SUMO-SCREAM

10/26
10PM
PIKE

PIKE members Daniel Jaramillo and Josh Morales (left to right) advertise their upcoming ‘PIKE Fright Night’ this Friday at the PIKE house.

Student Government

Latino Student Union to begin agency process

ASHLEY MARTINEZ
Contributing Writer

The doors have opened for the Latino Student Union to become an agency.

After a senate session with the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus last Monday, LSU was granted agency status, with 14 of the senators voting in favor and 8 of the senators voting against the resolution.

Though the Senate was provided with a full business plan from the LSU, there were still many questions, such as errors presented in the plan and the belief that the organization needed more experience.

Svetlana Tyutina, senator for the Graduate and Professional Student Committee, believed that the lack of membership presented in the plan was something to take into consideration for the final decision.

“The idea is really great but I don’t see anywhere in the plan that something speaks to increase the membership and...there is nothing about reaching different types of groups,” Tyutina said.

Moses Aluicio, senator for the College of Law, seconded Tyutina by saying that the recruitment of people was very important.

“Everybody is always going to be interested until they have to dedicate a certain time or start going to certain meetings... 200 or 300 people that sign up on a sheet of paper is...”

Study Abroad takes students to the Amazon

JACQUELINE ROSADO
Staff Writer

University students can work with an indigenous community in the Amazon.

The University’s Study Abroad program has worked with the indigenous community in Peru for several years on development and cultural projects that will help benefit the indigenous community. Students can now apply to the Study Abroad Program in the Amazonas in Peru for summer 2013.

The program, Peru, Honors Amazon Program 2013, differs from other programs because it consists of a new model called service research, which is where students do more than take classes. They experience a different culture. Students will be involved in a project that will benefit the community by tackling environmental and social issues. They will also be able to interact with the indigenous peoples.

Amazon program co-director, James Riach, has been going to Peru since 1996.

According to Riach, the issues that the Peruvian Amazon is confronted with are epic droughts, epic flooding, overexploitation of natural resources, areas threatened by climate change, loss of land and loss of culture.

Riach said these are issues that are not only affecting the environment, but affecting the people that live there as well, specifically those by the Orosa River. Concerns have been expressed by native and non-native people that live by the river.

Students who participate in the program spend 22 days at the Madre Selva Biological Station on the Orosa River during the summer B semester.

They will be communicating with and living among communities of indigenous and Mestizo peoples that are scattered throughout the area.

Some of the program’s interests include securing territorial rights, protecting natural resources, improving health and access to health care, strengthening native culture and economic development.

Riach said the program’s solution would be a rights-based conservation project of the entire Orosa watershed.

According to Riach, they want to improve the region’s biodiversity.

Non-muslims embrace culture at University

CONSUELO NARANJO
Staff Writer

Colorful fabrics cover their heads and white robes hide unrevealed mysteries. Islamic faith followers keep their traditions in Miami, a cosmopolitan city full of diversity.

According to The Miami Herald, the global Muslim population is 1.6 billion, being the world’s second-largest religion after Christianity. Approximately 100,000 Muslims live in South Florida and 80 percent are descendant or come from migration, most of them from Hispanic countries and 20 percent from conversions.

Veronica Cañas is one of them. As a junior studying religious studies at the University, she affirmed that in Islam, she found her spiritual path. Cañas was raised in a Christian family and after years of searching and traveling abroad to Middle Eastern countries, such as Dubai and India, she decided to convert to Islam at the age of 18.

“I was searching for something different,” said Cañas. Four years later, she is trying to incorporate Miami’s live style into her religious beliefs.

In the beginning, the transition from one religion to the other was difficult; however, I surrounded myself with an open-minded community,” said Cañas.

Panther Sports Talk Live

Listen every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on Radiate FM from 10-11 a.m., on 88.1, 95.3, and 96.9 Fm
Panthers to serve amazonian communities

**AMAZON, PAGE 1**

meaning that the University’s faculty and students will address the environmental issues the region faces not only to improve the environment, but to also improve the lives of the people living there, tackling health and culture issues.

“We want our students to feel accomplished and awarded for the things they’re doing over there,” Riach said.

The program is an asset-based conservation program, meaning that the faculty and students will be studying and using the community’s traditional practices to conserve the resources within that region which the natives will benefit from, according to Riach.

“We aim to give the University’s students an incredible experience to build confidence, get ready for the real world, learn about indigenous communities and just be exposed to what is out there,” said Devon Graham, also an Amazon program co-director.

