



## New Frost exhibit brings concept of peace and the Dalai Lama

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## Carbon footprint is leaving its mark on the Everglades

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### SPOTLIGHT

#### AT THE BAY PAGE 3

Celebrate a day of diversity with a black/jew comedy, a Middle Eastern author, and a transgender panel discussion.

#### AT THE BAY PAGE 3



Learn how to say Funny in Farsi – and get some insides of the book from its author.

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Student government unification a laudable goal, still has many hurdles to overcome

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Stimulus: States are balancing budgets with your education funding.

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DVD Review: Drag me to Hell a triumphant return to horror for Sam Raimi.

#### LIFE! PAGE 6



Fistfuls of Tech: Due to minimal computing power and comically small screens, netbooks not worth buying.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Students Write Organization, Oct. 19, 2 p.m. Get schooled about creative writing! The event will be held in GC 340 and is free to students.

Asian Studies, Oct. 20, 12:30 p.m. Join this lecture and learn about the Asian culture! The event is free and is being held in GC 150.

Music Saves Lives, Oct. 21, 12:30 p.m. Join a musically good cause at this club meeting! The event is free and is being held in GC 314.

–Turn to page 5 for more upcoming events in our Weekly Calendar.

### WEATHER



**MONDAY**  
PM Showers  
LOW: 71 HIGH: 79



**TUESDAY**  
Scattered Showers  
LOW: 76 HIGH: 83



**WEDNESDAY**  
Scattered Showers  
LOW: 76 HIGH: 84

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## TAKEN DOWN



VICTORIA LYTNCH/THE BEACON

**POWERFUL RUSH:** Troy University Trojan Dajuan Harris is tackled by Golden Panther Jarrell McGee. Despite this, FIU lost 42-33 as it could not stop Troy quarterback Levi Brown from passing for 391 yards and three touchdowns.

### STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Senate bill aims to unify budgets

DAVID A. BARRIOS  
Staff Writer

Senators proposed a resolution to support a restructuring of the University's Student Government Association during the most recent SGA finance committee meeting at Modesto Maidique Campus on Oct. 7.

The resolution, sponsored by Senators Adam Johnson, Vignesh Doraiswamy and Danny Ybanez called for the SGC-MMC senate to encourage SGA leadership to look into creating a more unified student government.

It states that the current structure of student government, with two different councils at the Biscayne Bay Campus and MMC, "can lead to unequal experiences, budgets and representation."

According to numbers obtained by Student Media, BBC's finance committee

is budgeted \$26,524 from Activities and Services fees. MMC's finance committee, in comparison, is allotted \$25,000.

MMC currently has 32,255 students enrolled in classes while BBC has 9,206 students enrolled with the inclusion of the Pines Center.

During the finance committee meeting it was determined that if finance committee allocations were determined by proportional representation, MMC would get \$52,000 while BBC would get \$13,000.

"The problem that a lot of us have been running into is that too many people see this as BBC and MMC and not FIU," said Johnson in an interview with Student Media. "They look at this and want what's best for BBC, not FIU."

Johnson said that cohesion and unity between

SGA, page 2

## Delegates gear up for conference

### Model UN hopes to create six straight years of greatness

ALEXANDER MILLER  
Contributing Writer

Members of the FIU Model United Nations are preparing for their national conference in New York this spring.

FIMUN boasts a five-year winning streak at the National MUN Conference and have been past recipients of the Outstanding Delegation Award, the highest award a delegation can win.

The organization also won the Best Model Delegation award at the Harvard National Model UN Conference in February 2009.

"You can't worry about being recognized or not recognized. You can only worry about your effort and doing your best, and that's what the program strives to teach," said Ray Hernandez, political science major and head delegate of the FIU chapter.

The Model U.N., as a whole,

is an organization that seeks to develop students to become more productive and tackle issues discussed by the United Nations.

In FIMUN students learn through simulations, acting as delegates and

*"You can only worry about your effort and doing your best, and that's what the program strives to teach."*

Ray Hernandez  
Head Delegate, FIMUN

taking on a specific country's position to discuss possible solutions to world problems.

Some United Nations topics discussed by the students have ranged from the global status of women to human trafficking, and even nuclear proliferation.

FIMUN is a part of the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship Studies and is partially funded by the Student Government Association.

The program is paired with a three-credit international relations course, INR 4900, held in the Spring semester. Students must go through an interview process for entry into the course and program.

About 100-130 applications are turned in every Fall, but only about 10 to 13 percent of those applicants are accepted, depending on retention rates.

"We look for delegates that are

MODEL UN, page 2

### RELAY FOR LIFE

## Party gets students ready for fundraiser

EMILY BELLO-PARDO  
Contributing Writer

Free food, music and presentations were part of the 2010 Relay for Life Kickoff Party which highlighted the upcoming event's festivities and its ultimate goal, to raise funds for cancer research.

The event has been held at the Modesto Maidique Campus since 2004, when it helped collect close to \$20,000 for the American Cancer Society. Last year, it raised more than \$80,000 with 74 teams participating.

Money raised by the event is donated to the American Cancer

RELAY FOR LIFE, page 2



# High school students take part in model UN training

## MODEL UN, page 1

emotionally grounded, because it's all about the team first," Hernandez said. "We have delegates from all walks of life, and we realize that we can all be different and we can make things work."

The organization also hosts the FIMUN High School Conference for local high school students, holding workshops and simulations to help train students for a Model

U.N. program.

The conference, which is held at FIU every January, conducts the simulation on what the model United Nations program should be, showing students how to conduct themselves at a conference. High school teachers are also invited to participate and assist in the workshops.

"I think that the exposure from the conference shows that FIU can put on something at a grand

scale that is well thought out," said Hernandez, who headed the conference in 2008 as secretary general of FIMUN.

