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# STATE OF THE UNION

## Credit Union keeps funds protected during financial crisis

**JULIO MENACHE**  
Asst. News Director

After walking toward the glass doors in front of the University Credit Union inside Graham Center, students see a simple paper sign with a picture of 'Uncle Sam' pointing straight at them.

It contains a brief message stating their account is Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insured up to \$250,000 and this reassures students that their money is safe.

"We are not affected by the crisis," said Toby Disbrow, the Credit Union branch manager.

In fact, Disbrow said, students seem to have more confidence in the Credit Union than ever before.

"We actually have more students bringing in money from their banks to the Credit Union," Disbrow said.

The Credit Union has brought calm amid the calamity of an economic meltdown gripping the country, but students will still face many issues in the coming year, such as difficulties in finding work, procuring a loan or buying a home.

While economic experts and political pundits debate the scope of the disaster and who's to blame, one professor thinks the verdict is clear.

"I believe we are in a recession," said Bruce Nissen, director of research at the Center for Labor Research and Studies.

By definition, a recession occurs when there is a two-three month period of no growth in the economy, according to Nissen. So far, he said, the crisis is only in the nation's banking system, as the credit market is drying up and loans are harder to come by. Nissen's main concern, however, is how deep the problem will become.

"The question will be if the crisis is not abated, will it spread to other areas? It could lead to a vicious spiral downward, with more cutbacks in businesses, and lead us into a deeper recession," Nissen said.

Nissen also heads the Research Institute on Social and Economic Policy, which publishes a yearly report called the "State of Working" during the year. The report showed that as early as 2007, the state of Florida was already feeling the effects of a recession, with unemployment rising from 3.2 percent in 2006 to 4.1 percent in 2007.

Students also face the issue of housing for the semester, asking themselves if living on campus is more affordable than buying or renting a house or apartment.

"It's all about the small things you can do that makes a big difference. I decided instead of wasting money on gas, I would move into campus," said sophomore Luis Navia, who currently lives in Lakeview North.

Students face other challenges if they want to live off campus.

"If you rent an apartment, it should be

## MCCAIN CRAZE



GIOVANNI GUADARRAMA/THE BEACON

**RALLY TIME:** Sophomore Amanda Schreiber (right) and sophomore Leanne Lopez (left) hold pom-poms in support of Senator and presidential candidate John McCain. The Republican candidate visited the FIU Arena on Oct. 17.

much more favorable than buying, since banks are not giving as many [home] loans and homeowners are refusing to drop prices," Nissen said.

Nissen explains that what homeowners will do with the houses they can't sell is try to rent them out. The alternative, he said, is to wait until the housing market bottoms out, which he doesn't expect to happen anytime soon.

"It all depends on how deep the recession is," Nissen said.

As the financial crisis deepens, the Office of Financial Aid is quick to remind students that federal loans will not be affected.

"State and federal loans and grants should not be of concern [to students]. Whatever is

**ECONOMY, page 2**

## BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

# Pool to reopen this semester with renovated showers

**DAINELYS MARTINEZ**  
Staff Writer

After being closed for 16 months, Biscayne Bay Campus' Olympic-sized pool is scheduled to open before the Fall semester ends, according to Elias Bardawil, director of Campus Recreation.

Construction on the Aquatic Center began Aug. 1, 2008. Phase one of the project, encompassing the structural repair and preparation phase, is complete. Phase two, the restoration phase, has just begun.

The new amenities include two showers on the pool deck, renovated bathrooms, new fencing and landscaping additions, according to Christina Reddick, coordinator of Campus Recreation.

In 2007, the expansion of the rebar, which rusted and cracked the concrete around it, caused spalling on the walls of the pool and made the rebar – a structural metal bar that

reinforces the concrete of the pool – visible. While Facilities Management was planning how to repair the pool, a crack in a pipe underneath the pump room appeared, causing a leak.

Facilities Management decided to develop all the projects as one venture, according to Bardawil.

"There was a lot of dialogue [between the Recreation Center and Facilities Management] about the best way to go about the repair and construction of the pool," Bardawil said.

Prior to this project, no major renovations to the pool had been made since its construction in 1983. There has never been enough funding to renovate the facility until now, according to Bardawil.

The cost for the renovation of the Aquatic Center is between \$900,000 and \$950,000, said Bardawil.

**POOL, page 4**

# College of Medicine unveils inaugural class

**EDDITH SEVILLA**  
Staff Writer

To students who applied to the University's College of Medicine: start checking your mailboxes. The first batch of acceptance letters to the college's inaugural class was sent out on Oct. 15.

More than 198 applicants have been interviewed for the college's first class, slated for Aug. 2009, but only some will receive an acceptance letter, according to Betty L. Monfort, director of admissions and records for the College of Medicine.

Among those applicants include students from FIU, Harvard University, Duke University, UCLA, Yale

University, the University of Florida and the University of Miami.

Although the letters were sent out, the college will not know the entire makeup of the incoming class until roll call next year.

The college has rolling admissions – which means that if an applicant does not reply within four weeks from the date of the letter, the next person in the waiting list will be sought out, said Monfort.

"The caveat of this is a game that many medical school applicants play," she said. "They reserve seats in many schools. They don't care about the \$200 deposit [to reserve a seat in the class]

because it's nonrefundable ... so until we do roll call on Aug. 3, we won't have the full makeup of that class."

As of Oct. 17, the College of Medicine has received more than 2,800 applications.

Monfort said one of the major things attracting students to the college is its curriculum, which includes the Neighborhood Help program that allows medical students to care for a family in the community, and the idea of being part of an inaugural class.

Associate Dean for Curriculum Dr. George Dambach said the college

**MEDICINE, page 2**



**NEWS FLASH**

FIU

**American Marketing Association hosting its first regional marketing conference**

On Oct. 24-25, the American Marketing Association, along with the University of South Florida, will be holding its first annual Regional Marketing Conference in Tampa. The event will feature different workshops dealing with a variety of segments in the marketing world. Its main speaker will be Jordan Zimmeriman, CEO of Zimmeriman Advertising. The event is open to students from Florida and Puerto Rico.

**Students to encounter “The Special Agent Experience”**

Investigation Division of The International Revenue Service will be presenting a one-day forensic accounting program on Thursday, Oct. 23, beginning at 9 a.m. at University Park. This unique program called “The Special Agent Experience” will give students a glimpse into solving financial crimes as an IRS federal agent. Students will get to participate in real-world scenarios such as using confidential informants, conducting surveillances and executing search/arrest warrants.

**Honors College showcases Amazon photos at campus libraries**

The Honors College’s Amazon study abroad program is showcasing photos from a recent trip to the Amazon rainforest. The event, titled “Amazon Retrospective,” will be presented at the Biscayne Bay Campus library’s first floor until the end of November and on the fourth floor of University Park’s Green Library starting Oct. 15 at 3:30 p.m. and finishing at the end of the Fall semester.

– Compiled by Julio Menache

# Dwindling economy affects all

**ECONOMY, page 1**

happening in the economy will not affect these loans and grants,” said Adelfa Ukenye, assistant director of the Office of Financial Aid.

Ukenye also added that the amount of money for Pell Grants – grants for low-income students – increased from \$4,310 in 2006-2007 to

\$4,731 in 2008-2009.

However, the office has begun to see an increase of students who are in need of loans because either they or their parents have lost their job.

Banks have also become much stricter in giving out private loans to students.

“We have seen that some lenders for private loans have dropped from the student lend-

ing business,” said Melissa Mastrapa, an employee of Enrollment Services in the Financial Aid Office.

As students struggle through the rigors of a lagging economy, some remain optimistic about the current situation.

“I’m not worried. I have a money market account and \$20,000 in savings with Bank of America. It is the only bank

I trust,” Navia said.

However, some students are less positive.

“Everything is going to go up [like tuition] so soon enough we’re not going to be able to attend school and banks will not be able to give loans,” said freshman Lilian Mendoza, whose mother is disabled and receives aid from the government. “Financial aid just isn’t enough.”

# College offers innovative curriculum

**MEDICINE, page 1**

has had the opportunity to rethink everything from the beginning to create a rational curriculum for the students.

“Medical schools have a historical curriculum, something that has been there for 100 years and they’ve changed it a little bit at a time, but they haven’t gone in with the idea of rethinking it and redoing it,” he said.

One of the elements that will make the College of Medicine different from others is the way the curriculum will be taught.

The most traditional way of medical education is to teach all the science courses in the first couple of years and all clinical applications in the following two years, with

the idea that once the student learns the foundations they will then apply them to the clinical aspect, according to Dambach.