Riach and Graham started the program in the summer of 2008. According to Riach, the idea of this program came to him in 2005, when he was doing work in Ecuador.

When Riach found out about the work Graham was doing in Peru through Project Amazonas, a non-profit organization, he was invited to go on one of the organization’s medical clinic trips.

This project gave him the idea to start a development institute in Peru. The project is a way of bringing in students and faculty that would continuously work on issues that impact the environment and the community.

The program is now housed under the Honors College.

Riach expressed his concerns on how people need to give more attention to regions like the Amazons and he thinks the University’s journalists should join them in their program to cover the issues that occur in the region.

Investigative journalism down there would be a service because there isn’t enough awareness on these controversial issues,” Riach said.

Graham agreed, saying, “There’s always something to write about over there, especially human interest stories.”

Riach said that a student does not have to be in the Honors College to participate.

Information on how to apply can be found on the University’s Study Abroad website.

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**LATINO, PAGE 1**

impressive but is not representative of an agency that will be long-lasting,” Alucio said.

Alex Castro, vice president of SGC-MMC, added that the organization had recruited over 100 students during the summer.

Anthony Mercado, senator for the College of Arts and Sciences, said that it was important to give the organization an opportunity for the University’s benefit.

“The ultimate goal as an involved student is to foster community growth and engagement. It’s more about of what we can do here right now to grow the University... creating things that will draw students,” Mercado said.

LSU was approved through Senate Resolution 1222, which officially starts the process towards becoming an agency.

Richard Benitez, vice president of the Latino Student Union, said they all are “heartsened” at the approval.

“While there is still plenty of work to do to reach our present goal, we know that the University wants us and needs us on campus,” Benitez said. “In the future, we will all be able to look back and see this as a sincere effort on the part of SEA to serve towards the advancement of the over 61 percent of Latinos on campus and the student body as a whole.”

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**GRILLIN’ IT**

Sigma Kappa member, Ariana Flores, sophomore, public relations major, on the grill, making burgers and hotdogs during EK’s Sea Coast Cook Off to raise funds towards the sea coast mission. The money goes to northern communities that suffer from harsh winters.
AN F FROM AN X

This doesn’t even make any sense! I answered the questions exactly how my tutor showed me. I’ve studied my notes.

Wait, who tutored you?

No reason...

ARINDAM CHOWDHURY
Faculty Senate

Wall of Wind: A Tool for Enhancing Hurricane Resilience

On Aug. 24, the day that marked the twentieth anniversary of Hurricane Andrew, the University unveiled the nation’s first university research facility that can simulate Category 5 hurricane winds—the 12-fan Wall of Wind.

The 12-fan Wall of Wind is a major research facility operated by the University’s International Hurricane Research Center and Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

This facility is part of the Andrew legacy as IBRC was established through the Hurricane Andrew We Will Rebuild effort.

The 12-fan system and its instrumentation were funded by the state, the federal government and other private sources.

$8 million. The new facility is helping researchers to come very close to recreating Andrew in a controlled and repeatable environment.

The research can help mitigate damage in coastal communities in the path of hurricanes in the U.S. and around the globe. The University’s wind engineering research team has already had a significant impact in mitigating hurricane damage by enhancing building codes, validating innovative mitigation technologies and developing new materials.

Recommendations made as a result of WOW research and testing were published in the 2010 Florida Building Code. The new code provisions are geared toward decreasing the vulnerability of single-story structures.

The 12-fan WOW has been more than five years in the making. In 2007, the University’s wind engineering team assembled its prototype two-fan mobile unit, which could generate 120 mph winds with a water-injection system simulating wind-driven rain.

This paved the way for building a bigger Renaissance Isle six-fan Wall of Wind. The 6-fan system was capable of generating up to 115 mph winds engulfing single-story structures.

A happy hour isn’t such a bad idea

MARIO GARCIA
Contributing Writer

Having a few drinks with coworkers or friends after a long day is a priority. Whether you just got off a long shift or just finished an exam, many of us look forward to unwinding at the day’s end.

More importantly, cheap drinks are a commodity greatly appreciated by students—particularly those like myself, short on cash with part-time jobs and a long list of expenses, like college payments or car repair.

When FIU announced the arrival of the Chili’s Too Bar & Grill located in the Graham Center at the Modesto Maidique Campus, many students and staff were excited to enjoy some good food and maybe a few drinks right on campus. But if you ask for the happy hour specials, a tragedy awaits: no happy hour.

