11-7-2011

The Beacon, November 07, 2011

Florida International University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/student_newspaper/566

This work is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections and University Archives at FIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon) by an authorized administrator of FIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact dcc@fiu.edu.
Audit results discover costly violations

MEMES AMONG US

‘FIU Meme Generators’ find humor in campus life

ESRA ERDOGAN
Life! Editor

It’s hard to put a face to a meme.

The FIU Meme Generators are an anonymous group who have attracted attention for their internet memes about the life and humor at FIU. After quickly developing a following on Facebook, three men donning morpheus suits and Guy Fawkes masks can now be spotted on campus and sporting events as the “Faces” for the group.

An internet meme is defined as an idea, parody or imitation made into an image that spreads quickly. Memes are easily shared through social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr.

Since Oct. 3, the Generators’ Facebook page grew from obscurity to over 900 likes. In addition to making an appearance on ESPN2, the Generators were featured on sportsillustrated.com vault, where they were snapped by a photographer in the stands at the football game against Troy.

Some of their most popular memes have been a comic depicting a student walking on a sidewalk at the University who is pushed off because of a rogue golf cart. Roary bragging about the Panthers’ football record and “Philosophy” who asks “Does FIU win because I go to the games or do I go to the games because FIU wins?”

Memes, page 7

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Audit results discover costly violations

PATRICK SIMMONS
Staff Writer

An audit conducted by the Office of Internal Audit this year found the Department of Parking and Transportation in violation of several of the University’s rules and regulations, resulting in a loss of more than $100,000. Some of those violations were in relation to parking decals, temporary parking permits and citations and fines.

“The audit finding was that the rules and regulations weren’t being adhered to as specifically as they should,” said Bill Foster, executive director of Parking and Transportation.

According to the audit, duplicate decals abuse was the most costly violation.

In various instances, duplicate decals were purchased by employees “for vehicles owned by coworkers and/or acquaintances,” “for other relatives who were either employees and/or students,” and for their spouses who work at the University but do not own an original decal, the audit stated.

The University’s 2010-2011 Parking Rules and Regulations state that duplicate decals are to be purchased for “additional owned vehicles used alternately and for situations where the original decal must be replaced,” but prohibit that “a vehicle with a duplicate decal is […] permitted on campus at the same time as the vehicle with the original decal when two or more persons who are employed by the University reside in the same household and register more than one vehicle.”

Th Office of Internal Audit requested that University employees found in violation provide compensation to the Department of Parking and Transportation.

Not a good thing for a World’s Ahead university,” Tomassini said.

According to her husband, Lt. Frank Tomassini, an employee of FIU Police, they were found in violation because they were supposed to purchase an original decal, not a duplicate decal, according to the rules and regulations.

However, at the time when they purchased the duplicate decal, he said they were not asked any questions and, therefore, were handed the duplicate at the very end to propel them to the finals.

To make the stakes even higher, the last time these two teams faced off it resulted in a 0-0 tie in double overtime on Oct. 7. But regardless, the Golden Panthers’ magical ride did not conclude with a fairy tale ending, as FIU defeated Western Kentucky 4-3 in a game for the ages.

Even though the Panthers were able to get the team running on all cylinders at the most opportune moment, delivering FIU their third SBC championship.

But this by no means was an easy task, as the Golden Panthers came into the game with a ton of persistence and heart.

With so many ups and downs throughout the year, the Golden Panthers have been on an absolute roll beating each of their opponents by decisive margins. On Nov. 2, FIU defeated Arkansas State 2-0 and on Nov. 3 beat Denver 3-1.

But the Panthers were not the only ones coming into play with momentum. With Western Kentucky coming off a dramatic win over North Texas in double overtime, the game needed to be decided by penalty kicks at the very end to propel them to the finals.

The Golden Panthers’ magical ride did not conclude with a fairy tale ending, as FIU defeated Western Kentucky 4-3 in a game for the ages.

Women’s soccer

Panthers win SBC tourney

ANTHONY GUIVAS
Staff Writer

With the Golden Panthers coming off a defining 3-1 win against the Denver Panthers, FIU now has the chance to make history if they defeat Western Kentucky for the SBC championship on Nov. 5.

The Golden Panthers have been on an absolute roll beating each of their opponents by decisive margins. On Nov. 2, FIU defeated Arkansas State 2-0 and on Nov. 3 beat Denver 3-1.

