Students in low-income sector fall victim to wage theft

DANIEL RODRIGUEZ 
Staff Writer

Students may want to look more closely at their next paychecks because they may not be receiving what they’re owed. Wage theft has been making waves in Miami-Dade County and the University’s 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, people who 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, underpays, violates tips, commits unauthorized deductions, or misclassifies employees.

Hernandez said the labor center began research in 2006 in order to look more closely at what happened to victims of wage theft.

“Some people comment on it and I’ve seen people intentionally defying it,” Montoya said. “I’m sure they’ll get revised to be more clear as to the fact that they are prohibited or the prohibition may need to be lifted altogether.”

Both Salvo and Montoya believe their positions on the subject of electronic cigarettes are strong, and both will continue to fight for their beliefs.

“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 logical and a critical thinker and that serves well for areas such as law and even medicine,” Hernandez said.

About pursuing further education in order to improve job placement possibilities, Hernandez 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,” Hernandez said.

Policy on electronic cigarette usage remains unclear

DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS 
Staff Writer

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 any cigarette, however, he has not personally seen them being used on-campus.

Jose De-Leon, a senior marketing major, said he was unaware that the ban extended to electronic cigarettes and that he has never been reprimanded for using his e-cigarette anywhere on-campus.

Correa disagrees with University policy on e-cigarettes on the basis that they are allowed elsewhere.

“It’s a vapor, it’s not smoke,” Correa said. Casas said UPD plans on taking steps to ensure that electronic cigarettes are not being used to consume illicit substances.

“If we see people using that, we want to make sure there isn’t some kind of oil version or synthetic version of a prohibited substance,” Casas 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 Werheim School of Medicine and a medical doctor for the University’s Health Faculty Practice.

The oral phalanges, esophagus, windpipe, larynx and bronchial tubes 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 exempt from 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 defied it.

“One person is a concerned for his/their own health whereas the other doesn’t think about anything,” Montoya said.

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 harming anybody else – which seems to be the consensus – I don’t see why you shouldn’t be allowed to do it,” said Montoya.

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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 struck pageant.indulged and raised questions about how the French relate to girls' sexuality. Such contests, and the make-up, doll-up beauty products that accompany them, have been blasted by those who want to put an end both to facelift and rejuvenate, and have drawn criticism in several countries. France, with its current concerns, appears to be out front in pushing an outright ban. The proposed children's pageant amended from a debate on a woman's rights. The legislation, approved by a vote of 176-146, must now go to the lower house of parliament for further debate and another vote.

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**IRAQ**

Islamic State militants have captured five provinces in northern Iraq, the Ministry of Defense said on Tuesday. It was the biggest setback for the government since it took power in Baghdad four years ago. The government has been battling the Islamic State for control of several areas in the north and east of the country.

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**INDIA**

India's government has approved a bill that would ban the use of cellphones in all public places, including schools, workplaces, and government offices. The law comes as India is one of the world's biggest producers of cellphones. However, some people have criticized the law as being too restrictive.

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**ADRIANA SAMQUIMEL Contributing Writer**

While the ban on cellphones in public places is prevalent in K-12 classrooms, restrictions have been popping up on college campuses in New York, California, and Texas, according to TechSavvy.

Susan Jacobson, professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, 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 the internet during class, the student is not participating in the classroom discussion and will not be able to communicate [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. For as considering phone use during class hours as a distraction, Vanessa Garcia, junior psychology major, says it depends on the situation.

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

Vanessa Garcia, junior broadcast journalism major, agrees that it is a distraction for him.

“People get addicted to [their cellphones],” Garcia said. “It’s compulsive, almost like [attention deficit disorder].”

Shumow, assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, has found an alternative to a ban.

“I have this idea that we are able to multitask and listen to the professor and also pay attention to our text with our friend and go on Facebook,” said Shumow. “I think the fact is that once you start doing those other things, your ability to listen and pay attention to the professor essentially goes to zero.”

Whether or not a ban should occur, Garcia said, “It’s how we, as a junior broadcast journalism major, agree that it is a distraction for us. It’s important to have an alternative to a ban in the classroom as an alternative to a ban altogether.”

“Engaging students on their terms is the only way to really make an impact. Incorporate technology in the classroom as a way to get in front of them that are familiar,” Shumow said.

“This can be one of the many alternatives to eliminate the idea of getting rid of cellphones 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.”

