**That Was Close**

Head coach Mario Cristobal passes on Rutgers offer

**Jackson Wolek**
Staff Writer

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Despite meeting with Rutgers, the man who inherited a 0-12 football program and brought the University two bowl game appearances, is staying put at FIU – at least for now.

Mario Cristobal has assured his recruits that he will not be the head coach at Rutgers, according to Trenton Saunders, a highly touted recruit from the Benjamin Rogers Saunders, a highly touted recruit from the Benjamin School in Palm Beach.

In fact, according to a Newark Star-Ledger report, Rutgers has come to terms with Kyle Flood to become the new head coach at Rutgers. Flood was placed as the new head coach at Rutgers. Flood was placed as the interim coach as of Jan. 26.

“He’s not going anywhere." I heard him say that," said Saunders as of Sunday.

Cristobal held a meeting with his players on Jan. 30 and made calls to his recruits telling them he is staying put. His name came up for the Rutgers position after longtime head coach Greg Schiano left to be the new head coach for the Tampa Bay Bucaneers in the National Football League. Rutgers had been paying Schiano $2.3 million per year, while Cristobal is currently earning $475,000 per year until 2016.

**Pell Grant funding cancelled for summer term**

Julia Duba
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The Summer Pell Grant program, or Pell Grant 2, was eliminated, rendering the interim Pell Grant 2, or Pell Grant 2, for tuition aid for the summer semester.

Last year, the University collected $5 million in tuition differentials, and this year, Francisco Valines, director of financial aid, estimates they will collect $8 million.

“What we’ve done is try to save a little bit of it for summer, because we know Pell 2 has gone away,” said Valines. This will amount to an estimated $3 million for University students to pay for summer classes this year, in comparison to the $10 million that the Pell Grant gave to FIU students last summer.

The University has developed a system of preferences for apportioning the funds over the summer to particular populations.

“Our approach is graduating seniors get first crack at that tuition differential for the summer. They’ve got to take those credits to graduate,” Valines said.

After those students get their share, juniors are next, and the University will go down the line until more tuition differential is given to students to help pay for classes.

This concern resounds with most students whose financial aid is in jeopardy.

Currently, the amount of money University students owe after graduation is approximately $7,000 below the national average. Higher education costs not only at FIU, but at a national level.

President Barack Obama touched upon tuition costs in his State of the Union address last week stating, "Let me put colleges and universities on notice. If you can’t stop tuition from going up, the funding you get from taxpayers will go down.”

Political figures claim that this sets universities up for failure.

“We’re concerned about any punitive measures that would penalize schools for tuition increases given that many of the things that contribute to tuition increases, such as cuts to state appropriations or increases in operating costs, are out of a college’s hands,” said Justin Draeger, president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid.

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Francisco Valines, Director

Financial Aid

"What we’ve done is try to save a little bit of tuition differential money for summer, because we know Pell 2 has gone away.”

That is exactly what junior communications major, Jessica Soler, plans to do for the coming summer.

“I can just wait until spring to graduate, but I want to graduate this fall,” said Soler. “Unfortunately, I’ll have to graduate owing money.”

This concern resonates with most students whose financial aid is in jeopardy.

Currently, the amount of money University students owe after graduation is approximately $7,000 below the national average. Higher education costs have become an issue not only at FIU, but at a national level.

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**Coming Up | Opinion**

Check out Friday’s issue for Alex Sorondo’s commentary on the Jan. 30 Student Government Council meeting at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

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Experts, officials to testify on Cuba oil drilling

Members of the U.S. Coast Guard, experts and U.S. officials will testify on the risk of oil drilling off the coast of Cuba, and whether the U.S. is prepared for any possible spill.

Those expected to speak Monday at the satellite congressional sub-committee hearing in Sunny Isles, just north of Miami Beach, include U.S. Rep Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, who chairs the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Also on the list, fellow South Florida Cuban-American U.S. Reps. Mario Diaz-Balart and David Rivera. They will discuss possible impacts of the deep-water oil drilling Cuba is seeking to begin.

Ros-Lehtinen wants to deny U.S. visas to anyone helping the Cuban government advance its oil drilling plans.

