



## French ban angers FIU students



**MASS OUTRAGE:** Muslim women take to the streets of France, protesting the kidnapping of two French journalists by an Iraqi militia group. The group itself is protesting the recent government-backed banning of Muslim women's in public schools. **COURTESY PHOTO**

By **ALENETTE ACUESTA OPENA**  
Contributing Writer

The world's Muslim population has been in an uproar since early March of this year when the French government—with the support of President Jacques Chirac—approved a bill banning the display of religious items in public schools.

Though the law, which aims to completely remove religion from French schools, will prohibit the wearing of Jewish yarmulkes and Christian crosses, it is primarily aimed at stopping Muslim women and girls from wearing the hijab, or traditional head scarf.

As year long protests have raged from the streets of Paris to the shores of North Africa, students within FIU have been voicing their opinions on the controversial subject.

"I believe that this decision raises many issues regarding religious and cultural tolerance," History major Pablo Avendano said. "It is also an infringement on the right to religious practice...To enforce secularism on people is just as bad as trying to enforce certain religious or

cultural practices on them."

Nour Kablawi, president of FIU's Muslim Student Organization, has been closely following the events in France and thinks that, although the law will be equally implemented against all religions, Islam will be the most targeted.

"This law is discriminatory against Muslims only and Muslims in particular simply because Christians are not required by their faith to wear crosses, nor are Jews required to wear the Star of David," he said.

Nour also stated that, since wearing a hijab might be an obligation upon Muslim women, preventing them from wearing it would be interfering with their right to practice their religion.

Although in recent years some Muslim women have chosen to discard their head scarves, those who still wear them find pride and meaning behind the cloth.

To Aminah Abdelhaq, an education major, the head scarf signifies modesty and a way to express her cultural beliefs.

"It's strange to think that some people find this practice weird when not too long ago, their ancestors used to cover

their hair, wear long sleeves and skirts. A lot of people expressed modesty in their own way. This is simply the Muslim female way," she said.

Nevertheless, she also acknowledged the freedom of choice that comes with adopting the scarf; she is the only girl of four in her family to wear it.

Though discussions regarding the French events have taken place within FIU's Muslim organizations, the reactions within the Islamic community itself have become a prime topic.

The most controversial protest took place in late August when a militia group called the Islamic Army kidnapped two French journalists stationed in Iraq. When word of the hostage situation reached the large Muslim population in France, peaceful marches were organized to demonstrate the community's outrage at the drastic measures.

"We will not allow our head scarves to be soiled in blood," proclaimed Muslim women as they took to the streets.

Through these demonstrations of, many saw hope or an eventual peaceful conclusion to the ongoing religious issues in

the French education system.

"I was quite proud as a French citizen when, after the kidnapping of the two French reporters in Iraq, the Muslim Commission declared...that they did in no way support the kidnapper's demands. To me, that shows it is possible for Islam's precepts to coincide with the republican ideal," said Marie-Claire Lochet, an international relations major.

Still, despite these organized efforts, the hostages remain in the hands of their captors.

The hijab issue has been debated since 1989 when two Muslim girls refused to remove their heads carves in class. Though the French Court of Appeals ruled in the girls' favor, the current administration's goal to completely secularize society has brought the issue back into international focus.

On campus Muslim organizations will continue to discuss the topic as long as it is relevant, welcoming students to contact them with any questions regarding the issue.



**NATIONAL COLORS:** Wrapped in French flags, Muslim mothers protest the banning of headscarves in public schools. **COURTESY PHOTOS**

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#### Dramatic comedy comes to FIU

Rendition of Bram Stoker's Dracula debuts. **6**



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## NEWSFLASH

## ON CAMPUS

## Pilot performs emergency landing near BBC

A pilot flying a small banner plane was forced to make an emergency landing in a field adjacent to the FIU Biscayne Bay campus on Oct. 10. The aircraft named "Lady Luck," made its abrupt stop after its engines failed at approximately 1,000 feet in the air. The plane was destined for Opa Locka Airport.

Aside from losing a wheel upon landing, the craft sustained minimal damage. No persons or property were harmed; the pilot walked away from the landing site without injury.

## Historian to discuss role of Polish uprising during World War II

Norman Davies, a Fellow of the British Academy and best-selling author, will be stopping by FIU's University Park campus on Oct. 15 to talk about his new book, "Rising '44: the Battle for Warsaw."

In a lecture entitled "Wartime Poland, 1939-45: Inclusive view," the noted historian will address the pivotal role the Polish resistance had in the long years of World War II. The event will take place at 9:30 a.m. in GC 140, UP.

Attendees will be given a free copy of "Honor of the City, Warsaw Rising," a DVD produced by the American Institute of Polish Culture, which co-sponsors Davies' visit.

A book signing will follow at 2 p.m. in the campus bookstore.

## OTHER UNIVERSITIES

## Radio talk show host vows to take on Michael Moore in Penn State

Mike Gallagher, host of a conservative radio talk show, expressed outrage that Pennsylvania State University student funds are being used to pay for a school appearance by liberal film-maker Michael Moore on Oct. 22. He vowed to come to Penn State to fund-raise the exact amount needed to bring Moore to town. All the money raised will be used to buy "care packages" and other necessities for the soldiers in Iraq.

Moore has asked for about \$15,000 in speaking fees. More than \$30,000 will be needed to support his trip to Penn State. The University Park Allocation Committee gave the College Democrats about \$23,000 for the event. The money UPAC gave the club came from an activity fee all students are required to pay. UPAC members have said publicly that although UPAC rules forbid allocations to political advocates, they decided to fund Moore because he is a filmmaker and a significant public figure.

Moore is currently on a 60-city "Slacker Uprising Tour" where he hopes to encourage traditional non-voters to get to the polls Nov. 2.

## NYU suicides draw attention to counseling

Since the Sept. 2003 death of a New York University student was officially ruled as a suicide—the first at NYU since 1996—five other jumping deaths have followed in less than a year. Of the six, four have been ruled suicides.

