The Beacon, August 29, 2011

Florida International University

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University life a challenge to faith

KENNETH DYCHES
Contributing Writer

Attending a university is a rite of passage for many teenagers and young adults, but for many religious students the exposure to new ideas and people is particularly a heavy cross to bear.

According to a study done in 2010 by the PEW Research Center, approximately 42% of Americans between the ages of 18 and 29 have changed their religious beliefs at least once in their lifetime.

“I've been raised in a Christian background, but since college I haven't really been participating or thinking about stuff like that,” said Amy Lee, a sophomore and undecided. “I guess peer pressure has something to do with it, as cliché as that sounds, but it’s the truth. It’s the trend.”

“The search and hire process gave me a chance to help educate the FIU community on what Honors does and why.”

Lesley Northup
Honors College Dean

Lesley Northup named Honors dean

ANALIA FIESTAS
Staff Writer

Though the Honors College’s new dean was announced in June, she has held that position for more than five years as its interim dean.

The long and national search for a dean of the Honors College officially ended on June 1 with Lesley Northup named as the college’s permanent dean.

“It is good to know that I measure up against national competition,” Northup said to Student Media. “The search and hire process also gave me a chance to help educate the FIU community on what Honors does and why.”

Northup holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, the Episcopal Divinity School, and the Catholic University of America, where she studied ritual and liturgy.

University Provost Douglas Wartzok expressed his satisfaction of the national search results through a letter he wrote to the University community in July.

“The search and hire process gave me a chance to help educate the FIU community on what Honors does and why.”

The national search confirmed that our Honors College has identified a unique niche with its blend of intellectually demanding interdisciplinary courses, an emphasis on developing future leaders, a strong program of creative and research activity and requirements for active community engagement,” said Wartzok in the letter.

Prior to being selected as the permanent dean, Northup was an associate dean at the Honors College for two years and also interim dean.

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FIELD DAY

COMING UP | Opinion

Check out the Opinion section for the education column, “Class Dismissed” by Jasymn Elliott for insight on local and national school related issues.

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FIU’s online presence includes Facebook, Twitter

**HEIDI BRYCE** Staff Writer

As social media networks continue to take over, the influence of websites such as Facebook, Youtube, Tumblr and Twitter are being utilized by the University to promote a familiar interaction with students.

Both prospective and current students are able to add school pages to their friends list along with other clubs and organizations to get information on upcoming events, news and all things related to their affiliations and fields of study.

Through FIU Tumblr.com, students can gain a more personal perspective of the school by scrolling through the many student submitted photos displaying school spirit. They can also discuss their campus experience with questions and statements which are published on the blog.

The University also maintains a Twitter account, which like the Tumblr and Youtube pages, is managed by University alumna Beny Soler, social media community manager, for the Department of Marketing and New Media within the Division of External Relations.

Soler graduated in December 2010 with a bachelor of arts in public relations from the School of Journalism and Mass Communications. She’s been working within the Department of Marketing and New Media within the Division of External Relations.

Her typical day consists of extensive interaction. From her computer, she replies to hundreds of students; answering questions, posting useful information. One of her most recent tweets says “let us know if you need any help,” in response to a student trying to enroll. Working with Soler is Matt Herberger, director of web communications for Univerity and Community Relations. Although Herberger maintains the official University website, his plan is to integrate the general information of the school with the accessibility and sharing capability of a social network.

By adding click-to-reply to remote users to a social network page for further information and discussion, the official University page works side by side with its other social pages. Apart from the University homepage, Herzberger also manages news.FIU.edu and calendar.FIU.edu. He designs the visual interface and ensures it’s simple to use and navigate.Twitter is the latest platform is a mobile app for the University now available for iPhone users while Android and Blackberry apps are in progress and expected to be available on this fall.

The app allows students a quick way to check their Financial Aid accounts, login into Blackboard and the student portal, discuss their campus experience with questions and opinions vary. Melanie Massa, a senior psychology major says she’s joined various Facebook pages in accordance with her interests, but finds them lacking at times in updating information as often as she’d like.

“I check them [the University Facebook pages], but it’s usually the same information I’ve seen already,” said Massa.

Violet Lopez, a senior fine arts major believes the University pages has its benefits.

“It’s not only a way for the University to connect to students, but students can talk to each other on the same level,” said Lopez.

In other words, these social network avenues increase relations among the student body, itself. Stronger connections can be made through discovering which University related interests and/or studies they have in common.

In addition to the main University Facebook page, there is a page devoted to the FIU Library. At the bottom of the pages – Twitter, Youtube and Blogspot – is Mattisa Ball, manager of emerging technologies for the Library/Reference Department.

Ball supervises these social media Facebook pages as many as possible and updates them content often.

“You have to be willing to play. Everyone who connects with your page through Twitter, won’t be the same as those through the phone. You have to be able to reach students through your avenues,” Ball said.

Her efforts to maintain efficient communication with students doesn’t end while she’s in her office.

“By a 24 hour job. It’s more than a passing fad; so people take it seriously,” Ball said.

**NORTHUP, page 1**

For five years.

The work she delivered during those seven years earned her the Provost’s Operational Excellence award in 2009.

Northup began her career at the University in 1993, when she joined what was then the Department of Philosophy and Religion.

