

HEART ♣ HOME COMING 2009 ♦ ♠

DISCOVER WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK: STARTS ON PAGE 7

SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 5



Students can take dance classes to learn hip-hop and ballroom moves for free!

AT THE BAY PAGE 5

SGC-BBC passes a resolution to make an algebra class count toward the University Core Curriculum, not just as an elective.

AT THE BAY PAGE 5

Learn who is running for homecoming court at BBC, and vote for your favorite.

EDITORIAL PAGE 11

The Student Government Council should use the Speed-Pass Act responsibly.

OPINION PAGE 11



When it comes to guys, girls don't want Prince Charming.

OPINION PAGE 11

Obama's signature for the recent hate crimes bill was long overdue.

LIFE! PAGE 10

Panther Prowl to include performance from star of Comedy Central show.

SPORTS PAGE 16

The men's basketball team gets set to face the defending national champions tonight at North Carolina.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Homecoming Pep Rally, Nov. 9, 12 p.m. Join in on the spirit of FIU during this free event being held in GC Chapman.

Panther Prowl Comedy Show, Nov. 9, 8 p.m. Enjoy the comedic stylings of Daniel Tosh and others at the US Century Bank Arena. Tickets are \$5.

Lip Sync Around the World, Nov. 10, 8 p.m. Homecoming competition of students performing songs, dances and cheers in the US Century Bank Arena. Admission is free.

—Turn to the Life! Calendar on page 10 for more events.

WEATHER



MONDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 78 HIGH: 84



TUESDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 76 HIGH: 84



WEDNESDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 74 HIGH: 83

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Lot Six new tailgating spot

JORGE VALENS
Asst. News Director

Housing students gathered at a town hall forum to address issues regarding parking on campus, including a change in the tailgating location, parking lot security and the amount of available parking spaces.

The forum, held on Nov. 4, was second in a three-part series of town hall forums sponsored by the Office of Housing and Residential Life.

Parking and Transportation executive director, Bill Foster, was on hand to answer student questions.

"I like doing the forums with students," Foster said. "Sometimes it gives them a different perspective on it. Sometimes they agree and sometimes they don't."

Foster announced that on the upcoming home game on Nov. 14, tailgating will be held in Lot Six instead of in Tamiami Park. Lot Six was originally designated as a tailgating area before Lakeview Housing was built. The lot, across from Everglades Hall, will play a bigger role in the University's tailgating activities, according to Foster.

The University is concerned that

Tamiami Park may not always be available to tailgaters and wants to set Lot Six as the tailgating area, Foster said.

Foster said that the three remaining football games will be a learning experience for the department and that this instance will inform students of the change, which would go into full effect next year.

"The University wanted to go back to creating that atmosphere, especially when we may not always be able to use Tamiami Park for tail-

FORUM, page 3

Program recruits new peer advisors

MATTHEW RUCKMAN
Asst. Opinion Editor

The Peer Advising Program is currently accepting applications for its 2010 season. The program is looking for young, enthusiastic FIU students to inspire incoming freshmen and transfer students, according to assistant director of the Office of Orientation & Commuter Student Services, Korrin Stanek.

Peer advisors are students selected from an applicant body and, according to the Peer Advisor Interest Packet, "are trained to assist with all new student orientation programs throughout the year as well as other programs for new students and their families."

During the summer orientation season, peer advisors must live for free on campus. Along with free housing is a stipend of \$1,250 with a potential extra \$250 depending on how many orientation sessions a peer advisor works.

The process of becoming a peer advisor first begins with applying online at fujobs.org before 5 p.m. on the Nov. 16 deadline.

Within three to four days, the applicant will be contacted regarding whether they passed the initial screening and met all the qualifications (like having a 2.3 GPA when applying and being a full-time student).

If they pass, the applicant will be invited to a workshop where potential peer advisors will be exposed to practice questions and information sessions they will be involved with in the future.

After the workshop, finalists are selected and invited back for a one-

PEER ADVISING, page 4

HOME COMING COUNCIL

MONEY MATTERS

Council receives more than \$5,000 in donations

JULIAN PINHEIRO
Staff Writer

This year, SGA allocated \$157,865 – about \$10,000 less than last year, when they were allocated \$168,270 minus a 5 percent overhead each year. The council has also received a \$5,000 donation from the Student Programming Council and \$1,000 from Ultimate Software.

According to its budget, production of all the events cost \$30,592; marketing, which involves making the posters and fliers to promote the homecoming events, cost \$10,166; and the cost of the Homecoming court is \$1,200. Panther Prowl, a comedy event, cost \$53,980 and FIU Ultra, a dance event, cost \$24,960.

The Homecoming Council also received donations from sponsors such as Publix supermarket, which will donate 35 cases of water, Cici's Pizzeria, which will donate about 50 boxes of pizza, and Fast Signs printing company that will be donating posters.

Last year, there were three police officers at Lip Sync and

HOME COMING, page 2

Talk discusses ethics in medical community

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
Staff Writer

Concerns over a recent, growing trend of medical ghostwriting provided plenty of debate and discussion between students and faculty members at the latest Tuesday Times Talks.

Tuesday Times Talks, the weekly series that is part of the SGA and Global Learning Initiative's revamped The New York Times Readership Program,

took place for the second time since its inception. The latest talk was moderated by social work professor David Cohen, who also chose *The New York Times* article for the talk.

"I picked this article because to me it's very fascinating. It touches on science, ethics and patient care; all of the issues that we can associate with medical research," Cohen said.

Medical ghostwriting happens when pharmaceutical companies pay professional writers to produce

papers, meanwhile paying doctors and scientists to attach their names to these papers. Those papers are then published in a medical or scientific journal. However, these doctors and scientists have little to no involvement in the pharmaceutical company's actual research.

The problem that medical journals now fear is that doctors who read these published ghostwritten articles will be influenced into prescribing medicine to their patients based on biased opin-

ions or false information.

"There have still been some remains of the idea that you could go see your doctor and the information you would get from him/her, of which you would make your opinion yourself, was his/her opinion. Whereas now, you're not really sure, because they're reading that literature and they're getting their views from this opinion that someone else wants them

TIMES TALKS, page 4

NEWS FLASH

FIU

FIU vs. UF football tickets now on sale

Tickets for the FIU vs. University of Florida game are now available for purchase.

Students who wish to buy tickets for the Nov. 21 football game will be able to do so for \$45 at the University Credit Union Box Office in the R. Kirk Landon Field House.

According to Athletics, available tickets are very limited and students with a valid Panther ID will be restricted to two tickets. Students who wish to sit together must purchase tickets together.

LOCAL

New toll system to eliminate toll plazas

Miami-Dade toll road managers have unveiled a new toll system that seeks to eliminate toll plazas in major toll roads.

According to *The Miami Herald*, the Toll-by-Plate Program will close down toll plazas in favor of cameras that will take pictures of driver's license plates. The plates are then linked to a pre-paid account that can be replenished by cash, credit card, check or money order at a variety of locations, including some supermarkets and drug stores.

Officials say that rates for the program will be slightly higher than the electronic SunPass system in order to continue to make it the more favorable option.

The program will begin in 2010 and will be rolled out to Florida's Turnpike Homestead extension by 2012.

NATIONAL

Teen unemployment rate hits record high

The unemployment rate among teenagers in the work force hit 27.6% in the month of October, according to CNN Money. The rate, which was up 1.8% from September, has set a third straight record high.

Experts say that the reason jobless rates for teens are up is due to an influx of unemployed adults competing for jobs teens would normally take, particularly in retail and food services markets.

Currently, the national unemployment rate is 10.2 percent.

-Compiled by Jorge Valens

Comedy event to feature Tosh

HOMEcoming, page 1

Panther Prowl, five at the Homecoming parade and seven at Ultra.

Gabe Villanueva, director of production and communication for Homecoming Council, said he hopes that the same amount of officers are available during this year's events.

Public Safety officer Douglas Ochipa explained that after analyzing the events' schedule, they estimate how many officers are needed in each event.

"We usually give them the same amount of officers every year since there hasn't been any issues or problems with past events," Ochipa said.

On Oct. 15, members of the Homecoming Council started to distribute and post fliers all over the Modesto Maidique Campus and the Engineering Center for both Panther Prowl and Ultra.

According to the Homecoming Web

site, Panther Prowl is one of the biggest events and traditions at the University. The event will take place on Nov. 9 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena and will feature guests and comedians such as Daniel Tosh, Kevin Hart and Andrew Kennedy.

Lip Sync around the world, an event that showcases students' dancing and singing abilities, will take place on Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. in the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

Christina Perez, a junior majoring in public relations, is going to be performing for the first time on the lip sync contest.

"I'm just looking forward to going out on stage and showing my school spirit as well as just having fun with my sisters," said Perez, a member of Phi Sigma Sigma.

FIU Ultra, a dance party event that will be held between the Blue and Gold Garages on Nov. 13, will present DJs

Irie, Kaeno, Danny Daze and Jorge Felix. The event will be held from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

"[FIU Ultra] was once a block party but now it is a DJ event that plays rock, hip-hop and dance," said Alex Parayuelos, FIU Ultra chair.

Homecoming will begin Nov. 9 with the FIU spirit pep rally at the Betty Chapman Plaza.

"I'm really excited about Homecoming because our goal was to recruit diverse groups other than Greeks. This year's going to be a lot new school spirit because of the diverse groups," said Dawn Ogali, recruitment chair.