Beyond NYU's Greenwich Village environs, the deaths are drawing new attention to a problem that experts say accounts for an estimated 1,100 deaths a year. Suicide is second only to accidents as the cause of death among college students.

In an effort to prevent further suicides, NYU started a highly publicized "wellness exchange," a 24-hour service that students can call for information about physical- or mental-health services on campus.

New NYU students also received a questionnaire this summer that asked if a student had a history of mental health problems.

## National talents shine at Fete

By CHRISTINA PEREZ-GURRI  
Contributing Writer

The sun gleamed on the tops of the tents and bounced off the bright, orange and blue shirts of the Angostura promoters.

It was Oct. 2 and the fourth annual All Inclusive University Fete, a celebration of Caribbean culture, food, and music at the Biscayne Bay Campus, was about to begin, its proceeds used for FIU School of Hospitality Management scholarships.

The smell of barbecued chicken, curried potatoes, cured pork, jerk chicken and corn soup filled the air.

To the side of the event, a large, blue and yellow tent housed the liquor supply for the evening, managed by Angostura, the event's main sponsor, and a premium rum company from Trinidad.

Claire Hutin, a junior in Professor Michael Moran's Culinary Events Management class, prepared cured pork tenderloin in her own booth.

"Several other classes joined in to make this happen. We prepared enough food to feed 4,000 people," Hutin said.

Students from from the School of Hospitality Management came together to creat different themed booths, each preparing dishes they learned in their respective classes.

The booths carried an international flavor but



**JAMMIN':** A singer prepares to perform at the annual BBC All Inclusive University Fete, a celebration of Caribbean culture, food and music. **JEFFREY BARRY/THE BEACON**

Caribbean cuisine dominated.

Many of the bands that performed traveled from other cities, states and generated much excitement.

Neri Torres and the Ife-Ile Dance Company performed first. Their music, a blend of salsa, Cuban congo and "sabor cubano" (Cuban flavor), played as choreographed dancers took the stage and interacted with the audience.

Jonathan Persuade and Denesh Somwaru flew in from New York for the Fete.

They said they most looked forward to the women, the dancing, the

food and the music.

The event, which was opened to students as well as members of the community cost \$75 a ticket.

A heavy promotional campaign preceded the event, hoping to draw as many people from different backgrounds as possible.

Kathryn Morris, a resident of Plantation, has attended the Fete four years in a row.

Like every visitor there, she has a favorite part of the event.

"The end of the party is fun, the parade and steel band is a nice way to end the event," she said.

While the stage was

set for Roy Cape Band, another performer, a sea of red, black and white flags waved in the air. The band sang, "I love my flag."

According to many bands, the event celebrated of peace, love, music and overcoming five hurricanes.

"Being in a band like this, there is no need for drugs because music puts you on a natural high," said Dexter Stewart, one of three main vocalists for Roy Cape.

Other performers included Roger George, a popular soca singer and Adesh Samaroo, with a final performance by King David Rudder.

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# Lawyers queue up around nation in preparation for Election Day challenges

By JOHN MCCORMICK  
Chicago Tribune

In a cramped corner of the state Democratic Party headquarters here, David Sullivan and seven other full-time volunteers are frantically dialing lawyers to ask them to monitor Election Day polling places.

At a union office across town, another Democratic attorney is helping design a form for use outside Ohio polls that will record the identities of voters prevented from successfully casting a ballot on Nov. 2.

And in a cozy law office near Ohio State University there was last-minute research under way as lawyers prepared to file a lawsuit challenging the state's top election official on a balloting decision he made.

Like personal injury lawyers scouring an accident-prone intersection for the next collision, thousands of attorneys across the nation are gearing up for the first presidential contest since Bush vs. Gore and the Florida meltdown of 2000.

The legal work is taking place to varying degrees in about 20 states where the race is expected to be the

closest. Ohio and Florida, both large states where it's now exceptionally tight, have received the most attention.

The unprecedented level of pre-election lawyering comes amid new and untested laws, surges in voter registration, and poll workers stressed by the need to learn how to deal with new ballots and voting equipment.

While no one is predicting the perfect storm of election mishaps and razor-slim margins that resulted in the last presidential election being determined by the U.S. Supreme Court, the potential for extensive court activity exists.

Democrats and Sen. John Kerry, vowing not to be caught off guard again, have crafted a legal response plan that includes five "SWAT teams" ready to fly anywhere a recount or other legal challenges seem warranted.

Legal command centers will be set up in some states, including Ohio and Florida, where top election lawyers will be armed with a variety of pre-drafted pleadings, should the decision be made to seek an emergency court hearing somewhere.

Republicans, mean-

while, are placing lawyers on call in battleground states, where coveted electoral votes could, theoretically, be determined by which side is best prepared to prove that voters have or have not been disenfranchised.

President Bush's campaign has said it is targeting about 30,000 precincts in 17 states, places seen as key to victory or where past election problems have arisen. Lawyers, law students and others will watch those precincts or be on call there.

But it's here in Ohio that experts believe there is the greatest potential for another Florida, primarily because more than two-thirds of voters will use punch-card ballots similar to those that produced the infamous hanging chad of 2000.

Several of Ohio's largest counties have already declared mutiny against the state's top election official and his recent ruling that provisional ballots must not be given to voters who appear at the wrong polling place.

Provisional ballots - new to some states, but not Ohio - allow voters with questions surrounding their registrations to

cast special ballots that are reviewed after the election to determine whether they came from legitimate voters.

While reforms have resolved some problems witnessed in the 2000 election, they've created others, leaving this election still susceptible to under counting, over-counting, miscounting and some voters who won't be counted at all.

The American Civil Liberties Union has already challenged Florida Secretary of State Glenda Hood for a decision by her office to urge local election officials to discard voter registration forms where new voters failed to check a box indicating their citizenship.

And Blackwell, who has made several controversial pre-election decisions that have angered Democrats, acknowledged earlier this week that he expects Ohio will see "lawsuits fly," if the election outcome is close.