But the Panthers were not the only ones coming into play with momentum. With Western Kentucky coming off a dramatic win over North Texas in double overtime, the game needed to be decided by penalty kicks at the very end to propel them to the finals.

To make the stakes
Occupy FIU targets University misgivings

NICOLE CASTRO
Staff Writer

The year-to-year tuition increases and fees students must pay have frustrated a University professor and he gave his opinions of them at a recent event.

"It is not the American dream. It is not what we should be about as a university," said Brian Peterson, associate professor for the department of history.

Peterson spoke in an educational forum organized by Occupy FIU titled, "Rising cost of tuition and its relation to FIU’s graduation rate."

Occupy FIU held a teach-in on Nov. 2 and 3 to persuade students tuition increases must be stopped.

The group did this in an effort to emulate the Occupy Wall Street protests by localizing the discontent of the protesters to the national discontent at the University.

Over the last four years, the University’s tuition has gone up by 15 percent a year seeing a rise from $3,000 to an approximate $5,000 for in-state tuition, Peterson said during his presentation.

According to Peterson, the state decreases eight percent for all universities, and the remaining seven percent is left to the discretion of each university.

"The administration at FIU has a plan to keep on raising tuition by 15 percent a year that we reach the national average."

The national average increase this year is 8.3 percent and we are going up 15 percent.

It will take seven more years to catch up with the national average, and by that time tuition at FIU will be $13,000 a year from $5,000," said Peterson.

He expressed his concern that there will be a lot of students from low and middle income families that will not be able to come to the University as a result of that $13,000 tuition.

Like most universities, Peterson said, FIU is losing advantage of the full remaining seven percent every chance they get, but he added that this is not a measure that everyone who is interested in educating students would take, calling it a “bad social policy.”

In his speech, Peterson emphasized the strategy that the administration has taken to stealthily prevent complaints from students.

“Tuition increases are only for the new students coming in. Whatever tuition was as a freshman, that’s what it will be for you, meaning no student at FIU has a personal self increasing tuition increase,” he said. “It is an insidious and devilish policy, as far as I am concerned, to make it so that you guys will not protest tuition increases.”

Students who gathered to hear Peterson applauded his effort to make known that, although there is no visible impact to current students, it is an altruistic move to take on a cause that will affect someone’s brother, sister, neighbor and low and middle income students in our society.

Peterson also urged the Occupy movement not get involved in electoral politics and instead remain representing the “99%.”

“The SGA has approved tuition increase and approved the athletics. It’s just one of those things where [the administration] will go along with the program but you could get the word out that we want a student government that represents the 99 percent of students and not the 1 percent that are affluent.”

Peterson also urged the Occupy movement to make it so that you guys will not protest tuition increases.

...
Tensions rise between US, Iran

Qusem Soleimani. The two testified last week before a U.S. Congressional subcommittee. In Tehran, demonstrators chanted slogans backing the Quds Force: “We support you, the Quds Force. We support you, Soleimani,” they chanted. The U.S. is also highly critical of Iran’s nuclear program. Washington has accused Iran of seeking to develop nuclear weapons. The U.S. and other nations say they are stepping up their campaign to press Iran to halt the program, after several rounds of U.N. sanctions.

Iran has denied the charges, saying its nuclear program is geared toward generating electricity and producing medical radioisotopes needed to treat cancer patients.

National

Palin says Wall Street protesters seeking bailout

Sarah Palin told Republican donors Thursday that occupy Wall Street protesters want the same thing as the “fat cats” — a government bailout.

Palin criticized the protesters as believing they’re entitled to other people’s productivity and money and said they’ve drawn the wrong conclusions. Instead, she said, Alasksa governor said people should look to the tea party.

“They say ‘Wall Street fat cats got a bailout so now I want one too.’ And the correct answer is no one is entitled to other people’s productivity and money and entitled to other people’s bailout.”

— Compiled by Melissa Caceres

World

G20 governments sign anti-tax evasion agreement

Governments from the Group of 20 major rich and emerging economies have signed an agreement to work together to combat cross-border tax evasion. The G20 governments on Friday marked the formal approval of the agreement whose supporters say it might help to raise tens of billions of dollars for cash-strapped governments.

Under the agreement, the governments pledged to share information and cooperate in audits to help prevent companies and wealthy individuals from evading tax.

