



Vagina Monologues returns for Women's History Month

PAGE 5



Middle Tennessee ends FIU win streak at six in rout

PAGE 8

SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

Students, faculty, and staff watched with pride as the Biscayne Bay Campus was publicly recognized as a Tree Campus.

OPINION PAGE 4



The future of space exploration is in the privatization of building space-craft. Birth of a new industry?

OPINION PAGE 4

SGC-BBC: Student Democracy Act of 2010 fails to attend to certain needs including an unfair restriction on funds for campaigns.

LIFE! PAGE 5

Viernes Culturales: Little Havana's monthly celebration of arts and culture welcomes participants to enjoy a free guided tour.

LIFE! PAGE 5

Fistfuls of Tech: The Internet has taken your privacy hostage, and it's all your fault.

SPORTS PAGE 8



Pablo Bermudez earns Sun Belt honors after stellar offensive performance during opening weekend series.

SPORTS PAGE 8

Stormy weather conditions lead to lopsided results in intramural soccer matches.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Vagina Monologues, Feb. 26, 8 p.m. Help end violence against women and girls; tickets are \$10 students, \$15 faculty, \$20 general. Held in GL 100.

Kayak Day at the Bay, Feb. 27, 10 a.m. Go kayaking for free at Biscayne Bay. Make sure to bring your beach gear. Group meets behind Aquatic Center at BBC.

FIU Basketball, Feb. 28, 5 and 8 p.m. The women and men's team take on Western Kentucky. Students get in free, at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

— More events can be found in our Monday and Friday issues of Life!

WEATHER

FRIDAY
Sunny
LOW: 47 HIGH: 70

SATURDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 48 HIGH: 73

SUNDAY
Sunny
LOW: 51 HIGH: 71

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Electrical failure affects GC

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
Asst. News Director

A power outage struck the Graham Center on Monday, leaving faculty and students in the dark.

According to FIU's Division of Facilities Management, an underground electric cable short-circuited and caused a fire which only

affected the cables underground.

Madeline Baró, assistant director of Media Relations, told Student Media that only about 20 percent of the Graham Center was affected.

"Mainly the newer parts like the atrium food court and the area with the hair salon and dry cleaners," Baró said.

The outage affected several businesses in GC including

Subway, Einstein Bagels, Panther Dry Cleaners, Santi's Hair and Nail Salon, and Waves Spa. This area also houses the Panther Card and Panther Dining computer systems; because of outage, the University was unable to accept Panther Cards and credit cards for various services throughout the Modesto Maidique and Biscayne Bay Campuses.

POWER, page 2



Wine & Dine

SoBe fest bigger than ever

MAUREEN NINO
Asst. News Director

For the past eight years the South Beach Food and Wine Festival has progressively grown to become a much-anticipated event that has brought the art of cuisine to South Florida.

The festival appeared in 1997 as a one-day event and was then known as the "Florida Extravaganza" festival. The event was held at the Kovens Conference Center at Biscayne Bay Campus with an average of 450 people in attendance each year, according to Lisa Palley, a public relations coordinator for the festival contracted by the University.

The event continued to be held at the Kovens Conference Center until 2001, when it was then relocated to an L-shaped tent on the outside grounds adjacent to the Hospitality and Tourism Management Building. The festival was also extended to a three-day event which now includes a Friday night dinner party, a Saturday wine seminar and a grand tasting exposition held on Sunday.

In 2001, both professional chefs and hospitality and management students prepared the meals and more than 2,000 people attended.

The festival was fully reinvented

SOBE, page 3

Student shows 'passion' for craft in real setting

CASSANDRA STEVENS
Contributing Writer

Hard work pays off.

This proverb holds true of 26-year-old Matthew Moran, a hospitality management student at FIU.

What distinguishes this graduating senior from the pack isn't just his willingness to devote time and effort to his work.

"Hospitality is business with a smile," Moran said.

"With anything you do, you have to do it right, you have to have

passion. And I do."

Moran's passion for hospitality has given him the initiative to nurture his craft in a real-life setting — outside of class, textbooks and homework.

The South Beach Wine & Food Festival is his most momentous real-life setting to date.

Now in its ninth year of operation, the widely televised festival gathers cuisine-loving guests and world-renowned culinary personalities, from Emeril Lagasse to Rachael Ray to Paula Deen, together for four days of food sampling, wine

tasting and pure enjoyment.

"This is our largest and longest-running event," Moran said. "It takes a large team to coordinate. This is how I receive most of my responsibilities."

In a highly publicized event that demands thousands of team members, and boasts thousands more attendees, with last year's guests' count closing in on 50,000, Moran finds his purpose in being the logistics manager. He is in charge of the Whole Foods Market Grand Tasting Village, a portion of the festival that hosts guests' food sampling and interaction with various food and wine sponsors.

His responsibilities range from mapping vendor floor layouts, to providing vendors with the supplies they need, to promoting an eco-friendly message of accountability for the trash produced throughout the festival's four-day run.

He also strives to ensure guest satisfaction.

"I'm there to make sure that everything runs smoothly," Moran said.

"I'm there to make sure that everyone is safe and having an amazing time."

MORAN, page 3

COLLEGE OF LAW

Investor clinic joins catalog in the Fall

MEENA RUPANI
Staff Writer

The College of Law has announced it will be making an addition to the clinical programs it already offers.

The investor clinic will be offered as a course for credit and it will be offered for the first time in the Fall semester beginning in August, according to Peggy Maisel, associate professor of law and director of the legal clinics.

The investor clinic will be providing legal help to under-served investors involved in securities disputes.

"The plan is to have eight students enroll for four credits each semester. The new faculty director of the clinic will hopefully be hired and start in June," Maisel said.

According to Maisel, her role in the investor clinic will be being responsible for the college's obligations under the grant including making sure the investor advocacy clinic is started, helping to hire a full-time director, developing the curriculum, recruiting students for the clinic and outreach to the community.

According to the press release, the grant obligations the schools have to uphold are that each law school is required to demonstrate institutional support of the clinic beyond the three-year grant program and provide investor education and outreach in their community.

LAW, page 2

NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Sea World worker dies in whale tank

Tragedy struck Wednesday when a killer whale attacked it's trainer in front of an audience at a Sea World show.

