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|  <p>YEMEN</p> <p>The largest protest yet against leader</p> <p>Hundreds of thousands marched in villages and cities across Yemen on Friday in what appeared to be the largest demonstrations in more than a month of.</p> |  <p>EGYPT</p> <p>Call for trials of Egypt's regime figures</p> <p>Thousands of people have filled Tahrir Square to call for Egypt's military government to harshly punish members of ex-President Hosni Mubarak's former administration.</p> |  <p>IRAQ</p> <p>Bomber kills 3 outside Iraqi mosque</p> <p>A suicide bomber disguised as a street cleaner walked up to soldiers outside a mosque and blew himself up Friday, killing two of the troops and a worshipper in a western Iraqi city.</p> |
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MEET THE CANDIDATES



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

Presidential hopefuls look to "get it done" for University

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

In the University's first contested SGA race since 2008, presidential candidate Patrick O'Keefe and vice presidential candidate Sanjeev Udhnani intend on "Getting it done for FIU".

A promise that includes collaboration, advocacy and consistency for the student body, the O'Keefe/Udhnani ticket claims to have a "clear vision on engaging

University students." "We're fighting for inclusiveness, which is why we're open to new and fresh ideas, rather than having SGA be this exclusive club, which is how it tends to be portrayed as most of the time," said O'Keefe in an interview with Student Media.

While running with a campaign that focuses on advocating students' rights, the candidates support and guarantee better

collaboration between colleges, continuing to fund successful student programs and making FIU more commuter-friendly while still supporting residential students.

Born in Elkridge, Maryland and relocated to Miami at age 15, O'Keefe is a Political Science major whose involvement on the campus includes a past leadership position with the

O'KEEFE, page 2

Experience, student services highlight Gonzalez ticket

NICOLE CASTRO
Asst. News Director

Running on a platform of experience and outreach to students, Alina and Kevin Gonzalez look forward to the challenges ahead of them if they are elected to be president and vice president of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus.

Alina has been a part of three different administra-

tions of Student Government, ranging back to the days of President AJ Meyer, who she worked for as an intern.

During her sophomore year, Alina served as director of international affairs for then SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda.

She then continued her service in SGA, becoming the chief of staff for current SGC-MMC President Helena Ramirez.

Alina held the position until the beginning of the Spring 2011 semester, where she relinquished the position in order to fill a void left in the vice presidency after the resignation of Nick Autiello last fall.

According to Alina, the rapid transition into vice presidency and the diverse positions she has held along the way have helped her become a better leader

GONZALEZ, page 2

\$122,000 raised for first generation scholarships fund

ALEXANDRA CAMEJO
Asst. News Director

University leadership, faculty, staff, students and community members gathered to aid the nearly 40 percent students that will be the first generation in their families to graduate from college.

On March 31, Student Government Association along with University Advancement sponsored the 2nd Annual First Generation Scholarship Fundraising Benefit at the Ronald W. Reagan Presidential House.

"We worked in collaboration with University Advancement to fundraise money for the scholarship. It's been a true collaboration with them," said Alina Gonzalez, SGA vice president for Modesto Maidique Campus.

Conceptualized last year by Myka Figueroa, during her time at SGC-MMC, the benefit welcomed attendee donations to go towards the First Generation Scholarship Fund.

As one of the first scholarships of its kind, private donations towards the fund will be matched 100 percent by the state legislature. Approved

by the Florida legislature in 2006, with the help of Representative and FIU Alumna Anitere Flores, the Fund has awarded nearly \$3 million to first generation students since its inception.

Biscayne Bay Campus SGA President Christin "Cici" Battle and Vice President Denise Haplin worked with SGC-MMC President Helena Ramirez and Vice President Gonzalez to raise money for this year's Fund.

As of press time, \$66,000 have been raised for a total impact of \$122,000 with State match by Flori-

da's Board of Governors, according to Jackie Valle, coordinator of Corporate and Foundation Relations University Advancement.

At the Reagan House, attendees heard from not only Gonzalez and Haplin, but also University President Mark Rosenberg and FIU alumn Joseph Caruncho, CEO and co-founder of Preferred Care Partners—both announcing their \$5,000 donations.

Members of the President's Council, FIU Foundation Board of Directors and Board of Trustees were

at the benefit to show their support, financially and socially, for the scholarship's recipients.

Over 4,600 First Generation awards have been allocated to University students. Emilio Collyer, vice presidential candidate for SGC-BBC, was one of the First Generation scholarship recipients that attended the benefit.

With 91 percent of its recipients being minorities, the goal of the First Generation Scholarship is to "change the lives of South Florida's multicultural students."

Multiple terms, council experience eligibility discussed

REQUIREMENTS, page 8

their Constitutions, including: Florida State University, Florida Atlantic University,

University of Central Florida, University of South Florida, and University of Florida.

While some of the listed universities require that candidates obtain anywhere from 75-500 student signatures and have basic prerequisites to be eligible, none of the institutions outright deny student government first-timers from running in elections.

Similarly, our closest neighboring school, University of

Miami, has no such requirement.

