

## Jaywalking on campus may lead to fines

**DIEGO SALDANA**  
*Staff Writer*

With traffic lights also came pedestrian lights, which, if not followed, can result in a ticket for crossing a roadway at mid-block, otherwise known as jaywalking.

An officer may choose to give a student a University citation, a fine of \$25. If it is not paid, a hold may be placed on the student's accounts.

Kristopher Saad, a junior digital media studies major, has firsthand experience when dealing with the enforcement of jaywalking.

One evening, Saad stood at the crosswalk between Academic Health Center Four and Parking Garage Five. Seeing that all cars were stopped and not knowing the crosswalk lights were functioning, he jaywalked.

An officer on the other side ordered Saad to return to the other side of the street, an order Saad defied. "He's pretending to write me the ticket and [then he said], 'You know what? I'm going to cut you a break this time, but next I tell

you to do something you do it'."

According to University Police Chief Alexander Casas, officers may also choose to give out Uniform Traffic Citations, in the place of University citations, at their discretion.

UTCs carry a state-imposed fine of \$77.50. If the offender does not appeal or pay the fine before 30 days, the fine is then increased to \$93.50.

Junior pre-veterinary studies major Sophia Perez-Monzon thinks even the smallest fee is excessive. "Jaywalking is not on the same level as other crimes...\$25 is a bit too much."

Jaywalking is not mentioned in the Department of Parking and Transportation's Rules and Regulations. As for pedestrians, the regulations say that pedestrians have the right of way when crossing a roadway.

University Assistant Police Chief Alphonse Ianiello said the crosswalk lights are in place to protect pedestrians as well as to maintain the flow of traffic.

"It's the safety [of pedestrians] and it's the traffic. That's the main reason these lights are put in," Ianiello said.

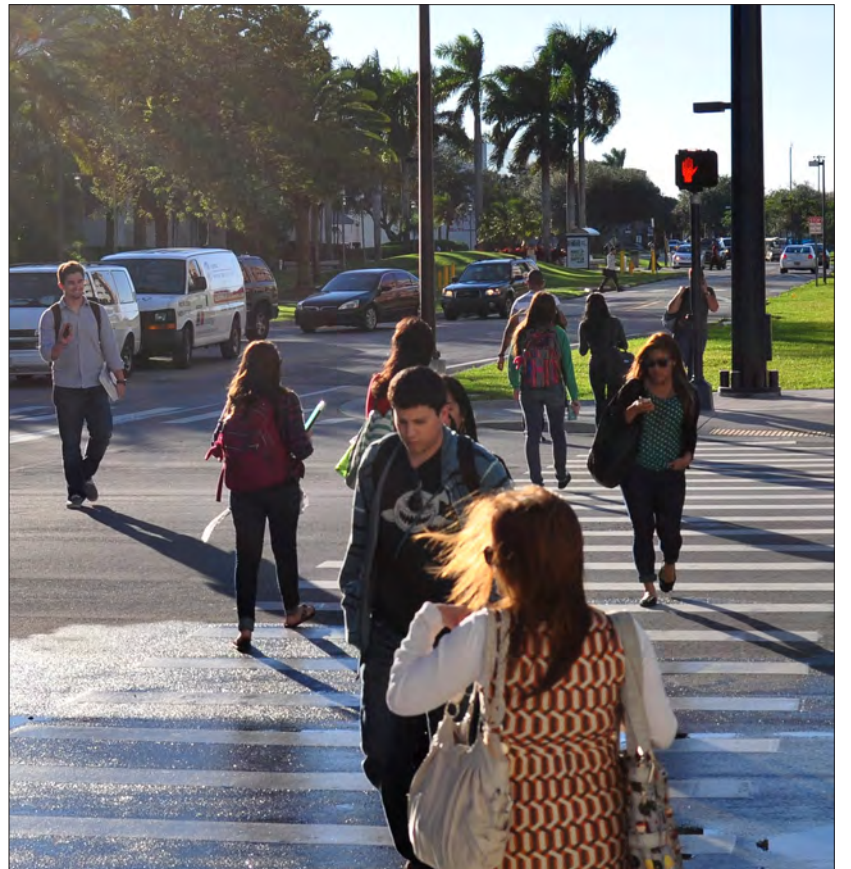
Ianiello added that currently, the University Police Department is warning offenders, but said that the possibility of a citation is not out of the question.

"We want to educate people first, rather than start giving jaywalking tickets out. We are here to educate, not to hurt people," Ianiello said.

"I think as long as there is not a cop, people are going to disregard the lights," Saad said.

Senior Spanish major Betina Broglia thinks people will disregard the lights if there are no officers present.

There is only one recorded jaywalking ticket this year, but according to Wendy Turner, records clerk for the University Police Department, there could be several more in the processing stage.



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

With traffic lights and pedestrian lights functioning between Panther and Red Garages, students are to heed both signals.

-news@fiusm.com

## Students return to cleanup and repairs after pipe burst

**BRANDON WISE**  
*Sports Director*

Following the Nov. 14 pipe burst at the Lakeview South Residence Hall, all students have returned to their dorms in the midst of cleanup and repairs.

As of Nov. 20, the 110 affected students have been allowed to return to their rooms, according to Jim Wassenaar, executive director of Student Affairs Operations and Auxiliary Services, but the repair process is in the beginning stages.

Though all 110 students were offered the opportunity to stay at a hotel free of charge until the rooms were suitable for return, only 30

chose to accept the offer.

"We'll commence the repair of drywall and replacement of the base board over the next several weeks," Wassenaar said in an interview with Student Media. "We'll do it incrementally as to not disturb students; they've had enough disruption. We'll start with the corridors and go into the student units probably over the holiday break when they are gone."

Wassenaar added that the damage affected every floor of the building in some form, but less and less towards the ground floors.

