

HIP HOP HOORAY

Russell Simmons talks economy, inequality and the vote



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Russell Simmons during the College Democrats event at the Graham Center promoting voters against voter suppression and speaking to the media about the support he is giving President Barack Obama in the coming election.

STEPHAN USECHE
Staff Writer

With only three days left for people to register to vote, volunteers and members of the political sphere are rushing to make every citizen count. On Wednesday, Oct. 3, entrepreneur Russell Simmons stopped by the Graham Center to talk issues.

FIU Student Media: What made you get involved with this campaign? What makes you so passionate about it?

Russell Simmons: It's the same reason I'm here today. Because I believe passionately in the president's vision and I believe that a lot of the people, that are going to be disenfranchised, are going to be people who are going to

be voting for the president. We all know that there was absolutely no fraud... that whole idea is a fraud; the idea was to disempower more the middle class and underserved communities. And so it was easy to join.

FIUSM: You have said in previous interviews that poor people are the first ones to be suppressed when it comes to voting? Why and how so?

Simmons: Well, I mean all of America. When people are not given the opportunity to be competitive, or not being educated properly or don't have health care, that affects everyone, no one escapes. No one escapes this idea that corporations benefit in special interests. Any

SEE TALK, PAGE 2

Fairgrounds 'a vital need for University'

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Talks are still in the works between the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair and Expo, Inc. and the University as they aim to make a land swap, granting the University 86 acres adjacent to the Modesto Maidique Campus.

At the last Board of Trustees external relations committee meeting, three potential relocation sites for the Youth Fair were presented, including the Bird Basin on 8th Street near Krome Avenue that was rejected earlier this year by Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez.

Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, senior vice president of External Relations, did not go into detail as to why the University would continue to try to acquire the property.

"Sites 19 and 20 are the most feasible," said Gonzalez-Levy during the meeting, referring to Adrian/County, a government-owned, underdeveloped agricultural property, and the Homestead Air Reserve Park, both located in Homestead. "These sites exhibit many of the qualities that would be important for a successful relocation, such as size, existing land use, and access to roadways."

"The distance from the Fair's current location," Gonzalez-Levy said, "is not

among the criteria used in the evaluation of potential sites."

Claudia Puig, committee chairwoman, spoke on behalf of the board, stating that the move into the fairgrounds was a "unanimous sentiment."

"This has been on the table for a long, long time and we've found this [land swap] to be a vital need for the University," Puig said.

External Relations had previously reported that, although more than 48,000 students are currently enrolled at the University, MMC occupies 344 acres, a size consistent with a student population of about 37,000.

"We don't have enough room," said C. Delano Gray, a member of the board and chairman of the Faculty Senate at the University. "We need the space, we can't survive without it."

The possibility of a countywide voter referendum to dictate the direction of the land swap was brought up by President Mark Rosenberg, noting that, "We don't think we need the referendum."

"We have had discussions with Dade County lawyers [and] the Youth Fair may be excluded [from a referendum]," Gonza-

SEE FAIR, PAGE 2

BANDS BATTLING



OSCAR LIN/THE BEACON

"A Melody for You," one of the bands that qualified to the next round performs at the University's Battle of the Bands on Tuesday.

University rated on freedom of expression

DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS
Staff Writer

According to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, the University has student rules in place that limit freedom of speech.

FIRE, a non-profit organization focused on civil rights in U.S. academia, gave the University an overall speech code rating of “red,” meaning a university that “has at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech,” according to its website.

The organization classifies a speech code as “any university regulation or policy that prohibits expression that would be protected by the First Amendment in society at large.”

FIRE’s website points out seven violations on the University’s part and classifies them all as “restrictions on expressive rights,” six pertaining directly to student rules and regulations.

Of the six categories cited, one received a green, four received yellow and one received red.

The one red rating, FIRE cites as imposing on students freedom of expression is in regard to sexual misconduct.

FIRE cites section “n” of the offenses portion in the Student Code of Conduct:

“Any sexual act that occurs, regardless of personal relationship, without the consent of the other person, or that occurs when the other person is unable to give consent.”

Larry Lunsford, vice president of Student Affairs and University ombudsman, understands FIRE’s view of why the University’s sexual harassment policy is in place.

“I believe that students would be in support

of the policy that protects them from unwanted sexual comments and gestures,” Lunsford said.

FIRE gave four yellow lights to four separate University regulations and labeled them under different categories.

The first yellow light falls under the “harassment policies” subsection. According to the Personal Abuse section of the Student Code of Conduct, “Verbal or written abuse of any person including, indecent or obscene expressions or conduct.”

The second falls under “policies on tolerance, respect and civility.”

FIRE quotes the “respect for self and others” section of the SCC, “Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which exemplifies respect for people of all races, religions, and ethnic groups, and to adhere to one’s personal values without unduly imposing them on others.”

Karine De Gani, a senior journalism major thinks a policy that emphasizes respect and civility is not imposing.

“We have people from every part of the world...and I think there needs to be an order or an establishment to maintain this order but I just don’t think it’s imposing...I believe I need to respect them [other individuals],” De Gani said.

The third yellow light is labeled under “policies restricting freedom of conscience” and cites the student code of standards, which say that students will “respect the rights and property of the University and its members.”

The last yellow light given is related to “posting policies” and the promotions or posting section of the SCC is quoted, “Solicitation... on campus, including on-campus housing facilities, without prior approval from the appropriate

“
I feel like students can speak their minds in class without teachers restricting what they say, and I respect that.”

Alexia Gonzalez,
Sophomore
Journalism major

University officials.”

Sophomore journalism major Alexia Gonzalez has never felt an oppressing force from the University and feels students can express themselves freely.