Volunteers are doing much of the legal work, Kerry's campaign has raised money to prepare for recounts, telling potential donors it doesn't want Democrats to be "out-gunned, out-manned and out-matched" again.

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# OPINION

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## EDITORIAL

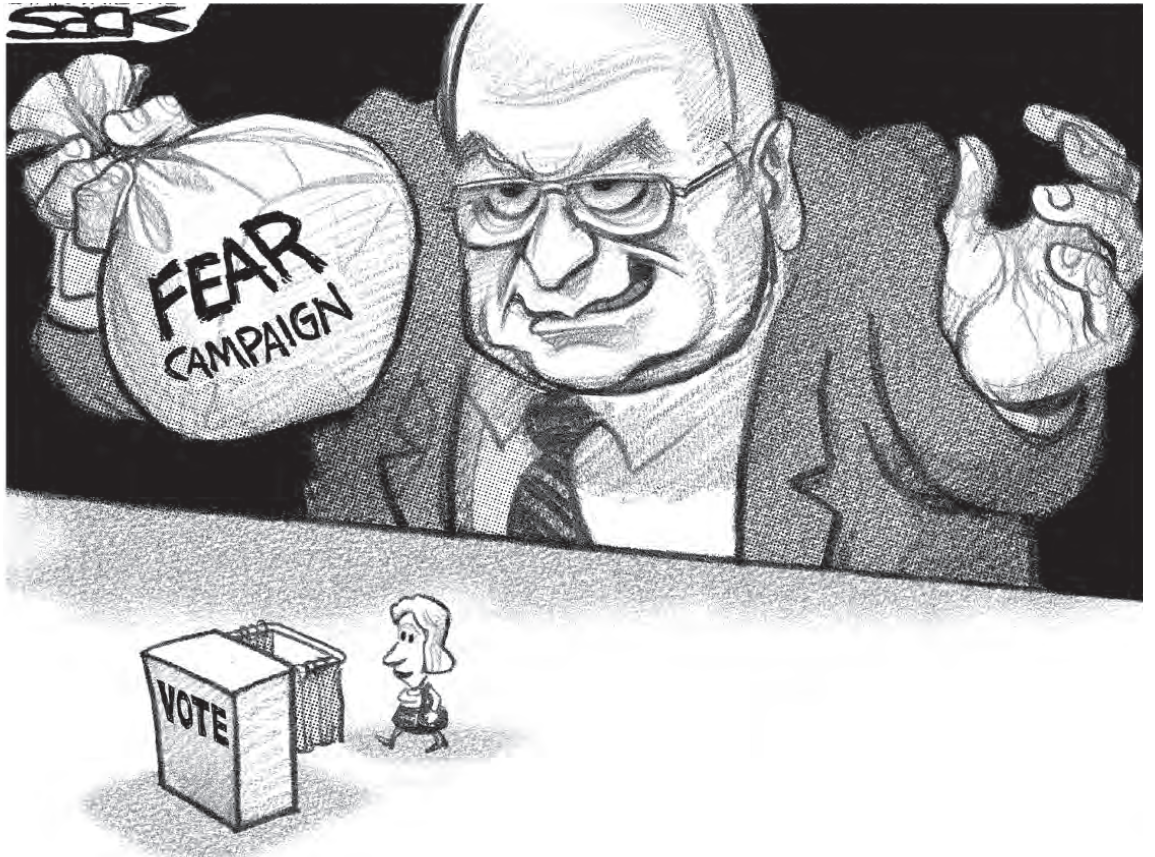
### Critical events are being ignored due to large amounts of presidential election coverage

As Election Day draws near, the media has been unflinchingly focusing on just a mere handful of issues: the mud slinging between the two candidates, tarnished war records and even overplayed references to their college years.

Although the Iraqi War has itself found high prominence as an election issue, other controversial topics dealing with the conflict have been hardly mentioned. The report by U.S. chief weapon's inspector Charles Duelfer, which proved that Saddam Hussein had not amassed weapons of mass destruction as assured by the Bush administration, was briefly spotlighted by the media before being trumped as second-rate news.

Other issues which should be receiving equal billing—issues that in the past have decided the outcomes of whole elections—have been hardly addressed. Among these are the growing controversies surrounding stem cell research, environmental issues and our relationships with countries not found in either Europe or the Middle East.

The media, traditionally seen as the watchdogs of society, have traded their respectability and become cultural show dogs, parading stories that will garner ratings more than truth. As a source of information, we need to open our resources to all issues and events, giving the public at large the chance to decide on its own which story is of utmost importance.



## Second bananas take spotlight, bicker

By **DANNY MUELA**  
Staff Writer

Like last week's presidential debate, the candidates for vice president bickered over trivial things, took pot shots at one another and tried to make their opponent look like an incompetent fool.

In other words, they acted as if they had just landed a spot on the Real World.

These debates really need something new and refreshing or the American public is just going to tune them out and focus on something more important, like Poland.

For instance, the whole introduction part of the debate is not very ceremonial. We want to see some drama! I think the debates could learn a lesson from another forum of heated competition: professional wrestling. Nothing really stirs up emotion like a grand entrance accompanied by blasting music that really suits the person's character.

Maybe Vice President Cheney could have strolled into the

room with the "Imperial March" from "Star Wars," maybe that heavy breathing effect from Darth Vader could be incorporated. It would really have set the mood.

You could also have Senator Edwards hop on down the stage to Lynard Skynard's "Sweet Home Alabama" or something to that effect. Just by adding these we could really have our candidates pumped up and ready to smash some skulls.

All I really want to see is Colin Powell come down an aisle with the theme from "Shaft" playing, but I've heard he's more a SuperFly guy anyway.

But, let's get back to the actual debate. After the debate we saw more of the same mindless praise for candidates from their respective parties. But, unlike the first presidential debate where Senator Kerry seemed to rock the house so to speak, the vice presidential debates were actually more of a tie. Both candidates really seemed qualified and prepared. And both got in really good lines, not sound bytes, but

actual lines.