According to the Associated Press, audience member Victoria Biniak told WKMG-TV that a show was just starting when the whale "took off really fast in the tank, and then he came back, shot up in the air, grabbed the trainer by the waist and started thrashing around, and one of her shoes flew off."

Distraught audience members were hustled out of the stadium, and the park was immediately closed.

The 40-year-old veteran trainer was one of the park's most experienced. It was not clear exactly how she died.

WORLD

Lieutenant guilty of covering up civilian shooting

Former New Orleans police lieutenant Michael Lohman pleaded guilty Wednesday to obstruction of justice in connection with the police shootings of civilians in the days after Hurricane Katrina.

According to CNN, two civilians were killed and four others were injured in the shootings on the Danziger Bridge.

Lohman conspired with other police officers to cover up how the shootings occurred, even though he believed them to be "legally unjustified," according to a federal indictment unsealed Wednesday.

– Compiled by Gabriel Arrarás

BREAKING BARRIERS



PHOTOS BY LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

1. Residents at Lakeview North tore down the "Wall of Hate," the final event of Diversity Week on Feb. 21. Throughout the week housing residents wrote racial names, phrases or slurs they have personally encountered on empty donated shoe boxes. **2.** Racial names, phrases and slurs written on empty shoeboxes by housing residents to build up the "Wall of Hate." **3.** Sophomore Daniel Stokes, writes down what comes to mind while looking at a risque fashion advertisement. This was part of a discussion during Diversity Week called "Sex Exhibit," which discussed stereotypes of gender roles and sexuality.

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Feb. 22, 2010, *The Beacon* editorial should say that there are three members on SGC-MMC's elections board with the commissioner, not two.

In the same issue, the contestants in the front page photo were competing for the "Queen of Hearts" competition.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

Power outage lasted three days

POWER, page 1

"Fortunately, we were able to establish temporary power to the computer systems Tuesday afternoon. Panther Cards and credit cards can now be used at all points of service," said Jeff Krablin, assistant vice president of Business Services, in an e-mail to the University community.

Businesses on campus were not the

only ones left in the dark, with several student organization offices in GC experiencing the blackout.

David Del Cristo, a student assistant for Campus Life, told Student Media that the Campus Life office has been operating with only essential personnel working a provisional schedule.

"Basically all we are doing is letting students know that the power is out, and that any papers they turn in aren't going

to get filed for another week or until the power comes back," Del Cristo said.

According to Del Cristo, the Campus Life office has not received a set estimate on when the power would return.

"Each day [since Monday] they've told us that in the afternoon, [power] should be working," Del Cristo said.

According to Krablin, full power is expected to be restored late Wednesday evening.

THE BEACON

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Clients assigned to students

LAW, page 1

The clinic will be funded by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation. FINRA awarded grants to four schools recently amounting in \$1 million, according to the press release.

According to its Web site, the FINRA Investor Education Foundation is the largest foundation in the U.S. dedicated to investor education. Its mission is to provide investors with tools to better understand the markets and the basic principles of saving and investing.

Maisel explained that the FINRA foundation approached FIU first about this new clinical program.

"The FINRA Foundation sent me a letter last year asking if the FIU College of Law Clinical Program would be interested in

applying for a competitive grant to start a law school clinic to provide legal representation to small investors in South Florida with securities disputes who cannot otherwise afford a lawyer," Maisel said.

Maisel added, "In response to this letter, I wrote a grant application for funding to start a clinic at FIU."

According to Maisel, all that is left to do is hire a director to start and teach the clinic and supervise the law students who will provide the legal representation.

Maisel also explained the role the students will be having in the investor clinic.

"The law students will be the student attorneys representing clients in securities arbitrations under the supervision of the faculty supervisor. They will also do community outreach

and education for investors," Maisel said.

According to the press release, the FINRA Foundation chose these law schools because they are well-positioned to launch and maintain clinics that will allow supervised law students to take on securities disputes.

Maisel also explained why she felt the FINRA Foundation chose FIU as one of the few law schools to receive grants this year.

"FINRA believes that FIU has a well established and excellent clinical program engaged and committed to serving the community, with law students and faculty who will provide high quality legal representation and education for the many small investors in South Florida. South Florida is an area with a large number of potential disputes," Maisel said.

University celebrates Tree Campus status with planting of plum tree

Laura de la Fe
Staff Writer

Biscayne Bay Campus' green thumb got a thumbs-up from a national conservation group.

Students and faculty gathered outside Academic One by the bay as the Arbor Day Foundation named the University a 2009 Tree Campus U.S.A. on Feb. 23.

The honor was signified by the presentation of a plaque to the University and the ceremonial planting of a pigeon plum tree, a species native to South Florida.

"We are the first university in Florida to have this program. It starts now with the ceremonial tree, but each year we will continue to plant more and more trees in order to meet the efforts of the Arbor Day Foundation," said Steven Moll, interim vice provost.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation and educational organization founded in 1972 dedicated to planting trees around the nation and conserving natural habitats.

In 2008, the Arbor Day Foundation started the Tree Campus U.S.A. program, which chooses colleges that meet special requirements to participate and plant trees.

The universities chosen promote "healthy urban forest management and engage the campus community in environmental stewardship," according to the foundation's Web site.

Julissa Castellanos, director of operations at the Office of the Vice Provost at BBC, contacted the organization and submitted the necessary paperwork.

"There were a lot of criteria that we had to meet in order to do this,

and a lot of paperwork I had to fill out," Castellanos said.

To be certified, the University must meet five standards, including a tree care plan to properly maintain the trees and an event dedicated to the observance of the Arbor Day holiday.

The Aramark facilities team, including Senior Grounds Manager Diego Hurtado, planted the ceremonial tree.

"Being a part of the Students for Environmental Action Committee and the Organic Garden Club made us aware of the issues, so when Julissa called and told us about the program we were immediately on board," Hurtado said.

According to Hurtado, the pigeon plum tree will take three to five years to grow to its full height. The tree will continue to be maintained under the direction of Ronald Moss, senior grounds supervisor.

"We just planted about 30 trees at the School of Nursing. In the past, they would just cut down the trees, but now we try to relocate them," Hurtado said.