Ryan Aquilina, UM student government press secretary, said while their elected presidential candidate often does have prior SG experience, it's not always the case.

"This year, we had three presidential candidates, one of which had zero prior experience," Aquilina said in an email to Student Media. "Our presidential tickets also include vice president and Treasurer, and it is not abnormal for one or two of the students on the ticket to be an 'SG-outsider.'"

Simply not having a term requirement for the president

doesn't always guarantee more students will apply for the position, though. Aquilina said UM, too, had an uncontested election in 2009.

Still, the SG at UM feels the opportunity should be open to everyone.

"Our student government seems to have an unwritten idea that while you need some experience, it is also beneficial to bring everyone - including those without SG experience - to the table," Aquilina said.

Rafael Zapata, SGC-BBC adviser, said he had no personal opinion to comment on the

matter.

"The constitution says that's the requirement, so the students have to follow it," Zapata said. "If the school feels it necessary to do so, they can change it."

Veronica Fernandez, a senior journalism major, thinks all students should be able to run.

"The reason for that is because not only would you have more competition, not allowing it is unrealistic because students graduate every semester once they're done with classes, so it's kind of hard to get someone to run for president," Fernandez said.

As someone who works 30

hours a week, Fernandez said most students can't see taking on another responsibility.

"The culture we have of students is to work and go to school," Fernandez said. "As long as someone is qualified, I don't see why they shouldn't run. I don't see how that clause would make a difference."

Fernandez said while being on the council gives experience with handling student issues, someone's eligibility shouldn't be based upon that.

"Because at the same time we're all students, so we learn from our own experiences."

Candidates push for student advocacy, realistic goals

O'KEEFE, page 1

Student Advocacy Committee and a membership with the Fiji fraternity as well as the Pre-law honor society Phi Alpha Delta.

He hopes to use discretionary funds to bring back outreach programs for students, with a focus on giving them more information as well as listening to them.

"The biggest problem is that we're not hearing students enough. We're not going out and talking to them as much as we should be," said O'Keefe.

Currently, O'Keefe serves as the finance chair for SGA, after having only been a first time lower division senator for one year.

"It's really not about having more experience," said O'Keefe,

who acknowledged that he is running against a presidential candidate with a longer history with SGA. "It's about having a clear and concise plan of what we want to do."

His running mate, Udhmani, is a junior and honors student majoring in International Business, having been born in Miami with an Indian background.

The vice-presidential candidate is currently the president of the Sigma Alpha Lambda Honors Society and SGA attorney general, who served on a committee focused on textbook affordability; an issue that is part of the ticket's platform.

"In that committee, we worked with the Office of the Provost in finding ways to make sure that

students have the cheapest and most affordable option for textbooks," Udhmani said.

Both candidates are also concerned about those students who they believe are 'neglected,' mainly those that must take courses at the Engineering Center, five blocks away from the main campus.

"After going to a town hall meeting at the Engineering campus, we walked away with over five pages of notes on student concerns that should be addressed," said Udhmani. "They were truly legitimate concerns like having call boxes on campus or issues within their curriculum."

Their views on keeping all campuses well represented include having the Biscayne Bay Campus

remain with its own governing council.

"Prior to having a council at BBC, their issue was that they were under represented and I see that happening again if there is a one council system," O'Keefe said.

More advanced technology in terms of video conferencing would be important in bridging the distance between the campuses during meetings, according to O'Keefe.

"Ideally the system of a two council government should work," stated Udhmani. "BBC has an issue with getting students involved but it still should work and we should not give up on that system until we try to address those concerns and spearhead

those issues in whatever way possible."

While the competitive race to the finish line continues, the presidential hopefuls admit that "getting it done" for the University also involves having a balance between the two runningmates.

"I've always been the persistent one who is always pushing for things that are more realistic while Sanjeev is the one who steps back says 'but how can make this better.' So it's really big that we play off of each other's personalities," said O'Keefe, who mentioned that he and Udhmani were good friends prior to the run for the presidential and vice-presidential seats.

"At the end of the day, it's a ticket and it's meant to have people working together."

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 22, Issue 31, the photograph on page 4 titled "Sliding In" is missing the photo credit. The photographer's name is Kristi Camara.

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

Gonzalez ticket looks to unify SGA

GONZALEZ, page 1

and identify key issues that she would like to work on.

Among the most challenging aspects during

her vice presidency were

dealing with the aftermath of a fall semester where SGC-MMC underwent several scandals that led to internal problems which affected the performance of SGA as a whole.

"I think there was a lot of internal bickering this year and not a lot was done for students. If SGA would come together and look at the bigger picture it could be such a powerful entity," Alina stated bluntly.

According to her, it is her honest outspokenness which makes her stand out from the other candidates.

"I am very up front," said Alina, an international relations major who plans on going into nursing once she graduates. "I try to do everything with honesty and integrity, when making decisions I keep in mind which ones are best for students."

Throughout her time in SGA, Alina saw potential and experience in her running mate, Kevin Gonzalez.

Kevin, a senior accounting and finance major, originally served as a College of Business Administration Senator

during the Fall semester.

