

University on waitlist for super defense armored vehicle

DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS
Staff Writer

With a curb weight of 37,850 pounds and the ability to withstand improvised explosive devices, rocket propelled grenades, ballistic ammunition and mine blasts; the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle acquired by Ohio State University Department of Public Safety has made national headlines.

According to The Huffington Post, the vehicle is a MaxxPro model MRAP, manufactured by

Navistar that was acquired through a military surplus program at no cost to OSU.

In an interview with The Huffington Post, OSU Chief of Police Paul Denton mentioned several ways in which his department plans on deploying the MRAP, including natural disasters, shootings and bomb threats.

University Chief of Police Alexander Casas does not intend on having his department obtain

SEE VEHICLE, PAGE 2

INTRAMURAL SORORITY FOOTBALL LEAGUE



ANTHONY IZQUIERDO/THE BEACON

The girls from Alpha Omicron Pi and Alpha Xi Delta face off during the weekly intramural sorority football league.

Collective experiences spice up “Salsa” play

MADLINE NODA
Contributing Writer

When it comes to dancing salsa, having a good partner is essential -- but what happens when two people meet at a salsa club and the sparks dim?

Glenn Hutchinson, an English teacher and assistant director at the Center for Excellence in Writing, wrote the play, “Salsa,” depicting this dilemma.

“Salsa” is a ten-minute comedy play that examines the interactions between characters -- Steve, played by Hutchinson, and Diana, played by FIU alumni, Evelyn Perez -- when they meet at a salsa club. Steve, who is an outsider, has trouble taking lead in salsa dancing. It’s up to Diana to teach him how to lead.

“I just imagined in this same space that it would be really interesting if the

two people were dancing and something unusual happened,” Hutchinson said.

“Salsa” will be shown through Oct. 5 at the Microtheater Miami on Biscayne Boulevard. Shows begin at 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Hutchinson wrote the play last summer and submitted it for the new season of Mircotheater Miami. Ivan Lopez, teacher at the Department of Theatre and co-creative director of White Rose Miami, directed the play. He met Hutchinson while acting in Miami I-Acts Festival in New Theatre.

“Glenn and Evelyn fit the characters very well so the rehearsals mainly consisted of running through the piece and trying out different approaches to get comfortable with the characters and develop the relationship,” Lopez said.

Hutchinson said since he was still new to Miami, he felt that he fit the role perfectly.

“As soon as I read the scene it became clear that Glenn would be best in that role. He and the character shared a lot of things in common. Both of them Americans that moved to South Florida and sought to integrate into the culture a little bit by taking salsa lessons,” Lopez said. “That made it easier for him to connect to that. Also, Glenn is a terrific actor so it just seemed natural and the obvious choice.”

Hutchinson and Lopez met Perez while acting at the New Theatre.

“Glenn is a generous and talented actor and writer. Also good chemistry really makes a difference,” Perez said.

“I’ve seen her perform a couple times and think she is a wonderful and talented actress,” Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson moved to Miami two years ago to work at the Center for Excellence in Writing after living in North Carolina for

several years. Once in Miami, he took up lessons in salsa and boxing.

Originally born in Dallas, Texas, he went on to North Carolina for college. While switching his major from guitar to history, Hutchinson took as many acting and theater history classes as possible. Later on, he became interested in writing and how it let him express himself.

“I have always been interested in theater since a young age growing up in Dallas. My parents put me in acting classes since I was three, mainly because they didn’t want me to be shy. When I started to like writing, I became more interested in playwriting in college,” Hutchinson said.

After discovering his love for writing, he was given the opportunity to teach a first year writing course as a graduate student.

SEE SALSA, PAGE 2

Prescription medicine abuse apparent on-campus

FIOUSM STAFF

“Study drugs” like Adderall and Ritalin that are prescription drugs intended to treat attention deficit disorder have become popular among college campuses – if not by use, then as a topic of conversation.

Two-thirds of young people surveyed in a University of Florida study said the use of prescription stimulants is a “moderate-to-large” problem among youth.

Fifteen percent said they had used a prescription stimulant and almost 12 percent admitted to giving stimulants to a peer or taking someone else’s pills.

With the recent investigation of former University fraternity Pi Kappa Alpha’s “Pike Pharmacy,” some students agree that prescription drug use is a campus problem.

O’Brien Johnson, senior international relations major, said it is a rampant trend among his peers.

“Drugs are definitely readily available for people to indulge in, regardless of being Greek affiliated or not,” Johnson said. And while the Florida Medical Examiners reported an 8.8 percent drop in drug-related deaths last year, oxycodone – a prescription painkiller – remained responsible for most drug-related deaths in 2012.

Florida’s Vital Statistics Office reported more than 178,000 deaths in 2012.

And of the 8,330 deaths that were drug-related, prescriptions were found more often than illicit drugs as a cause of death.

Still, the number of deaths caused by oxycodone was 41 percent less in 2012 than the year before.

“People might be consuming [oxycodone] less and being more careful about it,” said Thalia

a tolerance or knowledge of how to take them,” Johnson said.

Gov. Rick Scott created State-

to abuse their prescription rights, in many cases through the use of pain clinics.

Since May 2011, the seven Regional Drug Enforcement Strike Forces have closed 254 clinics and made 4,226 arrests, including that of 76 doctors, said the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. It also said the teams have seized more than \$11 million and 876,000 pills.

“I think as we develop stricter regulations on the type of drugs people can be administered, we’ll begin to see a decrease in the threat of the abuse of prescription medicine,” said Roberto Lopez, senior computer science major.

-Additional reporting by Associated Press.

-news@fiusm.com

“Drugs are definitely readily available for people to indulge in, regardless of being Greek affiliated or not.”

O’Brien Johnson
Senior
International Relations

Ramirez, junior public relations major. “They can’t just base their results on deaths.”

Johnson agreed.

“People are just getting smarter with their usage and gaining either

wide Drug Enforcement Strike Force teams in 2011 to combat prescription drugs and related deaths.