"The purpose of Homecoming is to reaffirm FIU's traditions so that future generations of students and alumni can look forward to those traditions," said Sheska Ocascio, assistant director of administration for the Homecoming Council.

Homecoming court back in action

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

In contrast to last year's Homecoming week, the Homecoming court will reign once again as the council in charge of the pageant makes adjustments to the rules and regulations for this year's candidates.

Each candidate is now allowed to campaign by word of mouth and have one poster on campus, according to Court Affairs Chair Alina Quintana.

She also added that the Box Tops for Education Drive will no longer be an event that every candidate must participate in. Instead, they are to take part in a collaborative community service project with other students from each of their respective

organizations.

"This year is kind of like our guinea pig since we're not putting as many restrictions," said Quintana, a junior psychology major. "We're going to try and see what's going on and what ends up happening."

Last year, the court was canceled by the Homecoming Council due to accusations of cheating among the candidates. Claims of excessive internet campaigning and mishandling of the Box Tops drive were brought up against a number of students on the court. Regulations at the

time stated that students on the court were prohibited from advertising themselves in the Internet through social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace or even

e-mail.

"It seems to be going a lot more smoothly. [In the past], we've tried to regulate more

COURT, page 4

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Students object to fliers on their cars

FORUM, page 1

gating," Foster said.

Foster added that though he understood that this change may be inconvenient to housing students, who would have to move their cars before the game, the decision came from various parties, such as the Student Government Association and the Office of Student Affairs.

Students also brought up concerns regarding security on campus parking lots and promotional fliers on cars.

Graduate student Kathey Genrich, who recently had her housing decal stolen, asked Foster if the department will be taking any steps to prevent the theft of housing decals.

Housing decals do not have numbers assigned to them like regular decals do. Foster said they are looking into having registered, numbered housing decals as early as next year.

Students were also concerned with solicitors leaving fliers and pamphlets on their cars, which stick to the cars when exposed to the rain and sun. The 2009-2010 Student Handbook states that the placement of fliers or pamphlets in cars is prohibited.

Foster said that students should notify Parking and Transportation or Public Safety if they find fliers on their cars.

Foster also told students that Parking and Transportation has allocated 250 spaces for housing students, with the

Blue Garage available to accommodate any overflow. The reason for this, he said, was in lieu of FIU's decision to not build additional housing-specific parking to replace the spaces lost after the construction of Lakeview.

"If you build parking just for housing, housing will be the one who pays for it," said Foster. "If you build parking for the University and you put housing spaces in it, then it can be paid with Parking and Transportation funds."

Parking and Transportation has also expanded the spaces in the gravel parking area behind the future site of Parking Garage Five from 340 to 620 spaces.

Additionally, Panther Shuttle was created to utilize the empty parking spaces available in Panther Garage.

"At FIU, we don't have a supply problem, we have a convenience problem," Foster said.

Foster added that this shuttle program, which has transported about 6,000 students in September, was implemented to make parking in farther lots and garages convenient.

Joseph Haeffel, assistant director for Residential Life, said that though attendance to the forum was lower than the first one, held on Oct. 4, he "appreciated" that students still came out to ask questions.

The next forum will be held on Dec. 2 in Everglades Hall and will field general housing related questions.

HANDS ON



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

IN THE FIELD: Erica Burns (top) reaches out to hold a baby alligator at the Miccosukee Indian Village and Cultural Center. Members of FIU's Anthropology Through Film class (bottom) partake in an airboat ride through the Everglades as part of a field trip to the Indian Village.

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Students voice distrust of pharmaceutical industry

TIMES TALKS, page 1

to have," Cohen argued.

During the discussion, many students expressed their distrust of the pharmaceutical industry, fearing that many of these companies are looking out for their profits instead of the people who they make medicine for.

"At the end of the day, these companies are out to make money and they will try to market their products any way they can," said Mike Suarez, a senior majoring in psychology.

Lack of accountability by these medical journals was also one of the concerns held at the discussion; specifically, what these journals stand to gain from having these articles published.

"In the general scheme of things, journals benefit because when they publish a high stakes article, if they are reporting on a drug made by Pfizer or Merck or so, they know that the company may buy thousands or even millions worth of reprints of that paper to distribute to physicians around the country and say 'look at the results of our drug, in [one of] the top medical journals in the world,'" Cohen stated.

A 2009 *The New York Times* article estimated that 11 percent of "The New England Journal of Medicine" articles, 8 percent of "The Journal of the American Medical Association" articles, 7.6 percent of "The Lancet and Public Library of Science Medicine" articles, 5 percent of "Annals of Internal Medicine" articles and 2 percent of "Nature Medicine" articles were ghost written.

Attendance declined in comparison to the first Tuesday Times Talks. Around 50-60 students and faculty members were in attendance for the first event, while only around 20-25 attended the second event.

Among the faculty members in attendance at this past Tuesday Times Talks was Stephanie Doscher, the associate director of FIU's Office of Global Learning Initiatives, who was pleased to announce that *The New York Times* will be providing the University with a special guest speaker.

"At the end of international education week, there is going to be a guest speaker. Carol Giacomo, the foreign affairs editor on *The New York Times* editorial board will be here," Doscher said.

Giacomo, a former diplomatic correspondent for Reuters in Washington, covered foreign policy for the international wire service for more than two decades before joining *The New York Times*' editorial board in August 2007.

The event will be held at FIU's Wertheim Performing Arts Center at 4 p.m. in Room 170 on Nov. 20. After the talk, there will be a smaller discussion for journalism and international relations students. It will be held in one of the WPAC classrooms from 5-6 p.m. and will consist of a Q-and-A session with Giacomo.

"It's going to be a fantastic talk. It's going to be on Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and the foreign policy challenges that are currently facing President Obama," Doscher said.

Campaigning rules change

COURT, page 2

than necessary and we've got such a small group of people trying to regulate a big event, it gets very difficult," said Campus Life Director Eric Arneson. "You had some candidates who thought other candidates were breaking regulations, but we were not able to find it or see it. So this year, we had students regulate themselves and act appropriately and they have responded very well."

In order to become eligible for the court, students were required to complete an application, have a minimum 2.74 GPA and be a full-time student. Once they are official candidates, they will participate in Homecoming events such as Lip Sync, the Box Tops for Education Drive and the Homecoming parade and football game. The king and queen are officially announced during the Homecoming game.

"I think it's great, the changes that they did. It's about doing positive things and making a difference," said Mykaelle "Myka" Figueiredo, Student Government at Modesto Maidique Campus vice president and one of the candidates for Homecoming queen. "We're coming together as a court. We shouldn't be here to divide the University, but to bring it together."

For the future, Quintana hopes to expand the responsibilities of the king and queen so that they are able to become a recurring presence throughout the University during their reign.

"I want them to be at the president's events, at alumni events; just to show that the student body, as far as Homecoming and wanting to bring back alumni, is still alive," she said.

Voting for the Homecoming court will take place on Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Graham Center Computer Lab.

Program allows students to hone leadership skills

PEER ADVISING, page 1

on-one interview. By Jan. 4, the near two-month application process culminates in the announcement of the 2010 peer advisors.

Stanek said she wants students to apply, regardless of the experience they think they lack.

"We're looking for applicants with a unique quality and a diverse background," Stanek said.

Peer advisors are expected to attend five-hour training sessions once a week upon being hired.

At these training sessions, past advisors, professors and deans of the various schools at the University come to teach the prospective advisors about FIU.

The boot camp eventually ends with a training marathon, involving eight-hour days of stuffing orientation bags and practicing the various orientation skits.

Sophomore Renzo Barrantes is a peer advisor for this year.

"The training marathons are one big, hot mess... of fun," he said, adding that it was a great bonding experience with his fellow advisors.

When the summer orientation season comes, peer advisors have received a full semester of training and are prepared for any of the parents' concerns or students' questions.

A typical orientation work day begins at 6 a.m. and ends roughly at around 11 p.m. Orientations run daily during the summer session.

Peer advisors are allowed to take only one online course during the orientation session and

encouraged to take time off their non-University jobs due to the strenuous workload.

One tip by senior Miguel Alvarado, a

It helped me to develop personal and leadership skills. It's the opportunity of a lifetime.

Wen-Ju Chien, peer advisor coordinator
Peer Advising Program

current peer advisor was "to think of peer advising as an internship. You don't go to school or work while you have an internship, you're there for the experience."

Peer advisors also attend a number of events outside the University.

This year, they will travel to the University of Louisville for the annual Southern Regional Orientation Workshop, where peer advisors from across the country will meet.

In addition, a peer advisor retreat is organized so they can take a weekend off and relax among their friends. The last trip was to Fort Myers, Fla.

"I applied because I wanted to help the students who were quiet," said Wen-Ju Chien, a peer advisor coordinator. "It helped me to develop personal and leadership skills. It's the opportunity of a lifetime."

