SMOKING BAN

Still ‘no official enforcement plan as of yet’

NICOLAS SARAVIA
Staff Writer
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It has been over a year since the University implemented its policy banning the use of tobacco products on all campuses.

However, formal sanctions for the regulation have yet to be settled on.

“There is no official enforcement plan as of yet,” said Mariela Gabaroni, assistant director of University Health Services.

The ban became effective on Jan. 1 last year, after the University’s Board of Trustees approved the prohibition of the use of all tobacco-related products on Sept. 24, 2010.

FIU is the first institution in South Florida to be completely smoke free.

“It is an ongoing process because we are changing a culture,” Gabaroni said.

“Students are going up to other students asking them to stop (smoking on campus) and people are respectful when asked politely.”

Gabaroni was the chair of the steering committee that was created to educate the University community about the new regulation being implemented and to further communicate the resources available to students, faculty and staff.

Originally intended to last an initial six months, social enforcement or community members calling upon others to follow regulations, is still the University’s chosen method of dealing with the issue.

Those found smoking are asked to stop and palm cards with pertinent information on why the University has gone tobacco and smoke free are supposed to be offered for distribution.

Student opinions are divided on the method of enforcement.

“I think [social enforcement] is ok. Smoking is a big problem in public areas,” said Ging Ting, a hospitality freshman.

“I think it is good to suggest to people to stop smoking on campus,” said Qing Ting, a hospitality freshman.

However, some think that the suggestion is not enough.

“Social enforcement is not going to work. I don’t think it’s effective because people have their opinions engraved,” said Anthony Becerra, a hospitality senior.

According to students, smoking still occurs on campus.

“(Students) smoke a lot less since the no-smoking signs were put up. I was a little surprised because they are college kids, but I still see custodians smoking,” said Carmen Mulet, a junior chemistry major.

“The ban on smoking on campus is like making an illegal left turn at an intersection, everyone does it anyway and it’s not enforced,” said Luis Herrera, a senior psychology major.

“I see friends of mine smoking right outside of class all the time.”

The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution refused to comment on the repercussions of continuous offenses.

The ban includes areas in the proximity of University housing residences.

“Housing areas have always been smoke free,” said Joe Haefelt, assistant director of housing and residential life.

However, if smoking occurs outside the residences, “students are held accountable and are encouraged to put [their cigarettes] down,”

University Health Services continues to provide on-campus sessions and consultations for students who want to quit smoking.

They also offer resources online through the Tobacco Green Report Card.

PRESIDENTIAL AIR WAVES

Student population growth a big part of University expansion plan

REBECCA BURTON
Contributing Writer
news@fiu.com

When Mark Rosenberg became University president in 2009, he had a vision that aimed at improving the University’s financial and academic standing.

Douglas Wartzok, University provost, along with collaborators, faculty and staff helped transform Rosenberg’s goal into the 2010-2015 Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan.

One of the main parts of the Worlds Ahead plan, expanding FIU’s financial base, included steps to add an additional 2,000 students per year until the year 2015.

As students are trying to find parking spots or waiting in long lines for food, Rosenberg said adding the new students will gradually fix these problems.

“We’ve been suffering from budget deficiencies and budget insecurities,” Rosenberg said in an interview.

New students would help transform our budget and give us an ability to add more teachers, classes and advisors.

Mark Rosenberg, President
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Whitney Smith, an alum, thinks adding new students would hurt, not help, the University’s reputation.

“Typically a school is better if not everyone can get in.”

Rosenberg disagrees and believes expansion is what is needed to advance the name and quality of FIU.

“Graduation and retention rates are what’s important,” he said. He also emphasized all of the students would be “academically qualified.”

“The areas of focus for the next several years—arts, environment, globalization and health—are based on institutional strengths that form the groundwork for future innovation, economic development and job creation in our region,” Rosenberg stated in a letter to the University, preceding the Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan.

Rosenberg’s plan started with a strategy he proposed called “Hit the Ground Running,” and credits his 35 years of experience in higher education.

The main goal of this preliminary plan was to create a “leading student-centered urban public research university that is locally and globally engaged.”