The usual happy hour special at a Chili’s is the highly advertised 2-for-1 margaritas. According to employees at Chili’s Too, however, one word sums up why this deal is not available: liability.

The average undergraduate student is 18 to 22 years of age, with the latter half of that range having turned 21 and only recently been able to legally purchase an alcoholic beverage. According to an anonymous bartender at the Chili’s Too, the issue is that 2-for-1 specials can be abused: get one drink for yourself and subtly pass the other to your underaged friend.

Moreover, they believe that if you recently began drinking legally, you probably don’t know how to hold your liquor.

It’s a fair concern, but there are ways to work around the probability of any of this happening. For one, most of the bars I frequent require the servers to check every one’s I.D., regardless of whether someone only orders a glass of water.

The argument that won’t suffice, however, is the suggestion that students may decide to skip class just to get a little tipsy, or may drink a few cheap margaritas and get plastered before showing up to class. For someone who hasn’t turned 21, then deny the service.

You might also say that they can order from a bartender and then sit back down at their table, but some places don’t accept orders at the bar if the person is being attended by a server already. This too would be slow to happen. For someone who just got off a long shift or just finished an exam, many of us look forward to unwinding at the day’s end.

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**MSA event brings awareness to the University about Muslim culture**

Naïma Khan-Ghany, an FIU alumna, explained how difficult it is to practice Islam and wear the hijab (the traditional head covering) in a society that, even though it’s multicultural and diverse, is also full of stereotypes against Muslim communities and women. “We need to develop a tolerant society where people cannot judge you by the way you look. The hijab represents more than a religion or culture; it is a symbol of internal and spiritual beauty,” said Khan-Ghany.

With tears in her eyes, Irum Khan, a freshman student majoring in biology, shared her pain as a consequence of bullying and discrimination throughout her years in high school.

“People judged me and stereotyped me without even knowing who I was. I am proud of wearing the hijab and showing my heredity and background. I love my culture and religion,” said Irum Khan. “People should not be mentally and physically abused for being different.”

Being the minority in middle and high school was not an impediment when following the Islamic religion and culture for Usman Khan, president of the Muslim Student Association at the University. Born in Pakistan, Usman Khan feels confident about his beliefs and heritage.

He is also looking forward to eliminating misconceptions regarding Muslim culture and religion by creating a series of events open to the public, such as the Hijab-a-Thon, where participants were able to interact closer to the Islamic culture and traditions by wearing the hijab for a day. “FIU is a diverse community with people from all over the world. We want to share our beliefs, culture, food and religion, meanwhile breaking stereotypes,” said Usman Khan.

Participating in this event was a life-changing experience for Sheila Vakharia, a social welfare graduate student originally from India.

“When in someone’s shoes for a day and learning more about their culture behind the stereotypes made me value and respect mine and others’ culture,” said Vakharia. “People should show more accepting without judging. Wearing the hijab was a unique experience. I was able to understand a little bit more the Muslim woman lifestyle, culture and religion. It was a challenge, but I really admire women who, no matter what, are proud of who they are and of what they believe.”

The vegan revolution is in full swing and nowhere is that more evident than at Florida International University and other schools around the country.

“Tropical Smoothie is right next to the law school so that’s where I go,” said Jensen. “The bean, rice and vegetable wrap is the most filling.”

But Jensen said he is looking forward to eating at the dining hall.

“It’s really nice to know that this is an option and for people to be more open-minded towards it,” says Jensen, who hopes more students will give vegetarianism a try.

“It’s possible to enjoy a meal without any animal products,” he said.

Panther Dining also joined the “Meatless Monday” campaign which encourages students to forgo any meat products on Mondays.

“The vegan revolution is in full swing and nowhere is that more evident than at Florida International University and other schools across the country,” said Marta Holmberg, peta2 associate director.

“The best way that students can fortify their health for a tough year of hitting the books, protect the environment, and save animals’ lives, at the same time, is to go vegan.” Holmberg said.

**FIU considered for top vegan-friendly university**

The vegan revolution is in full swing and nowhere is that more evident than at Florida International University and other schools around the country.
picnic in which Medea seduces Jason and gets to have her children stay in the palace to deliver the poison gifts that will kill Creusa, reveals how Medea and Jason used to be and how they once had something close to the perfect family.

“I thought it was a lovely place to stop from all the horror and trauma and give me a chance to show that while she’s a monster, she has genuine feelings, even if those feelings are calculated,” Skow said. “Her brain is starting to crack as she is forced into this decision, but she’s very much governed by her passions and will not allow herself to be the laughing stock of Greece.”