The teams were charged with closing legal loopholes that permitted doctors and pharmacies

WORLD NEWS

UPS seeks increase in cost of stamps, to 49 cents

It soon could cost 49 cents to mail a letter. The postal Board of Governors said Wednesday it wants to raise the price of a first-class stamp by 3 cents, citing the agency's "precarious financial condition" and the uncertain prospects for postal overhaul legislation in Congress. As part of the rate increase request, the cost for each additional ounce of first-class mail would increase a penny to 21 cents while the price of mailing a postcard would rise by a cent, to 34 cents. The cost to mail a letter to an international destination would jump 5 cents to \$1.15. The rate proposal must be approved by the independent Postal Regulatory Commission. If the commission accepts it, the increase would become effective Jan. 26.

Sen. Cruz ends talkathon against Obamacare

Republican Sen. Ted Cruz has ended a marathon Senate speech opposing President Barack Obama's health care law after talking for 21 hours, 19 minutes. The tea party conservative stopped speaking at 12 noon EDT Wednesday, sitting down to yield the floor. The Texas freshman began talking Tuesday afternoon, seeking the urge defunding of the 3-year-old health system overhaul. Fellow conservatives helped by making occasional remarks. Cruz had virtually no chance of prevailing.

US borrowing authority to be exhausted by October

Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said Wednesday the government will have exhausted its borrowing authority by Oct. 17, leaving the United States just \$30 billion cash on hand to pay its bills.

That's a slightly worse financial position than Treasury predicted last month and adds to the pressure on Congress to increase the government's borrowing cap soon to avert a first-ever U.S. default on its obligations. The government reached its \$16.7 trillion debt limit in May.

For more world news, check out www.FIUSM.com.

UPD considers smaller alternative to armored vehicles, Humvees

VEHICLE, PAGE 1

an MRAP like the one at OSU, instead a smaller more maneuverable vehicle.

"One of the things we are looking at getting is an armored vehicle to engage an active shooter or other types of critical incidents. We are not going out at the first thing that's available," Casas said. "We have specific requirements. We are looking at getting something a little smaller."

Casas said University Police Department is on a government-surplus waitlist for unarmored Humvee vehicles. The vehicles would cost \$2000 a piece and would be primarily used for flooding situations.

He said the department would consider an armored Humvee should it become available as a dual-use vehicle for both natural disasters and active shooters.

Maria Nunez, international relations junior, sees the possibility of an armored vehicle like Navistar Maxxpro as a "red flag."

"You'd see these kinds of vehicles being bought

airborne division and whose area of responsibility was vehicle maintenance.

Lin said the vehicles can be used to attack, but are mostly used as personnel carriers.

They were integrated to

she would not be concerned if UPD obtained an MRAP.

"I wouldn't be scared, I would just be wowed they got new equipment," Jordan said.

Jordan agreed that the presence of an MRAP vehicle on University grounds would turn heads.

"I think if we had one, it would confuse people as to what's really going and maybe might cause a little ruckus and confusion," said Jordan.

Lin explained that the use of MRAP vehicles in a university is inconvenient and can cause alarm.

"They are really hard to maintain and their fuel usage is extraordinary," Lin said. "They are really intimidating. We used these vehicles in downtown Baghdad and it was just too much for the city...you don't want something like that moving around campus."

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“It doesn't make sense for universities to be acquiring these kinds of vehicles.”

Maria Nunez
Junior
International Relations

if you were preparing for war...not for a University. It doesn't make sense for Universities to be acquiring these kinds of vehicles," said Nunez.

Hsiu-Yi Lin, hospitality and tourism management junior, is an army sergeant who served in the 82nd

replace Humvees and can perform all of the same tasks.

"Anything that the Humvee can do, the MRAP is supposed to do the same," said Lin.

Amira Jordan, senior hospitality and tourism management major, said

Community-inspired Panther brings stage to life in new play

SALSA, PAGE 1

"In the course, I encouraged students to write and reflect upon this new environment at the University and trying to make connections with your classes," Hutchinson said.

Later on, he went to teach at Johnson C. Smith University. While teaching at JCSU, he directed the university's writing studio and focused on peer-tutoring and teaching how to write.

While writing plays, poetry and academic journals, Hutchinson focused most of his attention on community-based topics such as immi-

gration. He often connects his writing with how people

tion groups there and a lot of my writing has been about that

who are undocumented," Hutchinson said.

program. It will be the first public high school in Miami-Dade to have a writing center.

"I had a lot of courses in college that connected to the community and I was impressed by the teachers who saw education as a means of social change," said Hutchinson. "So I believe that courses here at FIU can help us think about what changes we can make in our own community and how to accomplish it."

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“As soon as I read the scene, it became clear that Glenn would be best in that role.”

Ivan Lopez
Director
Department of Theatre

play a role within a community.

"When in North Carolina, I worked with many students that were undocumented. Many of them dealing with issues of deportation. I volunteered with different immigra-

topic," Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson is also the campus advisor of Students Working For Equal Rights.

"They address a lot of different issues. They tackle the issue of immigration, challenges of students

Now at the University, he still participates in several volunteer projects such as Miami Rescue Mission, Inc. and helping Miami Northwestern Senior High School start its own writing center and a writing fellows

College student eats way to education

AP STAFF

A University of Wisconsin student with a nickname of "Silo" is eating his way through school — competitively.

Computer engineering student Eric Dahl now ranks third in the world of competitive eating as determined

by All Pro Eating rankings, though he once held the top spot. Dahl has earned more than \$18,000 in prize money or merchandise to help pay for his education.

"I'm eating for my education," he said. "It helps me get through."

Dahl was drawn to competitive eating in 2011,

at the former Big Red's Steakhouse in Madison. Dahl didn't want to pay for his meal so he signed up for a challenge: eat a three-pound cheesesteak sandwich in less than 10 minutes and skip the bill. He finished in 5 minutes, 50 seconds.

