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The Beacon, October 17, 2011

Florida International University

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**UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

**Glitch found in student data**

**BROOKLYN MIDDLETON Staff Writer**

Nothing was lost. But technically, it was lost.

This was how Elizabeth Béjar, vice provost for Academic Planning and Accountability, described a data “glitch” that, as of Oct. 10, resulted in approximately 2,400 students who applied for fall 2011 commencement not being registered in the system.

Students who applied for a commencement pass received a success message on their registration but were later registered for the ceremony, but the system actually did not retain their information.

The technical error affects students who registered as far back as Sept. 28, the first day registration was open for fall 2011 commencement and guest passes.

University Technology Services has been “data mining,” meaning they have been manually going through the database of approximately 2,400 students, to find which students have been affected.

The technical error is thought to have occurred in the last month, when UTS modified a code in the online student commencement survey that resulted in a partial loss of students who had registered for a commencement pass and purchased guest passes.

Student Media called UTS for comment but was referred back to Béjar.

Students who happened to double check their commencement registration with the registrar, only to see they were not recorded, alerted UTS that a possible glitch had occurred.

Béjar said they started researching the matter immediately.

In regard to why the University waited until the end of the commencement deadline to announce that there had been an error, Béjar responded, “In part it was coincidence. It was only open for a week so we waited until we really understood everything. What we didn’t know is if there were multiple situations affected.

**MYMAJOR**

**OCCUPY THE FOUNTAIN**

**FIU defense to be tested in road game**

**JACKSON WOLEK Staff Writer**

One season ago, Nov. 27 at versus Arkansas State, FIU clinched for the first time in program history the Sun Belt championship.

On Oct. 18, the Red Wolves (4-2, 2-0 SBC) and Golden Panthers (4-2, 1-1 SBC) will play for the first time since that historic night in Jonesboro, Ark. at 8 p.m. on ESPN2.

ASU brings back many of the same impact players that they had last year when they finished with a conference record of 4-4. Junior quarterback Ryan Aplin is number one in completion percentage in the Sun Belt at 66 percent, while also making great use of his legs by having the most carries on the team at 62 rushes for 177 yards and one touchdown.

“He’s a guy that you have to be on point in terms of your assignments, your discipline, and you certainly have to hustle towards the football because he can break it on you,” said head coach Mario Cristobal.

**FOOTBALL, page 3**

**COMING UP | At the Bay**

Check out the Oct. 19 issue for coverage of the “Meet Your Dean” event where students talk to their Journalism, Hospitality Management, Arts & Sciences, Business and Honors College deans.

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**THE BEACON**

A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

Vol. 23, Issue 30

Monday, October 17, 2011

www.fiusm.com
Thief cases reduce since last year

Students that spend their time in many of the University’s lounges and study areas may have noticed signs cautioning them not to leave their property unattended. But that still has not stopped thieves from occurring on campus.

"Usually, [the thieves occur] when someone gets up to go to the restroom, or they claim a good spot in the library and go to lunch. They leave their laptops or their books," he said.

Those numbers have, however, improved since last year.

"The same month last year we had 76 cases, so they actually went down. Those are numbers that are consistent with our student population. We had less than last year even though we have more students this year, so the numbers are going in a great direction." "A similar amount of thefts have occurred on the campuses of other Florida universities.

"If you look at FSU and UCF, FSU had 67 and UCF had 56 (in September)." According to Casas, most thefts occur during the fall semester because of incoming students, especially freshmen, who have few of their own belongings.

"Freshmen are excited about being here. They get caught up with their friends and they leave their stuff hanging around. They haven’t learned yet that they need to be aware and mindful of their property." But he advised that freshmen students are not the only victims. "It can happen to anybody. You can be in the line at the Bustelo station in GCU and have left your backpack at a table right behind you, and in that minute, when you go to the bathroom, it can be gone. And, it’s congested, it’s hard to see what everybody’s doing," he stressed.

Robertson said, "the grand concept here is that we get students on the path it becomes a good fit for them.