Based on Rosenberg’s vision, Wartzok helped frame the Worlds Ahead plan.

“The University has identified four strategic themes [arts, environment, global, and health] and three University-wide strategic foundations [finance, infrastructure, and student success],” Wartzok said.

ENROLLMENT

Student population growth a big part of University expansion plan

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SEE GROWTH, PAGE 2
Police: Bicyclist struck by car, falls into river

Police say a bicyclist has died in southwest Florida after being struck by a car and falling from a bridge into a river.

Palmetto Police say 44-year-old Adon Newsome of Bradenton was riding across the DeSoto Bridge early Sunday when he was struck by a car. He fell into the Manatee River.

Police tell the Sarasota Herald-Tribune the driver stopped then drove to a nearby hospital to report the accident.

Stopping then drove to a nearby hospital to report the accident. He fell into the Manatee River.

The crash remains under investigation.

LOCAL

Infant killed after shots fired into Detroit home

Authorities say a 9-month-old boy was killed when shots were fired into a Detroit home early Monday.

Detroit Police Sgt. Gary Diaz says the infant was pronounced dead at a hospital, not long after the 4:30 a.m. incident.

Diaz says shell casings have been found outside the home, and the shots could have been fired from a moving car. A witness told investigators a car sped away after the shooting.

No arrests have been made. Police have not elaborated further on the circumstances surrounding the shooting.

WORLD

Al-Qaida in Yemen confirms senior leader’s death

Yemen’s branch of al-Qaida has confirmed the death of a senior leader, who officials say died in a bloody family feud.

A statement posted on a militant website by Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula on Monday said that government agents “motivated by the hireling regime in Sanaa” were responsible for the death of “our comrade,” Tariq al-Dahab.

It did not comment beyond that on claims by officials and tribal leaders that al-Dahab had been slain Thursday in the same village in southern Yemen by his half brother Hizam. Hizam and 15 others were then reported to have been killed by Dahab’s followers.

The clashes came days before Feb. 21 elections to approve a new leader to replace President Ali Abdullah Saleh. A year-long uprising has sought to topple the regime in Sanaa. “We can afford to add more students’

said in a letter to the University community. "The foundations assure our ability to advance our teaching, research and engagement mission within each of these strategic themes."

Rosenberg said the financial stability would come mainly from tuition payments from more students. Infrastructure would include new construction on both campuses to house the new students, and student success

would come from an influx of new advisers. He also hopes to make advising a more “intrusive” process in which advisers would help students decide their major early on.

“This process is called major mapping,” Rosenberg said. “It would give students more thoughtful guidance.”

He also said he understands that making classes at times they are available to take them.

EMANUELA MOLIN

The body also added an amendment from Delegate John Bohanan, a Democrat who previously opposed the measure in order to have enough

The plan, in theory, would add approximately 1,000 new students per year to MMC’s 500 to BCC, and about 500 new graduate and e-learning students. The main goal after the 5-year plan would be to have a total of 20,000 new students by 2020.

“We can expand BCC until we get a new entrance,” Rosenberg said. “My two kids graduated from FIU and had similar types of challenges. What we find is, given our complex workload, we have to provide classes day and night at both campuses. If more students were in the university in a huge market

time to secure votes. The most populous state and services and the University can provide more. The University will need to add more profess-

ors, but the plan shows that the measure in order to have enough time to secure votes.”

GROWTH, PAGE 1

"We can afford to add more students’

“We should not use brute force to set a wall around schools.

We teach about gay marriage in public schools.

The body also added an amendment from Delegate John Bohanan, a Democrat who previously opposed the measure in order to have enough

next up is the Senate, which handled a similar bill last year. Gov. Martin O’Malley sponsored the bill and has pushed for gay marriage to be legalized.

An amendment from Delegate Tiffany Alston, a Prince George’s Democrat who previously opposed the bill, was accepted by the members, a move opponents suggested secured her vote. It would keep the law from going into effect until any litigation related to a potential voters’ referendum on the measure is processed.

The body also added an amend-

ment Thursday evening, altering the effective date from October to January 2013.

