Students in low-income sector fall victim to wage theft

Logic and reason never go out of fashion.

Policy on electronic cigarette usage remains unclear

Students in low-income sector fall victim to wage theft

Cynthia Hernandez, a senior research associate at the Center for Labor and Research, always asks her students if they have been victims of wage theft. She said at least a dozen students raise their hands in each class.

"With the high unemployment rate, students are not able to find jobs in their field and take jobs in the low wage service sector," Hernandez said.

Wage theft is when a worker is legally owed money, but their employer refuses to pay wages. Therefore, he pays them, violates tips, commits unauthorized deductions or misclassifies employees.

Hernandez said the labor center began research in 2006 to clearly as to the fact that they are prohibited or prohibition may need to be lifted altogether.

Hernandez said that the wording of the University's ban on tobacco products has been in effect since January 2011 and includes "electronic cigarette(s)...

"It's a vapor, it's not smoke," Correa said.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, from 2009-2010 about 3 percent of students in the United States graduated with a degree in liberal arts, 2 percent from English, 1 percent from history and 1 percent from philosophy and religious studies. The same study showed a business degree was the most popular between 2009-2010.

Currently at the University, the most popular major is still business. The degree accounts for 35 percent of all degrees conferred between 2011-2012.

Noble Cook, a professor of history, is not concerned about the low numbers of history graduates. He dismisses the possibility of concern for some students of having difficulties finding a job upon their graduation of an area in the liberal arts.

"It is a false worry because historians are trained to think critically and write coherently, which are the basic foundations for most careers," Cook said.

Cook said that many history majors go on to have successful careers in journalism, law, business and the government. He said most history majors don’t end up teaching, but rather continue their education or enter an entry-level job in fields like government.

"I started my university career in engineering and switched to history in junior year because I realized that people are more interesting than engineering," Cook said.

Cook said that the job market changes constantly, rising and falling every 3-5 years.

"Students should not pick their majors based on how the job market is, because it is very likely to change by the time the student graduates," Cook said.

Sean Hermanson, a professor of philosophy, also dismisses fears of the marketability of a philosophy degree.

"I understand that it is a concern but it is important to acknowledge the university as a place to develop your mind and not like a trade school where you learn a technical skill and get a job," Hermanson said.

Hermanson said that if a student’s sole concern is landing a job, that student should consider going to a trade school to learn a skill quickly to get a job upon finishing.

"Logic and reason never go out of fashion. Philosophy will combine well with anything that requires someone to think critically because you have to become a linguistic acrobat and that serves well for areas such as law and even medicine," Hermanson said.

About pursuing further education in order to improve job placement possibilities, Hermanson says it is just not a good idea for liberal arts majors, but others as well.

"There is no danger of the liberal arts disappearing. Whenever economy issues come up, the liberal arts are always targeted, but it is only because people don’t see an immediate payoff," Hermanson said.

Few liberal arts degrees, but opportunities remain

Marisol Medina

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Policy on electronic cigarette usage remains unclear

Diego Saldana-Rojas

The University’s ban on tobacco products has been in effect since January 2011 and includes “electronic cigarette(s)…or any other device intended to simulate smoked tobacco.”

Despite present regulations, the use of electronic cigarettes is prevalent on campus.

University Chief of Police Alexander Casas said the University Police Department treats electronic cigarettes as it would tobacco.

Casas said the University Police Department asks her students if they have been victims of wage theft. She said at least a dozen students raise their hands in each class.

"With the high unemployment rate, students are not able to find jobs in their field and take jobs in the low wage service sector," Hernandez said.

Wage theft is when a worker is legally owed money, but their employer refuses to pay wages. Therefore, he pays them, violates tips, commits unauthorized deductions or misclassifies employees.

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"It's a vapor, it's not smoke," Correa said.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, consumers of electronic cigarettes have no way of knowing how much nicotine or other dangerous chemicals are being introduced into their bodies due to a lack of research on the products.

"Nicotine is addictive. It's a chemical that causes constriction of blood vessels and it is also retained in the lungs and causes tissue damage," said Real Tano, an assistant professor at the Herbert Wertheim School of Medicine and a medical doctor for the University’s Health Faculty Practice.

The oral pharynx, esophagus, windpipe, larynx and bronchi are some parts of the body that Tano said can be damaged by nicotine.

"There has been some analysis that the e-cigarette cartridges do contain some specific tobacco nitrosamines which are known cancer-causing agents," Tano said.

(”Electronic cigarettes) can be less toxic than regular cigarettes, but by no means is it toxic-free because it still has certain chemicals that can be toxic to the cells," Tano said.

"It’s a good alternative if you want to stop smoking, if you start with these, but there should always be a plan to wean yourself from the electronic cigarettes.”

Casas advises students to keep their electronic cigarettes away from campus grounds for health and legal reasons. Matias Salvo, a sophomore physics major, and Luis Montoya, a sophomore psychology major, both use electronic cigarettes on-campus.

Salvo said he had no idea the rule was in effect whereas Montoya intentionally defies it.

"Some people comment on it and I’ve gotten looks from [teaching assistants], but they don’t really say anything," Salvo said.

"Nobody really gives me any trouble. It’s a rule nobody enforces." And Montoya said although he has been stopped by UPD before, he has never been formally reprimanded.

"Two officers [have approached me.] but they mainly told me not to smoke around people that are eating," he said.