After years of teaching, her efforts were rewarded when she received a Teaching Incentive Program award and two FIU Faculty Senate Excellence in Teaching awards.

Northup was always active in university affairs. She served on the Faculty Senate, the FIU Athletic Council, the Board of the Academy for the Art of Teaching and the Access and Equity Committee.

Looking forward, Northup has many plans for the Honors College.

“We are going to be working hard to secure a new Honors building with Honors housing, administration, classrooms, support spaces, and some commercial space as well,” she said. “We are ramping up our undergraduate research program substantially and will begin to be able to award some research stipends.”

In addition, Northup believes that the Honors College is inaugurating a new program, Honors University Education in the Arts.

**HEARTS** will incorporate some elements of the fine and performing arts throughout the curriculum and a variety of programmatic contexts.

Northup, along with others, will create a formal Honors Internship Program that takes advantage of unique community relationships.

“We are moving toward implementing service research, undergraduate course before each month-long trip and a major research component to each program with the intention of enhancing Honors Study Abroad and build in excellence.”

“I believe strongly that international education is a crucial educational element, and am ramping up efforts to develop funding for every Honors student to have a foreign study opportunity, said Northup.

But, you can also have an opportunity to oversee for everything that happens in the college, from programs, to personnel and financial matters for the Honors College.

“A large portion of each day is devoted to issues that come up in the regular Honors College and other things that need my input—either as advice, directives, or permission. I am very much a student-centered, so I also see a lot of students,” added Northup.

According to Northup, the Honors College in the world needs to have values, and a vision, and she says she will work hard maintaining those at the Honors College.
NATIONAL

Perry signs pledge on anti-gay marriage amendment

Gov. Rick Perry has signed a pledge to back a feder- al constitutional amendment against gay marriage — repudiating his earlier comments that marriage rights should be left up to individual states.

The Republican presidential hopeful signed the National Organization for Marriage’s pledge Friday.

It states that, if elected, Perry will send a Constitu- tional amendment defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman to the states for the purpose of ratification and appoint U.S. Supreme Court and federal judges who will “reject the idea our Found- ing Fathers inserted a right to gay marriage into our Constitution.”

Perry had said that though he doesn’t support gay marriage personally, it is a states’ rights issue.

WORLD

Somali pirates free tanker after 10 months

The Greek managers of a cargo ship captured by Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean nearly ten months ago say the vessel and its crew have been released.

Paradise Navigation SA said the Liberian-flagged MT Polar oil products tanker was set free Friday and is on its way to a safe port.

A company statement says all 23 surviving crew members are reported to be safe and well. A 24th seaman died of a stroke three weeks after the tanker was seized on Oct. 30, 2010.

The company did not comment on whether the pirates were paid ransom and how much. It noted the fact that the MT Polar was captured despite having taken all precautions, and said international initiatives against piracy have proved ineffective.

—Compiled by Melissa Caceres

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 23, Issue 9 of The Beacon, the article titled “PC Recruitment week brings individual experiences” in the Life! section, the abbreviation for National PC Recruitment week brings individual experiences was incorrect.

The correct abbreviation is “PC.”

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

5,000 free tickets available to students first-come, first-served

Students wait in line on the second floor of the Graham Center to receive tickets from Campus Life for the Homecoming concert featuring Lupe Fiasco, Tine Tempah, the comedy show and the step show.

The homecoming council has been distributing for the past three weeks on a first-come, first-service basis. Tickets will be available for distribution once again on Aug. 31 from 1 to 2 p.m., and also on Sept. 8 from 3 to 4 p.m. at both Campus Life offices: room 2240 of the Graham Center at the Modesto Maid- ique Campus and room 141 of the Wolfe University Center at BBC.

Two weeks prior to the Homecoming Concert, tickets will be distributed on a daily basis until they are sold out. Although the show will be at the biggest venue on campus, which is capable of seating 22,000 people, the homecoming committee felt the need to cap the amount of seats available for the show to provide a better experience.

“We’re not going to have someone sitting on the oppo- site side of the stadium,” Lavado said when asked about the limited amount of tickets available.

Two thousand tickets are for sale at hc.fiu.edu, with two options available: a $30 VIP floor seat in front of the stage and a $25 general admission price.

The prices are relatively low for a concert featuring Lupe Fiasco, whose average concert price is $50 and up on Ticketmaster.

“Usually concerts are $80, so we wanted to cut it and make it easier for students to buy,” said Lavado.

However, $90,000 worth of student money from the activities and services fees were used to pay both Lupe and Tine.

And when asked about the possibility for University students to receive a discount on paid tickets, Lavado refused to comment.

All proceeds made from ticket sales will go towards the production costs of the concert.

“We’re trying to expand the event. We wanted to make it more accessible to the commu- nity,” said Lavado. “Also, we don’t feel it’s fair that, since our students are paying for the concert with our fees, people from outside should get in for free.

Alumni, faculty and staff of the University can also obtain free tickets on a first-come, first-service basis.

Lavado also refused to comment on what the home- coming council is doing to advertise to the community.

With few signs being seen around either campus, some students believe that the committee can expand the advertisement.

“We have bigger posters, not just little ones,” said Emily Ebanks, a senior majoring in architectural. “Also, they put them in all the schools. I don’t walk around campus a lot and I think that all of the flyers are limited to GC. Not all the students walk around the campus.”