The chapter conducts a great deal of its research on the high schools in the area ahead of time.

"We give the students general topics to discuss from the actual United Nations and they are expected to research their respective country's position on the topic, so we don't tell them

what to think," said Anamaria Arias, secretary general of FIMUN for 2010.

A number of extra workshops are also held with teachers to help students with the training process and writing position papers.

These position papers serve as the platform for debates and discussions held at FIMUN between students proposing solutions to problems countries face.

"We encourage interaction

between students of different backgrounds to discover aspects of different world views. We care about the students growing and leaving the conference as better students ready to go out into the world," Hernandez said.

More information about the FIMUN, such as fliers and an application for the program itself, can be found in the Labor Center in Room 220 or on the organization's Web site, [www.fiu.edu/~modelun](http://www.fiu.edu/~modelun).

# Survivors celebrate being cancer-free during RFL lap

## RELAY FOR LIFE, page 1

Society, an organization dedicated to "saving lives, helping those touched by cancer and empowering people to fight back against cancer," according to a pamphlet distributed in the kickoff party.

"There had been a relay near FIU in the years before. It was a small event, but in 2004 the students really formed the first relay committee and I just had to be one of the volunteers," said Beverly Dalrymple, director of FIU's Center for Leadership and Service and main coordinator of the event.

During Relay For Life, there are live shows, food and crafts that serve as fundraisers for the fight against cancer.

There is also a celebration called the Survivors Lap, where cancer survivors circle the lap together and celebrate that they're cancer

free.

"The survivors at the 2010 event will be provided with a blue RFL shirt that reads 'Survivor' in the back. We want to have a lot of them at the opening ceremony this year," said Francisco Lomparte, ACS community representative in the Florida Division who is working with FIU in creating this event once again on campus.

There's another ceremony planned for that night, according to the FIU Relay for Life Web site, the Luminaria Ceremony, where the night is brightened by the glow of illuminated bags called luminaria, each bearing the name of someone who has battled cancer.

"We put someone's name on them, to honor or remember them, because they've had cancer," said Giuliana Carboni, co-chair for RFL.

But it's not all about raising money. The volunteers

can win prizes based on how much money they raise. Prizes include a participant T-shirt, a 32 gigabyte iPod Touch or an entire camping set.

"We tell you this from the beginning so you guys know what you can get at the end of the event," Lomparte said. "I have known teams that have fundraised \$7,500 and they get a barbecue that they can utilize for their organization."

Relay For Life will take place in front of the Ryder Business Building on March 5, 2010.

To be part of RFL, students can put together a team, or even join an existing one, by registering online at the FIU RFL Web site [www.relayforlife.org/fiusouthfl](http://www.relayforlife.org/fiusouthfl).

To volunteer for FIU RFL, contact Dr. Dalrymple in the Center for Leadership and Service at [bdalrymple@fiu.edu](mailto:bdalrymple@fiu.edu).

# Senators propose resolution

## SGA page 1

both campuses needed to be secured.

"When we graduate, at the end of the day, our diploma says FIU, not BBC or MMC. They [BBC] want to do they're own thing while we feel that we're SGA for FIU," Johnson said.

Johnson criticized an earlier article in *The Beacon* in which he was quoted as suggesting that University services would improve if funds were set into one centralized campus.

"We would have more police, we would have a 24-hour library, and more places to eat," Johnson was quoted as saying in the Oct. 12 article.

Johnson claimed that constituents of his were merely asking him hypothetical questions.

"These are questions that students

have. I don't have the proper data or information to say that this will work. Thinking from an economical perspective, I feel that it might work," Johnson said.

Johnson also said that he did not state at the Oct. 7 meeting that the resolution would call for one central SGA president with a vice president for each campus.

He said that it was an option raised after comparisons were made between FIU's SGA and the other student governments at the University of Central Florida and the University of South Florida.

"You can't take away an entire campus. I don't have a problem with that campus," Johnson said.

The resolution was tabled during the Oct. 12 senate meeting so that the senate would be able to discuss it during its next meeting on Oct. 19.

**I don't have the proper data or information to say that this will work ... I feel that it might work.**

Adam Johnson, SGC-MMC senator

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## Full day of events set to celebrate student diversity

SABRENA JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

Students coming from different places, speaking different languages and carrying different beliefs will have a day to put all differences aside and celebrate together their uniqueness.

It will all happen during "Diversity Day" on Oct. 20 in the Wolfe University Center's Panther Square.

"It is a day to celebrate our diversity, and to increase understanding and appreciation of our differences," said Diann Newman, professor in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, who is also on the planning committee for the event.

According to Newman, this will be the 10th year that "Diversity Day" has been organized at the Biscayne Bay Campus. The event is funded by the Student Government Association and is organized by a volunteer committee of faculty, students and staff.

"We hope to achieve a sense of connection among our students and also a sense of inclusion, where every student feels welcomed and important," Newman said.

The first event will be a "Diversity Expo" at 10 a.m. in Panther Square. There will be a table with information about the different study abroad programs available at the University, including the

Summer program in China for HTM students.

The "Diversity Expo" will be followed by a book signing by Firoozeh Dumas at 10:30 a.m. in Panther Square. She will also be speaking in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater from 11 p.m. to 12 p.m.

Firoozeh Dumas is an Iranian-American writer best known for her *New York Times* best-seller, *Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America*. Her use of humor got her a nomination for the Thurber Prize for American Humor Award in 2005, an award that recognizes outstanding contributions in humor writing. She was the first Middle Eastern woman to receive this honor and was one of three finalists. The others were Jon Stewart from "The Daily Show," and Andy Borowitz, author of *The Borowitz Report: The Big Book of Shockers*. Dumas is also the author of *Laughing Without An Accent*.