Cheney's best attack was when he declared that despite Senator Edwards many years of service in the senate, he had missed so many meetings and votes that Cheney had never met the senator in person till they sat down for this debate. Even though this statement has been shown to be false by reports showing that Senator Kerry and Vice President Cheney have indeed met twice before the vice presidential debate, it was still a very effective attack on Edwards.

As for Senator Edwards, nothing else showed how much brass he had, as when he looked Vice President Cheney in the eye and told him that this country couldn't take another four years of the current administration. Strong words and I don't know about you, but Cheney really scares me. So for anyone to just look him in the face and tell him that without wetting himself is brave man in my book.

See **VICE**, page 5

## WINNER & LOSER

### WINNER



**France:** In a recent poll conducted by Durex brand condoms, the French are the global leaders in lovemaking, having sex on average 137 times a year, beating the Americans by 21 times. Ooh la la, indeed.

### LOSER



**Japan:** With an average of only 46 times a year, Japan falls last in the poll. A study on the correlation of this information with Japan's suicide rates has yet to be released.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

### How will you decide who you will vote for?

- I will research candidates through debates, websites, or newsletters.

70%

- I will focus on what is being said about them throughout the media and commercials.

8%

- I will vote according to my family's political learnings.

9%

- Coin toss, what else?

14%

Total participants: 65

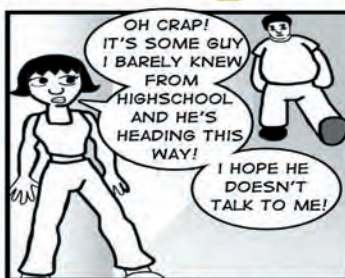
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## Phew! [FIU] HALLWAY SURVIVAL GUIDE

BY LUIS NIN



# College political leaders face off on second debate

## Kerry lived up to “flip flopper” title

By **JUAN F. D'ARCE, JR.**

FIU College Republicans President

The second Presidential debate was very encouraging for both candidates as it provided enough questions for Senator Kerry to flip-flop and for President Bush to showcase why he is our Commander-in-Chief. The truth was placed on the table and even though President Bush was not a debate team member, his message was clear, as well as timely.

Senator Kerry spoke about his plan to stop outsourcing. He spoke about bringing more jobs to the U.S., as well as stopping production of goods and jobs that are sent abroad. The fact is, when you stop outsourcing and bring those jobs back to the U.S., you increase the cost of the product being manufactured. That means that the price for many products in the U.S. will be increased. Many U.S. produced goods are already heavily taxed abroad and the added cost of bringing back jobs to the U.S. would make our products impossible to sell.

In addition, this will make products and services too costly for the middle class and those at or below poverty levels.

Furthermore, minimum wage will probably have to be raised, thus pushing pricing on goods and services up to cover the wage increase. This would make us pay more for everything and definitely not enough to cover the gap that outsourcing would create.

Senator Kerry kept talking about the war in Iraq, arguing that President Bush made a mistake and lied to the people of the U.S.. That the president should have known better.

This seems more than hypocritical and almost hard to believe because he voted on the issue as did Senator Rodham Clinton. They both had the same intelligence information that President Bush had. It seemed as if Senator Kerry sees the Iraq

issue as his meal ticket and will continue to push it on his wishy-washy attempts to be president.

Here is a reality check; you cannot be the Commander-in-Chief of this great nation when you call the war in Iraq a mistake. It is sad that Senator Kerry calls this “the wrong war at the wrong time.”

You are right, Senator Kerry, it would sure be great to live in a country where terrorism happens on a daily basis and nothing can be done to stop or contain it.

I guess Senator Kerry plans to stop terrorism and the war in Iraq with the help of his allies. Exactly which countries from this coalition hold our best interest in foreign policy? Will Castro, Ortega, Arafat, Chavez and Kim Jong Ill be joining Kerry for our best interest?

On the issue of taxes, I want to know how Senator Kerry plans to pay for all the programs he aims at creating without raising taxes on everyone. He aims at creating more programs and salaries to alleviate the problems that many of these programs already created. Who is guarding whom here?

Lastly, I want to touch up on Senator Kerry's voting style. How do you vote “Yes” and then “No” as well as miss important votes that affect all Americans? I always thought that “No” meant “No.”

I am sorry Senator Kerry, flip-flops are allowed in most places, but they are not permitted in the White House.

## Bush could not admit to mistakes made

By **JAMES VALLE**

FIU College Democrats President

Once again, John Kerry demonstrated his mastery of the issues and showed the leadership qualities which George Bush clearly lacks.

Throughout the town hall style debate last Friday night, Kerry remained composed and level headed throughout the entire 90-minute debate, while George Bush showed his annoyance and became flustered in the face of difficult questions.

There were two telling moments in the debate. The first occurred when Bush flew out of his stool and charged towards moderator Charlie Gibson like a bat out of hell.

He showed a complete lack of respect for the rules (no surprise there), and spoke over Gibson simply because he “had to respond” to Kerry's assertion that the Coalition of the Willing isn't a real coalition.

The fact is that Kerry is absolutely right. Although he cannot openly state it for political purposes, this coalition is a complete farce. As Americans, we have sustained 90 percent of both coalition casualties and cost.

Of the 30 members of the coalition, only the U.S. and Britain have sent more than 2,000 troops.

Do Costa Rica, Iceland or Afghanistan (coalition members) even have armies? Oh, that's right – we are

Afghanistan's army!

That's a good way to add countries to your coalition; just invade and conquer them! It's another bright decision by the Bush administration.

The second debate highlight came when Bush was asked to name three mistakes he made in the past four years.

This man had the gall to insist that his only mistake was making some judicial appointments with bad judgment. Bush could have provided a humorous answer by saying, “Well, eating that pretzel without washing it down properly was a pretty big mistake.”

Instead, he came up lame, as always, and wanted the American people to believe he was perfect and holy.

I'll summarize some of his mistakes for him: Rushing to war without a plan to win the peace, cutting taxes that provides that top one percent with an average of \$79,000 while the middle 20 percent get \$1,000, allowing five million people to lose health insurance, under funding No Child Left Behind by \$27 billion, being the first president since Herbert Hoover to have a net job loss. I can go on, but I think you get the picture.