They have found to be a good fit for them." The change is a part of greater plan called the "Graduation Success Initiative." Robertson said, "the grand concept here is that we get students on the path it becomes data for a planning tool." The second purpose for the tool is "to eliminate having students that have been identified early and 

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Record-breaking season hits crossroads at Arkansas State

For the Golden Panthers’ offense, good is an understatement. This season, the offense has shattered the record books. Darriet Perry has set the record for rushing touchdowns in a career with 26. T.Y. Hilton set the record for receptions in a game with 12, and the team itself is off to its best start ever at 4-2.

The offense has been able to carry the team this season. Wesley Carroll is in the midst of his greatest collegiate season of his career.

Through six games this season, he has 1,232 yards and six touchdowns, with a completion percentage of 63.8. Meaning, he is finding receivers at a more efficient rate than last year.

The receiving core has been solidified; T.Y. Hilton has continued to etch his name in the program’s record books. He currently holds nine school records, which is sure to jump up by the end of this season. The best player in school history is only getting better with each game. A nice complement to the senior has been the emergence of Wayne Times.

When the Golden Panthers have needed someone to step up under the gun, the junior has been right on time.

Picking up 308 yards on 30 catches and one touchdown, Times has proven that if defenses want to lock in and blanket Hilton, he will find holes and expose them quickly.

All of this means that Carroll has more opportunities to open up the passing game and turn it into an aerial assault. If the redshirt senior can keep this up, he is on pace to break his own record for passing yards in a season.

Not only has the passing attack proven itself this season. The ground game has found its two horses to carry the load; Perry and Wesley Carroll.

The tandem has combined for 834 yards and 11 touchdowns. It is almost as if we are seeing the past and future of the running back position at FIU battling it out each and every week to prove who is better.

Perry has laid the found-
Practice begins with season looming

MALCOLM SHIELDS
Staff Writer

With a month to go until their season opener against George Mason at the NIT Season Tip Off, the Golden Panthers took to the courts on Oct. 15 for their first official practice.

For most of the players, the beginning of practice was welcomed.

“I’m excited. Basically the new season is a month away,” said senior guard DeJuan Wright. “We did a lot of extra conditioning and I am a 100 percent ready to go.”

Dominique Ferguson [right] enters his second year with FIU.

Although Wright sustained a knee injury back in August, he feels that he is good to practice. “I feel great. I did a lot of rehabbing and I am a 100 percent ready to go.”

Added Size

The Golden Panthers were able to add size to their frontcourt with the addition of Dierickx. He spoke about how he has adjusted to the jump from the high school level to Division-I basketball and the work he has put in with the Golden Panthers and the strength and conditioning of coach Roderick Moore.

“It’s been going pretty well. The first couple of weeks they were hard,” Dierickx said. “Coach Moore really pushes us.”

Dierickx is only one of three underclassmen like sophomore Ferguson and Phil Moore, will most likely fill out the big man rotation.

More Chances

Underclassmen like sophomores Ferguson and Phil Taylor will have expanded opportunities to contribute for the Golden Panthers. Ferguson was a contributor last season, especially in the frontcourt for the Golden Panthers as he averaged 7.1 points per game and 4.8 rebounds per game in the 20 games he played in.

“I just try to keep it simple,” Ferguson said. “My role is to help us win as much as I can with anything I can do on the court.”

Last season, Taylor averaged 21 minutes per game and 7.3 points per game. In conference play, his scoring average jumped up to 8.4 points per game.

This season, Taylor is expected to have more playing time at point guard next to Wright in the backcourt.

"We definitely expect leadership out of him,” Thomas said of Taylor. “We want him to set the defense and set the tone on offense.”

The starting lineup for the Golden Panthers will have some open spots that are available. The Golden Panthers head to one of its toughest opponents of the season, the Arkansas State Red Wolves.

The fast start by FIU was somewhat unexpected this year, but no one really gave the Red Wolves a chance this year.

Predicted to finish fifth in the conference by the coaches of the Sun Belt, Arkansas State has been silencing critics all season long.

The challenge this week will be non stopping, but trying to slow down the prolific passing attack of Ryan Aplin and the receiving core for the Red Wolves.

