Domestic violence awareness lacking

VANESSA GALLARDO Contributing Writer

The Florida Department of Children and Families reported that women between the ages of 16 to 24 were at the greatest risk of nonfatal, intimate partner violence in 2009-2010.

Locally, DCF said there were approximately 2.5 million offenses in Miami-Dade County and approximately 1.75 million in Broward County.

At a university where the majority of the student population is women, especially from countries with a high amount of violent incidents, one would anticipate a great deal of domestic violence awareness campus wide.

But at the University, it’s rare to see a sea of purple ribbons, the unifying symbol of courage, survival and dedication to ending domestic violence.

“There are so many benefits of awareness,” said a Broward County volunteer coordinator who requested anonymity for the sake of her clients.

“And college campuses are super important targets, because most victims are young, college-aged women.”

The coordinator said one of the most important benefits of awareness is preventing an incident or helping a potential victim by teaching them the actions abusers take to maintain power.

Abuse comes in various forms, not just physical and sexual. Abuse can be emotional, such as verbal abuse, including yelling or name-calling. Other forms of emotional abuse include isolation, intimidation and/or controlling behavior.

“When I went to FIU, I never saw any forms of domestic violence awareness,” said Lindsay Gerber, a University alums. “As a nurse, I now realize how important it is to spread awareness, especially on college campuses.”

Gerber, now a registered nurse at Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital, has taken care of many children and has seen a number of abuse cases.

“Victims don’t know how to get help,” Gerber said. “Many that are in that situation hadn’t learned much about it, and they don’t know how to get out. They need to spread awareness to prevent it but also, so that girls know what to do if they are unfortunately placed in that situation and how to get out.”

Congress designated October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, yet there were no signs of acknowledgment around either of the University’s campuses.

Eliza Nerette, assistant director at the Victim Advocacy Center, said the reason why you won’t see banners, tables or much of any type of awareness is because of funding problems.

“There is so much more we can do,” Nerette said. “We can even put our ‘relationship IQ’ pamphlets in girls’ bathrooms, which help you analyze whether or not you could possibly be in an abusive behavior.”

Nerette said the primary method to reach students is by talking and tabling at freshmen orientations and making presentations in the many freshman orientation classes.

Even so, Nerette said that although the center does not make presentations for transfer orientations, she’s very proud of the free services it does offer. The center offers various free services to its students, faculty and staff including support, therapy and assistance. Advocates are even available to accompany clients to the hospital, police station, court or to other appointments. Nerette said they are even willing to request academic accommodations for students.

But, Nerette said, awareness remains problematic.

“It’s something we have to keep working on,” she said.

Transfer student Danielle

ABUSE, page 2

UNICEF chapter at the University seeks to make its mark

AURA ALTAMIRANDA Contributing Writer

United Nations Children’s Fund, better known as UNICEF, seeks to better the lives of disadvantaged children in over 150 countries through donations and volunteer work.

Through its many partnerships nationwide, it gathers support and has its partners advocate their goals in order to rally further support in more communities.

UNICEF@FIU is in its third year working with the national headquarters, promoting campaigns on campus and raising funds for UNICEF’s purposes.

As college students partnered with a much larger humanitarian organization, they are limited in what projects they can engage themselves in. While they cannot venture out and participate in field-work that requires travel, they offer their services through projects within their reach.

Yasmin Zakour serves as the UNICEF@FIU representative in the Council for Student Organizations. CSO is responsible for the funding the group received to attend the Campus Initiative Leadership Summit in October. Attendees travelled to New York from Oct. 8 through Oct. 10, networked with organizations from other universities and returned to their respective groups with ideas to apply to their operations.

They were also exposed to lectures by UNICEF employees about their experiences and the protocol for situations they have encountered.

Peer leaders help students

AURA ALTAMIRANDA Contributing Writer

One of the largest programs in the country, comes from the University’s biology department. Peer Lead Team Learning is a national program with a number of participating universities designed to reinforce principles taught in various disciplines of biology.