Delegate Wade Kach, a Republic-

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Panthers go undefeated in Blue and Gold Felsberg Memorial

ANTHONY GUIVAS
Staff Writer
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The Panthers scored a total of 40 runs during the tournament en route capturing the Blue and Gold Felsberg Memorial title.

FIU opened up the scoring in the first with an unearned run. But things really began to pick up for the Panthers in the second inning when the Panthers posted up three runs to give FIU a 4-0 lead.

In the fifth inning, Beth Peller came up and singled up the middle with the bases loaded, driving in two, ramping up FIU’s lead to 6-0.

FIU tacked on two more runs on errors to force the mercy rule in the fifth.

FIU 3, SOUTH CAROLINA 1

FIU’s Dawson pitched a gem on Feb. 18, throwing her fourth complete game of the year, limiting the Gamecocks to two hits in their victory.

“My mindset tonight was to come in stronger as a pitcher and really let my defense work behind me,” Dawson said. “Mixing it up, the ladder going up, going down, side to side and throwing off-speed. So just working the pitches really good.”

Junior Alex Casals got the win.

See FELSBERG, Page 4

Temper flare as FIU enters its final stretch of season

MALCOLM SHIELDS
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Mired by a four-game losing streak, the Panthers return home to U.S. Century Bank Arena to conclude their regular season schedule with contests against Troy on Feb. 23 and South Alabama on Feb. 25. Although playing at home has been everything but an advantage for the Panthers this season, the Panthers have defeated both Troy and South Alabama in conference play.

FIU enters the game with a 1-8 record at home. With the regular season coming to a close, the Panthers must find a way to right themselves before the conference tournament.

“We don’t have no other choice,” Dominique Ferguson said. “[We] have to bounce back.”

In the Panthers’ first meeting against Troy (8-17, 3-11 SBC) on Feb. 2, FIU relied on a 17-5 run in the second half to defeat the Trojans 63-50. The catalyst for that run was guard DeJuan Wright, who scored seven of the Panthers’ 17 points in that game-defining run. Defensively the Panthers held Troy’s leading scorer, Will Weathers, to three points in the game. Wright finished the game with 18 points and 13 rebounds in the first meeting.

Since losing to FIU, the Trojans have dropped three of their last four games.

The Panthers scored a total of 40 runs during the tournament en route capturing the Blue and Gold Felsberg Memorial title.

In college basketball, the penalty of a technical foul and ejection is assessed if contact is made with an official.

“An attempt was made to appeal Thomas’ one game suspension to the Sun Belt Conference but the ruling was upheld, forcing Thomas to miss the Arkansas State game on Feb. 18,” coach Jake Schumann said.

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See FELSBERG, Page 4

See MEN’S, Page 4
FIU (0-3) suffered a sweep at the hands of the Owls (3-0) in their season opener, scoring the first only once in all three games.

RICE 6, FIU 2

An almost three-hour rain delay washed away FIU’s offense in its season opener as the team fell 6-2 against the number six ranked team in the country.

The Panthers and the Rice University Owls both had seven hits in the game, but the Owls made theirs count.

Despite a solid performance on the mound by R.J. Londont, the senior, the Owls were held scoreless just five innings off Fondon. Rice was back at it in the very next inning, pushing across two more runs to show FIU into a three-run hole.

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A bases-loaded, no-out situation in the top of the seventh inning was the Owls’ best chance to either tie the game or take the lead.

After junior Adam Kissick struck out FIU’s third baseman committed a fielding error that allowed Shantz to score the first of FIU’s two runs on the game. Now with the bases loaded and one out, David Vazquez hit a groundball for a double play, ending the inning and shifting the momentum back to Rice.

The Owls drowned the Panthers’ hope of battling back after a three-run homerun by Shane Hoechler off redshirt sophomore Eddy Pidermann put FIU at a five-run deficit.

The Panthers could not respond to the Owls, scratching through only one run on Kirsch’s RBI single in the top of the eighth inning.

Rice snipped its two-year, opening day losing streak and subsequently extended FIU to a second consecutive year.

