidique Campus, along with three ATMs. These can be found in the Gold Garage, in the Graham Center and in the Wolfe University Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

PHILIPPE BUTEAU/THE BEACON

Bob Rade, a freshman mechanical engineering major, feels that Wells Fargo is, not an issue, but a convenient option.

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PRODUCTION MANAGER/COPY CHIEF

ASST. SPORTS DIRECTORS

CONTACT INFORMATION

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 23, Issue 5 of The Beacon, the article titled “SGC-BBC prepares for the fall semester,” in the At the Bay section, Pablo Haspel’s name was misspelled. The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

STAFF AUTHORS

The Beacon – Wednesday, August 3, 2011 www.fiusm.com

University professional and mentor retire after an extensive career

WASHINGTON

JACOB ALBARRACIN

E-BOARD AND PRODUCTION STAFF

TAMMY DAWSON

NEWS

JASMINE ALONSO

WELLS FARGO, page 1

NEWS FLASH

WELLS FARGO’s one card idea is a great service, it is valuable and indispensable; it is a staple in the University’s Higher Education Program. Ellison made the transition to the program easier and helped it grow.

"She has helped it grow tremendously by using the card to really help put FIU’s name out there,” said graduate assistant Crystl Dawson. Ellison is often a role model to her students both professionally and personally. She is able to connect with her students and her students appreciate her for that. “I’ll always remember her. Her achievements give me something to look forward to and her sweet potatoes pie,” Dawson said.

TAMMY DAWSON

NEWS DIRECTOR

WELLS FARGO’s one card idea offers its members online priority checking account, but still I don’t think I would use it. I already have a bank account. I would maybe use it for Erin Muro, a junior and senior, "she is our voice and looks out for our interests.”

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FOOTBALL
Greg Ellingson signs with Jacksonville Jaguars

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

It was announced that former FIU wide receiver Greg Ellingson signed an unofficial contract with the Jacksonville Jaguars on July 25, the same day that free agents were allowed to go signing onto teams since the NFL lockout ended.

Ellingson announced the news on his Twitter account, stating “I’m a Jacksonville Jaguar. On my way to be, at least.”

Undrafted free agents usually have much more time in front of coaches at mini camps and tryouts in an effort to impress them and make the team’s roster. Even though the training camp rosters have now been extended to 90 players, Ellingson will now have a very quick amount of time due to how long the NFL lockout lasted, but it is still a shot at making an NFL roster, nevertheless.

During the offseason, Ellingson worked out with his high school team at Robinson High, helping coach the wide receivers during spring football and even worked out with the Buccaneers two weeks ago. He also did some one-on-one drills with fellow Robinson High teammate Javier Arenas of the Kansas City Chiefs.

“A lot of people think that when people sign it’s automatic, but they still have to go to camp,” said Head Coach Mario Cristobal.

Ellingson had 43 catches for 612 yards and five touchdowns in his senior season last year, and showed his capabilities on the biggest stage in program history, the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl against Toledo. In that game, he had seven catches for 66 yards, being the top receiver for the Golden Panthers.

He was also considered to be the second option to T.Y. Hilton on offense, and ended his career with 131 catches for 2014 yards and 14 touchdowns.

“He is a tremendous football player and a tremendous young man,” said Cristobal. “He’s a guy who has really worked hard for the last four years and was extremely productive, and I think it was really highlighted in the last drive of the bowl game.”

Although the Jaguars had the third best rushing attack last season, they were 27th in passing yards, which could be a reason as to why they chose to give Ellingson a shot as an undrafted free agent.

“I was pretty confident that I would be with the Jaguars the whole time because they were really interested in me and out of all the teams that talked to me they had the most need for a bigger receiver, or just a receiver at that,” said Ellingson.

He will have two weeks to train with Jacksonville until their first preseason game at New England. After the four preseason games, the regular season kicks off for the Jaguars on Sept. 11 against the Titans.

“Honestly, I can’t even say I’m thinking about that right now because I still have to go through this training camp and I’m not officially part of the team yet,” Ellingson admitted. “I have to work my butt off so I can make the team.

“Ellingson has not had much time to learn about what the NFL life is like quite yet, but he says that the one thing he has learned is that the NFL is a business, and it is the real deal. Due to the short amount of time he has to impress coaches, it will be difficult for him to make the 53 man final roster, but he plans on approaching it the same way he always has.