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Oct. 27 "Cell Phones: The Missing Link to Progress for Rural Africa?"
Moderators: Fred Blevens, Journalism; Ben Lauren, English; George Pearson, Libraries

Nov. 3 "Pharmaceutical Research: Medicine or Marketing?"
Moderator: David Cohen, Social Work

Nov. 10 "The Arts: I Know What I Like and I Like What I Know"
Moderator: David Dolata, Music

Nov. 17 "Women and Islam: Whose Marriage Is It Anyway?"
Moderator: Aixa Perez-Prado, Education

Nov. 24 "Online Learning: Will Schooling Ever Be the Same?"
Moderator: Brian Peterson, History

SPC-BBC

Dance series offers students free ballroom lessons

DAVIS AUGUSTE
Contributing Writer

Sophomore Izabel Angelova has been taking dance classes since her junior year in high school, but she had to stop because she couldn't afford them.

This semester, she started taking dance classes for free at the University.

"The 'Dancing with the Wolfe' series is especially great simply because ballroom lessons are very expensive and that's the reason I stopped dancing in high school," said Angelova, an economics and international business major.

The Student Programming Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus created the "Dancing with the Wolfe" series about eight years ago.

The series offers weekly dance classes for students.

The classes take place every Monday in the Wolfe University Center Room 155 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. for ballroom dancing styles, like cha-cha, tango, and rumba, and every Tuesday in the Recreation Center's aerobics room from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. for hip-hop lessons.

All the classes are free to students.

Georgia Bedeau, SPC's secretary, calls them "cultural entertainment."

"'Dancing with the Wolfe' is

a series of workshops to teach the different dance styles, and we wanted it to be affordable for the students so we made it free," said Bedeau, a hospitality management major.

Alia Silvera, a senior public relations major and SPC's treasurer, said that although the classes are meant to teach specific types of dances, students can request dance instructors to teach them different styles.

"Every semester we either add or switch a dance style," she said. "We want to make it free, so we take care of the cost."

Bedeau also said SPC plans on adding more styles for future semesters.

"The hip-hop lessons are kept all the time because of its numbers in attendance, but we plan on adding belly dancing soon," Bedeau said.

During Fall 2008, the University's Department of Dance stopped receiving applications from dance majors due to budget cuts.

Colette Hanna, a senior public relations major and the SPC marketing chair, was pursuing a minor in dance.

She said she likes the classes because the school doesn't have a dance program anymore.

"I do modern dancing mainly," said Hanna. "The Wolfe series is great because I get exposed to styles that I do not normally do because the



TOMAS LOPEZ-MELIS/THE BEACON

HIP-HOP DANCING: Ekandem "E" Essiet, a choreographer with Steele 1 Management (right), leads students in the hip-hop dance series hosted by SPC in the aerobics room every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

dance program is getting cut."

Bedeau and Silvera also want students to be more aware of the opportunity they have to take free dance classes and encourage many to attend.

"We wanted to do more and give more options for student activities, all

while making it free," Bedeau said.

The dance series has let Angelova get back to her passion and work on her dream of dancing professionally.

She said she enjoys the classes a lot.

"The styles all have their own themes to it: Argentinean tango is

more of passion, and the ordinary tango is a dance of spite," she said. "All the dances are taught by request, so the different styles of ballroom to learn are endless."

For more information, contact SPC at 305-919-5280.

SGC-BBC

Senators pass resolution to make algebra count for credit

MAUREEN NINO
Staff Writer

After hearing several concerns from students about the Undergraduate Core Curriculum, the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus wrote a resolution on Nov. 2 to change MAC 1105, College Algebra, from its status as an elective to the status of a UCC credit.

The resolution was written at the beginning of the Fall semester by Natalya Cohen, SGC-BBC senator at-large, after overhearing a conversation when she was studying in the learning center.

"A student was expressing that this was his third time taking the class," she said. "And I heard him say 'it doesn't even count as a UCC.'"

According to Cohen, SGA is working to get more advisors for both campuses to end the confusion.

Cohen brought the issue to the attention of the senate, and the motion was made by Leatrice Gachette, SGC-BBC nursing and health services senator, during

the senate's meeting on Nov. 2.

The motion was seconded by Zahra Arbabi, lower division senator.

"The purpose of passing the resolution is to make MAC 1105 a core course instead of being an elective. It will save students money," said Gachette. "It will still count toward their degree

education, the University is the only public institution in Florida that does not consider MAC 1105 part of the UCC.

"In 2003, the University decided to combine general education and core curriculum; however, this created some problems for students who transferred into the University from

Students need a very strong college algebra background for some courses. The class does fulfill college credit and students are given a grade, but the course is counted as an elective.

Valerie Morgan, assistant dean
Undergraduate Education

and help students to graduate faster, instead of taking classes they don't need."

Nikolay Chikishev, lower division senator at SGC-BBC, also believes the resolution will save students money.

According to Valerie Morgan, assistant dean of undergraduate

public institutions and did not have an associate's degree," she said.

When students enter the University, they must take a placement test that will place them in a math class based on

SGC-BBC, page 6

Homecoming 2009 at BBC Visions of Atlantis – The Lost City

Events:

- Homecoming Pep Rally, Nov. 12 at 12 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center Panther Square
- Visions of Atlantis Homecoming Dance, Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms. Free admission for students with valid Panther ID, \$10 guests.

Homecoming Court

- Princess:
 1. Junior Nadly Moline. Major: Social Work
 2. Junior Ana Perez. Major: Journalism
- Prince:
 1. Junior Nakeia Calvert. Major: History
- Queen:
 1. Junior Melissa Pierro. Major: Public Relations
 2. Senior Ameila Patricio Harjhoon. Major: Biology
 3. Junior Lorraine Ander. Major: Business.
 4. Senior Vanessa Ferbes. Major: Hospitality Management
- King:
 1. Senior Blayne Stone. Major: Liberal Arts
 2. Sophomore Mohamed Ghumrami. Major: Criminal justice.

Voting for the Court takes place Nov. 9 - Nov. 11 at the SPC stand that will be located in Panther Square.

Senate wants math class to count for UCC

SGC-BBC, page 5

their results, and in some cases, they are placed in MAC 1105.

“Students need a very strong college algebra background for some courses,” Morgan said. “The class does fulfill college credit and students are given a grade, but the course is counted as an elective.”

Although the resolution was passed unanimously by the senate, it must still be presented to the administration.

According to Sholom Neistein, SGC-BBC president, the resolution must now be approved by the administration and follow the chain of command.

The provost, Douglas Wartzok, would make the final decision. Afterward, the resolution would have to be passed to the state board to see if MAC 1105 would fulfill

the UCC requirement, according to Neistein.

“Just because student government passes a resolution it does not mean the faculty will approve it,” Morgan said.

The resolution also points out that students have other UCC math courses to choose from, such as Finite Math, that do not serve as prerequisites to high level courses, like Calculus for Business, according to Morgan.

The ultimate decision is up to the faculty, Morgan said.

“I think it’s great that the students are taking interest in helping each other. If it does get approved, it will help students who decide to change majors after taking College Algebra,” she said.

SPARKLING SHORES



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON



PHILIPPE BUTEAUT/THE BEACON

CLEAN UP: TOP: Victoria Aguila, SGA arts and science senator (left) and Gregory Jean-Baptiste, sophomore in computer science, throw away trash found in the mangrove. LEFT: Thalia Chan, sophomore in hospitality (left) and Andrew Beitler, senior in hospitality, help clean during SGA’s Day at the Bay on Nov. 6. RIGHT: Mike Sabater, senior in psychology, helps clean.

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HOMECOMING '09

Week of events to feature lots of laughs, lip syncing and levity

JANET CAREAGA
Staff Writer

FIU's annual Homecoming festivities have arrived with this year's theme: "The Tradition Continues."

The events begin Nov. 9 and will lead up to the Homecoming game on Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. against the University of North Texas.

"We want students to have more understanding of FIU tradition. FIU is a huge school and we do have traditions. Homecoming itself is a tradition," said Cristine Ale, a junior majoring in international business and assistant director of finance for the Homecoming Committee.

The festivities commence with Monday's pep rally at the Betty Chapman Plaza from noon to 2

p.m. The football team will be there along with music and tons of giveaways for participating students.

At 8 p.m., the annual Panther Prowl comedy show will be happening at the U.S. Century Bank Arena featuring stand-up from Daniel Tosh, Kevin Hart and Andrew Kennedy.

The show is free but tickets are required for admission. They can be picked up with a valid student ID in Campus Life.

This year's Lip Sync contest will be held on Nov. 10. FIU organizations will be rallying their most talented members and putting together an FIU-spirited performance in hopes of winning the competition.

This year, the competition is also open for students to compete

individually. The show will be also be at the U.S. Century Bank Arena at 8 p.m.

"We have a lot of teams this year that are not just Greek-oriented, which is a big difference from last year. Lip Sync has a more international feel so it incorporates the different kinds of students we have at FIU," said Alina Quintana, a junior majoring in psychology and the Court Affairs chair for the Homecoming Council.

On Nov. 11, the University will be closed for Veteran's Day but those running for Homecoming court will be attending a community service event at the Tropical Audubon Society.

The court, along with five members of each competing

EVENTS, page 10



HOMECOMING PARADE

President Rosenberg grand marshaling revamped parade

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

This year's Homecoming Parade will focus on bringing back school pride and reflecting on the University's accomplishments over the years.

To date, the Homecoming Parade has not been a huge success. Many students had been unaware of the event.

"I didn't even know we had a Homecoming Parade. I think students don't have school spirit here and we don't get too involved in school activities," said Tatiana Campuzano, a junior broadcast journalism major.

So, why did the Homecoming Council decide to bring back the parade?