Thomas Pitzer initially brought the program to the University in 2000 when the only courses the program offered aid in were Biology I and II. A little more than a decade after its inception, it has grown to serve approximately 2,500 students at the Modesto Maidique and Biscayne Bay campuses in the following biology courses: General Biology I, General Biology II, Genetics, Fundamentals of Human Physiology, Human Biology, Ecology, Evolution and Neurobiology.

The staff is working to implement Intro to Microbiology as well as General Microbiology into the course offerings. Alberto Cruz, assistant coordinator, said, “It is pretty difficult for someone to get a degree in bio or a minor without participating in PLTL.”

PLTL is a network of students helping students understand difficult concepts in course material.

While the incentive of the program as a student is to better grasp the course content, most professors
Students no longer need to give up their professor snacks

A California university professor can no longer demand snacks from his students for 39 years. Students were told of the snack demand on the first day of class.

The ESA, which has been helping Russia to try to communicate with the errant probe, said in a statement that the ESA, European space experts will coordinate further attempts to contact the Phobos-Ground probe.

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**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

Coley shines in a losing effort to Terapins

JOEL DELGADO

Sports Director

If there is one thing the Panthers are thankful for in the midst of the Thanksgiving holiday, it has to be the stellar performance by guard Jerica Coley. The sophomore standout turned in yet another perfor-

The senior captain nailed the game-winning shot as time expired to lead the Panthers to a thrilling 64-62 victory over the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers, who came in to the game undefeated.

"That might be the biggest shot of my life," Allen said after the game. "We needed this. It was a tough game. It was a big win for us at home."

The Panthers came out with a high-tempo offense and were able to set the pace for most of the first half.

On the other side of the basketball, Coastal Carolina struggled to come up with an answer to FIU’s aggressive defense as they attempted to force the visiting team into settling for shots from the outside.

Despite a strong start, the Chanticleers kept the game close and went down by only five points at the half.

Chris Gradino and Anthony Raffa, who led the Chanticleers with 13 points each, led the second-half charge by Coastal Carolina as they took a 50-43 lead with just over 12 minutes to go in regulation.

But FIU battled back. Both teams exchanged the lead heading into the climactic final minute of play, setting up one of the most memorable moments in recent program history.

"I liked our perseverance... our tenacity," coach Isiah Thomas said. "Our guys slowly regained their composure and fought their way back into the basketball game."

A layup by Dominique Ferguson with 41 seconds to go tied the game at 62-62, setting up a pivotal final possession for Coastal Carolina with just six seconds separating the shot clock from the game clock.

The Chanticleers milked the shot clock to the final seconds, dishing the ball out to Rafta for the potential game-winner. The shot missed the mark and was rebounded by Tola Akomolafe with seven seconds to go.

Akomofale quickly passed the ball down the sideline to Phil Taylor, who then found Allen near the baseline.

Allen released the ball with less than a second to go, as a later review by the officiating crew confirmed, and the crowd erupted in celebration as the Panthers mobbed Allen near the FIU bench.

The win snapped a three-game losing streak for the Panthers, who are in the midst of a brutal schedule filled with extended stretches on the road. FIU now plays seven of their next nine games away from home.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

"The BIGGEST SHOT of my life."

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Sports Director

Jeremy Allen scored a game-high 19 points, including the game-winner at the buzzer to give FIU its second win of the season.

Allen’s buzzer-beater stuns Chanticleers

With less than a minute to go in the FIU home opener and the game tied up, the Panthers were hoping for some late heroics.

Jeremy Allen delivered.

The senior captain nailed the game-winning shot as time expired to lead the Panthers to a thrilling 64-62 victory over the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers, who came in to the game undefeated.

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**FIU 31, MTSU 18**

Panthers reach school-record eight wins

After beating Middle Tennessee for the first time away on the road, FIU (8-4, 5-3 SBC) finishes the season with the best record in school history. Now the winning game begins. It is still uncertain whether a second consecutive bowl berth comes with it. Mario Cristobal will have to wait a full week until Dec. 4 to see if the Panthers are bowl bound.