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**Center for Labor and Research for 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 unclaimed wages. With help from The Labor Center and Social and Economic Policy, and the Center for Labor and Research, the proposed ordinance passed the first county-wide wage theft ordinance. It’s inception, it has recovered over $500,000 in unpaid wages. Hernandez stated that other counties have used the research accomplished by the University’s Labor Center to help pass their own ordinances to combat wage theft on state wide level.

As for what’s next for The Labor Center, they hope to continue fighting this issue.

“We hope to create stronger mechanisms for workers to collect their wages once they have gone through the procedures of their hearings,” Hernandez said. “It’s really about bringing awareness to workers about their rights and what they can do if they’re confronted with wage theft.”

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**WORLD LIBERALS, PAGE 1**

Cathiana Limage, 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 – anything – for a job,” Limage said.

Limage has an internship in the media industries where even if she is not participating in the classroom discussion and sometimes not at all,” Angarita said.

According to a report by the Research Institute for Social and Economic Policy and the Center for Labor and Research, this type of activity is one where affected by wage theft are retail, hospitality, restaur-

Students and faculty not concerned with marketability of liberal arts degrees

Carolyn Meeker, assistant director at the office of Career Services, said 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 toward other majors that are more technical but there are many many things students can do to enrich their liberal arts degrees 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 professional 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,” according to Tanner.

“In the real world you need to be able to relate with our employers. It’s no good having a 4.0 GPA if you can’t speak an employer’s hand and engage them in a conversation,” Tanner said.

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Internet users exploited daily by Google and Facebook

MOISES FUERTESTAFF 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 we log into Facebook, 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.

The Huffington Post further reported that classification. “Who is he, he hella old too,” and “I’m about to sounds naive as F and who the hell is Paul McCartney??!” this song sucks bro! were only a few of the jumble of the ill-made ignorant tweets that overtook Twitter. Incredulously appalling – yes, I know. And now, we’ve all heard that America is becoming increasingly ignorant. The next generations seem to be absorbed in a warp of mere futility, disconnected from the rest of society and unaware of almost all of their surroundings.

It’s true. American society has come to be known for thinking inside the box for blissfully indulging in the realm of fast food, accepting our political ingenuity and lagging in many academic aspects. We’ve voluntarily acquired the title of ignorant over the years. And the clamor over the ecumenical rock superstar didn’t make things much better. It is bad enough that not too long ago, Newsweek released a survey in which 29 percent of one thousand United States citizens were unable to name the current Vice President and six percent couldn’t date Independence Day (the fourth of July, seriously?)!

So, that only goes to show that not only do we pay nothing about our own didactic matters, but we don’t know anything about pop culture, either. Sad, that’s what it is.

This problem stems deep within the tenets of American culture. More and more we are placing value on abstract objects that are meaningless, the material and vain and forgetting about our past and what made us the people we are today.

Is America living under a culturally iconic rock?

ITZEL BASUALDOCOMMUNITY WRITER

Despite their worldly, out of this universe, global, galactic and international fame, you may be surprised—or not—to hear that some of the people behind you have no idea who this idolized rock ‘n roll quartet is. In February 2012, the infamous veteran Beatle, Paul McCartney, took the stage at the 54th annual Grammy Awards, igniting the 54th annual Grammy Awards, igniting the social networking site Twitter with confusion.

Beatle Paul McCartney took the stage at the 54th annual Grammy Awards, igniting the social networking site Twitter with confusion. When walking into the Green or Hubert Libraries this summer, you may have noticed the distinct lack of food that has become a staple of students cramming for tests or just hanging out. While this unpalatable pilot program is over and rules have been eased to allow eating in the libraries once again, this doesn’t mean it’s a free for all, no holds barred, let’s have a pizza party next to the new computers.

The wording of the new policy is pretty clear: snacks and water are allowed in and anything else will be asked to put it away or to take it outside. That classification.

Is America living under a culturally iconic rock?
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 reframed 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 is how to do 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 content.”

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 artists’ 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 sang 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.

The Patricia and Philip Frost Art Museum is opening two new exhibitions by faculty members on Sept. 18. One exhibition focuses on war and the other on babies and lullabies. Babies will sense when you are not engaged so you must open up your senses to be vulnerable and empathetic, trying 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.
BP renews 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 said he didn’t see 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.

ANUGUS SHAH
AP Writer

An African teenager living in Detroit can’t understand why her immigrant aunt is always dying to move to the suburbs. She doesn’t see a need for immigration, 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 some- thing to eat or reading?”

Zimbabwe author shortlisted for Booker prize
The state of FIU soccer squad a formidably exciting campaign for the upcoming season.

Dynamic duo increases offensive output

The state of FIU soccer squad a formidably exciting campaign for the upcoming season.