As great as Carroll has been this season, Aplin has been that much better, throwing for 1,646 yards and six touchdowns.

With a wary secondary already, Aplin should have a field day against the Golden Panthers. The secondary has to contain Dewayne Frampton and the rest of the Red Wolves’ receivers from getting down field and behind them.

Otherwise, it will turn into another Sun Belt shootout where it could come down to who has the ball last with a chance to score as time expires.

The Beacon – Monday, October 17, 2011 www.fiusm.com

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IT’S YOUR ADHD. OWN IT.
Students promote environmental sustainability

SYLVIA SIMIONI
Staff Writer

Like many other institutions, the University takes its environmental activism seriously.

In previous Sustainability Committee, dedicated to green initiatives around campus, evolved into the Office of Sustainability in April of this year.

In 2007, former President Modesto Maidique signed the American Colleges and University Presidents Climate Commitment, which entails the University’s plans to reduce its carbon footprint, according to Alexander Dutton, program assistant of the Office.

“Our goal is to eventually reach climate neutrality, meaning a zero carbon footprint, said Dutton. “We don’t know when this will happen; it will take a lot of work.”

Such work includes the inauguration of the University’s first annual Sustainability Day, which is held during Energy Conservation Week. Students will be taught tips on how to conserve energy and save money.

On Oct. 19 at MMC, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., students will have the opportunity to visit eco-booth tables at the Graham Center, where they will be asked to participate in sustainability-based interactive activities and will be offered environmentally friendly products.

Dutton added, “In the Pitt, we will be having an elliptical machine that will be hooked to an unnamed device, with the aim of powering it. We expect students to enjoy trying it out.”

“There will also be a table on vampire energy” in celebration of Halloween.

From 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., students and staff will be invited to attend the Green Jobs Panel Lunch and Learn at GC 140. The workshop will instill in its attendees knowledge about green jobs in the work force.

“We’re dedicated to educating students, faculty and staff on the policies and procedures of promoting a green lifestyle. We want to incor- porate in students the possibility of having a career that will help improve the environment.”

Students will also be able to browse the stands and buy organic produce at the weekly Farmer’s Market from noon to 3 p.m. near the main entrance of the Green Library.

In the evening, from 6 to 8 p.m., the celebration will end with the Home Energy Savings Workshop, which will be held at the Campus Support Complex in Room 112.

Together with Dream in Green, a Miami-Dade County-affiliated program, the Office of Sustainability will inform residents on energy efficiency and conservation, and it will also provide homeowners with the information and resources to reduce their utility costs and carbon emissions.

Participants will receive a free energy savings toolkit valued at over $100,” states the Miami-Dade Feed- back website. Seats are limited.

Campus Sustainability Day will conclude its events with the Eco Fair at BBC on Oct. 20. A chance to win prizes and other green-related activ- ities will be held at the Academic 2 building from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Student clubs affiliated with the events and with the Sustainability office include Panthers Going Green, Garden Club, Farmers Market Consortium, the Student Government Association and Green Management Consulting Organization -- among others.

“OfficeMax, Waste Management Inc. and South Florida Water Manage- ment District will also sponsor the workshops. The University’s efforts in inducing environment awareness have been commended.

“I am glad that our committee has expanded into an office,” Dutton remarked. “FDU is required to report greenhouse emission inventories every two years. We have projects planned with the focus of reducing our carbon footprint — these factors called for the need of a full-time office.”

According to Dutton, the website, is number one in energy efficiency in the Florida State University System, and it is also the first school to become an Arbor Day’s Foundation’s Tree Campus USA.

The Campus USA recognizes colleges and universities for promoting urban forest management and engaging the campus community in environmental stewardship.

“Most importantly, however, our establishment signals the Universi- ty’s growing exposure to global envi- ronmental issues. We want to ensure students and faculty maintain that understanding,” said Dutton.

COVER TO COVER

“Sarah’s Key” story of french oppression

In Paris, during 1942, approxi- mately 13,000 Jews were arrested and sent to so-called work camps — but not by German Nazis.