"In the past, the parade hasn't been such a strong tradition within our Homecoming Week. This year, I wanted to really improve it and I'm trying to get things to motivate students to come," said Daniela Gonzalez, sophomore criminal justice major and Special Events chair for the Homecoming Council.

The parade plans on taking a retrospective look at FIU's accomplishments.

"The way I see Homecoming Week is that it's a way to unify the school and bring back the alumni and share the school spirit between the alumni and ourselves so we can see how far FIU has come. It's just a chance to see the ways FIU has grown from such a small university and enjoy it together," Gonzalez said.

This year's grand marshal will be the University's new president, Mark Rosenberg. FIU alum and State House Representative Anitere Flores will also be participating and will be riding alongside student government President Anthony Rionda in a spirit car provided by the Homecoming's sponsor, Esserman International.

Gonzalez said they chose Rosenberg as the grand marshal because he represents the good things to come for the University.

"With our new president, it's like a fresh start for FIU. We see a new era, a new beginning. We have a new medical school and a new stadium; we have so many accomplishments that I don't think anyone has really taken note of. Nobody's really taken into consideration how much we've grown."

The parade starts its route in Lot Five traveling toward the Frost Art Museum and ends at the stadium. It's shorter than in previous years.

"I made the route shorter than previous years just because that way people have one general area to go to and they aren't spread throughout campus. There will be less confusion on where to go. I've also set up for bleachers to be placed next to the judges in front of the Frost so they can sit there comfortably. I know it's hot outside, so I try to accommodate to that as much as possible," Gonzalez said. "We want to encourage the student body to come out and celebrate FIU."

There will be plenty of free giveaways at the event like T-shirts and other FIU memorabilia.

Gonzalez says that it is an important goal to make sure that the event is open to every student.

"We're really emphasizing on getting everyone involved and promoting school unity and pride. So we really tried to make an effort to not only involve the Greeks but also get the [Council for Student Organizations] clubs to get involved. We have a few colleges participating and making spirit cars, so that's also very new. We've never had any of the colleges in the past do that," she said.

One notable addition to the parade is the new College of Medicine, which will be making a spirit car for the parade. The new addition is part of the Homecoming Council's goal to make this week more about the University as a whole instead of just those apart of the Greek system.

Angeline Gonzalez, a senior elementary education major and member of Alpha Xi Delta, says the Homecoming Parade is important to the student body for many reasons.

"It takes a lot of time and dedication to put a Homecoming float together. This encourages the student body to come together to create a masterpiece that will then be displayed during the parade."

She added that the Homecoming Parade is an exciting way to see how proud students are to be Panthers.

Daniela Gonzalez added that she feels that Homecoming Week is all about traditions.

"Even though they are so young, our traditions unify our student body. We've become such a great university in such a short time," she said.

Meet the Candidates



LIP SYNC CONTEST

Contest to combine lip syncing with University traditions

ADRIAN ESPINOSA
Contributing Writer

During Homecoming Week, students create teams among themselves and take part in different happenings around campus. One of these events is the Lip Sync contest which draws a crowd every year with its diverse set of spirited students and upbeat performances.

The Lip Sync contest will take place in the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Nov. 10.

"I like the performances, they're always entertaining and I always enjoy seeing all of the hard work that goes into them," said Alina Quintana, a senior majoring in psychology and the Court Affairs chair for the Homecoming Council.

Before the contest, each team will create an original skit or play that centers on a specific theme.

The theme this year is focused on FIU traditions. The teams usually consist of different clubs or organizations that come together to form one powerhouse spirit machine. So far, 10 teams are on deck to pump up the crowd at the contest.

The only rules of the contest are that the music played is appropriate for the entire audience – leaving out any suggestive lyrics and material – and each skit cannot exceed the time limit of seven minutes. Caro Soria, a sophomore majoring in political science is the head of the Lip Sync event and was a team member last year for a skit.

"I had an amazing time, and I thought it was a fun way to show FIU spirit," she said.

Aside from spreading school spirit and pride and getting the crowd involved, this year's skits will incorporate FIU traditions into the performances. The winner is usually the loudest, funniest and most spirited of them all.

Although there are not any prizes awarded to the winner, the objective is to be the most spirited team during Homecoming.

"Everyone is together, and packed into the arena, it's an exciting experience," said Kim Harvery, a sophomore majoring in biology.

Homecoming teams don't just participate in Lip Sync, they rack up points in other contests throughout the week and the winner in general is the one with the most points.

Even so, Lip Sync is a notable event because it manages to involve students in a sing and dance extravaganza and it gets the crowd up on their feet and feeling proud of their school in preparation for the long-awaited football game on Saturday.

The contest has been in place for many years now and is a staple among the Homecoming events. This year promises to be especially exciting because there will be a talent contest incorporated into the main event.

Not only will teams showcase their spin on panther pride, they will also be able to show off individual skills.

Among the various Homecoming activities, Lip Sync is one that will combine high-energy performances, highly esteemed tradition and plenty of FIU spirit to go around, according to Soria and other organizers of the event.

Homecoming Lip Sync Contest

Time: Nov. 10 at 8 p.m.

Where: U.S. Century Bank Arena

Price: Free

Theme: "Around the world"

Festivities to feature 'Fun Run' for charity as well as parade

EVENTS, page 7

garages. All proceeds will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. At 1 p.m., the Residence Hall Association will be hosting the fourth annual Lakeview Carnival with free food and music.

The official game tailgate team, will be gardening and planting exotic foliage. On Nov. 12 there will be student voting for Homecoming king and queen. Voting will start at 9 a.m. and end at 7 p.m.

The Graham Center computer lab will be open for students to vote during those times. Voting can also be done from home or any other computer by logging on to PantherSoft.

On Nov. 13, festivities begin with the Homecoming parade in Lot Five at 4 p.m. Organizations competing have spent countless hours working on their floats for the parade.

"Each team is focusing on one specific FIU tradition but we recommend them to incorporate all of the traditions somehow," said Kate Stuart, a senior health services administration major and Homecoming rules and regulations chair.

There will be 11 teams competing in Homecoming and about 15 participating in the parade.

FIU Ultra – the University's version of the Ultra Music Festival – begins Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. between the Blue and Gold garages. Free tickets from Campus Life are also required for entry. Four DJs will be playing until 2 a.m.

On Nov. 14 at 7 a.m., the Inter-Fraternity Council will be having a 5K FUN run between the Blue and Gold

garages.

All proceeds will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. At 1 p.m., the Residence Hall Association will be hosting the fourth annual Lakeview Carnival with free food and music.

The official game tailgate

We have a lot of teams this year that are not just Greek-oriented, which is a big difference from last year. Lip Sync has a more international feel.

Alina Quintana, Court Affairs Homecoming Council

will begin at 4 p.m. at the stadium and end when the Homecoming game begins at 7 p.m.

"Homecoming this year is different because we have reached out to more organizations," said Stefany Marcelino, a junior management information systems major and homecoming's overall director. "It is bigger and we hope for more participation, more school spirit and building tradition."

"We want students to commemorate old traditions and help us build new ones," she said.

For more information regarding the date and times of Homecoming festivities, see the Calendar below.

Panther Prowl to include former shoe salesman turned comedian, star of TV show

ISABEL MAZA
Staff Writer

FIU's annual Homecoming Week has arrived and one of the week's first major events is the Panther Prowl comedy show.

Panther Prowl is an annual Homecoming event. It is a free comedy show open to all students. This year's Panther Prowl will take place on Nov. 9 in the U.S. Century Bank Arena at 8 p.m.

The show will feature comedians Daniel Tosh, Kevin Hart and Andrew Kennedy. Daniel Tosh is the star of his own show on Comedy Central entitled "Tosh.0," which airs Thursdays at 10 p.m. The show deals with all things Internet-related and often features clips from YouTube and commentary from Tosh himself.

"Only Daniel Tosh knows how to combine the right amount of sarcasm and truth to make his comedy not only original but addictingly hilarious," said sophomore nursing major Patrick Iglesias.

According to the Homecoming Web site, Tosh made his debut on "The Late Show with David Letterman" and his TV credits include "The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn," "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and "Last Call with Carson Daly."

Kevin Hart was a shoe salesman before he got into the field of comedy. He decided to give stand-up comedy a try by participating in a local comedy club's amateur night. His performance was a success and he soon began

performing at comedy clubs around the nation – mostly in Boston, New York and Los Angeles. Since then, he has appeared in films such as *Scary Movie 3*, *Scary Movie 4*, *Along Came Polly*, *Soul Plane* and *Paper Soldiers*. He also co-produced, wrote and starred in the 2004 ABC sitcom "The Big House."

Andrew Kennedy is a

comedian with a diverse ethnic background. His father is British and his mother is Colombian so Kennedy is fluent in both English and Spanish. He uses his experiences traveling the world as a platform for his comedy to discuss his unique observations of life, family and politics. He recently

produced, developed and starred in a CBS pilot that was based on his life and comedy. His comedy revolves around his multicultural background and unique upbringing.

Last year's comedy show featured comedians Tony Rock, Craig Robinson, who can be seen on the TV show "The Office" and former "Last Comic Standing" contestant Ralphy May.

"Last year's Panther Prowl was really funny and entertaining. I'm excited to see how this year's will be," said junior public relations major, Silvia Revilla.

Attendees of this year's Panther Prowl will also be entered in a raffle to win comedy CDs and DVDs as well as a football signed by Miami Dolphins receiver Ted Ginn Jr.