“I feel like students can speak their minds in class without teachers restricting what they say, and I respect that,” Gonzalez said.

The University has come under FIRE’s scrutiny before.

In 2002, the University made changes to some of its Spanish classes. FIRE condoned the University for restricting certain Spanish classes to certain ethnic groups.

Its website says the University used to label some classes as “U.S. Hispanic Bilinguals Only” or “U.S. Hispanic Bilinguals.”

Separate Spanish courses for native and non-native speakers are still present in the modern languages department catalog.

“If you want to take a native class and you’re

really good at that language and that’s not your native language, then you should be able to take those classes without any restrictions,” said Rudy McCormick, a junior political science major.

The difference between then and now is that non-natives are allowed into a native class so long as they are pre-approved by the department.

“If you are put into a class with non-native speakers, those people [are on] a level that is way lower than yours and you’re not going to learn,” said De Gani, who is minoring in Spanish, which is not her native language.

Several other state universities received a red rating including Florida State University, University of Florida, University of South Florida and Florida Gulf Coast University.

University of Central Florida and Florida Atlantic University both received yellow ratings.

The one category that the University did a receive a green light was in “advertised commitments to free expression.”

When asked whether he was content with the Universities rating, Lunsford responded, “Probably neither, I wish they would understand the compromise, if that’s the right word or the gray area. We don’t go out and... look for violators, if we did you would hear about it.”

“They are saying ‘we shouldn’t have anything,’ but... deep down, do they really want to see a young male or female student being harassed verbally and sexually and call that freedom of speech?” said Lunsford. “We are going to disagree as a university because I believe part of our mission is to teach civility and respect for others and respect for differences.”

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Involvement to impact social outcomes

TALK, PAGE 1

person who has a heart knows we should be responsible, we should give all Americans health care, they should know this. We should give people the chance to be part of the American dream. So I think that if people were more educated, they would vote for the president. It’s that simple.

FIUSM: Many students say they don’t want to vote because the system is flawed, that both political parties are corrupted? Do you agree? How would you defend your point?

Simmons: I think there is a dramatic difference between the candidates, and when we say it doesn’t matter, we

always find out later that it did.

I remember people saying that Al Gore and Bush were the same, and then the war came and it destroyed our economy. This is something that Al Gore wouldn’t have promoted. It affected everybody. It affects our education today. It affects our health care today.

It affects everything we do today... If you’re a woman, an equal salary is important. if you’re gay, “don’t ask don’t tell” is a statement to the world and the president speaking about gay marriage is a statement to the world. These are things we have to fight for...that can be solved through the presidencies and through Congress.

FIUSM: Do you think that social issues such as gay rights, immigration, etc. should be a priority to the country,

instead of the economy?

Simmons: The economy is a funny thing. I’m a business guy. I hire somebody for a dollar and I hope their work makes our company \$1.50. I pay taxes after. I don’t hire a guy based on a tax break, so that’s misinformation. If you give a rich guy a tax break, he’ll give more jobs.

Well that’s not true. It’s a very important point, it’s not true. Empowering rich people with more corporate welfare is a very bad choice for America. So the president and his statement about campaign finance and reforms and his statement about wanting a real democracy...matter to me a lot.

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Land swap: ‘we can’t survive without it’

FAIR, PAGE 1

lez-Levy said. “We have a time constraint.”

According to Gonzalez-Levy, it is too early in the process to determine whether or not a referendum will be necessary.

“I worry about the Youth Fair changing their minds,” Puig said. “The land issue is priority and our timetable is critical.”

Rosenberg also discussed a “Plan B” if the University were unable to acquire the land.

“We’re confident given our new [faculty] offices... we would be able to accommodate,” Rosenberg said. “We have to get better and more efficient on scheduling.”

Rosenberg mentioned the expansion of online classes and providing labs on Sundays.

“[The University is] carefully activating parts of a Plan

B,” Rosenberg said, also noting a possible capping of enrollment.

“Another part [is] a more aggressive approach to some of the property,” Rosenberg said. “There’s a lot of moving parts to this.”

If the University were, however, to acquire the property, Rosenberg mentioned a partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools through which the fair grounds would be transformed into “joint-use facilities” where high school students would receive university-level instruction during the day and University students would make use of it during the evenings.

“There is no similar piece of land that can be leveraged and that’s what we have to keep in mind,” Rosenberg said.

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Catch the news... from a newspaper

JULIA DUBA
Staff Writer

I walked toward the Glenn Hubert Library at about 8:13 a.m. after missing the Golden Panther Express shuttle for the third time this semester. Having accepted the fact that I could sit back and calmly read a chapter of my assigned reading for the next 5 hours, I noticed The New York Times stacked high in front of the library.

I looked at the newspaper stand, the papers stacked almost taller than me with copies of The New York Times.

It was still early in the morning, so nobody else had picked up a copy to glance at the front-page picture and then throw it away in an FIU mixed recycling bin (hopefully).

I grabbed a copy at the top of the pile and, yes, looked at the front-page picture. Then I walked up the stairs, glazing over a few headlines about Syria, President Barack Obama, and Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney's offshore tactics.

As I prepared to unzip my laptop case and get started on my emails and check Facebook,



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

I noticed a headline on the front page that intrigued me.

In an attempt to fulfill my obligation as a journalism major to read more news and perhaps feeling a little guilty for shoving the paper aside to make room for my laptop, I started to read the small print. Before I knew it... "Continued on Page A3."

What was I to do? Where is page A3?

I awkwardly unfolded the newspaper and turned a page

over, and there I read the rest of the story. It was about a new generation of young, urban citizens turned hunters living countryside who now hunt their own protein and then write books about the connections they feel to nature and their new-found gratitude for the food they eat.