In the Par- sian-Jewish community, the French police sent thousands to concen- tration camps, which eventu- ally took them to Auschwitz. The majority of the Jews killed due to the Velodrome d’Hiver roundup were women and children.

Titata De Rosnay’s novel, “Sarah’s Key,” tells the story of Sarah Starzynski, a French Jewish girl, and Julia Jarzynski, the jour- nalist that uncovered the child’s horrific story.

De Rosnay’s book takes readers through the events of the little-discussed French occurrence, code-named Operation Spring Breeze. The New York Times best-seller begins with the night that Sarah and her family were arrested. Told by her parents they would be back home before she realized, Sarah locked her younger brother Michel in a secret cupboard in an attempt to protect him. She eventually escapes from Auschwitz, but does not make it back to Paris in time to save her brother.

Throughout the first half of the novel, De Rosnay switches between the story of Jarzynski and Jarzynski — and she kept my attention by doing so. The author also keeps her chapters short and sweet; each chapter was about three to four pages. By breaking up the story in this way, she keeps the reader captivated.

De Rosnay uses the approach to many drama television programs use: she turns your attention away from the story of one character at moments that leave you dying, which causes you to continue turning the pages to find out what happened.

SARAH’S KEY, page 6

Coming out day brings together participating LGBT community

ALFREDO APARICIO
Staff Writer

If it were only as easy as walking through a door.

That’s what Luigi Ferrer, program director of Pridelines Youth Services, hopes student will realize about National Coming Out Day, held on Oct. 11 in the Graham Center pit.

“If I has a long history of working with LGBT students, and I hope this event creates visibility of the issues which students are facing daily,” Ferrer said. “It’s still hard for a student to come out in their academic life because it will follow them. And we still see students attempting suicide because of these issues, so letting others know is important.”

The event, which brought together various on- and off- campus organizations, such as Stonewall Pride Alliance, Pridelines Youth Services and Switchboard of Miami, served the double duty of providing engaging activities for all those in attendance while presenting educational materials that shed light on common LGBT issues.

Ferrer, who has been involved with the Pridelines (Since we have a break before continuing with the same source) for 25 years, is proud of the work that has been accomplished in creating the only drop-in center in Miami-Dade and Broward County for LGBT youth, which now includes the Blogger Cyber Center, where students have access to the internet, laser color printers and a lending library.

“One of the most satisfying thing is when I see kids which come to us in a crisis and seeing them prog- ress to the point where they have a stable life with college and are participating actively to the point that they become leaders in their own right,” Ferrer said.

Youth Treasurer Alex Febres, a sophomore and English major, got involved with Pridelines when he was in high school. He later became treasurer of the youth council of the organization and created the Spirit Day Candle-light Vigil in remembrance of those who have been killed or committed suicide because of bullying.

“I myself faced homelessness at the age of 15 when I came out to my mom. She’s very reli- gious so it’s a daily struggle,” recounted Febres. “With Pride- lines, I have been able to help those who need it; I have met a lot of homeless youth who need a hot meal and a place to stay.”

Elvira Veliz, the former director of the Health Care and Wellness Center in Biscayne Bay Campus, noted the importance of educating students on campus about health and sex.

“I used to go in the residence halls and ask about homosexuality and sexuality in which students were encouraged to come and ask questions in an environment that...
Thriller series “Homeland” potential television gold

COLUMNIST

SARAH’S KEY, page 5

happens next.

Jammond stumbles upon the girl’s story while working on an article for the fictional American magazine she writes for, Seine Scenes. She finds out that Sarah eventually went back to her home where she left her brother, only to find his rotting body in the cupboard; she had held the key in her possession for weeks. To top off the intricate plot, Jammond’s in-laws have been living in that very house for years.

De Rosny’s prose is merciless. “He was stiff, curled up, his face resting upon his hands. He had gone a horrible, green color.” The conclusion is tied together as a University to educate students on about the issues in the community.

“I remember being at the forefront of the AIDS epidemic and having to come together as a University to educate students on what was going on. Condoms were a taboo at the time, but by being able to put them out in the Health Clinic, it became a normal idea.”