RICE 5, FIU 4 (F/12)

In baseball, the saying, “you have to have a short-term memory,” is a frequently cited one, usually following a loss. For FIU, it is going to be tough to forget this one. FIU dropped a 12-inning affair against Rice in which they blew their lead in the ninth and eventually gave up a walk-off homerun to Kasey.4.

Making only his second career start, left-hander Mason McVay allowed only three hits in 5 2/3 innings, but walked five Owls while striking out one.

Junior Jabari Henry enjoyed a three-for-six night with the first FIU home run of the season and a pair of runs and RBIs.

Junior Nathan Burns had three hits, including a triple, and freshman Julian Gaines recorded his first two hits of his collegiate career, two doubles.

The first seven innings were a pitching duel. A third-inning sacrifice fly by Rice gave them a 1-0 lead, but it remained scoreless until FIU tied the match when Henry scored on a wild pitch.

Senior right-hander Christian Marbrough surrendered two runs in the bottom of the frame, and the Panthers headed into the top of the ninth in a 1-1 hole.

The Panthers, however, refused to head back into the clubhouse with an “L” hanging over their heads.

After junior Rody Flores hit an RBI single to score senior Pablo Bermudez, Henry smashed a two-out, two-strike homerun to take a 4-3 lead.

Junior Michael Gomez, the team’s closer, could not get three outs and give FIU its first career win against Rice. After waking the batter, Jeremy Rathjen hit an infield single to tie the game and keep the Owls’ hopes alive.

In the bottom of the 12th inning, redshirt sophomore Albert Cardenas allowed Rathjen to become the hero again, surrendering the game-winning homerun to the Rice outfielder and sending the Owls home as winners.

When dealing with Rice, the Panthers simply bit off more than they could chew.

RICE 8, FIU 1

Sunday afternoon’s game at Reck- Ring Park was the complete opposite of Saturday’s. Where as only one run was scored in the first seven innings on Saturday, five were scored in the first inning on Sunday. Unfortunately for FIU, all the score’s, as FIU could not overcome the blow and dropped the match 8-1.

Freshman right-hander Jose Lazaro had a rude introduction to Division I baseball, as the Rice hitters knocked him around hard in the first inning. Recording only two outs in his start, Lazaro gave up two hits, five walks and hit two batters, leading to the five earned runs.

Sophomore Mike Ellis was called in relief and surrendered only one run in 5 1/3 and striking out three. The damage, however, had been done. No Panther had more than one hit, and junior Rody Flores had the team’s lone RBI.

The Owls exploded in the first inning after a bases-clearing double by Craig Manuel, RBI single and a bases loaded walk to give them a 5-0 lead.

After freshman Julian Gaines led off the third inning with a single, Flores drove him home with a two-out single. The Rice pitching staff silenced the Panther bats afterwards, allowing only three hits. The Owls tacked on three more runs as the game progressed, eventually earning the sweep.

The Owls are 2-2 for the season thus far with a weekend sweep against the Owls. The Owls are now 3-0 for the season and are ranked in the top 10 in the country.

The Owls sweep by No. 6 Rice in opening weekend

EDUARDO ALMAQUER  Staff Writer eduardo.almaguer@fiusm.com

FIU looking for second win at home this year

FELSBERG, PAGE 3

the ball rolling, getting on base via an error and later on moved to second on a fielders choice by Megan Horne who reached safely on the play.

McClain would then step to the plate and single to load up the bases.

Center fielder Peller then delivered the first run of the game in the third inning with an RBI groundout. Shelby Gragg was followed with an RBI single.

The last run came in when South Carolina’s left fielder had trouble scooping up the ball, hiking up FIU’s lead to 3-0. The Panthers did not look back.

“I think we played a pretty solid weekend so far. Solid defense, solid pitching, solid hitting and I think we have put every-thing together the last four games. You go 4-0 when you play that way,” Schumann said.

FIU 21, VILLANOVA 2 (F/5)

After reaching the 500 plateau with a win against South Carolina, it didn’t take long for FIU to add yet another win as they beat Villanova with a school-record 21 runs in five innings.