Interesting. I flipped the page again and again: a short story about Syria's foreign minister blaming other countries for the crisis, another about Swiss cows texting their

farmers when they're in heat, and then another about letters written by prisoners in solitary confinement.

I was converted.

No search engine on the top of the screen to tempt me to veer away from the story, no colorful ads sandwiching the columns of words, no hyperlinks in the middle of the text to navigate me to an entirely different story – just paper and ink.

When you're forced to read articles that you didn't search for yourself, you're forced to read news you didn't know about in the first place.

I plan to fit newspaper reading into my schedule, like a 20-minute workout, three to four times a week.

I no longer imagine the traditional journalist voicing his concern as an old man swinging a cane in people's faces yelling, "Back in my day, we read news on paper!"

I understand the concern for print journalism in a different light and want newspapers to stick around. And you should too.

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DORM LIFE

College life, a home away from home

ADRIANNE RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

As high school students, most of us were told to apply to every college we would like to attend.

Although many made it into their first choice, many, including myself, didn't.

FIU was my second choice. Many of us were conditioned into believing that the "college life" wouldn't exist if you were this close to home. But, as I've learned while living on campus, this isn't the case.

Why? I am a proud Panther; I am from Miami and living the ideal college life.

Living on campus in Panther Hall is a huge reason. Apart from the obvious rewards of living among so many people your own age, I've learned how to coexist with others.

You learn self-control. For example, when someone takes something of yours, conversation – rather than argument – becomes the way to a solution.

You learn to be unselfish. When I braved the potential discomfort of waking my roommate to make sure she didn't miss her class, I found she was grateful, and, shortly thereafter, returned the favor.

You gain a better understanding of world views through your neighbors, living among a wide variety of ethnicities and cultures. There is no room to be anti-social.

At an international university like ours, students are engaging and are willing to learn new things.

Gaining an open mind about your peers leads to becoming an active student joining clubs like the Black Student Union, Student Government, a fraternity or sorority, College Democrats, and many more.

There, you realize that college is about more than getting good grades; it's about growth.

Dorm life helps you to realize that the value of a college experience isn't determined by how far you are from Mom and Dad, or whether you go to your dream school or not. If anything, it can renew your appreciation for your hometown.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ECONOMY A KEY ISSUE

As students, we're asked to make choices every day. This election, we're being asked to make another one between Mitt Romney and Barack Obama.

Choices are nothing new to us. Whether it be studying in order to prepare for an exam or meeting with someone who can provide advice and insight into our futures, we're entrusting others to make the best choices possible for our lives.

However, a student's ability to determine what major to study or what classes to take isn't determined by the University. It's determined by the student, based on careful study of his or her options.

So, in that vein, let's look at the Obama administration's record. The massive debt incurred by the administration and its tax-and-spend policies have done nothing to bring us closer to an economic recovery. In fact,

they have only further burdened our generation.

The unemployment rate for young people is 16.4 percent, double that of the population at large. Half of new college graduates are unemployed or underemployed. The number of young Americans living in poverty has risen by 23 percent and a record 5.9 million young Americans now live with their parents. These facts likely lead us to only one conclusion: the Obama administration has not improved the economy nor provided the relief young Americans so desperately need.

Mitt Romney's plan to strengthen our economy, to provide school choice and simplify the tax code, will provide our generation with the help we need.

As he recently said, the best thing the president can do to help students effectively deal with student debt and other obligations is to make sure they have a job. Romney's plan to cut unnecessary regulations and lower taxes to stimulate the economy will

incentivize businesses to create jobs. His plan to advance school choice will make American students more competitive in the global economy and raise scores on a host of independent measures, since when we have to compete, the consumers – in this case students – reap the benefits.

In the final calculus, the choice is clear. The Obama record has produced negligible gains for students.

Romney's solutions will jumpstart the economy and provide benefits to students now and at graduation, without leaving future generations holding the bag.

This election, our choice is clear and that's Mitt Romney for President.

-Keith Fernandez (BA '10), a visiting student at the Rafael Diaz-Balart College of Law, and Daniel Leyte-Vidal, a political science major, are the co-chairs of Young Americans for Romney at Florida International University.

Panther Wire

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THE PATRICIA & PHILLIP FROST ART MUSEUM

Mammography Art Initiative raises \$6,000 for cause

EDWIVE SEME
Staff Writer

Students at the University are combining their efforts, artistically and financially, to raise awareness of breast cancer this month.

It can affect people directly, as well as indirectly through a loved one. Many people who are unaware that they have breast cancer don't know it because they either think they don't need to get a mammography, or they don't have the money to afford one.

That is where the Green Family Foundation comes in, as well as the University's College of Medicine. After launching an art contest, the College of Medicine hosted the Mammography Art Initiative on Sept. 29 at the Frost Art Museum.

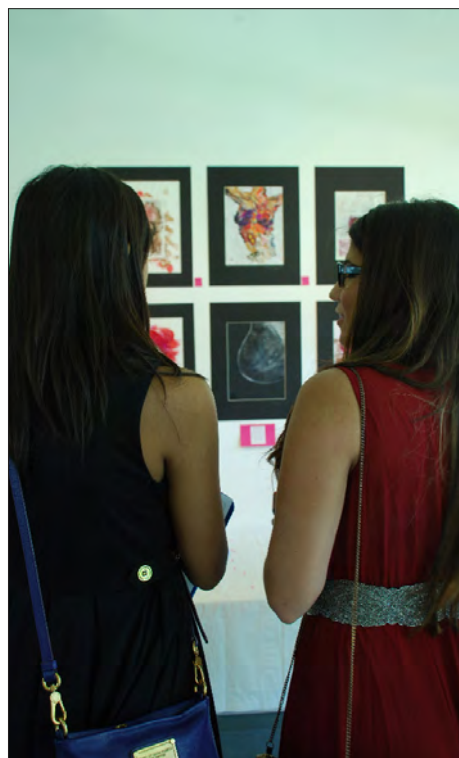
The event displayed the artworks collected from the contest, which were based on two themes: "Radiology Meets Art" and "Breast Cancer Can Hide in Anyone." The event also had multiple speakers, ranging from doctors, faculty and students, to breast cancer survivors.