"We had water intrusion from [the] sixth to the first floor and about 60 units. The lower you went in the building, the less the impact," Wassenaar said. "The most dramatic impacts

were mostly on the fifth and sixth floors."

Martina Comorkova, a freshman Languages major who resides on the fifth floor, described the damage done to her floor.

"If you walked down the way to my room through the elevators," Comorkova said, "you could look up and see parts of the ceiling were missing because they had to take out the tile because they were wet."

Wassenaar also noted that no mold was discovered in the building afterwards; however, Comorkova believes there to be some kind of mold in her room.

"Afterwards, there was a disgusting smell of mold until somebody opened the windows and aired the dorm out," Comorkova said. "There

was just water everywhere. We were told, 'If you open the windows, it would not be proper and it could mold.' Since last Wednesday, it's been very hard to breathe at my room."

The Super Restoration Clean Up Company estimates that, as of Nov. 20, cleanup and repair has cost \$120,000. However, Wassenaar believes that price will probably end up being higher.

"That doesn't include the repair cost or any other costs that have yet to be determined," Wassenaar said. "That's everything including water extraction, dehumidification and replacements."

SEE REPAIRS, PAGE 2

### FRESH FUN IN THE SUN



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Freshmen Miguel Arango, Debora Plans, Theodore Lau, Julio Alvarez and Alejandro Martin play an ultimate frisbee game outside to relieve the stress of finals week.

## Scholarship code awaits approval from senate

**ASHLEY MARTINEZ**  
*Staff Writer*

The approval of a new Student Government led University-wide scholarship code has been placed on hold.

The scholarship code still awaits the approval of the Student Government Association after things took a turn during a Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus senate session on Monday, Nov. 19.

Alex Castro, vice president of SGC-MMC, presented the bill that, if passed, would attempt

to offer scholarships to various student groups.

Castro said that using 3 percent from three different accounts: the Student Government Insurance Account, Agency Fund account and Activity and Services fee account 452, would provide funding for the scholarship. The total utilized from the 3 percent would be an estimated \$62,000. Castro also stated SGA was allowed to use funding from these accounts in order to create loans and scholarships.

"This can be a step forward towards alle-

SEE SCHOLARSHIP, PAGE 2

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## FACULTY SENATE

# New minors and graduate programs added to curriculum

**MIRIAM ARIAS**  
*Staff Writer*

New minors, graduate degree programs and global learning courses will soon be introduced to the University's curriculum.

Curriculum changes were brought up at the last two faculty senate meetings, which occurred on Oct. 25 and Nov. 8.

The first motion on Oct. 25 was the removal of a required common reading from the Global Learning Foundations courses.

The common reading requirement was formerly part of foundation GL courses and established a four-page article common to all courses.

The Chairman of the Global Learning Curriculum Oversight Committee Rick Tardanico said this common reading was

removed because it did not fit the content of each course nor did it promote a common learning experience for undergraduates.

The removal of the common reading was a decision made by the faculty who teach GL courses.

The motion was passed, allowing faculty to select their own readings in accordance with the courses they are teaching.

Following the approval of this motion, a new global learning course was proposed— Japanese Culture and Society or JPN 3500.

Along with changes to the global learning curriculum, new minors and graduate degree programs were also proposed.

Both undergraduate minors presented, aerospace studies and international communications, were passed.

The new graduate degree programs passed include curatorial practice, a professional science master's in forensic science and a professional science master's in medical physics.

When the motions for the minors were once again raised on the Nov. 8 meeting, the rhetorical communication minor was passed without much debate.

However, the business communication minor was tabled for the following meeting after a request by associate professor of journalism and broadcasting, Neil Reisner, who spoke about the possibility that the new business communication minor might interfere with offerings in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

"At some point, there was a judgment I suppose that the proposed minor does not

interfere with any other department, but we want to make sure that's true," Reisner said, adding that he would like to see more information on the program.

"We just want a full discussion of what the program is, what the courses are, and how our courses might fit in," Reisner said.

In response, Chairwoman of Communication Arts Joann Brown said the courses under this proposed minor are existing courses, courses that the SJMC encourages as electives. "Your curriculum wouldn't fit into this spectrum," Brown said.

The outcome of the motion is to be determined at the next faculty senate meeting on Nov. 29.

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# Farinas raises objections to scholarship proposal

## SCHOLARSHIP, PAGE 1

viating the cost of education. This program could last over 10 years. If you do the simple math, you can already think of all the students we can impact," Castro said.

Castro also said that if the legislation was passed, account funding would allocate \$41,000 to the scholarships and \$20,000 would go to first-generation scholarships, to be state-matched. Castro estimated 40 to 80 students would be impacted by the code each year.

After the presentation of the bill, Laura Farinas, president of SGC-MMC, presented various issues that would affect the piece of legislation, with only three minutes in her favor. These issues included jurisdiction, feasibility and University-wide council influence, with jurisdiction being

the main concern.

"This is something that has been in the works for several months and it's something that we've disputed back and forth. The issue with jurisdiction is the agency fund," Farinas said. "The Student Government Insurance fund is something that is under our jurisdiction, but the Agency fund helps give money by going in and out as it's awarded and used."

Farinas also said the piece of legislation presented also had to be vetted by various parties, including Kenneth Jessell, chief financial officer and senior vice president of Finance and Administration, and Tony Vu, treasurer in the office of Finance and Administration.

"To my knowledge this piece of legislation has not been vetted through neither the CFO or the treasurer's office," Farinas said.

Farinas also said that presenting first generation as being state matched was a mistake.

"Giving that money to first generation and assuming that it is going to be state matched is false because they have already met the capacity of money that they have to turn into the state," she said.