The Owls offense came alive in the ballgame with two eye-popping 10 run innings, adding another school record to a historic night of softball on Feb. 18.

Kayla Burri, who homered, led the way for FIU, going 4-4 and driving in four runs for the Panthers. And via the mercy rule, the game concluded in the fifth by a score of 21-2.

FIU 3, JACKSONVILLE 1

The streaking Panthers continued on their winning ways on Feb. 19 against Jacksonville.

The Panthers started off with two quick runs in the first frame. McClain and Peller both advanced on a Brie Rojas groundout that then led to Shelby Graves’ deep fly. McClain tagged home.

FIU would tally up another run on a single by Burri, extending their lead to a quick 2-0.

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FELSBERG, PAGE 3

because of his ejection for two technical fouls against Arkansas State, freshman guard Deric Hill will be the probable starter in place of Taylor. Although not the scorer that Taylor is, coach Thomas has credited Hill for his ability to be a facilitating point guard when called into action.

“he moves the team,” Thomas said after the Feb. 11 game against Denver. Hill’s first start of the season against UALR. In 32 minutes, Hill scored four points and registered two assists against the Trojans.

FIU looks for second win at home this year

MEN’S, PAGE 1

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The Department of Theatre is not the only department that puts on a display of plays. The Women’s Studies Student Association at the University is hosting their annual show this month, “The Vagina Monologues,” as they have been for more than five years.

With a title like that, one would think that it is an event that is intended for women only. Yes, and no. Female students from any department of the University perform the intimate experiences and feelings they have had with their vaginas. These experiences can include rape, sex, birth, or vaginas. Roughly each year, the campaign focuses on women of a particular region. The women of Haiti have been the focus both this year and last year. City of Joy, a shelter in Haiti that was funded by WSSA also has donated to this month’s V-Day show this year and last year.

This year, the plan worked. The V-Day became the result, a campaign between February and April which calls attention to this taboo subject that has to do with women’s sexual organs. One of the women in charge of this project is recent graduate Lupe Juarez, who graduated with a women’s studies degree in December. During the V-Day season, WSSA becomes busier than ever.

“Within that time frame, colleges and universities have to host their event. Each year, we have decided to host ‘The Vagina Monologues.’ It has been very impacting,” said Juarez. Juarez, who graduated with a women’s studies degree in December. During the V-Day season, WSSA becomes busier than ever.

“Within that time frame, colleges and universities have to host their event. Each year, we have decided to host ‘The Vagina Monologues.’ It has been very impacting,” said Juarez. The plan worked. The girls warmed up to their home, and began attending school again.

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With the amount of purpose and intrigue behind “The Vagina Monologues,” WSSA can provide audiences with the art of theater, with undertones of social and political impact.

**NYFW: designers revive trends from previous season**

Another New York fashion week has come and gone, and my color palette has hurt from clicking through all the shows on Style.com.

Every thing was beautiful and inspirational, save for the witch shoes and funky hats of Marc Jacobs.

The funny thing about his collection was that the clothes were breathtaking but the accessories were horrible. Maybe Jacobs was making some sort of commentary about how designers make their accessories the high point of their designs instead of focusing on the garments.

Once upon a time, accessories were mere afterthoughts, but with the explosion of street-style fashion on the Internet, images of shoes and bags permeate more quickly and become easier to identify, and therefore, make tons of dough for designers. While browsing through the runway shows and presentations for next fall, I noticed something very peculiar: color was everywhere. Bright oranges and reds popped up all over town, making the neon trend that still continues more accessible for the wearer.

Longer hems, especially pencil-skirt length, dominated almost everywhere. Fashion is not ready for us to bare our legs yet, which will take some adjusting to for those of us who live in warmer climates. Marchesa and Marc Jacobs showed many colors and infused textured damask and paisley prints that look wonderful when contrasted with darker-colored knits.

Band of Outsiders and J. Crew Collection also showed printed pants in plaid, polka dots and paisley, and paired them with fun, bright-colored jackets.