Afghan woman killed, apparently for bearing girl

Afghan police say a woman has been strangled to death, apparently for bearing a baby girl instead of a boy, and her husband is the main suspect.

The police chief for Khandahar district in Kandahar province says the man fled the area last week about the time his 22-year-old wife was found dead in her house. Medical examiners said the woman was strangled.

Police Chief Sufi Habullah says they have the man’s mother in custody because she appears to have collaborated in a plot to kill her daughter-in-law.

Provincial women’s affairs chief Nadira Ghya said the victim had warned family members that her husband had threatened to kill her if she gave birth to another daughter.

--- Compiled by Lauren Rovira

Tuition aid targeted at national level

Aid Administrators. “I want to see the cost of college go down, too,” said Virginia Foxx, Republican representative from North Carolina. “But...the fact that the federal government has been so involved is what has driven up the cost.”

It is projected that 1,110 FIU students will completely lose eligibility and 1,500 student awards will be reduced.

Also, the maximum award will now only be awarded to students whose family income is at most $23,000 instead of $30,000.

The Federal Relations team at FIU has been working to uphold the Pell Grant.

Student Government Association presidents Denise Halpin and Patrick O’Keefe also brought up the issue to the Congressional Delegation.

“Our students, as a whole, do graduate on time and do maintain good GPAs and fortunately, we’re in a state where our tuition is lower than the national average,” said Carlos Becerra, FIU’s director of governmental relations. “So, our students do a very good job at paying back their loans.”

Federal Relations has been in the process of breaking down Obama’s “blueprint” for college affordability, as was mentioned in State of the Union address.

Becerra adds that students themselves can make a difference as well.

“I think it’s important that students remain engaged with their elected officials, not only at the federal level, but at the state level,” said Becerra.

“Through their own stories and examples, students can make these issues known to their leaders and Congress.”

University experts believe company will recover

... have lawsuits from only passengers, but crew members as well. Gary Lobaton said he was not made aware of the “dangerous conditions until it was too late to abandon the ship.”

Some passengers were outraged when they were offered compensation and a 30 percent discount on their next trip. They remained firm in their decision carryout their lawsuit with an objective of gaining $12,877, compared to the $14,000 that Costa offered.

Rosemary Ravinal, a graduate from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication’s Marketing program said, “I predict [the incident] will improve their safety standards, because of this hard blow, as with the BP oil spill, they will apply proper crisis management and they will come out stronger.”

“I believe Costa will rebound from this crisis. People have short term memory. So I think within one year's time, this will not be as fresh in memory as it is now,” said Ravinal. “Also, passengers will opt to choose a different vessel.”

Assistant Professor Lynne Farber in the advertising department at the SIMC said, “I believe Costa will rebound from this crisis. People have short term memory. So I think within one year’s time, this will not be as fresh in memory as it is now. I think Costa made a good move by providing compensation and a 30 percent discount. Also, they had officials at the scene within hours.”

Farber, who lectures a crisis management class mentioned, “It was a smart decision for Carnival to differentiate between their many vessels by giving them different names.”
Hilton left behind. As his high school coach will tell you though, it all started at a gymnasium at Northwestern Senior High. Hilliard entered the eighth grade at Northwestern Senior High in Miami, Florida; his plans were not the same as they are now. Having played basketball for his middle school team and travel teams, his main focus was to continue on as a basketball player in high school.

However, when the varsity football head coach, Billy Rolle, approached him about trying out for the football, his plans changed. “He was at a summer basketball camp at the school, and during that time we were doing two-a-days,” explained Rolle. “I asked the junior varsity coach how the team was doing, and he was telling me they were doing good, but they still haven’t found a quarterback yet.”

The same conversation was taking place, Hilliard, who was already six-foot-one, was standing in the lobby of the gymnasium, waiting for the tryouts to begin. “I asked him what position he plays, and he said he play five games on the junior varsity level before moving up to varsity. Once he made it to varsity, for the next three years he sat behind Wayne Times, who was starting quarterback, but now is the starting wide receiver for FIU, and Teddy Bridgewater, who is the quarterback at Louisville.”

In his senior season, he compiled 2,010 on 134-229 passing with six interceptions, while also rushing for 352 yards and six touchdowns. With his acceptance into FIU, he is following in the footsteps of Bridgewater and Jacory Jefferson.