Before Farinas could end her comments, Giovanni Castro, senator at-large and senate speaker, said that her time was up, which led Farinas to ask for more minutes before the meeting was adjourned. Both Alex Castro and Giovanni Castro walked out of the room before Farinas was done explaining the issues concerning the piece of legislation.

Student Media attempted to contact Giovanni Castro, but received no response.

In an interview with Student

Media, Farinas stated that she does not want the bill to be approved during the next senate meeting that will take place on Nov. 26.

"I hope it does not pass. I expect it to not pass. If it does pass, I will veto it until there is due process," Farinas said. "I'm here to make sure that the proposal is valid and plausible." Farinas also said she hopes the passed motion at the Nov. 14 University-wide meeting is adhered to. This

motion was passed to establish a committee to merge a scholarship proposal authored by herself and Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus President Pablo Haspel with Castro's scholarship proposal.

"I hope that there is an interchanging of ideas to make the best proposal for the students. That's putting students first," Farinas said.

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"I hope it does not pass. I expect it to not pass. If it does pass, I will veto it until there is due process."

Laura Farinas  
President  
SGC-MMC

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# Repair costs to keep rising

## REPAIRS, PAGE 1

Funding for damage repair and clean up will come from University reserves.

"Basically, the University has contingencies for these situations," Wassenaar said. "Those costs won't be directly back on the students. It's something we have to plan for as far as our budgeting exercise."

John Tallon, facilities director, said the standing water was extracted and vacuumed off the floor within 12 hours of the rupture. After the water was taken out of the building, 523 dehumidifiers were brought in to keep the airflow moving and dry the building.

Tallon said he had not seen a bill, but estimates that costs will continue to grow because there is still a lot of painting and repair to be done to the walls.

Though the cause of the pipe burst remains unknown, Wassenaar and Super Restoration are currently investigating.

"It's going to take some time to determine," Wassenaar said. "We can see that the pipe split. It didn't split at a point of connection; it split down the middle. According to the sprinkler repair company, this was a very unique occurrence."

Wassenaar does not believe the neighboring residence halls, including Panther Hall, University Park Towers nor Everglades Hall are at risk

for similar occurrences, signaling to the uniqueness of the event. Panther, UPT, and Everglades were built in 1995, 2000 and 2002, respectively.

"As I stated before, it's an extremely unique occurrence; it should not happen," Wassenaar said. "I think our annual inspections are what they need to be, and what are mandated by the State Fire Marshall."

As for damage to students' personal property, Wassenaar said he has not received any major reports of personal property damage, but he is certain people incurred damages, including textbooks.

The Undergraduate Student Housing Agreement contract students sign when moving into any residence hall states that students are encouraged to purchase renter's insurance because the University cannot, in most cases, protect against personal property loss.

Comorkova mentioned that she sustained damage to textbooks, electronics and clothing items, but added that she won't file any complaints.

"I did not have renter's insurance and the argument was whether we would get reimbursement because it was an unnatural disaster," Comorkova said. "I wasn't sure I would get anything. They said they would reimburse me for textbooks, but I haven't received that."

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## LATE NIGHT ENCOUNTERS



ILLUSTRATION BY GIOVANNI GARCIA/THE BEACON

## There are bigger issues at hand than gauging the weather

MARC RAPAPORT  
Contributing Writer

When one thinks about FIU, what stands out? One thing that has always been associated with our university is that most people commute to and from school, providing a whole new array of issues for the almost 50,000 students (along with 1,200 faculty and staff members). One would think that, with so vast a population, parking issues would hold higher importance than building a ridiculous and for some, challenging, second traffic circle.

Those of us who have attended the ever-changing, "Worlds Ahead" Florida International University know some things: College Algebra is everyone's favorite class and the parking situation is never okay.

One of the biggest reasons it seems that parking just can never be successful here at FIU is that many of the parking garages or lots are on opposite sides of the campus, and who wants to walk a mile to their next class in the wonderful Miami humidity?

Thus, we have almost everyone trying to cram into the Blue and Gold garages, and when those become full, it becomes a free-for-all, violent – yes, I have seen near brawls over parking spaces – situation.

So, instead of delving into the hellish world of parking, what is our school given by the state? A \$10 million grant towards a wind tunnel.

I understand all the advances that can be made concerning weather, and that it can provide new information for scientists concerning hurricanes, etc.; but why not focus on issues we as students, faculty and/or staff must deal with every day?

I can think of countless other causes this grant of \$10 million could have gone towards. At the end of the day the voice of those paying for their education seems to be drowned out by authorities, as well as the sound of drilling.

Each semester seems to bring with it a set of new buildings, fast food restaurants or traffic circles. The number of students applying to FIU every year is also not decreasing, and the need for more parking spaces should be at the top of the "Important Things FIU Needs to Do" list.

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## No thanks to be given before Thanksgiving

ALEX SORONDO  
Asst. Opinion Editor

Complaints were widespread, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, about the audacity, the shamelessness, the malevolence of professors who demanded that their students attend class, particularly evening classes.

Given the vehemence with which most complaints were lodged, it prompts one of two impressions: either Thanksgiving is really something profoundly sacred for many students – so sacred that not even the preceding day can be tainted by work – or, as is more likely the case, the achievement of bachelor's degree is, for many of us, not so much about the education it's meant to suggest but the paper

itself.

Perhaps this is just the staple of a consumer culture, where we expect to pay for something (an education, in this case) and receive it.

To pay for the opportunity to do work doesn't seem to make sense, naturally.

I worked for the money; why should I then work for what I'm spending it on?

But an education is one of those exorbitantly priced and – at times – impossibly demanding responsibilities to which one should devote themselves, wholeheartedly and without complaint, if they want to reap the long-term and hopefully balancing reward.