Governments that have signed it include the United States, China, Russia, Germany, Japan and India.

E-BORD AND PRODUCTION STAFF

Contact Information

fiusm.com is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.

Contact the news never stops, and nor do we.

Get up to the minute news, instant sports updates, music and talk shows, event photo galleries, and more.

All powered by the teams that bring you The Beacon and Radiate FM.

Joel Ayala, a senior communications studies and marketing major, signs up for updates from Students for a Free Tibet, which aims to spread awareness on issues facing Tibet.

www.fiusm.com
HEARTBREAKER
Panthers lose on last-second field goal by WKU

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

The conference match up featuring the Sun Belt second and third best defenses proved to be just that, as FIU lost their third conference game to Western Kentucky in Bowling Green in the low scoring affair that came down to a last second score from WKU.

Jack Griffin won the battle of field goal kickers by going three for three with 40, 34 and 43-yard kicks, but the WKU kickers had the last laugh as Casey Tchoula kicked in the game winning field goal with four seconds left to give the Hilltoppers their fifth straight win with a score of 10-9.

The Panthers (5-4, 2-3 SBC) are now completely out of contention for winning Sun Belt title outright with the heartbreaking loss.

“Painful, painful. I feel real bad for our guys,” head coach Mario Cristobal said. “It’s a tough one to take and we have a long bus ride home to think about things we can do better.”

In the first quarter, FIU squandered multiple opportunities on the Hilltopper side of the field. The first drive, T.Y Hilton dropped a third down pass that would have picked up a first down, but instead he made the Panthers settle for a 40-yard field goal from Jack Griffin.

On the next possession, Wesley Carroll threw his fourth interception in four games at the WKU two-yard line, picked off by defensive back Kareem Peterson.

The Hilltoppers took advantage of the turnover and marched the ball up to the FIU two-yard line and ran in with a touchdown from fullback Kadeem Jones, putting them up 7-3 with 4:54 remaining in the first quarter.

The last drive for the Panthers in the first quarter started at the WKU 38-yard line after the second quarter.

In the second quarter, both defenses held each other to no points, although the Hilltoppers did have chances to make two field goals that never made it past the Panther defense. The first attempt resulted in a blocked 46-yard field goal that Richard Leonard picked up and took 21 yards of the way.

FOOTBALL, page 6

FIU advances to NCAA tournament after win in PKs

WOMEN’S SOCCER

FIU advances to NCAA tournament after win in PKs

WOMEN’S SOCCER, page 1

dead even, with each team having equal possession of the ball. But all the while that the contest was even, WKU gave FIU some scares early on as in the 12th minute, Kentucky was given a free kick but was able to clear, it escaping the threat.

But WKU’s quick threat did not last long, as the Golden Panthers were able to have a quick offensive surge towards the end of the first half. In the 36th minute, Nicole DiPerna delivered a fantastic shot only to have it deflected by WKU’s goalkeeper.

The Golden Panthers’ continuous offensive onslaught lasted throughout the first half, but to Kentucky’s credit, their defense was performing strong. The first half ends 0-0, with FIU proving to be the stronger of the two, as they did not allow WKU a single shot in the first.
With the seconds slowly ticking off on the end of their season, the Panthers found themselves where they were most of the year: in a dogfight.

Their fight turned out to be that much bigger than Florida Gulf Coast. Freshman Colby Burdette and sophomore Nicolas Rodriguez-Fraile propelled the Panthers past the Eagles as they won 3-2 in their final game of the season.

In the 88th minute of play, with the game heading toward extra time with the score tied at 2-2, Burdette took a pass from the top of the box.

He then passed it off to Rodriguez-Fraile who had just the keeper to beat and buried it in the back of the net with his left foot. Burdette saw the play developing right in front of him.

"Nico’s [Rodriguez-Fraile] good to play up top with, and I saw him coming down the side so I laid it off," Burdette said. "I knew if he had a shot, he wouldn’t miss the target."

Before that, the Panthers got going early when senior Andre Alexandersson received a corner kick and rebounded it into the lower corner of the net.

But the Eagles bounced right back as Andres Navas put a shot through on a free kick in the 22nd minute. The Eagles then took the lead just five minutes later when Josey Portillo scored off a rebound of the crossbar. Rodriguez-Fraile knew the team had to bounce back after halftime. "They came back on us after we jumped out early," Rodriguez-Fraile said. "It was a total team effort, a real battle out there."