"It just started rolling from there," he said.

Dahl's first paycheck came from Dickey's Barbecue Pit in suburban Minneapolis, where he earned \$250 for inhaling nine pulled-pork sandwiches in six minutes. The former high school athlete found the competition and its over-the-top atmosphere reminiscent of professional wrestling.

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Textbooks: overpriced necessities

MOISES FUERTES
Staff Writer

At the start of every semester, the first thing I look at is the syllabus for every class.

I scan these documents as if I were a hawk, looking for all the overpriced books that I will have to purchase or rent. Suffice to say, textbooks are an overpriced necessity.

According to USA today, textbooks costs have soared 82 percent since 2002.

In an ideal world, other means of production would have created some type of competition in the textbook printing industry.

The digital age holds with it many promises, but when it comes to online version of textbooks, otherwise known as e-books, it has not exactly provided competitive pricing.

On one side, we have single textbooks that cost upwards of \$200. On the other side, we have courses that require

multiple books. In between these, we have overpriced e-books. The similarity here

This is one part that e-books take care of by virtue of the medium, but they are not very cost involved in this process. E-book costs are therefore not justified at the moment, no matter how interactive they are.

As technology prices go down and book prices continue to soar, it would be ideal for the book industry to start offering most of the content on tablets. Lynn University, for example, has provided iPads to their entering freshmen class and eliminated the need for them to purchase textbooks, which will save these students thousands of dollars.

But while Lynn University is indeed pushing boundaries, as long as e-books remain as expensive as they currently are, nothing will change.

I believe there will come a time when e-books will be the norm.

When that happens, students will have access to books that are both interactive and economical.

How long that will take is anyone's guess.

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“E-books normally end up being single semester rentals that cost almost as much as purchasing the physical counterpart.”

is that so far, regardless of the amount of books a student may need, all mediums used to acquire the main material for all classes remain overpriced.

Unfortunately, the digital age has not been as kind as I imagined it to be in this area. One of the reasons textbook prices are high is due to all the third parties involved in bringing them to a student.

economical either.

By default, e-books normally end up being single semester rentals that cost almost as much as purchasing the physical counterpart.

I think the book industry is not using digital to its full potential by making e-books unnecessarily expensive.

Digital data is easily copied and distributed, there is little

Rethinking the Second Amendment

ANDREA COLLEDANI
Contributing Writer

Since its adoption on Dec. 15, 1791, the Constitution's Second Amendment has received much attention by all sides of the political and social arenas.

While the Federal and Supreme Courts of the United States have tendered interpretations of its true meaning several times over the 222 years since its conception, the wording of this constitutional law has not changed.

It reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Over the past four decades, the interpretation that the Second Amendment protects individual rights to bear arms as opposed to States' rights to maintain "well regulated militias" has been increasingly favored.

This growing trend was once defined by Chief Justice Warren Burger, a conservative Republican, as "a fraud." He believed that the Second Amendment did not protect the right to bear firearms at all; instead, it gave states the right to maintain armed militias for the security of the states, as opposed to that of individuals.

Even before considering whether the law protects societal or individual rights, one should consider the time period in which the law was written.

The 18th and 19th centuries were a period of great social and political unrest; North Americans were under British rule without representation by elected officials, and the British were eager to raise revenue by imposing taxes and levies.

Responding to the perceived abuse of power by the British, Americans staged protests in Boston, which eventually culminated with the British sending combat troops to impose direct rule on the Colonies.

The Americans reacted in 1775 by mobilizing groups of armed men to expel royal officials and establish control over their land.

They succeeded, and 16 years later, the Founding Fathers drafted the Second Amendment to protect the right to maintain well-regulated militias.

Although the thought of responding to an abuse of power by the government through the use of firearms might be exciting to some, there is no indication that Americans will need to be called to action by their states to form militias any time soon.

There has not even been an instance in which civilian militias have been summoned to fight in domestic or foreign conflicts throughout the past decades.

However, there have been countless instances in which all states have had to respond to attacks on public safety through the employment of non-civilian forces, such as the police and military.

-For the full column, go to fiusm.com

Can women actually have it all?

CONSTANZA GALLARDO
Contributing Writer

Today's modern woman is pressured into being a superwoman. She is expected to have a full education, a successful career, get married and have children.

Last year, Anne-Marie Slaughter, the first woman to be director of policy planning for the United States' Department of State, wrote a controversial article about why women today can't have it all. Slaughter has a remarkable professional background and became one of the most successful women in the country. However, in her article "Why women still can't have it all," she explains how today's society does not allow women to have it all, and this means, having a career and raising a family efficaciously.

When she realized she could not do both accordingly, she left her position at the White House to spend more time with her two teenage boys.

Her decision and article received a lot of positive and negative feedback from women of all ages and across the country. From my 22-year-old perspective, Slaughter made the right decision to put aside her professional life and place her family first since, for me, family always comes first, whether you are a woman or a man.

Similar to her view, I believe today's modern woman will have to compromise at a certain point in her life: she will have to choose between working or having a

family.

There are still many social stigmas and professional obstacles that do not allow women to have a full-time job and be with their families at the same time. Yes, companies do offer maternity leave, but what happens after that?

Society still puts certain responsibilities on a woman, and if she fails to do them, most of the time she is looked down upon. Who will take care of our children? Who will clean the house? Cook dinner? Wash the clothes?

How are we ever going to succeed in these two important duties if society does not change its view on women?

To get a little bit of perspective I did an informal survey in one of my classes. I asked 15 female students their opinion on this issue. Subsequently, all of them agreed that they will work after graduating from the University, and 13 of them plan to have a family in the near future.

One of the young ladies felt that society was no closer in allowing women to work and provide for her family simultaneously.

"They expect us to stay home to take care of the children, or they try to discourage us by paying women less than men," said Stenia Accilien, a 22-year-old biology major.