It's like having kids. One would think that, after nine months of preparation, few mothers would give birth to a

child and then complain about its insistence upon being fed. And yet even those of us in our most tender years probably have one or two facebook friends who do precisely that.

There are few things so disheartening on a college campus as seeing such widespread disinterest toward the efforts of bettering oneself. And yes, these efforts come at the expense of certain comforts and conveniences, but this is what we signed up for.

That which seems most precious and sacred to us is, unfortunately, of little importance to the gears and blades of such bureaucratic powerhouses as college universities.

It can be sad, and difficult to cope with, but hopefully more readily digest-

ible when we consider the nonchalance with which most of us regard the traditions and observances of our peers (at least when our own grade or time or paycheck is on the line), and how hopelessly constipated our education would be if a class' schedule had to accommodate everybody's preferences as opposed to vice-versa.

Everything worth having must be paid for with more than money, trite and cliché as it sounds.

If you want to worship or learn or celebrate something, accept the consequences; complaining about them only reflects the naiveté of a person who got into this without expecting as much.

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### SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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## THE FROST ART MUSEUM

# The Frost ends semester with Florida's nature and Art Basel breakfast

EDWIVE SEME  
Staff Writer

Art Basel, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basel event starting Dec. 9. Until then, other exhibitions will still be up on display including "Fragile Nature" and "Material and Meaning."

"Materials and Meaning," from the University's Wolfsonian collection, reveals the expressional and functional potential of three types of clay: earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain. It shows how artists and designers manipulate these materials and develop them into diverse outcomes.

"Fragile Nature" is a collection of works by artist Mark Messersmith. As a Worlds Ahead museum and gateway for the community to the world of art, the Frost exhibits a Floridian artist every year, this year the artist being Messersmith. As a Floridian artist, his works show the beauty and composition of nature.

Emmett Young, assistant director of marketing and communications at the museum, describes Messersmith's pieces as very large and colorful images of Florida's flora and fauna. Messersmith metaphorically captures the relationship between the land's flora and fauna, and the struggles nature faces when it comes to competing with humans, and how human activities intrude nature.

His works are full of saturated colors, verdant greens, blue waters, and brilliant skies that give the artworks an abstract feel. On the surface, it

seems to be a paradise, but the deeper one goes, the more is revealed about the struggles of Florida's ecosystems.

"I love it! I think it's so interesting and so colorful," Young said. "It just grabs your attention because it has so much in it. It's not just painting; there are a lot more details in his artworks."

The museum also believes that besides representing the environment, Messersmith's works also serve a greater purpose to viewers and strive to help the environment.

"It raises their awareness on some of the things that are impacting the environment in Florida, and the dynamics of development," Young said.

The museum supports this environmental goal; It often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so.

This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the same case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.

"The Frost Art Museum is proud to exhibit the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope," wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition.

These two exhibitions and the Art Basel "Breakfast in the Park" event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

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## END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

### Mark Messersmith: Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series

- When: October 17, 2012  
– December 9th, 2012
- Where: The Frost Art Museum

### Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian—FIU Collection

- When: October 17, 2012 – December 9th, 2012
- Where: Wolfsonian Teaching Gallery at The Frost

Breakfast in the park- Sunday, December 9, 2012 from 9:30 a.m.-noon in the lawn in front of The Frost.



## Preparing for end of semester

Q. Dear Nick,

It's the end of the semester and I'm feeling overwhelmed! I have lots of projects and papers to write, finals to study for, and I don't know what to do! Help!

Z.F.  
Sophomore  
Accounting Major

Dear Z.F.,

A. Difficult challenges are just growth opportunities in disguise! Many students feel overwhelmed during the end of the semester, so rest assured you are not alone. Follow a few steps to get organized and plan for the upcoming weeks ahead; you should be back on track in no time. I would begin by printing out a calendar and writing down the dates when papers and projects are due and final exams will be held. This will help you to map out a plan. Look at the amount of time you have to cover the material and break it down into manageable chunks. Here is an example: You have a final exam in ten days.

The class covered ten chapters. Use the calendar to plot out the review for the final exam by spending a few hours each day over the next ten days to cover each chapter, perhaps a chapter a day. Continue with each exam, paper, and project until you have a calendar with all of the tasks and a plan to complete each one. Don't forget to build some time into each day for yourself. Many times we think that pulling an "all nighter" is the best way to cram for a final, but research consistently demonstrates that you need sleep to do well academically. I would encourage you to get a good night's sleep before each final exam, eat a healthy, nutritious breakfast every morning during finals week, and find time for physical exercise to keep the brain operating at peak levels. Finals are almost here.

With the right preparation, positive outlook and healthy lifestyle, you can make it productive and feel confident and energized!

Be Well,

Nick



Nick Scheidt, M.S. is a Doctoral Psychology Intern at FIU Counseling and Psychological Services. He is a Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate from Carlos Albizu University. Once he completes his internship at FIU, Nick plans to work as a Psychologist, Writer, and Professor.

Do you have questions you would like to Ask Nick? Send an email to: [Nscheidt@fiu.edu](mailto:Nscheidt@fiu.edu)

## ASSOCIATED PRESS

# How Hungry Girl shed the pounds without guilt

JOHN ROGERS  
AP Staff

She never set out to become the maven of guilt-free, fun-food dieting, the go-to girl for people who want to have their cake — and cheeseburgers and chili fries — and eat them, too, without getting fat.

No, 10 years ago, Lisa Lillien says, she was just another 30-something LA "Hungry Girl." Someone who needed to drop 15 or 20 pounds and would do so periodically by following an all-liquid diet or a one-meal-a-day diet or whatever other weight-loss regimen was in vogue.

Afterward, she'd return to her beloved jam-slathered bagels and french fries and gain it all back.