Burdette scored the equalizer for the Panthers in the 58th minute off a rebound in front of the net.

"It was a juggle in the box," Burdette said. "It just fell right in front of me and I saw the back post and placed it."

The Panthers then finished it off with the Burdette to Rodriguez-Fraile connection in the waning minutes.

Disappointment

The Panthers finished the season with a 5-8-4 record and 1-5-2 in Conference USA, finishing eighth. That record was not good enough for the Panthers to qualify for postseason play. The Panthers hung with the best of them, defeating the number 21 team in the nation, Kentucky. Then, just two games later, the Panthers tied against the number six team in the nation, Central Florida.

Burdette had to make some adjustments for his first season of college soccer.

"In college, you have to be fit to play this game," Burdette said. "But it was enjoyable and we will have a good team next year."

As for Rodriguez-Fraile, he is already thinking toward next season.

"It was definitely a season to forget," Rodriguez-Fraile said. "We lost a lot of games and suffered a lot of injuries. But, we have to learn from it and come back next season and be stronger."
Despite sloppy play, FIU defeats ULM in road sweep

EDUARDO ALMAGUER
Staff Writer

Glance at FIU’s box score for the Nov. 4 game against University of Louisiana Monroe and your first assumption is that the Panthers lost.

Star outside hitter Jovana Bjelica, often the catalyst for the Panthers’ offense, had a paltry .086 hitting percentage, one of her lowest marks of the season.

The offense managed its fifth-lowest hitting percentage of the season with a .165 mark. The team failed to record a service ace for the first time this season. To cap it off, they notched 17 errors.

Luckily for them, ULM was even worse.

FIU (17-7, 9-4 SBC) overcame numerous mistakes to beat ULM (9-14, 3-10 SBC) in three straight sets (25-17, 25-22, 25-18) to win its sixth straight match.

Despite Bjelica’s shortcomings, she was the only player with double-digit kills in the match (12). Setter Jessica Egan, the team’s second career double with 18 assists and 14 digs.

FIU had more kills, digs and blocks than the Warhawks. The Warhawks choked and completely rattled ULM.

The final point for FIU, another Warhawk error, was the apparent breaking point for ULM head coach Ernest Vasquez, who was handed a yellow card as the match ended, often a caution for misconduct.

Griffin sets FIU single-season record for field goals made but late mistakes cost Panthers much-needed road win

FOOTBALL, page 4

The second came on the last play of the half, after FIU gave Western Kentucky multiple second chances off penalties. A five-yard offside penalty on Greg Hickman on third and two brought up a WKU first down, and then when FIU made a third down stop again, James Jones got called for a personal foul at the end of the play that resulted in another Hilltopper first down.

“We just have to be more poised and composed as a defense and limit the penalties,” said linebacker Winston Fraser. “It’s just stupid penalties.”

However, a high snap on a field attempt from WKU, with six seconds to go, halted the Hilltoppers from taking the lead going into halftime and kept FIU just a point behind going into the second half.

The third quarter stayed even for the most part, held a 10-7 lead, took it 25-22.

The Panthers carried over their momentum from the second set into the third as they wasted no time in building a big, 10-3 lead. ULM later managed to cut it down to a four-point deficit after an error by Gonzalez. Once again, the Panthers saw their large lead evaporate as the Warhawks tore it down.

They constantly found holes on the Panthers’ side of the net, tallying consecutive kills to rip the score to 16-15, still in FIU’s favor.

The Panthers quickly regrouped however, and spun off seven straight points, punctuated by none other than a Warhawk error. The rally was more than enough for the Panthers to shut the door on ULM, eventually taking the set 25-18.

The final point for FIU, another Warhawk error, was the apparent breaking point for ULM head coach Ernest Vasquez, who was handed a yellow card as the match ended, often a caution for misconduct.

**PLAYER OF THE GAME**

Bobby Rainey

Rainey rushed for 155 yards on 28 carries in WKU’s win over FIU.