Dynamic duo increases offensive output
Stenson wins Tour Championship

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

At this stage in his career, Henrik Stenson never
expects anything to come easily.
He already had poured in
hours upon hours of work to
ensure that this stage—a
four-shot lead going into the
last day of the Tour Champi-
onship, giving him a clear
viewing glass on his first foray
into Stenson on the final day
of the event. He finished third
at East Lake. He wound up
with a three-shot
victory over Spieth and Steve
Bridgewater finished 17-22
with 212 yards and four
touchdowns.
Bridgewater’s only
blemish? One sack, court-
sey of Randy Harvey.
It’s tough to avoid
the running ball on
third and long when the
previous times rushing only
got you three yards. For
those who may have real-
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talks of Head Coach Ron
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game was out of reach.
Turner denied the
request and, later, Confer-
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Officials Gerald Austin
issued a statement that
said: “Coach Turner made
a comment to one of the of-
icials 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. FIU
threw just one pass in the
second half.”

After reviewing the tape
there were five times
the clock should have been
stopped and it didn’t. 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
doors, neither is Anthony
Gaitor.
Wonder if Mario Crist-
tobal would want to leave
his spot with the number one
team in the nation to
come back home?

-patrick.chalvire@fiusm.com

PATRICK CHALVIRE

The Cardinals pecked
their way to a 72-0 route
of the Panther’s, who looked
like alley cats praying for
salvation. The second half
became their worst night-
mare, as the Cardinals
managed to end the half
with a loss of three yards.
They would have to go
as far back as the Panthers’
inaugural year to find
their previous loss in total:
65 against Western
Kansas in 2002. Worse,
the loss to the Cardi-

nals made it the biggest
blowout in program history,
surpassing the 62-3 beating
that took the hands of the Florida Gators back
in 2009.
So far, the team has
allowed 187 points,
compared to only scoring
59, 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—that’s what we’re
used to seeing after a quarter.
His former Northwestern
high school teammate
Cardinal counterpart Teddy
Bridgewater finished 17-22
with 212 yards and four
touchdowns.
Bridgewater’s only
blemish? One sack, court-
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It’s tough to avoid
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WINNIE THE POOH .

“A SAD EROTIC COMEDY WHIRLWIND.”

What a turnaround.
The first slump more than
four shots out of the lead
was to play his best golf,
He figured his best move
what was at stake when he saw the two
trophies displayed on the
first tee at East Lake.
“Knew it was a lot of
tings on the line,” he said.
He figured his best move
was to play his best golf,
and he delivered a 3-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
Bridgewater in the $10
million bonus.
Not bad for a 20-year-old
Texan.
So far, the team has
allowed 187 points,
compared to only scoring
59, 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—that’s what we’re
used to seeing after a quarter.
His former Northwestern
high school teammate
Cardinal counterpart Teddy
Bridgewater finished 17-22
with 212 yards and four
touchdowns.
Bridgewater’s only
blemish? One sack, court-
sey of Randy Harvey.
It’s tough to avoid
the running 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
faster than usual, there were
talks of Head Coach Ron
Turner possibly requesting
a running clock once the
game was out of reach.
Turner denied the
request and, later, Confer-
cey USA Coordinator of
Officials Gerald Austin
issued a statement that
said: “Coach Turner made
a comment to one of the of-
icials 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. FIU
threw just one pass in the
second half.”

After reviewing the tape
there were five times
the clock should have been
stopped and it didn’t. 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
doors, neither is Anthony
Gaitor.
Wonder if Mario Crist-
tobal would want to leave
his spot with the number one
team in the nation to
come back home?

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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” and needs to be more welcoming.

In Havana, Cuba, Irene Isaias Miguel Ortiz, a computer engineer in Mexico City, said the pope’s words were welcome. “He’s captured the world’s imagination,” she said.

In Brazil, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said the pope’s words were welcome. “He’s hearted the world’s imagination,” he said.

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 Francis was “bringing the church up to date.”

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.”

Isaac Miguel Ortiz, a teacher at a private university in the Dominican Republic, took a similar view of Pope Francis’ statements on gays. Although he believes the church will never accept homosexuality, Ortiz said Francis’ remarks were “getting closer to more people.”

“Everyone should be accepted the way they are,” he said.

In Philadelphia, church Recio said he would support changes like allowing priests to marry. “It’s a devout Catholic, always have been. I think the Catholic Church has gotten out of touch with the way the world was evolving,” said Recio, 69, who’s retired from a career in the technology industry.

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