“We’ve decided to integrate the two together from day one,” Dambach said. “We will talk about the science and the clinical condition simultaneously throughout all four years, progressively building the capabilities of the students to think critically and rationally.”

The curriculum includes four chronological periods of study that will be covered in four years.

The first period will provide the foundations of medicine: core sciences and social sciences. An introduction to clinical skills will focus on doctor-patient communica-

tion and general physical exams. The second period will consist of eight courses and cover the major organ systems.

Students will pursue outpatient and hospital simulation during the third period, and will have individual

schedules with other students and a faculty member for their area of specialty. The last period will allow students to explore areas of specialty and will be dedicated to research, among other things.

Throughout the four years, students will participate in Neighborhood Help, a program that will allow interdisciplinary groups of students to work in under served communities throughout South Florida.

Each student will be assigned to two families and will monitor their health across the four years.

“We thought it was very important for our students to get more intense hands-on personal experience with the real lives of real people,” Dambach said.

**We will talk about the science and the clinical condition simultaneously... building the capabilities of the students to think critically and rationally.**

George Dambach, Associate Dean

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## GETTING THE BOOT



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

**CRACKING DOWN:** A car parked in the parking lot of Academic II Biscayne Bay Campus had a boot placed on its tire.



# PROTEST FEST



PHOTOS BY TATIANA CANTILLO/THE BEACON

**FOR AND AGAINST MCCAIN:** During the Oct. 17 John McCain rally in the FIU Arena, protestors gathered near the Recreational Center. Protestors against Obama (top, bottom) and for Obama (second, third photo) yell at each other.

# Greeks' new payment policy affects credit

**ELIZABETH NICKERSON**  
Contributing Writer

Ten years ago, not paying Greek fees meant suspension from events. Now, it means not being able to purchase a car.

When the Greek community changed its payment policy from manual collection to an online paying system, some students have found that it can affect their credit score.

"Three semesters ago, I used to get a receipt by hand from the chapter treasurer and [if you didn't meet deadline] the only consequence was being suspended from an event," said senior Christopher Hernandez, a Beta Omicron Pi member.

Not paying on time has a long-term effect on a student's credit score and their ability to borrow money. Many Greek members have expressed concern for this current system in hopes for a change in policies.

According to Hernandez, Beta Omicron Pi dues alone are \$450 a month.

"I go to work twice a week earning \$150; I use it for gasoline, car insurance and classes," Hernandez said. This does not allow him much flexibility with his budget.

Different chapters have different amounts for dues and use different online payment systems, like *GreekBill.com*, but all still hold the same consequences if not paid on time.

The problem stems from chapters having their own payment plans separate from the online system. When members can't pay due to financial difficulties, the chapters take this in consideration and extend their payment deadline.

"A year ago, we joined Omega financials and the system does not set the standards," Pi Kappa Phi's Treasurer Frady Bayona said.

It is beneficial, according to Bayona, since a treasurer doesn't have to find a collection agency because the Web site has it built in.

Members of each Greek organization receive three warnings before being reported to a collection agency.

"If you don't pay your bill, you will be held accountable," said Andrea Gaspardino Kovachy, a Campus Life adviser.

According to Kovachy, the new online mechanism is a safety belt because it helps groups have a better collection rate and not be in financial trouble.

Freshman Gabrielle Winchester, an Alpha Xi Delta member, says she believes Greeks can erase human error with the viable online collection system, but it comes with strict guidelines which cause hardship for students.

"I'd rather go back to the 'pen and paper ways' and not get executed for a forgotten payment," Hernandez said.

Calling quickly, calling immediately and not waiting, according to Kovachy, is the cure to the financial frenzy within the Greek community.

Charlene Collazo, president of the Phi Mu chapter and former Panhellenic Council president, said otherwise.

"The money is sent to the national headquarters and is brought back to the chapter for scholarships and specific projects," Collazo said.

In all, being unable to pay dues really affects the new member experience as time is spent making up past debt.

"New members know from the beginning how much money they have to pay. Greek members should handle it as seriously as if you were handling a credit card," Winchester said.

While accumulation of debt is a problem, Greek organizations are finding ways to help their members pay.

"There is a scholarship system in the works for a sister in financial trouble and that has shown commitment and leadership within the chapter," Collazo said.

## HPV FACTS: #10

# YOU CAN GET HPV AND NOT EVEN KNOW IT

HPV.COM



## War journalist speaks out about life in combat zone

**PAMELA DUQUE**

Asst. News Director

An arrest and exile by the Taliban in 2000, car bombs and explosions and a walk through a torture chamber run by Saddam Hussein are some of the experiences Dexter Filkins has lived to write about.

Filkins, a foreign correspondent for *The New York Times*, has dedicated the last 10 years to covering the rise of the Taliban, the 9/11 attacks and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. On Oct. 20 in the Biscayne Bay Campus Mary Ann Wolfe Theater, he spoke to students about his life as an embedded journalist.

Jane Daugherty, associate professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, introduced Filkins with an excerpt from his book, "The Forever War," which was published in September by Alfred A. Knopf. The book is now in *The New York Times*' "Top 20 best sellers" list.

"Many books have been written about the war, but they have been written from a bird's view. I just, through luck and opportunity, have seen things up close," Filkins said.

Filkins showed a series of pic-

tures from Afghanistan, where he spent days covering the war in 2001 and 2002. Two individuals walking in the desert toward the horizon, marines shielding themselves from bombings, bodies destroyed by explosions and kids covered in dirt with defenseless looks were just some of the scenes that Filkins' pictures depicted.

"Pictures are much better than anything I can tell you," Filkins said. "Afghanistan is a beautiful place. It was a weird ying-yang experience. The people are striking; the land is striking. It's so beautiful and so terrible at the same time."

Filkins also spoke about his experience as a correspondent in *The New York Times* Baghdad Bureau in Iraq, from where he covered the war from March 2003 until August 2006.

He survived street fighting, suffered the emotional consequences of war with young Marines, witnessed the life of Iraqis during those days and felt the impact of B-52 strikings.

"It's like an earthquake. We woke up at 9 a.m. one day with our windows shaking," Filkins said. "It's a terrible thing to see. It's like the end of the world. We almost got killed

like a thousand times."

Filkins not only shared his experiences, but also talked about the consequences of witnessing the war. The physical toll that covering a war takes on journalists is only part of the package, according to Filkins, who said that many do not survive it neither emotionally nor physically.

"How did the war affect your family?" asked Jasmin Heilbron, a senior and journalism major who was in the audience.

"It is pretty hard on the people you leave behind. It's tough," said Filkins, who also writes in the acknowledgments of his book, "I lost the person I cared for the most. The war didn't get her; it got me."

He also wrote about his coverage of the 9/11 attacks, when he spent a night on Ground Zero during the first week after the attacks.

His experiences in war zones inspired SJMC associate professor Mario Diament to ask, "Who do you think is guilty [for this war]?" Filkins gives importance to what, according to him, really matters.

"Everybody has made up their mind about the war, even before it started. I don't see what's the point of bringing it up again," Filkins said. "It's more about what it is like to be



PAMELA DUQUE/THE BEACON

**BOOK SIGNING:** Dexter Filkins signs copies of his book for students and faculty at the Wolfe University Center bookstore on Oct. 20.

there. It's more about the details."

Filkins grew up in Cape Canaveral, and graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in government. He also has a degree in international relations from Oxford University, and was a fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University. He received a George Polk award for his coverage of the assault on Falluja in November 2004, and has twice been a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize.

"Thankfully for us, he was will-

ing to take the risk. What happens if we don't have people brave and crazy enough to [cover the war]?" Daugherty said.

Filkins did not realize what he was getting himself into when he decided to cover the war in Iraq. He said he thought the war was going to be over in six weeks.

"Despite all the danger, [covering the war] was fascinating," Filkins said.

Filkins concluded his visit with a book signing in the bookstore.

## Aquatic Center almost ready for general public use

**POOL, page 1**

The Division of Student Affairs allocated the money from the Student Government Association's reserve account, which consists of money not spent from the yearly financial allocation to SGA that accumulates over the years, according to Ana Maria Silva, BBC Student Government Council president.

BBC's Aquatic Center is the women's swimming and diving teams' home facility. According to Reddick, the pool needs to meet NCAA Division I-A regulations, which demands that there be a separate diving facility for the diving team and an Olympic-sized swimming pool for home meets.

The diving well, a separate pool that measures 50' by 40', will be equipped with two new diving boards, one-meter and three-meter springs. After the renovations are complete, the 50-meter Olympic-sized pool will include an electronic timing system, complete with touch-pads in all eight lanes and a digital scoreboard.