Julissa Perez, a senior in Bachelor of Fine Arts performance, who has previously been in The House of the Spirits and For Colored Girls, will tackle the role of Medea and has developed the psychological aspects of the character by looking at cases similar to the ones Skow researched.

“As an actor you shouldn’t judge your character, all the actions need to be justified,” Perez said. “Jason was the one that killed everyone, but Medea was the one that had the longer reach. She was the one that killed Creusa, and she victimizes her family in the end.”

Perez has also taken some of her personality and worked it into Medea’s psychosis and behavior, especially her strength and ability to speak her mind.

“The off-kilter world of Medea’s mind will also be on stage literally as the set design will include a raked stage, which slopes toward the audience and will be shifted diagonally creating a dynamic that will enable multiple actors to be on stage at the same time or behind each other without blocking one another, in the form of a framed broken mirror incorporated into the floor plan,” said Jesse Dreikosen, head of design and production.

Exploring the role has also changed Perez’s perception of Medea, who she previously saw as crazy. Perez realized that Medea is completely sane and aware of her actions.

“To the Greek audience, Jason would have been seen as the villain, he’s the one who broke his oath to Medea and that’s the equivalent of killing your family,” Perez said. “As an actor you shouldn’t judge your character, all the actions need to be justified,” Perez said. “Jason was the one that killed everyone, but Medea was the one that had the longer reach. She was the one that killed Creusa, and she victimizes her family in the end.”

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New coach brings team oriented approach

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

It's a new place and a new position for Katarina Petrovic. Petrovic was recently appointed head coach for the tennis team at FIU. She has embraced her new position and is looking forward to what being the head coach at FIU has in store for her.

"After I graduated college, I always wanted to be a coach in tennis," Petrovic said. "I was good as a player, and I'm good coach/psychologist. I never always thought I would stay in tennis, but I knew if I did this was something I wanted to do."

Though it is the first time Petrovic has been named the head coach at a school, her experience as a head coach is not lacking at all. Before coming to FIU, Petrovic served as the Interim Head Coach last year at the University of South Carolina. Before that, Petrovic was a standout tennis player for the Gamecocks from 1999 to 2002. After graduating from South Carolina, Petrovic would serve nine seasons as an assistant coach starting in 2004. Even while serving as an assistant there were times where it was like she ran the team, especially last season serving as an assistant coach starting in 2004. Petrovic has shown great ability in her recruiting. Before that, Petrovic was a standout tennis player for the Gamecocks from 1999 to 2002. After graduating from South Carolina, Petrovic would serve nine seasons as an assistant coach starting in 2004. Even while serving as an assistant there were times where it was like she ran the team, especially last season. Petrovic is always about the team, and I never singled any one out."

Since I was 12 years old, I played for a national team and it was all about team. I am always about the team, I never singled any one out.

FOOTBALL

Younger talent could see considerable playing time

MARIO BUSTO
Contributing Writer

Considered by many going into the season as the favorites to win the Sun Belt Conference, the FIU Panthers have yet to find the way to win. After giving up their lead in the last two weeks, which contributed to the constant success South Carolina tennis had during that time. "It's a 24-hour job, it's not just a 9 to 5 job."

The defensive collapse of the last two weeks have summarized the team's 1-7 start to the season. Younger players, like Vocelin, should see more time on the field. "We're starting to see some rotation this week after starting defensive tackle, Iman Fiaciane, was banged up against Troy," said Cristobal. "I'mane will play," said Cristobal. "We've had him on a high rep count all year long. Now, with guys like Fadel and Dyson getting more playing time, and Cody Horstman, another guy who should play this week, we'll be able to get a better rotation to get the most out of everybody."

Don't think that rotating in newer players is the main purpose for preparing for next season. It is no coincidence that five out of those 10 underclassmen are defensive linemen. Western Kentucky brings a physical running game to the table with running backs Antonio Andrews and Leon Allen leading the way with a combined 1,074 yards and eight touchdowns on 192 carries. In last year's 10-9 loss to Western Kentucky, the Hilltoppers ran for 181 yards behind senior running back Bobby Rainey. "They pound it," said Cristobal. "Their tight ends and fullback don't get enough credit. Those guys are keeping that offense physical up front. They play multiple tight ends and do a great job in the running game and play action as well. They stretch the field with those guys."