The Mammography Art Initiative was founded and carried out by students of FIU's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, as a community-service learning project, to raise money for low income women, from the Green Family Foundation NeighborhoodHELP in the Miami area, to get mammograms and work on getting treatment for their breast cancer.

The Green Family Foundation is a family foundation that provides grants to organizations that work on education, health services and reaching out to the community.

The University's College of Medicine also collaborates with this foundation for their program called Green Family Foundation NeighborhoodHELP (Health Education Learning Program), which revolutionizes the way medical students are taught.

Teams of students are sent into communities to help families stay healthy. Each team is assigned one to two households. The teams include medicals students and others in social work, nursing and public health, and in the future it may even include students studying business and law.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ILEANA VARELA

The College of Medicine hosted the Mammography Art Initiative fundraiser in hopes of raising \$8,000 to help those with breast cancer.

To reach their goal of \$8,000 to help 80 women from the foundation, the students organized an art exhibit from the contest. Three winners were chosen and awarded during the event. Their winning artworks, along with other participating works, were voluntarily auctioned.

The event also consisted of live music by students and consisted of speakers, such as Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Obstetrics and

Gynecology Carolyn D. Runowicz.

She's globally known for her research in women's health and gynecologic cancer. The president of the foundation, Kimberly Greene, also spoke of her personal experience with cancer and her inspiration for working with affected women locally, and also in Haiti.

Some other speakers included breast cancer survivors who found help through the Green Family Foundation Neighbor-

hoodHELP, such as Roma James, who exhibited an art piece and presented the struggles she went through during her cancer.

At the end of the event, the College of Medicine was able to fundraise \$6,000 and are still accepting donations in hopes of reaching their goals to help women in need and join the fight against breast cancer.

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HOMECOMING

Homecoming is offering students a variety of events

JODIANN JACKSON
Contributing Writer

As you may have noticed, the University has decorated its campuses in blue and gold, reflecting this year's homecoming theme "Unleash the Spirit," in anticipation of Homecoming week, which is fast approaching.

Homecoming builds Panther pride and unity among students, faculty, alumni and the community.

This year, there are so many events to look forward to for Homecoming week, beginning with a concert on Oct. 7 and

ending with a football game on Saturday, Oct. 13.

On Oct. 7, the Panthermonium Village, featuring Bon Journey Casely, 21 Pilots and many more, will be located on the fairgrounds parking from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Come out and enjoy local food trucks, a kid zone and live performances.

This pre-starter to the Panthermonium Concert will be at the FIU Stadium. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. using Gates 1 and 3. Don't forget your ticket!

On Monday, Oct. 8, come and unwind with a good laugh by attending the Panther Prowl

Comedy Show, featuring Yannis Pappas as Maurica, Hannibal Burrell and Mike Epps, located at the U.S. Bank Century Arena. Doors open at 6:30 pm and a ticket is required.

On Tuesday, Oct. 9, if you're not already there, take a trip to BBC and enjoy the LXV Lounge, where you can experience the Miami nightlife and enjoy food, refreshments and international DJs. Tickets are \$15, and doors open at 7 p.m. in the Kovens Conference Center.

Heading into Thursday night, Oct. 11, come out and support your fellow Panthers in "Panthers'

Got Talent" at the U.S. Century Bank Arena. You can expect to see all types of talents, ranging from singers and dancers, to comedians and actors. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

On Friday, come to the National Pan Hellenic Council Step Show. The show will feature different teams who will battle for the title of Best Step. So get yourself a ticket and head on over to U.S. Century Bank Arena on Oct. 12; doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The Homecoming week finale is on Saturday, Oct. 13. Approximately three hours before the FIU vs. Middle Tennessee game,

enjoy the Homecoming Parade, which will start at Lot 3 and end in Lot 6. Come out and celebrate with faculty, students, alumni and friends, as they march in Panther spirit. The parade will feature floats, performers and different FIU organizations.

The parade will then lead to the tailgate before the big game. The game is set to start at 6 p.m. at the FIU Stadium. Don't forget to get your ticket, and join the fun!

For more information on events and tickets, visit <http://hc.fiu.edu/>, or pick up a flyer around campus.

-life@fiusm.com

COVER TO COVER

Students reflect on author J.K. Rowling's new novel

MARCY DIAZ
Staff Writer

It's not about wizards, secret chambers or a world inhabited by magic, but world-acclaimed author J.K. Rowling has taken the literary spotlight once again in her recently released novel, "The Casual Vacancy."

However, with the book's synopsis suggesting a focus on adult themes and political undertones, even grown-up fans of her world-renowned children series seem to generally be at a crossroad with how they feel about reading this non-Potter novel.

"The Casual Vacancy" ironically begins where a politician's life has abruptly ended.

Short one member in their parish council, the English town of Pagford is a seemingly well-kept community that, in truth, is unravelling with corruption.

As hatred, treachery and an overpowering thirst for control sinks deeper into civic life, the battle for Pagford's unsure future counts down to election day.

"It's not Harry Potter, but I understand that she's just moving in a different direction. I think it's going to be difficult though, for her to break away from the shadow she created for herself."