On Nov. 2, this country will make a change and we will elect the next president of the United States, Sen. John Kerry. Kerry will reverse the regressive policies of the Bush White House.

It's up to you to let your voice be heard and you can do that starting Oct. 18 when early voting opens. As students, we have the most up for grabs this election. In the past four years, only three out of every 10 college graduates found jobs upon graduating. This is unacceptable, and we can and we will do better.



# Cheney, Edwards make strong yet arguable statements

From **VICE**, page 4

In this debate, we also got to hear something that hasn't been focused on the campaign trail: our own country's problems.

That's right, they actually spoke about America for a change. They touched on topics such as Medicare, education, social security, the economy and the ever-popular gay marriage issue.

This was a very interesting discussion to watch. As most know, the vice president's daughter is gay. You could see it in his face that he was a bit uncomfortable talking about gay marriage. The interesting part is that even though Cheney agrees that marriage shouldn't be regulated, he ultimately said that he had to stand behind the president, who in fact wants to regulate marriage. Of course you can't have the president and vice president disagree on such a hot topic so close to the election, but this shows how even Cheney can be limited by the fact that



he's only second banana. Which is odd, considering that Cheney appeared just a bit more prestigious than his boss.

This debate might have been more of the same and it may have been very close, but the fact remains that facts are being thrown out the window. By checking an independently run web site by the University of Pennsylvania called [www.fact-check.org](http://www.fact-check.org). One can see that both Edwards and Cheney got their facts mixed up.

The winner of last night's fact skewing award goes to Vice President Cheney.



The figures and statements that both candidates presented could be argued upon, but Cheney really seemed to spin numbers from the casualty rate to the number of times Senator Kerry and Senator Edwards voted in the Senate.

Even though the candidates did well on the debate, they really need to get their facts straight. The public needs to become better informed so that when a statement is handed down, the public can call them on it being either true or false.

But hey, it was still a pretty good

debate. Maybe it would have been better if both candidates would have just lost it and challenged one another to a cage match on PAY-PER-VIEW, but beggars can't be choosers. Senator Edwards really had a tougher job here than his running mate, but he really showed America what he could do. And of course Vice President Cheney did what he was expected to do, scare small children yet really make a good argument for himself and his less-than-stellar boss.

This election is really going to be close, there's no question about that. The only question that remains is if the American public can really get up and find the facts to maybe broaden this gap a bit.

And make sure to keep watching to see if the candidates can keep their game faces on, or face getting kicked off the island. I know I'll be watching, but mostly because I have this idea that Senator Kerry appears to be slowly melting, and I want to see if that comes into play, but I guess everyone has his own reasons.

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# Dolce Vita highlight of film fest

By JOSE APARICIO  
Contributing Writer

When you think of Italian films, one name that instantly comes to mind is Federico Fellini. His influence reaches beyond Italian film makers to film makers around the world. A consortium of sponsors with the group Italian Film Festival Inc. held an Italian Film Festival Oct. 9 through Oct. 13. to celebrate this past year's Italian films that have been critically acclaimed at Cannes and other such events. A screening of Fellini's "La Dolce Vita" kicked off the event.

The film is about Marcello Mastroianni, a gossip columnist who chronicles the sweet life of rich and famous playboys, models, actors, actresses and general aristocrats who pass through Rome.

As we look at Marcello the actor we can see the two Marcellos (the character and the actor) come together as art and life imitate each other. Both were desperate men who dreamed of something better but were trapped in debauched nights and reborn in lonely dawns.

There are many of interpretations of this classic film. One is that Fellini shows the seven sins. Others think he shows us seven nights and seven dawns. Yet another theory is that the movie takes place on the seven hills of Rome. I believe that the heart of the movie is an allegory told to warn us of living a life devoid of a center or meaning. Each night as Marcello commits some kind of debauchery with whatever woman he fancies that night, he seems to be reborn at dawn. Marcello starts every morning anew, with new hopes and dreams for a better, more fulfilling day, only to have those dreams shattered with his first sips of alcohol and first flirtations of the night.

As we begin to understand the film's structure better we see one of



**BRAVO:** Federico Fellini's "La Dolce Vita" was screened at the University of Miami as part of the Italian Film Festival. Fellini's classic "seven deadly sins" film was recently released on DVD in September. COURTESY PHOTO

the recurring motifs. As Marcello goes through a series of nights and dawns, descents and ascents, he goes from embracing his life of debauchery to wanting to elevate himself to something higher with purpose and meaning.

Fellini journeys through his character's moral life. Depending on your age and attitude it can be tragic or wonderful. Marcello is able to find some sort of happiness in this life without meaning full of drunken nights. You might ask, is there really anything wrong with that? This was a great film to watch, and I highly recommend it to any movie buffs. It was recently released on DVD in September.

It was screened for free at the

Cosford cinema at the University of Miami on Oct. 9.

The rest of the week was marked by multiple screenings of various Italian films at the Miracle Theater in Coral Gables. And, for those who had the means to indulge in la dolce vita, there was a closing dinner and awards ceremony, complete with a "tropical" bar, live music, a gourmet dinner with Italian wines. It will also featured a meet and greet with the stars of the recent films screened throughout week.

It is always nice to broaden your horizons with films from around the world. This was an easy way to do so. The event had quite a bit of people in attendance but it was hardly difficult to get seats.

## Theatrical 'Dracula' receives comedic twist



**KISS OF DEATH:** Dracula's suave moves drive all the girls crazy in FIU's theatrical version of Bram Stoker's horror novel, "Dracula." COURTESY PHOTO

### DRACULA, from page 6

ence arrives with an open mind and is entertained by the production.

"I'm hoping to get the couple of chuckles here and there, with the parts that seem [comedic] because we are hoping to pull the audience. We want everybody in this intense, intense, intense mode and then to drop the humor on them to keep everyone awake and entertained," actor Daniel Gutierrez

said.