I feel our present society promotes the idea of educated, professional and prosperous women. But at the same time it expects us to find a partner, have children and raise a family in a stable home.

And I have not even mentioned the age

limits that society has given women and expects us to do all these things by then.

On January 12 in The Guardian's series "Dear Mariella," a woman in her early 30s wrote to the columnist about how she felt she was running out of time when it came to having children.

This seems to be a common worry for women after they hit 25.

There's this pressure to get married and have kids before the time you hit 30, especially here in Miami where the Hispanic culture is very strong.

"I don't really know how I could be able to do that without taking a break from work or not working every day," says Sarahnais Zerpa, 21, majoring in Asian studies and art, when asked about having a family and a career at the same time.

"So it's as if we aren't 'meant' to balance a full career with a family since we can't work full time."

Many female students at FIU may feel the same as Zerpa, myself included.

After I graduate, I want to work. I want to travel; I want to experience the world, and I want to get married and have a family by the time I'm 30 (decision influenced by my Hispanic culture).

How will I be able to balance and achieve all these goals?

Will society change its views and expectations on women and help me? Or will I have to compromise some for others?

Will society let me be that superwoman?

-opinion@fiusm.com

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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FIU Panthers take flight at Red Bull Flugtag

CHRISTINA GARCIA
Contributing Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, the Panthers have landed.

Saturday, Sept. 21, The Flying Panthers took off a 30-foot ramp and glided 12 feet into the glimmering waters of Bayfront Park at the annual Red Bull Flugtag event.

According to Daniel Oliva, a junior mechanical engineering major, the aerial journey began in July, when Kevin Goldvarg, a senior mechanical engineering major, posted a Facebook status seeking like-minded individuals that would be interested in entering the Flugtag competition with him—contrary to the “evil engineering exam” story on the National Red Bull Flugtag website.

Four mechanical engineering

majors responded: Patrick Alvarez, a graduate student; Juan Barrera, a senior; Andres Cardenas, a junior; and Oliva.

Initially, this seemed enough since the competition required a team consisting of “one fearless pilot and four people to aid in takeoff,” as stated on the site page.

A month into their adventure, they realized they were missing something.

Oliva admitted they didn’t know what to do about the wings, so they asked George Dulikravich, professor in the Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, for help.

The professor offered a solution in the form of one of his students, Sohail Reddy, a senior mechanical engineering major.

Over email, Reddy said he was “in charge of the design phase and the construction phase.”

When asked why the craft didn’t resemble the sketch on the site team page, Oliva said, “that was a rough sketch of something to turn into the Red Bull Company.”

Once they started working on it, they had to take that idea and create something that better fit their time and budget constraints.

The main concern for the team was money for materials.

Eventually, the team was able to raise one thousand dollars from sponsors Top Cars, Aero Kool Corporation, Waffleworks and Tag Heuer.

Finally, they were able to go to Home Depot and buy the materials to start building. The team didn’t finish until the day right before it was due, the Thursday before the competition.

“Overall, it was pretty good. I was quite surprised that we

had great chemistry,” said Oliva. “Everyone input their own ideas, we all talked it out and talked it out democratically.”

In order to decide the roles the members would play during the actual take-off, they wrote their names on paper and randomly picked who would not be pushing the day of the competition.

The odd man out was Barrera, but that didn’t stop him from running behind the craft on stage, waving his arms in support of his team members pushing the plane and jumping with them over the ledge into the watery grave below.

As much as they planned, the vessel veered to the left early in its flight and was thrown off course into the water, cutting its flight short.

According to Oliva, the problem stemmed from their fear in the craft getting caught on the

base.

In an effort to sidestep that problem, they didn’t strap it down to the base hard enough, instead they depended on Goldvarg’s body weight to keep it pinned down.

When they were pushing it down the ramp, a draft came, tipped the wings sideways and the tail was brought down.

Once the tail went down, it hit Alvarez and that disrupted the flow of the whole thing, said Oliva.

When asked what they would do differently, Oliva said they could “add a piece of wood to the tail in the bottom and also create a better way to mount the Flugtag on the base.”

Students can visit the Red Bull Flugtag page for clips of The Flying Panthers’ flight.

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Spotted on campus: a surprise in a baby stroller

CHRISTINA GARCIA
Contributing Writer

The other day while sitting in class, taking notes, I heard a faint tinkling in the background.

This wasn’t some lifelike cell-phone alert or the clatter of a chongra bracelet, but the all too familiar ting ting ting of a dog’s collar.

Curious, I looked around the room, but I didn’t see hint or hair of the source, so I went back to concentrating on the lecture.

The next class, I came prepared. I looked around the room, searching for a pooch in a purse or a puppy on a lap, but again I didn’t see anything.

It wasn’t until I approached a classmate with a stroller that I heard the noise again, ting ting ting.

Hesitantly, Jennifer Schafer, a junior English major, moved aside and introduced me to Sebastian.

Sebastian is a black and white Papillon, approximately 5 years old, with a very special ability: he is a certified seizure alert dog.

A seizure alert dog warns people with epilepsy of oncoming attacks before they occur.

According to Schafer, her companion typically warns her ten minutes in advance.

Not only that, he will call over people he recognizes are close to Schafer to come to her side when she is incapacitated.

When she was first diagnosed in 2008, the first thing Schafer did was

give her car away.

“I didn’t feel safe having five minutes or less’ notice to pull to the side of the road” she said.

As defined by the Epilepsy Foundation, “epilepsy is a medical condition that produces seizures affecting a variety of mental and physical functions. Seizures happen when clusters of nerve cells in the brain signal abnormally, which may briefly alter a person’s consciousness, movements or actions.”

Schafer said it mostly takes place in her temporal lobe, the part in charge of short term memory, which “makes learning new material take twice as long.”

When she is about to experience an attack, five minutes before, Schafer will start experiencing some of the following: a metallic taste in her mouth, blurred or double vision and/or a nauseated feeling.