"The council has been working very hard on this year's Panther Prowl, and we know it will be an amazing event," said Homecoming Council member Andres Penalver.

The show will also feature a portion where council members will hand out free Homecoming giveaways to the crowd. The council will also show a video at the event introducing the students involved in the Homecoming Council and a preview of the week's events.

Panther Prowl is just the first of the Homecoming events to occur during the week of Nov. 9-14. All Homecoming events are free to students and will be occurring on campus throughout the week.



Daniel Tosh

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS: HOMECOMING EDITION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009

HOMECOMING PEP RALLY



WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Chapman Plaza

PEP RALLY

WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Pit

FRENCH CLUB

Literature Conference
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 243

INVISIBLE CHILDREN

General Meeting
WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 343

CAMPUS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Bible Alive
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 1235

PANTHER PROWL COMEDY SHOW



Enjoy the comedic stylings of Daniel Tosh and more!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2009

LIP SYNC AROUND THE WORLD



Homecoming competition of students performing songs, dances, and cheers!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

CAMPUS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Bible Alive
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 1235

AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Dinner
WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 243

DANCE MARATHON 100 DAY CELEBRATION



WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Pit

CHOSEN GENERATION



General Meeting
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Cafeteria Annex

TRUTH FOR LIFE

General Meeting
WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 343

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2009

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION



WHEN: 9:30 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Lummus Park, 10th St. and Ocean Drive

DIRTY HAIRY FEATURING PASE ROCK



WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Fountainbleau, 4441 Collins Ave.

HAPPY HOUR AND JAZZ NIGHT

WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Club 50, 485 Brickell Ave.

AN EVENING WITH RICHARD POWERS



Miami Book fair event
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: Chapman Conference Center

BADFISH Sublime Tribute Band

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: REVOLUTION LIVE, 200 W Broward Blvd.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2009

VOTE FOR HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN



WHEN: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC Computer Lab

SOUNDS OF LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

Live Performance by SOL!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: WUC Ballroom

DIVERSITY UNIVERSITY EVENT

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC East Ballroom

UNITED WAY COMMITTEE

General Meeting
WHEN: 4:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 1235

MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION



Event Planning Meeting
WHEN: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 305

-Compiled by Mariana Ochoa.
Got an event you want featured? Send an e-mail to mariana.ochoa@fiusm.com.

THE BEACON | Editorial SGC-MMC senate should use Speed-Act judiciously, bide time with bigger issues

The Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus senate should have the option to pass or reject a bill or resolution the day it is presented.

However, the Senate Speed Pass Act, which allows the senate to pass legislation after a first reading instead of the two readings set by the campus bylaws, should not be used as the primary method of passing legislation.

So far this year, nearly every resolution has been passed using the act.

The SGC-MMC senate is becoming accustomed to hastily voting on resolutions instead of treating the act as a means of saving time.

When deciding on the state bill, CS/CS/HB 885, entitled the "Student Health Insurance Protection Act," which would have required students to have health insurance to enroll in a public Florida university, the senate passed a resolution against the state bill.

SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda vetoed the resolution because he felt the senate needed more time to better understand the subject they were voting on.

This is the second resolution Rionda vetoes this semester. The first veto was the resolution which sought the restructuring of both SGC-MMC and SGC at Biscayne Bay Campus.

When making rulings that require research and reviewing state bills, the senate should spend more than one meeting to arrive at the best possible decision.

Especially if the resolution is significant such as the health care resolution or as complex as the restructuring resolution.

The Speed Pass Act should be an exception to the standard way of passing legislation.

But this semester, the SGC-MMC senate has overused the act and it could become difficult to break the habit.

The senate should adhere to the rules set by the campus bylaws which state that bills or resolutions must be read twice during two different meetings in order to be passed.

This method, though more time consuming, allows for discourse and will ultimately yield a more informed decision.

What method the senate uses to vote for bills and resolution should be decided on a case-by-case basis.

If a resolution is a minor piece of legislation or has been tabled for an extended period of time, then the Speed Pass Act is acceptable.

For example, in October 2008, the senate proposed a resolution to condemn the beating of a student at a football game, but it was not passed until February 2009.

However a resolution that calls for the complete restructure of student government is an issue that would require more consideration and scrutiny.

The Speed Pass Act was passed in February 2009 and written by then-Senate Speaker Jean Roseme and then-Senate Speaker Pro-Tempe Christopher Ponce.

The senate's motto for how to use the Speed Pass Act this semester should be simple: use it, don't abuse it.

Provision paves way for equality

ODETTE BARRIENTOS
Staff Writer

Matthew Shepard, a college student from Wyoming, was kidnapped and tortured to death simply because he was gay in October of 1998.

That same year in Texas, a black man named James Byrd Jr. was chained to a pickup truck by three white men and dragged to his death because of the color of his skin.

One can only hope that these brutal, merciless killings have not been forgotten.

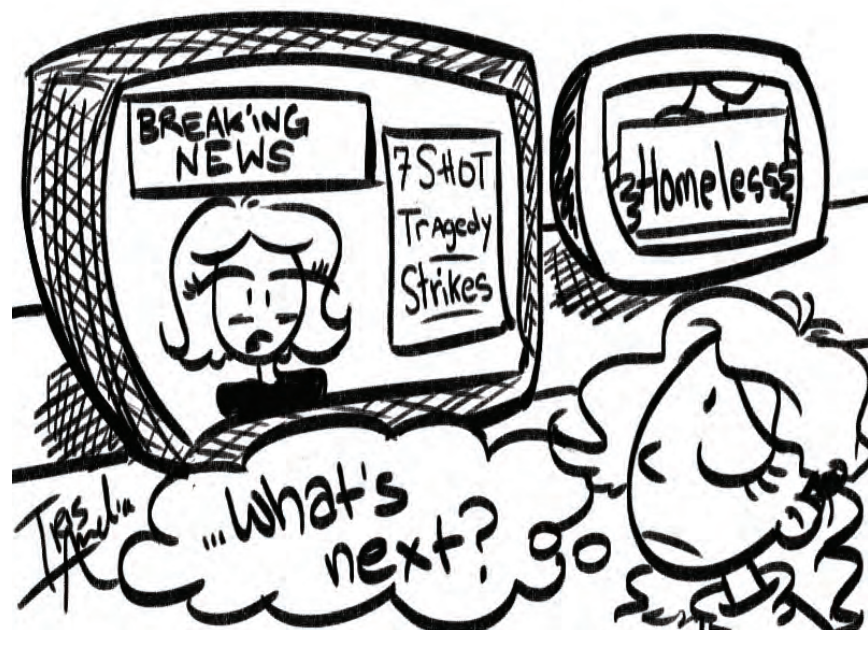
On Oct. 28, 2009, 11 years after these heinous crimes, President Barack Obama signed into law a \$680 billion defense spending bill which includes a new provision of hate crime protection for homosexuals, which were not previously protected under the law before.

That provision is known as The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which was hailed by supporters as the "first major federal gay rights legislation."

Indeed, it is a historic move for human rights, particularly gays and lesbians in America. Similar hate crime provisions have passed the House and the Senate in previous years but have never made it all the way.

Although it isn't the complete legalization and acceptance of gay unions, it's a minor step in the right direction. The most unfortunate part is that it has taken America this long to get to the point where this could be written under the law. I don't completely believe in the

BAD NEWS



justice system, but the fact that the law is now granting protection to a heavily discriminated group of people makes me hopeful.

More than 77,000 hate crime incidents were reported by the FBI between 1998 and 2007. A reported 12,000 of those crimes were based on sexual orientation.

Rep. John A. Boehner of Ohio, the House Republican leader, called the legislation "radical social policy," according to the *New York Times*.

If being radical means giving every American the right to some kind of legislative protection no matter what their sexual preference, then there is no problem being radical.

Justice, or rather equality, has always been a struggle throughout history. It seems like every era has a new group trying to gain equal rights, even native American citizens. Why does it take us so long to embrace a different color of skin or a different sexual preference? With

an African-American in the White House, one would think we've made progress. However, even that took longer than it should have.

Nevertheless, hate crimes will not stop because of one signed piece of paper. But, the fact stands that homosexuals have been blatantly disregarded when it comes to being protected by the federal government.

"This law honors our lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender brothers and sisters whose lives were cut short because of hate," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese in a statement released on Oct. 28.

It will be a long time before gay men and women obtain the equal rights they're entitled to have, but a hurdle was cleared with this provision.

Before any other equality laws are debated, it's the hate and prejudice among the people that needs to disappear. Justice is for everyone, not just heterosexuals.

Bonuses aim to ease harm done by executives

ROMNEY MANASSA
Staff Writer

Excess is quickly becoming an issue in American public discourse: the excess of government spending, the excess of American consumerism and the excess of Wall Street all enter into our political discussions at one point or another.

Between the three though, the overindulgence of corporate executives elicits perhaps the most ire - as far as most people are concerned - such greed got us into this mess, and has gone largely unpunished, even continuing to this very day despite the lingering economic malaise.

While several banks and companies seemed needy enough to require billions in taxpayer aid to survive, some apparently

seemed well off enough to provide their higher-ups with billions in bonuses: Goldman Sachs, for example, awarded \$20 billion to its executive staff, a near-record, despite having also acquired billions in federal aid. Even firms that are still taking a loss for shareholders, such as Citigroup and Bank of America, continue to pay hefty executive bonuses.