The next event will be the *Black Jew Dialogues*, a show starring Ron Jones and Larry Jay Tish. The *Black Jew Dialogues* will combine fast-paced sketches, improvisations and humor to share their experiences with racism in America. Jones is a black actor, director, and trainer for educational and business communities for more than 20 years. He specializes in improvisation and has taught classes at Harvard University,

Tufts University and Curry College in Massachusetts. Tish is a Jewish actor, writer, poet, educator and a performer specialized in improvisation. He has written short fiction and poetry. He has also performed in the one-man show, *Everything Hurts*.

The duo uses a combination of props and different characters to take the audience on a comical journey that begins in Egypt and travels through Africa, colonial times, to present-day America, according to the show's official Web site. In September 2007, it was the only American play invited to perform at the Leeds Jewish Performing Arts Festival in England, according to the official show's Web site.

The *Black Jew Dialogues* will take place in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at 12:15 p.m.

Attendees will also get lunch from 1:15 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the ballrooms. Lunch is free for students who participate in the "Diversity Day" events.

The winners from the "Dating Outside the Box" contest will also be announced during lunch.

"The top winners will have a chance to present their speech, poem or videotape about dating outside the box, which was the topic for the contest," Newman said.

There will also be a transgender panel discussion from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the ballrooms.

## Author captures culture with humor

PARADISE AFSHAR  
Staff Writer

*Khandedar* means funny in Farsi, and people might find that books written about Iran these days lack a sense of humor, but author Firoozeh Dumas found a way to do just that.

Dumas, Iranian author of *Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America*, will visit the Biscayne Bay Campus Oct. 20 to talk about her book in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater in the Wolfe University Center.

She first moved to California when she was 7 years old, but moved back to Iran with her family two years later. After another two years, she moved back to California, where she attended the University of California, Berkeley, and met her husband.

"We thought with so many first-generation students going to school here they would be able to relate to the story," said Valerie Morgan, assistant dean of undergraduate studies.

Dumas will start with a book signing at 10:30 a.m. in Panther Square, followed by a presentation of *Funny in Farsi*.

"We are very excited to have her," Morgan said.

Dumas also wrote *Laughing Without an Accent*. *Funny in Farsi* made her a finalist for several awards, including the Thurber Prize for American Humor, which is awarded annually to the most outstanding book of humor published in the U.S., according to its official Web site.

*Funny in Farsi* was picked out of 36 books as the required reading for all freshman experience classes this year.

"[Dumas] has a message of humanity and that we have more in common than not," Morgan said.

A committee made up of faculty and staff, of which Morgan was a part of, also chose the book because of the light-hearted approach Dumas uses to describe her family and life, Morgan said.

In her book, Dumas describes how she felt about coming to the U.S., and offers details that readers may find familiar.

"It was the Promised Land. For me, it was where I could buy more outfits for Barbie," she wrote.

Freshman Andrea Perez read *Funny in Farsi* in her freshman experience

class during the Summer, and she is now looking forward to meeting Dumas and learning more about her life as a first-generation American.

"I really like her story. It was easy for me to relate to," said Perez, a political science major from Colombia.

Dumas wrote about her struggle to assimilate to a new country, and to find the balance between the two distinct cultures she grew up with.

"No matter your background, you could relate to the story," Morgan said.

Though Perez and Dumas share a different background, Perez said the book reminded her of her own life, especially when Dumas describes her loathing of translating everything for her parents.

"My mom doesn't speak English so well, and I am always translating for her," she said.

Perez also related to Dumas' experience of meeting people who had misconceptions about where she was from. Dumas writes in her book that she encountered people that couldn't even locate her native country on a map.

"When people told her they didn't know where Iran was on the map, I knew what she was talking about," Perez said.

## TOUCHDOWN



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

**CHUCK IT:** Kicker Jack Griffin (left) and Alexandra Serra, a junior broadcast journalism major (right) watch kicker Carlos Munera (center) practice football throws for prizes as part of the Pep Rally in Panther Square on Oct. 15.

The panel will be made up of transgender guest speakers who will share some of their life experiences. There will be a question-and-answer period at the end of the discussion.

The final event will be a "Diversity Circle" exercise that will take place in the ballrooms from 3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"The 'Diversity Circle' is an interactive exercise, and is designed for participants to mingle and get to know each other," Newman said.

All the events are free for students, faculty and staff. A donation of \$10 for the general public is suggested. All proceeds will go toward the BBC Excellence Fund.

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS COUNCIL

### Search for new director begins

DAVIS AUGUSTE  
Contributing Writer

After losing its former marketing director, the Student Organizations Council is in the hunt for a replacement.

Graduate student Mary Humphrey was the SOC's marketing director since April 2009, but she officially resigned Oct. 5.

"Somewhere along the lines of too much to do is probably a reason she had to step down," said Didier Georges, SOC president. "Mary had a lot on her hands, and she decided to let go of the position so that she can take care of the other things in her agenda."

Georges also told *The Beacon* that Humphrey's reason for leaving was far too personal for him to elaborate on.

Humphrey was unavailable for comment despite several attempts to reach her.

SOC is the governing organization that overlooks all student organizations on campus.

The marketing director, which is one of six paid positions in SOC that makes up the executive board, is the direct connection between student organizations and the SOC executive board members.

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.0, and must be registered for at least nine undergrad-

uate credit hours or six graduate credit hours this semester.

A majority of the applicant's courses must be also taken at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

"We are looking for anyone willing to work five hours a week," said Georges. "They don't have to have experience. They just have to be willing to learn and work in a group setting."

The marketing director is expected to attend all executive board meetings, unless told otherwise by the club president.

The marketing director is also responsible for making reports of club events, creating promotional campaigns for SOC, among other duties.

Every SOC board member is elected by the student clubs within the organization. Each candidate will have two minutes to speak to members of the organization, who will later vote for a nominee.