During the time the pool has been closed, the two teams have had to pay for the use of other pools for meets and invitational tournaments.



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

**TILE PILE:** Tiles are replaced as renovations for the Aquatic Center near completion.

However, they have generally held practices at the Tamiami Pool - adjacent to the south side of University Park - because it is more convenient for students, since their athletic complex is UP according Redick.

Thanks to an agreement with the Metropolitan Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department, FIU students and Campus Recreation members are allowed free use of the Tamiami Pool, with an ID, during public recreational lap swim hours.

Once pool construction is complete, two operating permits will need the approval

of the Miami-Dade County Department of Health, one each for the diving well and swimming pool. The fire department will also inspect the facility for safe entrance and exit paths. Compliance with applicable Americans with Disabilities Acts regulations, must be verified.

With the pool closure, the BBC Recreation Center lost some revenue, according to Bardawill. The pool lost \$21,000 for each of the two winters that it was closed; that revenue comes from hosting meets for other universities. Over the two summers that the pool was closed, the Recreation Center also lost a total of \$50,000 from not hosting its normal summer swim camps. Recreation also lost \$24,000 last year and \$14,000 this year usually generated by its after-school swim programs. The Center's total revenue loss is approximately \$130,000 to date, according to Bardawill.

A grand opening for the newly-renovated Aquatic Center will be held during the first weeks of the Spring semester, according to Bardawill.

"It will bring athletic presence to our campus, which is something we haven't had," Reddick said.

### HEALTH PROFESSIONS DIVISION



**Open House**  
Saturday, October 25, 2008

Information Sessions  
Group One  
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

- Audiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Osteopathic Medicine /Public Health/ Medical Informatics
- Pharmacy
- Physician Assistant
- Vascular Sonography
- Financial Aid

Information Sessions  
Group Two  
12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

- Anesthesiologist Assistant
- Biomedical Sciences
- Dental Medicine
- Nursing
- Optometry
- Physical Therapy
- Financial Aid

**3200 South University Drive**  
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Please join us as our deans, program directors, and admissions personnel meet with prospective candidates and discuss our programs.

Tours for Group One Information Sessions will be held at 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Tours for Group Two follow the Information Sessions running from 12:45-2:00 p.m.

Call (954) 262-1101 or 800-356-0026, ext. 21101, for directions or more information.





# Halloween tricks, treats for your party festivities

The end of October is quickly approaching, and one of the best holidays is creeping up on us.

Halloween is almost here, and sure our leaves are not orange or brown, and autumn is nowhere to be seen, but Miami does Halloween another way: the party way.

Put on your costumes and dance all night with someone dressed like Batman at an over-decorated, spooky club.

But what if you're throwing the party?

Here are some tricks and treats you can use to make your party one to die for.

Are you really going to serve punch in a plain bowl at your party?

Take that plain party favor and turn it Halloween by following these easy steps.

In a clear plastic container, place a few activated glow sticks. Green, orange or purple work particularly well for the Halloween ambience.

Surround the glowing container with "spider webs," or just pulled cotton that you can find at any party super store.

This way you cover up the plastic container and can decorate your table at the same time.

Place a cauldron inside the plastic container, on top of the glow sticks. You're almost there.

Your centerpiece is approaching Addams Family creepiness.

Put more glow sticks in the cauldron with hot water and dry ice.

The cauldron will begin to spill fog over the lip, along with the eerie glow of the sticks, creating a party favor any witch would love to drink from.

Make sure to use hot water - the hotter it is, the more smoke will spill out.

Just be careful, and don't let your skin get in direct contact with the dry ice. It is so cold, that it will burn you, so use tongs and be safe.

Finally, in a smaller bowl, mix your favorite punch together - usually your favorite fruit juice with copious amounts of your favorite liquor - and place the bowl inside of the cauldron.

To add an extra-creepy touch, add peeled green grapes to the punch, they will be slimy, round and cold - just like eyeballs.

There you have it - a spooky Halloween treat that is also your centerpiece.

My witch's cauldron recipe is definitely the trick for your party. How about the treats?

Here are some things you can serve that will curb the hunger of the zombies at your party. No need to sacrifice your little sister this Halloween.

## CANDY CORN RICE KRISPIES TREATS

Follow the recipe on the side of your favorite puffed rice cereal's box and add your favorite Halloween candy to spice things up. My favorite is to add the traditional candy corn.

Not only does it give the treats an orange holiday color, but it makes them sickly sweet and sticky - perfect for the first sugar overdose of the evening.

## EDIBLE DIRT

More of a childhood favorite that we just can't grow out of, edible dirt is the recipe that combines three things we love - ice cream, crushed Oreo cookies and gummy worms.

To give the illusion that you're eating directly from the earth, take a scoop of softened ice cream and put it in a cup.

Then, cover the ice cream with one inch of crushed Oreos, which are equivalent to the dirt, then decorate with gummy worms to add color and make this dessert more fun.

## THE CARAMEL APPLE

Take your favorite apple, whether it is Golden Delicious or Granny Smith - you're



FOODGASM

BIANCA ROJAS



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

**CREEPY CAULDRON:** The makings of a perfect party decoration: combine dry ice, spider webs and glow sticks to ensure a spooktacular night for your ghouls and ghosts.

in charge here - and wash it, removing all stickers.

Remove the stems and skewer the apple about halfway through with a sturdy stick, like a Popsicle stick. In a pot, melt about 40 caramel squares with a tablespoon of water over low heat, stirring constantly. Finally, dip your apple into the melted caramel to coat, and place it on wax paper to harden.

Halloween is fun, it's our chance to channel our inner child and dress up like the Spice Girls - it's the day where dressing in drag and binging on chocolate is acceptable.

Make your party a monster smash by re-

calling childhood favorites with a little flair. Face it, no matter how old we get, dry ice-induced fog still makes us go "oohhh."

And it doesn't matter if we're 25. Candy is still our best friend, if only for one day of the year.

Have a Happy Halloween and remember to have lots of spookgasm - foodgasm returns in two weeks.

*Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or Foodgasm ideas to bianca.rojas@fiusm.com.*

## Blood center encourages students to get involved

### DAYSI CALAVIA-LOPEZ

Contributing Writer

For a little over a decade, FIU has worked with the state's blood centers, partnering them with student groups and helping create themed blood drives to attract young donors.

The University works with two blood centers, Florida Blood Centers and the Community Centers of South Florida, to help them obtain blood supplies needed for patients.

In turn, the blood centers reward student donors with gifts as well as donate money for the school's general scholarship funds.

For the past two years, Florida Blood Centers has donated about \$30,000 to the University, according to Dr. Robert Dollinger, assistant dean of Student Affairs, who has helped organize drives for the blood centers.

The money is presented to FIU via a check, and according to Dollinger, the amount is then disbursed through the Office of Financial Aid.

Community Blood Centers of South Florida offers scholarships to community high school students who plan to attend FIU.

"The blood drive program is a great program that's getting better and better; more student groups than ever are getting involved. Programs like this one help to create more value to the university," Dollinger said. "The students are obtaining prizes like movie tickets, sub sandwiches, etc. as well as getting money they need for their club's causes, some even possibly a scholarship. The blood centers are getting the blood they need to distribute to the

ill, and the ill are getting the blood they need to survive.

By donating one pint of blood, students can not only help save three lives, but can also show their support of student club causes.

"We want students to come out and donate, so we will provide advertising materials for students wanting to hold a blood drive. We completely support student efforts," said Lawrence Ganns, manager of Media Relations at Florida Blood Centers.

The blood centers cooperate with students in planning and creating special blood drives, and make monetary donations to causes that student groups are supporting.

Florida Blood Centers' blood banks are non-profit, underwritten by hospitals that use the blood in emergencies, routine surgeries, and for cancer and leukemia patients, according to Ganns.

"The aim of the blood banks is to supply hospitals with blood and blood products needed for their patients," Ganns said.

The Integrated Communications Council, a new club in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, held a special blood drive Oct. 9 with the help and support of Community Centers of South Florida.

"The money is helping us fund a fashion show that we're holding at the south campus on Oct. 29," said Paul Ashe, promotions chair of the ICC.

The ICC received a \$10 donation from the blood center for each pint of usable blood obtained, according to Ashe.

For more info, go to [floridasbloodcenters.org](http://floridasbloodcenters.org) or call 1-888-9-DONATE.

HPV FACTS: #10

AND YOU DON'T  
ACTUALLY HAVE TO HAVE  
SEX TO GET IT

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## THE SOAPBOX: An Op-Ed Column

*Despite exciting football season, one message remains: safety first*

**PETE GARCIA**

Special to the Beacon

friendly yet safe atmosphere for the entire stadium.