Tony Martinez, who works with Switchboard, Miami, has seen that educating people asking questions and signing up for LBT women and teach health care providers how to be culturally sensitive.”

The haunting novel left me feeling disheartened not only for the tragedy of the Vel’ d’Hiv roundup and Auschwitz in general, but because I had no previous knowledge of the event.

In any history or international relations class I have taken, the subject has never come up. According to the novel, it is a topic that even many young Parisians are not familiar with. For because of the unfamiliarity to this historic event, I believe those at the University and all others elsewhere should read Sarah’s “Key” in order to learn more about the events that took place and the important event they might not know about. Besides that, this book should be read simply because it is an excellent read.

Cover-to-cover is a bi-weekly book review column. Look for it every Friday this fall.

COMING OUT, page 5

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Velez, whose own cousin was ostracized for being gay, was sensitized early on about the issues in the community.

“Jewish in Paris suspected that the French police would come to arrest the adult men, so the women and children did nothing. However, they did expect that every Jew would be a target.”

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Debit card charges, a possible hassle, but avoidable

With our debit cards, we have swiped our way through life. They are convenient, widely accepted and typically safe. Unlike a credit card, which offers a generous limit, a debit card does not lead us into temptation every time we go to the mall.

For a while, banks did not charge a fee for the use of debit cards; however, that has recently changed. Now, most customers are required to pay an additional fee each month, if they choose to make a purchase with their debit card. This is an additional financial burden added to our college lives.

Recently, banks have been surprising customers with the unpleasant news of additional fees. According to the Wall Street Journal, Bank of America recently announced that it will charge most customers who use their debit cards for purchases a flat $5 monthly fee. Although Citigroup is not requiring a debit card fee, they are raising banks fees by requiring a $1,500 minimum balance on basic checking accounts. Chase and Wells Fargo are also testing $3 monthly debit card fees in select markets.

It may seem like a sudden desire to charge customers is not unwarranted, but on Oct. 1, The Federal Reserve implemented a rule, which limits fees that card networks charge merchants to 21 cents per transaction -- about half the average that retailers have paid in the past. In response to this new rule, banks are trying to make up some of the $8 billion they stand to lose. To banks, this is a solution to their loss - for customers like us, this is a new problem.

Although these charges have not been implemented yet, and banks are not releasing enough information, we should already be considering alternative ways to make our purchases to avoid these unreasonable fees. Even though these new charges are overwhelming, we can avoid them.

The fee is only applied if we make a purchase with our debit card, so we can still withdraw money from our account with no monthly charge. Students should take advantage of paying with cash. Smaller banks and credit unions have not made any announcements regarding debit card fees. Actually, most credit unions are opposed to ever adding a debit card fee. Closing a bank account is a hassle, but worth the effort if the savings are justified.

Many customers have already made the transition. According to Credit Unions Online, Paul B. Stull, senior vice president of strategy and branding at Arizona State Credit Union, reports an overall customer increase of 20 percent since Bank of America’s announcement. Stull said, “We have no plans to add a fee to our debit card.”

Nothing is finalized yet. In fact, Representatives Jason Chaffetz, a Utah Republican, and Bill Owens, a New York Democrat, plan to introduce a measure to repeal the rule required by the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act. Since most banks are only introducing this new rule to cover losses from the Dodd-Frank Act, if it is repealed, many of these recent possible charges may also be retracted.

As students, we are on limited budgets and are always trying to avoid fees. If banks decide to charge us for using our debit card, we have some options to avoid them. “Econ with Neda” is an economics op-ed column that runs every other Monday.
NATHANIEL EDWARDS
Contributing Writer

For the fourth consecutive year, the Biscayne Bay Campus will participate in the “All Nighter for the Poor” event, a nationwide occasion held to commemorate World Food Day.

On Nov. 18, FIU will join colleges and universities around the nation to fight hunger and malnutrition.

According to the “All Nighter for the Poor” website, one in eight Haitian children die before the age of five, many of them dying from malnutrition.