Students at the ceremony, such as Lluvia Dominguez, a sophomore and education major, hope to see the University continue its efforts for a green campus.

"I am taking an environmental studies class and came to see the tree dedication because it sounded interesting. I really like that FIU is doing something to better the environment," Dominguez said.

Each year, the Arbor Day Foundation re-evaluates its Tree Campus U.S.A. campuses and decides if they continue to meet the criteria.

"We have to show our continuous improvement to make this a green campus," Moll said.

Food and wine festival improves through time

SOBE, page 1

in 2002 by Director of Special Events and Media Relations at Southern Wine and Spirits of America, Lee Brian Schragar.

Schragar relocated the event to South Beach and renamed the event to its current title. The new location attracted almost 7,000 guests who attended a bevy of seminars, dinners, grand tastings, and for the first time, a live auction.

In 2009, the festival hit a new peak in popularity with 53,000 participants attending the four-day event, grossing approximately \$4 million in tickets sales. The festival also raised \$2 million for the school of Hospitality and Tourism

Management and \$400,000 for student scholarships.

According to Mohammed Qureshi, assistant dean of hospitality and management, the event will help the 900 students involved put their skills to use.

"Students can put into practice some managerial skills and learn techniques on how to operate a huge event," he said.

The expectations from student participants for this year's event are high and they are excited to be involved.

"This is the first year I will work the event. I am really excited to gain experience and do some networking," Yenisel Montane, a junior hospitality and tourism management major said.

GIRL TALK



TOMAS LOPEZ-MELIS/THE BEACON

Patrice Huntley (right), a peer educator for the Victim Advocacy Center, tells Kathy Francois (left), Junior/hospitality management major about the center on Feb. 24 at the Lust for Life event presented by the Counseling & Psychological Services Center.

Hospitality student lauded for work ethic, positivity

MORAN, page 1

A little over 1,000 of the 1,300 FIU hospitality and tourism students register annually to participate in this gathering that is hosted by the University.

All proceeds received from the festival go directly to the school's learning programs, benefiting these students professionally and academically.

Mohammad Qureshi, assistant dean in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, said the festival has a great impact on students who actively contribute to it.

"Our students get an incredible experience in putting into practice the management techniques they learn at school, industry contact, meaningful work experience plus scholarships," Qureshi said.

The preparation for the festivities that premiere during South Florida's February weather is extensive.

The University partners with the festival's sponsors, including Food Network and Southern Wine & Spirits of Florida, to plan the event from beginning to end.

But with Moran involved, business is always equated with pleasure.

According to his mentor Susan Gladstone, the difference in Moran's work ethics is the genuine, unadulterated zest with which he does what he does.

"He accepts each assign-

ment with enthusiasm, views new responsibilities as exciting challenges and is willing to put in the hours required to get the job done well," said Gladstone, activation director in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

Moran's favorite part of it all is the feedback he receives from the students he supervises.

"I love seeing others succeed," he said.

"This is one of the largest wine and food festivals in the country, and it's an FIU

times became hard.

At 17, Moran moved out in pursuit of an independent life. He has since been supporting himself and understands the "importance of working and being self-sufficient."

"The true value of work, and of anything in life, is to expand your mind," he said.

"Even if I do something wrong, as long as I learn from it, I've still won."

His positive attitude of today is derived from the much rougher childhood of his past.

"I'm grateful for every-

I don't see my future as anything less than successful... Where life takes me, only time can tell.

Matthew Moran, Student
Hospitality and Management

festival, which is amazing. It feels great to hear about the job opportunities that students have been offered, the people they've met, and the things they've done."

Though stable now, Moran's life hasn't always been met with ease.

His father died when he was five, leaving his mother to raise two young boys as a single parent.

As the older of two sons, Moran vowed to provide for his mother and brother the best he could, often using the college fund his father left for him to help his mother with simple necessities when

thing I've experienced and I wouldn't want to live it any other way," he said. "It has made me who I am today."

As for his future, Moran remains hopeful. He dreams of someday opening his own resort where his hospitality skills will be freely practiced.

"I don't see my future as anything less than successful," he said.

"I'm moving forward, I know that much. Where life takes me, only time can tell."

SGC-MMC

Well-intentioned law limits campaign efforts

DEAN WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

On Feb. 15, Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus debated and passed, in a 23-2 vote, an elections code cited as "the Student Democracy Act (SDA) of 2010." These revisions provided for detailed regulations to facilitate a successful student election.

The revised elections code defines, among other things, campaigning and fundraising.

The members of the student senate ought to be applauded for implementing changes to the elections code in an attempt to avoid the shortcomings that plagued the 2009 student elections.

The SDA does not solve certain issues with two main issues standing out: restriction of campaigning periods and finance constraints to run these campaigns.

First, SDA designates one week for campaigning and two days for voting.

Should SGA wish to expedite a democratic process, an extension of the time necessary to campaign should be adjusted.

Student elections are a process that requires time to incorporate as many students as possible into the process, as well as afford candidates time to petition fellow peers for support.

If potential candidates are to understand the rigors of being a student official as well as effectively display their qualifications, more than one week is necessary to campaign.

Second, financing a campaign is an integral part of a candidate's success. The maximum finances for presidential candidates allowed by the SDA are \$3,000 of which only \$1,500 can be donated.

I am skeptical in believing that this amount would be sufficient for any candidate to embark on a successful campaign.

We'll examine this with the imaginary campaign of John Smith.