The Panthers scored 17 points in the second half while holding MTSU 12 to end the game at 31-18.

Sophomore Kendrick Rhodes, who ended the game early with an injury, finished with 20 carries for 117 yards. The back is now 12 yards away from tying Rashod Smith’s record of 1,133 in a single season.

"He suffered a [sprained] ankle. He tried to go back in but just couldn’t push off it,” said head coach Cristobal.

Cristobal is happy with what the Sun Belt teams have produced this year and is now ready to start looking into whether or not FIU can make a bowl.

“I’ll start studying that on the plane ride,” Cristobal said. “We try to focus just on taking care of business. People are finding out as they play the Sun Belt teams that there’s a lot of good players and some good football teams.”

Senior Wesley Carroll got the start at quarterback over back-up Jake Medlock after his performance at ULM, where he threw three touchdowns and zero interceptions. It was his last regular season start as a collegiate. On the second drive of the game, Carroll led a 14-play, 84-yard drive that resulted in a five-yard touchdown catch by tight end Jonathon Faucher. Faucher’s touchdown was the third FIU touchdown scored by a tight end this season.

The Panther defense held the Blue Raiders to just six points in the first half and 156 yards of total offense. The two scores, all field goals, came from Alan Gentrouch from 37 and 26 yards away.

T.Y. Hilton came close to getting his fifth kickoff return for a touchdown of his career when he took the pooch kick and zig-zagged his way to the MTSU five-yard line to set up FIU’s second touchdown of the half on a one-yard run by Rhodes.

“It’s only fitting for a guy whose had so many magical moments in his career,” said Cristobal. “I’m surprised somebody got him. He ran out of gas there at the end. He had to run a long way to try and get the ball so he probably ran about 190-200 yards on that play.

In the third quarter, FIU was able to get possession of the ball at midfield after the defense forced the Blue Raiders into a three-and-out, and Faucher partially blocked the punt. It led to Hilton’s third catch of the day, a touchdown catch was his seventh touchdown of the season, tying his own single-season mark.

The Panthers ended the quarter with a 28-6 lead on a one-yard run from Jeremy Harlen after an interception from defensive end Gregory Hickman gave FIU the ball back at the MTSU 26-yard line.

MTSU made an attempt at comeback in the fourth quarter when running back Benjamin Cunningham ran in a one-yard touchdown run of the game with 6:55 remaining. The second one came on a Reggie Whatley one-yard run. The FIU lead proved to be too much though, as the Panthers added on a Jack Griffin field goal in between MTSU touchdowns to seal the deal.

Glen Coleman and Eric Russell were both ejected in the second half following a scrum. It is still unclear if Coleman and/or Russell were suspended if the Panthers do receive a bowl bid.
Students face harsh reality about debt

ASHLEY LAPADULA
Staff Writer

Students graduating from college this year are waking away with more than a diploma in their hands—they are also leaving with a hefty student loan debt.

"Thanks to the weak economy and rising tuition, students must rely more heavily on loans to pay for their college education. Student loan debt, especially for those combining both undergrad-uate and graduate school debt, puts a huge burden on graduates. Additionally, students attending graduate programs and expecting to receive a master’s or doctorate in their field of study face tough options. Depending on the school they attend, the average student is looking at more than $21,000 in debt, according to the Huffington Post Investigative Fund. Christina Garcia, Daniel Perez and Isabelle Torres are alumni from the University who attend graduate school elsewhere. They have been friends since 15 years ago, there was no such thing as student loan debt," Torres said.

"The economy surely has not helped most graduate students' loans," Garcia said.

In early November, the Obama administration issued an executive order after the student loan debt reached an appalling number—$1 trillion. They announced new programs to ease the repayment of student loans, change the income-based repayment program next year to allow lower monthly payments and shorten durations for low-income borrowers, and offer a slightly lower interest rate to borrowers who consolidate their loans.