It was Hilton who helped program continue to grow. “I’m just a freshman, 17 years old and trying to lead these guys who are 21 and 22, and it’s kind of hard because they probably might look at me like wait, hold up, I’m older than this guy,” said Hilliard. “But from the attitude these guys have and observing them, it’s like they would accept me in being a leader.”

He has the advantage of being able to begin the
Recruits from Palm Beach hoping to get playing time

Brandon Wise

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Since its inception, the FIU football program has heavily recruited in its own backyard. Miami-Dade County, South Florida is so rich in talent that much of it is just a few miles up the road in Palm Beach County. The region, which includes Broward County, all combines to become one of the most talented areas in the entire country for football and athletics according to many experts.

However, FIU has never really taken advantage of the recruits that live just one hour up the turnpike in Palm Beach. But this year is different. A roster that last year had only four players from the largest county in the state will now see that total double and then some.

Davion Colimon, a safety, from Riviera Beach, Edwards Sineace, an offensive tackle from Palm Beach Gardens and Trenton Saunders, an offensive tackle from Palm Beach will all be a part of the upcoming football roster.

Colimon, a 6-foot-1 inch 190-pound safety, will be joining current Panther freshman walk-on Jeff Fulwood, who played together at Suncoast High school in the secondary. The two are excited to reunite.

“I talked to [Fulwood] and he told me how much he loved the program,” Colimon said. “And after I visited, I knew this was where I wanted to be.”

Fulwood is excited to get his “little brother” back.

“I [Colimon] is just an exciting player. He’s going to make the other safeties better because he’s going to bring competition,” Fulwood said. “Davision is like my little brother out there. I use to coach him up sometime back in high school and it’s going to be like the same thing when he gets here.”

Not only will the defense be getting an upgrade, but the offensive line as well. Trenton Saun-
ders, 6-foot-4 inch 280-pound offensive tackle, will be joining an experienced group up front, where all starters from last season will be returning. That doesn’t phase Saunders though.

“I definitely think that I’m coming in there with a valid chance of taking a job,” Saunders said. “As far as from talking to Coach Mirabal and Coach Cristo-bal, there is not a doubt that I have a shot. They already told me that they are not going to redshirt me, they’re going to bring me in and get me ready to play.”

When decision time came for the soon to be Panther, he had his choices down to FIU, Western Kentucky, Middle Tennessee State, FAU and one other recognizable school that Panther fans remember from this season, Marshall.

“It was one of the things that a lot of guys were asking me during the all-star game, if I was going to decide based off of who won that bowl game,” Saunders said. “I told them it didn’t matter because I was looking at the recruiting class and who was returning for next year, if they played again, FIU would dominate them.”

Saunders is also realistic and knows that wherever school he chose, he was going to make sure it was the one that gave him the most benefits.

“We all know it’s 2012 and you have to use the program because when it comes to colleges, they’re all all about you,” Saunders said.

The two recruits are now joining forces in the attempts to bring one of the most prominent spots on the FIU roster back to Palm Beach.

Hilliard will make his decision on where to play college football in college and what he chooses, he was going to make sure to have the same style that coach Satt had.

E.J.’s father also played foot-
ball at Northwestern and went to play college at Carson-Neu-man College in Tennessee. When he played it was an NCAA school, now it’s division II. He can relate to E.J. about playing football in college and what he needs to do.

“I did it all wrong,” Hilliard Sr. explained. “You got to be disci-plined, you got to be committed, and you got to keep in good communication with your family.

I went up there as a true freshman and it was not what I thought, and it came back to bite me.”

The one area in which Hilliard Sr. explained that he needs more work on is gaining weight. He says that what he’s doing now at FIU is basically the same as what he did in high school, but with just less weight and less repetitions, something he will have to get used to.

“What he also must get accus-tomed to is life on his own in college, compared to the life he had just one month ago. But he is not all alone on campus; he has friends helping him out.

“Wayne Times and Willis Wright both told me they were going to take care of me when I got here,” said Hilliard.

He is also getting help from redshirt sophomore Jake Medlock, who will be competing with Hilliard and three other quarterbacks for the starting spot next year.