SOC officials and representatives from student clubs will vote.

The deadline to apply is Oct. 23.

The election of the new marketing director will take place on Oct. 26 at 2 p.m.

To apply, visit [socbbc.fiu.edu](http://socbbc.fiu.edu), or go to the Office of Campus Life and Orientation located at WUC 141.



## THE BEACON | Editorial

### Unified student government a good idea in theory, has many hurdles to overcome

The Student Government Association has recently taken up the cause of reviewing its constitution and assessing the viability and efficiency of the current two-council, two-president system.

After reviewing the facts and history, *The Beacon* believes that while there is no need for two presidents, there is sufficient variation in both campus's student body to merit a system that assures a certain level of autonomy for each campus.

In their Oct. 12 meetings, the councils' Senates met individually to discuss the unification of Student Government.

In their meeting, the MMC senate almost voted on a resolution stating that the current system leads to differing views on the direction of the University and a lack of identity among students.

The BBC senate, meanwhile, voiced their opposition to the measure. In the meeting, SGC-BBC President Sholom Neistein said that the issue was old news.

"They try to do it every year, so it is nothing new," Neistein said.

*The Beacon* feels that overall a two-president system is redundant. This is one university and should have a single student government president.

Take for example the actual University presidency: while there are several administrators solely accountable for BBC, they all report to a single president, who is responsible for the whole institution.

*The Beacon* itself also employs a similar system; while it has a BBC managing editor in charge of covering that campus, there is still a single editor in chief responsible for the whole paper.

Theoretically, Student Government could benefit from a similar system, but BBC could then face the issue of underrepresentation, the reason why we've evolved into this two-council system to begin with.

In the Jan. 7, 1992 issue of *The Beacon*, in which the two-council system was unveiled, Richard Correnti, vice president for student affairs at the time, noted that the two councils would provide more equal representation for both campuses.

While this may have been true at the time, it no longer has to be the case. Since then, communication tools like the internet, e-mail and cell-phones have become commonplace.

With video conferencing technology that SGA already has, BBC senators serving on a University-wide SGA senate do not even need to leave their campus to participate in senate meetings.

Aside from this, a unified SGA still has many hurdles to overcome.

There are still many questions concerning the very real possibility of BBC candidates being at a constant disadvantage when running for the SGA presidency. Historically, MMC has had a larger voter turnout than BBC. Also, the lack of a prominent greek life at BBC could greatly shift the power to MMC. Greek life at MMC is a strong force in affecting voter turnout and representation, especially considering that the last five MMC presidents have been greek.

*The Beacon* feels that a unified SGA is a laudable goal, and a conversation that is definitely worth having. But before anything is put on the books, everyone from students to administrators need to take a good hard look at the current system and make sure that a new one does not disenfranchise those students who call BBC home.

## Everglades not a place for ATVs Bikes would emit extra pollution

ODETTE BARRIENTOS  
Staff Writer

It's hard to believe the Everglades still exists. Since the first colonial settlers and developers came to Florida in the 1800s, this subtropical refuge has been fighting to sustain itself – and it's still fighting, now more than ever.

Climate change, air quality and nonnative species are some of the few hardships these wetlands have endured. Unfortunately, there's a new threat: ATV (all-terrain vehicle) riders.

For years, ATV riders of South Florida have fought for open land to ride their ATVs. In a joint proposal, Miami-Dade Parks Department planners and Collier County think they have found the place – in the middle of the Everglades. It is a place where decades ago, Miami-Dade County envisioned a massive jetport before public and political outrage shut down the project.

Miami-Dade Commissioner Jose Diaz has supported the ATV cause for years.

"Something has to be done with all these bikes running anywhere. We're trying to gather them and put them in one location and try to protect the more sensitive areas," said Diaz in an interview with *The Miami Herald*.

I find this difficult to swallow. The Everglades is home to multiple habitats along with a unique collection of plants and animals that cannot be found anywhere else on this planet. If this isn't already one of the most sensitive areas in Florida (and the world), then I don't know what is.

It's also the only home to many critically endangered species, such as the Florida panther – which, like the Everglades, is remarkably still clinging onto life. For many species, this is the only territory they have left.

Like Diaz, supporters insist the proposed park will do the Everglades "more good than harm by drawing ATVs from more pristine places," according to *The Miami Herald*.

Science begs to differ.

*"I'm even more outraged by the county officials who have suggested this site than I am by the ATV-riding taxpayers who just want a place to ride their ATVs."*

Research done by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2001 found that ATVs emit more than 381,000 tons of hydrocarbons, 1,860,000 tons of carbon monoxide and 11,000 tons of nitrogen oxide each year across the country. How could this do more good than harm?

The EPA has gone even further, researching individual ATVs. They showed that a two-stroke ATV or motorcycle could emit as much pollution as more than 30 automobiles operating in the same time frame.

Diaz and the ATV park proposal supporters

have got it all wrong. While they have every right to demand an open space to enjoy their dirt-riding, gas-guzzling hobby, the Everglades is not the place to do it. Both the supporters and the authorities seem to completely disregard the level of disturbance this may cause to this national treasure.

What could possibly be the harm in bringing in toxins and loud ATVs into this fragile environment, right? While we're at it, let's allow fun houses and even carnival rides.

Yet, I'm even more outraged by the county officials who have suggested this site than I

am by the ATV-riding taxpayers who just want a place to ride their ATVs.

Miami-Dade commissioners approved a resolution, sponsored by Diaz, endorsing the ATV park in May. It still faces Collier County Commission, the state Department of Community Affairs, water managers and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

It is a shame that this proposal has come this far. As citizens and taxpayers, ATV owners are entitled to complain. But, if the inhabitants of the Everglades could, they'd demand the rights to their territory.