"Then one day I just woke up and I said, 'You know what? That's not the way to tackle a weight problem,'" says the trim but not skinny Lillien who, presides over a multimillion-dollar empire of Hungry Girl cookbooks,

low-calorie recipes, specialty products and TV shows, all of them geared to letting people eat the junk food they love and not get fat.

The trick is discovering why you're eating too many calories, says Lillien, as she dashes from a couch at Hungry Girl headquarters to the kitchen, to help an assistant whip up baked potato skins stuffed with cheese and bacon.

In her case and, she believes, most everybody else's, too many people are unwilling to give up comfort foods like pizza, spaghetti, cookies and cake in the name of better health.

Neither is Lillien, who likes to joke there was a time when she'd climb over a table to steal a companion's french fries.

These days she just remakes them — and a thousand other foods.

Her baked potato skins, for example, are really made out of zucchini stuffed with low-calorie cheese and bacon flavoring.

She bakes her chili-cheese fries and uses butternut squash, not potatoes. They clock in at 268 calories, about a quarter the amount in

traditional fries.

Recipes for those and other feel-good foods like lasagna, pizza and spongecake have placed Lillien atop a brand that has grown phenomenally in the eight years since the former TV executive came up with the name (it just popped into her head one day) and blasted a daily email to 75 people.

Today, 1.2 million subscribers get a mix of recipes, advice and ads for food companies like Star Kist and General Mills, whose products she endorses.

Lillien, who started the business at home, now oversees a staff of 12 at a sprawling office in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley.

To some extent, the headquarters more closely resembles a huge teenage girl's room with a kitchen thrown in.

Pillows and cushions scattered about are decorated with pictures of Tootsie Rolls, Sweet Tarts and other candies. Cans of soup, packages of nuts, bowls of chips and other ingredients are stacked here and there.

On one wall a silk-screen depicts a can of Campbell's Soup, with Dino the dinosaur from "The Flintstones" TV show, on the label.

It's here that Lillien and her staff experiment, mad-scientist-like, she says, with thousands of recipes.

The result is Italian, Mexican, Chinese and even unique Hungry Girl food, the latter including all kinds of egg-white concoctions that can be microwaved in a mug. That came about because even before she began counting calories she was often too lazy to pull out a skillet and fry anything.

The recipes she whips up can be found on her Food Network and Cooking Channel TV shows and in her seven books, which have sold more than 2.5 million copies, according to her publisher, St. Martin's Press.

Her latest, "Hungry Girl to the Max: The Ultimate Guilt-Free Cookbook," debuted at No. 1 on The New York Times best-seller list for paperback advice books last month.



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**NOVEMBER 26 - 30, 2012**

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3RD  
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& BALLROOM 244**

# BAY GLOW

**HEADPHONE DISCO PARTY**  
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**FRIDAY  
November 30, 2012  
FIU - BBC**

**RESOURCE FAIR 11 AM - 1 PM**  
@PANTHER SQUARE

**GUEST SPEAKER 1 PM - 2 PM**  
@MARY ANN WOLFE THEATRE

Does HIV look like me?  
**BY TODD MURRAY**

**HIV TESTING VAN 11 AM - 4 PM**  
IN FRONT OF PANTHER SQUARE



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Friday,  
**November 30, 2012**  
1 - 2 PM  
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**DOES HIV LOOK LIKE ME? MY FACE, MY VOICE, MY STORY**



## MEN'S SOCCER

# Head Coach reflects on first season with FIU

**FRANCISCO RIVERO**  
*Staff Writer*

Coming into this season, the FIU men's soccer team was picked to finish last in the Conference USA standings. After getting off to their best start in over 25 years, the players were primed to surpass those expectations.

During the first half of the season, the Panthers won six of their first eight games. For a team that had no expectations this year, it suddenly started to make people notice and leading that charge was first-year coach Kenny Arena.

"We established the way we wanted play with the ball," Arena said. "Whether we were on the road or at home we created a lot of offensive opportunities."

All seemed to be going well for the Arena; the team was winning, the players were producing, and the program turned heads in the conference.

However, on Sept. 29, the wave of high prospect and invulnerability came crashing down when the Panthers began conference play against South Carolina.

FIU proceeded to lose every



BEACON FILE PHOTO

First year Head Coach Kenny Arena posted an 8-8-2 record this season after starting out the year red hot, winning six of their first eight matches. However, the Panthers lost every Conference USA game that they played, except for one tie.

conference game they had this season. A team that wanted to show its program it was more than just a mediocre gathering of talent, and did so for the first half, could not keep its promise.

"We can always get better, I

leave this year knowing I have a lot to learn but I'm encouraged about the strong start we had," Arena said. "One of my biggest regrets that I have this season was all the goals that we gave up, I truly believe that we could

have defended better."

At any point during a season like this there is always tension between coaches and the decisions that are being made. Arena is no stranger to this; however, Arena also knows the bond that

he made with his staff throughout the progress of this year.

"Anytime you have a group of people that haven't worked together before it's going to take time to build chemistry," Arena said. "However, as the season was winding down and the record wasn't what we wanted it to be, the chemistry in our team was amazing, and so by the end obviously we lost and were devastated but everyone was happy that we did it together."

Now that the season has ended, Arena looks to build around the chemistry that he has established in this program.

"A lot of what will happen next year will depend on our recruiting class," Arena said. "So how our incoming class does will determine our team does."

For Arena, it will also be an offseason of drilling messages into not just the players but coaches as well.

"I just want to get better, there's always more that you can learn in terms of managing a team and managing plays," Arena said.

Arena also feels that his

**SEE MEN'S SOCCER, PAGE 7**

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Shooting woes plague Panthers through first games

**KEVIN CASTANEDA**  
*Staff Writer*

Heading into the Thanksgiving weekend, Richard Pitino, head coach of men's basketball, had very little to be thankful for. Starting the season 0-2 has put his Panthers in a pit that Pitino wants to claw out of.