The play will run Oct. 14 through Oct. 24. Performances begin at 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Sunday matinees start at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$10 for the general public.

For more information, call the Box Office at (305) 348-3789 on Monday through Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or one hour prior to performance or visit [www.fiu.edu/%7Eethedan](http://www.fiu.edu/%7Eethedan).



## Christopher Reeve 1952 – 2004

When a horseback riding accident on May 27, 1995, left Christopher Reeve paralyzed, the actor, best known for playing Superman on screen, turned his theatrical heroics to reality when he started a campaign to help find a cure for paralysis by funding research and increasing awareness. He became an inspiration for victims of paralysis all over the world.



## Hey! What's up?

You may have noticed some new features in this exact spot on Monday's issue of *The Beacon*. We thought we'd take a moment and explain them just in case you were wondering. Be on the lookout for even more new features!

## DID YOU KNOW?

"Did You Know?" Impress your friends with useless trivia.

Check out these enlightening little facts and add some wrinkles to your brain.

## WHAT the...

"What the ...?" Did you ever see something on campus that made you tilt your head like a confused puppy? We do. All the time. Check out this new feature, complete with photos.



"FIU Clue." These helpful tips will help you survive the crazy and confusing college experience that is FIU, or at least make it a little better.

# Volleyball continues to struggle with losses



**LOSING STREAK:** The volleyball team has lost nine straight games. **GEOFF ANDERSON/SPECIAL TO THE BEACON**

By **XAVIER VILLARMARZO**  
Staff Writer

It was another tough weekend for the Golden Panthers volleyball team as it suffered 3-1 defeats to two conference foes, Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee State.

The two losses, dropped its record to 1-14 (0-5, Sun Belt), adding to the woes the young team has encountered this season.

The first match versus Western Kentucky, on Oct. 8, 2004 at Pharmed Arena, was a hard fought battle where little mistakes turned costly for FIU.

Junior Laura Vogel led the way with a valiant effort putting up a career high 15 kills and committing just two errors. Freshman Ruth Fleming added 13 kills and 13 digs to the effort.

Junior Anna Dmowska also had 13 kills and freshman Alyse Santisi contributed with 17 digs.

In game one Western Kentucky took a late lead and practically never looked back in a 30-22 win as FIU managed six ties, but could not manage to take the lead.

At one point in game two, FIU was down 27-22. A mini rally brought the team to within one at 27-26, but FIU was not able squeeze out any more magic as the Toppers finally put the game away 30-27.

FIU won game three 30-26, but it was not just any victory for FIU, they were the first Sun Belt team to win a game against the Lady Toppers this season. In the game Santisi recorded another seven digs.

FIU lost game four 30-19 after committing a game high 11 errors. In the entire match, the Golden Panthers committed a total of 32 errors. On the other hand, Western Kentucky committed 23.

The second match, on Oct. 12, 2004 at Pharmed Arena, was more of the same for FIU as mistakes continued to cost the team. FIU committed 31 errors in the match. On the positive, Anna Dmowska continued her strong play recording an outstanding 19 kills and Alyse Santisi had 17 digs for her second game in a row. Sophomore Oksana Zabalueva also contributed with a solid 11 kills.

In game one, MTSU took an early 7-0 lead as FIU never got close in the 30-19 victory.

Game two had similar circumstances as the Blue Raiders again took an early

lead and turned it into a 30-20 defeat. In the game, Zabalueva contributed with four kills.

In game three, the most exciting game of the match, FIU came back from a late 23-17, tied the game at 28, and eventually won 32-30.

Freshman Dyionna Smith had 16 assists and added to the late rally with 4 straight points on her serve along with another 3 points from the serve of Jessica Jones.

In the final game, FIU seemed to be running on fumes as they were quickly down 14-2. The Blue Raiders dominated the game with a 30-14 final score.

The Golden Panthers have lost nine straight games. The team's next game will be away on Oct. 14 against Louisiana Lafayette.

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# Kremser's team tops conference opponent

By **NIKOLAY OREKHOV**  
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers came into the Oct. 8 game at FIU Soccer Field in an effort to get back to .500 and pick up its second conference win of the season.

The team was able to do just that as Oneonta State proved to be no match for the quicker and better FIU squad.

With a 2-1 victory, the Golden Panthers improved to 4-4-0 overall and 2-0-0 in the conference, while the Red Dragons lost their third consecutive game and dropped to 4-7-0 overall and 0-1-0 in ASC play.

FIU dominated and controlled the game throughout, out shooting the Red Dragons 12-3 in the first half and 18-7 overall. The final score however, did not validate FIU's complete command of the game.

"It is difficult to play against a team that's just trying to prevent you from playing," Head Coach Karl Kremser commented.

Although the Golden Panthers scored first in the 10th minute of the match with Carron Wil-

liams' difficult header from Lucas Scudeler and Edgard Correa, they finished with only two goals and a final score of 2-1.

"That's a team [OSU] we should beat by three, four goals easily," Kremser said.

The story of the game however, was the extremely physical and at times dirty play of the Red Dragons and the many missed opportunities for the Golden Panthers.

The match included twenty-six called fouls and a total of four yellow cards.

"With officiating, you're always going to be unhappy," said Kremser of the high number of foul calls.

After taking a 2-0 lead on Scudeler's goal in the 60th minute - which came on a free kick and was assisted by Correa, tempers began to flare and the play got more physical and intense.

"They were trying to minimize what we can do," said Kremser of OSU who were playing the game in order to stop FIU but not necessarily trying to defeat them.

Following several alter-

cations between opposing players, OSU got on the scoreboard in the 81st minute, when Miami native Chris Spence of North Miami Beach knocked in a penalty kick past FIU goalkeeper Shawn Crowe who played all 90 minutes and finished with four saves.

Despite a lackluster second half performance by the Golden Panthers defense, the team held on to the lead and prevailed to pick up a conference win.

"We didn't have the intensity in the second half that we had earlier. We've got to finish," Coach Kremser commented on his displeasure at the team's poor second half performance.