“It’s tough, especially for someone like me, but I’m going to do what I can,” Ellingson said. “It’s the same thing like coming from high school into college. I was just some kid that was coming out there and turns out I showed what I could do and ended up starting as a freshman and playing all four years in college… I plan on doing the same thing here.”

Ellingson is the second Golden Panther to have a shot at making an NFL roster this year, the other being defensive back Anthony Gaitor, who got drafted as the 222nd pick to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

“It is a tribute to the program, to the coaches and to their hard work as individuals, and hopefully a couple more of our guys end up signing free agent contracts in the next couple of days,” Cristobal said.

FOOTBALL
Rick Sanchez will take over color commentary on radio broadcasts

IGOR MELLO
Asst. Sports Director

When the FIU football team opens their 2011 season against North Texas on Sept. 1, fans won’t hear the voices of sports talk personalities Jorge Sedano and Jeremy Marks-Peltz for the football broadcast.

Their three-year stint is over, as was the case with the school’s partnership with WAXY 790 AM, a Lincoln Financial station. Instead, Golden Panther fans will now hear the voice of former CNN and WSVN anchor Rick Sanchez on the airwaves.

The Miami native will now be part of the broadcast team for FIU football on WMCU 1080 AM, according to FIU Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia.

Sanchez will do color commentary, joining Tony Calatayud, who will do the play-by-play for WMCU, a Christian talk radio station owned by Carol Broad and Salem Communications.

“I was honored when FIU asked me to volunteer with broadcasts of the upcoming season’s football games. Anyone who knows me knows how much I love Miami and FIU. It has an incredible student enrollment, and I am confident that they will reach new heights this season.”

Sanchez was the first to break the news on the Twitter, stating that he will shift his focus towards his CBS4 work on the weekends.

“I had a blast calling FIU games. I’m looking forward to continuing to cover the weekend gig at CBS4,” Sanchez tweeted. This will be Sanchez’ first gig since getting fired from CNN for his controversial comments towards the Jewish community, which included calling Jon Stewart, from “The Daily Show,” a “bigot.”

Despite his past troubles, Garcia feels like Sanchez will fit well with the University.

“I’m very excited and thankful that Rick Sanchez has agreed to be the color analyst for FIU football,” added Garcia. “We are very fortunate to have someone of his talent and caliber, and level of broadcast experience, to be part of FIU Athletics.”

He will have two weeks to train with Jackson- sonville until their first preseason game at New England. After the four preseason games, the regular season kicks off for the Jaguars on Sept. 11 against the Titans.

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SOFTBALL
Jade Schumann introduced as new softball head coach

MALCOM SHIELDS
Staff Writer

The search to find the Golden Panthers’ new softball coach officially ended on July 29 as the University announced the hiring of Jade Schumann as the new head coach of the softball program.

Schumann previously coached at Texas A&M Corpus Christi for four seasons. According to their website, Schumann had a 120-104 overall record in his four seasons leading the Islanders.

In 2011, the Islanders had one of the programs best seasons under Schumann, as they amassed a 41-19 overall record and a 21-9 record in conference play, which clinched the Southland Conference regular season crown. Also, the Islanders secured a berth in the conference championship game.

Schumann takes over the softball program after the previous head coach, Beth Torina, accepted the head coaching position at Louisiana State University on June 23.

The Golden Panthers’ softball program has been on an upward trend during the past five seasons. They have had winning seasons in four of the past five seasons.

In 2010, the Golden Panthers reached the NCAA tournament for the second time in program history by posting a 38-21 record and...
FOOTBALL

All-time FIU sack leader signs with the Chargers

JOEL DELGADO
Sports Director

After having the best season of his NFL career to date, Antwan Barnes has made a home for himself in the sun and surf.

Barnes, a former FIU linebacker, will remain with the San Diego Chargers after signing a two-year, $3.2 million contract with the club on July 27. He initially signed with the Chargers in Oct. of last year and racked up 22 tackles and 4.5 sacks, both single-season career highs, in 11 games with the squad last season.

“I feel good knowing that they are a team that wants me to be here,” Barnes said. “It’s a place that can be a home.”