The team dropped their home opener against Stephen A. Austin. In that game, the stout lumberjack defense held FIU to below 36 percent shooting from the field.

Against Boston College, FIU was held to 39 percent from the field.

One of the bright spots, however, is the team's three-point shooting. Through Nov. 21, the Panthers are shooting 35 percent from the beyond the arc, ranking them third in the Sun Belt Conference.

The problem does not stem from their three-point shooting, but their lack of attacking the basket for easy layups. They have also done very little in the transition game. Against SFA, the Panthers forced 23 turnovers, but were unable to score a single fast-break point.

The case can be made that

the Panthers have to remain trigger happy from the perimeter because of the small nature of their starting lineup. Freshman Jerome Frink showed in game one against Boston College that he can dominate in the paint, scoring 22 points. However, fast forward to game two against SFA and Frink only attempted four shots.

The Panthers have a dynamic player in Frink, but if the team wants to increase their field goal percentage, he needs to receive more touches.

### SHARPSHOOTER

During the team's open practice, Pitino gushed about the shooting ability from his junior college transfer, Malik Smith.

"I really do think Malik can be the best shooter in the conference," Pitino said.

Smith is hitting almost four three-pointers a game, that ranks him number one in the Sun Belt Conference. His 36 minutes a game has allowed him to average 16 points, which is fourth best in the conference. Smith is also hitting just above 41 percent from beyond the arc.

If Smith wants to be the

best player in the conference, not just the best shooter, he needs to expand his game.

A shooter of his caliber needs to increase his free-throw percentage, which is at a paltry 71 percent. Rebounding does not have to be one of his fortes, but increasing his two per game average can go a long way for the Panthers.

### BY THE NUMBERS

Before the season started, the Sun Belt Conference coaches' poll predicted FIU would finish last in the East division. Through Nov. 21, FIU ranked last in the East and last in the Conference.

The Panthers are just below -12 in rebound margin, placing them dead last. In their first two games, FIU was unable to eclipse 30 rebounds as a team in either contest. The team desperately needs to work on offensive rebounding. FIU ranks third to last in the conference in offensive rebounding percentage, at 24 percent.

The team also needs to strengthen their defense. The Panthers have allowed opponents to shoot 51 percent from

**SEE MEN'S BBALL, PAGE 7**



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

The Panthers have struggled shooting the ball so far this season, going for just 35 percent from behind the arc in the first two games.



## VOLLEYBALL

# Unexpected rough season surprises first year coach

**JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND**  
*Staff Writer*

If someone would have told Head Coach Trevor Theroulde that his first year at the helm would end with a 10-19 record, an early first-round exit in the Sun Belt Tournament, and five players missing significant time due to injury – including his All Sun Belt gem Jovana Bjelica for the entire year – he probably would have told you to stop the dumb jokes.

Unfortunately for the first-year volleyball coach, the joke was on him.

“It was almost like survival of the fittest,” Theroulde said. “We had a lot of challenges that we had to face this year and we tried to make certain changes and adjust, but all in all I am not satisfied how the season went.”

In a season when injuries plagued the team from start to finish, Theroulde found himself searching players to simply fill holes regardless of position. Time after time, the coaching staff was forced to re-adjust the lineup to cater to different players skill level and ability to play together.

Before stepping in as head

coach this past summer, Theroulde was a four-year assistant under the legendary Danijela Tomic for the Panthers. Despite the surge in responsibility, Theroulde did not feel the workload was all that more challenging. Off the court, however, that’s a different story.

“The work load was pretty much the same, just a little more with the decision making part,” Theroulde said. “What was more challenging is that sometimes you have to deal with issues that do not have to do deal with coaching. I try to show them to do things the right way from my

experiences. For me, when I try to teach them to do things the right way, it has to be sustainable. I hope that they do things the way I teach them even when no one is looking.”

For a program that is not accustomed to having more losses than wins, the minds of the players may have not been in the proper place.

“Dealing with losing is not a good thing,” Theroulde said. “So in times like that you really do not know what is going on in the kid’s mind set because they’re thinking, ‘oh, we lost a teammate that would have made the

workload easier,’ instead of, ‘Ok, here’s a great challenge, let’s see if we can still win this game.’”

After a brutal inaugural year as head coach, Theroulde sees a better future for his program and believes the Panthers have a huge ceiling heading into next season.

“We have big plans for next year, which includes better recruiting, looking superior athletes,” Theroulde said. “We have to be bigger, stronger, faster and will also need some luck and pray all these players stay healthy.”

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## ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Keselowski ain’t your daddy’s NASCAR champion

**JENNA FRYER**  
*AP Writer*

Brad Keselowski chugged his cold Miller Lite, the beer splashing down the side of his face as NASCAR chairman Brian France watched with amusement as his newest ambassador celebrated the crowning moment of his career.

Dehydrated after 400 miles of racing at Homestead-Miami Speedway, it didn’t take long for his sponsor’s product to take effect. Keselowski beamed a mischievous grin, wiped away his foam mustache, and tried to figure out how to accept the Sprint Cup trophy from France without dropping his oversized beer glass.

He’s fresh, he’s fearless and he’s certainly not your daddy’s NASCAR champion.

What Keselowski might be is just the guy NASCAR needs to appeal to the younger crowd as it closes a season that will likely be remembered for a jet fuel explosion, Twitter, a garage-area fight. If the season-ending image that stays with the public is of a slightly drunk Keselowski being, well, Keselowski, that’s OK.

After all, the racing itself was largely forgettable this season, a huge problem for NASCAR, and France reiterated last weekend that work is ongoing on the 2013 cars “to improve” the quality of racing.