At one point of the second half, FIU played so poorly that the fans chanted and pleaded for substitutions and the return of the starting lineup.

"We tried to give everyone an opportunity to play and it almost backfired," added Kremser.

The team will now hit the road for a three game road trip before returning to Miami for the FIU Invitational, which will take place Oct. 29 and Oct. 30.



**FORE!** The golf team finished eighth at the FIU/Pat Bradley Invitational on Oct. 10 at the Doral Golf Resort and Spa. On the three-day tournament, the Golden Panthers shot a 954 (322-313-319), 47 strokes behind tournament champion Princeton, who shot a 907 (307-302-298). **GEOFF ANDERSON/SPECIAL TO THE BEACON**

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# Lumberjacks struggle as FIU improves to 2-1

FOOTBALL, from page 12

the first touchdown on an 8-yard pass from Josh Padrick. Smith followed by scoring his third touchdown of the game giving FIU a 31-10 lead.

FIU went into the fourth quarter with a comfortable 21-point lead but the nationally ranked Lumberjacks finished close losing by only seven points.

Smith enjoyed the win after the game and praised the checks and balances between the running game and the passing game.

"It was real important because when you get the ground game going it opens up the pass, and we want to be an all around offense," Smith said.

Padrick gave credit to the coaching staff for laying out a terrific game plan for the game.

"The coaching put us in the best positions and the defense did a great job. Rashod did a great job running the ball by running great routes," Padrick said.

Last season, FIU was dominated by SFA as the team defeated them 35-13. The difference this season was the growth of the team.

"We're a different team we've grown up a bunch. This year we have gotten bigger and faster and we got Coach Clark who makes a big difference," said Haritan who is happy to have the knowledge



**BLANKED:** Senior wide receiver Harold Leath struggled against SFA. The NFL hopeful finished with zero catches. **GEOFF ANDERSON/SPECIAL TO THE BEACON**

of NFL and former Hurricane Bernard "Tiger" Clark coaching the defense.

Added linebacker and captain Lance Preston, "I give a lot of props to coach Clark coming in and changing things around. Even the way we practice is dif-

ferent and it showed during the game."

Another reason why the Lumberjacks looked puzzled on defense was because FIU's reputation as a throwing team and struggles that team had running the ball against SFA last year.

"They might have been real surprised, because the last year and this year we've been throwing the ball a lot. That's the bread and butter of our team but when you have a running back it opens up the defense," Padrick said.

Haritan saw the SFA team was more laid back and unprepared for what FIU had to offer.

"I think they expected to come in and run away with the game. I think they expected it to be a lot like it was last year and they just didn't know they were meeting with a different ball team," Haritan said.

A few faculty members traveled with the team, including Dr. Paul Gallagher who was excited with the performance of the Golden Panthers.

"I think they are awesome. Obviously they are older and more matured. The coaching is real fine tuned and has brought the young man along plus I think they have the confidence," said Gallagher. "When you go out and beat the fourth best team in the nation in I-AA which can beat many I-A teams around the country you know you're beginning to arrive and with the exception of a fluke last week, we would be 3-0 right now."

The Golden Panthers will play their next game away at Malone Stadium against Sun Belt Conference opponent Louisiana-Monroe on Oct. 16.

## Final score does not justify football game

### COMMENTARY



By **ANDRES CORDERO**  
Staff Writer

The scoreboard at Homer Bryce Stadium lit up a 31-24 victory for the Golden Panthers over No. 5 Stephen F. Austin on Saturday Oct. 9. It wasn't that close. The seven-point margin doesn't do justice to FIU's performance in Nacogdoches, TX.

FIU tainted the Lumberjacks spotless 4-0 start and snapped their five-game home win streak in dominating fashion, piling up 434 total yards of offense and leading by as much as 21 points after three quarters.

The Golden Panthers had yet to win a game against a ranked Division I-AA team in six previous tries and lucky number seven was by no means a guarantee.

The Lumberjacks had already defeated No. 13 Northern Arizona and No. 7 Northern Iowa this season. Despite the loss, they look like a team well on their way to a sixth con-

secutive winning season under Head Coach Mike Santiago.

What we've learned after three games is that when this Golden Panther team plays to its potential and cuts back on mistakes and penalties, there isn't a team on its schedule it can't beat.

It's difficult to single out just one or two players after a win like this, but when Rashod Smith runs like a man possessed, hoarding up 199 yards and 3 touchdowns, FIU will have a chance to win.

When Cory Mckinney and Samuel Smith are making plays and getting involved early and often, points will come in bunches.

When the offensive line is keeping Josh Padrick's jersey clean and opening lanes for Rashod Smith, the FIU offense is as electrifying as any in Division I-A football.

None of this was a surprise. FIU's offense has never been a major concern. The unit is averaging 414 yards and 29 points per game this season.

It's the defense that fans look at with that show-me-something fold of the arms. That's where the acquisition of defensive coordinator, Bernard "Tiger" Clark, is paying

off.

While far from perfect, FIU's defense did a great job of making SFA quarterback Michael Williams a non-factor throughout most of the game.

SFA half back Derek Farmer, a transfer who led Texas A&M in rushing yards the last two consecutive seasons and is being considered for this year's Payton award, was held to 38 yards on 12 carries and kept out of the end-zone.

The only thing tainting an otherwise great defensive performance is the three would-be interceptions FIU dropped, two of which resulted in touchdowns.

Had those been made, the game would have been a blowout. But maybe that's asking a bit much. The win is defiantly enough.

What's not to be content about when FIU registered its second consecutive road win against a team that doesn't ordinarily lose at home?

This was one of the most challenging schools on FIU's schedule. The team's progress is evident. With the Golden Panthers headed to Louisiana-Monroe this weekend, FIU may be a favorite on the road for the very first time.