“All Nighter for the Poor” is the brainchild of “Food for the Poor,” the largest international relief and development organization in the United States. The organization has raised money to help the poor of the Caribbean and Latin America through sustainable projects for over 28 years.

With the money earned from the fundraiser, The Food for the Poor organization works with the Haitian community to build a pond with pangasius fish, which can provide a fishing village in Haiti with a self-sustaining source of food, jobs and income.

They also help build irrigation systems and water wells in Haiti. The event will be held in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms. The opening ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m. and the event, which lasts all night, will end at 7 a.m.

Student Programming Council President, Catherine Vega, says that there will be a lot of activities that night for students to help raise money for Haiti.

The goal of the evening is to raise $5,000 to make a pangasius pond in Haiti to help the agriculture of the village it is built in. Given the proper feeding and management, pangasius, a member of the catfish family, can grow to be between two to three pounds in five to six months time, which is why it was chosen since it grows fast and is much easier to maintain than other fish, such as tilapia.

“We will be providing a lot of fun activities, such as laser tag and kayaking, so we expect a lot of students to come out and join us,” Vega said.

Leading up to the event, student organizations throughout campus are collecting money to fundraise for the event by setting up collection jars within their respective departments, high traffic areas and any other department willing to assist with the fundraising.

All the activities at the All-Nighter program will be free, but a suggested $10 donation will be accepted. There will also be team competitions to raise money during the night.

There can be up to four people in a group, which can include any student, with some clubs joining in like SOC and SAA. SOC is in currently in the lead.

“I am proud and inspired to be running such an awesome organization,” Vega said.

University stays ‘Worlds Ahead’ with Diversity Day

STEFANIE FELDMAN
Contributing Writer

Every day at the University it seems like Diversity Day, with students from all corners of the globe walking through the hallways, talking in a myriad of languages and all with different cultural and religious backgrounds.

In response to the diverse student body, Student Government Association has set up an event to honor and engage in issues relating to the diversity of society and the University’s student body.

On Oct. 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., all students will be invited to a Diversity Fair made up of different councils, panel speakers and performers, all with one goal - to spread awareness and appreciation of diversity.

The event is being held at the Wolfe University Center’s Panther Square and is free to all students.

It begins with a meeting of multicultural organizations and councils from throughout the University, followed by a poetry reading and performance by spoken word artist Jason Carney, an award winning poet who has been featured on HBO’s “Russell Simmons Def Poets.”

For the past ten years, the University has incorporated different themes for Diversity Day.

This year’s theme will be homosexuality, with a focus on the intersection of religion and homosexuality.

While past Diversity Days have focused on the subjects of race and self-identity, this year’s discussion panel will tackle a more controversial subject matter, specifically the role that religion plays in gay/lesbian acceptance in society, legal rights and gay marriage.

This theme is especially poignant since there continues to be an ongoing struggle in the LGBT community for legal rights and acceptance, especially from within their respective religious communities.

Craig Cunningham, assistant director of Campus Life, hopes that this event will help students “expand their knowledge of diversity issues.”

Cunningham, along with Ivy Siegal, coordinator for Campus Life, who is overseeing the event, believe that it is “important for students to be exposed to different ideas and beliefs” as well as engage in an open dialogue in order to “come together and understand and accept each other.”

Students, such as Eben Stratton, a junior anthropology major, who hopes to attend this year’s Diversity Day sees the benefits that such an event can have.

“It helps remind us that diversity is what makes us special, there are things that all people have in common but without the things that make us different life would be boring,” said Stratton. “It’s those differences that make us unique and special, and inspire those who feel out of place to see that diversity is all around, and that there is no mold for normal.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Diversity Day
Time: 11 a.m.
When: Oct. 20
Where: Panther Square

Ghost Tours
Time: 7 p.m.
When: Oct. 20
Where: WUC Theater

Photoshop Workshop
Time: 2 p.m.
When: Oct. 22
Where: AC II 242

Food and Rec Expo
Time: 10 a.m.
When: Oct. 24
Where: Panther Square

SPC Comedy Show
Time: 7:30 p.m.
When: Oct. 26
Where: WUC Theater