John Garcia,
Junior
Economics major

Junior, psychology major Olivia Sanchez commented, "It sounds like an interesting read. I get the feeling she's moving on like her fans, so it's good seeing something different from her."

News of Rowling's new series has since aroused excitement in the virtual world, resulting in its success to hold several coveted number one sale spots.

Even with pre-order sales alone, stores like Amazon and Barnes and Noble had "The Casual Vacancy" at number one much before its scheduled Sept. 27 release date.

However, when asked how they feel about Rowling's new novel, FIU students responded

with mixed feelings.

Long established Rowling fans, like FIU graduate Vanessa Thompson, expressed that one of the main reasons for the book's appeal is their unwavering appreciation for the author's storytelling skills.

"Even from when I was a kid, I've always loved her writing style," said Thompson while in line to purchase her own copy of "The Casual Vacancy" at the FIU Barnes and Noble bookstore.

A number of readers also find that their admiration of Rowling's work stays with the Harry Potter series.

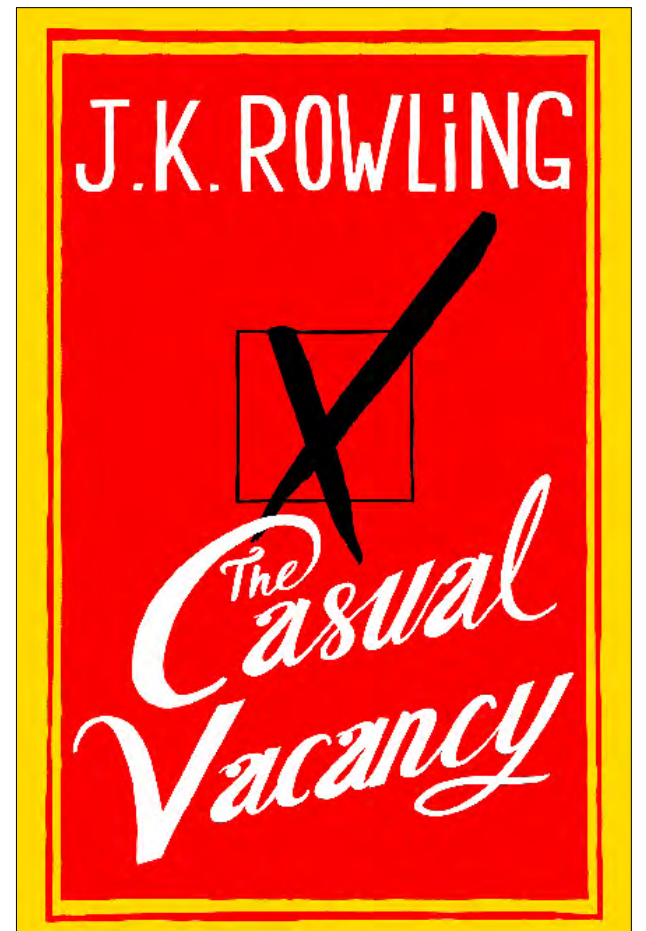
Kevin Schneider, another FIU graduate, said, "I was a Harry Potter fan, but with this

book's political undertone, I just feel like now I have books that are on my priority list that I'd rather read."

But among these two sides exists the majority who have the "middle ground" opinion and believe that Rowling's choice in changing her story angle was a right one, still feeling hesitation toward "The Casual Vacancy."

"It's a good change. I mean, she had to switch things up because her fans aren't kids anymore. So I think she's just growing up with her audience, but I would want to see how reviews come out before I decide to read it," said junior Pierre Mota.

John Garcia, junior



THE CASUAL VACANCY BY J.K. ROWLING.

economics major, also commented, "It's not Harry Potter, but I understand that she's just moving in a different direction. I think it's going to be difficult though, for her to break away from the shadow she created for herself."

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CALENDAR

FALL 2012 EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

MOVIE: SAFE

WHEN: 5 & 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC GC 150

PHOTOSHOP ESSENTIALS

WHEN: 10-11 a.m. p.m.
HOW MUCH: FIU registers students-free
WHERE: MMC PC-414

FIU VOLLEYBALL VS. LOUISIANA

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC

FALL 2012 ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP - MARKETING STRATEGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ENTREPRENEURS

WHEN: 8:30-11:30 a.m.
HOW MUCH: \$50
WHERE: FIU's College of Business Complex, Special Events Center

STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION SESSION

WHEN: 12-1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC PC 113

HEART WALK

WHEN: 7 a.m.-12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC RYDER BUSINESS LOOP

FIU MEN'S SOCCER VS. UAB

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC SOCCER STADIUM

FEDERALIST SOCIETY EVENT

WHEN: 12-2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC RDB 2008

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

CIRCX

WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$35 - \$75
WHERE: The Fillmore Miami Beach

CARNIVAL WEEKEND MAIN EVENT

WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$40-\$60
WHERE: SoBe Live

ERICK MORILLO

WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Ladies \$60, guys \$125
WHERE: LIV

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

PANTHERMONIUM VILLAGE

WHEN: 1-6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: MMC FAIRGROUNDS PARKING

PANTHERMONIUM CONCERT

WHEN: 5:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: TICKET REQUIRED
WHERE: MMC FIU FOOTBALL STADIUM

MIAMI BROWARD CARNIVAL

WHEN: 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: \$20
WHERE: Sun Life Stadium

GOTYE

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$25-\$46
WHERE: Klipsch Amphitheater at Bayfront Park

BAKING OUT LOUD: FUN DESSERTS WITH BIG FLAVORS

WHEN: 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Books & Books @ 265 Aragon Ave. Coral Gables, FL 33134

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VOLLEYBALL

Senior setter returns to lineup in time for conference play

JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND
Staff Writer

Turning point: two words that can sum up this week's array of practices as is the Panther's slogan for the 2012 campaign. After posting a dismal 1-3 record in conference play along with a 4-12 record, the team has dug themselves into such a huge hole that it may take a drastic turn around in order for the Panthers to salvage what it left of the regular season.