Casas said that the wording of the University’s policy on electronic cigarette regulations will need to be more explicit or the prohibition may need to be lifted altogether.

"I’m sure they’ll get revised to be more clear as to the fact that they are prohibited or in fact that they may be allowed depending on how policies are re-defined in the future," Casas said.

Both Salvo and Montoya believe their electronic cigarettes do not bother others and due to this reason, should be allowed on-campus.

"As far as I’m concerned if its not on-campus. and due to this reason, should be allowed on-campus.

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**WORLD NEWS**

French senate says no to pageants

Child beauty pageants may soon be banned in France, after a surprise vote in the French Senate that rejected a pageant-induced and raised questions about how the French relate girls' sex-ucity. Such contests, and the make-up, up-dolled beauty pageant industry, have become a target for gun control advocates, particularly in France. France, with its cafes, though it is stopping short of an outright parliament for further debate and another vote.

Iran releases human rights lawyer

Iran has released a prominent human rights lawyer after keeping her in prison for three years, relatives said Wednesday. Reza Khandan, the husband of lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh, told The Associated Press that authorities brought his wife home and told her she has been freed. Iranian opposition websites also reported a dozen other prisoners were freed on security charges after the 2009 election have been released. Among them is Mohsen Aminzadeh, who was deputy foreign minister in the presidency of reformer Mohammad Khatami. In a statement, the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran welcomed the releases and urged President Hassan Rouhani to continue to take concrete steps toward improving the country’s “urgent human rights situation.”

**SPORTS**

Starbucks says guns unwelcome, though not banned

Starbucks says guns are no longer welcome in its cafes, though it is stopping short of an outright ban on firearms. The fine line that the retailer is walking to address the concerns of both gun rights and gun control advocates reflects how heated the issue has become, particularly in light of recent mass shootings. Most states allow people to openly carry licensed guns in some way and many companies do not have policies banning guns in their stores. Starbucks has become a target for gun control advocates, in part because of its liberal-leaning corporate image.

**FEATURES**

Center for Labor and Research fights for victims of wage theft

Miami-Dade County has the largest documented wage theft cases in the state with approximately 7,000 cases and $2 million in uncompensated wages. With help from the Center for Labor Research and Economic Policy and the Center for Labor and Research, Miami-Dade businesses have been affected by wage theft are retail, hospitality, restaurateurs, agriculture and construction.

“Student can be severely affected since many students often work in retail, hospitality, and restaurant businesses,” said Angarita.

The same report by the Labor Center states that 30 other low income families have been affected on wage theft and some victims have recovered $500,000 in unpaid wages.

**WAGES, PAGE 1**

**SEE WAGES, PAGE 1**

the agriculture industry where wage theft was not reported.

However, more research revealed wage theft in industries where even more students are typically employed.

Brenda Angarita, a senior anthropology major who interns with the Center for Labor and Research and is now directing a document on wage theft, said that when he was 15-year-old and working for a silk screening warehouse in Doral, he experienced wage theft.

“I worked with about 30 other low income employees, most of them undocumented. We were paid below the minimum wage and sometimes not at all,” Angarita said.

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**EDITORIAL BOARD**

**NEWS**

Liberal arts, Page 1

Carolyn Meeker, assistant director at the office of Career Services, says she thinks all students, not just liberal arts majors, worry about much job placement upon graduation.

“I understand why some parents would push their kids towards other majors that are more technical but there are many things students can do to enrich their liberal arts degree, like doing work with a school organization, for example,” Meeker said.

She suggests students start working on their outside-classroom skills such as networking and speaking as soon as possible and get additional certificates to enrich their majors.

Matt Tanner, assistant director at Career Services, also suggests students do an internship soon in their college career so that they can show a future employer that they have real world experience.

“Many students often work in their college career so there are so many things to do,” said Tanner.

“30 other low income families have been affected in wage theft and some victims have recovered $500,000 in unpaid wages.”

**EDUCATIONAL BOARD**

Students and faculty not concerned with marketability of liberal arts degrees

Cathiana Limea, a senior studying linguistics, said she wasn’t worried about not being able to find a job immediately after graduation.

“Linguistics has a lot of fields, so I am not worried when it comes to that. I could teach, translate, interpret – a future employer could do anything on their terms,” Limea said.

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**ADRA ANDRE SIMONOLI Contributing Writer**

While the ban on cellphones in class is prevalent in K-12 classrooms, restrictions have been popping up on college campuses in New York, Wyoming, Nevada and California, according to Technobabble.

Susan Jacobson, professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, said that she does not allow students to use their cellphones during class unless it is an emergency.

“I believe that if a student is texting friends or surfing Facebook during class, the student is not participating in the classroom discussion and is not taking [himself or herself] out of an education,” Jacobson said.

According to a 2012 survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation on the media habits of young people, two-thirds of students said they use social media sites while in class. As for considering phone use during class as a distraction, Vanessa Garcia, junior psychology major, says it depends on the particular class. Garcia.

“I could have my phone on my desk the whole time and just check the time. It is up to me,” said Garcia.

But Jacobson, a journalism major, believes a ban should occur,

“I don’t see myself doing it,” Jacobson said. “It is a distraction for me.”

Moses Shumow, assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, has a different view on the ban.

“I would make students put things in the front of them that are familiar,” Shumow said.