To add more to this injustice, many of those responsible for driving their companies to the ground - and helping bring the economy down with them - had received "golden parachutes," large pay packages, when they resigned or were fired. Such extravagant bonuses were bad enough without apparently awarding failure and incompetence.

The federal government has

The problem was that these deals were too generous and short-sighted: execs got large rewards for short-term profits achieved by shady means.

largely taken notice of this issue and has taken several steps to address - or at least attempt to.

The Federal Reserve, which has taken up a lot of responsibility for several major corporations and banks, has announced plans to regulate executive pay and compensation. Around the same time, the Obama administration announced plans to curb executive pay for the seven companies that

received the most taxpayer aid. Altogether, these plans will apply to 28 of the country's largest institutions.

The intention of all this isn't so much to curb high pay altogether, but to crackdown on a perverse system that awards executives massive amounts of money in return for garnering high profits. In retrospect, this makes sense: the point of these bonuses is to attract talented people and incent them to bring in the money.

The problem was that these deals were too generous and short-sighted: execs got large rewards for short-term profits achieved by shady and imprudent means. Their only motivation was to bring in the money, however possible, in order to get their bonus money.

EXECUTIVES, page 12

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials, send them to opinion@fiusm.com

DISCLAIMER

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.

QUOTATIONATION

"But history tells us that job growth always lags behind economic growth, which is why we have to continue to pursue measures that create jobs."

President Barack Obama, counseling patience about the nation's high unemployment rate.

OPINIONPIECE

10.2

The percentage unemployment rate for the United States in the month of October, the highest since 1983.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ROMANCE?: PART 1 OF 2

Most girls grow up to want more than fairy-tale endings

PARADISE AFSHAR
Staff Writer

As a woman who has probably seen every romantic comedy made in the last century, these movies are not the only reason why we have a false notion of love.

It's because of society, more specifically members of the opposite sex. Not every little girl who watched *Cinderella* and *Beauty and the Beast* growing up wanted to be like those princesses.

"You watch Disney movies or romantic comedies since you are a little girl, it starts with Disney and goes on to *When Harry Met Sally*," said senior Karen Vanega, an art history major. "Some girls like it, but most girls don't like it. They complain when a guy is too perfect."

And Vanega could not be more correct. Think about it: some girls have this fantasy of the perfect man, who will come in with his white horse and sweep her off her feet. But when it happens, we label him as one thing: a creep.

I am not expecting a guy to come and rescue me from my life of writing papers and doing homework. I'm more realistic than that, I just want someone who will stand by me.

And if any guy would ever open doors, be nice and answer my every whim, I would stay away from him because I would think he's looking for something more. I'm not looking for perfection.

And sure there are girls like freshman Brittany Wojnar, a biology major, who look to Disney princesses as a model of a perfect guy.

You can look at them as role models when you're little, but if it transfers over to today, sorry, but you're kind of ditz.

Jose Lazo, freshman
English major

"I'm looking for Prince Charming. I have standards and the princes are there," she said.

However, she said if she ever meets that perfect man, she will most likely think he's a "creep." That feeling is pretty much felt across the board. We watch these movies to escape reality and pretend that these things can happen to us ... but we don't

actually want them.

I know that the odds of falling in love with someone over a radio show will never happen, but that doesn't stop me from loving the story line in *Sleepless in Seattle* and wishing it could be me one day while watching the movie.

"All it does is give you hope, then you realize it's never going to happen," said freshman Tiffany Beale, a mechanical engineering major.

Let's face it, perfection is overrated, and when presented with a perfect guy, or girl, most people don't want it. As for those girls who are sitting there wishing for their prince to come, not many guys find that attractive.

Charles Wright, an architecture major, finds it a "turnoff" when girls buy into the princesses ideal too much. And other guys agree.

"You can look at them as role models when you're little, but if it transfers over to today, sorry, but you're kind of ditz," said Jose Lazo, a freshman majoring in English.

Honestly, he's right. But luckily, most girls can separate fantasy from reality.

The next and final installment of this series will appear on Friday, Nov. 13.

Global warming affects less people

CHARLES VILLARD
Contributing Writer

A new Pew Research survey reports that fewer voters feel global warming is a major issue, if an issue at all.

Thirty-five percent of poll-takers said that global warming was a serious problem, a 9-point decrease from polls in early 2008.

This coincides with an increase in nay-sayers of global warming, with a 14 percent drop in respondents who believe there is solid evidence of the environmental phenomenon – from 71 percent down to 57.

Despite my urge to be politically correct, I cannot find a reason to disagree. In fact, I think Americans are correct not to be worried.

The "threat" of global warming has never been a solid concern; and despite Al Gore's fabulous documentary, we won't be reliving *Waterworld* any time soon.

The same way there was a consensus in the scientific community backing Gore's theories, science has gone further to disprove it.

According to the climate research unit at the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom, Earth's average temperature has only increased by fractions – only 0.17 degrees Celsius per decade since 1978.

While these polls do show drastic

changes in interest, it only reflects a trend that has been occurring since before the issue was brought up in theaters in 2006. Gallup polls have shown a decreasing interest starting in 2000, where 72 percent believed the issue warranted concern, and continuing through 2004, where only 51 percent believed so.

After the release of Gore's documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, the public's interest remained minimal, with only 36 percent of poll takers worrying a great deal about global warming.

So why the lack of interest? Do Americans not understand the concept of the rising average of the Earth's near-surface air and water temperatures since the 20th century due to greenhouse gases?

I don't think so, especially after year's of global warming and green hype brought up by the media. Polls show that they do understand the consequences, with over 97 percent reporting knowledge of it.

So while science may be correct about global warming affecting the Earth, I find that putting so much stock in conjecture and predictions is unnecessary. If these polls are any evidence, Americans are on the right track. The polar ice caps might melt or not; it will be the natural course of things that dictate that.

To those who are greatly worried about a half degree increase in temperature over the course of 30 years, I say this: get a tan.

Networks' biased views detrimental

PAMELA PATTERSON
Contributing Writer

When looking for reliable sources of information many people look to popular news outlets like Fox or MSNBC. Why they do so varies; some look for coverage, others look for reaffirmation of their own views.

Although these outlets may seem like reliable sources of information, they often turn out to be extreme, which makes things even more complicated.

A new study from Stanford University indicates that people with extremist views are more willing to share their opinions because they convince themselves that their views are the majority. Kimberly Ross Morrison and Dale Miller interviewed 37 students at Stanford University about their views on alcohol consumption in freshmen dorms.

The social experiment discovered that students who believed their views were in the majority were more willing to express their opinions.

In their political views Fox leans very much to the right, while

MSNBC leans to the left. They cover the same events and both come out with different stories.

The only problem is that these outlets don't publish these two different stories as opinion; they're published as fact.

In the case of health care, Fox sees the health care proposal as a total government takeover.

Fox believes the health care plan is going to hurt the average American, while MSNBC thinks the proposal will help the average American. People read these stories and believe what they read – they shouldn't.

Last month, members of Obama's staff went on air to accuse the Fox Network of only taking one side on their stories about our current president.

One of Obama's staff members claimed, "They take their talking points, put them on the air; take their opposition research, put them on the air. And that's fine. But let's not pretend they're a news network the way CNN is." This is because Fox seems to only take on the Republican view.

MSNBC, on the other hand, falls on the other end of the spectrum and constantly sings Obama's praises, aligning itself with Democratic views.

Some critics note that the network seems to operate in the same way Fox did for Bush; Obama receives constant, positive coverage. MSNBC believes that most people love Obama and support him the way they do.

Both Fox and MSNBC hold their views to be correct. However, Obama's approval rating in October was 53 percent – meaning the country is, for the most part, split down the middle.

The alcohol study at Stanford shows that Fox and MSNBC are more willing to speak out on their beliefs because they believe their views are the majority.

Both networks have a flawed view on the world they continue to air their stories. As news networks both Fox and MSNBC are wrongful for addressing opinions as facts.

People read their stories to get news and they now have to think twice.

No more bailouts means more intervention needed

EXECUTIVES, page 11

Extrapolate this practice across several institutions nationwide, and you get the financial crash as a dramatic indication of this failed system.

Not surprisingly, the idea of an already bigger federal government calling the shots for private companies is pretty unappealing to a lot of Americans, perhaps more so than corporate excess itself. But if the government has already intervened in a lot of these corporations, it might as well put in place rules that will ensure they won't have to be bailed out again.

It's not about socialist punishment against private citizens either, as more paranoid opponents suggest. As a compromise to those fearing too much government power and those who feel some regulation should be exerted, the Fed is aiming to merely change up the process of executive

compensation; for example, mandating that bonuses reward transparent practices and long-term profits benefits, or requiring details of these bonuses, which are often secretive, are open to the public and company shareholders.

Besides, the government already has a hand in regulating numerous business activities. The public doesn't object to federal break-ups of monopolies or laws against unethical practices. Why should the flawed executive pay system, a major factor in our economic breakdown, be exempted?

If all Americans are being expected to persevere and patiently endure the sacrifices required to survive this recession, the same applies to those in charge of these companies. Having to make do with a salary of "only" a few hundred thousand dollars is hardly an unreasonable sacrifice for the good of the country.