Because of the NFL lockout, players had to sit and wait until an agreement was reached before teams could sign, trade and release players. It is like for most of the players, things were slow for the former FIU standout.

But when the lockout ended July 25, tough decisions would need to be made quickly as teams were hoping to get players into training camp.

“It was a waiting game,” Barnes said of the lockout. “We just had to wait and see what happens.”

However, the spot will be up for grabs with the two players who had the most receptions on the team last year were all running backs. The times were slow for the former FIU standout.

Like for most of the players, things were slow for the former FIU standout.

One of the most valuable positions on the field for the Golden Panthers will be the running back position.

T.Y. Hilton is clear-cut number one option again this year at the wide receiver position, but the number two slot is a question mark. After losing Greg Ellingson to graduation, there is talent at FIU, but they will need to prove their worth. Junior Jeremiah Harden and Kendrick Rhodes also return to the roster after playing time as a Golden Panther, but the number two receiver position is very much up for grabs.

It is finally time. After the Dec. 26 bowl win over Toledo, the FIU Golden Panthers have been waiting for their shot to repeat as Sun Belt Conference Champions.

But the position is very much up for grabs with the two players who had the most touches last year, Darriet Perry and Keyonvis Boute.

Antwan Barnes [above] posted single-season highs in tackles (22) and sacks (4.5) with Chargers in 2010.

To win the conference title, the Panthers will need to improve their defense after allowing 2,438 yards. The only player returning to the starting lineup at the professional level.

For the rest of this story and more exclusive football content, go to FIUSM.com.

I'm very excited to continue to develop the program that Coach (Beth) Torina has built, and I feel as if I'm in a position to have success immediately,” Schumann told FIUSports.com. “I'm very excited to be in South Florida and I'm looking forward to a new season of Panther softball.”
Art museum expands online with “Virtual Frost”

HEATHER ARMAS
Contributing Writer

Starting in August, the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum will open its virtual museum doors. The vision for the Virtual Frost project was a collaborative effort between Dr. Carol Damian, director and chief curator of the Frost Art Museum and the Curatorial Team and Educational Department at the Frost Art Museum.

In November of 2010, the Frost Art Museum initially applied for a Knight Arts Challenge Grant with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to help pay for a vision of creating a 100 percent virtual museum experience for the public.

The money received from this grant was substantial, but it only allowed the Frost to complete the initial phase of the project—to date only two of the nine galleries online. Hoping to expand the virtual museum to include all nine galleries currently on display, the Frost applied for the Inktel Direct Innovation Grant. The museum has been selected as a preliminary finalist and will know by Aug. 5 if they have made it to the finals.

“It’s a very exciting opportunity for the Art museum, which will be the only truly virtual museum in the entire Southeastern United States,” said Kelly Brady-Rumble, the Museum’s grants specialist. “I am interested in viewing and chatting with others who have visited the virtual museum through Google Earth and Panoramio, a website that allows photos taken at the Frost Art Museum to geo-locate and be a part of the experience in Google Earth and Google Maps—the Frost museum communicates with the community to let them know about museum exhibits, events, etc.

“We use these networking tools to encourage creative and cultural dialogue among people and the museum but also to inform and educate,” explained Brady-Rumble. “You do not have access to the virtual museum through Facebook, but you would definitely be able to find out about museum events, read blogs and chat with others who have visited the virtual museum. From there you will be able to log into the Frost website and visit the Virtual Frost.”

The possibility of taking the tour with mobile devices such as electronic tablets and smart phones provides an extra level of interaction we are preparing and it will be interesting for users to walk through the museum and see in real time what the galleries look like,” said Mauricio Gonzalez, a junior architecture major.

Gonzalez, who is in charge of designing the virtual museum, is one of the students working closely with Malik Benjamin, a visiting instructor at the School of Architecture.

“The process was great. The artwork of all nine galleries were taken down to take pictures of the blank walls, then the artwork was hung up again to take pictures of the wall with the artwork. With the pictures of the blank walls on file, they are able to put up new artworks as they come up.

“Personally I think it has been an interesting process so far because we were not trained as web designers, but as architects,” Gonzalez said. “Yes, given our background as architects major we can also let our imagination pursue very exciting ideas for the virtual spatial experience of the museum.”