“Can be one of the many alternatives to eliminate the idea of getting rid of phones in the classroom. [We can] work with the idea that technology is in the present day and will be something that is almost impossible to get rid of.”

For more world news, check out www.FIUSM.com.
Internet users exploited daily by Google and Facebook

MOISES FUERTES
Staff Writer

We should all be paid for using social media. Very few people are aware that social media companies are data-centric corporations that make a fortune out of selling user data to advertisers or any third party interested in buying it. These companies are taking advantage of user-generated content for their own economic purposes, such as when I use Google to search for something or make a post on my Facebook account.

The same is being done to you. Every time you make the actions of every single person who produces a search and uses this data to specifically target advertising based on the user’s search behavior.

Facebook does the exact same thing but I consider it even worse because they use all the information a person posts on his or her site and not just the information provided on each respective “About Me” section.

This means that every post a person has ever made on Facebook is sold to advertisers, despite your privacy settings. You might have your settings so only your friends see what you post, but Facebook is still able to save everything and invest it in the people around you have no idea who this global, galactic and international fame, you caused by alcohol every year.

to the over 23 thousand deaths bodies’ weekly limit, resulting in women are drinking over their binge drink than college men.

without alcohol and I think we can all own economic purposes, such as when tagage of user-generated content for their interested in buying it.

These companies are taking advantage of user-generated content for their own economic purposes, such as when I use Google to search for something or make a post on my Facebook account.

The study has found that college women are drinking over their categories.”

It is no surprise, then, that I continue indulging in the realm of fast food, accepting surrounding – like a rat.

So, that only goes to show that not only did I not know what my friends were thinking and feeling at the time, I also didn’t know that I was part of an underground movement that was experimenting with the potential of social media.

For the full column, go to fiusm.com.
Frost opens two new exhibitions by faculty

ASHLEY GARNER
Staff Writer

On Wednesday Sept. 18, the Patricia & Philip Frost Art Museum opened with two new exhibitions on the third floor featuring the art work of faculty members Pip Brant and Michael Namkung. Between these two artists the show was an exhilarating collection of painting, textiles, drawings, sound and mixed media.

When you first step into the gallery space on the third floor you are thrown into a world of vibrant colors such as hot pinks meant to represent aggressive and suppressant puffs of war smoke, lime greens and rich oranges. This was Pip Brant’s re-enactment of famous battles or war in general. Her paintings and accompanying embroideries offer an alternative to re-creations of historical events by de-romanticizing these events and rendering them useless to history as the actual popular renditions already are.

Brant reflected on this body of work in her artist statement, “Even though there are attempts at authenticity, this is an impossible task. A degrading of the actual battles happens. Political correctness can further pollute the forgotten truths. With my works, I am trying to decompose these events even more, with the removal of color and conversions of visual information. The question that I want to play with has to do with color switches and abstractions that sweeten the gory truths usually Romanticized by traditional panoramic historical painting and embroidery. I want to see color convey the comment.”

In the gallery space next to Brant’s work is assistant art and art history professor Michael Namkung with his show, “Baby Pictures and the People’s Lullaby Collective.” The entire gallery floor is covered from wall to wall with the world’s largest alphabet foam board and the audience is asked to remove their shoes before walking into the space.

In the artist statement, Namkung suggests that removing your shoes might help your body remember to feel. The images hung on the walls consist of 26 infrared monotype prints with captions indicating what was happening at the moment the drawing was created, the age of the artist, the baby at the time, the date and the duration of time it took for the image to be fully produced. There is also a multilingual lullaby collection sung by 47 caregivers singing to their children playing across the room. Through this lullaby Namkung advocates that through the sound waves emotions are expressed in the materiality of the voice.

Babies will sense when you are not engaged so you must open up your senses to be vulnerable and empathic, shifting back in with Namkung’s reasoning for having you remove your shoes before entering the gallery space. Between Brant and Namkung’s shows, you leave feeling vulnerable in a powerful way. As though you have just taken an emotional risk and are slightly uncertain about your feelings on all things relating to the past.

Your childhood, your parents’ childhood, long forgotten war battles and immortalized moments in the history that is presented to us is completely put into question as we look at it through a new frame of mind. Both shows will be open in the gallery for viewing until October 12.

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The explicitly average but entertaining “Don Jon”

If there’s one thing to say for Joseph Gordon-Levitt, it’s that the guy knows exactly what “bro culture” is like.

This knowledge of bros who move through life doing nothing but working out and having sex serves him well, but even with that, “Don Jon” isn’t as great a film as he thinks it is.

Yes, the stuff of straight male fantasies. Breasts bouncing, asses shaking and unalistic sexual situations that no real woman would be willing to provide to a deluded man.

He believes that women in real life can never give him what porn gives him, and even when he seemingly falls in love with good-girl Barbara (Scarlett Johansson), porn is the top thing on his mind.

When he’s caught, Jon vows to his woman never to engage in such a “disgusting” act again, but addictions are never easy to break. By its description alone, anyone can tell “Don Jon” isn’t an entirely serious film.

No one in their right mind would sit down to write a straight drama about a man addicted to pornography, or at least I’d hope not, and Gordon-Levitt is no exception.

He knows how to play with comedy, but some of his directional decisions make little sense, forcing the film in and out of satire throughout.