As the Panthers continue to struggle with their set-receive woes as well as not properly getting low enough on defense, assistant coach Travers Green and an volunteer assistant coach held the girls accountable and the consequences weren't pretty.

The girls were given the job of completing repeated "latter" drills in which emulate suicide running drills in basketball were players must run back and forth from base-

line to baseline. However, to bring up the intensity a notch, in "latter" drills simply touching the line does not suffice, in volleyball the objective is to hit the deck as if a player were to be diving for a ball.

On a lighter note, FIU finally received some reinforcements last weekend against South Alabama and Troy as senior setter Renele Forde made her 2012 season debut.

The 6-foot-3 standout was out with an abdominal injury that had her sidelined for four weeks where Forde was forced to remain stagnant due to the severity of her injuries.

"I'm just jumping right in and contributing as much as I can," Forde said. "I mean it's not easy, I've been out for a month and I could not anything since I was physically inactive."

After spending the past month on watching her inexperienced teammates fight through the growing pains and play on, Forde is all smiles about being able



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Renele Forde (right) will return to action this weekend after missing four weeks with an abdominal injury.

to finally take the floor.

"Now that I'm back I focusing on motivating the team and get back in proper volleyball shape

to help out our young players," Forde said. "I'm going to work as hard as I possibly can to bring us back from the losses that

we've had this season."

With Forde coming back, FIU now must await the arrival of their star and 2011 All Sun Belt hitter, Jovana Bjelica. Bjelica has been sidelined with a broken bone in her right hand after colliding with a teammate minutes before FIU season opener against Florida.

The Serbian native was handed a 4-6 week timetable for her return. As the fifth week looms over since the injury, Bjelica has not shown any signs of a return in the near future as she remains to sport a protective cast along with her physical therapy.

"With Bjelica, she is continuing to rest her hand so we are hoping to get her back in the next few weeks," Head Coach Trevor Theroulde said. "The thing is even if she is back is take a while to get into volleyball shape with running and conditioning."

Still without the services of Bjelica, FIU will take on another

conference foe this weekend as it prepares to take on Louisiana Lafayette this Friday here in the friendly confines of the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

ULL leads FIU in four major categories: hitting percentage, kills and assists while leading the entire conference in services as it has posted a 1.65 service ace per set average so far for the 2012 season.

The Panthers seem to be more effective on defense as oppose to ULL's resistance where FIU in his third in the conference in blocks with 127 while ULL is dead last with 105.

FIU will play in just its third home game versus ULL as the Panthers have a split their home record in 2012 as it defeated Arkansas State but was shutout by the Trojans of Arkansas Little Rock. The match is slated for 6:30 pm.

-jonathan.jacobsskind@fiusm.com

INTRAMURALS

PIKE routs Theta Chi; Sammy stays undefeated

INTRAMURAL FOOTBALL STANDINGS

FRATERNITY

	W-L-T	PCT	PD
Sigma Alpha Mu	5-0-0	1.00	45
PIKE	3-1-0	0.75	64
Pi Kappa Phi	3-1-0	0.75	98
Phi Sigma Kappa	2-2-0	0.50	-2
Tau Kappa Epsilon	2-1-1	0.50	39
Sigma Phi Epsilon	2-2-0	0.50	34
Theta Chi	1-3-0	0.25	-26
FIJI	1-2-1	0.25	13
Sigma Chi	0-5-0	0.00	-128
Beta Theta Pi	0-4-0	0.00	-137

*All records up to date as of Oct. 3

FIUSM SPORTS STAFF

As rain swept across FIU's intramural field, PIKE and Theta Chi prepared themselves for a wet flag football matchup on Oct. 1. It was a game that started with players from both sides of the field fighting through the rain, and ended with a victory for PIKE defeating Theta Chi 32-6.

The game had a rough start; rain came down hard on the players and you could see both teams struggling to stay connected. Nonetheless, within 10 minutes of play, PIKE (2-1) got on the board with a touchdown from quarterback Cameron Stolz. Combined with a completed one-point conversion, PIKE picked up the early seven-point lead.

The mushy footsteps of the players running through the field were a constant reminder that the rain was not stopping anytime soon. Judging by the 19-0 deficit Theta Chi (1-2) faced by halftime, the rain affected their defense the most.

It continued in that same pace throughout the second half. PIKE receivers Alain Ghamin, John Ramirez and Eric Martinez all contributed to the cause by adding five touchdowns. Fortunately for Theta Chi, they avoided the blowout and ended the game with a 32-6 score.

While the rain was certainly unwelcome, Martinez said earlier practices in the week proved vital.

"We try to practice two to three times a week, depending on our schedules. But luckily we were able to get in two practices this week to prepare for this game and it was in similar weather conditions. So it helped out."

PIKE will go on to face Pi Kappa Phi (2-1) on Oct. 8 in their fourth game of the season.

-Jolson Diaz

The FIU intramural field was packed with members of both fraternities cheering on their undefeated brothers. On Monday, Oct. 1, the rain poured down on the teams, but in the end, Sigma Alpha Mu (3-0) won a nail-biter in a flag-football game against Sigma Phi Epsilon (2-1).

Sig Ep put the first six points on the board on a 22-yard strike to the front right corner of the end zone from quarterback Jared Rock to Michael Somma.