Aside from focusing to stop the run, FIU seems to be a threat vertically. We can flip the script on the defense and create opportunities for an even more productive FIU offense. "Our offense is not only a threat horizontally. We can threaten people vertically as well," said Cristobal. "When you can do that you're opening up that defense a little more and it helps you a bunch. Our offensive is progressing every week more and more and not completely healthy either. We know we can be better and be an offense that scores even more points every game."
Season on the brink with two conference games remaining

FRANCISCO RIVERO
Staff Writer

The historically good start the FIU men’s soccer team experienced is a distant memory now as the team has dropped five of its last six games and have fallen to a 0-5-1 in conference play.

The Panthers (7-6-2) had no trouble dealing with non-conference teams this year posting a record of (7-1-1). However, the same can’t be said for conference play where the Panthers have yet to rack up a win.

Sitting at the basement of the Conference USA standings, FIU looks to scratch up some wins in their final two conference games this season.

Having lost five conference games already, the Panthers will need some help to get into the tournament and Head Coach Kenny Arena knows now is the time to press.

“We have to win,” said Arena. “We want to win all of our games remaining.”

Although Arena’s outlook remains positive, the fact is the Panthers are facing a tough mountain to climb. Their final two conference games are against Memphis and Tulsa, teams that FIU’s combined record is 3-12-0.

FADING STARS

As the Panthers’ season began, we were introduced to two young players from Germany, forward Quentin Albrecht and goalkeeper Robin Spiegel.

Albrecht leads the team in scoring with seven goals this season; however, over his last seven games, he has only scored two goals. As for Spiegel, over the last five games, he has allowed 13 goals.

For the Panthers to continue the success they had earlier this season, both Albrecht and Spiegel need to return to their early season form.

During Albrecht’s first six games, he was able to rack up a total of six goals. While in Spiegel’s first six games he only allowed five goals and recorded two shut outs.

There’s no doubt that the struggles of forward Colby Burdette, who has only four goals this season, and young freshman like midfielder Daniel Gonzalez and midfielder Lucas Di Croce, have affected this team.

However, if Albrecht and Spiegel can each perform to the best of their ability, like they did at the start of this season, FIU can pick up some wins against their last two conference opponents.

FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

FIU once again looks to pick up its first win against visiting Marshall (11-3-1) tomorrow, Oct. 27 at 1 p.m.

The Thundering Herd come to FIU with a conference record of (3-3-0) and having won three of their last seven games.

The Panthers will look to contain Marshall’s leading scorer forward Tom Jackson who has eight goals so far this season. However, Marshall is not limited to just one goal scorer. Midfielder Jack Hopkins is second in scoring for Marshall with four goals this season. The freshman out of Birmingham, Ala., will be a player for the Panthers to keep an eye on as they defend against Jackson.

Defending will be half the battle for FIU against Marshall; they will also have to get through the defense of goalkeeper Daniel Withrow.

Withrow comes into this game with 73 saves collected so far this season. Withrow also has only allowed a total of seven goals this year.

FIU’s tournament hopes all rest on a win against Marshall tomorrow, if they lose they will be officially eliminated from tournament play and will have to get back to the drawing board for next season.

-sports@fiusm.com

Sophomore Quentin Albrecht has cooled off considerably after starting the season red hot with five goals in four games. He has since only scored three goals in the last 11 games.

Beaupre honored as Diver of the Week for 11th time

SWIMMING, PAGE 8

“It is going to be a test and we expect to be competitive with them; if we win it is going to take a great effort from everyone on the team, but that is what we need to be able to do to accomplish our goal winning conference,” Head Coach Randy Homer said.

FIU diver Sabrina Beaupre was named Sun Belt Conference Diver of the Week after a great performance against FAU and FSU.

Beaupre, a junior from Longueil, Quebec, qualified for the NCAA Zone B regionals in the 3-meter and 1-meter spring board events with scores of 275.45 and 292.55, respectively.

This was the 11th time that Beaupre was named SBC Diver of the Week to go along with two SBC Diver of the Year awards.

Marina Ribi has exploded onto the FIU swimming scene this year, especially after breaking her first FIU swimming record last weekend, the 200 fly with a time of 2:04.36.

There were many high hopes for this transfer from Tennessee at the start of the season but no one could have predicted record breaking performances in only her second meet as a Panther.

She is also currently battling mid week illness and hopes to be able to perform this weekend.

“I don’t feel any pressure to perform, I am just enjoying everything right now,” Ribi said.

-sports@fiusm.com

PANTHER OF THE WEEK

Diver Sabrina Beaupre qualified for the NCAA Regionals in both the 3-meter and 1-meter dives with scores of 275.45 and 292.55.