There are moments where the sheer ridiculousness of the concept is on full-force, constantly interrogating his addiction with the reality of life in an amusing fashion.

This isn’t to say it doesn’t feel gratuitous and grating at times, as you can only really drive the point of the addiction home so many times before it reaches a “Requiem for a Dream” level of repetition. Then there’s the women.

However much the female fantasies of modern porn clips satisfy Jon, some of the women in his life are a far cry from satisfyingly written for an audience that includes more than men of the same ilk as Jon.

Brie Larson is criminally underused, a silent figure for most of the film, while the always talented Julianne Moore only comes into play to offer an incredibly strange tonal shift in “Don Jon” that leads us down a path far from comedy.

For all the disappointment that comes with them, every bit of comedic writing intended for Scarlett Johansson comes off without a hitch.

Her commitment to this Jersey Girl is impeccable, drawing out some genuine laughs in scenes that are so blatantly ridiculous, you can’t help but fall in love with her as much as Jon, if not more.

Really sealing in that R Rating, Joseph Gordon-Levitt pulls no stops at pushing that stereotypical Jersey accent and style, with every f-bomb you can imagine, and it makes for some entertaining moments.

Language isn’t all that’s there though, as the sex count is pretty high, both from the pornographic and Gordon-Levitt himself with multiple sex scenes.

It’s a shame he didn’t take the NC-17 route like Steve McQueen did with his sex addiction drama “Shame” though, because an actual masturbation scene or two would have been nice between all the bouncing breasts.

However weak some of the writing might be, Joseph Gordon-Levitt’s debut is actually a fine one.

It may be almost entirely about him and his character, but it’s far from the disappointment it could have turned out to be.

-Dan.barquin@fiusm.com

The Beacon 4, Wednesday, September 25, 2013
BP reruns bid to suspend oil spill settlement payments

**MICHAEL KUNZELMAN**

**AP Writer**

BP on Monday renewed its request for a federal judge to temporarily suspend settlement payments to Gulf Coast residents following its massive 2010 oil spill, citing a scathing report on alleged misconduct within the court-supervised program.

In a court filing, BP attorneys said the report issued earlier this month by former FBI Director Louis Freeh shows the settlement program is plagued by problems that need to be fixed.

U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier already has rejected two previous requests by BP to suspend settlement payments, but both rulings preceded Freeh's Sept. 6 report.

Freeh concluded that top members of claims administrator Patrick Juneau's staff engaged in conduct that was improper, unethical and possibly criminal, but didn't say he saw a need to shut down settlement payments.

BP lawyers questioned whether Barbier would have authorized Juneau to begin processing and paying claims more than a year ago if he had known the settlement program would be "riven by conflicts of interest," lacked adequate anti-fraud controls and operated in a "grossly inefficient and over-costly manner."

"While BP does not presume to know for certain, it submits that the answer most likely would have been an emphatic no," company lawyers wrote. "Instead, the Settlement Program would have been instructed to fix its problems first, before being allowed to open its doors to the claims of class members."

On Aug. 28, Barbier rejected BP's second request to suspend all payments to businesses and residents who claim the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico cost them money.

The judge said an internal probe by Juneau's office didn't find credible evidence of fraud involving employees of the settlement program's Mobile, Ala., claims center.

Barbier also ruled that BP's separate complaints about alleged conflicts of interest inside the settlement program didn't warrant a halt in the claims process.

Freeh's report said two private attorneys — Glen Lerner and Jon Andry — used Lionel Sutton, a lawyer on Juneau's staff, to expedite a claim by their firm for nearly $8 million.

In return, Sutton received more than $40,000 in fees from payments on claims he had referred to their law firm before joining Juneau's staff, according to the report.

Sutton resigned from Juneau's staff in June.

BP also noted that Freeh's report said BrownGreer, a vendor for the settlement program, has resisted efforts to control its costs. BrownGreer has averaged more than $15 million per month in fees for its work on the program.

"BrownGreer appears to be part of the problem, not part of the solution," BP lawyers wrote.

Freeh's report said his work is "ongoing" and will result in recommendations for strengthening the settlement program's operations and anti-fraud measures. BP urged Barbier to suspend all settlement payments until Juneau and Freeh can reform the program, "bringing a satisfactory resolution" to the problems Freeh uncovered.

Juneau has said Freeh's report validates his team's work, calling his staff's alleged misconduct an "isolated situation."

"The Freeh Report specifically recommended we continue to process and pay claims. That is what we have been doing and we will continue to do so," Juneau said in a statement Monday.

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**ANGUS SHAW**

**AP Writer**

An African teenager living in Detroit can't understand why her immigrant aunt is always dieting when people back home in Zimbabwe seem to eat anything — getting some of the vibrancy "colors and magic" of their continent.

In Bulawayo’s book, the character Darling, grows up in a Zimbabwean shanty town with friends with equally quirky names — Chipo, Godknows, Bastard and Sibho. The cheerful rascals raid the gardens in wealthy suburbs to steal fruit. The book title comes from the fact that immigrant children are given American names as they struggle to be accepted in a different world, Bulawayo said.

At home, "the kids transcend poverty and are funny and hopeful and they have spunk. But even with the American dream, Darling’s character flattens out. She is out of her geographical space and becomes lost," Bulawayo said in an interview with The Associated Press in Harare, Zimbabwe’s capital.