This semester he has worked as SGC-MMC comptroller, where he has gained knowledge of the University's complex budget deliberations.

"As comptroller I've enjoyed making sure that the money is going where it needs to go and with the added power or visibility of vice president, I can help out students even more and fund for education," said Kevin.

Among one of their biggest commitments to students, the Gonzalez ticket hopes to be able to help students get a great education at a price they can afford.

Alina, who has had to balance her school life while working at places like Nordstrom and Equinox 40 hours a week, believes this experience has helped her relate to students at the University who face similar economic issues.

"I really want to give back to a school that has done so much for me by making sure that I'm representing the students," she said.

This year's SGC-MMC presidential race is the first

contested election since 2008, but both Alina and Kevin have embraced this competitive atmosphere.

They believe that the more candidates there are running, the higher the chances to ensure the most qualified.

"Competition is always good," said Alina, "I believe it drives people to go the extra mile to prove that they would be the best choice."

Kevin emphasized that although it will be a lot more work for the candidates, it's in the best interest of the student body to have a choice in who they want as the leader of the University.

While both candidates acknowledge that it will be a tough, hard-fought election, they still remain confident.

"I think we will do well and I'm ready to fully dedicate myself to doing the best I can to continue serving the student body in the following year," said Kevin.

Voting for elections will take place April 5 and 6 online or at designated locations on campus.

THE BEACON

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The Beacon is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. The Beacon is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. The Beacon is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.

BASEBALL

Bermudez propels offense in road win over ULM

ANDRES LEON
Staff Writer

After picking up momentum in New Orleans this past Wednesday with a win over Tulane, the Golden Panthers would travel upstate and continue conference play in a three-game weekend series against conference opponent Louisiana-Monroe.

Friday night would bring more momentum for the Golden Panthers on the back of Phil Haig, who would start and earning the win for FIU (17-11, 3-4 SBC) with seven innings pitched, allowing three runs on only seven hits in a 6-3 victory on April 1.

Haig would get three strike outs for the Golden Panthers.

For the Warhawks, Drew Granier would get receive the loss after allowing all four FIU runs off ten hits, but he would strike out nine. The Warhawks would fall to (14-10, 3-4 SBC) after losing to FIU.

The Golden Panthers infield would play a huge part in keeping the War Hawks off the scoreboard in the first inning. After FIU would get two hits in the top of the first, The Golden Panthers would come up short only to provide great infield work to take ULM three and out.

FIU would find themselves struggling in the second inning, but managed to keep

ULM scoreless and would score the first run of the game in the top of the third.

Bermudez would single to the left side and to be brought home by Wittels single, giving FIU the lead. The Warhawks would tie the game after Les Aulds would bring Jeremy Sy for the tying run in the bottom half of the inning.

Later on in the fourth, Tyler James Shantz would score off an error by the Warhawk short stop. Shantz had reached first base off an infield single and would take second off a wild pitch.

In the fifth inning, ULM would come back again, this time taking the lead after scoring two runs off three hits. Aulds would bring in catcher Jarrett Hammond and designated hitter Jordy Poche would bring in Jeremy Sy to make the score 3-2 in favor of ULM.

That would be the last of the ULM offense as FIU would score two runs in the sixth inning to regain the lead for good.

Jose Behar hit a deep ball down the left field line that went over the wall to tie the game at 3-3. After a Bermudez single, Jeremy Patton would single to center field to bring Bermudez home to break the tie and give FIU the 4-3 lead.

Bermudez would continue to have a solid night singling to left field, earning his fourth hit of the night to bring Jabari Henry in for the lone run the eighth inning.



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Pablo Bermudez [left] scored twice and had an RBI in FIU's win over ULM on April 1.

Bermudez finished the game going 4-for-4 while scoring twice and picking up an RBI.

FIU would close the game with a ground ball from Henry that would bring Shantz home for his second run of the game, giving FIU the 6-3 victory.

The Golden Panthers closer Bryam Garcia would close the game in the ninth with two strikeouts.

BASEBALL

FIU vs. Bethune-Cookman

- Time: 6:00 p.m.
- When: 04/05/11
- Where: FIU Baseball Stadium

10AM - 3PM: 4/11 (MMC) & 4/12-13 (BBC)

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SPRING GAME

RISING AND SHINING

Offense and defense trade barbs in morning spring game

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

Fans were able to get a firsthand look at some of what they can expect to see in the 2011 football season as the Blue vs. Gold game took place on Saturday, April 2 at FIU stadium. Around 75 plays were run in the scrimmage, which ended with the offense winning the matchup 19-10.

From the start, it was the defense that really looked strong and on the first drive of the game forced a costly mistake as Wesley Carroll threw an interception to Sam Miller on the first drive for the only turnover in the game.

Medlock got the second string quarterback position and took command on the second drive that ended with him overthrowing Glen Coleman in the end zone, ending the drive at the defense's 32-yard line.

Dalton would then get his chance to try to get something for the offense going, but could get nothing started either. The offense would not score until Medlock hooked up with none other than T.Y. Hilton at the one-yard line to help set up a Jeremiah Harden touchdown run that put them up 12-7 on the defense.