Oversized jackets and tops are still big at Band of Outsiders, meaning you can keep your Forever 21 blazers in rotation for another year.

I know many of you are probably sick of stripes by now, but do not write them off just yet. Stripes in various widths and colors are still in, especially on pants. You can “do it your self” by sewing craft ribbon in bright colors on
**RADIATE REVIEWS**

**Sleigh Bells’ new effort flops**

Sleigh Bells’ sound is very peculiar. The combination of heavy guitar riffs and sweet pop vocals allow for a juxtaposition of elements that would normally clash and make for an unpleasant experience, yet still pay off and deliver a pleasant surprise, much like a Sour Patch Kid.

Yet, despite these contrasting elements in their sound, their first album, “Treats,” was a success, attracting both indie tastes with its image and the mainstream public with its catchy, borderline jock jam songs that resemble football arena chants more than overwrought melodies.

It was easy to hop on the bandwagon and have a good time with the tunes, as the simplicity yielded the lyrics inherently demand for the listener to have fun.

“Reign of Terror,” their second effort, places a certain dilemma for the band: maintain the same sound and face the risk of seeming dated, or depart from their initial image, become more ambitious, and seek greater artistic payoff?

In general, while there are minor changes to the approach of the songs, which have richer sounds and heavier layers and instrumentation thanks to changes to the approach of the songs, their initial image, become more ambi-

The contrast in sounds and vocals that became Sleigh Bells’ claim to fame is tough to replicate.

It requires a great level of precision and production in order to make this particular style accessible to the public, yet displaying raw power and emotion in a controlled manner, an orderly chaos that proved hard to reproduce, even for its own authors, as it happens in this second album.

What once seemed exciting and energetic seems simply disorganized and dull—a messy injection of layer upon layer of sound, often disjointed just for its own sake, with no real sense of purpose.

This absence of sonic unity, in turn, leads to disinterest on the part of the listener, something that may not necessarily be considered a negative, as the album blows through in a rather brief 36 minutes.

The album lacks any catchy, easy sing-along tracks like “Bill Rill,” the closest to this being “Comeback Kid,” which has overcomplicated synth, drum machine percussion and metal riffs, and sounds more like an amateur mixture of Cradle of Filth, Maria Carey and southern hip-hop amateur mixture of Cradle of Filth, Maria Carey and southern hip-hop.

While, indeed, the lyrics have taken a more complex turn, one is not really expecting epic stories or a much deeper personal songbook, considering the starting point contained tracks such as “AB Machines,” which was nothing more than two verses repeated over and over again.

Musically, the tracks contain a much higher level of production, but it’s certain sound speaks badly for the work done. All charm gone, it truly is tragic to see a band often described as “mindless yet fun music” has a total absence of fun.

The crown is on the ground, but it is not a certain thing if anyone will pick it up if you were born to lose.

**NYFW, PAGE 5**

The side seams of jeans, shorts or trousers

While most of the above have been done before, albeit not without twists here and there, there were a few completely new ideas.

Alexander Wang introduced a lot of textured leather in various colors, as well as 3.1 Phillip Lim with a suede-green leather jacket that I cannot get out of my head. Lim also presented subtle bell sleeves on sweaters and jackets that surprisingly do not look like costumes.

Metallic accents in unlikely colors, like green and orange, were all over Rag and Bone and Thakuresh’s Theory in the form of military jackets and boleros. My absolute favorite looks were by Derek Lam and Victoria Beckham. Lam’s inverted lace prints were to die for, but I mostly fell in love with his all-white ensembles.

The contrast of cozy knits with sheer, long skirts in creme and white is easily replicable and totally chic.

Beckham’s collection was all body-conscious dresses with either a short voluminous skirt or a long straight skirt.

What I love about her collection is the simplicity of the lines and the bold colors, allowing you to picture your self-wearing it all as you see it in an image.

There are six months between now and when these collections hit stores, which is a span of the fashion industry, but it does give me the time to think about what I will really want to be wearing next year.