"We need New Names" is one of six works on an annual short-list of the finest English-language writing from Britain, Ireland and the 54-nation Commonwealth of former British colonies. The winner of the award officially known as the Man Booker Prize after its sponsor financial services firm Man Group PLC, will be announced on Oct. 15.

Bulawayo, 31, writes on the search for identity in the United States by Africans escaping poverty and upheaval at home, and leaving behind childhood friends and the stories she describes in the vibrant "colors and magic of Zimbabwean fleeing the country to become diaspora communities around the world."

"In the novel Darling, in a phone call with a childhood friend, is accused of abandoning her home rather than staying to deal with the challenges. That is the kind of discomfort experienced by many Zimbabweans exiles living abroad."

The shanty homes of Darling’s friends were razed to the ground, a description of the brutal, real-life slum clearance operation in 2005 known as Murambatsvina, or “clean out the trash” in the local language. President Robert Mugabe’s government called it an urban renewal program, but critics said it aimed to crush burgeoning support for Mugabe’s opponents in the impoverished townships. The United Nations said as many 700,000 people were left homeless.

"We have ways of looking at our destiny, I write what moves me. I am driven to write. When things were getting hectic (in Zimbabwe) it became a matter of catharsis for me, of putting a face to it," said Bulawayo, born after the independence from colonial era rule and the first all-race elections that brought Mugabe to power in 1980. Mugabe was recently re-elected, brushing off accusations from the opposition that his supporters engaged in widespread fraud at the polls.

"Any decent government should provide for its people. You make a dangerous society by having a disgruntled people. I am just a writer. I don’t make policy to change lives at a tangible level. I only have a voice," said Bulawayo, who spent her early childhood in rural western Zimbabwe. There, she listened to the folktales of her grandfather and father, who had been in the colonial Rhodesian police force and was branded a "sabot" after independence.

Bulawayo, without access to a television until she was 18, was an avid reader. The leading chain of bookstores where she picked up cheap titles is virtually bankrupt now, after years of economic meltdown.

Electronic media aside, "I hope somehow we go back to a culture of reading," Bulawayo said.

"There’s an economic issue. What you can afford — getting something to eat or reading?"
The state of FIU

football following a 72-0 loss at Louisville

When the final statistics sheet of the pounding that the University of Louisville Cardinals gave the Panthers was released, it is easy to see that the team’s bye week was much needed.

The offense had a total of 30 yards—the lowest in school history by 35 yards—including three rushing yards and 27 passing yards. Those 30 yards came on a total of 43 offensive plays for the Panthers, which was a significantly less amount than the 56 plays that the Cardinals offered for 164 yards.

Some positives on the team from the game were the punts, for which punter Chris Ayers, who had nine of the team’s 11, boasts a large number in total yards between him and Austin Taylor. His back-up 355 yards from those punts with only 48 total return yards from the Cardinals. The other was that FIU was in charge of time of possession overall in the game. FIU had the ball for four minutes and 40 seconds more than the Cardinals did but there was no avail in that.

The Cardinals were in complete control of the statistics dominating in the sack with four for 33 yards, kickoff returns with one for 93 yards and a touchdown and the offensive yards with 210 yards on 29 carries, with four touchdowns and 22 completions out of 27 attempts for 254 yards and five touchdowns.

Quarterback E.J. Hilliard, who made his first start of the 2013 campaign against his former high school teammate in Cardinals quarterback Teddy Bridgewater, had a less than spectacular first start. Hilliard went four for nine in passing but ran for a total loss of 32 yards. According to the University of Louisville athletic department website, Student Media learned that this was the largest margin of victory for the Cardinals since 2007 when they beat Murray State University 73-10 and the first shutout they’ve had since a 26-0 win over the University of Connecticut in the 2010 season.

“Just as it was just a great overall performance in all three phases of the game,” Bridge- water said to the Cardinals Athletic Department on the game. “We just went out today and competed and played a complete game.”

Turner also commented on the Louisville game. Due to media availability Turner was unavailable for comment directly to Student Media.

“Nothing will surprise me with this team,” Turner said of Louisville. “They’re a great football team all the way around. There are no weak areas. They’re very well coached, they play hard and they have exceptional athletes.”

There was also an issue between Turner and an offi- cial, creating a situation for a running, no-stop clock in the second half after the Cardi- nals were already up 38-0.

Gerald Austin, coordinator of officials for Confer- ence USA clarified the issue in a press release

A_after faying the lowest score in school history, FIU looks to regain some composure during the upcoming bye-week.

“Coach Turner made a comment to one of the offi- cials that, given the amount of injuries and the limited numbers of players he had available, he wanted to run the ball in the second half. One official misinterpreted that comment. Coach Turner, at no time requested that the clock run. FIU threw just one pass in the second half. After reviewing the tape there were five times that the clock should have been stopped and it did not. Four times were on first down and one play where the runner went out of bounds, based on a quick review of the video,” Austin said.

The wireless Panthers, who are on bye week one out of two this week, face the University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles on Oct. 5 for their first game in C-USA play.

YOSVANY RODRIGUEZ

Contributing Writer

Batman & Robin, LeBron & Wade, Quentin & Alterio

While these two might not be at the level of the aforementioned duos, they have been able to make the FIU soccer squad a formidable offensive force.