It may seem like a big and scary situation.

"I am having to face loans that will eventually add up to around $91,000," said Garcia, a Nova Southeastern University law student. "I am confident that all my hard work will help me pay off this heavy burden, but it is a scary thought to see how much I will end up having to pay." However, Garcia receives some financial assistance from her parents. "Most of my law school friends, [those], are really beginning to struggle with the thought of this unfath-omable outcome." Perez thought about buying a new car, but after doing the numbers for his monthly payments, when he real-ized that buying one would only add another burden to the payments, poten-tially putting him in a terrible financial situation.

"Like many others, loans are currently a big issue for us all. I have had to make several sacrifices, like postponing buying a car or even starting my own family sooner than usual," the University of Miami medical student said. "I hope that something can help alleviate these loans, but that is just me being hopeful," he said. He dreams to one day work as a trauma surgeon at Jackson Memorial Hospital.

"The people in office now need, so I think it’s time that our government," she said. "It’s a great time for our generation to stand up and try to find new innovative ideas to influence change in our government," she said.

"The movement is gaining momentum and, for the most part, heading towards a hopeful direction and this is just an example of that."

The event was underway as the organizers of the event each welcomed to the audi-ence their unique spin on a normal debate. "Our goal was to clarify what the move-ment was about. "Hopefully, [events like these] are just the beginning," said Rosales. The event then continued with the debate portion. Here, the panel of three debaters presented their respective points of views about the Occupy movement. They consisted of Rosales, Warren Krup, a member of the debate organization and a public relations major, and Christopher Diaz, a political science major and U.S. Army veteran.

After each panelist presented their argument, the audience was asked to choose people they wanted to hear a debate format. "It’s a great time for our generation to stand up and try to find new innovative ideas to influence change in our government," said Rosales.

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Students unsure of career can benefit from Buffett’s advice

BY KELLY MALAMUT

DEBATE, page 5

Students unsure of career can benefit from Buffett’s advice

Students unsure of career can benefit from Buffett’s advice

BUFFETT [discusses] the troublesome and challenging act of discovering what one’s true vocation is.

It will to many, who, like me, constantly feel that their busy lives take away from the effort they should be putting into those things that they love. Buffett rightly points out that, which we live should be our lives, and we should not put that aside for anything or anyone. Proving that his book is not just for young students, Buffett also touches on parenting advice. He writes that if a parent is able to they should “give a child enough to do anything but not enough to do nothing.” Buffett describes the way in which his family did not just allow him to coast through life, but pushed him to make one of his own, and suggests that we live our lives and raise our children in the same manner.

While noting that money is a necessity, and that everyone gets a “level playing field” and time to slow down to find what they truly want in terms of reaching their goals, Buffett states: “We don’t get to choose where we start in life; we do get to choose the road people believe we become.” His message throughout the book is to do what you have to do to find a way to combine what you love with something the world is willing to pay for, and you will be on the right track to making a fulfilling life for yourself.

He also notes that this fulfilled life cannot come without giving back to the community, and suggests that we all contribute to the global community in whatever we can, as he and his father have generously given through programs like NoVo and large contributions to various programs around the world.

As Buffett gives his advice, his time and his money to better the global community, we suggest we all do the same, in whatever way we can.

His book, “Life is What You Make It,” is the perfect read for any student looking for a major or trying to find a job after graduation, as well as any professional already working in a chosen field looking for an inspiring, fresh take on life in a bleak economy.

Unique twist to debate inspired discussion

DEBATE, page 5

Interaction during this portion was heavily encouraged, as the audience was able to voice their disagreement or approval of any argument by tapping the tabletos. A Q-and-A portion followed the debate, and this is where the full engagement of the audience came into play.”

Panelists: “Next semester is my last,” said Pardo, “so I’m looking to maybe do one or two more of these events in the spring where we can follow up on these topics or maybe touch on some more important topics such as the 2012 presidential election.”