So Keselowski’s championship reign is critical for NASCAR. He’s the face of the sport, the spokesman, the guy who will

bang the drum for all things NASCAR over the next few months.

Keselowski proved he was different from the veteran drivers when he tweeted from inside his car during the season-opening Daytona 500, and his addiction to social media and his cellphone was a season-long theme. He’s 28, tech savvy and unafraid to test his limits.

“I think because of that, he’ll do great,” said four-time champion Jeff Gordon, who helped broaden NASCAR’s mainstream appeal when he emerged in the early ‘90s. “His ability to reach out through social media and the younger crowd, he’s somebody that takes it, wants to take it, and because of that, he’ll put a lot of effort into it. He’s entertaining. You never know what you’re going to get with Brad.”

That’s part of Keselowski’s charm, and while he is indeed authentic, he very much enjoys being anti-establishment.

A year ago, Keselowski participated in the season-ending celebration in Las Vegas for the first time in his career. Although the awards banquet is the only actual black-tie affair, the week is packed with appearances, events, cocktail parties, receptions and one sponsor-heavy luncheon.

When he boarded the bus that took all 12 drivers to the luncheon, Keselowski was wearing an old pair of jeans and an untucked shirt. The other 11 drivers were all in suits. Someone on the bus offered suggested they stop on the way so Kesel-

owski could pick up something else to wear.

Keselowski, who had announced a multiyear contract extension with Penske Racing just hours earlier, refused.

“I’m a race car driver!” he declared. “Why do I need to dress like that?”

Perhaps he had a point. But it wasn’t a fight he was going to win driving for Roger Penske, and Keselowski was upgrading his wardrobe a few weeks later.

Keselowski has changed on the track, as well.

He was rough and raw in the Nationwide Series, and he didn’t care who he wrecked when he was trying to get noticed. He wanted a job, wanted to survive in NASCAR and thought it was every man for himself. When he feuded with Denny Hamlin and Carl Edwards, and they tried to explain etiquette, he didn’t want to listen.

It was maddening to more experienced drivers, who quickly ran out of patience with Keselowski. Because he was in a developmental deal with Hendrick Motorsports, he got to drive a handful of races for them and sit in on some competition meetings with the big boys.

He was opinionated and outspoken, and the Hendrick group found him wildly entertaining.

“Brad, he rubbed a lot of people the wrong way. He was very aggressive,” Rick Hendrick said. “But he learned how to control that and how to race, and he did it in a hurry.”

And it happened at Penske, where he was paired in the Nationwide Series with Paul Wolfe, who didn’t want the job when first approached. He ultimately changed his mind, and the duo won the championship in their first year together.

Wolfe said he wasn’t deterred by Keselowski’s reputation, and looked only at the talent level and potential.

“I’m kind of the guy that takes it one day at a time, try to be better each and every day at what I do, and never really looked at it from the standpoint of ‘I want to go win a championship with him,’” Wolfe said. “It was, ‘I want to go win races and continue to grow as a team.’ We’ve done that each and every week and every year.”

While things were clicking in the Nationwide Series, Keselowski was struggling in Cup races. So Penske moved Wolfe up in 2011 to Cup, and Keselowski took off, winning three races to make the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

It set the pace for this season, the breakthrough year for Roger Penske’s first Cup title 40 years after first entering NASCAR.

And it showed that Keselowski has come a very long way in three very short years.

He looks back now at how he behaved, both on and off the track, and understands that coming up with his family’s low-budget race team helped mold him into who he is today, even if it gave him a narrow view of the world.

## Coach hoping that second season proves fruitful

**MEN’S SOCCER, PAGE 6**

team’s failures against conference teams will be a benefit to them in the long run.

“I now have had a good taste of how conference games are like. I did not have a good idea of how the conference would be like in terms of level of play and style,” Arena said. “So now I have a little bit better of understanding of the conference and of each team and so moving forward we are looking to make thing better.”

Although the 2012 FIU men’s soccer team once again finished in last place, the feeling about men’s soccer has started to change. Compared to the 2011 season

when the Panthers went 5-8-4, this year’s team finished with a record of 8-8-2.

The Panthers have also increased in almost every offense category this season. They rose their shot percentage from .086 to .104, goals scored per game from 1.29 to 1.56 and their assist from 17 to 38.

Now that the 2012 season has come to a close, Arena looks to build on a season that started to shine some light on a program that was always overwhelmed by the darkness of the basement of the Conference USA standings.

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## Turnover margin pestering Panthers

**MEN’S BBALL, PAGE 6**

the field.

While the Panthers allow teams to shoot well from the field, they have been able to limit teams at the perimeter. Currently they rank first in three-point field goal percentage defense, at 22 percent.

Pitino’s Panthers are also ranking first in steals and turnovers. They have a turnover margin of +5, averaging 15 to their opponents 20 per game. They have a remarkable 10 steals per contest as well.

The last glaring statistic is attendance. In the Panthers home opener, only 971 people showed up to the U.S. Century Bank Arena. That ranks them last, with the closest team being Louisiana-Lafayette with 2,025 fans. While this stat does not fall on the shoulders of the Panthers, it might be an indication of how their season has started.

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## Cremating, burying or eluding the Reaper, students differ on afterlife

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*Contributing Writer*

More than 2 million people died in the United States in 2009. Where they went after that is a mystery.

Reincarnation, purgatory, limbo, heaven and hell are some of the places students believe they might be going.

"I believe in heaven and hell," said Daniel Benítez, junior in psychology and religious studies. "Where you end up is based on the decision of a lifestyle on Earth. If Jesus became your savior, you will go to heaven. And the definition of hell is the eternal separation from God."

The concept of a heaven and hell isn't exclusive for Christianity.

Mahfud Oubadji, graduate student in hospitality management, said Islam views the afterlife in a similar way to Christianity and Judaism.