“We need competition on the team, especially myself,” Junior forward Quentin Alterio said. “I want to be able to score and be a guy who can score.”

The Panther’s are currently 16th in the country in total goals scored (14).

The leader of the offensive attack so far has been USF transfer Junior midfielder Roberto Alterio currently 5-0 away from seven games.

The four goals are good enough to rank 18th in the nation in total goals scored.

Not far behind is the man who led FIU in total goals last season (10), Quentin Alterio, with two goals.

While Alterio has only connected on two goals this season, he leads the team with shot attempts (21). Eventually, the law of averages will come into play and he will likely see some of those missed shots become goals.

The sky is the limit for FIU’s offense with these two studs leading the attack.

As Alterio becomes further acclimated with the team and builds greater chemistry with Alterio, the goals should come in bunches.

Alterio and Alterio should continue to push each other all season, which should lead to a very exciting campaign for the Panther’s.

Best defense is a good offense

FIU at the moment is ranked dead last in Confer- ence USA in goals allowed per game (1.86).

Yet, FIU seems to be turning a new page on the defensive side of the ball as they have only surrendered three goals in their last three meetings.

“We’re young, we’re a little inexperienced, that aggression defensively leads to some fouls,” Head Coach Ken Arena explained.

“Even when we played our games in eight days, we probably challenged our self physically and mentally more than any team in the country,” Trent Turner said. “I think now as we have games, which were more fresh, we could hold ourselves to the standard we need to defensively.”

FIU was able to record its first shutout of the season on Sunday evening against the Jacksonville Dolphins, although the Panthers almost had one a few nights before against the North Florida Ospreys.

In both matches, FIU combined for 46 total shots, while their opponents only attempted 16.

The Panther’s have been able to control the ball for much of the game in both instances, which has led to two successful games for the defense that had been struggling.

FIU’s best defensive strategy seems to be to just be on the constant attack.

Tough slate ahead

After failing to win a single conference game the prior year (0-7-1), it’s no surprise that the point of emphasis this year has been conference play.

FIU has already dropped their first conference game of the season to the unde-feated first year C-USA member FAU Owls (5-0-1), in a 2-1 loss.

The Panther’s are just three short weeks away from heading into the part of the schedule everyone’s been waiting for.

On Oct. 6, the Panther’s will take the Marshall Thundering Herd to begin a streak of eight consecutive conference games.

FIU will play half of the games on that slate on the road.

The Panther’s are off to a pedestrian start on the road currently 2-3-1 away from home.

However, FIU should be ready for the tough road ahead as they were able to improve the strength of their non-conference schedule in order to prepare them for these games.

“The quality of our oppo- nents wasn’t as high as it should’ve been,” rational- ized Arena. “We tried to make our non-conference schedule a little tougher to better prepare us for the conference.”
Satur- day’s foot- ball game was more of a gladi- atoristic affair among the boys.

The Cardinals peeked their way to a 72-0 route of the Panthers, who looked like alley cats praying for salvation. The second half became their worst night- mare, as the Panthers managed to end the half with a loss of three yards. You would have to go as far back as the Panthers’ inaugural year to find their previous low in total yards: 65 against Western Kentucky in 2002. Worse, the loss to the Cardi- nals made it the biggest loss in program history, surpassing the 62-3 beating that team took at the hands of the Florida Gators back in 2009.

So far, the team has allowed 187 points, compared to only scoring 122. Giving them the benefit of the doubt, the first four games of the season were expected to be the toughest of the season, but the way the games have been played and the way they’ve lost was just something out of a video game.

It’s hard to pinpoint one aspect of the game that stood out or needed the most work. Backup quarter- back E.J. Hilliard, filling in for injured Jake Medlock, only went 4-9 with 27 yards passing, including four sacks — stats that we’re used to seeing after a quarter. His former Northwestern high school teammate and Cardinal counterpart Teddy Bridgewater finished 17-22 with 212 yards and four touchdowns.

Bridgewater’s only blemish? One sack, cour- tesy of Randy Harvey. It’s tough to avoid sounding repetitive when faced with outcomes like this; it’s clearly a team that is nowhere in sync.

The “it’s early in the season” line flew out the window after the Louisville game. These guys are just outplayed and outmatched.

You see it in every game: the guys have been beaten up in every possible way and there doesn’t seem to be a light at the end of the tunnel. Rather, this team were a Football Championship Subdivision team, they’d be a laughing stock.

Another call to ques- tion has been the conserva- tive styles of play-calling the Panthers have showed this season. Long third down plays have resulted in runs that only produce a yard or two. In regards to the Louisville game, only converting one out of 13 third downs.

With the way the season has been so far, you’d think to give a quarterback more then seven passes attempts in a game. Nothing wrong with running the ball on third and long when the previous times rushing only got you three yards. For those who may have real- ized the second half go by faster than usual, there were talks of Head Coach Ron Turner possibly running a clock once the game was out of reach.

Turner denied the request and, later, Confer- ence USA Coordinator of Officials Gerald Austin issued a statement that said: “Coach Turner made a comment to one of the offi- cials that, given the amount of injuries and the limited numbers of players he had available, he wanted to run the ball in the second half. One official misinter- preted that comment. Coach Turner, at no time requested that the clock run.”

After reviewing the tape there were five times the clock should have been stopped and it did not. Four times were on first down and one play where the runner went out of bounds, based on a quick review of the video.