WANT TO BE A WRITER FOR THE SPORTS SECTION?

Email sports@fiusm.com if you want to become a part of the sports team at The Beacon.
The media ignores third parties because it is manipulated by the Democrats and Republicans, so it’s not in their interests to bring attention to them.

Ignacio Jimeno
Senior
Asian Studies and International Relations

“‘We are not exposed to an alternative school of thought. We are exposed to very incoherent Republicans and Democrats,’” said Rivera. “‘I believe the Libertarian party is the only one that doesn’t contradict itself. Libertarians tend to be more critical thinkers; they are for free liberties and for minimal spending. In other words, they’re fiscal conservatives.”

Rivera sees the day when a third party candidate takes office, and believes the Libertarian party is the one that has the highest possibilities.

“A lot of voters should be afraid of ‘wasting their vote’ when voting for a third party candidate. They should do it for the future. Romney and Obama are extremely similar, and we know one of them is going to win. So it doesn’t really make a difference who wins. Voters should plan for the future and try to grow these third parties so there could be a third option,” he said.

“Five percent of Americans identified themselves as independents in 2011. The 2012 presidential election has many candidates but most people on the street will answer that it’s just President Barack Obama and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney.

Gidnie Dort, a biology freshman, says she has decided she will vote for Obama in this election because of his policies concerning financial aid.

“My schooling is dependent on financial aid and government support, and if Romney goes into office, I will rely on loans and I plan to go med school, and I don’t need extra loans on top of med school,” said Dort.

“I haven’t looked at third party candidates but I would vote for one of them if I liked their platform, but I’m not exposed to them as much,” said Dort.

There are at least a dozen other third party candidates, out of which Jill Stein and Gary Johnson are among the strongest candidates, actually having ballot access in most states.

A majority of the electorate is not familiar with third party candidates, some don’t even know of their existence.

Stein is the presidential candidate for the Green Party, formed in 2001 and advocating for minimal government intervention, environmentalism, and civil liberties. Stein is the presidential candidate for the Libertarian Party, founded in 1971 advocating freedom of speech and opposing any censorship from the government. Libertarians support a free-market economy, civil liberties and personal freedom.

Ignacio Jimeno, a senior in Asian Studies and International Relations, says he attributes this to the media and their reluctance to cover more stories including the third party candidates.

“The media ignores third parties because it is manipulated by the Democrats and Republicans, so it’s not in their interests to bring attention to them,” said Jimeno.

Jimeno points to the Commission for Presidential Debates, which was founded by Democrats and Republicans and is responsible for organizing presidential debates. He argues it is the CPD that restricts voter education by only presenting two candidates.

“They purposely ignore third parties and it makes sense when you realize it’s a biased organization,” said Jimeno.

Like some voters, Jimeno can’t identify fully with either of the two main candidates.

“I agree with the Republicans’ economic policies and I like the Democrats’ social policies, but I can’t identify with either. The way the system works, it forces voters who don’t identify with major parties, to end up voting for the one that’s slightly better than the one they dislike,” he said.

Armando Pardillo, a chemistry graduate student, is so disenchantment with the way the political system works that he isn’t going to bother voting.

“The system is already so corrupt that it seems pointless. I almost wish nobody would vote, because if nobody voted it would show that the public doesn’t trust the system,” he said.

Pardillo says he would vote for Johnson, but the fact that Johnson doesn’t have a real chance of winning dissuades him from trying.

“I got really excited with Ron Paul. I really thought he had a chance, but then I saw that the corruption was so strong that they were still able to squash the whole movement and I decided America wasn’t ready for it, they are still asleep,” said Pardillo.

Luis Rivera, a junior and double major in finance and Italian, is the treasurer for the Young Americans for Liberty organization at FIU.

Rivera says the organization strives to expose students to an alternative school of thought, one different from the mainstream Democrats and Republicans.

“We are not exposed to an alternative school of thought. We are exposed to very incoherent Republicans and Democrats,” said Rivera. “I believe the Libertarian party is the only one that doesn’t contradict itself. Libertarians tend to be more critical thinkers; they are for free liberties and for minimal spending. In other words, they’re fiscal conservatives.”

Rivera sees the day when a third party candidate takes office, and believes the Libertarian party is the one that has the highest possibilities.

“When voters should be afraid of ‘wasting their vote’ when voting for a third party candidate. They should do it for the future. Romney and Obama are extremely similar, and we know one of them is going to win. So it doesn’t really make a difference who wins. Voters should plan for the future and try to grow these third parties so there could be a third option,” he said.

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