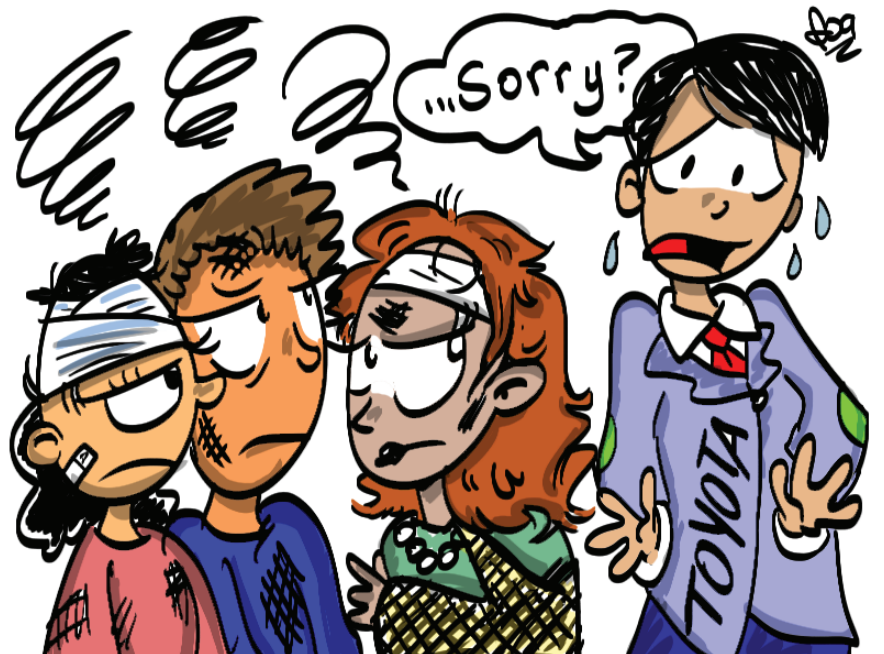
John Smith is a candidate for SGA president.

After deciding to take a fiscal approach, he purchases promotional material from *clubflyers.com*.

Five hundred 4x6 postcards and 500 2 3/4 x 4 flyers (both to pass out at candidate sponsored events) would cost \$50 and \$55, respectively. 1,000 8 1/2 x 11 tri-fold brochures (to publish his platform) would cost \$300, 500 3 1/2 x 8 1/2 door-hangers (that the candidate and his supporters can hang on their doors) would cost \$130, and 500 12 x 18 posters (for display and other regulated purposes) would cost \$325.

That brings the current price tag to over \$800, at least.

STICKY SITUATION



What if John Smith wanted to host a candidate function every day of the campaign or purchase additional material? John Smith would have to spend more than \$3,000 to be competitive.

The reasoning behind instituting the financial limits is to encourage fiscal responsibility and to afford everyone a fair chance.

In contrast, it takes financial resources to win a campaign, especially one that is driven by the popularity of the candidate.

It is worth noting that student government at FIU is the only SGA in the state that institutes restrictions on the amounts of money candidates can use on campaigns.

Many of the revisions within the SDA will not come to fruition until the 2011 student election.

While SDA is the creative invention of good intentions, those intentions are relatively too late to have a significant effect on the student elections for this year.

With student elections about a month away, student government had to act swiftly to institute reform.

Instead of debating and instituting reform either in the Spring, Summer, or even as late as the Fall of 2009, SGA seemingly prolonged the process, affording little time to take the aforementioned revisions into consideration.

NASA's future may be in privatization of spaceflight

DAVID BARRIOS
Opinion Editor

It seems that NASA went out of all cultural relevance once old glory was planted on the moon's *Mare Tranquillitatis* on July 20, 1969.

Sure, there was Skylab, America's first space station which brought countless advances to medical science. Then there was that little project called the Space Shuttle.

Despite their occasional destruction, usually due to negligence, nobody paid attention to the reusable spacecraft.

Now and again, there's a publicity stunt. Take for instance John Glenn, America's first man to orbit the earth, who was launched into space in 1998 at the age of 77.

The fact remains that space flight, for all of the risks involved, is routine in the public's mind.

President Obama's newly proposed budget, introduced in late January, included a plan to spend \$6 billion in trying to get private industry to build, launch and operate their own spacecraft.

It's the first common sense move that the agency has made in the past decade.

In its newly configured form, NASA would pursue its current scientific tasks and would buy seats onto private crafts and be ferried into space.

NASA was founded not as an endeavor for science. Rather, it was born from Cold War paranoia, a knee jerk reaction to the Soviet Union's launch of the world's first artificial satellite in October of 1957.

President Kennedy, immediately following the Bay of Pigs, set the goal for Americans to land men on the moon - and it was done. It outlived its purpose at that point and for years has struggled with budget cuts since 1970.

Plans were outlines for possible lunar colonies, and a possible manned voyage to Mars by 1985.

It didn't happen.

NASA for decades has survived simply as a scientific venture: helping launch hundreds of telecommunication satellites for cell phone companies while companies

“Could you imagine the Apple logo on a large rocket taking off from the Kennedy Space Center? It is capitalism at its finest, with Steve Jobs in the pilot's seat, no less.”

such as Pfizer fund research done onboard flights.

NASA survived as a middleman, the veritable one-stop shop for spaceflight unless you wanted to take your chances with the Russians.

The work that has been done is inestimable.

Then again, so are the losses with NASA's average budget clocking in somewhere at over \$12 billion a year during the last decade.

\$12 billion dollars to fund a space program using 20-25 year old shuttles does not make sense. Operation costs for the shuttle alone are \$3 billion, according to the agency.

A new plan to invest more money in NASA for a possible moon landing by the end of this decade and perhaps going to Mars is a foolish plan. The American public is not interested.

It's the death knell for NASA as we know it. Though some are surprised by the new shift in the agency's function, there's no need for shock.

Ever since SpaceX, a private firm, launched its first satellite into space last year, the purpose of the agency has been practically nullified.

Though it will take time, it may

be the birth of a new industry.

Could you imagine the Apple logo on a large rocket taking off from the Kennedy Space Center? It is capitalism at its finest, with Steve Jobs in the pilot's seat, no less.

Some insist that we leave spaceflight to the professionals - that it's too dangerous and complex for industries to handle.

NASA is helping facilitate SpaceX. With enough time, it could create more jobs, especially in Florida, whose position is crucial for launching purposes.

To be fair, the practice of buying seats on spacecraft has been around for sometime. The United States used it to put astronauts on the International Space Station following the destruction of the Space Shuttle Columbia over Texas in 2003.

It's like traditional flight; pioneered mainly by the United States' military and eventually commercialized. And now I'm sitting at an airport, writing this piece, waiting for my plane to start boarding.

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The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 240 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.