So not only was the game going wrong for Turner, but so was the offi- ciating of the clock — a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon. All in all, this is a season for the trash, one to forget about and hope for better days. T.Y Hilton isn’t walking through the door, neither is Anthony Gaitor.

Wonder if Mario Cristo- tobal would want to leave his spot with the number one team in the nation to come back home?

-Patrick Chahwile

Stenson wins Tour Championship

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

At this stage in his career, Henrik Stenson never expected anything to come easily.

He already had poured in hours upon hours of work to even get to this stage — a four-shot lead going into the last day of the Tour Championship, giving him a clear shot at the FedEx Cup and its $10 million bonus.

He was reminded what was at stake when he saw the two trophies displayed on the first tee at East Lake.

“I knew it was a lot of things on the line,” he said.

He figured his best move was to play his best golf, and he delivered a 2-under 68 on Sunday to claim both trophies.

With a birdie on the 15th hole that thwarted a late charge by 20-year-old Jordan Spieth, followed by three pars from the sand, Stenson wound up with a three-shot victory over Spieth and Steve Stricker in the Tour Champi- onship. Equally important if not more, he captured the FedEx Cup and its $10 million bonus.

“The main thing is to block everything out and go play golf, which I was pretty good at in the long run,” Stenson said Sunday.

The short run hasn’t been bad, either.

“None has played better over the last three months. Stenson tied for third in the Scotiabank Open, was runner-up a week later at the British Open. He was runner-up in the World Golf Championship at Firestone and finished third at the PGA Championship. And when the FedEx Cup play- offs began, the 37-year-old Swede didn’t lose his stride.

He won the Deutsche Bank Championship to get the No. 2 seed, and then capped it off with the wire-to-wire win (no ties) in the Tour Championship since Tom Watson in the first year of this 30-man showcase.

“Hats off to him...” Stricker said. “He played great. He played great in the playoffs. He won two of these events. He deserves to be champion.”

The PGA Tour is sending out ballots for the player of the year, with the result to be announced Friday. Stenson figures to be on the ballot with his two FedEx Cup playoff wins, and as FedEx’s Cup champion. It still might not be enough to trump Tiger Woods and his five victories, or the two-win seasons of major champions Phil Mickelson (British Masters) or Adam Scott (Masters).

Spieth is a lock for rookie of the year. He started the season with no status on any tour, earned enough money to get his card for the 2013-14 season, won the John Deere Classic, shot 62 the last day of the Deut- sche Bank Championship, made the Presidents Cup as a captain’s pick and closed with a 64 to put a brief scare into Stenson on the final day at East Lake. He wound up seventh in the FedEx Cup, the best ever for a rookie.

For a 20-year-old Texan.

The tour hasn’t awarded comeback player of the year since 2010, and maybe that’s where Stenson fits in. What a turnaround.

Twice.

The first slump more than a decade ago was by far the most severe as Stenson had no idea where the ball was going. This time, it was a combination of a few health issues and a lot of bad golf, the latter caused by hard work.

Even so, the Swede was not even among the top 200 in the world going into the 2012 season. He now matches a career-best at No. 4 in the world rankings.

“It shows that I never give up,” Stenson said. “This is way beyond what I could have imagined.”

Spieth made him work for it.
Catholics cheer pope’s remarks on gays, abortion

KAREN MATTHEWS  
AP Writer

Catholics attending Sunday services around the globe said they were heartened by Pope Francis’ recent remarks that the church has become too focused on “small-minded rules” on hot-button issues like homosexuality, abortion and contraceptives.

Worshippers applauded what they heard as a message of inclusion from the man who assumed the papacy just six months ago.

“I think he’s spot on,” said Shirley Holznuecht, 77, a retired school principal attending services in Little Rock, Ark. “As Catholic Christians, we do need to be more welcoming.”

In Havana, Cuba, Irene Delgado said the church needs to adapt to modern times.

“The world evolves, and I believe that the Catholic Church is seeing that it is being left behind, and that is not good,” said Delgado, 57. “So I think that they chose this Pope Francis because he is progressive, has to change things.”

Francis, in an interview published Thursday in 16 Jesuit journals worldwide, called the church’s focus on abortion, marriage and contraception narrow and said it was driving people away.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said the pope’s words were welcome.

“He’s captured the world’s imagination,” Dolan said after Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York. “Like Jesus, he’s always saying, ‘Hate the sin, love the sinner.’

But Dolan said Francis’ change in tone didn’t signal a change in doctrine.

“He knows that his highest and most sacred responsibility is to pass on the timeless teaching of the church,” Dolan said. “What he’s saying is, we’ve got to think of a bit more effective way to do it. Because if the church comes off as a scold, it’s counterproductive.”

Francis was “bringing the church up to date,” he said.

She said children of divorced parents used to be barred from some schools in Brazil. “All that has changed. In Brazil, people are no longer rejected because they are divorced,” Lemos said. “The church has to catch up with changes in society, even if it still doesn’t admit divorce.”

When Francis said he doesn’t accept abortion or homosexuality, “It was very correctly stated,” Delgado said.

As Catholic Christians, we do need to be more welcoming.

Shirley Holznuecht  
Retired School Principal  
Little Rock, Ark.

In Brasilia, Brazil, the capital of the country with the largest Catholic population in the world, 22-year-old student Maria das Gracas Lemos said the pope’s words were welcome.