While we must all understand and adhere to these policies and regulations, we

do encourage fan participation and have always urged our players to gather in the student section after each game to celebrate with their fellow students. In addition, plans are being developed to create even more fan interaction with their team.

Regarding the unfortunate incident that took place after the win over Middle Tennessee, Chief Bill King and FIU Public Safety, with complete cooperation from the Athletic Department, are thoroughly investigating the incident in order to ascertain exactly what happened. When the investigation is completed, appropriate action will be taken.

I look forward to many more exciting wins at the new FIU Football Stadium and hope that each and every one of you will continue to be a part of it for many years to come.

*Pete Garcia is Director of Intercollegiate Athletics.*

*The Soapbox is a forum for student leaders and University officials to voice concerns about FIU issues.*



GARCIA

First and foremost I'd like to apologize and take full responsibility for the unfortunate incident that occurred on Oct. 11 following FIU's football win over Middle Tennessee.

Everyone at FIU Athletics is excited about the direction our football team is headed. Our brand new stadium, the tailgating, the overall collegiate atmosphere and most importantly, winning.

This is what was envisioned and its success will continue to be the mission of FIU Athletics for years to come. We have the best student support we could have ever hoped for.

We understand the excitement and desire to share in the celebration on the field, but there are many factors as to why we cannot allow this to take place.

Most importantly is the safety of our fans and students. Serious injuries can occur with so many fans trying to rush the field at the same time.

Also, the wellbeing of our student-athletes, cheerleaders and on-field staff is paramount to our decision. Policies and procedures are in place to maintain a fan-

# KEEPING GREEN

## Environment should stay high on priorities list

**KIMBERLY ENGELHARDT**

Staff Writer

Everyone has been talking about the importance of "going green." However, the "green" I'm referring to is money, not the saving of the environment.

It's no secret that the economy is on the minds of Americans. It's on my mind; will I be hired after I graduate from FIU?

It's on your mind: will the economy get better?

It's on the minds of employees as they wonder if their employers can afford them with slumping sales.

With all these preoccupations about the economy and the lack of "green" in our wallets, the other "green" is being pushed to the side. The environment cannot take a backseat while we suffer from this economic roller coaster.

We have waited too long for the environment to take center stage only to be ignored by another man-made crisis: balancing our budget.

According to the Associated Press, Democratic leaders in the House and the Senate, and both presidential candidates, continue to rank tackling global warming as a chief goal next year. I'm happy to note that at least both candidates are on record in supporting initiatives to curb greenhouse emissions.

However, I don't see that support translating into bills anytime soon. We shouldn't be waiting for a new administration to address the issues that will affect this and, more importantly, our children's generation.

With the economy in worse shape than our environment, it's going to be more difficult to pass laws that can reduce carbon dioxide in our atmosphere.

It's people like Oklahoma Sen. James

Inhofe who is completely against green initiatives. According to the Associated Press, his blog entry "criticized 152 House members for releasing a set of principles to tackle global warming in the midst of the economic turmoil."

This is surprising due to the fact Inhofe is also a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. In a recent interview, Senator Inhofe stated, "The current economic crisis only reinforces the public's wariness about any climate bill that attempts to increase the costs of energy and jeopardizes jobs."

Some jobs may be in jeopardy like those in the oil industry, but other jobs will be created. Not all hope is lost.

The Republican call for "Drill, baby, drill" received so much attention that Democrats such as Sen. Barack Obama began "to publicly support some amount of offshore drilling," according to an article in *Time Magazine* published Oct. 7. There's no denying that in our world, oil is king and the environment is a poor orphaned child.

Drowning in debt and resisting the unforgiving waves of an economic slowdown, the proposals for renewable energy projects such as wind and solar have taken a back seat.

*Time Magazine* also reported that renewable energy is competing with "fossil fuels on straight cost," which makes cleaner initiatives less attractive to businesses in America and abroad.

I can only hope that the economy will rebound soon. According to finance publication *Barrons*, "The average U.S. recession since the late 1940s has lasted 10 months, and stocks typically hit their low point about three months before the recession ends."

So, if we hypothetically entered a recession on July 1st, it could last until April 2009, just in time for Earth Day. We must put in our two cents.

The environment should not be a political issue or an economic issue; it should be a world issue.

As more people populate our world, more cars will be driven, more factories will be built and more deforestation will occur. The environment cannot be ignored again, we must do something about it. Buy responsibly to stimulate the economy and use your oil wisely because one day, I hope, we won't need it any more.



# Adding digits to debt clock doesn't solve the problem

**JASMYN ELLIOT**

Contributing Writer

Looking at the National Debt Clock in Times Square, it seems someone has neglected to pay the bills on time. According to the Associated Press and other news reports, the National Debt Clock has run out of digits in order to count the nation's current debt. The dollar sign had to be removed to make room for the 1 in the \$10.2 trillion dollars the U.S. Treasury owes to our government's creditors.

Some aren't worried about this event in the slightest. Ashley Benitez, a freshman and international relations major said, "There's no way that we can fall into another depression."

On the other hand, such an achievement has struck passersby with shock, confusion, and disappointment. Freshman Eric Allen, a broadcast journalism major, said, "I'm afraid for our country."

Andy Beall, a freshman and history major shares the same sentiment, "I

am afraid for our country too because we've been spending too much money that we don't have," Beall said.

This is not what Manhattan-based real estate tycoon Seymour Durst had in mind.

Durst set up the clock in 1989 to call attention to the \$2.7 trillion debt incurred at the time, which would then prompt the nation to watch its spending habits and attempt to reduce its debt.

Freshman Alicia Vargas, a psychology major, remembers seeing lower digits in the past through her studies. "I remember being in the eighth grade and looking at the Web site that shows the clock - the number was nowhere near 10.2 trillion dollars."

However, thanks to the increased government spending, most notably \$500 billion a year since 2003, the debt clock has gone in the opposite direction, so much so that it literally ran out of space. Vargas is hopeful the National Debt Clock will serve its

original purpose in calling our nation to action.

"Hopefully, it sparks a movement to change our spending habits and stop the war that is extremely expensive," Vargas said.

As of now, the solution is to add two more digit spaces so that the National Debt Clock can count up to a quadrillion dollars in debt. Although this will alleviate the obvious issue at hand, I don't believe that's the true answer to the problem.

The addition of two more digit spaces put a very dismal fact in front of me: there may be a time where the national debt will rise to that point.

People are complaining about the economy and lack of monetary support available now to programs within the country, so imagine what it could be like if the national debt enters the quadrillion-dollar range. This would mean that financially, the government has spread themselves so thin to the point that they will more than likely have little money for our own needs

as a nation, let alone the ability to start paying off the balance.

The simple fact that the National Debt Clock even got to this point makes me uncomfortable. This tells me that there's an obvious mismanagement of funds going on somewhere in the national budget. The \$700 billion bailout plan is estimated to bring the debt up to over \$11 trillion.

Isn't the \$10 trillion bad enough?

Beall had an idea. He said, "The problem with Washington is that their only way of getting out of a financial crisis is to spend more. What the U.S. needs is to get off credit for a few years and switch to a cash based-system so the country can get back on its feet."

In short, the only way to start chipping away at the national debt is to cut government spending while paying what we owe to our creditors. According to *Concord Coalition.org*, which presents concerns regarding our nation's fiscal responsibili-

ties, the government has spent the most on health care, social security and defense, the latter mostly due to the war in Iraq, as of the 2007 fiscal year. Quite frankly, healthcare and social security are indispensable aspects of the budget; we need such funds to survive. However, the "war on terror" may not be of as much importance.

In the meantime, perhaps the government can somehow get started with some of the smaller debts owed, such as the interest on the national debt, what we owe to other nations, and what we owe to businesses and corporations.

Before all of this, we also have to get through this recession first so that our economy can start generating the funds needed to start paying. All of these aspects must work quickly and cohesively so that we can get the numbers down.

Before we take down the National Debt Clock to add spaces to it, perhaps we should work on getting some spaces removed.



# ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN

## The story of a criminal

**CHRISTIN ERAZO**  
Staff Writer

A young girl's death, a community disengaged from responsibility and compassion and a troubled youth are the focus of Charles Fuller's play, "Zooman and the Sign."

Presented by the African American Performing Arts Community Theater, Inc., "Zooman and the Sign" is a story set in the late 1980s in Philadelphia about a family coping with the tragedy of losing their daughter to a stray bullet and of a man who has no conscience or regard for the life he has taken.

Jinny Tate, a young African-American girl, is killed on her front porch on a warm summer day in broad daylight as the main character, Zooman, is carelessly shooting his gun after an argument with another man. Shocked and grief-stricken, the Tate family joins together to search for the culprit of the crime bringing forward an absent member of the family, the girl's father, Reuben Tate.