Even though Medlock may have the edge in regards to starting, since he has the most game experience, Hilliard says Medlock isn’t trying to hold anything back in teaching him everything he knows.

If Hilliard does get to come into games this season, it will always be in front of his family, who live just 20 minutes away. His mother, Tiandra Richardson, says she is particularly looking forward to the tailgating that will be going on.

Although Hilliard didn’t move too far, he is still gone, and Rich-
ardson is trying to adjust. She says that she typically sends text messages to him daily and tries to call him whenever she knows he’s available.

“I’m here now, and I am trying to get used to having him down at FIU with them. Travas Cope-
land, listed as an athlete, meaning whatever school he chooses will have the choice on what position he will play.

Copeland will make his deci-sion today between FIU and West Virginia University.

Tim Cramsey will be named new offensive coordinator

Hilliard will wear T.Y. Hilton’s jersey number this year

CRISTOBAL, PAGE 1

The Beacon – Wednesday, February 1, 2012 www.fiusm.com

Cristobal has now inter-viewed for two head coaching gigs in just as many months.

“Coach Cristobal is doing a good job of giving us some press time,” said Adrian Jenkins, an FIU recruit, on his Twitter handle.

Jenkins is a wide receiver from Jefferson High School in Tampa, Fla.

Cristobal and Executive Director of Sports and Enter-tainment Pete Garcia could not be reached for comments.

Cristobal will be in his sixth year after coming to FIU in 2007. Four years later, he helped bring the school to two bowl appearances and a share of the Sun Belt Conference title in 2010. He’s 24-38 overall as the head of the program.

One of the biggest accom-plishments Cristobal had at FIU was convincing T.Y. Hilton to stay his senior year in 2011. That year his team had the best record in school history, 8-5, and defeated two BCS schools, Louisville and Central Florida.

FIU will be revealing their 2012 recruiting class on National Signing Day, Feb. 1 at 1 p.m. inside the R. Kirk Landon Fieldhouse near FIU Stadium.

The 2012 recruiting class is also being highlighted by eight three-star recruits according to ESPN, the most that the program has ever had.

NEW OC

According to Saunders, FIU has also found their new offensive coordinator.

Tim Cramsey will replace Scott Satterfield as the head of the Panther offense. Cramsey spent nine seasons at the University of New Hampshire, an FCS school.

His offense ranked second in the Colonial Athletic Associa-
tion in yards per game with 220 yards.

FIU struggled last year while inside the redzone to score touchdowns, at just 48 percent, while New Hampshire scored a touchdown 33 of 58 times in the redzone (56 percent).

The Panthers are still in search for a new tight ends coach and could name a new strength and conditioning coach as early as Feb. 1.
Alumnia’s photography technique sets her apart

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What is art? Is it Monet? Or is it perhaps your four year old sister’s finger painting masterpiece? How about that drawing sketched up by that street urchin you saw last week in the Gables? Whichever answer you chose is the correct answer, for art is highly individualized, according to Lindsay Dye, an FIU alumna.

Camera clutched in hand, Tampa native Dye is always prepared to capture her everyday life. Photography was not always her go-to hobby, however. Painting, drawing and sculpting dominated her early life. It was only in high school when she discovered her own vision and definition of art through photography.

“Since my teen years I relentlessly searched for a medium that was tailored to how I see out of my own eyes. During my senior year of high school, the first photography class I took offered in a makeshift janitor’s closet,” said Dye. “My mother’s clothes, smoking bed, dressing up in their black and white prints of negatives and making informative photographs that also told stories. “The simplest moments became unendearingly striking; my niece in the bathtub, my grandmother drinking a beer, my boyfriend in bed taking off his socks,” said Dye.

The project featured the photos of ten alumni titled Hang Ten. Her works have been featured in the Miami Beach Urban Studio and The Frost Art Museum. Her project “Emra” [bottom] features Dye’s own niece. Her work is also a part of the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum’s permanent collection.

HAUTE TOPIC
Fit trumps trend when dressing for your body type

I t’s hard to come to terms with the fact that the things you’re attracted to aren’t what look best on you. Most of us have to struggle to find clothes in stores that don’t acknowledge our body types at all, which leads to a lot “nothing looks good on me” moments. What is “in” is always cut for thin and tall people, no matter what season it is.