Carroll, Jake Medlock



and Blaine Dalton all took turns taking snaps at quarterback, with Carroll the only one wearing a red no-contact jersey.

The players that made the most impact on the defensive end were both linebacker Gregory Hickman and defensive lineman Isame Faciane. Hickman recorded three sacks on the day and Faciane got one of his own.

Faciane moved from outside to inside lineman, and the spring game showed that so far it has been a smooth transition for him. "I think Isame is going to be a heck of a player for us, and I think Hickman is going to be a heck of a player," commented Crsitobal on their performance today.

Dalton would end up

being the biggest performer from the quarterback side as he led two drives that put points on the board. One that gave Jake Griffin a field goal and another that was a touchdown pass to Glenn Coleman that ended the practice.

Replacing graduates Cedrick Mack and Brad Serini from the offensive line is going to be tough this year, and at the start of the spring game it looked a little shaky as the defensive got to the quarterbacks quite often making them have to scramble and run down the field.

"They played okay. We had a couple bad snaps with one that was in the red zone that was unacceptable, but they're going to keep on getting better and better,"

Crsitobal said.

During the second half they started to pick it up, which helped the running game get into the groove of things. Both Brandon Bennett and Torrence Seymour had 45 yards each, and Jeremiah Harden ended the day with a one-yard touchdown run and 41 yards.

"I think after the butterflies got out, we started coming off the ball and the running backs started hitting the holes harder and everyone just stayed together," said center Cedrick Davis.

At the conclusion of the game, all of the players and coaches received their championship bowl rings, and Mario Cristobal gave a speech to the fans thanking them for their support and encour-



COURTESY OF JASEN DELGADO

TOP LEFT: Gregory Hickman [55] chases down Wesley Carroll. Hickman had three sacks during the scrimmage.

ABOVE: Glenn Coleman [white] makes a leaping touchdown catch in the final play of the game for the offense.

aging them to keep coming to games this upcoming season.

"To achieve this it's a great moment, it's historical for us and our program and it's a great chance to honor it and to make a commitment to

continue to make this happen year after year," Cristobal said.

There are only 163 days left until FIU takes on North Texas at the start of the 2011 season on Sept. 1.

With a long summer looming, team shows great promise

After everyone had grabbed their complimentary breakfast, put on their sun block, plopped up their umbrellas to try and hide from the brutal Miami sun, fans were ready to catch a first glimpse of this Golden Panthers squad in the annual Blue and Gold game. The energy on the field was there. The excitement was there. The buzz was there. Everything you could ask for during an annual spring game was there.

DEFENSIVE RUSH

The scrimmage wound up being a tale of two "halves" as both the offensive and defensive units showed promise at different points in the game.

There were a lot of good things coming from the defense early on in the game as they constantly put extra heat on the quarterbacks and running backs in the backfield and preventing them from developing much of a rhythm.

It was promising to see some big plays from linebacker Gregory Hickman and defensive tackle Isame Faciane as they each picked up sacks and were able to get in the heads of whichever quarterback was on the

COMMENTARY



JOEL DELGADO



COURTESY OF JASEN DELGADO

Darriet Perry [right] goes for a big run against the Golden Panther defense after getting some blocking help.

field at any given point.

The defensive backs were also a pleasant surprise early on in the scrimmage, locking up opposing receivers and forcing mistakes. Sam Miller was able to pick off an underthrown Wesley Carroll pass during the opening possession of the game.

But it wasn't all defense for long.

OFFENSIVE PUSH

The offensive line, after a sluggish start, finally was able to open up some big plays for the running game in the back half of the scrimmage, helping running backs Torrence Seymour and Robert Boswell along with quarterbacks Jake Medlock and Blaine Dalton, who were forced to scramble and use their legs to get first downs.

After losing Cedric Mack and Brad Serini, the offensive line would

need to see numerous players step up to fill the gaps left behind and players like Cedrick Davis, Jordan White and others answered the call and looked sharp towards the end of the game.

This game also showed that this 2011 squad will have some pretty good depth at a number of different positions this season.

Glenn Coleman also stood out and could emerge as a go-to receiver.

He has the size and the hands to be an effective receiver for the Golden Panthers and with the departure of Greg Ellingson, we could be seeing Coleman getting a lot more looks this season.

Both backup quarterbacks Medlock and Dalton looked impressive at various times during the game, showing an ability to use their feet and also to make good throws under pressure. They each engineered a scoring drive for the offense and showed the ability to move the ball down the field quickly.

Medlock was not afraid to take chances down the field, going deep to Coleman and T.Y. Hilton on several occasions. With that kind of an arm, he could give opposing defensive backfields fits.

Dalton, on the other hand, was a tough man to bring down for the defense when he was on the move and moved the chains a number of different times to keep the offense going.

This was probably a preview of a looming quarterback battle to come.