WINNER/LOSER

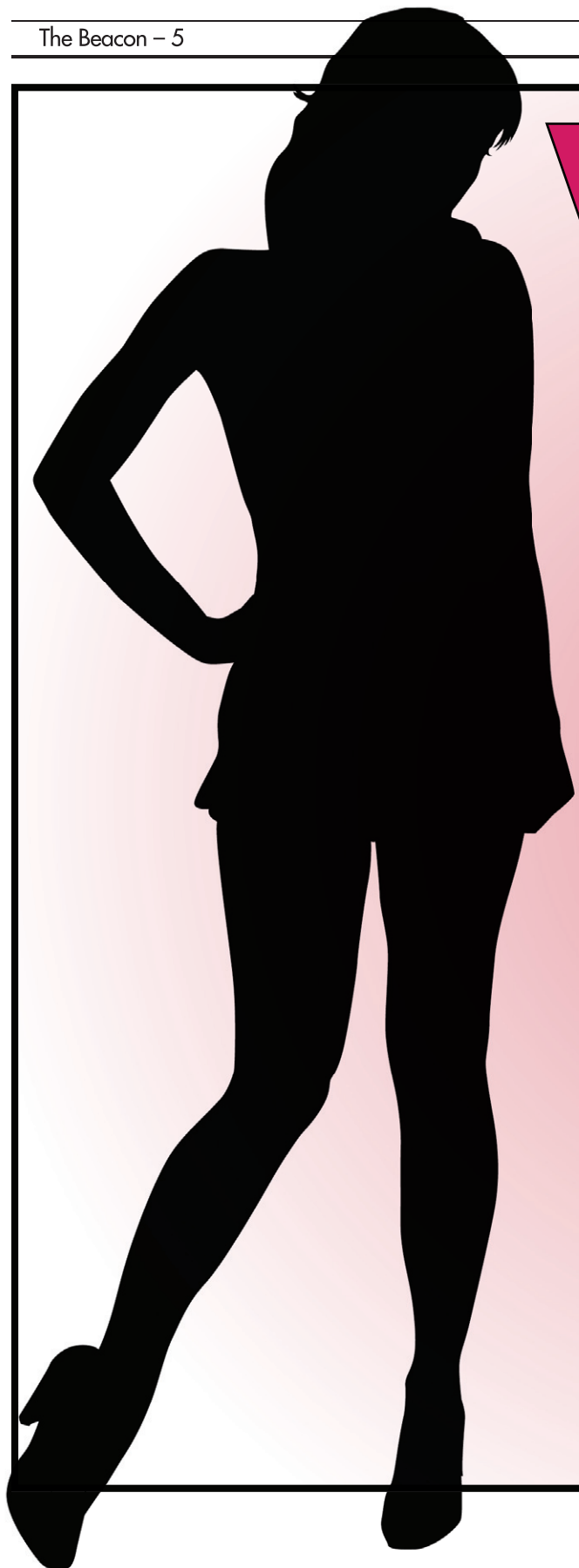
 Francisco Madariaga of Argentina was finally reunited with his family after being abducted by forces in Argentina 33 years ago. His father, Abel, was a political enemy to the dictatorship that controlled the country in the 1970s, leading the abduction.

 Hummer. Yes, General Motors announced on Friday that their Hummer brand of SUVs would be discontinued next year. This news comes after GM was unable to sell the brand to a Chinese firm that deals in manufacturing heavy lifting vehicles.

QUOTATIONATION

"I'm deeply sorry for any accident that Toyota drivers have experienced. I accept full responsibility."

Akio Toyota
CEO, Toyota Auto.



V DAY

Play aims to incite women's rights movement, explores gender roles

MARIA MURRIEL
Staff Writer

While Women's History Month will not officially begin until March 1, the Women's Studies Student Association has already prepared a three-day showcase of Eve Ensler's play, *The Vagina Monologues*, for this last weekend of February.

But what exactly are *The Vagina Monologues*?

To start, one should note the significance of the principal word in the title: vagina. Eve Ensler, a playwright and fervent activist, compiled into a book the interviews she had with hundreds of women about their various experiences with the snatch in their hatch.

Ranging from love and orgasm to birth and mutilation, the monologues reveal an extraordinary sense of empowerment that these women find in their bodies and their sexuality.

Every year, a new monologue addressing contemporary gender issues is added to the collection. However, no matter the topic, it is presented with what V-Day describes as "humor and grace" to engage audiences of all types. Anecdotes vary from comedic takes on visits to the gynecologist, to the painful tales of Bosnian women in rape camps, to a prostitute's description of her techniques or a grandmother's experience with the birth of her first grandchild.

The common characteristic of the

stories is an invitation to learn to love oneself, vagina and all. In essence, *The Vagina Monologues* is a feminist comedy, dripping with the sauce and zing that make women powerful and iridescent.

Good-naturedly, FIU has allowed the WSSA to hold annual performances of the play as a part of V-Day for almost a decade. It's only the largest bit of women's rights activism the University partakes in.

V-Day is an organization that defines itself more as a "global movement" dedicated to ending violence against women and girls around the world. While the "V" in its name

MONOLOGUES, page 6

LATIN VIBES

Free galleries exhibit vibrant Latin American art

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Each month, the epicenter of Miami's historic Little Havana, SW 8th Street, also known as *Calle Ocho*, closes down between 14th and 22nd avenues to host *Viernes Culturales* (Cultural Fridays), a vibrant look at Latin American art.

The festival is a free showcase of artists, sculptors and musicians that come together against the backdrop of Little Havana's vibrant streets.

The festival happens on the last Friday of every month and each month has something special to add.

This Friday, there is a free walking tour available. The tour, led by Dr. Paul George, historian for the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, begins on the

front steps of the Tower Theater at 7 p.m. Look forward to the tour because Dr. George is acclaimed for his ability to tell about the people and places that make South Florida so unique.

The Tower Theater is the heart of Little Havana's art scene. In the 1960s, the theater served as an introduction to American culture through film and entertainment.

In 1997, it went under renovation and was designed with the purpose of creating a center for art, film and culture emerging in Miami's immigrant minority communities. Today, it succeeds at providing Little Havana with an arts and culture mecca.

Galleries featuring work by renowned Cuban and Latin American artists will open their doors free of charge during the event.

Cremata Gallery at 1646 SW 8th St. presents a solo show by

Cuban artist Hernan Garcia. Garcia belongs to the generation of artists who followed the innovative art of Ponce, Lam and Victor Manuel, who defined Modernism in Cuban art.