**Haute Topic is a weekly fashion column. Look for it every Wednesday this spring. Email her at extra.erdogan@fiu.com.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY**

**22**

**SGA APPLICATIONS ARE DUE**

**WHEN:** 5 p.m.

**23**

**FIU SCHOOL OF MuSIC DEPARTMENTAL RECEPTION**

**WHEN:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.

**HOW MUCH:** Free and open to the public

**WHERE:** MMC SICA 125

**TARGET WEDNESDAY AFTER HOURS**

**WHEN:** 6-9 p.m.

**HOW MUCH:** Free

**WHERE:** The Frost Art Museum

**MEET WITH A PROFESSIONAL MBA ADVISER**

**WHEN:** 3-5 p.m.

**HOW MUCH:** Free

**WHERE:** MMC CBC 200

**THURSDAY**

**FALLOUT**

**WHEN:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** MMC GC 316

**TO HAVE YOUR EVENT FEATURED EMAIL: CALENDAR@FIU.COM**

**LOCAL ARTISTS GIVE FUN PERFORMANCE**

**ARBOLES, PAGE 8**

Even Miami blues-man, Jessie Jackson looked as if he had fallen over head eats for this seven piece.

And then, cue Arboles Libres.

It’s pretty difficult followup the type of performance that Ketchy Shuby put on, and even for a seasoned act like Arboles Libres, a bit of excitement that had the crowd bouncing around like preschoolers on-trampoline was lost by the guitar driven three-piece.

Fortunately, the crowd was loaded enough to go from ballroom salsa dancing to a belligerent sway.

Consisting of two guitars and a drum set, Arboles’ driving force is the strength of their guitars an their ability to make even the sternest of the rock gods shed a tear of joy while the guitarists had more shredding going on then an Eireon accounting department circa 2001.**

**FALL TIPS**

**BUY:** Bell sleeves, white jeans, prints

**KEEP:** Colorful pants, oversized blazers

**TOSS:** Black
Students become increasingly indebted to their college or university by borrowing loans to advance in their studies, unaware that they may not find job with a salary adequate enough to pay that debt in a timely manner. According to an article published on Feb. 1 by Julia Debh for FIU Student Media on the subject of Pell Grant summer term cancellation, “The amount of money University students owe after graduation is approximately $7,000 below the national average.” This is still a large enough sum that some students will eventually need to deal with all because of this idea of wanting to graduate early. Delaying one’s graduation date continues to receive a bad reputation despite the opportunities of being debtless as well as the additional time that can be used to gain the necessary experience for their field. Although the University requires summer term credits in order to graduate, it is understandable when some students resort to loans for a term in which some aid might be limited, especially now that the Pell Grant has been cancelled for summer terms. I advise you to take classes during fall or spring, which are the semesters when students are eligible to receive a Pell Grant. Limiting the borrowing of loans during fall and spring terms is trickier, though, because some aid, such as Bright Futures, require students to take a certain number of credits to maintain their aid. This means students cannot necessarily decrease the number of courses they are taking for the sake of being debtless, even though their aid might not fully cover tuition without loans. Still, students should take the opportunity of remaining as debt free as possible, even if it means delaying their graduation date. According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey of 2009-2010, unemployment rates for some majors, such as engineering, business, law, and psychology, were all within the range of six to 15 percent for recent college graduates. In contrast, most unemployment rates significantly dropped to the three to six percent range the more experienced the college graduate was. Besides being in debt, students could also be incapable of paying their debt if their rushed degree does not lead them to the career with the necessary salary to start paying it off. As mentioned in an article published on Jan. 12 by Paolo Ramos for FIU Student Media on the subject of a stable employment, “The unemployment rate for college graduates is at an all-time high of 5.1 percent.” Employers are seeking applicants with experience rather than those having only the degree itself. Instead of looking at delaying graduation in a bad light, students should see it as more time to further prepare themselves for their field. It is not enough to simply attend class. Student should instead use the time presented to seek experience wherever they can find it. Furthermore, opportunities for experience is one thing our University does not lack. As stated by Ramos, “The University offers career services that introduces students to important aspects of the professional world, offering networking opportunities and provide consultations with those already employed in various industries.” In conclusion, Ramos stated that “Many departments and organizations within the school also have connections with internships that students should take advantage of to get a head start in their careers.” The possibility of being debtless and the opportunity of gaining experience in their fields with the time presented should encourage students to not rush through college, as much as they may want to graduate as early as possible.
In the state of Florida, restaurant waiters/waitresses, bartenders, and other workers who make their living off of tips, are outraged about a bill that is being pushed by the Florida Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee.