With Sebastian, Schafer gets a warning 10 minutes ahead in the form of a panicked whimper, whining, pawing or an adamant bark if she is still not paying attention.

According to Schafer, some people pay as much as \$700 for a class to teach their dog this skill and \$1 thousand for a purebred Papillon. Sebastian entered her life free of charge.

In fact, Schafer said, he entered her life by accident.

When the dog was only 6-8 months old, a friend of Schafer found him in the streets -- malnourished, flea-infested and with matted

fur. Miraculously, when they took him to the vet, he had no serious ailments.

“Three dips, a few drops and a lot of food later and he was normal,”

didn’t know it was this,” she said.

He jumped on her lap, put his front paws on her sternum and wouldn’t let her get up.

When she tried, he would growl at

“I cried.
I didn’t want him let him go.
I don’t know why.”

Jennifer Schafer
Junior
English major

said Schafer.

Initially, her friend was going to keep the little dog. One day, he stayed with Schafer for a few hours and she “didn’t want to give him back.”

She admitted that before Sebastian, she never considered herself a dog person, that she even experienced an “ick factor” when other dogs would get too close. The first time Sebastian hopped on her lap and licked her cheek, she was in love.

“I cried. I didn’t want to let him go. I don’t know why,” said Schafer.

That was before she knew about his special abilities.

“The first time it happened, I

her head, very uncharacteristically.

Ten minutes later, Schafer started having her signals.

This happened two more times until Schafer realized it wasn’t a coincidence. She reached out to a veterinarian, a vet technician and two pet trainers at Petsmart -- they all confirmed that he was displaying the skills of an alert dog and actually informing Schafer of her episodes.

After documenting proof, Schafer was able to obtain a prescription that allows the little dog to accompany her at all times.

While the University has strict animal policies, Sebastian is allowed on-campus because he is a

certified service dog.

When he’s off-duty, Sebastian walks around campus on his owner’s leash. When he is on-duty, he is in the baby stroller.

According to Schafer, he has turned into a celebrity at the University apartments, the “mascot of the building” to those that know them.

When asked if anyone had given her a hard time for having a pet on-campus, Schafer said no. The University accommodated her in a studio, as she requested, so as to help Sebastian stay focused.

Schafer said that since Sebastian has entered her life, she has not had attacks as often; he has only alerted her since he entered her life a total of 15 times. According to her, you are more likely to suffer an attack if you are stressed.

With Sebastian, she said she feels safe.

Even if she were to have a seizure at night, she said Sebastian stays by her head, nudging her face until she regains consciousness.

If she is in a room alone and suffering a seizure, he has been known to bark for help. He even knows how to open the zipper on the baby stroller with his nose to release himself if anything were ever to happen.

Next time you hear ting ting ting, know that’s not just the sound of a dog collar, that’s the sound of Schafer’s “perfect little angel.”

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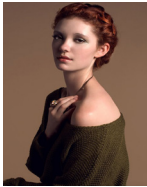
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Nature vs. nurture as seen in FIU fashion

COLUMNIST



ASHLEY GARNER

I have always been the type of person that was extremely interested in the “nurture vs. nature” concept. I have never much felt at home in my own environment whether that was in the depths of the foothills of North Carolina or the suburbs of Jacksonville, and as a result I see myself as the product of nurture over nature.

That concept is taken into consideration when I think about the way that I dress myself I have never given much thought to my location as much as I have thought about my mood—once again nurture over nature.

However, after living in Miami for going on five years, I have begun singing a very different tune.

If one does not consider the South Floridian environment when getting dressed in the morning it can become quite dangerous.

For example, you wouldn’t want to wear a multi-layered ensemble in the middle of August because there is a good chance that within minutes you would become dehydrated and faint. Trust me, I would

know based off of experience.

Sophomore psychology major Tiffany Concepcion was very much in tune with nature last week when she was spotted wearing a summery polka-dot dress in the housing quad.

“The weather is finally nice so I wanted to reciprocate that,” she said. And reciprocate she did, pairing her light-hearted dress with a heavy duty black fisher’s cap to protect her from the downside of nice weather: heat stroke.

One thing that we all must consider when getting dressed based on the weather conditions is that during these recent months, hurricane season tends to have the days starting out gloomy with rain pouring down and ending with a cloudless sky.

This can either leave you looking like an idiot with rain boots on when there’s not a cloud in sight or like sophomore international relations major Ariana Romero, who looked like a gleaming Venus figure in her whimsical full-length white lace dress.

When I asked Romero what made her get dressed in that particular outfit she responded, “I thought it was the girliest, most fun spirited thing to wear for this gloomy day.”

Although by the time I had run into Romero, it was far from gloomy.

The last recent encounter that had me pondering nurture vs. nature was with junior fine arts major Pascale Theard who was seen sporting a gloriously hued, sunshine yellow skirt that was impossible to miss.

She told me that she usually dresses within her mood and that day her mood was “light, flowy, fun and gypsy.”

This was not a surprise considering that it was the first time the sun had been out in two days.

So was her outfit a result of the nurture vs. nature phenomenon?

Would she have worn the same thing if it had been raining all day?

We may never know, but it is always an intriguing thing to consider.

The psychology behind the way we dress is a complex and troubled one that is a mixture of nurture and nature; of genuine expression and false persona; of fantasy and reality.

The way that we dress is not one or the other but all of the above. We are the result of nurture, nature and so much more.

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ASHLEY GARNER/THE BEACON

Ariana Romero walks to class in a flowing white lace dress.

Theater department kicks off the year with “Cardenio”

DANIEL URIA
Staff Writer

While many students have their focus on football season, this weekend marks the beginning of another kind of season at FIU. The FIU Theatre Department opens its four-play theatre season on Sept. 27 with its production of “Cardenio.”

The director of “Cardenio” Michael Yawney had this to say about the play: “It’s about people finding out who they are through their experience in Italy. Hearing great music, eating great food, hearing great poetry and seeing great art.”