**SUN BELT STANDINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W-L</th>
<th>PCT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARS</td>
<td>5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUS</td>
<td>6-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WKU</td>
<td>5-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIU</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTH</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MM</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAY</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULM</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAU</td>
<td>0-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All records up to date as of Nov. 5*
MARIANA YERN
Contributing Writer

Get your fork ready for a feast of electronic music. Some people view electronic music as merely sounds produced by technology. However, music technology students at the University prove that this style of music is a genre that should be taken seriously.

The Florida Electro-Acoustic Student Festival is a student-run festival that will be held on campus on Nov. 18 and 19. The festival’s base of operation will be the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center.

The festival started eight years ago as an initiative of the Electro-Acoustic Research Society. Since then, FEAST Fest has been organized every two years. Electronic music is a contemporary art form that uses elements of acoustic and electric sounds that can be manipulated through technology. Supporting this type of music is the visionary force behind this event.

FEAST Fest features two days of concerts, lectures from guest speakers and a juke box playing in the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum. All concerts will include live performances, video installations and fixed media works of this music genre composed by students worldwide.

“We want to give all contemporary young composers a chance to expose their work regardless of their location,” said Ricardo Lopez, a music technology major.

EARS members are also planning to set up sound installations all around campus. “I know students will be amused by these physical media objects made out of sound. It is something unusual and certainly cool,” said Giancarlo Aravena, a music technology major.

Every two years before the festival, FEAST organizes a call for works that extend to students worldwide. After composers submit their works, the FEAST committee chooses the pieces that will be performed at the event.

“The elimination process is a dilemma because most of the compositions that we receive are all cool and innovative. Our brains are fried by the end of this procedure,” said Carlos Dominguez, music technology major and president of EARS.

The FEAST committee has received submissions from Italy, Germany, Canada and the United States from students from universities such as the University of Miami, the University of Florida, Indiana University, the University of Georgia, Cal State LA and many others.

Popular Internet memes interpreted with an FIU twist

MEMES, page 1

The Generators’ personas are Mr. Blue, described as “the musician,” Mr. Red, “the intellectual” and Mr. Green, “the wildcard.” The idea to create the meme page arose while the Generators were watching a football game.

“We were at Sports Grill [the afternoon of the Duke game] and there was a little boy holding up a sign that said ‘I love turtles’ and right there I was like, ‘You know what? FIU needs fans like that.’

So we went ahead and decided to make Internet memes enjoyable to all FIU students,” said Mr. Red. The hobby is a passion for the Generators, who spend their own money on the projects like making t-shirts and posters to give away to fans.

“There are licensing issues when it comes to the FIU logo, thus we are unable to sell anything. We are working with President Rosenberg on getting some form of licensing agreement but he flew out today so he couldn’t meet with us,” said Mr. Blue. The Generators will not reveal their identities or just how many faces work behind the masks.

“Numerous people are involved, we haven’t actually counted,” said Mr. Red. “We have alumni and we have students. I believe we even have faculty, but I’m not sure,” said Mr. Blue.

There is a process in choosing which memes make the cut. “All our ideas are collective,” said Mr. Green. “We have little committee meetings. We don’t just throw things out there. This is not an anarchy,” said Mr. Red.

Since the start, fans have asked about submitting their own memes, and so the Generators created a contest. The top three memes were voted on by fans and the Generators promised to make a sign with the winner to take to the next home game. They have decided to hold another contest for the final home game of the season on Nov. 12. Fans can submit their memes by Nov. 8 by emailing FIUmemes@gmail.com.

Expect the Generators at the next home game.

“We have a few things up our sleeves,” said Mr. Red.

Popular Internet memes interpreted with an FIU twist

Parking on campus is the subject of a few memes and get a lot of comments from fans.
Program mentors young girls from “at-risk” backgrounds

SYLVIA SIMONI Staff Writer

“My name is Jessica. I’m bringing jambalaya and this, ladies, is the Name Game.”

Jessica Cherubin, assistant director for the Strong Women Strong Girls program at the University, is one of 10 mentors who seek to teach young girls in South Florida lessons in interpersonal development and female integrity.

The University’s SWSG chapter focuses on reaching out to girls “at risk” of acquiring lower living standards.

“We let them know it’s okay to call for help.”

The term ‘at-risk’ is pretty inclusive,” said Brown Bares, associate director of the Women’s Center at the University. “It could be based on their geographical area or their socioeconomic status. Most of these girls come from neighborhoods with high crime rates.”

According to Raymonville, the mentors are teaching the girls about respect and growth — virtues that aren’t necessarily taught at home.