## Students pay the price for states' stimulus misuse

VANESSA ESPINEL  
Staff Writer

Almost nine months in office and President Barack Obama has already delivered a failing stimulus package.

It is a widely known fact that the stimulus package was controversial from the get-go. The package was approved on the basis that it would help the economy.

However, the stimulus dollars are proving that yet again, a key component of the future has been pushed aside – education.

Empty promises are made in every campaign season for more funds to better schools, brighter futures for children and wok-wok-wok; this is beginning to feel like a scene from the Peanuts comics.

Making matters worse, The Associated Press reported earlier this week that the states were using their shares of the stimulus package to cover up

gaps in their budgets, instead of dispersing it to schools. Another classic example of how the U.S. education system is being pushed aside by lawmakers.

In a statement released from Education Secretary Arne Duncan: "From the very begin-

ning, we have made it clear that this education stimulus funding is intended to supplement local education dollars, not replace them." Really Mr. Duncan?

The Congress should have verified that the stimulus was free of loop-holes, which have made it possible for states to use the funds in areas not educational.

With the lack of enforcement by Congress, some states are

using the educational stimulus dollars for their own benefit, but instead are cutting education spending.

In the long haul, this could mean that schools, including colleges, end up with the same amount of cash they originally had prior to the economic stimulus.

Duncan later went on to mention that detailed reports on the states' spending will be made available sometime in October

and that the states that misuse stimulus dollars will be held accountable.

These states will be punished and it could lead to a greater penalization by the federal government in later stimulus money dispersal.

What Congress failed to do before graciously approving the funds was to restrict the states from using them for anything other than aiding schools.

In other words, states are damaging their prospects of receiving additional funding for education in the future.

If these states could properly fund school districts and colleges with the money that rightfully belongs to them, the school system would not be suffering so much.

Schools are being closed down because of low grades, and violence in schools has skyrocketed

Frankly, I have grown tired of watching schools being punished by having to cut back.

The principle of the matter is that students should not have had their futures cut short because of the states' actions.

Putting education in a corner is not a method to be taken out of the elementary school teachers' handbook.

### 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](mailto: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

*"Service education is more than what their schools and community can give to them but what the students can give back to their schools and community."*

First Lady Michelle Obama speaking at Miami's Freedom Tower

### OPINIONPIECE

# 1.8

The number of millions the Jackson Health System will be paying three to six consultants over the next nine months.



## EXHIBIT REVIEW



ALEX GARCIA / THE BEACON

**SLEEPING GIANT:** *Paranirvana* by Lewis deSoto (above), an large inflatable depiction of Buddha, is one of the many pieces at the “Missing Peace” exhibit at the Frost Art Museum.

# Art inspired by Dalai Lama makes for intriguing exhibit

**ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ**  
Contributing Writer

In *The Missing Peace*, the Frost Art Museum has found a fascinating exhibit.

*The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama*, offers visitors a new perspective on how to look at peace by following the examples of the Dalai Lama and by using art in its many configurations to spread the message of peace. The exhibition offers a look into the prospect of a more peaceful world as artists construct works that aim to represent not only the concept of non-violence but other important themes such as death itself and the transient nature of life.

The exhibition comes to FIU thanks to The Dalai Lama Foundation and the Committee of 100

for Tibet. The exhibition offers a “unique opportunity to explore the idea of art as an interpretation of, and a catalyst for peace,” according to promotional materials for the exhibit.

The exhibition is comprised of 40 pieces of art from artists from around the world. It offers an eclectic mix of work that ranges from an oversized inflatable Buddha to works from actress Sharon Stone’s private collection to an actual pair of the Dalai Lama’s shoes.

The most appealing to our tech savvy generation is *Impermanence: The Time of Man* by David and Hi-Jin Hodge. The piece was inspired by an experience the artists had in Half Moon Bay, Calif. while watching a sand mandala ritual meant to symbolize impermanence,

and is the opener to the exhibit. The installation piece is a row of 16 video iPods alternately playing 122 interviews.

The interviewees are people from all stages of life, ages 5-94, speaking of the changes in life and death.

At first, the piece is daunting with the loud blaring sounds of voices of different tones and depth coming at you from the speakers but, as the listener gets settled in, the stories come to life and it is easy to be drawn to any of the speaker’s stories.

The media they chose for the piece was brilliant because it made the whole experience more relatable and accessible to a younger demographic, one that you don’t normally see strolling through museums.

*Paranirvana* is an oversized inflatable Buddha by Lewis deSoto that explores a theme closely related to impermanence – death. The oversized Buddha lies in the center of the gallery. The piece is meant to represent Buddha’s ascent from death into nirvana.

A giant inflatable Buddha lying in the center of an art gallery is comical at first, but once you consider the true meaning behind the piece you understand its significance. The piece depicts Buddha after the moment of his demise. According to the description posted next to the work, the artist aims to make one wonder: how will I face the moment of my own death?

DeSoto’s use of such an unusual object to depict a heavy subject like death makes the exhibit hard to forget.

*Bamiyan: A Continuum* by Andra Samelson sits across *Paranirvana* and has a similar attention grabbing effect.

The piece, like almost all of the others in the exhibit, is evocative and thought provoking because of the creative way it addresses a sensitive subject.

A medley of dark blues and black depict the emotional outcry that resulted from the destruction of the colossal Buddha’s in Bamiyan, Afghanistan in 2001 by fundamentalist Taliban rulers. The piece’s focus on the tragic incident highlights the exhibits prominent themes of impermanence and regeneration.

You can check out *The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama* at the Frost Art Museum which will be open from now until Jan. 10, 2010.

## THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009

#### STUDENTS WRITE ORGANIZATION



Get schooled about creative writing!

WHEN: 2 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 340

#### BAHAMIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Meeting of the Bahamian minds!

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

#### COLLEGE DEMOCRATS



Get political with this meeting!