Not all students share the same sentiment about the advertisement for the concert.

“I think they’re doing a good job about getting the word out,” said Ellen Heit- man, a junior who is double majoring in international rela- tions and political science.

Students wait in line on the second floor of the Graham Center to receive tickets from Campus Life for the Homecoming concert featuring Lupe Fiasco, Tine Tempah, the comedy show and the step show.

Opening your new parking decal online!

Show your Panther PRIDE on your RIDE!

Original student decals ordered online from 8/22/11 – 9/11/11 are eligible to win an upgrade for one month faculty/staff parking!

Order your new parking decal online!
FOOTBALL

Carroll looks to complete legacy in senior year

JACKSON WOOLEY  Staff Writer

Wesley Carroll almost had five championship rings on one hand as a starting quarterback. Three times he led a powerful St. Thomas Aquinas football program to the Class 5A title game, and three times he came away empty-handed. It was beginning to seem as if Carroll’s career as a football player would turn out to be like the Buffalo Bills losing four straight super bowls. That is why when he got his chance to get back to a championship game as a true freshman for Mississippi State in the Liberty Bowl, and as a junior for FIU in their first Little Caesars bowl last year, he didn’t want to taste defeat again.

“It certainly fueled a high school fire not winning those three state championships that I know we could have won,” said Carroll. “But now that I have a couple of rings in college, I’m trying to get another one this coming season.”

He came to St. Thomas as a sophomore from a North Carolina prep team that had just won a state title. But there, he was a backup quarterback. He did not have a ring as a starter. When he arrived at St. Thomas, it was a brand new experience for him.

“I came from winning a state championship in North Carolina, so as far as I knew, that was the biggest thing around. Then when I went to St. Thomas, it totally opened my eyes to a whole other world because I just didn’t know that type of football existed,” said Carroll.

In 2004, he got his shot as the starter for varsity and led them to a Class 5A state championship game. He would lose to Lakeland that year in the championship, but he would be back the following year at the same spot again, on the losing end.

In his final year with the team, he once again brought them all the way to the state championship to face off against Lakeland, just to be disappointed.

At St. Thomas, Carroll says that he put too much on himself, more than he had at Mississippi State or last year at FIU. He has matured as a player since then and has now realized how to depend on other people.

Just like he had to depend on T.Y. Hilton to make the first down of the bowl game last year, or Jack Griffin to punch in the game winning field goal.

There was no shortage of top college football programs that had interest in Carroll after he graduated. Schools such as North Carolina State, UCF and Duke wanted him to be a part of their team. He eventually chose Mississippi State to be his home. Former Bulldog offensive coordinator Woody McCorvey is the main reason why Carroll went to Mississippi State, because of the faith and loyalty that he showed towards him.

“Another route that could have been considered was Ivy League, like Princeton or Harvard or Brown,” Carroll said. “As crazy as it sounds to turn down an Ivy League school, I really just wanted a chance to play in the SEC and play against the best competition.”

As a true freshman at Mississippi State, Carroll went 6-3 as a starter and threw for 1,392 yards, making it the best season for many owners and to the Liberty Bowl, where he was victorious over one of the teams recruiting him, UCF.

It seemed natural that he would end up being the starter the next year for the Bulldogs, and even Carroll said that he never wanted to leave. He had every intention of staying there for four to five years, but after head coach Sylvester Croom left to be a running backs coach for the St. Louis Rams at the end of the 2008 season, he decided he didn’t want to play for a coach who did not recruit him.

Carroll also happened to throw six interceptions and only three touchdowns in his four games of his sophomore season and, eventually, lost his starting job to Tyson Thomas, it was a brand new experience for him.

“I have always been more of a fan of defense than offense, and lately in the NFL, defenses are becoming extremely complex. Whether talking about the Jets, Steelers, and so make sure you snatch a winner for any fantasy owner who obtained him on their roster. Then again, there were weeks where he was very quiet. The top receivers this season seem to be the same as last year’s because their wide receivers are intact, so make sure you snatch one back with a vengeance this season. Some receivers were make or break last season for many owners and alike. Take for example Desean Jackson, who was a week-by-week game winner in the Fantasy Cruz.

JOEY CRUZ  Commentary

Welcome back to part two of the Fantasy Cruz draft special. Last column entailed quarter backs and running backs. Let’s now dive into receivers, tight ends, defenses.

W ill not stoop down to kickers. I mean come on, kickers, seriously? Tight ends are going to be a major draft issue this season. The top two tight ends are coming off season-ending injuries and are probably as of next week. But then again, they do have two studs throwing them the ball, arm slinging Philip Rivers and “The Sheriff,” Peyton Manning.  FANTASY, page 6

Receivers poised to make impact for team owners

FANTASY CRUZ

Andrea Lakovic [above] had a team-high six blocks in win over Fairfield in season opener.

VOLLEYBALL

Lakovic, Golden Panthers shine in sweep over Fairfield in openener

EDUARDO ALMAUGER  Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers have officially opened the season in dominant fashion. Florida International University (1-0, SBC 0-0) capitalized on Fairfield’s (0-1, MAAC 0-0) numerous errors to win in three sets, 25-20, 25-16, and 25-19 in their first match of the Cal Molten Classic in Berkeley, Calif.