“The benefits gained from the program — interestingly enough — are mutual. ’I think that what the girls got out of it is that they’re really learning a lot — that’s obvious. But what the college students get out of it and that’s why it’s truly mentoring, is that they’re learning how to adapt,’ said Bares. ’They learn how to take something and say ‘Honestly, this isn’t working,’ and try something new that is not in the curriculum to see how it works. They develop skills without knowing it and that is really exciting.’

Erica Cameron or SWSG
Artists compete to create outdoor works for SIPA

MARCY DIAZ
Contributing Writer

Since day one, the University has married structure with art to create a unique campus. The new School of International and Public Affairs is now calling for art.

SIPA was created to bring together FIU’s international studies and to give students and staff the opportunity to concentrate on a global scale.

SIPA was built in 2009 as a crucial part of the College of Arts and Sciences and includes graduate and undergraduate programs in international relations, political sciences, public administration and sociology.

SIPA’s vision is to be a leader in aiding various types of organizations and being a primary center of international education.

In their most current attempt to heighten student involvement, SIPA has issued a call to all artists. A challenge has been made to those skilled and experienced enough to design an original sculpture for the North Side Entrance Plaza and Outdoor Landscape Area adjacent to the auditorium.

Although it is not the first time FIU has specifically asked for commissioned work, the project is creating a lot of excitement because of so many possible new additions to FIU’s famous collection.

Fifty qualified artists have already turned in their applications and are awaiting approval by Professor and Director of Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum, Carol Damian, and Staff Member Alexander Garcia. Artists include those who have completed other public commissions on a similar scale, have participated in exhibitions at major art museums, or have received awards for their works.

Ever since Betty L. Perry’s donation to create a student gallery exhibition, we have encouraged every artist to come and take pride in their work.

“FIU has always been supportive of student artists,” commented Damian. “Ever since Betty L. Perry’s donation to create a student gallery exhibition, we have encouraged every artist—in whatever stage—to come here and take pride in their work.”

Festival invites innovative guest speakers

University of Missouri, Mills College and others

EARS members were very excited to witness how the word about the festival has spread worldwide over the years. “[After] every festival, we get more submissions from foreign countries. This is a great deal for those of us who once came up with this crazy, innovative idea at FIU and now see it becoming a success,” said Dominguez.

The festival invites guest speakers who come to showcase their electronic musical compositions. Before every concert, guests give free lectures about their work and their approach toward this contemporary style of music.

This year, the FEAST committee is ecstatic to feature guest speakers, Professor Jacob Sudol, head of the electronic music department at the University of Missouri, Mills College and University alumni. “I could not be happier to have such great speakers whose careers have brought about innovation in the field of electronic music. I am looking forward to meeting them,” said Lopez.

Dominguez will also be showcasing one of his compositions during the concert. The piece, titled “Contrabass and Electronics,” will be performed by bass player Kyle Molt, accompanied by technologically devised programs that produce electronic sounds, lending the piece a unique texture and flavor.

“This is the first time that one of the pieces will be performed at a concert. I am thrilled and looking forward to more of these experiences,” said Dominguez. EARS members are still waiting for confirmation on sponsorship. They have sent out emails and letters to several sponsors but none have responded yet. Even though most of the funding is supplemented by the University, EARS wants to have financial support to compensate guest speakers adequately and offer a small reception.

“We are hoping to have the funds to make both guest speakers and the public experience something out of the ordinary,” said Lopez.

University students will have discounts to the performances.

“We encourage everyone to attend all these cool events to have a blast and support music in general,” said Dominguez.

“We want to make the most out of this event, showcasing electronic music in all its diversity,” said Lopez.
Scott Olsen: a poignant icon of the Occupy movement

Putting a face to a political or social cause is pivotal; it humanizes the movement and makes it become more personal and easier to relate to.

“How I feel, as a United States Marine, about what occurred in Oakland,” is a photograph of a marine holding a sign in one hand that says, “You Did This To My Brother” and in the other hand, a photo of a marine holding a sign in another. That being said, violence isn’t the answer here. What we need is a united front. Let’s come together as a band of brothers once more and help make a change.” It is hopeful that even in the face of betrayal, Olsen’s brothers are calling for a change. “It is hopeful that even in the face of betrayal, Olsen’s brothers are calling for a change.”