WHEN: 7 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 314

#### UNICEF @ FIU

Join a cause and join this meeting!

WHEN: 5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 305

#### PREKSHA MEDITATION CLUB



Meditate and find your center today!

WHEN: 4 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 314

#### BUSINESS ETIQUETTE DINNER

Learn etiquette with the Caribbean Student Association

WHEN: 6 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 243

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009

#### ASIAN STUDIES



Join this lecture and learn about Asian culture!

WHEN: 12:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 150

#### CATHOLIC STUDENT UNION

Join this meeting and get in touch with your faith!

WHEN: 2 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 340

#### THURSDAY

Rock out to nostalgia with this band!

WHEN: 6 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$14  
WHERE: Revolution Live

#### MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Join this event planning meeting!

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

#### FREE CUBA FOUNDATION



Table event for Free Cuba!

WHEN: 10 a.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC table

#### MIAMI BEACH GAY BOWLING LEAGUE



Gay bowling night!

WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$190 per team  
WHERE: Lucky Strike

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2009

#### MUSIC SAVES LIVES



Join a musical good cause at this club meeting!

WHEN: 12:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 314

#### NICARAGUAN STUDENTS ASSN.



Join this meeting and get in touch with your roots!

WHEN: 4 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 241

#### BLACK STUDENT UNION

Join this meeting, get empowered.

WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 150

#### COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

Discuss the issues with this meeting!

WHEN: 4:45 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 305

#### CENTER FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES

Join this lecture to learn about the Islamic culture!

WHEN: 4 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 243

#### THE VIVIAN GIRLS



Enjoy a performance by this band today!

WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$10  
WHERE: Propaganda

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2009

#### CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST



Get spiritual with this club meeting!

WHEN: 3 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 150

#### WOMEN'S STUDIES STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Join this meeting and learn about women’s studies!

WHEN: 3:45 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 314

#### REVOLTING COCKS



Enjoy this rock show!

WHEN: 7 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Contact  
WHERE: Revolution Live

#### STUDENTS FOR A FREE TIBET

Join this meeting and effect change!

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

#### ITALIAN CLUB



Join this meeting infuse the Italian culture in your life!

WHEN: 3 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 340

#### EUROPE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Bring out the European in you with this meeting!

WHEN: 5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: GC 243

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



## DVD REVIEW

*'Hell' an excellent DVD*

**STEVE MESA**  
Staff Writer

Those looking for thrills at their local video store this week should go straight to *Hell*.

*Drag me to Hell*, a horror-comedy directed by Sam Raimi, comes out on DVD this Tuesday. It's a story of how one lapse in judgement can lead to a terrifying struggle with the forces of evil.

The film opens in 1969 California where the exorcism of a young boy goes awry, resulting in the boy being pulled underground by unseen demonic forces.

We then flash forward to the present where we are introduced to Christine Brown (Allison Lohman), an ambitious Los Angeles loan officer with a charming professor boyfriend named Clay (Justin Long).

One fateful day, Christine is approached by an old gypsy woman named Mrs. Ganush (Lorna Raver) who begs for an extension on a home loan. Christine feels bad for her but, in order to get closer to a promising promotion, she denies the request.

Later that day, Christine is attacked by Ganush who places a powerful curse on her which Ganush says will wreak havoc on her and culminate in her being physically dragged into hell after three days.

*Drag Me to Hell* marks the return of Sam Raimi to the horror genre. Raimi first gained notoriety as the driving force behind *The Evil Dead* trilogy, which he created with his brothers, Ted and Ivan. Ivan also co-wrote the screenplay for *Drag*. Aside from the gore and suspense, the film has some humorous

moments, most notably a fight with a haunted handkerchief.

Sam Raimi was able to create a likeable protagonist in Christine. Lohman's approach to the role is incredible as her range goes from polite and innocent in the beginning to being pushed to the limit of her sanity as she braves encounters with invisible demons.

Sam Raimi collaborated with Gregory Nicotero and Howard Berger, who worked with Raimi on *Evil Dead II* and *Army of Darkness*, to help create the monsters and makeup effects of the movie. Nicotero and Berger also worked on the *Kill Bill* movies as well as *Planet Terror*.

Once again, they showcase their talent by creating different incarnations of Mrs. Ganush that haunt Christine and an exorcism sequence that involves several people and a farm animal.

Special features on the disc include vignettes that look at the making of the film. Hosted by co-star of the film, Justin Long, the "Production Diaries" details certain aspects/highlights of the film from how they made actress Lorna Raver look like a sickly, demonic woman, to how they were able to choreograph the garage/car fight sequence.

Some criticisms of the DVD: the unrated cut of the film only extends certain scenes that have gratuitous blood and goo without adding to the story. Furthermore, viewers may be left hankering for more special features.

The tremendous special effects, characters and the return of Sam Raimi to the horror genre makes *Drag Me to Hell* a fun and scary ride and one of the best-made horror films of the year.

## FISTFULS OF TECH!

*Netbooks garner undue credit*

As I walk around campus, I keep noticing people are opting to use netbooks over full or even ultraportable laptops – and I can't imagine why.

Netbooks are miniaturized computers that sacrifice power, functionality and practicality for size and portability. As of late, they have been gaining popularity due to their small size and even smaller price tags.

These devices often feature smaller screens, less powerful internals and small (and slow) 2.5-inch hard drives with no more than 160 gigabytes of space. These computers often run on Intel's smallest and least powerful processor, the Atom. The fastest Atom commercially available currently clocks in at 1.6ghz and is coupled with 1 GB of memory, the maximum amount of memory allowed for netbooks. This makes them basically useless for any major computing. Though the price points of these machines are especially enticing, most starting at around \$299, you are much better off saving your money and purchasing a new, full-fledged computer.