Judging from the great turnout from the first event, Pardo and his fellow organizers may have discovered a winning formula in their unique twist to debate.

Unique twist to debate inspired discussion

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• Yoga and Alternative Therapies – Dr. Ramin P. Agarwal, Univ. of Miami School of Medicine
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Spirituality, health and medicine

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• Yoga and Alternative Therapies – Dr. Ram P. Agarwal, Univ. of Miami School of Medicine
• Spirituality in the Hospitais – Rev. Guillermo Escalona, Baptist Health System

Spirituality of the warrior

• The Non-Violent Warrior, Mahatma Gandhi
• The Non-Violent Warrior-2, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Instructor: Prof. Nathan Katz, Religious Studies, Exec. Dir., FIU Program in the Study of Spirituality. He developed this course as Kaufman Professor of Global Entrepreneurship (2009-2010)

WRITE TO CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM TO HAVE YOUR EVENT FEATURED!
By ALEX CORREALE

The prospect of implementing political parties, which seemed to meet the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus with reverence and understanding just a few weeks ago, now seems to have lost its allure.

As Giovanni Correale, senator of arts and sciences, pointed out at the end of the Nov. 21 meeting, a senator made silent and tired after the recursive deliberation over how the parties would function, if the senate was really passionate about this, then things would have been moving forward.

“I feel like I’m wasting my time,” Correale said, closing his argument while moving forward.

Progress has indeed been slow, and SGC-MMC is less enthused about the idea than they initially were. But, considering how productive SGC-MMC has been lately — compared to earlier in the semester — it seems the political parties have somehow denigrated the other?

It cannot fairly be said, though, that the plan is being ignored completely out of laziness. The Nov. 21 meeting saw the passage, most notably, of two bills. Senate Resolution 116 passed quickly and without debate, will divide the Accumulated Cash Balance into four categories.

At the end of each fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30, the left-over money from the Student Government Association’s budget is placed into the Accumulated Cash Balance. The cash has been one big pot, accessible to both MMC and Biscayne Bay Campus, amounting to about $4 million.

Then came SR 1116, written by Senator Correale, which ensures that all buildings hereafter erected at the MMC will have gender-neutral/family bathrooms.

The bathrooms will be a single-occupant room — not the usual setup with two or three stalls and a few sinks — and will be equipped with a baby-changing station. Correale argued the bill’s validity primarily from the basis of its gender-neutrality, touching only in passing on the family aspect.

But it was refreshing, nonetheless, to see a senator with the integrity to stick to his opinion.

While progressive, pluralistic and admirable from an ethical grounding, the necessity of such a bill was called into question by a senator who, while demonstrating his understanding of the benefits provided to transgendered students as well as families, was nonetheless candid in voicing his doubt about whether it was worth the additional expense.

However, the initial expense was never discussed. He was ultimately convinced that it was worth the added expense, and the bill was passed with unanimous consent.

But it was refreshing, nonetheless, to see a senator with the integrity to stick to his opinion, to voice a concern he knew was unpopular and perhaps politically incorrect, and to then display enough humility as to have his mind publicly changed.

SGC-MMC Commentary is a feature that evaluates the student council’s performance. Look for it every Friday.

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Mr. President,

I come to you by open letter because the guards have closed off the tower, reportedly, at your family aspect.

The message I have been attempting to deliver, these past two months, is too urgent to allow formality to exercise its deterrent effect.

Florida International University is a US-taxpayer-funded institution. According to your recent protestations, its purpose is to mold “global citizens.”

My concern is that your definition of “global” does not seem to include Americans, particularly at the all-important graduate level.

While recruiting the best and brightest from around the globe is essential in the globalization equation, it is only part of the computation:

International Students + Global Education = International Citizens

In order for our institution to truly be global, we must consider the entire equation:

“(American Students U International Students) + Global Education = Global Citizens”

The taxing citizens of the cash-strapped State of Florida did not find, nor do they find FIU with the intention of creating a center for international students to congregate in US soil and obtain US knowledge to use for the betterment of their home countries.