Middle blocker Andrea Lakovic, and outside hitter Jovana Blejica lived up to their Preseason All- SBC roster selection by posting nine and 11 kills respectively.

Lakovic also had a team-high six blocks. Sabrina Gonzalez, one of two seniors being counted on to lead the team this year, posted an outstanding .700 hitting percentage.

Liberon Chanell Araujo led the defense with 13 digs. A key development in the game was the setter position, which had been in question for the majority of practice, may have just been answered. Redshirt freshman Jessica Egan almost exclusively held down the setter position as she led the team with 25 assists, 19 more than redshirt junior Renele Forde, who led midway through the first set.

With adrenaline coursing through their bodies, the Panthers jumped to a 6-2 lead in the first set. Three straight errors by FIU helped the Fairfield Stags knot it at 8-8, where the two teams exchanged blows until the score hit 11-10. Fairfield went on a 4-0 run before head coach Danijela Tomic substituted Forde for Egan in hopes of stopping the bleeding. The team didn’t look back after that. After they closed the deficit to 17-18, Lakovic posting nine and 11 kills to their first match of the Cal Molten Classic in Berkeley, Calif.

Molten Classic in Berkeley, Calif. Lakovic, Golden Panthers shine in sweep over Fairfield in openener.

VOLLEYBALL, page 6

FANTASY CRUZ

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**MALCOLM SHIELDS**  
**Staff Writer**

After ending the 2010-2011 season with a 73-38 loss to Alabama, Turner was in the second round of the Sun Belt Conference tournament, the Golden Panthers were ready to get back to work over the summer for the upcoming season.

“It wasn’t what we expected. We expected more,” senior Jeremy Allen said. “It just gave me the motivation to come back in the second half and try harder on the things I need to work on.”

Last season’s leading scorer, Delan Wright, used the loss as motivation to get right to work to improve on his game.

“It was a lot of motivation,” Wright said. “We have been working hard this summer trying to get better and have a better season. I worked on everything, and as a team we worked on everything.”

To the couches, the results of a long summer’s worth of work have begun to show in the players.

“[They put] in a lot of extra time in the weight room,” assistant coach William Eddie said. “They did a lot of individual work. You can look at some of the guys’ bodies and you can tell that [the work] is paying off.”

For Allen, his focus was to round out his entire game.

“Working on all aspects of my game; getting to the rim and my mid-range shot,” Allen said. “Me and Juan [Wright] will come in [the gym] and get a lot of shots up.”

The roster went through some attention as the Golden Panthers lost nine players from last season. Key contributors Marvin Roberts, Phil Gary and Tremayne Russell are gone, due to graduation.

For Allen and Wright, it gave them the opportunity to step into the leadership role.

“It’s a big role. Being a leader and a captain, you come out everyday and you lead by example, and that is what I have been trying to do,” Allen said. “I want to be first in the gym when it is time to play; just leading by example so they can follow and do the right things.”

Returning underclassmen Dominique Ferguson and Phil Taylor should see expanded minutes for them to produce on the court.

They will have the opportunity to play a full season.

“Last year they played fragmented [time.] They put in a lot of work over the summer. Both of the guys look really good. They both understand the college game a little bit better.”

Throughout the summer, a couple of freshmen have stood out in workouts.

“Tanner can really shoot it. Tanner can really, really shoot it,” Wright said of Tanner Woosnam, a 6’5’ Guard from Belleair, Florida.

Gilles Dierickx is a 7’1” Center from Belgium who will add size to the Golden Panthers’ frontcourt.

“He reminds me of Dirk [Nowitzki],” he can shoot mid-range out to the three [point line],” Wright said. “He was impressive.”

One of the main themes that the coaching staff has preached to the team was improving the team defense.

“We are trying to be number one defensively this year in the conference. We’re not big across the board, but our speed should pick up for that,” Allen said.

“We should get a lot of steals and use our quickness on defense.”

As the Golden Panthers continue to prepare for the upcoming season, Allen feels that the team will reach its main goal.

“Number one, win more games. I feel that we have a collective group of guys that will come together,” Allen said. “It’s a good feel on the team.”

For Wright, he feels that team defense will be their catalyst for success on both ends of the floor.

“We expect to be the best defensive team in the conference,” he said. “That is what we are going to pridie ourselves on this season. Our offensive will come with how we play defense.”

**FOOTBALL**

**ANDRES LEON**  
**Staff Writer**

The FIU men’s soccer team beat Nova Southeastern 2-0 in their home opener Friday night. With the absence of senior midfielders Rodri-guez Fraile and Jahabat Willis, Coach Munga Eketebi was confident in his young squad, giving Boca Raton native Colby Burdette the chance to shine on Aug. 26.

Burdette assisted international star Sebastian Frings on the second goal for FIU. Off a quick run, Burdette got behind the Shane’s defense and neatly chipped the ball over NSU’s keeper. The ball was able to get a shot on goal after getting a through ball.


**Journey to FIU filled with successes and failures**

**CARROLL, page 4**

Lee.

So the whole recruiting process started over again for Carroll now that he was back on the market. Many schools were interested in him this time around as well, especially after what he showed he could do at Mississippi State in the SEC.