“Through these experiences, they learn who they’re really in love with, who they really are and what really matters to them,” he explained.

“Cardenio” is a unique play in several ways.

First, it employs a dynamic stage design that symbolizes the instability of the characters’ lives.

“It’s slanted at a very odd angle so that sometimes it feels that the stage is going to throw everybody off it,” Yawney describes.

“Cardenio” also features 12 characters, each of which Yawney claims to be the main character, often on stage at the same time.

“Having 12 characters is kind of wonderful, because you get to pick and

choose,” said Yawney. “If you lose interest with this one, you can just look at the next one.”

One of these characters is Doris, played by Jannelys Santos, a senior seeking a BA degree in theatre.

Santos describes Doris as the antagonist

Camila. She’s just really misunderstood.” She said.

William Cadena, also a senior with a BFA major in theatre, plays Will.

His character is faced with having his best friend’s bride ask to seduce her on their wedding night.

ious journey which involves so many ironic, playful moments,” said Cadena. “It is such a fun show and I hope that translates on all the nights to come.”

Santos expressed her excitement for the production to begin.

“I cannot wait for opening night,” she began. “To have a live audience with people not just from our tiny theatre department, but our families and friends who have little exposure to theatre—it will definitely be interesting. You never know what will hit-or-miss a particular audience. I’m ready for their feedback!”

Yawney encouraged students to pull themselves from their laptops and smartphones for a moment and come out to experience a bit of theatre and also provided a guarantee: “If you come, you will learn five great recipes for pasta,” he joked.

On a more serious note, Yawney believes students will enjoy the experience of seeing a play that they likely have had no prior exposure to.

“What makes it especially fun as the first play is everyone is going to come into this not knowing what they’re going to see. And when they see it, I think that brings another excitement.”

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“It’s slanted at a very odd angle so that sometimes it feels that the stage is going to throw everybody off it.”

Michael Yawney
Director
“Cardenio”

of the play, but believes that she means well.

“Everyone despises her, but as the actor portraying her, I feel like all the advice she offers, whether asked for or not, is given out of love—especially to her younger sister,

His only hope for the play is that it produces a lot of laughs.

“Whatever happens I just hope I can make a complete fool of myself on stage and the audience can follow us on this hilar-

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TRUE TEST COMING

Conference USA adds new level of difficulty for FIU

OSCAR BALDIZON
Contributing Writer

The preseason is now over for the ladies of the Panther Volleyball team and they remain at .500 after last weekend's results at the Active Ankle Challenge held in West Lafayette, Indiana at the University of Purdue.

The Panthers would open the Challenge with a solid win over Northern Kentucky in four sets. With team-leading marks of 15 kills and 14 digs by redshirt Junior Ksenia Sukhareva, who registered her fourth double-double of the season and third in as many games. Senior Kimberly Smith posted 12 kills and added a team-high and season-best eight blocks, while Junior Silvia Carli chipped in with six blocks.

FIU would then go on to a two set lead over Syracuse in their second game of the Challenge to only show why there is still some kinks to be figured

out on this team before they can reach their full potential.

"We played at a really high level, but made untimely mistakes this weekend and we should have closed against Syracuse. We won the first two sets pretty convincingly, but we just got too comfortable, which led to careless mistakes and it started a snowball effect over the course of the weekend which we weren't able to recover from," Carli said.

The Panther's were unable to win another set for the rest of the weekend, including their loss to the tournament host, Purdue, in straight sets on the final day of the Challenge.

The biggest problem with this team isn't a lack of skill, or even lack of depth like it was last year; it is their ability to stay focused once they have taken the lead. This team still doesn't have that killer's mentality that you see in every great player or team. When great teams or players take



BEACON FILE PHOTO

After wrapping up the preseason 6-5, the FIU volleyball team looks to raise their focus and intensity for the upcoming season.

the lead and there is chance to close out a game, they do whatever it takes to put away the match and that is something the Panther's still need to work on.

"It's something that we are really working on with this team, to get them to focus for a longer time. For whatever reason when we take the

lead, we lose all our focus and when we're evenly matched with these teams, we end up taking to five sets, if they have just a little more focus than us we end up on the losing side," Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett said.

There was a lot of buzz surrounding this team again this year and it's going to be

up to the leaders on the squad to rally the team together to attack Conference USA as the regular season begins this week.

"I expect more now that I know the level we can play at. I expect more from everyone each and every time we play; even though we're playing at a high, level we can and should

do better," Senior Jessica Mendoza said.

FIU will now head into conference play starting off the gauntlet of top caliber play against the Charlotte 49ers Sept. 27. First serve is set for 6 p.m. on Lime Court at U.S. Century Bank Arena.

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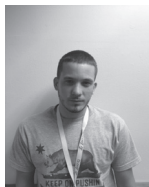
Albrecht and Burdette playing with targets on their backs



BEACON FILE PHOTO

As the men's soccer team continues to play for a tournament berth, they are being led by scorers Robert Alterio and Quentin Albrecht (above).

COLUMNIST



RUBEN PALACIOS

If Quentin Albrecht and Colby Burdette have ever been shopping at Target then they both know what was on each of their backs going into this season.

Albrecht and Burdette were the two standout players from last year's team, and remained the two guys to look out for as the team prepared for their second season in Conference USA.

These guys were hyped up and rightfully so. Albrecht led the team last year with 10 goals and 23 points while Burdette with seven goals and 18 points was second to only his German teammate. These two guys are the real deal and last year they showed everyone watching just that, but, I think, many opposing coaches might of been watching, too.

With all that said, I can now refer to my first statement: these guys now have enormous targets on their backs. Opposing coaches game plan strictly for them, opposing players know who they are and that they can't let them out of their sights.

But, hey, they asked for it. That success did not go unnoticed.

Are they paying for it now? It might be too soon to tell as the squad has only played seven games going 3-4 (0-1). But for the sake of this story, I'm going to analyze their statistics through these first seven games.