DAILYQUERY

Are you planning on attending some of the Homecoming festivities planned for this week? If so let us know which ones you enjoyed and which ones you could have done without.

Send responses to opinion@fiusm.com

OPINIONPIECE

13

The number of soldiers slain during the Fort Hood shooting by Nidal Malik Hasan, an Army psychiatrist.

WINNER/LOSER



A missing Florida infant was found five days after reported missing by her mother. The baby was discovered beneath the baby sitter's bed in a 2-foot by 3-foot box. The police believed the 7-month-old was in the box for around 12 straight hours.



A Florida man was arrested after fleeing from police on a suspended license after having sex in his parked car with a woman. He attempted to switch places with the woman to avoid prosecution while driving when he eventually pulled over but the woman said she wasn't into that kind of thing.

QUOTATIONATION

"That investigation is under way by law enforcement, and let's let that be the first priority in terms of discovering what motivations he had."

Janet Napolitano, Homeland Security Secretary, speaking about the Fort Hood shooter

Second year club looks to make big impression

WRESTLING, PAGE 15

Division II national champion. The team practices five days a week. The practices are team oriented and physically and mentally exhausting, says Garo.

"You're there to work, so it's best that you go in with the right intentions," Garo said. "If you have the right attitude and enough discipline, you will get a lot out of it."

When asked about what the best part of the team was, Garo said it was the possibility of becoming a better wrestler.

"It's basically knowing that you're pushing yourself as hard as you can, you know you're improving with a great coach as well as representing FIU."

One of the regular season tournaments that will be a highlight for the team is the Florida Classic at the University of Florida in Gainesville. The tournament, which will be held Dec. 5, is one of the biggest tournaments on the NCWA schedule, likely to be hosting over 10 teams.

The tournament will play a fairly important role in qualifying for the championship, as well as generating publicity for the teams that are competing.

Co-President Manny Carbon says in addition to having an outlet for further generations and a winning program, the talent pool in South Florida is also one of the most overlooked in the nation.

"Miami-Dade has some excellent wrestlers, and it would be good to let them know that they can take their talents beyond high

HOW TO JOIN

There are limited fees to join, including a \$10 a month payment that goes toward the coach for his services, and a one-time registration fee.

You must be a student at FIU to compete, however anyone can partake in the practices.

For any information about joining the team, or any questions about the team's schedule, feel free to contact Co-President Alexis Garo at 954-248-6532, or go to www.FIUwrestling.com.

school into the collegiate level," Garo said. "One thing that we would want is for the club to still exist on the side for individuals that just want a place to go and wrestle."

The team will be hosting a fundraising tournament this month at the FIU Recreation Center, in which Miami-Dade high schools will compete. The funds that are raised from this event will go towards the team's facilities and travel costs, as well as tournament registration fees.

Garo said the club is not in danger of being cut or eliminated due to financial difficulties, but he mentioned that transportation costs and equipment fees are their biggest fiscal responsibilities.

GOOD START



CHRIS ADAMS/THE BEACON

GOING UP: Junior guard Michelle Gonzalez had 8 points, 5 rebounds, 7 assists, and 3 steals in the Golden Panthers' 67-50 exhibition win over Nova.



VICTORIA LYNCH/BEACON FILE PHOTO

NOT ENOUGH: Kendall Berry's 103-yard, three-touchdown performance couldn't lift the Golden Panthers passed the Blue Raiders.

Hopes of bowl eligibility gone

FOOTBALL, PAGE 16

"We knew we had to contain him because he's the heart and soul of that offense," said linebacker Scott Bryant. "We just didn't play assignment football."

The Golden Panthers, without starting quarterback Paul McCall who was unable to play due to an elbow injury, struggled to produce on offense both on the air and on the ground in the first half. Quarterback Wayne Younger completed 14 of 38 passes for 178 yards.

"We were inconsistent across the board on offense and that falls on everybody," Cristobal said. "If offensively we don't get the ball moving against a team like that, you're going to dig yourself into a pretty big hole. We started digging out of it but it certainly wasn't enough."

The Blue Raiders would pour it on for the rest of the half until the Golden Panthers scored on a two-yard run by Kendall Berry with 24 seconds left in the second quarter. The Golden Panthers went into the locker room trailing Middle Tennessee 34-7 at halftime.

The Golden Panthers began turning things around in the second half by shutting down Dasher and forcing him to throw three costly interceptions.

"We got some good push up front disrupting his passing lane and made some picks," Cristobal said. "It gave us an opportunity to score some points."

Berry rushed for two touchdowns in the third quarter and finished the game with 103 yards on 19 carries with three touchdowns, becoming the first Golden Panther to rush for over 100 yards this season.

He was also involved with the Wildcat formation, which was used for the first time this weekend on a couple of

occasions.

"We decided to put that in this week just to try and change up things," Berry said. "I think we did alright, we need to work on it a little bit more."

The Golden Panthers offense was unable to capitalize on opportunities, however, and the Blue Raiders scored twice in the fourth quarter and shut down the FIU offense to seal the victory. They return to action on Nov. 14 against North Texas for their homecoming game at FIU Stadium.

BOXSCORE

	FIU	MTSU
First Downs	17	23
Rushes-Yards	44-146	56-385
Passing	191	154
Comp-Att-Int	14-38-3	14-29-3
Return Yards	194	129
Punts Avg.	9-38.8	5-41.0
Penalties-Yards	9-65	4-35
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-0
Time of Possession	29:31	30:29

RUSHING — FIU: Perry 5-13, Berry 19-103, Younger 11-64 **MTSU:** Dasher 18-200, Kyles 22-112, Cunningham 8-60

PASSING — FIU: Younger 14-38-3-178 **MTSU:** Dasher 13-28-3-182

RECEIVING — FIU: Ellingson 2-31, Hilton 2-33, Frierson 3-73, Martinez 2-20, Perry **MTSU:** McDonald 3-50, Honeycutt 3-32, Andrews 3-20, Beyah 2-21



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No. 1 seed falls in first round of tournament

CHRIS GREEN
Staff Writer

The No. 1 seed Golden Panthers (11-6-3, 9-1-1 Sun Belt) were the favorites to advance to the second round as they faced the No. 8 seed University of Arkansas-Little Rock in the first round of the 2009 Sun Belt Conference women's soccer tournament.

They defeated UALR 1-0 during the regular season and were on a seven-game winning streak headed into the tournament. The Golden Panthers hoped to add a conference championship to their best regular season since 2001.

This would not be the case.

UALR (8-11-1, 4-6-1 Sun Belt) kept FIU from scoring until the second overtime and managed to defeat the top seed 1-0 after a breakaway goal by Kamiya Merrick on Nov. 3 in Boca Raton, Fla.

On a day that saw everything from sunny skies to rain, the Golden Panthers started out as they have in every conference game this season. FIU tallied five corner kicks in the first 45 minutes, compared to only

At the end of the day we as a team can be happy with the things that we have achieved.

Amy Jackson, Senior

one for UALR.

Nealy 20 minutes into the match, FIU nearly broke the tie on a rebounded corner kick. After the initial block, sophomore Katrina Rose fired the ball, which traveled parallel to the goal line.

Although the ball appeared to have crossed into the goal and the Golden Panthers were cheering in celebration, UALR goalkeeper Jane Picarelli cleared the ball and the referee judged it still in play.

The score was 0-0 entering halftime.

Two minutes into the second half, Thaisa Moreno took a look at the net, but was once again denied by Picarelli. Sophomores Deana Rossi, Courtney Bergin, Jessica Gambill, and senior Marina Pappas, all made their attempts at scoring for FIU, but each came up short as the game continued.

"I feel like nothing went right for us today," said Pappas to fuisports.com. "It's not like we weren't shooting, because we had a whole bunch of good shots."

With the end of regulation came the first 10-minute overtime. FIU controlled the ball at the onset, but turned the ball over, giving UALR the opportunity.

Christina Veasley took the ball down the left side and made a pass to Merrick who was one-on-one with FIU goalie Kaitlyn Savage. Merrick fired the shot past a diving Savage to seal the biggest upset in Sun Belt tournament history.

"It's been a good season," said Coach Thomas Chestnutt. "The girls did everything possible in the second half to advance, but unfortunately it didn't happen."

With the win, UALR becomes the first No. 8 seed

to ever upset the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

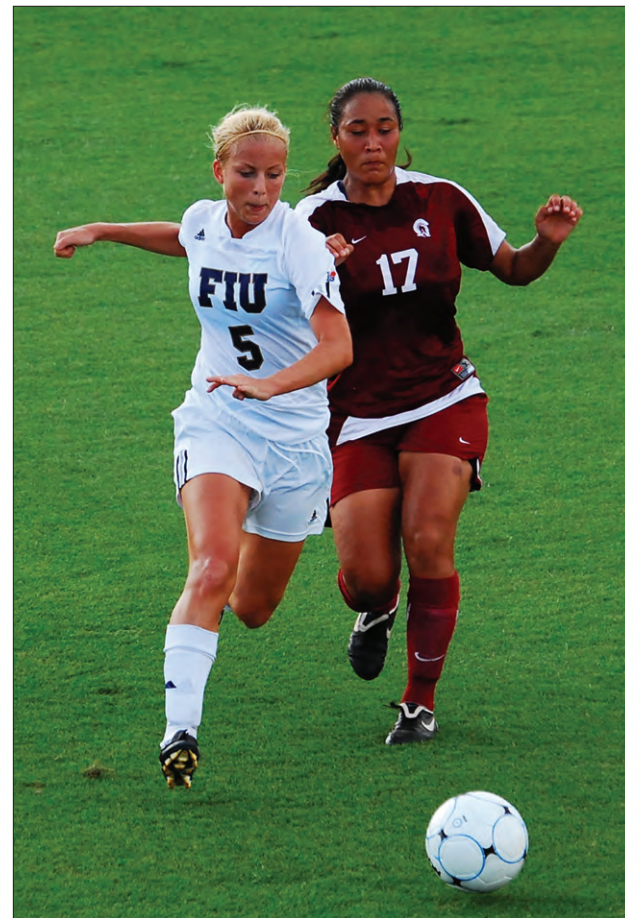
Despite the loss, the Golden Panthers end the season with a slew of awards and accolades. Chestnutt earned the Sun Belt Coach of the Year award, while freshman goalie Savage won the Freshman of the Year award.