FIU happened to be close to home, so his parents could come watch him play every home game. And what was even better, FIU wanted him.

“I wanted to play for a team where they wanted me, and there’s no better feeling than being wanted,” Carroll said.

Carroll was coming from an SEC school with a rich history of success in the most difficult conference in the country to a school that had no conference championships and arguably one of the worst conferences in football. FIU had never even been able to make a bowl appearance. This was not the territory that Carroll was used to. He was used to the big time at St. Thomas and SEC play.

“But didn’t bother me, I could see that there was promise and it wasn’t much different than Mississippi State,” said Carroll. “They hadn’t been to a bowl game in about a decade, so being a part of something like that has always been something that I take to heart.”

Carroll eventually won the spot over Younger, took FIU to a 6-2 record in the Sun Belt conference play, and then to a Little Caesars Bowl victory.

“Except Carroll does not want that to be the end of his legacy at FIU. He has one more year to show everything he has to NFL scouts, but more important for him is taking the momentum of last year and bringing it along to this season so that FIU can have an even stronger program. If he does not end up in the NFL, he certainly has a backup plan, since he already graduated with a bachelor’s degree and is working on his master’s. Graduating and winning a bowl game all in a year’s time is special. But which is more important?”

“You can always go back and get your college degree at any age. But right now, the bowl game is definitely more important because there are only so many years that you have to play college football,” said Carroll.
Julio Jones could be a steal for teams looking for value

Golden Panthers able to hold off Fairfield comeback effort

FANTASY, page 4

or even the Ravens, these NFL defenses have offensive coordinators pulling their hair out at times. They blitz corners and drop an outside backer to his spot, or even rush five in the box, and ghost a safety towards the middle of the field. Defense is definitely the better side of the football.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Andre Johnson- Last season’s 1,216-yard, 12-touchdown year is just another example that, year after year, he is a player owners can rely on and trust. I think if anyone were to be his quarterback, they would make him look good. Role Model.

Greg Jennings- I mean, he does have Aaron Rodgers going for him. Last season he caught the ball for 1,265 yards and 12 touchdowns. Look for Jennings to repeat a dynamic season now that healthy Packers are back in the mix. Remember, he ran into the end zone with a broken leg and broke Darren Sharper’s tackle. Doing it for Madden.

Roddy White- Last season, he was the second best receiver in fantasy football. Last year, his numbers were 1,389 yards and 10 touchdowns. This year he has a thriving quarterback with another year of experience and a new addition to the receiving core that will free him up sufficiently. Watch out for Atlanta this season, along with White. Dirty Bird.

UNDER THE CRUZAR

Julio Jones- Two words: draft him. From what I have seen this preseason, Jones is looking very healthy after having that foot injury after college. Don’t be surprised if Jones is a top five, number two receiver in the NFL this season. Roll Tide.

TIGHT ENDS

Antonio Gates- Last season he suffered from injuries, but hopefully he’ll be back in action for owner’s sakes. If Gates gets back to his usual self, I can guarantee he will be the most efficient tight end this season. Spark Plug.

Dallas Clark- This season is a crapshoot for the top tight ends. Dallas Clark is back in action, but apparently Peyton Manning isn’t going to start week one. With Kerry Collins throwing him the ball, hopefully Clark is fully recovered and good to go to have a usual Dallas Clark season. Comeback Kid.

Jason Whitten- Last season was not so great with a little over 300 yards and three touchdowns. His best buddy is back and healthy, looking extremely promising. Tony Romo is another “under the cruzar” QB, and with him at Whitten’s disposal, owners can be pretty confident Whitten will dominate in the Wild West this season.

VOLLEYBALL, page 4

and Blejica powered the squad to an 8-2 run on the heels of four combined kills and two service aces from Outsider hitter Marija Prsa. A service error by Stag Rachel Romansky sealed the first set for FIU, 25-20.

With Egan starting the second set at the setter position, FIU jumped to another 6-2 lead with two kills from Blejica. With the help of some more Fairfield sloppiness, the Panthers never lost the lead in this one. After taking a 16-10 lead with the help of an attack error by the Stags, FIU never let the gap drop to less than six points. The team won the set 25-16, its biggest margin of victory of the night.

Fairfield posted eight errors this set, bringing their total to 13 in the game. Egan was the star with 12 assists. Gonzalez, dormant in the first set, led the team with four kills.

Knowing that their backs were up against the wall, Fairfield came out in the third set firing. FIU, however, had no problem keeping pace. After a back and forth, the teams were tied 4-4.

After dropping to 5-8, the Panthers showed patience and let Fairfield do the work for them. The Stags posted a remarkable five straight errors to give FIU a 10-8 lead. After more battling, the Panthers held a slim, one-point lead with a score of 17-16. An overpowering 7-0 run gave the team a set-point position, 24-16.

The Stags tried to make things interesting by scoring three points with the help of a kill and two FIU errors, but ultimately it wasn’t enough: the winning point was scored, fittingly enough, on a Fairfield error to give the Panthers a 3-0 victory.
BLOOMING ASSOCIATION
Organization offers educational benefits for students

A student (above) enjoying a water gun fight during the Forever Bloom Alumni Association’s 2009 Summer Picnic Splash. The picnic celebrated its fifth year anniversary this past Aug. 13. A group of students (right) walk on the Golden Gate Bridge during last Spring’s trip to San Francisco as part of FBAA’s ADVENTravel Program, which organizes community service-based trips for youths.