“The museum is also hoping to add music to the exhibits that will correlate with the art and the mood a certain gallery is conveying. This is a very exciting and cool opportunity for the Frost.”

Brady-Rumble agreed. “The museum is also hoping to add music to the exhibits that will correlate with the art and the mood a certain gallery is conveying. This is a very exciting and cool opportunity for the Frost.”

Brady-Rumble also mentioned that at some point the Frost and Virtual Frost would even like to show the behind the scenes efforts of the museum, sharing information on how paintings are restored as well as the outdoor sculpture park.

“When this is finished and reaches the point where everyone is able to have access to the museum, they will see how amazing the space is,” said Marilyn Roa, a junior architecture major.

Roa’s tasks consist of taking photographs of the art on display and helping with the web design of the museum. “I’m sure the students and people from outside the University community will finally say ‘yes, I’ve gone there and love it,’” Roa said. “Regardless of what they finally think about the museum, the point is to bring people inside and have their opinion, because, after all, that’s what art is.”

REEL TO REEL

Summer flick doesn’t live up to high expectations

Daniel Craig (“Casino Royale”) and Harrison Ford (“The Last Ark”), who have played the most iconic characters in cinema history, are now cowboys fighting for their lives against aliens in the Old West in “Cowboys & Aliens.”

Set in the year 1873, a man (Craig) wakes up in the middle of the desert with a strange bracelet on his left wrist and no memory of who he is. He ends up arriving in the town of Absolution where he quickly runs into trouble that lands him in jail. When Woodrow Dolahdyte (Ford), a local cattle baron, shows up in Absolution to confront this man, strange lights appear in the sky. These lights turn out to be alien spaceship but the man is able to fight off the aliens and win the town.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Healthier choices found at unusual locations

While the majority of our options include fast food chains, that does not mean every student has to fall victim to the Freshman (or Senior) 15. After making a personal goal of choosing healthier lunch options, I had to do some homework and figure out how I could still eat on campus without packing on the pounds (and without making daily trips to Subway or Salad Creations). With a little research, here are some other healthier options we can enjoy.

JAMBA JUICE

Mediterranea YUM flatbread and Smokehouse Chicken California flatbread: Smoothies and “Toppers” are not the only items that Jamba Juice serves to satisfy hunger pains for the health-conscious. At 120 calories and topped with zucchini, bell peppers and feta, the Mediterranea YUM flatbread is a tasty option for vegetarians. Meanwhile, the Smokehouse Chicken CALORIES, page 6

SC-FI, page 6

JASMYN ELLIOTT

Time and time again, I hear students and staff lament the lack of healthy eating options on campus.

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The Beacon – Wednesday, August 3, 2011
www.fiusm.com

**Show features student films and performances**

**KATRINA BRUNO**  
Staff Writer

The Department of Theatre took the concept of “a night at the movies” and “an evening at the theater” to new heights by fusing the best of both with their production, “Sound and Soundstage.” The production ran from July 17 to July 31 as part of the Fifth Annual Alternative Theatre Festival.

“Sound and Soundstage” showcased student-written and directed films and theatrical performances. Freshly popped popcorn, cold refreshments and a jovial mix of Beatles tunes made the environment extremely laid back. The stage itself had a simple set up; in the center was a white projector screen, a single wooden chair and cream-colored curtains hung on both sides.

The concept of the production was conjured up by students enrolled in Introduction to Acting for TV/Film or TPP 3265, a course offered by Theatre Professor Carol Preval. The concept of the production was that films and theatrical performances would be mingled together and on-stage acting into one cohesive performance.

“We heard about a school in England where their program involves theater and film side-by-side,” explained Kevin Preval, senior and theatre major.

Preval said that Phillip Church, associate professor in the Department of Theatre, who had been trying to bring about a film program for many years, took the opportunity of “Sound and Soundstage” to build up the hype and show the students that film does happen on campus.

Some notable performances were “On the Blink of Destruction” and “After the Beep.” The first on-stage performance, “On the Blink of Destruction” was written by Alex Machado and directed by Michelle Antelo. Forewarning the audience, Machado said, “This is an absurdist piece, which means it will leave you with more questions than answers.”