For the rest of this story and more exclusive content, go to FIUSM.com.

www.FIUSM.com

Monday - Great American Cleanup of FIU @ EC/Woman's Park
9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Tuesday - University Sustainability Launch & EcoFair @ Panther Garage Lawn
(next to the Arena) 9 am to 11 am

Wednesday -Farmer's Market @ Green Library Breezeway
12 pm to 3 pm

Thursday - Nature Preserve Service Day @ Nature Preserve
2 pm to 5 pm

**US Dept. of Energy "Positioning Yourself for Jobs
in a Green Economy" Lecture @RDB1100**
6 pm to 7 pm

Friday - Sunset Yoga and Bike-in Movie @ Nature Preserve
Yoga 7:30 pm, Movie 9 pm

Saturday - Shake A Leg Eco5K @ Soccer Stadium
9 am to 11 am



April 4th - 9th
EARTH WEEK

For more information, visit
GoGreen.FIU.edu

'Day Without Shoes Campaign' walks on to campus

ALFREDO APARICIO
Staff Writer

Every day millions of children in developing countries walk around shoeless, exposing themselves to serious injury, disease and infections, such as Podoconiosis, a condition characterized by the hardening and swelling of the lower body due to contaminated soil.

In hopes of creating awareness on campus, the FIU International Rescue Committee (IRC) has adopted the global event A Day Without Shoes created by TOMS shoes. TOMS is a shoe company that also created the One for One Campaign, donating a pair of shoes to a child in need for every shoe bought at one of their stores.

"I'm hoping to see a bunch of people barefoot throughout campus and a big turnout for the walk we are doing," said Andrea Nunez, 22, a senior international relations major and President of the IRC. "Being part of the IRC, we are aware of global poverty issues and,

because we assist refugees throughout the world, we come into contact with thousands of children that go barefoot because of their poor conditions."

The IRC began promotion within the committee itself at the beginning of the semester and then together began to promote the day to students outside of the club.

"Student collaboration is key to make an event like this successful," said Nunez. "It's all about spreading the word and letting others know the importance of speaking up and creating more awareness for those who are limited and can't help themselves."

The IRC employed various mediums such as tabling in GC and using Facebook to get the word out successfully.

"We had a big banner that we painted advertising the name and date of the event. On Facebook we created an event invitation and asked students to tell everyone about the event. The TOMS website was also a big help," said

Nunez.

The IRC is hoping the event opens students' eyes to the fact that most of the diseases suffered in developing countries due to being shoeless are 100 percent preventable if children have access to basic shoe wear and have an opportunity to practice foot hygiene.

"I think an event such as this one fits great with the University's initiative of Global Learning for Global Citizenship," said Nunez. "It will remind [the students] that there are people around the world who do not live with the same standards we possess living in a developed country."

The event will also serve to explain the consequences of going without shoes such as exposure to diseases. Healthy living conditions for children in developing countries are important to their community as access to education is an important factor of long-term success.

"Often children cannot attend school limiting their access to education which would affect their future and



COURTESY OF AP IMAGES

TOMS Shoes' 4th Annual One Day Without Shoes to Take Place on April 5, 2011.

the future of their community. Going barefoot daily can reap negative outcomes on children in ways that can affect them for a long time," explained Nunez.

While tabling at GC, the IRC's banners attracted the attention of many students who came up to them and asked about the event. "Student response to the event has been very positive and many have committed themselves to going barefoot at least once throughout the day," says Nunez. "The tabling drew great attention."

A Day Without Shoes has also drawn the attention of another student organization which has contacted the IRC and has promised to let their members know about the event as well. "We might see some professors joining in to make a

statement which would be so great!" said Nunez.

The event will take place on Apr. 5 and will be an all-day event. The IRC has also booked the GC lawn from 12-3 p.m. for some barefoot activities like barefoot Frisbee and a barefoot march at 12:30 p.m. along with many others. The climax of the event will take place at the housing quad where IRC will air the TOMS documentary on the One for One campaign.

"We plan to start the march in the GC lawn, go through the library's breezeway over the bridge all the way to the Law building and back," said Nunez.

"As we gather and march our way through campus barefoot I hope it inspires others to take their shoes off and join in."

To Nunez, it doesn't matter if participants go barefoot an hour or the whole day, the point is to experience what others go through on a daily basis.

"I'm sure there will be students that will go barefoot all day, to class and back," she said. "Some have told me they are even going to work barefoot, too."

As a Day Without Shoes wears on, the IRC anticipates other people who are unaware of the event coming up and asking why people are taking off their shoes.

"That will be our chance to talk and educate others about what's going on. By taking our shoes off we are bringing attention to the millions of impoverished children who have no choice other than to go shoeless," Nunez said.

ON THE PROWL

Etiquette for handling your friend's significant other

When you make friends with your friend's significant other things can immediately get tricky.

COLUMNIST



LIANAMAR
DÁVILA
SANABRIA

As a social butterfly, I've run into some bumps in the road over the years, which on occasion have led to less than enjoyable situations. As it turns out, loyalty is an important aspect of a true friendship.

Our friends are the ones who are supposed to help us through tough times with our loves and give us advice. Meeting a friend's boyfriend or girlfriend can be uncomfortable because you want everyone to be able to get along and be on their best behavior. But getting too close for comfort is a big no-no.