“He’s speaking to the hearts of millions of people.”

In Bolivia, Jose Baltazar, a 74-year-old vice president for men and women to have a partner,” said Recio.

At Bay  
Wednesday, September 25, 2013  
The Beacon – B  
husm.com

A night of “magical” food and wine pairing

CATHOLICS CHOOSE WINE BASED ON FLAVORS, TEXTURES

The wine selection, the food and the budget were the first things that came to mind last Friday when I was hired to do my first wine selection for a birthday dinner.

When you have a menu pre-selected, it is easier to do the matching. If you are going to a restaurant and the party size is bigger than four or five people, selection can be challenging, so choosing the wine that the host likes the most might be the best solution.

If you are the host and you know the tastes of your guests, the proper thing to do would be for you to order what they like to drink. As a result, it would magically pair with the food they have chosen.

For this birthday party, I worked with a preselected menu and I knew both of the hosts, which made my job easier when selecting the wines. The only challenge I faced was the budget. I selected the wines, which made my job easier when I realized it is easier to do the math for serving it is easy. Usually a glass would be considered around five ounces. A bottle has 750 ml, which equals to 25 oz, or five servings. If you divide the number of guests by five, you will get the number of bottles needed. For example, I had 10 people to pour, resulting in two bottles per course.

Matching food and wine is more than science. It is the understanding of the main components in food, which are sweet, sour, salty and bitter, and the main in wine: sweet, sour and bitter. The combination of these two create a synergistic match between them. Generally, one should not overwhelm the other, but rather compliment. As an example, food with high acidity and a heavy body should be paired with a wine with similar characteristics (like pasta al pomodoro with a Chianti) Food with light body and high acidity, such as a ceviche, should be paired with a wine that has similar characteristics, like a Sauvignon Blanc.

When matching food and wine, you should consider other components as well, such as texture, use of meat, particular flavor, spices, etc.

To find the ideal wine and create a perfect combination with the food, it is a challenge as well as a pleasure.

In my case, the host was not a big fan of white, so to accommodate her taste I decided to only do reds. Because big and bold wines are not her favorite, I went to a medium-light body selection.

Here is the menu I had to work with:

Appetizer: Crostini of goat cheese and sandried tomoato
Main course: Penne al Pesto
Dessert: Homemade blueberry pie with vanilla ice cream.

My wine selection for the first course was a Pinot Noir, very elegant and considered the lightest of the red category. It is usually a medium-light wine with subtle tannin and mild acidity.

Affordable: Kudos 2011 with an alcohol percentage of 14.3 from Willamette Valley, OR; $15.99.

My favorite: Peter Paul 2010 with an alcohol percentage of 13.8 from Russian River Valley, Mill Road, CA; $40.

My wine selection for the second course: Zinfandel.

It is little heavier than the previous one, but with an outstanding balance between acidity, tanin and sugar this wine was the best of the night. Its tones of raspberry and pepper made it very easy to drink, producing the perfect match for the second course.

Affordable: Alterna 2011 with an alcohol percentage of 13 from Sonoma County, CA; $14.99.

My favorite: Williams Selyem – Baciagolpi Vineyard 2009 with an alcohol percentage of 14.9 from Russian River Valley, CA; $80.

My wine selection for the third and last course: Moscato D’Asti.

Affordable and one of my favorites: Beviamo 2011 with an alcohol percentage of 11 from Asti, Piedmont DOCG, Italy; $15.

It is semi-light with slightly sparkling notes, golden pale with a crisp freshness, elegant floral aromas and delicate flavors of peaches and apricots.

Always pick a wine that is less sweet than the dessert you will serve.

Far Saudi National Day, Sept. 23, a tour bus visited different colleges around Miami to raise awareness toward the country and its history.

SAUDI NATIONAL DAY

 beloved, food, clothing.”

In Philadelphia, church goer Irene Fedin said priests “should be more focused on helping the person gain a spiritual connection to God instead of just condemning people because of certain actions that they believe are wrong.”

Outside a church in Coral Gables, Fla., Frank Recio said he was grateful that the pope is trying to shift the church’s tone.

“I’m a devout Catholic, always have been. I think the Catholic Church had gotten out of touch with the way the world was evolving,” said Recio, 69, who’s retired from a career in the technology industry.

Recio said he would support changes like allowing priests to marry.

“It’s a natural state in life, for men and women to have a partner,” said Recio.

In Boston, Evelyn Martinez, 26, said she agrees with Francis that compasion should be one of the church’s main priorities.

“I don’t believe that someone’s sexuality should keep them away from any religion,” said Martinez, a graduate student at Emerson College who attended Mass on Saturday night.

Jose Baltazar, a 74-year-old vice president of an insurance company and longtime church volunteer in Manila, in the Philippines, said the pope has set his priorities mindful of stark realities.

“We have to give priority in working those who have gone astray back to the fold,” Baltazar said. “We pray for them. Why did they go astray? What’s the shortcoming? What’s the shortcoming of the Catholic Church?”

Associated Press writers Rodrigo Ngowi in Boston; Anne-Marie Garcia in Havana, Cuba; Jeannie Nuss to Little Rock, Ark.; Marco Shibaja in Brasilia, Brazil; Katherine Corcoran in Mexico City; and Jim Gomez in Manila, Philippines, contributed to this report.