The focus of Garcia's work is the "chair." Garcia says the chair is a tribute to those friends "that allow us to rest, to think, to write, to dream and, of course, to draw and to paint."

He created landscapes with the chair in which they could be seen as "fascinating beings with fascinating stories."

The gallery says his art is a representation of the solitude of humanity and the chair is painted in a range of different scenarios, "living their tragedies or their comedies, but always revealing the brutal emptiness or loneliness

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FISTFULS OF TECH!

Internet has tainted our perception of privacy

Privacy is dead. The Internet killed it.

Sites like Facebook and Google are dragging us, kicking and screaming, into an online world with no privacy.

Facebook is one of the most flawed and shady Web sites on the Internet. It is a black hole for your information and, most of all, your privacy.

In 2006, Facebook announced the support for applications as part of its then new structure. At first, I thought the idea of having small Web applications as part of your overall Facebook experience was promising. Boy, was I wrong.

These applications were given far too much access by Facebook and are mostly spyware written by companies to mine your Facebook for information on you; your status

updates, your comments, your name, your profile - everything.

This information is then sent to marketing firms who interpret the data and then sell this information to companies who want to "understand consumer needs."

As with most morally reprehensible things in this world, this whole Facebook app market has proven to be quite profitable.

Zynga, the company that runs the popular Facebook game FarmVille, among others, generated \$100 million in game sales last fiscal year, according to BusinessWeek.

Yes, you read correctly, \$100 million.

Amazing, isn't it? We are in

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COLUMNIST



JORGE VALENS

Association aims to end inequality

MONOLOGUES, page 5

may guide you to think it's Feb. 14 all over again, "valentine" is only one of the words it represents.

V-Day stands for valentine, victory and vagina. The efforts of the movement are directed toward freeing oppressed women from their aggressive, violent environments and embracing their womanhood with pride and hope. Not only do the participants believe in gender justice for the entire world, but they also deliver their message wrapped in a sheet of friendly-but-fierce creativity. Along with performances of Ensler's compilation, V-Day provides colleges that are interested in participating with a selection of plays, films, lectures and workshops all geared toward people's education in gender equality.

"We hold a screening of the film *Until the Violence Stops*, which shows how *The Vagina Monologues* grew into the V-Day movement," said Lupe Juarez, president of the WSSA and director of the FIU run of the play.

In the spirit of fairness and equality, the WSSA does not discriminate in casting for the play. Auditions are held in October, and every FIU student is welcome to try out. Once the logistics are worked out, the fund-raising begins.

This spring, the cast and crew invaded Graham Center with their unassuming Vagina Pop sales. The white and milk chocolate vagina-shaped treats provided a delicious and eerie, almost-accurate image of the female organ. All the profits collected from their endeavors are sent directly to V-Day to help women and girls in Africa and Asia overcome cruelty.

Ultimately, the WSSA's hope in staging these productions is to contribute to the worldwide cause of women's rights. Juarez believes the club's small efforts add up to the greater cause.

"Not only do the V-Day events make a difference, but I feel that by informing audiences, we are contributing to ending violence against women... and helping to spread the word, which is also important."



Carnival, local bands, free art shows merge in Cultural Fridays

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that we are called to live from time to time."

Zu Galeria Fine Arts is well known for its colorful collection and warm atmosphere.

The signature Guayabera-wearing men of Little Havana can be found sitting in front of the gallery, smoking cigars and recalling stories from the golden days in Cuba.

In the month of February, *Viernes Culturales* presents the second annual Carnival Night which will feature a colorful parade with Congas and Comparsas, the band following the conga dancers.

Local bands play sets throughout the

night. There are two main stages set up, one on 16th and the other on 15th.

Cultural Fridays attracts approximately 70,000 visitors and tourists a year and is expected to grow in the next few years because of its tremendous popularity and success.

Cultural Fridays is targeted to everyone who enjoys learning about art and culture, from community members to visitors from all over the world.

The festival organizers say their audience is multicultural and represents the ethnic diversity of the South Florida community.

The event takes place the last Friday of each month between 6:30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

No one to blame but ourselves for lack of Web privacy

FISTFULS, page 5

the grips of a terrible economic recession and people have given Zynga \$100 million of their hard earned money to buy a digital pig they can use to sniff out digital truffles on their digital farm. Give me a break.

Popular online games like FarmVille are tricking gullible and bored Internet users into giving them real money for fake crap, all the while stripping them of their privacy.

The Internet itself is slowly turning its back on the sanctity of privacy. What I find most shocking about it isn't so much that it's happening, but that we as Americans, the people who are most vocal about our privacy, are just letting it happen.

In a December 2009 interview with NBC, Google CEO Eric Schmidt uttered the most chilling words in the Internet's history.

"If you have something that you don't want anyone to know, maybe you shouldn't

be doing it in the first place," Schmidt said when talking to Maria Bartiromo during a big Google NBC special report.

This definitely doesn't fall in line with Google's overall philosophy, "don't be evil."

Recently, Google launched its new social service called Google Buzz.

What made this product launch different than its other ones is the fact that Google tested this product internally for a few months and then thrust it upon the world randomly, something they don't normally do.

Shortly after, people's contact lists and e-mail information were broadcast all over the Internet.

One lady in Florida was shocked to find that Buzz broadcasted her frequently contacted list to everyone on her contacts, including her abusive ex-boyfriend.

A class action lawsuit ensued from that case, and now Google is in the middle of the room with anti-privacy egg all over

its face.

Google is a lot better than most companies when it comes to privacy and freedom of information, however.

If you visit google.com/dashboard, for example, you can view all the Google services you use and exactly how much information they have on you.

The Internet search giant also funds an independent project called the Data Liberation Front (dataliberation.org), which helps users with information in Web apps, such as GoogleDocs and Gmail, to get their information out should they decide to stop using Google products.

To me there is no doubt, the Internet killed privacy because we allowed it to.

We depend on the Internet more and more every day to store our information, communicate with others and generally make our lives easier.

But, in making our lives easier, we make a sacrifice: control of our information.

Fistfuls of Tech is a weekly tech column. Look for it every Friday.