Often, due to their limited specifications, netbooks are programmed to limit users to only having three applications open at a time, so you can go ahead and wave productivity goodbye.

For a short time, I used a Dell Mini-10 for the purposes of reviewing the unit and I despised everything about it. I usually have anywhere from six to 12 applications open at a time when using my trusty Macbook Pro, including multiple Web pages. The Mini-10 however, started to heat up and slow down at around two applications.

I don't think these computers are convenient, or make life easier for anyone. Every time I see someone huddled over their netbook at a coffee shop, squinting as they read *The New York Times* on those lackluster 10-inch screens, I have to laugh because they don't look pleased. Typing on that keyboard has to be a pain.

As companies like Dell, HP and Sony market these computers as the next step in computing, I can't really justify buying one. With the rise in laptop sales, and the subsequent

decline in desktop sales, I don't see why people can't just take their laptops with them.

However, Sony, in particular, is chugging this netbook Kool-Aid by the gallon. Soon, it will release the VAIO X Series, its next major netbook. Though Sony is very careful about not calling this a "netbook" we all know that they're just kidding themselves. The carbon fiber VAIO X is no doubt gorgeous, weighing in at 1.6 pounds and measuring about half an inch thin but, when computers get this small, sacrifices in functionality must be made and, sadly, this computer is no different.

The device boasts the new 2.0ghz Atom processor, 2 GBs of RAM and an 11-inch screen – better, but still not great. Also, the fact that the VAIO X will strip your bank account of \$1,299 is absurd. For that I can buy a real computer.

Five years ago, netbooks would have been a great supplement for a desktop user. But, now that powerful laptops are becoming lighter and faster, and cell phones are becoming smarter and smarter, I am having a hard time finding a place in this crazy tech world where netbooks can live happily ever after.

## COLUMNIST



JORGE VALENS

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# Second half kills Panthers' comeback

FOOTBALL, page 8

were plenty of opportunities there. They gave us some opportunities but we gave them more than we got from them and ultimately that was the difference in the football game."

## CRUCIAL QUARTER

Tyler Clawson recovered a fumble at the Troy 24-yard line in the second quarter, but three straight incompletions led to a Dustin Rivest field goal. When Armond Willis forced a fumble on Brown that was recovered by Aaron Davis with 1:02 left in the first half, the Golden Panthers kicked a 22-yard field goal from Rivest. Despite the missed chances at touchdowns, FIU cut the lead to 28-20 at halftime.

That's when Troy went to work.

The Trojans engineered a 12-play drive to score a touchdown and take a 35-20 advantage on their first drive of the second half. On the Golden Panthers' first play on its next

possession, McCall was intercepted by Bryan Willis at the Troy 29-yard line and Willis returned it to the FIU 48. The Trojans took advantage and scored another touchdown just two plays later to take its largest lead of the game.

"It's funny how these games come down to one or two plays," McCall said. "That pick, the first pass of the third quarter, made all the difference in the world."

In the meantime, the Trojans kept the FIU offense at bay for most of the second half by pressuring McCall often and stuffing a Golden Panthers rushing attack that is coming off its most successful game of the season in a win over Western Kentucky University on Oct. 10.

"They definitely are the most physical team we played all season," McCall said. "Their front four was bringing pressure the entire time. They live and die by those guys upfront and they made a living off them tonight."

## DEFENSIVE MISHAPS

The Golden Panthers allowed more than 160 rushing yards for the sixth time this season. Troy's DuJuan Harris had a season-high 65 yards by the second quarter and finished the day with 86. FIU allowed more than 40 points for the fourth time in six contests.

"Everybody on defense, we just have to correct these mistakes," said defensive end Armond Willis. "They capitalized on the mental errors that we made. Sunday we'll clean it up on film and keep getting better in practice."

FIU scored two late touchdowns on a Darrian Mallary run and a McCall throw to Ty Frierson.

"In terms of effort we were relentless," Cristobal said. "We kept coming and coming and coming and if there's more clock there we keep coming but there isn't and they won the football game and they deserved to."

VOLLEYBALL: FIU 3, TROY 0

# Team sweeps Troy at home

JOEL DELGADO  
Staff Writer

Coach Danijela Tomic wanted the Golden Panthers to show the Troy University Trojans why they are the top team in the Sun Belt Conference.

Tomic was concerned the 17-2 Golden Panthers would not dominate the whole match and play a close game vs. the Trojans, a team with a 10-10 record.

"We have a tendency to play at the level of our opponent. I challenged the team to play FIU volleyball," Tomic said. "We have to be aggressive, we have to be confi-

dent and come out and play like we are playing the No. 1 team in the nation and they responded."

Tomic's challenge motivated Yarimar Rosa and the Golden Panthers (18-2, 9-0 Sun Belt) to put away the Trojans (10-11, 5-4 Sun Belt) in just an hour and 15 minutes as they soundly defeated the Trojans 3-0 on Oct. 16.

"Teams like that, you have to win quickly, to send a message to show that we are on a different level," Rosa said.

Visit our Web site for the full version of the story: [fiusm.com/sports](http://fiusm.com/sports)

[www.FIUSM.com](http://www.FIUSM.com)

SOCCER (W): FIU 4, SA 1

# Offense keeps winning streak alive

CHRIS GREEN  
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers women's soccer team (7-5-3) extended its unbeaten streak to six games as it routed South Alabama 4-1 on the road on Oct. 16.

The Jaguars of South Alabama had an opportunity to score vs. freshman goalkeeper Kaitlyn Savage early, but that would be their only bright point as FIU dominated the first half.

Sophomore Thaisa Moreno notched a career first multi-goal evening as she found the back of the net twice in less than 10 minutes. Senior Amy Jackson and sophomore Deana Rossi both tallied assists on the goals.