Manufacturers for stores like J. Crew, Urban Outfitters and Zara follow the lead of designers who create clothes for runway models who are chosen essentially for their resemblance to a clothes hanger.

“Since I’ve become completely obsessed with fashion, I’ve always tried to imitate looks that I’ve seen in magazines or online, modeled on women who are ten times thinner and much taller than me. And I’m sure you have too, because it’s what we are surrounded by. It’s no wonder we have such a frustrating time when we go shopping. You should make it a point to start focusing on what’s right for your body type, instead of looking at things that are on trend and basing what you buy off of that,” said Dye.

“Don’t dismiss what’s new and in style all together, but try to pick and choose based off of things that flatter your body type. Short versus mid-length skirts, long versus cropped pants, skinny versus wide-leg. All of these styles of clothing are in right now. But these items will suit some people and look unflattering on others, depending on height and body type.

If you have long legs, don’t cut them short with mid-length skirts or cargo shorts. Try shorter shorts and dresses to show your legs off, or floor length styles to make yourself look taller. Avoid things that work against your body type. If you’re curvy, don’t wear anything loose and baggy like a drop waist dress. By sticking to things that are a closer fit to your body, you can avoid making your body look shapeless. If you’re short, avoid wearing maxi skirts and dresses. The length will only shorten you even more. If you’re tall, don’t wear anything too short. Ultra short lengths will make you look like you’re wearing children’s clothes, because everything will look a little bit shrunken on you.”

Dye’s photographs from her thesis project have been featured in the College of Architecture + the Arts’s Miami Beach Urban Studios at 420 Lincoln Road.

“Grainy, Sh-tty, Acidy.”

Hang Ten.

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This is how Dye developed her undergraduate thesis project, called “Grainy, Sh-tty, Acidy.” These photographs of her friends varied from nightclub and strip clubs, to bathrooms and restaurants.

“Since I discovered my friends, I focused on their disengagement, standing away from the herd, unhappy yet powerful. I was documenting my own niche, my own subculture and began analyzing and archiving,” said Dye.

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SEE DYE, PAGE 6
Imperial Teen stay true to their catch-y-popp sound

Imperial Teen sound is like nothing you’ve ever heard before. It is full of catchy pop hooks, guy-girl harmonies that crash together in perfect union and choruses that permeate through your head even after the song is over. What makes Imperial Teen discernible, besides their long on-and-off history dating back to 1996, is how the group of four are accomplished multi-instrumentalists and how they capture the essence of the ‘70s, ‘80s and today (very much unlike the smooth sounds of your local radio station) into a cohesive pop package that is sweet, slick and satisfying—all while walking the line of contemporary pop and affable indie rock.

Five years after their last LP, “The Hair, The TV, The Baby and The Band; Imperial Teen does not need to worry about trying to revisit their sound for a new score of listeners or be labeled as another timely “reunion” of a band that are of listeners uncomfortable hearing, something that would make most feel “Butch” easier to digest.

This exuberant quality has always remained a main fixture in their music and it has propelled through the entirety of “Feel The Sound.” The references will come pouring in as the 1970s Electric Light Orchestra vibes will assuredly shine through to the listener. Nonetheless, you can draw comparisons to current peers like The New Pornographers or From Barcelo- lona with their slick pop sensibilities. The trepid and stark “Over His Head” runs at a staking pace from the start with spirited vigor as it repeats the chorus “He’s in over his head.”

The slickness in their recording (first time self-produced) maintains itself throughout the album, even in songs like the percolating “Don’t Know How You Do It” and garage rock dead-pan “The Hibernates” and the 1980s new wave liveliness of “Out From Inside.” It’s a hefty album with melodic tendencies that always retain an energetic trait with graceful fluidity.

The somber closer, “Overturn,” finishes with crooning vocals from Bottum and getting female harmo- nies that are driven by a continued march of drums and a rich, reso- nating piano melody. It does not feel like a forced melancholic choice here; it still soars like the most buoyant pop song they could feature on “Feel The Sound.” The only thing that it differs in is tonality.

“Feel The Sound” works as a conduit of pop ramination that contains melodic rhythms that can pull from over three decades’ worth of pop amalgam.