The proposed bill, SPB 7210, will allow restaurants to slash Florida’s minimum wage for servers from $4.65 to $2.13 an hour, provided that the restaurants guarantee that their workers would make at least $9.98 an hour after tips.

The bill has conflicted views between the restaurant owners who are supporters of the bill and the servers who are against it. Supporters argue that the bill is needed to help the state’s restaurant industry. Opponents say that it is ‘ridiculous’ that they would even try to cut wages with the way the economy is now.

Students and faculty in the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management opined that it will have a long term negative effect for the industry. They also feel that the cost of living is rising and wages seem to be diminishing. “If they make a good amount of tips, it doesn’t matter what they are getting from the employer, the tips balances their pay and guarantees the bounce workers a check,” said Rakesh Kamal, a Senior Teaching Lab Specialist and Food Labs Manager.

Over time the waiters work more, but their pay rate is lower. “It could be hot and cold in terms of wages,” said Kenneth Rutkowski, an Academic Advisor in CSHTM, who doesn’t feel that balance is not always certain, however.

“Could it be that the servers have a large turnover is expected. During this time students will be able to have questions answered by submitting them in real time via chat or telephone. Participation from their own computers or telephones is an option, but there will also be a designated room for both dates available.

The organization will provide free pizza to attendees for their participation, and students are also encouraged to network amongst each other and confer the issues from their own perspectives. “The primary goal of the Global Learning Initiative is for our students to develop a sense of global awareness, a global perspective, and an attitude of global engagement,” said Feldman.

Freshman hospitality and tourism management major Rebekah Knight concurs that the current $4.65 minimum for tipped workers is “killing” her members. “It’s ridiculous. Servers’ pay has always been low because it is anticipated that they make 20 percent from gratuity, which is not the case. Very rarely do restaurants mandate that servers receive 20 percent of tips,” said Sharee Brice.

Hospitality and tourism management major Rebekah Knight concurs that the money from tips will not always compensate for a drop in wages. “I don’t believe the minimum wage for tipped employees should be cut,” Knight said. “Servers and waiters who work the evening shifts get the most tips. What will happen to the morning shift servers?”

Supporters of the bill argue that it is needed to save the state’s restaurant industry. The CEO of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association, Carol Dover, told The Orlando Sentinel that the current $4.65 minimum for tipped workers is “killing” her members.

“We feel that the cost of living is rising and wages seem to be diminishing.”

The New York Times Readership Program is in its purpose is to provide an abundance of resources for students both inside and outside the classroom. The partnership is known as the Global Learning Initiative and it is intended to provide a sense of global awareness and a global perspective to students.

The New York Times editors will teleconference with students to discuss the importance of global awareness and the concept of global engagement.

On Feb. 29, the topic will be ‘Global Awareness,’ and how it is urgent for students to know what is going on around the world.

The conferences will be from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Wolfe University Center 223 for both events.

Joe Kahn, N.Y. Times foreign editor, will host the event, where he will discuss the importance of global awareness among students.

Feldman said the editors were chosen by The New York Times to lead the teleconferences and the Times invited FIU to be one of the participants because of their strong academic partnership with the news outlet.

The partnership is known as the New York Times Readership Program and its purpose is to provide an abundance of resources for students both inside and outside the classroom.

These include funding, lectures, student essay contests, and access to The New York Times on campus.

Since classes from various departments and disciplines will be invited, a large turnout is expected. According to Feldman, FIU Global Learning has partnered with the FIU Honors College and the Student Government Association for the teleconferences.

In addition, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications was invited to ensure that a large variety of students gain as much out of it as possible.

During this time students will be able to have questions answered by submitting them in real time via chat or telephone.

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