Sudoku answers from 1/24

1	4	9	3	2	6	5	8	7
6	8	7	5	4	1	2	3	9
5	3	2	8	7	9	1	4	6
7	2	3	9	8	4	6	5	1
8	6	1	2	5	3	7	9	4
4	9	5	6	1	7	8	2	3
9	5	6	1	3	8	4	7	2
2	1	4	7	9	5	3	6	8
3	7	8	4	6	2	9	1	5

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Thanks for playing!

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

FIU BASEBALL



The Golden Panthers take on Oral Roberts.
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Baseball Stadium

MYSTERY MOVIE

SPC-MMC presents Friday night movies.
WHEN: 5 and 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 140

WORKDAY IN THE GARDEN

Join the Garden Club in maintaining the organic garden.
WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Garden

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES



Help end violence against women and girls; hosted by the Women's Studies Student Association.
WHEN: Reception: 7 p.m. Show starts at 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$15 faculty, \$20 general
WHERE: GL 100

SIGMA IOTA RHO LECTURE SERIES

A lecture by Dr. Barry Levitt from the Department of Politics & International Relations.
WHEN: 3 - 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 314

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

KAYAK DAY AT THE BAY



Bring beach gear, don't forget your sunscreen!
WHEN: 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for students, faculty, family
WHERE: Bay behind the Aquatic Center, BBC

FIU BASEBALL

Versus Oral Roberts.
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Baseball Stadium

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$15 faculty, \$20 general
WHERE: GL 100

BASKETBALL

The women and men's team take on WKU.
WHEN: 5 and 8 p.m., respectively
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT



Presented by FIU Music.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$15 faculty, \$25 general
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center

SPINNING NATION

Charity ride.
WHEN: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5
WHERE: Rec Center Blue Room

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

PIPEDREAMS



Organ concert with renowned Uruguayan organist Cristina Garcia Banegas.
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5 students, \$10 faculty, \$15 general
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Special performances by two FIU Women's Studies professors.
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$15 faculty, \$20 general
WHERE: GL 100

FIU BASEBALL

The Golden Panthers take on Oral Roberts.
WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Baseball Stadium

FULL MOON DRUM CIRCLE



Celebrate the full moon at the beach.
WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Between 75th and 85th Street, Miami Beach

Write to calendar@fiusm.com to have your event featured.

MTSU showcases five starters in double figures

WOMEN'S, page 8

a team, I felt today there were a few people who were very individual.”

Just two players reached double figures for FIU. Rodgers totaled 17 points while Fanni Hutlassa, who shot 3-of-11 from the field, knocked down 10 off the bench.

FIU took 23 shots from beyond the arc and made just seven of them while MTSU went 17-for-26 from three-point land.

Five of those MTSU three-pointers were by point-guard Chelsia Lymon, who totaled 15 points on the night.

Meanwhile, Clark led the team with 25 points and 8 rebounds – a typical night for the forward who averages 26.5 points this season.

The second half was more efficient for the Golden Panthers as they

improved to 40 percent shooting.

The Blue Raiders, however, were also able to improve a bit as they shot 64.3 percent in the second half compared to 60.6 in the first stanza.

In the second half, MTSU went up by as much as 51 points and closed out the game with a 100 percent effort from the free-throw line (8-of-8).

“It was just a really bad loss,” Rodgers said. “They’re the top team in our conference and I guess we weren’t ready to step it up tonight.”

The Golden Panthers totaled 23 turnovers the

night, which the Blue Raiders were able to score 37 points off of them. Nine of those turnovers were committed by freshman Carmen Miloglav.

“When we got in the open court and wanted to score really fast,” Gonzalez said. “There were bad passes and people seemed a little bit nervous.”

According to Lymon, there is a key to the Blue Raiders’ lockdown defense.

“Communication is the big key to the defense and I think we’re getting better at that as the season is going on,” she said.

“We lost it in transition. They’re good, make their shots, and always get open.”

Michelle Gonzalez
FIU point guard



CHRIS ADAMS/THE BEACON

Senior Marquita Adley [left] had trouble defending Alysha Clark [right] in her first game back from injury. Clark scored a game-high 25 points and totaled eight rebounds.

CLASSIFIEDS

JOBS

Part-time Sales: Georgia-based national marketing firm looking for t-shirt sales reps for the campus and Greek community who are aggressive and self starters. Multiple positions available. Excellent part-time opportunity with guaranteed base to start. Email resume to rick@southlandgraphics.com. 321.779.0279.

FOR RENT

1 BR apt w/small living area, kitchen and bath. \$650.00 includes water, elect, cable & internet. Off 132 Ave & SW 56 St. Call 786-326-7888



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Pablo Bermudez brought home the Sun Belt Player of the Week award thanks to his 6-11 opening weekend, that was capped off with a grand slam on Feb. 21.

Thomas expects to use a number of lineups early

BASEBALL, page 8

come up to the plate with no outs.

He was able to recover and earn the save without allowing the run.

The junior right-hander served as the primary closer last season and went 1-2 with a 7.50 ERA in 24 appearances, earning four saves during that span.

Garcia, also a junior, might get an opportunity to make his first appearance on the mound this weekend against visiting Oral Roberts.

LINEUP SHUFFLE

The series against the Terrapins gave a number of players a chance to try and earn a permanent spot in the starting lineup.

At catcher, Jose Behar started two of the three games while Sean Reilly started and Doug Joyce split time with him behind the plate in the middle game.

In left field, Jabari Henry and Yoandy Barroso split time while Raiko Alfonso and Jeremy Patton both had an opportunity to prove themselves at second base over the weekend.

Thomas expects to continue experimenting with different players at each position as the season progresses.

THE BEACON

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HELP WANTED!

SPOTLIGHT

As always, *The Beacon* is looking to recruit ambitious, self-driven and talented writers, photographers and graphic artists to join our staff.

Submit your application in GC 210 or WUC 124.

Office Assistant

The Beacon is looking for someone to greet guests, answer calls, file papers and to check stands. If you feel you can fill this position, please come on by.

Writers (All Sections)



Our editors are looking for ambitious writers who enjoy pursuing stories, getting the facts – and who have a mid range to high writing skill level.