Albrecht, thus far, has played and started in all seven games, and is one of only three Panthers to start all seven games in the young season. He's second on the team in points and goals scored. So, he isn't leading in every category like it seemed he did last year, but the season is still young and don't forget about that target I've been referencing.

Burdette, so far, has gotten off to a slower start. He has started two games and played in six. He's scored two goals and registered two points. But, Burdette is coming off of a game against Jacksonville in which he scored late in the match to seal a victory for his team. Maybe he can ride that momentum just like he did last year in order to get past all the extra attention teams are paying to him.

Albrecht and Burdette have targets on their back and as I think about how they earned

those targets, a very well-known quote from the movie "Spiderman" comes to mind.

"With great power, comes great responsibility," Uncle Ben said to Peter Parker.

This completely applies to these two young men. Albrecht and Burdette, because of their stellar play, earned a tremendous amount of power on the field. But with that comes the responsibility of knowing that this year will not be easy. They need to know that this year they will not catch anyone by surprise. Coaches know to watch them on film and players know that they can beat them.

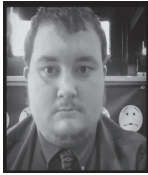
The great responsibility of Albrecht and Burdette will be to find ways to duplicate their success from last year and apply it in order to help their team over the hump. This is a team with enough talented newcomers that all it needs is a push from their established duo.

They just need to remember one thing if they want to continue on the road to success: "With great power, comes great responsibility."

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Is it time to pack it in for the Panthers?

COLUMNIST



RHYS WILLIAMS

There have been 187 points scored on the Panthers so far this season.

With 23 points scored in two out of the four games played, having been shut out by both the University of Central Florida 38-0 and the University of Louisville by almost double that at 72-0, it is clear to see that something needs to be done, and this week would have been the one to do it since there is no game.

The team will open up Conference USA play next week against the University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles, who go into this weekend 0-3 and play a pretty good team in Boise State University before hosting the Panthers on Oct. 5. in Hattiesburg, Miss. Whether this will be a game to turn around the Panthers season, or be the first win for the Eagles since Christmas Eve of 2011, that will be seen on game day.

FIU will go into C-USA play ranked 122 out of 123

for total offensive yards at 603 for the season, which included an FBS low 30 yards of total offense against the Cardinals. The Panthers are dead last in the nation in the average points per game column with 5.8. It isn't a good thing when one of the only things you are at the top of is most punts in the nation, according to ESPN. The Panthers currently have the most punts with 37 for 1,306 yards between punter Chris Ayers, quarterback Jake Medlock, and backup punter Austin Taylor.

Ayers is also listed as the second most used punter in the nation with 30 punts for 1,053 yards and an average of 35.1 yards per punt in Division 1-A.

Continuing on the schedule, the Panther's will face one more opponent before the team's second bye week of the season. The homecoming game for the Panthers against the University of Alabama at Birmingham Blazers, which will be played on Oct. 12 with a kickoff time at 7:30 p.m., is a must win for the Panther's in their first season of C-USA.

The Blazers play the University of Vanderbilt this week and will more than likely go into their game against the Panthers with a record of 2-3.

The team has a win against the Northwestern State University Demons of the Southland Conference and will play the Florida Atlantic University Owls, who are currently tied for last in C-USA, in the week before they travel to Miami.

After the second bye week, the home stand continues for the Panthers as they host Louisiana Tech University and East Carolina University, who are two of the powerhouse teams in C-USA, before heading out on a two game road trip that will take them to Murfreesboro, Tenn. to face the Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raiders in a revenge game from last seasons homecoming and a trip to El Paso, Texas to face the Miners of University of Texas at El Paso.

The final two games of the season will have the Panthers hosting the Thundering Herd of Marshall, who are led by Rakeem Cato.



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

With the disfunction of the team and having started off to a 0-4 start, FIU now looks for answers about the future.

Finally the Shula Bowl, with former Sun-Belt Conference and current C-USA rival Owls playing host in Boca Raton, Fla.

Even with the team not doing as well as some expected, due to players like Kedrick Rhodes and Jakari Gore being released from the program due to legal issues; Richard Leonard, Paul Crawford, Willis Wright and Glenn

Coleman being lost for the season due to grades and injury respectively, is it time to question the coaching staff and even the athletic department in general?

There is a public outcry for the FIU Director of Sports and Entertainment Pete Garcia to be released from his position, as can be seen on firepetegarcia.com and there is some outcry

that someone on the football staff needs to be fired after an embarrassing loss to the Cardinals 72-0.

Is it time to give up on the season? In my opinion, no, but, if the team goes into the second bye week without a win, they might need a miracle to put students in the stands at FIU Stadium.

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Bucs bench QB Freeman, turn to rookie Glennon

FRED GOODALL
AP Writer

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers have benched quarterback Josh Freeman and replaced him with rookie Mike Glennon.

The move Wednesday came two days after coach Greg Schiano insisted Freeman remained the starter because he gave the team the best chance to win.

The winless Bucs have lost their first three games, two on field goals in the closing seconds. Freeman has completed just 45.7 percent of his passes for 571 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions.

Glennon was drafted in the third round out of North Carolina State, where he spent part of his college career as a backup to Russell Wilson. He will make his first pro start Sunday at home

against Arizona.

After setting single-season team records for passing yards and points scored in 2012, the Bucs have scored just three offensive touchdowns through three games — none in the past seven quarters.

Freeman's completion percentage and quarterback rating (59.3) are last in the league, and Tampa Bay has lost eight of its past nine games dating to last season.

The fifth-year pro, once touted by general manager Mark Dominik as a franchise quarterback, has thrown for four TDs vs. 12 interceptions in the last six games.

The switch caps a tumultuous month in which Freeman missed a team photo shoot on Labor Day, was not voted a team captain for the first time in three years and refuted reports that he was seeking

a trade. Throw in his quarterback rating and completion percentage, plus a couple of last-second losses in games in which he and the offense did not perform well, and he's back on the bench.