With a sound that feels as fresh as it is timeless, Imperial Teen has amassed a collection of songs with undeniable appeal that you can’t help but feel and enjoy throughout its sweet spin. It would be impossible to be musical caviar.

Imperial Teen’s latest LP is “Feel The Sound.”

Empire State of Mind

Dye captures raw life in photo

DYE, PAGE 5

Dye captured raw life in photo.

Although she has received a lot of positive feedback, she believes it is only natural for her viewers’ feed- back to be both positive and nega- tive, seeing how her photos are only an extension of life. “I think there was a diverse group...that were just plain sad. They emitted an air of unfilled existence in a ‘beautiful suffering’ kind of way,” said Dye.

After graduating from the Univer- sity in 2011 with a BFA in photog- raphy and a minor in Art history, Dye moved to New York City, to work as an intern with Aperture Foundation, a nonprofit that connects the photography community with audiences. She has published articles for their “Exposures” blog. In the future, Dye hopes to work as a publisher or to be an Art Director and has applied to graduate schools nationally.

Aside from her thesis project, Dye has published many of her photos on her personal website and elsewhere. “For maldehyde” is her first photography book, published by Gusto. She also has a lifelong project titled “Emma,” where Dye shoots photos of her niece.

Dye’s vision and life collide in a way that has continuously inspired her work, ensuring that her inspiration will be endless.

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CLASS DISMISSED

Rising tuition a manageable obstacle

I wholeheartedly support University President Mark B. Rosenberg’s lack of enthusiasm toward raising tuition to the national average over the course of three years. In fact, I am downright upset about this prospect. I am one of the thousands of students who currently feel the strain of a reduction in student aid.

With federal aid on the decline and tuition on the rise, it seems as if the acquisition of a debt-free bachelor’s degree is highly unlikely, if not impossible.

Furthermore, many graduate students will now enter their master’s program’s already saddling sizeable debt, which will increase substantially by the time they receive their diploma and I am sure to be among them. If Rep. William Proctor believes that the receiving of federal Pell Grants in addition to Bright Futures Scholarships is nothing more than a “Lexus award,” I imagine that he has yet to take a good look at our student parking lot.

For the vast majority of us, our disbursement refund does not go toward luxury cars or shopping sprees in high-end department stores.

For many of us, this refund is the only financial source we have for housing, gas, food, books and other bills. Even if we have a minimum wage job in addition to our aid, it is often just enough to cover our daily expenses.

With plans to increase our student body and expand the campus with new facilities, our tuition must be raised in order to afford the increased operating costs incurred by this growth.

I imagine that other state universities are following suit with plans to expand and improve their campuses, therefore, as students, we are set to foot the bill.

On a brighter note, federal aid and Bright Futures Scholarships are not the end of our financial aid.

With a little research, we can still seek out additional scholarships and other organizations to help pay for our education.

In fact, it may become a necessity, provided that the aid-to-tuition ratio continues on this trend.

We may also have to change our spending habits by taking lunch instead of eating out, renting or buying used books, carpooling and other money-saving strategies.

As for the University, something tells me that Rosenberg may have a plan in place to help students.

Perhaps an aggressive grant-seeking plan is in the works so benefactors will donate funds to help finance the University’s expansion and generate new scholarship opportunities.

Whatever they decide to do, I’m sure that students will welcome the solution.

As scary as this may sound, we cannot panic. Yes, it will be more expensive to acquire a college education, and yes there will be an increase in student debt.

However, I have faith that with a few personal changes and with some new strategies on the part of the University, the rise in tuition will not be a complete crisis, but simply an obstacle that can and will be managed.

“Class Dismissed” is a biweekly column critiquing education in America. Email jasmyn.elliott@fiusm.com.

Petition filed to review budget process

The President of the Coalition of Students for Reform filed a petition for a legal review before the Student Government Council – Modesto A. Maidique Campus Supreme Court, challenging the standing budget process which enables members of the Executive and Legislative branches to draft, allocate and approve the budget for the whole Activity & Service Fee fund.

The hearing for this petition was held January 27, 2012 at 6:00pm in the Rafael Diaz-Balart Hall room RDB 1000.