Machado’s stage presence was magnetizing. His ability to transform his voice into that of a Shakespearean narrator while simultaneously grabbing the attention of the audience through his raw emotional acting was fascinating.

The production was simple, but the talent considerable—a great way for theater students to show their abilities, need and desires to express themselves through new mediums.

The actors used a technique called “stage reading” to share the series of monologues and riddles into the worm brains until the finale of the performance.

An eloquent mix of confusion and comradery along the audience makes for a really funny and entertaining, but I don’t understand exactly what they are talking about.

There were hints of modern technology and prehistoric undertones as the performance opened with Lucas Hood, acting as Ignatius, attempting to create a fire by spinning sticks between his hands and Wilfredo Cabrera, who acted as Oystern, making an effort to shave with a sharp rock by a river.

The intriguing premise was full of ridiculous dialogue among the characters and the narration by Carina Skaranke, who played a warped computer named Anonymi.

“After the Beep.” A film directed by Elizabeth Abad, had no dialogue, but the old-fashioned music, sepia tones and Charlie Chaplin feel give it a unique quality that stood out during the production.

Vivyan Alejandro Figueroa played the lead role in the film, Michael, recently dumped by his girlfriend and having trouble regaining his happiness.

The play itself is uplifting and funny. It highlights all the things people do while trying to get over their exes—crying and hanging up the phone, walking in proverbial circles, missing out on dates with friends and not realizing that the next best thing is right under their noses, waiting for a chance.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**UNEXPECTED PICKS AT CAMPUS SPOTS OFFER LOW CALORIE OPTIONS**

**CALORIES, page 5**

flatbread loaded with poblano peppers, black beans, corn and a tangy barbecue sauce is a 300 calorie meal that packs maximum flavor with minimal calories.

**BURGER KING**

Whopper Jr. sandwich: I can understand if you are a little surprised to see this as a “healthy choice,” but hear me out. One Whopper Jr. comes in at only 340 calories, with 14 grams of protein. Avoid adding extras such as cheese and opt for diet soda, or an even better choice, water, to keep the calorie count down for this fast food favorite.

**EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS**

BLT Bagel Thin Sandwich with Avocado: Have your bagel with this fairly new addition to Einstein Bns. lunch options. With avocado turkey bacon, thick avocado slices and a creamy tomato spread, it is not a bad deal for only 400 calories. I think this is a delicious excuse to trade in your Bagel Dogs.

**CHIK-FIL-A**

Chargrilled Chicken Sandwich with side salad: As much as I love their chicken tenders, the Chargrilled sandwich comes in at a close second. Always tender and topped with the ubiquitous lettuce and tomato, it is only 300 calories. Although you may be addicted to the waffle fries (as I am), pair it with a side salad and Italian dressing for an additional 85 calories.

**MOE’S SOUTHWEST GRILL**

Life options for the Art Vandelay Jr. and Joey’s Jr.: So, how does one make it into a bagel at Moe’s? Skip the high calorie extra such as sour cream shredded cheese. When made lite, the vegetarian Art comes in at 378 calories with rice, grilled vegetables and guacamole.

A Joey Jr. lite burrito tallies up to a surprisingly filling 352 calories with tender chicken, velvety black beans and refrescing pico de gallo.

Eating healthy on campus does not have to be a mission. By doing a little research and counting calories-heavy extras, any student can find a meal that will not tip the numbers on the scale.

**Food for Thought is a Bi-weekly food column. Look for it every Wednesday.**

**REEL TO REEL**

“Cowboys and Aliens” pretends to be groundbreaking but it can be summarized in its own opening sentence such is the service of the tool and such is the trade of its user.”

Alex Machado, Writer of “On the Blink of Destruction”

The piece itself is vague so watchers may come to their own conclusions, but [it] can be summarized in its own opening sentence such is the service of the tool and such is the trade of its user.” said Machado, who also directed.

“After the Beep.” A film directed by Elizabeth Abad, had no dialogue, but the old-fashioned music, sepia tones and Charlie Chaplin feel gave it a unique quality that stood out during the production.

Vivyan Alejandro Figueroa played the lead role in the film, Michael, recently dumped by his girlfriend and having trouble regaining his happiness.