Upon meeting a friend's significant other there's absolutely no need to exchange contact informa-

tion. If an instance comes up when you would actually need to contact them, you should always go through your friend first, or at least let your friend know you will be contacting them. If you need a favor, ask your friend to ask them for you and make sure they are present when the favor is happening.

Once you've chatted with your friend's significant other on a few occasions, it's perfectly acceptable to add them on Facebook or other types of social media. However, sending excessive amounts of wall posts like "Nice meeting you" or sending private messages is just weird and inappropriate.

Making plans with them without including your friend isn't only pointless but, most importantly, disloyal. Your entire relationship with them is based on their relationship with your friend, so don't be inconsiderate of their feelings and invite them both or don't bother at all.

Talking about sex or showing them suggestive photos is not allowed.

Discussing what positions you tried last night or asking which bathing suit makes you look better is a conversation for you and your friend to have in private.

If you were friends with their significant other first, as has happened to me on multiple occasions, it is imperative that you establish your loyalty early on.

A few of my girlfriends have dated my good guy friends, so from the beginning of the relationship I'm very clear that I don't want to engage in any "girl talk" that deals with them or about other guys they may think are cute. As long as you are clear, your friend will (or should) respect your choice in allegiance.

I agree that some of these may sound silly or over the top, but your friend will be very appreciative of you when proper friend/significant other etiquette is carried out. You'll be avoiding a lot of headaches and drama.

On the Prowl is a biweekly column on dating. Look for it every other Monday.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2011

SPC UPROAR COMEDY SHOW



WHEN: 6-8 p.m.
WHERE: GC Ballrooms

8TH ANNUAL SAGE FUNDRAISING RECEPTION & SILENT AUCTION

WHEN: 6-9 p.m.
WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

20TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS WEEK

WHEN: Daily
WHERE: SJMC

FIU EARTH WEEK: GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP OF FIU FIU

WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
WHERE: Women's Park 10251 W. Flagler St. Miami, FL

INTRAMURAL SPORTS PUNT/PASS/KICK COMPETITION

WHEN: 5:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Recreation Field

DIVERSITY WEEK- UNITED FOR HAITI PRESENTATION



WHEN: 12-1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC AHC-II Room 160

ATLANTIC SYMPOSIUM "Male Heroism, Demonic Animals and Memories of Violence in the Haitian-Dominican Borderlands."

WHEN: 2-3:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GL 220

SPC UPROAR KICK-OFF PIT EVENT

WHEN: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
WHERE: MMC GC Pit

HATHA YOGA



WHEN: 1:30-2:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Behind the organic garden

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011

BETA BREAKDOWN 2011

Their main goal is to fund raise money for Make-a-Wish foundation.
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC Ballrooms

8TH ANNUAL SAGE FUNDRAISING RECEPTION & SILENT AUCTION

WHEN: 6-9 p.m.
WHERE: BBC WUC Ballrooms

ONE DAY WITHOUT SHOES AT FIU

WHEN: 12-3 p.m.
WHERE: MMC GC Lawn

BEGINNER'S SUNSET YOGA



WHEN: 5-6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Organic garden

DIVERSITY WEEK: RACIAL JUSTICE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
WHERE: MMC RDB 1000

IMMIGRATION: A LYNCHPIN OF DIVERSITY AT FIU AND BEYOND

WHEN: 1:30-2:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC RDB 1009

CARIBBEAN FEST- CELEBRATING CARIBBEAN LIFE AND CULTURE



WHEN: 4:30-6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Broward Pines Center

FIU: WOMEN OF INFLUENCE

This is a public forum in recognition of the accomplishment of women in key leadership positions at FIU.

WHEN: 3:30-5 p.m.
WHERE: MMC SIPA 100

If you are interested in having an event featured in the calendar, contact: calendar@fiusm.com

THE BEACON RECOMMENDS
VOTING GUIDE

Visit fiusm.com for an updated elections guide
 PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

Modesto Maidique Campus

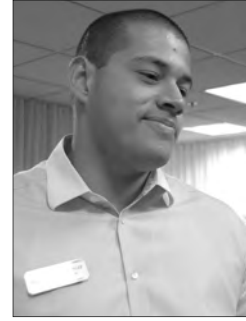
PATRICK O'KEEFE
 (P)
SANJEEV UDHNANI
 (VP)



Based on the answers given in their *Beacon* Election Questionnaire submission and debate performance, The Beacon proudly endorses Patrick O'Keefe for 2011-2012 SGC-MMC President and his running mate Sanjeev Udhani.

As outlined in their answers in the questionnaire, which was sent to all SGA candidates on both campuses, we believe that O'Keefe and Udhani have a clear, feasible vision for improving the student body experience. We find their stance on improving infrastructure and career services utilization is proof that they are well-tuned to the needs of students at the University. Furthermore, their emphasis on outreach at the collegiate and the high school level shows that they are looking to the future of the University in terms of expanding its influence and supporting student government transparency.

As for their debate performance, we feel that both O'Keefe and Udhani displayed professional, gentlemanly conduct in addition to handling questioning well. We are especially pleased to see that their conduct remained appropriate despite pressure from their opponents.