Copy Editors (At the Bay, Sports)



The Beacon is looking for persons with high knowledge of grammar, AP style, and who have a knack for writing witty headlines.

Page Designers (At the Bay, Sports)



The Beacon is looking for persons who have an eye for design; although experience with Photoshop and InDesign isn't required, it is preferred.

MTSU 101, FIU 58

RAIDED AT HOME

Blue Raiders blowout FIU to end streak

STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Asst. Sports Director

After winning their sixth straight game last week, FIU point guard Michelle Gonzalez and the Golden Panthers were confident that they could at least put up a fight against Middle Tennessee State University and the Sun Belt conference's leading scorer, Alysha Clark.

"She is a player that is going to score anyway, but she can't win by herself," said Gonzalez after a win against Florida Atlantic on Feb. 17. "But if we can stop the guards, that would be a good plan. I think we have an opportunity to win."

However, from FIU's defense to their offense, intensity lacked and Gonzalez' words were never showcased as all MTSU starters, including Clark, scored in double figures to defeat FIU 101-58 on Feb. 24 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

"We lost it in transition," Gonzalez said. "They're good, make their shots, and always get open."

Making their shots and staying open was exactly what the Blue Raiders (21-5, 16-1) showcased early on as they stunned the Golden Panthers (14-14, 9-8) with a 28-0 run in the first 10 minutes of the game to go up 30-3.

"That team beats everybody by 30 to 40 points and they just keep the same intensity," Gonzalez said. "That's the way they practice."

Sophomore Rakia Rodgers was able to break the devastating run with a three-pointer, off the bench, for the Golden Panthers.

As a team, however, FIU shot 17.9 percent in the first stanza to go down by 34 points at the half.

"They play with a high level of intensity so I guess where we faltered is we didn't step up," Rodgers said. "Our intensity kind of dissembled instead of stepped



CHRIS ADAMS/THE BEACON

Elisa Carey [center] is closely guarded by MTSU forwards Alysha Clark [left] and Brandi Brown [right] as the Blue Raider defense shut down the FIU offense at home.

up."

Gonzalez commented that not only was there a lack of intensity, but she also believes a few of the Golden Panthers played selfishly. Rodgers agreed.

"I'm not very satisfied with the way we practiced these past two days," Gonzalez said. "Maybe we started winning and everyone wanted to prove what they can do but coming from winning six games as

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BOXSCORE

	FIU	MTSU
Field Goals	17-58	38-61
3-Point FGs	7-23	17-26
FG percentage	29.3	62.3
3-point FG percentage	30.4	65.4
Rebounds	32	33
Blocks	3	3
Assists	12	30
Turnovers	23	20

INTRAMURAL SOCCER: FRATERNITY

Conditions lead to sloppy play, numerous blowouts

ANDRES LEON
Contributing writer

Wet Astroturf and light winds were the players and officials' fears on Feb. 22, but the winds began to die down as five matches took place at the FIU recreation field.

PI KAPPA ALPHA 4, TAU KAPPA EPSILON 0

Anticipation to the first goal was slow, but once Pi Kappa Alpha (3-1-1) got it going in the second half, the contest got away from Tau Kappa Epsilon (0-3-1).

"Tough game in the beginning," Pike's Alex Alonzo said after the victory. "We positioned ourselves after awhile, having

figured out which areas to concentrate our pressure on, and taking advantage of some of our opponents inexperienced players."

SIGMA ALPHA MU 8, LAMBDA CHI ALPHA 1

Sigma Alpha Mu (2-2) breezed their way to an 8-1 victory against Lambda Chi Alpha (0-6). A late goal helped Lambda Chi avoid the shutout, but Sammy closed strong to even their record.

FIJI 3, PI KAPPA PHI 1

The highly anticipated match between incoming league leader Pi Kappa Phi (3-1) and Fiji (3-0-2), fittingly, was the last match of the night. Fiji opened up with

an early goal and didn't look back, and Pi Kapp did not score despite many shots on the goal.

"Our team was on the attack right from the start. It also helped having played a skirmish against our opponents earlier," said Fiji captain Emmanuel Propst. "The main key to the win was our communication and change of the pitch, we kept their defenders back and our forwards up, constantly pushing the issue to come through with the win."

SIGMA PHI EPSILON 4, PHI SIGMA KAPPA 1

Sigma Phi Epsilon (4-0) emerged with the best record in the league after defeating

BASEBALL NOTEBOOK

Sophomore Bermudez named player of the week

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

Pablo Bermudez is beginning to make a name for himself in the Sun Belt Conference.

The sophomore outfielder was named the SBC Player of the Week on Feb. 22 after helping bolster the Golden Panther offense against Maryland in a season opening three-game sweep.

Bermudez emerged as the star of the series with a .545 (6-for-11) batting average, in addition to a grand slam on Feb. 21 in a 4-1 victory to close out the series. He also picked up two doubles, two stolen bases and six RBIs to help give FIU (3-0, 0-0 Sun Belt) its first sweep of an ACC opponent in its history.

This marks the first time that Bermudez has won the award.



BERMUDEZ

BATTLE TO CLOSE

After the Maryland series, the jury is still out on who will emerge as the Golden Panthers' closer.

When a save opportunity came up in the final game of the Maryland series, FIU head coach Turtle Thomas opted for Jorge Marban to come in and shut the door over redshirt freshman Bryam Garcia.

Marban struggled early, walking the first two batters he faced and allowing the tying run to

BASEBALL, page 7

FIU VS. ORAL ROBERTS

- What: FIU vs. Oral Roberts
- When: Friday, Feb. 26; Saturday, Feb. 27; Sunday, Feb. 28
- Where: FIU
- Broadcast: none

Phi Sigma Kappa (1-4). A crafty goal placed right in the bottom corner of the goal closed out the shutout for Sigma Phi Epsilon in the 4-0 win.

"Poor game and the quality of pitch made it hard to maneuver, but it also helped that our opponent took erratic shots giving our mid field the chance to spread the ball out and create for our forwards a much easier set up for our attack," said Sigep forward Robert Grimal.

FIJI 8, LAMBDA CHI ALPHA 0

Lambda Chi Alpha (0-5) remained winless this season after dropping an 8-0 decision to Fiji (3-0-2), who emerged with two wins Monday after a make-up victory.