Sammy answered with a quick scoring drive of its own. After an eight-yard rush on first down, quarterback Michael Carabeo threw a 30-yard pass to wide receiver Luis Santiesteban, putting Sammy well within scoring range. Two plays later, Santiesteban found the end zone

on a 10-yard bullet from Carabeo. Sig Ep went into the half with a 7-6 lead over Sammy.

Sig Ep attempted to milk the clock on the second drive of the half as Rock rushed on the first two plays for over 30 yards. SAM needed a big play and they got one from Mario Valcort who came up huge with an interception, putting SAM well within striking distance.

With a minute and a half left, Carabeo rolled out to the left, saw the end zone open and capitalized on the opportunity with a run, giving Sammy a 14-7 edge.

"It was supposed to be a pass, but I saw the opening and elected to run instead and it paid off," said Carabeo.

Sig Ep had one final chance. After a 45-yard completion, they burned a timeout and they were left with one final play. Rock rolled out to the right, found Muharram open in the end zone but the ball slipped out of his hands and the final whistle was blown. "We were caught in a bad place at a bad time, but we got lucky he dropped it and we came out on top," said Carabeo.

Sigma Alpha Mu looks to remain undefeated as they take on Sigma Chi next Monday, Oct. 8.

-Tarek Hamzeh

-sports@fiusm.com

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Panthers prepare for road test at unbeaten North Texas

MICHAEL ORTEGA
Contributing Writer

The defending champion Panthers are looking to claw their way back up to the top of the Sun Belt; this will begin with a tough road match against North Texas when they head to Denton on Sunday.

FIU faced the Mean Green last year at home, winning 1-0. This year, however, it will not be so easy as UNT is tied for first in the conference at 4-0-0 and showing

and from this past weekend,” said Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt. “The girls will be ready for North Texas.”

The Panthers have been very strong on defense this year, holding most opponents to only one goal per match. The team is looking to create goal scoring opportunities from turnovers and force outs.

“Like I say constantly, this team is all about defense and making offense from the turnovers,” said Chestnutt.

to be playing at the top of their games on offense such as forwards Chelsea Leiva, Scarlett Montoya and midfielder Johanna Volz, who have combined for 13 goals this season, will have to continue to show their strong offensive skill in the upcoming games.

They will have to try to score and improve the low shot count of the team. On defense, goalie Kaitlyn Savage will have to be a presence in the goal and in the box; Savage now has a total of 65 saves so far in the season.

“We’re going to have to stay pumped up and work hard this week in practice for North Texas,” said sophomore forward Caroline Hernandez. “We are definitely going to win the next game.”

If they win this weekend against the Mean Green, they will be in second place in their Sun Belt, only behind Middle Tennessee, because of the loss they suffered by them at home last Friday: the only loss at home for the Panthers, as well as the only conference loss.

After this weekend’s game the schedule becomes more favorable for the Panthers, facing only teams with under .500 records in the conferences. With three of those next five games being at home, where the Panthers are 4-1 so far, giving FIU a better chance to become the champions



JASEN DELGADO/THE BEACON

The Panthers return to the pitch after splitting home matches last weekend.

for the last time in the Sun Belt Conference. forward and make history now,” said Johanna Volz.

“We can’t focus on the past games anymore. We need to look

-sports@fiusm.com

“
We can’t focus on the past games anymore. We need to look forward and make history now.

Johanna Volz
Midfielder
Women’s Soccer

much improvement this year.

The Panthers will focus on improving their struggling offense this week in practice to be able to keep up with UNT who has scored nine goals in just three Sun Belt matches so far this season.

“We are going to game plan this week with film from last year

Another test for FIU will be playing away from home; the Panthers are only 2-3-1 away. Those two wins came against two conference opponents in Troy and South Alabama. The Panthers have struggled when they go on the road, only scoring less than one goal per game.

Key goal scorers will have

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ex-NFL WR appears in court again on drug case

NOMAAN MERCHANT
AP Staff

Former NFL wide receiver Sam Hurd, whose young career was brought to a halt by accusations that he tried to set up a drug-dealing ring in the middle of a season, is scheduled to appear in court Wednesday on new charges.

Arrested last December, Hurd is due in Dallas federal court Wednesday afternoon to plead on a new indictment with charges related to his time out on bail earlier this year. Hurd is accused of trying to have a cousin arrange a deal to buy 5 kilograms of cocaine and 200 pounds of marijuana.

The 27-year-old Hurd is being held in federal prison near Dallas.

His cousin, Jesse Tyrone Chavful, and his other alleged co-conspirator, Toby Lujan, have signed guilty plea agreements.

Hurd’s arrest during last year’s NFL season shocked his teammates on the Chicago Bears. Authorities have accused him of trying to set up large-scale purchases of cocaine and marijuana — and accepting 1 kilogram, or 2.2 pounds, of cocaine from an undercover officer at a Chicago-area steakhouse. Hurd allegedly told the officer he wanted to eventually buy 5 to 10 kilograms of cocaine and 1,000 pounds of marijuana per week to distribute in the Chicago area.

Agents were waiting outside the steakhouse to arrest him.

Hurd pleaded not guilty and was released on bail. The Bears eventually cut him.

The San Antonio native played at Northern Illinois University and spent five seasons with

the Dallas Cowboys before signing with the Bears in 2011. The deal was reportedly worth up to \$5.15 million, including a \$1.35 million signing bonus and base pay this season of \$685,000.

Hurd was living in Texas earlier this summer when he fell back into trouble. Authorities say he failed two drug tests and also tried to arrange another deal for cocaine and marijuana through Chavful, his cousin. Chavful, in documents signed Monday as part of his plea agreement, said Hurd contacted him at his T-shirt shop in San Antonio and asked to “get him cocaine and marijuana.”

According to the documents, Chavful said he set up a deal to purchase the cocaine and marijuana, but was arrested by an undercover officer.