Reuben, who was once a boxer and has settled for the life of a bus driver, was not present when his daughter was murdered. Her death opens the floodgates of guilt as Reuben realizes the absent husband and father he has been to his family. In seeking justice for her death, Reuben questions the neighborhood in hopes that they can lead

him to his daughter's killer. To much chagrin, the neighborhood refuses to get involved and claims that they saw nothing. With anger and frustration, Reuben posts a sign in his front yard that reads, "The killers of our daughter are free on the streets because our neighbors will not identify them." This sign enrages the neighbors and Zooman, who eventually tries to vandalize the sign.

Teddy Harrell Jr. plays the role of Reuben and hopes to bring forth the compassion the character feels for his daughter.

"Reuben Tate is a man who has not lived up to some of the things he had hoped to achieve in his life," Harrell said. "I hope to show his strength to contain himself when all else seems to be crushing down around him."

Derrick Chiverton, who plays Zooman, portrays a troubled youth roaming the streets causing danger and harm everywhere he goes. Delivering lines in dark monologues, the audience can see and hear where this youth began and how, without guidance, has turned to a life of crime.

Andre Gainey, director of production, hopes to shine a light on the

**ZOOMAN, page 8**

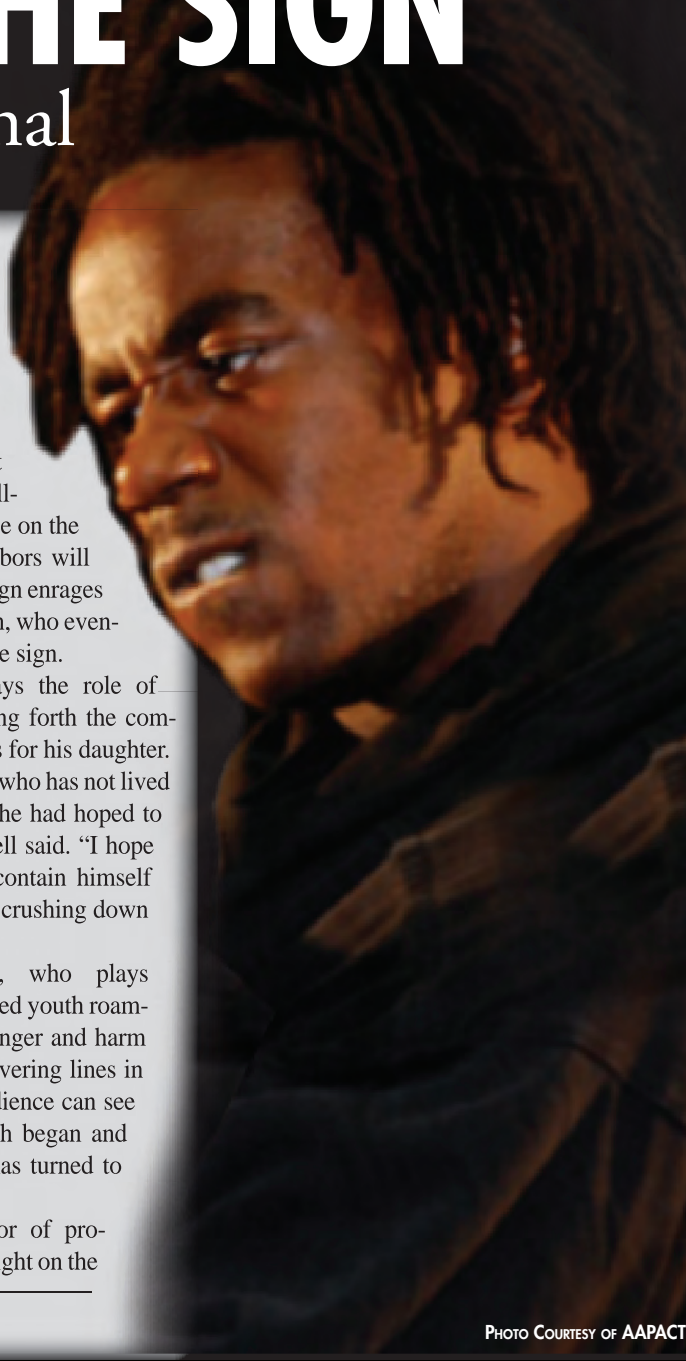


PHOTO COURTESY OF AAPACT

# Country star reveals soft side in new children's book

**JOHN GEROME**  
AP Wire

As the father of three girls, Tim McGraw understands the challenges that face dads who want to please their daughters.

So the children's book he's co-written with Tom Douglas has some simple advice: As long as you're spending time with them, it doesn't really matter what you do.

"My Little Girl," to be published Tuesday by Thomas Nelson, tells the story of a father — in a dark cowboy hat, of course — who spends a fun day with his little girl Katie doing ... nothing in particular.

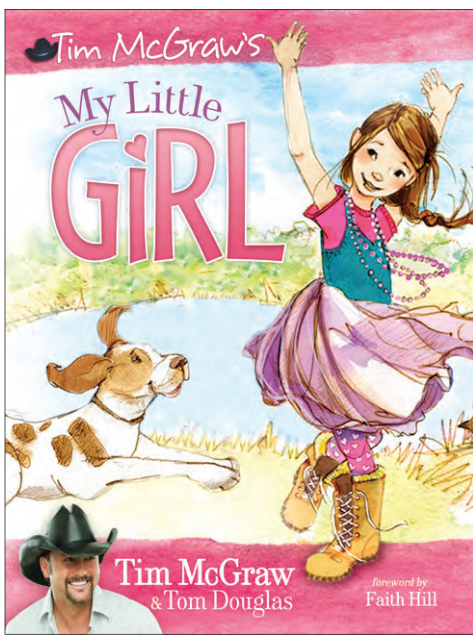
They stop by the farm co-op, gaze up at the clouds and play on a tire swing.

The 41-year-old country singer said he enjoys spending time with his daughters — ages 11, 10 and 6 — but if he did what they liked doing, he'd be spending a lot of time shopping at the mall or getting pedicures.

"It's something that as a father you kind of have to sacrifice what you want to do, because boys do what you want to do. If I want to go to the farm and shoot guns or ride four-wheelers in the mud when it's 40 degrees ... the girls aren't really interested in doing that," he said.

But McGraw said he's found that his daughters like coming along while he does simple, everyday stuff, like running to the grocery store or stopping by the office.

"Do what you have to do in your regular



AP PHOTO

routine and take them with you. It makes all the difference in the world," he said.

McGraw's wife, Faith Hill, wrote in the forward: "I hope this story provides quality time for fathers and daughters to enjoy each other's company and make memories reading together."

While Hill loved the book, McGraw said, his daughters were far less enthusiastic.

"If it doesn't have Chris Brown or the Jonas Brothers involved, they don't care," he joked.

**HPV FACTS: #10**

**FOR MOST, HPV CLEARS ON ITS OWN. BUT FOR SOME, CERVICAL CANCER CAN DEVELOP**

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# Play illustrates the double-sided nature of crime

ZOOMAN, page 7

character of Zooman and show the audience that the character is not so much a menacing criminal as he is a victim.

"I want him to be your son, nephew, cousin so that you may realize that he is, and or was, approachable and or recognize that there is still hope for him," Gainey said. "[To] not just give up and allow our community to continue to become more and more filled with young men who are forced to believe they live in a jungle and create a zoo in their own community to bring havoc."

Both Gainey and Harrell believe this play deals with many issues that are relevant today and recall the death of a local young girl whose death mirrors the death of Jinny in the play.

"Two years ago, a little girl was murdered on her back porch due to gun violence," Harrell said. "Her name was Sherdavia Jenkins. Ironically, she was burying her doll in the dirt when a stray bullet hit her in the Liberty Square Housing projects. I do believe the play is a testimony of the violence that has been placed in the laps of children throughout this country."

Harrell explained that the play allows the audience to see the other side of the crime and see it from the perspective of the perpetrator. An avenue most people don't get to see, the audience will obtain an insight to his thoughts



**FAMILY PROBLEMS:** The leads of "Zooman and the Sign" argue during a recent performance of the show. The show is based around a tragic family situation.

and feelings and the reasoning behind his senseless acts of violence.

"Communities are choosing to ignore the needs of troubled youths and just wait on the

penal system or wait on them to self-genocide. If we are supposed to be able to evolve as humans, then we need to increase our communication skills," Gainey said.

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Oct. 22 - Nov. 16

Sneak preview shows: Oct. 22 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. for \$5.