Becoming a haven for intellectual migration to the US was also not its intended purpose. FIU was envisioned as a place for the world’s best and brightest to mingle with, learn from and teach America’s best and brightest.

Yet, my suggestions for creating a 2-pronged focus in admissions, recruitment and career services have met with your closed door.

Consistently deferring my concerns to individuals tasked with policy implementation when clearly my concern is the policy itself, while polite, is still a brush-off.

Is the belief that our institution is incapable of doing 2 things at the same time? Or that belief in the necessity of one somehow denigrates the other? Ludicrous, a false choice and unfairly skewed argument.

What have we done to serve the taxpayer community that has entrusted its faith and resources to you?

Have we increased the number of American students receiving PhD’s or advanced degrees?

Has that increase been in national professors?

If you don’t count first-generation Americans, there are 2 Americans in our Masters in International Business program.

Mr. German and French classmates complain that they have more American students in their classes in their home universities than in their classes at FIU.

They did not come to FIU to get a European education experience. They came here to meet Americans.

Neither population is being adequately served by our current blindness, our limited focus.

Your refusal to even meet with me to discuss the issue speaks of a deterioration, the death of that innovation which is the very lifeblood of American progress.

This is a university. Have we learned nothing from the seething, global dissension against those at the top who refuse to acknowledge or even listen to the legitimate concerns of those at the bottom who are footing the bill?

Have we gotten so lost in power distance that the president of an American University, a traditional fundamental center of change, is now taking administrative cues from bankers and tyrants?

I am proposing that we make broad and sweeping changes out of love for our university. Maidique spearheaded broad and sweeping change out of love for our university. What is the limited focus?

Did you take the job out of love? Or should your apathy be taken as an indication that you only took it because you were next in line?

Masheeka E. Allen JD, LL.M, MIB Candidate 2012
Delinquent organization finds loop hole in system

JONATHAN SZYDLO
BBC Managing Editor

On Oct. 31, the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Senate voted to freeze Panther Power’s funds due to the student council being delinquent on submitting their Event Audit Report to the SGC-BBC Operational Review Committee on Oct. 7, by 5 p.m.

SGC-BBC Operational Review Chair, Oluwatobi Adekoya, had informed all councils that fall under the purview of Campus Life at BBC on Oct. 3 that their Event Audit Report due to the end of the week; if an organization was to not be in compliance with this request, SGC-BBC would take disciplinary action.

According to the University’s Student Government Association University Wide Statutes, section 5A(7d)(iv), "On a first offense, an organization’s funds will be frozen. An account shall be frozen for a period not to exceed 10 school days. Two school days prior to such freezing, SGC President or the Comptroller must notify in writing to the Treasurer of the entity whose funds are being frozen and to the Senate, the reason of such action and the duration of the account freeze.”

In regards to the freezing of Panther Powers funds, the senate had passed the measure by a vote of eight in favor and two in opposition. According to Adekoya, it is a common practice for the executive branch to respond to measures, resolutions, or statutes within five days of their passage within the legislative branch.

Kevin Rosenberg, SGC- BBC comptroller, informed Panther Power of their fund freeze on Nov. 14, 14 days after the senate passed the measure.

In an interview with Student Media regarding the SGC-BBC-wide event audits, Gonzalez, Adekoya and SGC-BBC Finance Committee Chair, Oluwatobi Amilore Odimeya, explained that the reason for the audits is for assurance that student organizations that are funded through student fees were transparent with their accounting and maintaining a degree fiscal responsibility, and would take necessary measures against delinquent organizations.

“Fiscal responsibility is a shared feeling between me and Adekoya,” said Gonzalez. “It’s about doing what’s right and preserving the integrity of the campus.”

However, while SGC- BBC was demanding that organizations that are funded by Activity and Service Fees were following the guidelines associated with proper A&S money spending, the comptroller had yet to hold an A&S fee spending orientation with any of the student council executive boards until Oct. 19, 60 days after the start of the Fall semester.