Chavful’s attorney, Laura Harper, denied that Chavful was pleading guilty in a bid of leniency at sentencing.

“Rather, he is truthfully admitting what he did because he believes that it is the right thing to do,” she said.

The third person charged in the alleged conspiracy, Toby Lujan, has already pleaded guilty to a cocaine possession charge.

Hurd’s attorney, Jay Ethington, said Tuesday that Chavful is lying.

“It’s Chavful’s attempt to shift blame and save himself from a long prison sentence,” he said.

Prosecutors last month filed a guilty plea agreement signed by Hurd. But Ethington said the document was a draft and no plea agreement had been reached. The U.S. attorney’s office has not withdrawn the plea documents.

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Q&A

UNDOCUMENTED

Pulitzer Prize winner discusses immigration

KATARINA DIQUEZ
Contributing Writer

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas told his story as an undocumented immigrant Monday, Oct. 1, on an event held at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

He emigrated to the United States from the Philippines when he was 12. He didn't know that his paperwork was fake until he turned 16.

"I was in the business of telling the truth, and I kept lying," he said.

In 2011, Vargas founded Define American, a nonprofit organization that seeks to elevate the conversation about the immigration reform, the DREAM Act and other immigration issues by inviting the people to share their stories. His request is simple: let's talk.

KATARINA DIQUEZ: Why haven't you been deported?

JOSE ANTONIO VARGAS: That's usually the first thing people ask me when they learn I'm an undocumented immigrant or, put more rudely, an "illegal." I spend every day wondering what, if anything, the government plans to do with me, and I keep asking the



CONSTANZA GALLARDO/THE BEACON

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency what my deal is.

DIQUEZ: How do you define an American?

VARGAS: I define an American as someone that calls this country their home. I define an American as

someone who wants to work hard and contribute to this country.

DIQUEZ: Why do you support the immigration reform?

VARGAS: I support immigration reform because it is actually not only about immigration; you have to tie it

into the very nature of how America is changing. When we are talking about immigrant rights, we are also talking about citizenship rights and I think it's interesting that we can probably talk to a lot of undocumented people who can prove to American citizens what it's like to be an American. With values and attitudes like work hard, contribute, respect other people. Having undocumented people shows Americans why America is so special.

DIQUEZ: What do you think about Obama and Romney's immigration policies?

VARGAS: President Obama's immigration policy is much more married to reality. Mitt Romney's? I just tune out when Romney talks about self-deportation; it sounds almost comical. It is completely unrealistic and incredibly disrespectful.

DIQUEZ: What do you think is the future of the DREAMers?

VARGAS: I am optimistic that immigration reform is going to happen. I think the DREAMers have completely pushed this issue. They really deserve the credit for everything that's been happening here and

for the fact that the DREAM Act is so tied together with the immigration reform.

DIQUEZ: Like many immigrants, it is a long and arduous process to finally obtain a visa or become residents, legal aliens and even citizens. Have you ever considered going through some sort of process to obtain your documents?

VARGAS: The first time I told any adult that was undocumented was when I was 16. By the time they tried to do something, there were already four people who wanted to adopt me. Unfortunately, I was 16 and it was too late. My grandparents' idea was for me to get under-the-table jobs and then marry an American. Guess what? I came out as gay when I was 17. Then I started lying. After I won the Pulitzer Prize, they told me there's a thing called an "Extraordinary Ability Visa," which I could qualify for. But because I admitted to breaking the law, I don't qualify for it anymore.

This interview was made possible by the National Association of Hispanics in Journalism.

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Mindful relaxing for a mind full of work

SKYLAR SIEGEL
Contributing Writer

Students' minds are often racing about all they have to do for classes and work, and they do not always take the time to relax and breathe so they can focus on what they are doing at that moment, which is why mindfulness meditation on campus may be able to lend a helping hand.

Every Tuesday from 12 to 1 p.m. on the Biscayne Bay Campus, room 246B in Academic II, Jose Miranda, clinician in the Office of Employee Assistance, coordinates Mindfulness Meditation, which is a meditation that focuses on the present moment, open to all faculty members and students.

"We want to help reduce students and faculty's stress levels by helping them take an hour out of their busy week to focus on the present moment," said Miranda.

Mindfulness meditation is free for all students, offered at both BBC and the Modesto Maidique Campus.

At MMC, the group meets Wednesday from 12 to 1 p.m. in room 314 of the Graham Center.

According to Miranda, the meditation is getting more

popular at MMC; around five to seven students usually attend.

There are no students involved at BBC yet, only faculty members. They are looking for new students.

In mindfulness meditation, attendees can lead the group with their own personal meditations. Students and staff can share quotes or personal experiences throughout the hour-long session.

If not, a digital recording gives directions to participants through the breathing exercises and calming tones.

The meetings are held in a small room with one couch and three chairs, leaving enough room for about seven people.

"Through mindfulness meditation, stress relief is achieved," Miranda said.

He explained that the meditation does not focus on judgment, on the future or on the past.

"We emphasize living in the moment, letting everything you may have been worried about before you came leave your mind. Stress can become dangerous for students when it interferes with their ability to concentrate and can even affect their mental health," Miranda said.

"We have been holding these

mediation meetings for over a year now," said Miranda. "And although we began at MMC we really want to raise awareness

at BBC to get more students involved."

To find out more about Mindfulness Meditation, contact Dr.

Jose Miranda at 305-348-2469 or email: Jadmiran@fiu.edu.

-bbc@fiusm.com

RACKET HAND



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

President of the Table Tennis club David Schiumerini practices inside the Wolfe University Center's game room on his free time. Schiumerini is a freshman studying computer science.