Friday, Oct. 24: Q n A session with cast. \$10.

Official Opening Night Gala: Oct. 25. Admission: \$30.

Friday - Sunday, 8 p.m. Sunday Matinees 3 p.m.

Regular admission fee is \$25. Group rates are available.

Gainey emphasized the need for communities to get involved and to avoid becoming socially reclusive, otherwise we will continue to produce the show.

"Zooman and the Sign" will be showing at the Wendell Narcisse Theatre at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center at 6161 NW 22nd Avenue, from Oct. 22 through Nov. 16.

## THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER  
22

WHAT: ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN - THE STAGE PLAY  
WHERE: Wendell Narcisse Theatre at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Avenue, Miami, Florida.  
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$5.00

WHAT: FIU Music Presents: Bach et. al  
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall  
WHEN: 7:00 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$ 5.00 with Student ID

WHAT: Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity Incorporated presents: "NOCHE DOMINICANA"  
WHERE: FIU SOUTH CAMPUS UP TOWERS WEST WING LOUNGE  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: Is FIU doing enough for Latinos???  
Guest speaker  
"The Cook" Encore performance of select acts.  
WHERE: GL 100  
WHEN: 7:00 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: American Marketing Association Meeting  
WHERE: CBC 245  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.

WHAT: Dance Marathon Recruitment Week  
WHERE: GC Tables  
WHEN: 10:00 a.m.

WHAT: Dance Marathon Golden Idol Finals  
WHERE: GC Ballrooms  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.

WHAT: Business Etiquette luncheon  
WHERE: GC 243  
WHEN: 12:00 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Presale: \$ 20

WHAT: Breast Health Awareness Fair  
WHERE: GC Pit  
WHEN: 11:00 a.m.

THURSDAY • OCTOBER  
23

WHAT: ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN - THE STAGE PLAY  
WHERE: Wendell Narcisse Theatre at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Avenue, Miami, Florida.  
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$5.00

WHAT: Rock Horror Picture Show (Shadow Cast)  
WHERE: FIU UP DM150  
WHEN: 7:00 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$5.00

WHAT: Women's Empowerment Week presents: Diversity Day  
WHERE: WUC  
WHEN: 11:00 a.m.

WHAT: State Farm Financial Seminar  
WHERE: GC 140  
WHEN: 3:00 p.m.

WHAT: Women's Empowerment Week Presents: Voting Vixens Political Presentation  
WHERE: GC East Ballrooms  
WHEN: 6:00 p.m.

WHAT: Psi Chi Psychology Conference  
WHERE: GC Ballrooms  
WHEN: 8:00 a.m.

WHAT: Game Room Chess Tournament  
WHERE: GC Pit  
WHEN: 4:00 p.m.

WHAT: Federal Jack General Meeting  
WHERE: DM 100  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.

WHAT: Best Buddies of America Meeting  
WHERE: GC 343  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.

WHAT: Interfraternity Council Greek Night  
WHERE: Gracie's Grill  
WHEN: 7:00 p.m.

WHAT: Yoga Club Meditations  
WHERE: GC 241  
WHEN: 8:00 p.m.

Compiled By: Rosalyn Delgado

## Women's empowerment week celebrates feminism

DIANA JORDAN  
Staff Writer

The Panhellenic Council, the National Organization for Women, Campus Life and The Women's Center have worked together to bring a special week to the women of the University.

Women's empowerment week consists of walkathons, forums, luncheons and movie screenings.

"My goal for the week is to help the women of FIU feel strong, confident and empowered. I believe that the list of events we have will help us achieve that goal," said Rachel Olmedo, vice president of the Panhellenic Council.

The week kicked off Saturday, Oct. 18, at Bayfront Park with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk. This walkathon is held annually to raise money for cancer research and is walked in over 15 cities across the country.

Monday, Oct. 20, was Health Initiative Day and Tuesday, Oct. 21 featured "Love Your Body," a discussion panel held in the east Graham Center ballrooms.

"We want women to know they don't need to be perfect and that we are all unique - a quality which makes us valu-

able. Our goal is to teach women they can set their own standards and raise their own bars," said Teresita Feal, FIU's Panhellenic Council president.

The week's activities continue with a Business Etiquette Luncheon on Wednesday, Oct. 22, in GC 243 at noon. The luncheon will consist of a three-course meal and will teach women how to carry and present themselves during business lunches and dinners - a key component of successful careers and networking.

"It is important to attend events such as the Etiquette Luncheon before entering the workforce to learn how to interact with others. Since there is no class offering practical skills, workshops such as these are beneficial," freshman and international business major Darleen Pulido said.

Oct. 23 will feature a State Farm Financial Seminar at 3 p.m. in GC 140 to discuss issues such as planning for retirement and 401ks. From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., a Voting Vixens Political Presentation will be held in the east GC ballrooms.

The week culminates on Friday, Oct. 24, with a celebration of feminism from noon to 2 p.m. in the GC pit and a "Girls' Night Out" - a Sex & the City movie screening from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. in GC 140.

THE BEACON

A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

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Monday, Wednesday, Friday

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## FAN SUPPORT



PAULO O'SWATH/THE BEACON

**ROAD PARTY:** FIU students watch the FIU-Troy football game on Oct. 18 in the FIU Stadium Club.

## DJ PROFILES



# Lamppost brings spunk, spontaneity to Radiate FM

**MONICA PUERTO**  
Staff Writer



CYNTHIA CARRILLO/SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

**STUCK IN THE PAST:** Jennifer Mojena, Radiate FM's Lamppost, studies a Pretenders album during her Living End Show, where she plays underground rock from the 80's and 90's.

Jennifer Mojena, also known as Lamppost, has been a DJ at Radiate FM for the past six years and was a program director for four years.

Coming a long way from listening to WVUM, the college radio in her middle school years, she has left her mark with her Living End Show.

Yet she wishes she applied sooner to the station.

"I hope no one out there is under the impression that we here at Radiate FM are a bunch of music snobs and elitists ... don't be afraid to apply and have an opportunity to express yourself here," she said.

Lamppost's Living End Show centers on rock music in the 80s and 90s, especially underground music, which consists of genres such as new wave, punk, post-punk, neo-psychedelia, grunge and more.

According to Mojena, "Sub Pop Records was on fire in the early 90s and you can't even begin to cover it all if you just play Nirvana or Soundgarden. I really just thrive on playing things people haven't been exposed to before. This is what really drives me."

Lamppost likes to keep her shows impromptu and spontaneous, and eases the songs' transitions live, playing songs from bands such as The Cure, Depeche Mode, Echo and the Bunnymen, which spark nostalgic high school memories for listeners.

When asked what she looked for in employees when she was a program director she said, "Since the DJ positions are volunteer, you really have to have a love for exposing people to good music to keep you doing it week after week."

One of the DJs interviewed by her, Rick Blanco, states she is an inspiration to the music he plays as a DJ and how working with her has been a pleasure.

"I will never forget when Jennifer bought me the Electric Wizard's CD, and now I play it every chance I get on my show,"

Radiate FM has evolved over the years since Lamppost began. The most significant change she has noted is the addition of two new frequencies, 96.9 at Biscayne Bay and 95.3 in

the main campus.

To Mojena, it is a big accomplishment, because not many universities have three signals, and with her addition of classical music from 4 a.m. to 10 a.m., Radiate FM is now a 24-hour operating station.

"I expect Radiate FM to continue playing music that people don't immediately have access or exposure to, making it a shining beacon in the sea of Miami radio, bogged down with repetition and vapidly. People have definitely noticed the change and in 2006, Radiate FM won the annual *New Times* Best in Miami, Best Radio Station."

Although the broadcasting world is competitive, Mojena's dream would be to work for a station such as Seattle's KEKP.

# Sigma Kappa joins Council, starts chapter

New sorority Sigma Kappa has been the recent talk of Greek life.

Greeks have been extremely happy to have a new sorority on campus and are excited to see what they have to offer to the University.

As some of you might know, last Spring semester, the Panhellenic held several meetings where all the Panhellenic sororities were able to meet with different sororities that were interested in starting a chapter here.

All current University sororities judged each of the sororities wishing to join, and they eventually chose Sigma Kappa.

Sigma Kappa has one other chapter in Florida, at the University of Florida. They used to have chapters at the University of Miami and Florida State University, but both chapters were shut down.

"I've seen them around campus a lot, and I'm very excited that they are embracing our community," said Flora Madriz, a senior public relations major, and a member of Tri Sigma.

Blair Abascal, a new member of Sigma Kappa, feels that Sigma Kappa has a lot to offer the University, a sentiment she said is felt by other members as well.