COMMUNITIES, like flowers, need attention if they are going to bloom. The Forever Bloom Alumni Association, which had its first meeting in fall of 2006, has blossomed into an organization known for its educational public charity led by not only community students and teachers, but also parents and local volunteers.

FBAAs purpose is to promote both academic and social development of the community’s youth through various community service projects, mentoring, networking, achievement recognition support and even educational travel. The Name Forever Bloom comes from Bloom’s taxonomy of learning domains as suggested by the organization’s founder, Anthony Reid. The name essentially means that the organization will forever grow and aspire. In addition, despite the second part of the name Alumni Association, FBAA is for everyone and anyone who wants to participate.

Jerica Duverge, the president of FBAA, said that she initially joined FBAA to reconnect with a former peer, but later realized what FBAA was really about for her. “As time went by I could see that being part of FBAA is more than a way to do that,” Duverge said. “It’s a step towards building a better community by inspiring the youth and connecting with them.”

In the six years of FBAAs existence, the Board of Directors and a few volunteers managed to create a wealth of programs to reach out to their community. Among these programs is the Forever Mentoring Program. This program arranges mentoring partnerships between middle and high school students while college students are paired up with post-graduates and even professionals. The organization houses approximately 200 full and junior members and works with other establishments, including “Stand Up For Love,” a group of dancers who perform in FBAA events to advocate positivity and social awareness in youth. “Back to School Night,” which happens every year during the first week of school, consists of going to a local Fuddruckers for the purpose of donating school supplies to a local organization.

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The Forever Mentoring Program is the first among many programs FBAA has created for the benefit of the community. Programs for middle and high school students are paired up with post-graduates and even professionals to create a wealth of programs to reach out to their community. Among these programs is the Forever Mentoring Program. This program arranges mentoring partnerships between middle and high school students while college students are paired up with post-graduates and even professionals. The organization houses approximately 200 full and junior members and works with other establishments, including “Stand Up For Love,” a group of dancers who perform in FBAA events to advocate positivity and social awareness in youth. “Back to School Night,” which happens every year during the first week of school, consists of going to a local Fuddruckers for the purpose of donating school supplies to a local organization.

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while God has no place in my
life anymore.

According to the Pew poll, the percentage of unaffili-
ted millennial young adults is steadily increasing. Of those
unaffiliated, 57% find religion in general as not very important
in their lives. The remainder simply cannot decide.

“I guess you can say I’m
confused,” said Lee.

Patrick Rabulan, a second
year graduate student for coun-
seling psychology tells a similar
story. However, his story has a
different ending. Just like
many other college freshmen,
Rabulan’s first year in college
posed a challenge to the beliefs
he had known all his life.

“The independence of
college life definitely affected
my religious beliefs,” said
Rabulan. “I didn’t start seri-
ously practicing [Christi-
anity] until I was in my sopho-
more year. Going to college
created an environment that
allowed me to challenge
my beliefs and assess them for
what they are in theory and in
practice.”

Thus, Rabulan became
an example of how life in
college can prove not only
to be a testing ground for one’s
beliefs, but also an opportunity
for growth and a deepening of
understanding. Through perse-
verance in the early challenges
of his experience, Rabulan’s
beliefs became realized even
further.

Among the other religious
and spiritual clubs and organi-
zations on campus, the Multi-
fait Council stands out in
particular. Several organiza-
tions of different religious
beliefs, including Christianity,
Judaism and Islam, have come
together to “nourish the intel-
lectual dimensions of faith as
well as the spiritual dimensions
of education.” One way they
do so is through their joint
project with events that promote open
discussion about religion and
spirituality among students,
such as a roundtable event that
occurred last quarter semester.
Paul Massingill, presi-
dent of the Multifaith Council,
believes in the interdisciplinary
communication among reli-
gious beliefs and academic
disciplines.

“We’re finding ways to
encourage conversation across
academic disciplines and differ-
ent faith perspectives around
the questions of truth,
falutal spiritualit and how
knowing and understanding
God helps us better know and
understand ourselves, one another and the world we
share,” said Massingill.

“FIU has done incredible
work in promoting diversity on
campus in many ways. I see
FIU promoting cultural and
ethnic diversity and find that
the tolerant atmosphere our
university maintains extends
in part to the many religious
beliefs that are represented on
campus,” said Rabulan.

Chuck Huang, a sopho-
more computer science major,
recently transferred to the
University from China and had
similar experiences.

“The university gener-
ally provides a free religious
learning environment. Back
in China our university only
focuses on students’ academic
well-being” shared Huang.

“Here [FIU] we have the privi-
lege to participate in many
great campus ministries like
Cru and Wesley, who provided
great opportunities for my faith
to grow.”

However, the open atmo-
sphere can also clash with the
religious beliefs of students’ and the academic agenda of a secular
university.

“Some professors may not
accept students’ answer from
their religious perspective.
For example, if you write in
your paper that God created
all the plants and animals, the
professor may require you to
rewrite your paper,” said
Huang.