“After analyzing Florida State Statutes, we discovered that as mandated by the State Legislature, the legislative body of SGA should be the one approving and allocating the entire budget, not just ¼ of the funds as it is now,” said William-Jose Velez, president of CSR. “We understand the current process to be unlawful and non-compliant with the intent of the state government as to how the A&S fee funds should be allocated.

In question is whether the University-Wide Budget Committee, composed of both campuses Presidents, Vice Presidents, Speakers, Pro Tempore, and Comptrollers, as well as the Campus-Specific Budget Committees (each one for each campus, composed of the respective officials named above) have the authority along with the University-Wide Council to approve and allocated the funds, instead of the two campus Senate.

CSR’s position is that this responsibility, should and does fall under the Senate for each campus, for their respective budgets, and under both Senate together as the SGA Congress for university-wide line items. “Not only do we believe it appropriate for the directly elected representatives of the students to have a say in the entire budget, but ultimately it is the state law” said Velez.

The MMC Supreme Court heard arguments from Velez, and from SGC-MM Attorney General Phillip Colesanti, who responded the petition on behalf of the SGC-MM arguing for the legality of the process.

CSR understands the government’s position to be erroneous, and based solely on an unlawful precedent.

Within 10 business days of the hearing, a written opinion shall be disclosed by the court with their decision on this case designated Ex Parte Velez SC 001 (Spring 2012).

Upon the publication of the court decision, CSR will deliver a response, expecting the court to side with the petitioner’s argument that the current budget process is indeed unlawful.

The FIU Coalition of Students for Reform is a student political party founded in 2008, which aims for a more transparent, accessible and efficient student government.

William-Jose Velez
Coalition of Students for Reform
Tourism

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On Jan. 13, the Costa Concordia capsized off the coast of the Tuscan island of Giglio, Italy. After a series of investigations, it was revealed that Francesco Schettino, the captain, steered the ship too close to the island and as a result, 18 passengers have been reported dead, and 24 are still missing.

Costa Concordia is part of the Costa Cruises fleet, a subsidiary of the Carnival Cruise line.

Carnival’s CEO Gerard R. Cahill sponsored the University’s Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. "We want to stay in the loop," he added. "Carnival is to go toward scholarships, grants, student teaching and even a new and enhanced student center that was completed last March. The Dean of the CSHTM, Mike Hampton said, "This inci- dent will not affect the CSHTM financially; seeing that Carnival has adequate insurance to tend to this matter."

Keith A. Alexander, director of Budget & Human Resources at the CSHTM said, "As far as we know, there will be no effects. Carnival would have to inform us if there are any, but they have not.

So far, neither Carnival nor Costa Concordia have given any statements about financial troubles; the Italian company that owns the Costa Concordia cruise ship offered to compen-sate passengers in the amount of $14,000 each. The company will also compensate for the cost of the cruise, medical and transport expenditure. With regards to Costa’s image and reputation, there is no exception. Having no Internal Audit (IA) department in line with the Student Government Association constituting University wide and campus specific statutes, there are four other committees within SGC- BBC that have different purposes.

Finance, for instance, reviews whether a project and/or event would be funded or not; Student Advocacy, which basically acts as the mediator between the Senate and the students, makes sure that students’ concerns are being heard. Rules, Legislation and Judiciary makes sure all legal documents are grammatically correct and it makes the linkage between the legislative and Judicial branch of SGC- BBC; Operational Review, looks over all the expenditures, and that the money is being productively spent.

Even though, all these committees are separate, “every person from each one of them is part of the Senate, so they all know and were part of the impeachment trial,” said Haspel. “The judiciary section was missing, and the election code was an embarrassment.”

They also wanted the BBC statutes to be in line with the Modesto Maidique Campus’ statutes, especially when it came to the election’s code.

According to Haspel, the Senate currently has its hands full with new projects and resolutions. One of them is the creation of the Green Fee Committee, which is going to be led by Kevin Houston, School of Journalism and Mass Communications Senator.

The Green Fee Committee is responsible for finding out what students think of adding a Green Fee into tuition. The money will serve to implement environmental changes around campus. "If you are opposed [to the fee], you can speak up and let us know," Houston said. "The mission is to get every one’s perspective on the subject before it is put to referendum.”