Sophomore defender Katrina Rose was named to the All-Conference first team, and teammates Savage, Moreno, and senior Amy Jackson were named to the All-Conference second team.

In addition, Jackson was named the Sun Belt Player of the Week for the first time in her career after her game-winning goal versus FAU on senior night.

"At the end of the day we as a team can be happy with the things that we have achieved," Jackson said to fuisports.com. "I'm excited for the girls that have more time here at FIU because with the potential that we have here, I think big things are going to happen in the future."

Looking back on the season, Chestnutt hopes that the success of this year



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

JUST SHORT: Junior defender Linn Thune outruns an opponent. The Golden Panthers lost 1-0 in overtime.

carries over to the future.

"I just want to thank all the fans and people at FIU for their support," said Chest-

nutt. "It's been a good year, and I'm really proud of the girls and their turnaround from last year."

Wrestling Club has sights set on national tourney

TOM DEAN
Contributing Writer

They recognize the road to the championship will be full of sweat-soaked practices. However, in just their second year of existence, Co-President Alex Garo and the rest of the FIU Wrestling Club hopes they can stay focused to reach their ultimate goal – the National Collegiate Wrestling Championship.

The NCWA tournament which is held in Hampton, Va. and takes place on March 12-14, is the final tournament of the year, in which one team will be crowned NCWA champion.

While FIU's team was formed a year ago, the team is already setting their sights

We want to make our mark on the wrestling map to be a first and leave a legacy for our sons and brothers to enjoy.

Gio Barthole, president and captain
Wrestling Club

on getting to the big dance and trying to make their mark in the collegiate wrestling world.

While winning is the club's main priority, vice president and team captain Gio Barthole has another goal in mind.

"We want to make our mark on the wrestling map to be a first and leave a legacy for our sons and brothers to enjoy. We are here, we are driven, and we are going to shine."

During the regular

season, the club will participate in several tournaments in which they will accumulate points to qualify for the NCWA championship.

"Getting to the championship will depend on how the team does in the regular season," Garo said. "Every tournament you do good in, the closer you get to the championship tourney."

The team, which consists of 15 members, is coached by Steve Babun, a two-time

WRESTLING, PAGE 13

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NEW BEGINNING

Thomas era begins against defending champs

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Wire

Isiah Thomas was midway through a question-and-answer session with some FIU alumni last month when someone stood up and put the Hall of Fame player on the spot.

"So, how will you prepare for an opener against North Carolina?"

FIU's new coach, to his credit, didn't hesitate before giving the guy his answer.

"Well, Cinderella doesn't have to come in March. She can come in November," Thomas said.

Everybody laughed. Thomas laughed. The event continued.

The reality is, there are long shots, and then there's whatever FIU will be Monday night when the Golden Panthers open the Thomas era in the 2K Sports Classic at No. 6 North Carolina, the defending national champion and a popular pick to win it all again this season.

Consider this stat: The Tar Heels won 34 games last season alone, while FIU has won 34 games in the last three seasons combined.

"We like being underdogs," FIU guard Marvin Roberts said. "We're going to be underdogs all year. And we'll be the real underdogs on Monday, so we'll just play like we have nothing to lose."

Real underdogs, indeed: One Las Vegas line favors Carolina by 30.

The matchup, which seemed to be in jeopardy because FIU officials originally felt they agreed to play Ohio State in the opening round of the tournament, is tinged with obvious irony.

Thomas' final college game was in 1981, when he led Indiana past North Carolina for the NCAA title.

Which makes it fitting, naturally,

that his first college game as a coach comes against the Tar Heels.

"I don't know him real well," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said. "I was on the bench when he played his last college game and beat us in the national championship game in '81. Followed his career a great deal throughout his time in the NBA. ... I know probably a lot more of his accomplishments than he knows of mine, that's for sure."

FIU lost 20 games last season for the third time in four seasons, and that's when the school decided to make a serious splash by hiring Thomas.

"What we've said to our guys all along is, it's about how we play together as a team and how to play together as a unit," Thomas said. "If we can stay within our game, and if we can do the things we want defensively and offensively, I think we'll be able to play with any team in the country this year, not just North Carolina."

The odds are thickly stacked against FIU this season, despite the presence of a basketball icon on the sideline.

Only one of the Golden Panthers' top four scorers is back from last season. Combine that with the regime change, and Williams didn't mind revealing that he has "no idea" what FIU will try Monday night.

"I'm not trying to put their program down," Williams said. "Isiah wasn't the coach there last year. Doesn't do us any good to look at the tape from any games that they had last year."

Thomas isn't all that concerned with North Carolina, either.

Let's clarify that point: He's absolutely concerned with what the Tar Heels can, might and likely will do



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

GOING UP: Junior college transfer Phil Gary poured in 15 in the Golden Panthers exhibition loss to Northwood.

to run his team out of Chapel Hill. But Thomas' focus Monday night will be on watching his program take the first steps on what he knows will be a long road if it's to reach college basketball's top level.

"It'll be a very teachable moment," Thomas said. "So many times in life, you run into that immovable object

or you get knocked down. When you get knocked down, you've got to find a way to get back up. ... The most important part is getting the kids ready to go in and face something they've never faced in their life. It's what they all dream of, but when they walk in, it'll be a different story."

FOOTBALL: FIU 21, MTSU 48

Dasher dices FIU defense in blowout

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

The talk surrounding the Golden Panthers match against the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders was centered around one player that Sun Belt Conference opponents knew could cause serious damage.

That player is Middle Tennessee quarterback Dwight Dasher, and he did just what was expected, racking up over 300 yards of total offense on Nov. 7 at Floyd Stadium in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The game proved to be the perfect showcase of his dual-threat capabilities as the elusive quarterback threw for two touchdowns and ran for three more as the Blue Raiders (6-3, 4-1 Sun Belt) dealt the Golden Panthers (2-7, 1-4 Sun Belt) a 48-21 loss, simultaneously dashing any hopes of having a bowl-eligible season.

"He got off to a great start," Coach Mario Cristobal said of Dasher's performance. "He got himself pretty hot and we didn't find a way to stop him until the end of the first half; he's a tremendous playmaker."

The Blue Raiders wasted no time getting points on the board as Dasher ripped through the Golden Panther defense with a 70-yard run to give the Blue Raiders a 7-0 lead early in the first quarter.

On the very next possession Dasher torched the defense again, this time through the air with a 27-yard touchdown pass to extend the lead to 14-0.

FOOTBALL, PAGE 13



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

JUST ANOTHER DAY: Senior outside hitter Yarimar Rosa (left) led the Golden Panthers in kills as they defeated WKU and MTSU.

VOLLEYBALL

Golden Panthers one victory away from perfect SBC record

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

FIU (26-2, 16-0 Sun Belt) set a goal before the 2009 season to go undefeated in conference play. Although they still have to take out FAU on Nov. 14 to accomplish that feat, the Golden Panthers assured that they clinched an Sun Belt Conference regular season title when they grinded out a 3-1 (26-24, 25-22, 22-25, 26-24) win at Middle Tennessee State on Nov. 7.

Yarimar Rosa led the team with 21 kills, and Olga Vergun was not far behind with 18 as FIU won their 19th consecutive match. Natalia Valentin had 52 assists on the night to pace the team. The victory only took four sets to complete, but FIU

could not shake off a resilient MTSU team easily as each set was determined by a slim margin.

During the decisive fourth set, the Golden Panthers held off the Blue Raiders rally, and eventually took the set on a couple of MTSU service errors.

The Golden Panthers avenged last season's loss at MTSU with the win.

FIU now has just two matches left before the SBC tournament commences on Nov. 19.

FIU 3, WKU 1

The Golden Panthers surpassed their program record of 15 conference victories from last season with a 3-1 (20-25, 25-21, 25-21, 25-23) win against Western

Kentucky on Nov. 6. Trailing 1-0 in a match for just the fourth time this season, FIU stormed back in the second set to take a 15-9 lead, and eventually evened up the match with a 25-22 second set victory. From that point on, FIU took leads in each set, and like many times before this season, seemed poised as a unit as they held off a pesky WKU team playing in front of its home fans. Rosa continued to be a force as the senior recorded a double-double with 20 kills and 14 digs. Sophomore Andrea Lakovic had seven kills against a single error for a hitting percentage of .429 and recorded three solo blocks and three block assists.

Valentin picked up 35 assists to lead FIU in that category.