Massingill understands
this point. “Of course there are
cases in which a large
secular university is a chal-
ling place to encourage people
seek to God and explore their
faith. There will prob-
ably always be somewhat of
a tension there. I pretty much
ignored God and my faith
the first couple of years
of college.”

It wasn’t until his third
year that he started to come back
about his faith.

Taylor, Huang, Rabulan,
Lee and surely many others on
campus can identify with the
tension and struggles Massin-
gill talks about. Yet despite
this ever-present tension, he
definitely has hope and vision
of moving forward at FIU.

“I do feel like there is a
growing movement of students
on campus who are seeking to
grow in their faith and live out
their faith in this world,” said
Massingill. “I think religious
life and the presence of God
seeking students on campus
is going to continue to grow.
I’m excited to see how that
will shape the life of our
university.”
The game of lying provides fresh mystery, suspense

TV, page 7

lawyer who becomes pals with his neighbor’s dog, Wilfred, played by Jason Gann. I think all sane animal owners see their pets for what they are—animals, but Ryan sees Wilfred as a deeply bearded man with an Australian accent in a dog suit who is capable of talking, cursing, drinking and smoking, all while having a dog-like mentality.

This comedy is like the adult version of the concept of Disney’s “Lilo,” and I like it. It is much better than hearing “squirrel” every five seconds from Doug the dog.

The show is funny in its own way, particularly because the idea of putting a mischievous man in a dog suit in the position of offering advice and attempting to be helpful while still not comprehending the “fake throw of the ball” trick is hilarious and sometimes infuriating.

Every now and then I want to wring his ear, but then I remember it is just a show.

What sucks me in is the way the show is set up as a way for Ryan’s personal improvement with Wilfred acting like a pseudo mentor. In the Sept. 1 episode, Ryan feels like he has finally found happiness, which is rare for someone who feels his life is mediocre, but Wilfred begs Ryan to sacrifice it for a higher purpose.

The thing is I keep noticing is that most of the events are extremely random and could possibly be sifted through as there is no full connection between every incident.

One thing I found especially unique is that Sutton’s younger sister, Laurel, seems to feel left out while the adopted sibling, Sutton, gains more attention from her adopted parents than their own biological kid.

While that scenario is at a stand-still, Emma is stepping up, fusing her personality and Sutton’s good clothing style into one as she sticks up for Charlotte, another one of Sutton’s close friends. Is it possible that Sutton’s friends are actually starting to like Emma as Sutton more than Sutton herself? (Gasp!)

In the upcoming Sept. 5 episode, we find out that these two girls, who lived in completely different worlds, share more than just huge alien eyes and good facial structure. Emma and Sutton realize that they both have having been the same dreams and

Annual trips help students realize their hidden potential

FBAASETion in need.

“Joining the group has helped me not only be more involved in the community but it has also opened my mind to ‘the bigger picture,’” added Diener.

“Though no one has inspired me in my career venture specifically, they have inspired me in other aspects of my life; especially the younger members who are so innovative and creative. They inspire me to do things I never did when I was their age.”

In addition, the FBAA ADVENTUR Program, established in 2009, organizes service-based trips for youth, such as a trip that took place during Spring 2010 to San Francisco.

“Through FBAA members are able to experience things outside of their normal routine and they do it with guidance from their mentors.”

The trip to Canada, for example, allowed students to go somewhere they normally would not, and to do it safely and enjoyably,” said Vanessa Grigalba, a senior and health service administration major.

“It forced members to step outside their comfort zone and experience things like cooking meals for their peers, going on a seven mile hike, riding public transporta-

tion, volunteering in a foreign community, and learning to take care of yourself.”

The second trip took place June 14th of this year. Their destination was Montreal, Canada where a total of 27 participants became acquainted with Montreal’s museums, city festivals and a community service event held at the University of Montreal. This time around, study groups were created in order to maximize the learning experience, given participants various assignments relevant to their trips.

The assignment included a 40-minute presentation on a topic related to Montreal.

“This organization, in essence, was created as a means of continuing the ardent process of young people learning, growing and realizing the limitless possibilities of sharing and exploring their world together,” said Diervo. “FBAA places great emphasis on striving towards high academic achievement, career advancement and upward social mobility.”

Your turn: Find a mentor and reach your full potential.

*Note: A version of this was published in the Sept. 1 issue of The Beacon.*
TEXTBOOK RENTALS A CHEAPER ALTERNATIVE TO PURCHASING

KATRINA BRUNO Staff Writer

Although the semester has just begun, I am already filled with dread at the thought of what comes next: purchasing textbooks. Fortunately, I have recently learned that there are options to help keep my wallet full and my stress levels down this year. The University is helping students overcome their textbook woes by offering the option of renting, rather than purchasing, textbooks at a reduced price.

At the start of the semester, cries and pleas from students, new and old, trickle about the factory was subcontracted by A.H.A., which is responsible for what other huge retailers said with their pants down: unauthorized outsourcing. In other words, Intidex and its millions of dollars cannot be held ultimately accountable.

Borders and Brooklyn is a biweekly column examining campus.

BORDERELESS WITH BROOKLYN

Inexpensive clothing for an exorbitant price

A.H.A., which is responsible for the factory was subcontracted by A.H.A., which is responsible for what other huge retailers said with their pants down: unauthorized outsourcing. In other words, Intidex and its millions of dollars cannot be held ultimately accountable.