Gonzalez admits that he was neglectful with his responsibilities when it came to holding the A&S fee spending orientation and sending Panther Power the Event Audit Report in a timely manner.

“I dropped the ball with the orientation,” admitted Gonzalez. “When I was the SGC-Modesto Maidique Campus’ comptroller in the spring I didn’t have to hold an A&S orientation. And when I came to BBC, I was never made aware that I was expected to hold it either...In my defense [regarding the Panther Power freeze] the two weeks that it took me to send out the notice was also during internship recruitment, which I was not focused on.”

If Gonzalez, who is responsible for $911,996, would have informed Panther Power, who is funded $16,311, within the five days after the freeze measure was passed in the senate, Panther Power would not be able to hold its annual Winter Wonderland.

At time of press, Tamicha Rogers, Panther Power president, had yet to respond via email to requests made by Student Media as to how much money is budgeted for Winter Wonderland.

In order for an organization to have its funds released an event, which in the case of Panther Power’s Winter Wonderland would have fallen during the freeze period, it would have been enforced accordingly.

File For Funds must be submitted no later than three weeks in advance of an event, which in the case of Panther Power’s Winter Wonderland but also the Event Audit Reports, for which they were getting the funds frozen, by Nov. 3.

As a result, the fund freeze, which officially began on Nov. 16, has no effect on Panther Power’s programming.

Proposed expansion meets opposition

ANTHONY CAVE
Contributing Writer

North Miami residents, University students and University President Modesto Maidique gathered at the University’s student Union building for the first day of the week-long meeting meeting for one major topic – the University’s proposal to build a second entrance along 135th street.

The line stretched out the chamber door, as the television in the lobby displayed the meeting live for those in standing room only.

North Miami Mayor Andre Pierre was straight forward, as the majority of the crowd if they were there for the FLU issue; most raised their hands in union.

The area behind the University would have more than 64,000 students over the next 10 years, with more than 15,000 expected to enroll at the Biscayne Bay Campus. Currently, an estimated 7,940 students attend BBC. He also said at least 200 jobs would be added because of the proposed expansion.

“We do intend to expand the Biscayne Bay Campus,” he said. “We have a clear pathway now that our board has approved our strategic plan.”

Rosenberg cited safety concerns for 151 street, BBC’s only entry and exit point. Alonso and Tracy Mourning Senior High and the David Lawrence K-8 Center share the same pathway causing congestion during school zone hours.

However, the crowd responded with a flurry of boos, shouting, “What about our children?” and “How do you build it in your backyard?”

Mayor Pierre stressed other alternatives for the University’s desired second entrance – L-43 street, expanding 151 street into two or four lanes would go in and out and 163 street to Oleta Park. Residents and University students stood in line to voice their concern. Pierre opened an unofficial public forum after Rosenberg’s initial statement.

“I think the money [for expansion] needs to be used toward education, there isn’t enough classes available on campus,” sophomore sociology major Vanessa Urivna said.

A stretch of land used for walking and bike rides, 135 street is home to Arch Creek East nature preserve.

“The walk is the nicest part of my day,” sophomore English major Gene Yllanes said.

Plans for a second entrance into BBC date back to Modesto Maidique’s presi- dency, Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones’ approval is still pending, which is required for the release of said funds.

SGA funds shuttles for finals

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. News Director

At the Nov. 4 University-wide council meeting, the Student Government Association requested the use of funds from the their Accumulated Cash Balance Account to allow students to use the Golden Panther Express shuttle for free during finals week.

Student Media reported on Nov. 9 that the council decided to request $5,000 from SGA’s ACBA to cover free trips to and from the Biscayne Bay Campus and the Modesto Maidique Campus for the first two days of finals week.

The entire week would cost up to $10,000 according to Patrick O’Keefe, president of the Student Government Council at MMC. The first two days would cost up to $2,000.

Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones’ approval is still pending, which is required for the release of said funds.

The Beacon – 8