"After death, human beings no longer have contact with life and begin a contact with an afterlife," said Oubadji. "God will judge everyone according to their actions."

Yaremi Zamora, a junior majoring in nursing, does not worry about what will happen after death.

"My approach to it is I don't know, I'm never really going to know and I'll find out when I get there," said Zamora with a giggle.

For Zamora, a person's beliefs should not affect the way he or she lives.

"It doesn't stop me from living my life," said Zamora. "I think it is better I'm not so worried because a lot of people try to be someone they're not because of this heaven and hell. I'm happy I don't have to worry about that."

Fabiana Ortega, a graduate student in journalism, is Catholic, but she does not believe in her religion's concept of afterlife.

"I go to church and follow certain parameters but I don't exactly know the Bible front to back," said Ortega. "I don't believe in hell. I think God's forgiveness is absolute."

Ortega thinks that after a person dies, he or she will meet with all other people that died before.

Juan Camilo Gómez, a journalism graduate student, was raised Catholic, but has his own view on heaven.

"I base my beliefs on my conceptions on what is good and evil, not what Catholicism says about it word for word," said Gómez. "I think you build your own heaven. What's heaven for someone could be very different than what I think is heaven."

Gómez is not sure he will meet his family and friends in heaven after he dies.

"Maybe you're not in your loved ones' list of loved ones," he said. "Maybe they didn't love you as much as you did. Then what? Do you ever encounter them?"

Kumar Rashabh, a hospitality management senior, is Hindu and thinks something different happens after life ends.

"Dying is considered a passing of the soul to another body and all the past experiences and knowledge go with it," Rashabh said.

Followers of Hinduism believe in four courses after death.

The first, Devayana, is for the spiritually advanced souls that led a pure life.

The second course is followed by those who have cherished a desire for the results of their charity and worship. They are rewarded with richness and luxuries.

The third course, which leads to hell, is followed by those who have led an impure life as forbidden by the scriptures.

The fourth course is for those who have been evil and can be born again and again as insignificant creatures, but always with the chance to be reborn as humans and find their way towards a better life.

"Ultimately, all souls will attain self-knowledge according to Hinduism," said Rashabh.

The rituals of death have strong meanings for those who didn't die.

Muslims, after bathing the body, enshroud them in a plain cloth called the kafan to respect the dignity and privacy of the deceased.

"The mourning happens for three days," said Oubadji. "We always pray special prayers for the dead and take deceased to the mosque and

### A CLICK AWAY FROM BREAK



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Luis Carducci, a junior studying advertising, and Carlos Garrido, a senior studying business, sit inside of the Academic II photo lab while working on their portfolio. They must color balance, compose, print and use specific photoshop techniques taught in class to compile 10-20 photos for their final critique. Both students are taking Beginning Digital Photography with professor Lissette Schaeffler.

whoever is in the mosque will pray for them as well. Then we take them to the cemetery to be buried."

For Rashabh, a respectable burial includes cremating the body.

"A dead body is considered impure. If the body stays it will leave impure things on Earth," Rashabh said.

After the cremation, the ashes are collected and immersed in a holy river or the holiest of rivers for the Hindus, Ganges.

Stephanie Romero, a biology student, went to church since she was 10 when her father was

diagnosed with cancer.

"It makes me live my life with purpose. I want to feel like I accomplished my mission here on Earth," Romero said.

Despite different beliefs, death is a certainty for all.

"People fear what they can't understand," Gómez said. "Not only am I going to die but I'll be dead for a very long time. The time I'll be dead will be longer than my time alive. It's beyond what our minds can comprehend."

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## 'Thirst for freedom' brings Syria closer to BBC

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*Staff Writer*

The Tuesday Times Roundtable, a weekly series of open discussions based on The New York Times articles about global current issues, will present "Endgame in Syria" on Nov. 26.

Sponsored by the Office of Global Learning Initiatives, the Division of Academic Affairs, and the Student Government Association, the event, open to students and staff, will be at the Wolfe University Center, Room 159 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

In the past 12 months, The New York Times published more than 10,200 articles about the conflict in Syria, which began in March 2011 during the Arab Spring.

What were originally peaceful protests against the government of President Bashar al-Assad became a civil war where 40,000 Syrians died, 2.5 million were displaced and more than 400,000 are now refugees in other countries, according to international relief agencies.

An Eddin, a biomedical engineering grad-

“It is extremely important to inform students and staff about world matters. With the process of globalization we are somehow interconnected.”

Donaldy Salvant  
Student and Representative  
International relations and FIU Model United Nations program

uate student originally from Syria, said the conflict is a battle for human rights and democracy.

"I [grew] up in an environment where people were fearful to talk about politics and express their opinion," Eddin said. "I did not know what democracy was 'till I move to the United States. My people are thirsty for freedom."

Eddin's family lives in Damascus, the

capital, and everyday, he fears his family will get hurt.

"Yesterday, a bomb exploded around 3 miles from my parents' house in Damascus," Eddin said. "I try to communicate with my family everyday, but knowing that they are constantly in danger is heartbreaking."

Elton Skendaj, assistant professor in politics and international relations and expert delegate for worldwide nonprofit organizations,

will moderate the discussion with other assistants that will contribute with interactive exercises.

"The goal of these global learning events is to engage students to learn more of international issues," Skendaj said.

The main issue to be addressed in the event is how international organizations, such as the United Nations, should be involved in a humanitarian intervention and other ways to intervene in the conflict.

International and state power, social issues, government institutions and national interests will be other topics in the discussion.

Donaldy Salvant, international relations student and representative of FIU Model United Nations program, said it's important for students to be involved in worldwide issues.

"It is extremely important to inform students and staff about world matters. With the process of globalization we are somehow interconnected," Salvant said.

Free Lunch will also be provided.

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