"Sigma Kappa offers a chance to start something of your own. We as Sigma Kappa's are now able to make a name for ourselves. Now it's up to us to decide whether it's good or bad," Abascal said.

Kayla Alonso, who is a member of Alpha Xi Delta and a junior majoring in psychology, was the Rho Gamma coor-

inator for sorority recruitment this year, and she is especially excited to see the Greek community growing and for what is to come from Sigma Kappa in the future.

"I think having Sigma Kappa as a new sorority on campus is going to really help our Greek community expand. They bring something else to the table and from what I've seen so far, they are taking a lot of initiative. I'm impressed by how many women they recruited. With these new additions, there's nowhere to go but up,"

Alonso said.

Katie Mullens, a sophomore and new member of Sigma Kappa, started off going through formal recruitment with the intention of becoming a new member of one of the other 6 sororities.

But she changed her mind once she got to know what Sigma Kappa had to offer her.

"Sigma kappa seemed exciting ever since I heard that there was a new sorority coming to FIU. They really did a great job of painting Sigma Kappa to be a new opportunity for friendship and fun," said Mullens.

"When I went to the recruitment week events and had the opportunity to meet the other girls who would become my possible pledge sisters, I met extremely loyal, intelligent and outgoing women which made me even more eager to join," Mullens said.

For more information on Sigma Kappa and Greek Life, visit the Campus Life office on the second floor of GC.

### GREEK LIFE



AMANDA BATHCELOR

# HPV FACTS: #10

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VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**MAKING THE MOST:** Daunte Owens put forth a solid effort in his first major action of the season.

## New backfield threat emerges for FIU

**JONATHAN RAMOS**  
Asst. Sports Director

### OWENS HAS CAREER GAME

Daunte Owens played high school football with University of Florida quarterback Tim Tebow. Tebow has gone on to win a Heisman trophy and a national championship, Owens has lurked in the shadows during his FIU career. On Saturday, things changed for the Jacksonville native.

During the loss to Troy, Owens enjoyed career high statistics in every offensive category. The junior running back ac-

counted for 90 total yards of offense and scored his first career touchdown. The performance included a 35-yard run.

"I feel good," Owens said. "I'm just playing my role. The offensive line blocks and I just respond to how they block."

Owens was given 14 carries on the game, as starter Julian Reams sat out the meeting with an injury. In addition, Owens caught two passes.

Through seven games, Owens has already surpassed his career rushing totals.

### OFF TIME

The Golden Panthers will have another bye week this weekend before their next

game at Louisiana Lafayette on Saturday, Nov. 1. The off time is expected to give extra time to Reams and linebacker Matt Garris, both nursing injuries. Garris suffered a concussion during the game against Troy. It will be the second to last bye of the year.

### SAFETIES

FIU's first score against Troy was a safety in the first quarter. The two-point score was the second of its kind this season, and the total is more than the Golden Panthers converted last season. The last time was against the University of South Florida Sept. 20.

## Tebow's vote for Heisman: McCoy

**MARK LONG**  
AP WIRE

Florida quarterback Tim Tebow has a front-runner for the Heisman Trophy, and it's not last year's winner.

Tebow, who could become the first player since Ohio State's Archie Griffin in 1975 to win consecutive Heismans, said Monday that Texas quarterback Colt McCoy is his top choice right now.

"Being smart and just looking at guys who are having a good year, he obviously is someone to look at and would probably be my top guy I'd vote for right now," Tebow said.

As a previous winner, Tebow has a Heisman vote, and he used No. 5 Florida's off week to catch up on some of the hopefuls for college football's most prestigious award.

McCoy stood out.

Through seven games, McCoy has completed 81 percent of his passes for 1,894 yards and 19 touchdowns.

Throw in McCoy's strong religious beliefs and it's no wonder Tebow, the

son of a missionary who makes frequent mission trips to the Philippines, would be a fan.

"I think he's done a great job just handling everything," Tebow said. "His interviews after the game I watched, too. Just getting to know him a little bit, I was very proud because I think he represents college football really well, and handled his faith extremely well, too."

Tebow threw 32 touchdown passes last season, ran for 23 scores and became the first sophomore to win the Heisman.

Tebow knows there's plenty of time for things to change, too. After all, Boston College's Matt Ryan and Oregon's Dennis Dixon were Heisman front-runners around this time last year, and neither ended up making the trip to New York for the presentation.

Now, he has a vote.

"I think it's cool," he said. "You have a responsibility. To have a vote for the Heisman is a pretty cool deal and something you should do wisely and have a well-educated vote."

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# Women's hoops picked to finish near bottom of SBC East

**JONATHAN RAMOS**  
Asst. Sports Director

During the 2007-08 season, the women's basketball team finished 4th in the Sun-Belt conferences East Division with an 8-10 conference record. As the new season approaches, FIU is predicted to finish right where it ended last year.

The SBC released its preseason coach's poll and it predicts a close finish at the top of the conference, with the Golden



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**LEADING LADY:** Monika Bosilj's experience could be a determining factor this season

Panthers on the outside looking in.

The Golden Panthers, according to SBC coach's, will end 4th once again. With 43 total votes, including a lone first place prediction. FIU fell behind South Alabama, Western Kentucky, and Middle Tennessee in the division poll. Troy and Florida Atlantic are expected to end the season 5th and 6th, respectively.

WKU was voted second in the division despite winning the SBC title last season, as MTSU star Chelsia Lymon is predicted to lead a powerful charge to the top of the division.

In the SBC west division poll, Arkansas State and UALR were each awarded 83 points worth of votes as they tied for a first place finish prediction.

North Texas, Louisiana-Monroe, New Orleans and Denver were voted to end 3rd to 6th, as Louisiana-Lafayette is projected to end last with a lowly 19 points.

## HOME COMFORT

The Golden Panthers will begin their season on November 14th against Wisconsin-Green Bay at home and will play four of their first six games at home overall.

Following two road games in three days after their home opener, FIU will host Miami (Fla.), N.C. State, and Auburn. Games vs. N.C. State and Auburn are both part of the FIU Thanksgiving classic, which is held at the FIU Arena.

The Golden Panthers finished with a 9-9 home record a season ago, but ended with an unfavorable record on the road.

## GAME ... OFF?



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**CANCELLED!** FIU's match with Alabama A&M, scheduled for Oct. 19 was cancelled. The 2-8-2 Golden Panthers' next contest will be at Kentucky Sat. Oct. 25.

# After a pair of wins over playoff teams, Dolphins coming back to Earth quickly

**STEVEN WINE**  
AP Wire

The Miami Dolphins have been beaten the past two weeks by a winless team and by the only team they defeated last year, which is why coach Tony Sparano needed a reason to smile Monday.

Then someone asked if he discouraged his players from talking politics in the locker room.

"I wouldn't tell them anything like that," Sparano said. "They're entitled to their own opinions, of course. We've got a couple of Ivy League guys in there and some guys from Stanford, so they're pretty smart. They're probably schooled up pretty well on the election.

"I've got to be honest with you: Me myself, I've got a little bit more of a one-track mind right now."

After a pause, Sparano added, "That was good. I appreciate you making me laugh today."

As has often been the case in recent years, times are tough in Dolphinland. Losses to Baltimore on Sunday and at Houston a week earlier took the sheen off earlier upset victories against New England and San Diego.

The going could get especially bumpy Sunday, when last-place Miami faces AFC East leader Buffalo (5-1). The Bills have won seven of the past eight games in the series.

"We're always going to be the underdog pretty much in every matchup we play this year," Miami receiver

Davone Bess said. "We just need to focus on what we're doing, and that will at least give us a shot."

The Dolphins also need to revive their ground game and run defense, because they've been second-best in rushing yards in every loss. Against the Ravens, Ronnie Brown and Ricky Williams combined for only 43 yards on 17 carries, while Baltimore's Willis McGahee ran for a season-high 105 yards.

Miami played the final three quarters without 305-pound nose tackle Jason Ferguson, who was sidelined by an injury to his ribs and still hurting Monday.

"He's just really sore right now," Sparano said. "It's just going to be day to day."

The Dolphins gave up a season-high 140 yards rushing, with Baltimore running repeatedly between the tackles to exploit Ferguson's absence.

"It makes a difference," linebacker Akin Ayodele said. "Ferguson really holds up the point. It requires four hands on him every time. Once teams know he's not there, they play us a little different."

Sparano saw a broader problem — he blamed the Dolphins' relapse the past two weeks on a breakdown in blocking and tackling. He said Houston receivers totaled 147 yards after the catch, many of them after first contact, and he counted 17 or 18 missed tackles in Sunday's 27-13 loss to Baltimore.