FIU is the top university in the world. With that said, it pains me to see that the Student Government Association has fallen into such a sad state of affairs when it comes to transparency. As reported in The Beacon, the topic of SGB-MMC President Denise Halpin’s impeachment has been an embarrassment. There have been closed door meetings and many abstentions in the Senate. Pursuant to Sunshine Law Section 286.012, F.S., abstentions are expressly prohibited.

The irony that Olsen, literally exercising his freedom of speech, has now been violently silenced has outraged fellow Marines. On the site Reddit, in a thread titled, “Scott Olsen: a poignant icon of the Occupy movement,” someone writes, “This man is my brother. All Marines here know that we’ll fight to our last breath and let NOTHING stand in our way when it comes to helping one another. That being said, violence isn’t the answer here. What we need is a united front. Let’s come together as a band of brothers once more and help make a change.” It is hopeful that even in the face of betrayal, Olsen’s brothers are calling for a change. “It is hopeful that even in the face of betrayal, Olsen’s brothers are calling for a change.”

One primary benefit for all students is that they can venture across any campus at a faster pace, which is especially helpful since both the MMC and the Biscayne Bay Campus, as I have experienced, have a vast walking distance between buildings, and one can get extremely hot when walking outside. Because this form of transportation stimulates healthy activity, this can help students find time to exercise, stay awake and relax while eliminating traffic and helping cut back on pollution.

Another benefit, when used responsibly, is that they are fully supported by the police department. As advised by Lieutenant Rick Torres, head of security at the University, “We encourage the students to be safe. Any vehicle – scooters, bicycles, skateboards, long-boards – can be ridden, it’s legal here after all. Just have good common sense. Be cautious of others. Look out for other riders and cars. Have courtesy.”

They can also improve the efficiency of arriving to campus, especially to those that live close to campus or that are part of the 3,000 students that live on campus. After all, with only six garages supporting a body of 46,000 students, it is understandable as to why there is usually trouble in finding a parking spot in time to have class.

Furthermore, the problem may only grow with the innovation of GreenRide, the University’s carpool program, and the expanding body of students and faculty, as more and more parking spaces will need to be used and harder to conceive.

Alternatives to getting to school, such as carpooling or public transportation, have their own flaws as well, including the unreliable variation of arrival and departure times, having to rely on someone else and the cost factors. These different modes of transportation, especially bicycles, can eliminate these flaws including the parking dilemma, because skateboards, longboards and scooters can be carried, and bikes can be parked at any of the 400 bike racks that are located across campus.

Also, any cost factors in maintaining these vehicles concern only minimal repairs, like pumping air into bike tires.

In some cases, these vehicles can even help students reach campus earlier and arrive to your next destination faster.

The SGC-MMC does not.

Both councils in SGA have a responsibility to meet and arrive to their next destination faster, primarily those students that live in the dorms or apartments that neighbor the area.

With the rising costs associated with reaching campus with a car or bus, buying a bike or longboard is a considerable investment that will serve students well, especially after they graduate.

These unique vehicles can not only help students cross the campus efficiently but can also help promote a broader sense of diversity, a mission of the University.

A key aspect of Sunshine is the requirement that all meetings be open to the public and publicized. One could describe SGA’s methods in advertising their meetings inconsistent at best. While MMC utilizes a calendar feature, MMC does not.

Both councils in SGA have statutes regarding Sunshine, (both also in severe incompliance) and the SGC- MMC has a specic statute for transparency in addition to its Sunshine ones. (Section 2.05 Transparency and Accountability).

While the statute has been in effect since last year, it has only started to be partially followed. A very important part of the statute states that all SGC-MMC meetings be recorded and posted online. At the time this letter was written, only one video has been posted.

In a recent Judiciary hearing, SGC- MMC President Patrick O’Keefe stated that he did not know whose responsibility it was to record and upload videos. It is concerning that the SGC-MMC President did not account for this when creating his cabinet and assigning job responsibilities. This was either due to an oversight, or simple ignorance of the SGC- MMC statutes.

Technology Coordinator Sergio Pantano produced and uploaded the mentioned video. However, the timing of this also coincides with a Judicial hearing against Pantoja on a grievance filed by myself on grounds of misfeasance and malfeasance.