ALINA GONZALEZ
 (P)
KEVIN GONZALEZ
 (VP)

Alina Gonzalez and Kevin Gonzalez failed to meet our expectations and therefore, will not receive our support. As per the answers in our questionnaire, some of which were omitted, we feel that Alina and Kevin failed to adequately answer the questions they had to consider.

We feel that their plan to increase an already bloated Senate to 50 representatives, failure to fully address the issue of student participation and their inclusion of an unnecessary and possibly fiscally irresponsible Rent-A-Bike program will ultimately do nothing to improve student life.

Unfortunately, having a cheering section did not mask their poor debate skills. Much like their questionnaire submission, their responses lacked substance and clarity. Furthermore, their unprofessional and condescending debate demeanor, both in spoken word and in body language, did nothing to save their poor debate prep. We are especially disappointed that, as the current Vice President of SGC-MMC, Alina Gonzalez failed to uphold the high standards of conduct expected of a representative of our student body. If this is the attitude these candidates will carry with them while representing us, we would much rather that they did not.

Biscayne Bay Campus: Uncontested



DENISE HALPIN
 (P)
EMILIO COLLYER
 (VP)

This year, the student government elections at the Biscayne Bay Campus are completely uncontested, and because of this *The Beacon* will not recommend any of its candidates.

All of SGC-BBC's candidates, in both the executive and legislative races, only need their own vote to win, therefore we cannot logically recommend one candidate over another.

This is not an attack against the candidates, their experience, or their ability to govern. Per our several editorials on the subject, we hope that this is not a trend that continues in future elections because it limits the choices available for students and prevents candidates from constructively hearing about issues that will have a direct impact on students.

It is important for candidates running for these positions in student governments to have opposition in order to guarantee accountability and credibility.

SGC-MMC SENATE

| SEATS | NUMBER OF SEATS | BEACON RECOMMENDS |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| SENATOR-AT-LARGE | 3 | Samir Patel, Carlos Rodriguez |
| ARTS AND SCIENCES | 5 | Donovan Dawson, Sebastian Larrazabal |
| HOUSING | 2 | Dean Williams, Thayron Latham |
| BUSINESS | 3 | None |
| LOWER DIVISION | 4* | None |
| HONORS COLLEGE | 1 | None |
| GRADUATE | 4 | None |
| ENGINEERING | 2 | None |

*CANDIDATES DID NOT RETURN INFORMATION PACKET QUESTIONNAIRE

VOTING INFORMATION

Polls will be open on April 5-6. Voters will be able to vote on either my.fiu.edu or various locations at Modesto Maidique, Biscayne Bay Campus and the Engineering Center.

For an up-to-date version of this voter guide, which includes coverage and analysis of the SGC-MMC Senatorial debates and SGC-BBC Candidate forum, log on to

fiusm.com



GUATEMALA

Release of accused drug lord demanded

Police say 400 people marched in support of Guatemala's reputed top drug trafficker captured by the government and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.



PERU

Resurgent leftist in Peru election

A leftist former army officer who nearly won Peru's presidency five years ago with fiery anti-capitalist rhetoric and open affinity for Hugo Chavez has risen once again to share the lead in opinion polls.



MEXICO

AG quits, pres nominates 1st woman to post

President Felipe Calderon accepted the resignation Thursday of his attorney general and nominated his top organized crime prosecutor as a successor, the first woman to hold the post if she is approved.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

More students could run, if not for clause

BECCA GRIESEMER
Staff Writer

A clause in the student government association's constitution leaves only a handful of students on a university of thousands eligible to run for SGA president.

In the elections which begin this week, Denise Halpin is the lone presidential candidate at the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

According to Article VII, Section 4B, the president must have held an SGA position for at least two semesters, or 154 consecutive days, prior to the first day of campaigning in general elections.

Halpin agrees with having criteria for presidential candidates.

"Being on the council gives you the opportunity to see what you can do to change certain things," Halpin said. "If you never stepped foot on BBC or [the Modesto Maidique Campus] and you ran for president, you wouldn't really know what the students there want or what actual things are essential in getting done toward improving the

university."

The current SGC-BBC vice president said that because the requirement is in the constitution, it therefore must be met.

"But in my opinion, it also just depends on the leader you have," Halpin said. "You can have someone who has been at BBC or MMC for three years that doesn't have the heart, drive, and determination to be a good successful leader, whereas somebody that may have only had one or two semesters could do an outstanding job."

In Halpin's first semester, she recalled noticing problems like an inefficient schedule for the Golden Panther Express and a lack of food options.

"But I wouldn't say that gave me even enough of a perspective to say, 'Okay, let me be president.' No," Halpin said. "There needs to be extra qualifications met because you're representing every student from that campus and it's essential for you to know what they need."

Christin "CiCi" Battle, SGC-BBC president, could not be reached for

AT THE SNACK BAR



NED CHANDLER/THE BEACON

Members of Student Programming Council Tashaun A. Williams (left) and Chrystelle Edma (right) serve refreshments such as nachos with cheese to those who came to see SPC's presentation of "Little Fockers" on March 31 in the Wolfe University Center Theater.

comment.