The play itself is uplifting and funny. It highlights all the things people do while trying to get over their exes—crying and hanging up the phone, walking in proverbial circles, missing out on dates with friends and not realizing that the next best thing is right under their noses, waiting for a chance.

“Cowboys and Aliens” has cowboys and aliens throwing down fisticuffs where films like “Wild Wild West” and “Jonah Hex” falls flat on its own face once the search for the abducted people begins.

It does not help that the movie also has aliens with an unoriginal look and cowboys that fall into stereotypical categories that we have seen in previous Western movies. Another problem that “Cowboys & Aliens” has is that for a film that has cowboys and aliens throwing down fists with one another, it takes itself too seriously as if it were a serious drama.

This film does have some bits and pieces that have some minor redeemable qualities that include great cinematography from Matthew Libatique and a decent performance from Daniel Craig. Libatique’s work on this movie works quite well in capturing the sights of the Old West. Just like how Craig managed to slip into the shoes of James Bond, he embodies the role of the cowboy with amnesia that receives and delivers ridiculous dialogue among the characters and the narration by Carina Skaranke, who played a warped computer named Anonymi.

While Daniel Craig does his best to support this movie, the rest of the main characters are truly one-dimensional and not interesting at all. Ford’s role as the gunslinger is nothing new compared to what other characters Ford has played in the past.

His eventual character arc from mean old man to movie star is predictable. Olivia Wilde plays a beautiful woman who does not seem to get any dirt on her pretty head or face. In this film, Wilde is basically reduced to being eye candy for any of the men who go to see this film.

With an interesting premise to boot, “Cowboys & Aliens” turns out to be a disappointing movie that comes with familiar clichés and stereotypical characters that we have seen in other Western films.

**Sci-fi, page 5**

would think that the combination of the men who played James Bond and Indiana Jones joining forces on the big screen alongside the aforementioned talent of the director who helmed “Iron Man” would result in a great movie. However, this Sci-fi Western hybrid becomes surprisingly boring and dull.

The screenplay, which was written by some of the writers who wrote the first “Iron Man,” has a predictable and dull story. The first half hour of the film falls flat, with this film succeeding where films like “Wild Wild West” and “Jonah Hex” failed as a straight-forward western with a science fiction twist. Eventually, the movie does falls flat on its own face once the search for the abducted people begins.

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**Sci-fi, page 5**

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Space shuttle program cuts negatively affects education

KELLY MALAMBRI
Staff Writer

On July 8, 2011, NASA’s shuttle program sadly came to an end. Cutting the program will do little for everyone on the globe, including students and professors at the University whose education and careers will be negatively affected by the decision, as education on the planets and stars will be limited due to lack of funds.

Because of new legislation, NASA will discontinue the use of shuttles and will explore other methods of space transportation, which will be run by man or landing on any planets or moons anytime soon. This indefinite hiatus will hinder the material taught in classrooms around the country, and students will receive less innovative and new knowledge on topics concerning astronomy as a result.

Currently, the frontier of space is closed beyond that of “low Earth orbit” for the majority of NASA expeditions, an area in which there is little to be researched and learned. Without new information on the universe outside of this area, students and astronauts are at a great loss, as no new information will be written in astronomy books regarding space beyond this already well-explored environment.

The shutting down of the shuttle program is tragic, especially for those who have spent or plan to spend their lives working in astronomy. According to spacefacts, NASA has sent approximately 2,800 workers, and others outside the company are taking a hit as well. Dr. James R. Webb, a professor of physics and the professor of physics and the director of the Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy Observatory at the University, believes human beings will be unprepared if or when an asteroid or comet hits Earth. This, along with the major reduction of discovery and information that will accompany the shutting down of the shuttle program, will damage the U.S. and its education system, as students studying astronomy will be exposed to less information, hindering their ability to solve such problems.

“The ability to inspire our youth to become scientists through grand space exploration is lost. So much is lost! And what do we gain? Nothing,” said Dr. Webb.

By limiting our knowledge on the planets and stars, the shutdown of the space shuttle program will negatively affect students, especially those majoring in astronomy, along with educators and all citizens around the globe. The loss of such education is an unfortunate, and the loss of jobs and information for professionals and students is a giant leap backward for mankind.