"In general the last couple of

weeks, fundamentally I don't think we've played very well," he said. "We need to get it better."

Yardage after first contact helped the Ravens convert seven of 14 third- and fourth-down situations, and they controlled the ball for nearly 19 minutes in the second half.

"We tackled pretty good in the games we won," Miami defensive end Randy Starks said. "In the games we lost, we didn't. You can give up a 10-yard completion, but if that turns into 20 or 30 yards, that's a different ballgame."

Poor blocking allowed Baltimore to put pressure on quarterback Chad Pennington, Sparano said, while Brown and Williams had little success attacking the flanks or running inside.

The Wildcat didn't work, either. For the first time in four games, the funky formation failed to produce a touchdown, and it netted only 4 yards in five snaps.

"We've executed that package pretty well; yesterday wasn't one of those days," Sparano said. "Whether or not we move on with it, we'll see. It's part of what we do, but it's a small part of what we do."

This week's practices will likely be devoted more to basic drills than to playbook gimmicks, as the Dolphins try to take advantage of a favorable schedule that has them at home for four of the next five games. Then again, the Dolphins have won only two of their past 11 games in Miami.

# Players buying into Chestnut's system

## SOCCKER, page 12

and one for Troy — and one red card on FIU head coach Thomas Chestnut.

"It was great to send our seniors out with a win in their final home game," Chestnut said. "To control the game the way we did against a very organized team I think really shows our quality."

The lone goal of the game was scored in the 33rd minute when Claudia Cardenas controlled the ball just outside the box and played it steadily down the middle of the field to Kassandra Sorzano, a sophomore. From ten yards out, Sorzano scored the goal.

"We've started to realize

that playing hard in practice really pays off in the game," said senior defender Kia Rigsby. "We get put in the exact same situations at practice and if we can get it done in practice, it makes the game that much easier."

FIU has held their last three opponents to a combination of only 23 shots and 7 corner kicks in their three, consecutive wins.

The team carries the momentum from their wins into their remaining games, which are all away: Arkansas-Little Rock, Arkansas State, and Florida Atlantic. Game time for FIU vs. Arkansas-Little Rock is set for Oct. 24 at 8 p.m.



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

**DEFENSE WINS:** Freshman goalkeeper Melanie Raimo has allowed two goals in her last eight shots faced.



## LATE SEASON SWING



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

**NO PLACE LIKE IT:** Young players, like Cassandra Sorzano who scored the only goal in FIU's 1-0 victory over Troy, helped the Golden Panthers defend University Park field for its final two games in 2008.

## Women's soccer protects home turf for final home games, win streak at three

**STEPHANIE GABRIEL**  
Contributing Writer

### FIU 4, USA 1

The FIU women's soccer team captured its first win of the 2008 season at Louisiana-Monroe last week and they fought to win another last Friday night. The Golden Panthers and second year head coach, Thomas Chestnutt, came out with a 4-1 victory over the South Alabama Jaguars at home, marking their second win of the season.

"The team has confidence regardless of a win or a loss; their work right now is coming together," said Coach Chestnutt.

Just 21 minutes into the game, midfielder Cassandra Sorzano, a sophomore, scored the first goal for FIU. The ball was passed to her just outside the right side of the box where she beat a Jaguar defender and goalkeeper, Katie Berry, near post.

"Each game we're building, and we're going to keep doing that. We've played some tough teams and we've been able to hang with them," said Sorzano. "It feels great. It brings us a lot of confidence; it proves we can do it."

Sorzano was also responsible for one of FIU's two assists, which set up the second goal in the 48th minute of the game by Claudia Cardenas, the second year forward who had the game winning point against Louisiana-Monroe in FIU's first victory. She went on to score a second

goal against South Alabama, off an April Perry assist. Cardenas shot from the top of the box and went far post to make the score 3-0, 60 minutes in.

"It's a young team and they're learning," said Coach Chestnutt. "We've had trouble finishing, but we had 4 goals tonight. That will give them a little bit of

Maria Gualdrón is one of two seniors on the FIU women's soccer team. In regard to two straight wins she said, "It was exciting, and at the same time there were a lot of emotions going through because it is my last year. I wanted to give it my all. I did my job and worked hard with the team so that we can keep going forward."

BOX SCORE		
	FIU	Troy
Score	1	0
Total Shots	23	1
Shots on Goal	11	0
Corner Kicks	11	1
Saves	0	10
Fouls	17	
Offsides	2	0

**SCORING SUMMARY:** FIU: 1. 32:51 Sorzano (2) assisted by Cardenas (1), Through ball from Cardenas, Sorzano finish from 10 yards

**CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS:** FIU: TEAM, Red Card, 32:08, #15 Jackson, Yellow Card, 61:23; Troy: #22 Haley, Yellow Card, 40:32, #19 Sanders, Yellow Card, 88:00, #12 Bonfield, Yellow Card, 89:18

**GOALKEEPING:** FIU: Raimo, SOG - 0, SV - 0, GA - 0; Troy: Branham SOG - 11, SV - 10, GA - 1

confidence in the sense that we've been struggling to finish."

FIU finished their highest scoring victory of the season with an unassisted, fourth goal by Mayara da Fonseca Bordin, a junior midfielder. She shot from just inside the box in the 65th minute of the game. The Golden Panthers defense held South Alabama's Jaguars to just 7 shots and a lone goal the entire game, which was scored by Carly Williams.

shutout. "I was pretty emotional today but the girls played hard and the win was all I could ask for in my last game here," said senior forward Maria Gualdrón.

The Golden Panthers held the Trojans to just one corner kick, compared to 11 for the home team. The arduous game also included four yellow cards - three for FIU

## Road no issue for Volleyball

**ANDREW JULIAN**  
Sports Director

The Golden Panthers completed their second consecutive conference weekend sweep, and third this season, collecting wins over South Alabama, Oct. 17 and Troy, Oct. 18, both on the road. FIU improved to 17-4 overall and holds a league best mark 7-1 conference record, with the only blemish being a close 4-set loss at Middle Tennessee on Oct. 3.

FIU leads the Sun Belt east division over the Blue Raiders by a half game, and both clubs will have six more conference contests before meeting for the second time this season on Nov. 7 at FIU arena.

### FIU 3, SOUTH ALABAMA 1

FIU played what Coach Danijela Tomic called a "sloppy" game in Mobile Alabama, as they won their second road conference game of the season in four sets, 25-22, 22-25, 25-18, 25-15. FIU had won the year's previous meeting between the schools, on Sept. 26 in a sweep at FIU Arena. "They played much tougher at home than they did in our first meeting," said Tomic, whose team had a solid .229 hitting percentage in the match.

Junior All-American Yarimar Rosa collected her twelfth double-double of the season, with 20 kills and 11 digs. Isadora Rangel and Sabrina Gonzalez added double digit kills, with 11 and 10.

Leading the way for the Jaguars was Hirstina Markova and Juliana Almeida. The pair combined to amass 25 kills and led the way in USA's lone set victory in which South Alabama had a .205 attack percentage.

FIU entered the fourth set leading 2-1, and took care

of business quickly, holding a .500 hitting percentage in the final frame, while holding USA to just 15 points and an .083 hitting percentage while making just three errors.

### FIU 3, TROY 0

The Golden Panthers made short work of the Troy Trojans on Oct. 18 in Troy, Ala. FIU had a bit of a let down in the second set, but was able to control the first and third, to cruise to a three set victory, 25-11, 25-21, 25-12. FIU was aided by an unlikely group of supporters. 14 FIU students made the trek up to Alabama for the Saturday's FIU-Troy double feature that began with the FIU volleyball victory.

"It's awesome, to have our fans when we are on the road, it's awesome. I could see our players turn it up a little bit when they saw our fans come in," Tomic said as her team rolled through most of the match, but had some trouble in the second set.

"I said a couple of weeks ago, that we have a tendency to play down to the level of our opponents if we're not challenged," Tomic said. Troy was able to hang tough as FIU went through a second set lull that saw the set tied for much of its duration, a total of 13 times. FIU took the lead for good, going on a 5-0 run to bring the score to 24-19.

Isadora Rangel had the most efficient hitting day of the season for FIU, with a .688 percentage, and Yarimar Rosa posted double-double number 13 on the year with 15 kills and 14 digs.

The Golden Panthers visit FAU on Oct. 21 for their last mid-week contest of the season, and this upcoming weekend FIU hits the road for its final road conference weekend. It will be a visit to Arkansas, to take on UALR on Fri. Oct. 24, and Arkansas State on Sat. Oct. 25.



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**GREAT WEEKEND:** Junior Isadora Rangel had an very impressive weekend, with a hitting percentage over .400