Borders and Brooklyn is a biweekly column examining campus.

A multi-million dollar company outsourcing labor to cut corners financially by exploiting workers with abysmal wages epitomizes gross corporate greed.

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Borders and Brooklyn is a biweekly column examining campus.
Pets on campus already a concern for some residents

“You usually give them a 24-hour notice to remove the animal because we understand the attachment towards the pet but they are still documented for alleged violation of the code of student conduct. Whichever staff member confronted the situation would write an incident report,” said Kogan.

Despite the consequences of breaking the rules, there are always students who try their luck.

Marcus Silver, Resident Life Coordinator at Lakeview Village, has encountered a number of different pets while inspecting rooms throughout his time working at three different institutions.

“Everything from cats, dogs, ferrets, to seeing over 100 snakes in different cages while conducting safety inspections,” said Silver. “The funny thing about the snakes is that the resident’s friend had his pet store go out of business and they needed to find a space for the snakes. We found out that there were crickets coming from the room and this led us to the snakes.”

In spite of some unique scenarios, some college officials note that students with pets seem to be less stressed than students who live on campus without a pet.

“I think it should be the preference of the student to bring a pet on campus,” said Nicole Perez, a junior journalism major. “When you’re outside of the classroom you are free to do whatever you want so why not bring whichever kind of pet you have to school if it will make you happy.”

A major concern with having pets on campus is sanitation; pets may carry germs or small parasites that can spread and affect other pets and even students. Although, having a cute non-human friend on campus may ease tensions for students who are accustomed to having pets, the implications it may cause is a major factor in the University’s pet policy.

“It would bring an interesting level of change for FIU and make people a little more compassionate, but it could also upset many people, especially those with allergies or animal phobia,” said Swade.

‘SGA Day’ gives students an opportunity to meet and talk with representatives

NATASHA CAPLAN  Staff Writer

Out of the shadows of their third floor WUC office, the Biscayne Bay Campus Student Government Council will make their first appearance of the Fall semester, to mingle with and address their constituents and their concerns.

On Aug. 31, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., BBC-SGC will be fielding questions and introducing the new members of the council in Panther Square as part of the Student Government Association Day.

All students are invited to join in on the discussions, voice their opinions and receive free giveaways.

“It is our student voices that are needed for changes to be made at FIU. If we don’t ask questions, how will we know what we need?” senior Andres Lopez said.

At the start of every Fall term, Campus Life has a week dedicated to different organizations that aim to enlighten students about what is transpiring at the campus. The council welcomes everyone from freshmen to graduate students during this three-hour discussion for students to show their school spirit and give voice to their concerns.

During the meeting, the entire council will be introduced, and the new agendas and goals for the coming year will be laid out. It is directly tied into what the council’s agendas will be for the semester. Students will also be able to engage cabinet members in an open forum where they will be doing a question and answer session in which all questions from students will be addressed.

Along with the issues of upcoming goals and agendas, there will be supplies giveaway, keys chains and other treats. They will also be serving refreshments to all participants.

Larissa Adames, SGA staff clerk, believes this event is important for all students.

“They’ll be able to meet their counsel and see what SGC is capable of doing for them,” Adames said.

In the past, this event was meant to help connect any communication gaps between students and the council.

The council looks to learn what students think of, and want from, their elected members.

“Students underutilize their SGC. We can actually create a voice students see,” said Farah Yamini, College of Arts and Sciences Senator. “SGC Day is our way of throwing a pebble within the river that is FIU; to spread awareness about student empowerment via SGA. This year- with our pebble of SGC Day, we intend to create a ripple with a greater magnitude.”

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FIU not among schools moving towards pet-friendliness

ALEXANDRA MARTIN
Contributing Writer

As long as it doesn't crawl, walk, or slither, FIU is as pet-friendly as can be. The rest of your pets need not apply - for now.

For many students who grew up in pet-friendly homes, leaving a member of the family behind, such as a cat or a dog, may not be easy. This may explain why universities across the country are allowing students and their pets to live on campus.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, California Institute of Technology, University of Illinois and University of California-Los Angeles are just a handful of the universities that have embraced their student's furry friends on campus; but will FIU ever join them in their move towards pet-friendliness?

The University is not completely anti-pet. Students are allowed to keep a fish in the residence halls, as long as the fish tank is no larger than ten gallons.

But for many, fish can't fill the void of leaving behind a family pet.

"I understand the sanitation and hygiene worries but pets give a little compassion which some people need to adjust to a new environment," said Michael Swaeve, a senior advertising major.

Researchers at Ohio State University found that pets can provide support and serve as a stress reliever to those students who live with them. They can even make students more responsible and productive.

Other students, however, shared different concerns.

"At it is, many people are messy with their dorm rooms and if the dog does it's necessity in the dorm, some people might not clean it right away, starting hygiene problems and even fights with roommates," said Alexandra Floresmeyer, a sophomore advertising major and resident of the University Tower.

"Students are busy all day and would most likely be negligent towards the pet, which is not fair to the animal."

Most schools, including other in-state schools like University of Florida and Florida State University, only allow fish as pets. However, those universities that have more lenient pet policies allowing for all sorts of pets, only permit them on designated floors and students must apply for approval.

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