## Golden Panthers @ Indians

When: Oct. 16 at 3:30 p.m., Monroe, Louisiana

TV: None

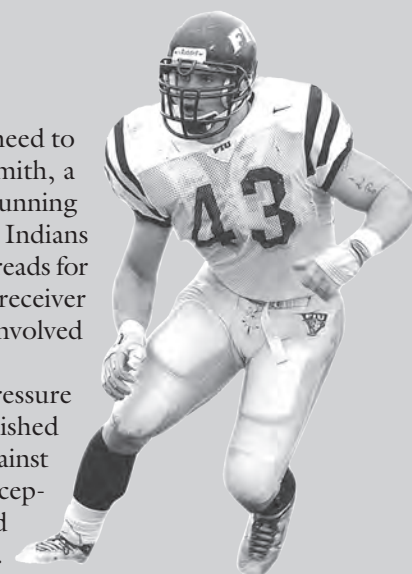
Radio: ESPN 790 AM,

Record: FIU 2-1, ULM 1-4

Scouting Report:

**ON OFFENSE**, The Golden Panthers need to continue pounding the football. Rashod Smith, a typical outside runner, found lots of success running the ball down the middle against SFA. The Indians run a 3-4 defense that will provide different reads for QB Josh Patrick. He must continue to find receiver Cory McKinney but also get Harold Leath involved in the game and back into rhythm.

**ON DEFENSE**, FIU will need to pressure opposing quarterback Steven Jyles who finished with over 2,000 yards passing last season. Against SFA, FIU defensive backs dropped key interceptions, including one that could be returned for a touchdown and seal the game early. Safeties and cornerbacks must keep an eye on the ball and avoid butter fingers before the game.



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# SPORTS

FIU FOOTBALL - Game 3



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12 - October 14, 2004

THE BEACON

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## Golden Panthers defeat No. 5 Lumberjacks

### Team holds on to win first game against a ranked football team

By HARRY COLEMAN  
Sports Editor

The Golden Panthers traveled to Homer Bryce Stadium in hopes of picking up its second win of the season and first in school history against a ranked opponent—the team did just that as FIU was able to hold on and defeat Stephen F. Austin 31-24 on Oct. 9.

Rashod Smith led the Golden Panthers attack with a career high 37 carries for 199 yards against the Lumberjacks, a team that came in with four wins in as many games this season.

FIU dominated the first three quarters of the game and entered fourth leading 31-10. The Lumberjacks got on the scoreboard early in the fourth on a 24-yard pass from Mike Williams to Miguel Toulon captivating an 11-play 95-yard drive.

After being stopped by the SFA defense, FIU once again faced another long drive by the Lumberjacks. Louie Runnels scored a touchdown on a four-yard run as SFA drove the ball

63 yards in a span of just over two minutes to put the score 31-24.

SFA would not get closer than seven and managed to lose its first game of the season and fall to 4-1. The victory meant FIU defeated an opponent ranked No. 5 in the nation in Division I-AA.

Head Coach Don Strock was pleased with the way his team came out and won on the road for the second time this season.

“Obviously when you go on the road and you play a team ranked fifth in the country in I-AA in the third game [of the season], it proves to them that they can win on the road again, and play with teams that are highly ranked,” said Strock of his team who improved to 2-1 on the season.

The Golden Panthers got on the scoreboard first as Smith ran a 1-yard touchdown run with just under six minutes left in the first quarter.

FIU used 5:56 minutes on the drive, the most time consuming in the game.



**FROM START TO FINISH:** The Golden Panthers led the Lumberjacks all game. Above, Josh Padrick completes one of 19 passes. The sophomore finished with 216 on the air. GEOFF ANDERSON/SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

After a 23-yard field goal by Ryan Rossner of SFA, Smith exploded through the right side stiff-arming two defenders along the way for a 56-yard run, putting FIU up 14-3. With 1:58 left in the first half, Adam Moss

kicked his longest field goal of the season, good for 45 yards, adding three points to FIU's score.

FIU however, would go up by double digits as Williams threw a 38-yard pass to Tong Tompkis

on an 80-yard drive that took only 1:09 minutes.

FIU opened the second half strong scoring 14 unanswered points. Cory McKinney scored

See FOOTBALL, page 11

## Running back carries ball 37 times in victory



**STEEL:** Smith was the only running back to carry the ball against SFA. The senior scored three touchdowns to go along with 199 yards rushing. GEOFF ANDERSON/SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

By HARRY COLEMAN  
Sports Editor

FIU went into the game against Stephen F. Austin with the idea of stopping the run. Last season the Lumberjacks rushed for 337 yards dominating the Golden Panthers 35-13.

Things reversed this season however, as SFA was kept under 100 yards and FIU rushed for 218, with 199 of those yards belonging to senior halfback Rashod Smith.

With heavy rain falling down for most of the game, Coach Don Strock kept the ball on the ground, something that surprised the Lumberjacks defense that expected the Golden Panthers to come out throwing the ball.

Smith carried the ball a career high 37 times leading FIU to its second win of the season in three games. Smith carried the load for FIU scoring three touchdowns including an impressive 56-yard run early in the second quarter.

After a two-hour practice on Monday that included lots of running, Smith took time off to sit down with *The Beacon* and discuss Saturday's game.

**Q: How big was it for you to establish the run, something SFA was supposed to do on you guys?**

It was real big because if you run you open up the pass, it gets the running game going which makes it all good for

the offense.

**Q: What type of things did Coach Don Strock tell you before and after the game?**

Before he told us that they couldn't stop us on offense or defense and if we go out and execute, they won't stop us. After the game he told me good game but I don't think he even knew I got the ball that many times.

**Q: How much credit do you give to your offensive line for creating holes throughout the game?**

I love it; they blocked their butts off. Without them, I can't rush that much, they deserve all the credit.

**Q: What type of confidence level does the team have now, especially after winning two games on the road, something the team couldn't do the first two years of the program?**

We have a high [level] of confidence because we have two road victories. Our whole team is getting together and we just don't give up. If something fails we keep playing because good things will happen.

**Q: What did you do the following day after the game and how sore did you feel?**

I laid down and went to sleep when we got home and later woke up and got in the pool to relax. I was sore and I'm still sore now but we still have to practice and keep getting sore.