I am highly critical of SGA because I care about the organization. The problems it’s facing with transparency (This is why the website of all SGA elected officials run on last spring) are easily corrected. However, those in charge have to stop making excuses. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse. Campus Life being slow is not an excuse. I don’t know who should be held accountable.

SGA is a vital part of FIU. Those in SGA have a responsibility to meet the standards of excellence set forth to them. I know that they can do it.

I implore the members of SGA, please live up to your responsibilities to the student body. With a small amount of real effort, you can succeed. You not only owe it to the student body, but to yourselves.

Ben F. Badger Jr.

Non-Degree Seeking Student
THE FALL COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE HAS BEEN REVISED TO ACCOMMODATE MORE GUESTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011
10:00 a.m.
College of Education (was originally scheduled at 3p.m.)
College of Engineering & Computing

3:00 p.m.
College of Arts & Sciences
• School of Environment, Arts & Society (SEAS)
• School of Integrated Science & Humanity (SISH)

7:30 p.m.
College of Arts & Sciences (was originally scheduled at 10:00a.m.)
• School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011
10:00 a.m.
College of Business Administration
• Landon Undergraduate School of Business

3:00 p.m.
College of Architecture + The Arts (was originally scheduled at 10:00a.m.)
School of Journalism & Mass Communication
College of Business Administration
• Chapman Graduate School of Business

7:30 p.m.
Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work
(was originally scheduled at 3:00p.m.)
College of Nursing & Health Sciences (was originally scheduled at 3:00p.m.)
School of Hospitality & Tourism Management
(was originally scheduled at 10:00a.m.)

For more information, please visit
http://commencement.fiu.edu
WUC lab cuts free printing

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. News Director

Beginning Nov. 14, the Wolfe University Center will cut the amount of free printing allowed at the computer lab from 30 pages to five. The policy was officially announced on Nov. 4, to give students a week of notice.

The resolution, which came about through a cooperative agreement between WUC Senior Director Greg Olson and the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus, was made for environmental and financial reasons. Olson was not available for comment at press time.

“I expect students to not be excited about it, but I believe students will adjust and see that it is a better use of their fees and it is better for the environment,” IT and marketing coordinator Zach Trautenberg said.

According to Trautenberg, SGC-BBC sets aside $2,000 to cover the cost of printing on a yearly basis, but the printing lab was costing WUC between $3,000 and $5,000 a month. In addition, the computer lab had over 7,000 log-ins in October alone. WUC was able to pay for the excess in costs mostly because of the revenue they create by renting rooms and space in the building.

The computer lab will not limit the amount of pages students can print overall. Students can only print five pages for free, but have an unlimited amount available after that, available at eight cents per page plus tax.

“There was a serious waste going on,” SGC-BBC Senate-at-Large Oluwatolulere Odumayo said. “And nobody was swiping their card before to get in, so people were just coming in and printing out whatever they wanted.”

The computer lab will institute a policy to enforce the new system, by making students swipe their FIU One Card with the computer lab managers inputing the amount of pages they have printed daily. A similar rule was in place before, but was not always enforced.

The Beacon – 12

Late night domino game a WUC staple

HAYTHAM AL-RAEBEH
Contributing Writer

The domino games in the Panther Square of the Wolfe University Center at Biscayne Bay Campus have struck ongoing interest among the area. From the initial players to students and even administrators, the Panther Square domino games have garnered the attention of many.

According to some members, the games began several years ago when a group of friends began to gather around in Panther Square to have fun. Staff and students would gather after hours to play the game and discuss intense topics, such as football, and space for the increased flow of students and other staff members, these players see the games off the clock, to blow off steam and see that it is a better use of their fees and it is better for the environment.”

The students-turned-staff began playing the games off the clock, to blow off steam and have fun after work. However, with the new attention of students, administrators and other staff members, these players see a future that insists on a move.

With the increase of student appeal, the group is hoping that the games would eventually pass into new game room that has been built, but yet-to-be officially revealed, on the second floor of the WUC. The game room, they hope, will provide a safe environment for staff not on the clock and space for the increased flow of students interested in playing the game.

When asked about where he sees these games going, Tolbert says he sees the possibility of more open gaming for the students-turned-staff, some of which still study at FIU. He also hopes for increased student-led activities, such as domino tournaments and possibly even a student-run club.

“I can see tournaments happening,” Tolbert said. “I say it’s just matter of time.”