Entreprenurship courses should be required for all

GIOVANNI GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

Personal finance and entrepreneurship courses should be required in every major because the skills these courses teach will create options for students other than just being an underling at some company.

Without any formal education on entrepreneurship, most people resort to trial and error, many times eventually failing. According to home-business-expo.com, about half of small businesses fail within five years due to a lack of experience. Requiring personal finance and entrepreneurship courses will give every major a great way to prepare those who may want to eventually start a business.

Entrepreneurship education at the University, this should be a skill that is taught to all students and should have as much emphasis in being taught as math or writing skills.

If entrepreneurial classes are required, then students will have to be exposed to the entrepreneurial setting to complete their majors and will be better prepared when they graduate.

When the fear of failure is the driving force behind achievement, people act out of desperation and cause more harm than good.

According to several reports, the teachers did not do this solely on their own volition. In fact, former superintendent Beverly Hall pressured their test scores, while creating a toxic environment for doing so by using intimidation rather than encouragement.

According to the Huffington Post, a report on the investigation states, “A culture of fear, intimidation and retaliation existed in APS, which created a conspiracy of silence and deniability with respect to standardized test misconduct.” In essence, Hall bullied educators into performing well, which led them to act out of desperation when it became clear that students were far from prepared to pass the CRCT.

Lately, school systems have become prone to due-driven success. Even in Florida, the poor performance on the FCAT may result in a loss of students, and funding, if success is not met by the A+ Plan, which gives schools a “grade” based on their students’ performance on the test.

These high-stakes environments are breeding grounds for more cheating scandals. Instead of students being taught thoroughly so that they have the knowledge to pass standardized testing, the pressure to perform well by state testing standards will easily outweigh the pressure to perform in the classroom.

When the fear of failure is the driving force behind achievement, people act out of desperation and cause more harm than good. Ultimately, all districts should take this scandal as an opportunity to reevaluate their definition of “success.” Meanwhile, Atlanta’s public schools have a long road ahead of them to rehabilitate their system and their reputations.

“Class Dismissed” is a biweekly column.

Wednesday, August 3, 2011
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Our editors welcome constructive comments regarding or in response to Home, Business, Expo, the campus link for Fargo debit card. The FSU Card operates in a similar fashion in a partnership with Suntrust. The Beacon recognizes that for FIU to continue to be seen as a competitive institution statewide, it must come up with proposals that are appealing and convenient to students.

We recognize that in order for this to continue to be a good move for the University, there needs to be good customer service and transparent rules in the semesters to come.
Miami has long been a city of year-round sunshine, and its numerous beaches are home to some of the tiniest bikinis, but the threat of weight gain that comes with attending college can make parading around this paradise a bit nerve-wracking.

Aside from the vanity of life on the beach, national attention surrounding fitness education has reached a pinnacle with the launch of Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Move” campaign, an undertaking designed to educate the youth on the importance of living an active lifestyle and eating healthy in efforts to curb America’s ballooning obesity rates. Although the campaign is directed at school-age children, college campuses and young adults have taken note.

“The Biscayne Bay Campus’ recreational facilities and wellness initiatives have helped students curb a sedentary lifestyle and take advantage of the beautiful campus. With a 70,000 square-foot fitness complex that opened in 2009, an Olympic training pool and miles of bike path skirting the bay, the University offers exemplary options for students to keep fit. ‘I try to bike to school as much as possible,’ said Corey D’agata, a senior psychology major. ‘The campus is just so pretty and the paths make it pretty easy.’

The campus also looks after students’ general well-being, with a multitude of services offered including STD testing, smoking cessation programs and stress management via psychological services. ‘It’s up to the students to take advantage of what the University offers,’ said Orlando Rodriguez, an attendant in the fitness center. ‘There are no barriers; people have to motivate themselves.’

With the expansion and offerings of the Recreation Department, motivation might not be hard to find. ‘I used to be pretty lazy,’ said D’agata, who uses the gym twice a week on top of biking regularly. ‘But once you find the motivation to get fit, you don’t want to stop living healthfully.’

‘I go to the gym on Biscayne Campus all the time,’ said Luz Romero, junior majoring in criminal justice. ‘The only problem is that they don’t offer that many times for the different classes they have.’