Student Government

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2012 is a new year and there-fore a new beginning for everyone, and the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus is no exception. Having no Internal Affairs Chair or Rules, Legislation and Judi-ciciary, which basically acts as the mediator between the Senate and the students, makes sure that students’ concerns are being heard. Rules, Legislation and Judiciary makes sure all legal documents are grammati-cally correct and it makes the linkage between the legisla-tive and Judicial branch of SGC- BBC; Operational Review, looks over all the expenditures, and that the money is being productively spent.

Even though, all these committees are separate, “every person from each one of them is part of the Senate, so they all know and were part of the impeachment trial,” said Haspel. “We are pretty well represented; even though we might not have all the votes, we were the necessary time to do their jobs.

All these alterations made it difficult for the IA to comply with their task, especially at the time when the impeachment charges were brought up against SGC- BBC President Denise Haspel last semester. The reason why their voice wasn’t present during the impeachment period, according to Haspel, was because Yamini, who was the IA chair at the time, was in the process of resigning for personal reasons.

Aside from the IA, whose duty is to make sure the Council is in line with the Student Government Association constituting University wide and campus specific statutes, there are four other committees within SGC- BBC that have different purposes.

Finance, for instance, reviews whether a project and/or event would be funded or not; Student Advocacy, which basically acts as the mediator between the Senate and the students, makes sure that students’ concerns are being heard. Rules, Legislation and Judiciary makes sure all legal documents are grammatically correct and it makes the linkage between the legislative and Judicial branch of SGC- BBC; Operational Review, looks over all the expenditures, and that the money is being productively spent.

Even though, all these committees are separate, “every person from each one of them is part of the Senate, so they all know and were part of the impeachment trial,” said Haspel. “We are pretty well represented; even though we might not have all the positions filled, we at least have one person representing all the schools on campus,” Haspel said.

Nominations are going to be opened next week for all positions. Along trying to fill the respec-tive Senate committees with the necessary amount of representa-tives, there have also been some other changes within the council. “Last year I noticed the statutes were really embarrassing. When I became speaker, I decided to make one of our missions to fix the stat-u-tes,” Haspel said. “The statutes had a lot of grammatical errors and we had to make sure they were written correctly.”

“The judiciary section was missing, and the election code was an embarrassment.”

They also wanted the BBC statutes to be in line with the Modesto Maidique Campus’ statutes, especially when it came to the elec-tion’s code.

According to Haspel, the Senate currently has its hands full with new projects and resolutions. One of them is the creation of the Green Fee Committee, which is going to be led by Kevin Houston, School of Journalism and Mass Communications Senator.

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Two piece bands get the crowd going

In a hot and humid night Revolution Live in Fort Lauderdale on Jan. 28, The Kills, with support from Hunters and Jeff the Brother-hood, performed to a rabid audi-ence of over five hundred fans. The small capacity crowd was treated to a night of loud, unfiltered rock “a roll by every band performing, led by the Kills’ 19 song set.

The festivities began before doors actually opened, as Palm-Beach art rockers LAVOLA did a 30-minute set outside the venue. The group led bystanders through a trip of gut-wrenching guitar riffs and ear-drilling screams, which definitely set the tone for the evening.

As soon as the concertgoers were let inside the venue, it was time for Hunters to provide entertainment, and they did not disappoint. They didn’t play any memorable tunes, but instead they relied on cliché “indie” rock riffs and lovey-dovey vocals. The Brooklyn-based four piece mainly played songs from their debut EP, “Hands on Fire.”

Next up were brothers Jamin and Jake Orrall of Jeff the Broth-erhood and they started off firing in all cylinders, playing songs off of their latest record, “We Are the Champions.”

Three songs into their set, the only mosh pit of the night started and soon enough, a fight between audience members broke out. The band stopped playing “Heavy Day” and waited about minute to resume their set.

While the boys from Nashville continued and showed off the quality of their songs, they lost a lot of steam as many members of the audience were instead looking on as security removed several teenagers involved in the fight.

The brothers finished with an explosive version of “Ripper” which saw guitarist Jake climb onto the stage and play the opening notes to the song on top of the bar table at Revolution Live. The song segued into a slow 70’s blues jam, which began to drag after a minute or so, this

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