Emilio Collyer, SGC-BBC lectures coordinator and Halpin's vice presidential candidate, said the clause is there to prevent a "totally inexperienced" or "incompetent" president taking office.

"I wouldn't be comfortable with a president that goes into office not knowing anything about how the student government structure is, how things are run, and what each position does," Collyer said. "That's not to say it completely protects us from it,

it's just a precaution we have in place to make sure we have someone that knows what they're doing in power."

Many universities across the state leave out a two-term requirement from

REQUIREMENTS, page 2

Commission candidate's realization focus of talk

KATIE LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

Donna Milo has never quite fit in: as a citizen, conservative, and a man.

Milo, a transsexual running for City of Miami Commissioner, was on campus on March 31 to discuss her transition from man to woman and aspirations for office.

Milo, 49, who last year ran for Congressional primaries in Miami-Dade and lost, detailed her struggles from a confused young man to a professional woman, and answered questions to an enthusiastic, albeit small, crowd.

"The most important point is openness to the world," said Milo said of prejudice toward transsexuals. "It's okay to acknowledge you have a label, but don't let that label be your being."

Milo grew up as Ed, a Cuban-Italian who married, fathered two children, and became a successful general contractor before the death of a friend made her realize that life was too important to live without being who she truly felt she was.

During the talk she stopped for a brief period to ask some men hammer-drilling in an adjacent room if they could please keep it down for a short time, and offered to help them afterward.

"I don't know what it's like to be a genetic female, nor a woman trapped in a man's body. I just had an abiding need to feel complete and whole," Milo said, who shortly after decided to confide in her sister, tearing up briefly as she remembered her sister's immediate acceptance.

Transsexuals like Milo are different from the transgendered in that the former not only identify with the opposite gender, but also wish to surgically become that gender. In a sign of growing acceptance of transsexualism, President Barack Obama appointed Amanda Simpson, a transsexual woman, to the Commerce Department.

But stigmas still exist, as well as personal conflict. Milo, who grew up Catholic, was surprised at the generally accepting attitudes of her family and close friends as she began to tell them her plans.

"My mother at first asked if there was some way to fix this, to make it go away," Milo said. "Like maybe there was some pill I could take. But everyone I was close with before the transition, I remain close with to this day."

It took about five years and \$17,000 for Milo to undergo several surgeries including penile modification and vaginoplasty, although she did not alter her voice.

She spoke often of the misconceptions she would face from strangers and people she would deal with on the phone for business, and then meet for the first time.

"I recognize I am different, but I don't dwell on that," Milo said. "I have a choice on how I respond to how you respond to that."

As for politics, Milo says she was hopeful of Obama's 2008 inauguration, but felt scorned when it was "more of the same."

Inspired to make her own change, Milo ran as a Republican in the congressional primaries, which drew widespread criticism, especially after a Sirius radio interview used out-of-context quotes to peg her as anti-gay marriage.

Luther Campbell wrote a scathing opinion article in *Miami New Times*, and bloggers, even *The New York Times*, picked up the story without contacting her on the issue.

In his article published on June 10, 2010, Campbell said, "Milo is just one of these repressed conservative Republican dudes like George Rekers."

But Milo is firm that she believes in rights for gay couples, and also says she has spent the last 11 years as a woman living with a woman. However, according to Milo, it's the benefits that come with marriage she

seeks rather than the word itself.

"I was brought up in a Catholic family, I believe marriage is exclusive to a man and woman, but I think there should be a separation, an ability to combine estates and gay couples. Let's leave the semantics to the religious organizations and the issues to the government."

Running as a conservative transsexual seemed difficult at first, but after various meetings with the public they began to realize she valued the same issues they did – financial, health, and economic woes. Out of three candidates, Milo received almost 24 percent of the votes.

Her current run for City of Miami Commissioner for District 2 focuses on budget issues and job creation.

Milo hopes her platform can help people look past her transsexuality. In the "Meet Donna" section of her website she does not even mention it, but she is also not shy about questions regarding it.

"I think it's important people [struggling with gender dysphoria] know there are a lot more people that are caring and compassionate than are negative. I want them to know not to give up."

Camille Perkins, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Initiative graduate assistant for the

Multicultural Programs and Services department at BBC oversaw the talk, as well as other on-campus events for the LGBT community.

"There is definitely more we could do," Perkins said. "We're getting better. We're lobbying now to get a full-time LGBT assistant director."

Perkins did not have figures but estimated the LGBT community at the University to be about 10 to 15 percent.

The Milo event also helped kick off BBC's first official Pride Week, which begins on April 11, and hosts a series of events on both BBC and the Modesto Maidique Campus, including expos, special guests, and culminates in a drag ball on Friday night.

Ethan Larrea, a transitioning transsexual who attended Milo's luncheon, was optimistic about the University and her community.

"I'm out to everybody. They're cool with it. I've never seen trouble," Larrea said.

Milo, who will continue campaigning in between contracting jobs, conforms to the idea that everyone is different, so normalcy can never be clarified.

"I don't define myself as transsexual," Milo said. "I'm just a butch bitch that builds houses and runs for office."