The University offers a large variety of classes, but few repeats. Yoga is offered four times per week, while Zumba is only offered once. ‘I also wish they had spinning, like on the Modesto Maidique Campus,’ said Romero.

For what it lacks, the University boasts a much larger fitness center than both Johnson & Wales University and Barry University, twice the amount of free classes than either school. The gym recently began opening at 7 a.m., a move Rodriguez says has already brought plenty of early-busy business. ‘We are trying to take away the barriers, so people just have to motivate themselves,’ Rodriguez said.

‘The climate and landscape of South Florida is certainly a motivating factor. “It’s a beautiful place, with beautiful people,” said D’agata about Miami, which consistently ranks in the top 50 healthiest cities by reputable lifestyle magazines, and is 31 on Forbes magazine’s “Americas Fittest Cities” index. “Feeling good and looking good are already directly proportional,” said D’agata. Although the campus offers an array of fitness-minded activities, health-conscious students seem to agree that the nutritional options are less than desirable.

‘There’s only Moe’s, a burger place, and a sandwich place,’ said Romero. ‘Most times, I would rather settle for a quick snack at the bookstore because the cafeteria is lacking. I think they should add more healthy options in the café since weight is already a big issue concerning a large amount of college students.’

The absence of variety seems to be the biggest complaint about the campus wellness-wise, especially in comparison to the vast options at MMC, which include a Fresh Food Company post and Sushi Maki.

‘There is really no place that I eat on campus,’ said Kate Gibson, a hospitali- tality school graduate and vegetarian.

‘Let’s Move’ leads to healthy choices

KAYAKING AT THE BAY

Karina Rincon, biomedical engineering, junior [left] and Kelly Mesa, biomedical engineering, junior [right] get ready to kayak at Biscayne Bay on July 31 in a program hosted by the BBC Recreation Center every last Saturday of the month.

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under the University’s “Global Learning for Global Citizen- ship” initiative, producing greater international engagement and cross-cultural opportunities to achieve the knowledge, skills and attitudes of global citizen- ship through global learning,” according to the global learning website.

The readership program comprise 500 New York Times newspapers. Monday through Friday as of fall 2010 divided between MMC and BCC, round table discussions based on Times articles including lunch and guest speakers.

Patrick O’Keefe, SGC- MMC, president, had issue with who promoted the program to the UWC.

‘It is not being done by a department, but by a sales- person,’ O’Keefe said during the meeting.

Petra Kohlman, educational regional sales manager for The New York Times, is the Times’ representative for the readership program.

While dollar amounts were thrown out as to how much to fund the program – from as low as $8,000 as high as $14,000 – O’Keefe and Udhnani had issue with numbers that they said weren’t matching.

Kohlman, they said, came up with the numbers and not the Office of Global Learning Initiatives. Sanjeev composed the number Kohlman gave them were not “solid figures.”

The UWC also added they disagreed with the increased amount of money coming from SGA to the program despite more departments being involved with it, but decided to give the program $14,000 with a clause suggesting the money be used for newspapers, round tables, lunches and speakers for both campuses.

The UWC moved on to discuss the BBC Recreation Center’s request for additional funding that would fund the center over their base operating costs.

‘We’re talking about funding beyond the base level, where as our argument for the [MMC] Rec Center, and the Wolfe Center, was funding something that was substan- tial,’ said O’Keefe. ‘I don’t think that we should be funding something extra when with the other ones that we are looking at it funding something that would be otherwise cut.

SGC- MMC members motioned for $15,000 to be allotted towards their respective Rec Center, but the motion was defeated due to SOC-MMC wanting the allotment to be $10,000. The UWC was able to come to terms on $12,500 after agreeing on a midpoint to both councils proposed increases.

Diversity Day, a university wide event held at BBC, was brought up for discussion by Halpin as being necessary for the University, it being a univer- sity-wide event that attracts students from both campuses.

The council moved on to deliberations over the funding of All-Nighter for the Poor, a fundraising event that was hosted for the first time at BBC the previous year. Although, as SGA Faculty Advisor Rafael Zapata admitted, last year’s event “did not have good attendance numbers”, and the responsi- bilities fell completely onto a single member of SGC-BCC, the council moved to give All- Nighter for the Poor a second chance with $5,000.00 to go towards the organization of the UWC.

Full story on fi usm.com.