Rossi increased the lead to three without than two minutes after Moreno's second goal off an assist from Marina Pappas. Heading into the half, the Golden Panthers had a comfortable 3-0 lead, and would pick up right where they left off in the second half.

"It took us a while to get into it, but once we scored, it was like the goals just kept coming," Pappas said to *fiusports.com*.

Visit our Web site for the full version of the story: [fiusm.com/sports](http://fiusm.com/sports)

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FOOTBALL: TROY 42, FIU 33

## BLACK AND BLUED



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

**FUMBLING PLAY:** Defensive end James Jones forces a fumble on quarterback Levi Brown. The Golden Panthers recovered three fumbles but Troy's passing game was too much for them to handle.

### Consistency is team's downfall

There's not really anything new to say. Every week, the same FIU team shows up.

Win or lose, week after week, the Golden Panthers do the same things well, and more importantly, they do the same things poorly. Say what you will about the team, but it's kind of comforting to know what you are going to get all of the time, so you can't be surprised.

In FIU's conference home opener, the Golden Panthers gave up 174 yards of rushing to the University of Troy Trojans; they failed to protect the quarterback, allowing six sacks; T.Y. Hilton, despite being limited by a right knee injury led the team in receptions; they vastly outplayed the Trojans on special teams; and they fell behind early and scored a couple of late touchdowns with the game mostly in hand already.

On their 1998 album *OK Computer*, Radiohead sang about the joys of living a quiet life with "No Surprises." The Golden Panthers seem to have embraced the teachings of the British band.

There is something to be said for consistency, I suppose.

Despite all of their consistency, however, what downed the Golden Panthers was something that you might not have expected from this team.

You would expect them to get run all over, which Troy did, averaging 4.5 yards per carry on the ground and ripping off runs of 46 and 20 yards on their way to their second best day on the ground for the season.

You would expect FIU offensive line to struggle against the best front seven they've seen since opening the season at Alabama, and managed barely a yard per carry for the game.

But so far this season, the Golden Panthers have been better against the pass, allowing just one 300-yard passer on the season and had forced an interception in each of the last three games.

#### COMMENTARY



CHRIS TOWERS

Troy quarterback Levi Brown came into FIU Stadium on Saturday night in front of 10,000 FIU fans wearing black for the team's first ever "blackout" game, and proceeded to pick apart the Golden Panthers defense until the only thing that was consistent was the chain gang moving the first

down marker seemingly every time he dropped back to pass.

Brown connected with 12 different receivers en route to a 391-yard, three-touchdown day, his second best performance of the season.

He entered the game throwing for 260 yards per game. He equaled that by the end of the first half.

Most teams that have had success against FIU this season (and that includes most of the teams they have played, unfortunately) have leaned heavily on the running game to dominate the clock and keep FIU's offense off the field.

Troy opted for the quick strike technique, and FIU, with a banged up secondary that at one point in the game was missing both of its top corners and a starting safety, had no response for the senior, who consistently found the open receiver all game long.

When FIU tried to stay in its base defense to shore up the run defense, Brown took advantage of the mismatches, finding his talented slot receivers for big gains in the middle of the field. When the Golden Panthers would bring in extra defensive backs to guard Troy's spread offense, they would gash them with runs.

And once the safeties would creep up to help in the running game, Brown would go over top

#### BOXSCORE

	FIU	Troy
<b>First Downs</b>	24	25
<b>Rushes-Yards</b>	36-79	39-208
<b>Passing</b>	265	391
<b>Comp-Att-Int</b>	28-50-1	28-38-0
<b>Return Yards</b>	72	53
<b>Punts Avg.</b>	7-42.6	5-42.6
<b>Penalties-Yards</b>	6-61	11-115
<b>Fumbles-Lost</b>	1-0	4-3
<b>Time of Possession</b>	31:30	28:30

**RUSHING — FIU:** Perry 5-6, Owens 13-30, Mallary 5-15 **Troy:** Harris 17-95, Greer 2-55, Southward 6-24

**PASSING — FIU:** McCall 27-48-1-257 **Troy:** Brown 28-37-0-391

**RECEIVING — FIU:** Ellingson 4-58, Hilton 6-44, Frierson 4-28, Berry 3-34, Younger 2-36 **Troy:** Jernigan 5-97, Marcum 4-38, Jarboe 3-64, Harris 3-18

with play action passes.

Troy perfectly executed their offensive game plan, and despite numerous penalties (11, their fourth straight game with double digits in this category) and three turnovers in their own territory, FIU wasn't able to keep up with the Trojans.

Coming off a win over Western Kentucky, FIU was looking to make a statement against the class of the conference by stealing a win at home.

Instead, the only statement FIU made was one that has consistently been reiterated all season: "The Golden Panthers aren't ready to compete against the champs."

### Aerial attack overwhelms Panthers

JONATHAN RAMOS  
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers could not stop Troy's high powered offense as the defending conference champions used a powerful and physical offense to defeat FIU 42-33 on Oct. 17 at FIU Stadium.

FIU quarterback Paul McCall threw for 257 yards and two touchdowns, but was sacked six times by a relentless Trojan pass rush. Troy quarterback Levi spread the all around for the Trojans for 391 yards and hitting 12 different receivers on the night.

"We couldn't keep scoring at the pace they were scoring," said Golden Panthers coach Mario Cristobal.

The Trojans got off to a 28-10 lead in the first half before the Golden Panthers closed that gap by scoring 10 points to end the half. The Trojans, however, quickly scored two touchdowns in the third quarter to put away FIU.

"You'd like to stop them a little better – a lot better – when you recover fumbles in the red zone you need to make those touchdowns," Cristobal said. "You can't, against a team as high-powered as they are offensively, go and kick a couple field goals when you have a chance to make those seven-point deals. There