And, perhaps headed out of Tampa Bay, with the trade deadline being five weeks away.

Freeman played his best game of the season Sunday, but was unable to get into the end zone in a 23-3 loss at New England. He had a pair of potential touchdown passes dropped and finished 19 of 41 for 236 yards and one interception.

Freeman became the first 4,000-yard passer in team history last season, but his inconsistency down the stretch contributed to the Bucs losing five of final 6 games to finish 7-9 and miss the playoffs for the fifth straight year.

He threw nine interceptions

in the final three weeks of 2012, and his slow start this year raised questions about Schiano possibly turning to Glennon in two weeks, when the Bucs have a bye.

The coach said as late as Monday that Freeman was his starter, but apparently changed his mind on Tuesday — an off day for players — and informed Freeman and Glennon of the change Wednesday morning.

The 25-year-old was the third quarterback selected in the 2009 draft behind Mark Sanchez and Matthew Stafford. He made his first NFL start — a win against Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers — after Tampa Bay began his rookie season with seven consecutive losses. The former Kansas State star followed with a breakout season in 2010, when the Bucs went 10-6 but failed to make the playoffs.

Freeman threw for 25 touchdowns and just six interceptions that year, and the future appeared bright — for him, the team and former coach Raheem Morris.

Inconsistent play has dogged him and the Bucs since.

Morris was fired after going 4-12 in 2011, leaving Freeman to learn his third offensive system in four seasons when Schiano was hired last year.

The first sign that Schiano felt Freeman might not be the team's long-term solution came shortly after the end of last season, when the coach said he wanted to raise the level of competition for jobs at every position, including quarterback.

Schiano hedged later, saying Freeman was the unquestioned starter, however that didn't stop him and Dominik from drafting Glennon.

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BBC making strides against breast cancer

JACQUELINE SKEVIN
Contributing Writer

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the kick off event will be held in the Biscayne Bay Campus Bus Loop on Oct. 1 from 10am-2pm. In its third year, its focus is to spread awareness of breast cancer's increasing risk to younger demographics as well as to reach out to more men.

"It's been widely regarded as a woman's issue for so many years," said Meredith Morgan, coordinator at the Women's Center. "Its time men get involved and understand that they are at risk too."

The Women's Center is one of many entities that will be returning to participate in the event by tabling and helping advocate for awareness. Other include Multicultural Services, Campus Life, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning and Ally Initiatives.

The Wellness Center, one of two groups putting the event on, will be offering one-on-one breast examinations. The



COURTESY OF USTEFA PINARES

One of the competing bras at last year's Breast Cancer Awareness tabling.

Susan G. Komen Foundation will also send breast Cancer Survivors to share their survival stories.

Fundraising opportunities include t-shirts, given to anyone who makes a \$15 minimum donation, a raffle and registration to the American Cancer Society's Walk, held next month at Marlins Stadium.

Bras For a Cause, a fundraising competition, will be held again.

"We originally started it to get more departments within the University to participate," said Sarah Kenneally, senior health educator at the Wellness Center.

Every group participating decorates a bra in a way that reflects its organization's theme and turns them into Student Health Services in the Wolfe University Center, Room 307. At the event itself, they will be displayed on their table and those attending can pick the one they like best and donate at that table. The group that raises the most money wins, and all funds go directly to the American Cancer Society.

"To me, cancer is a war and a battle to win," said Federico Lastra, a reading and learning tutor at the Center of Academic Success. "I had an idea - let's decorate the bra as two missiles that seek to destroy cancer."

For those less crafty or short on time, the University is also accepting new bras of any size or design until the end of October. They can be dropped off in the Wolfe Building, Room 307. These will go to the Lotus House, a homeless women's shelter.

"It's important for everyone from any department to get involved," said Lorena Gomez, programming assistant to the Recreational Center which is helping

TURTLES AT THE BAY



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Several baby soft shell turtles came crawling out of the bushes near the cafeteria at BBC.

educate students throughout the month.

"There is so much research coming out that shows the age of risk is getting younger and younger and we want to be able to educate the students about a cancer that is unfortunately too common."

If students want more information, they are encouraged to attend the event and visit the Recreation Center's Facebook and Twitter pages for updates throughout the Month.

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SOBEWFF office moves, accommodates staff

SHANNON COPELAND
Contributing Writer

In an effort to accommodate all the rising student volunteers, the South Beach Wine and Food Festival office has been officially relocated from Hospitality Management Room 249 to HM 243; which is now a perma-

nent space, but still in remodeling mode.

"We tried to get the most state of the art technology, where we have two HD TVs, custom built furniture that can be flipped up to do group activities and they can be placed together to have a conference table and then you can separate them to have a conference

table," Richard Lopez, program manager for SOBEWFF.

Lopez also said, "the room will have a section for our team and computers to help us recruit, hire and train students for activities and events. It's finally our own personal space in the building. The other space before we used it in conjunction with other classes,

and we are looking for students to help us decorate, so that when we open the door for ribbon cutting it very special, because I want to make sure we tell the story of the students."

The remodeling that took place in the HM 243 took time and money, all of which were provided by the SOBEWFF funds.

Mohammad Qureshi, the associate dean of Facilities and Administration oversaw the moved and remodeling of the new space said the cost was "roughly \$80,000.00."

"The new space is 620 square feet, it's a lot smaller, but it's convenient," said Qureshi.

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Fla. legislators will soon pay more for insurance

GARY FINEOUT
AP Writer

Florida legislators who had been paying significantly less for health insurance than rank-and-file state workers are going to start pay more.

House Speaker Will Weatherford, who has come under fire for rejecting calls to expand the state's safety-net health care program to cover more Floridians, is going to require House members to pay more for their own insurance starting in January.

Weatherford decided to have House legislators pay the same rate as career service workers:

\$50 a month in premiums for individual coverage and \$180 a month for family coverage. Senators already started paying the same rate as career service workers at the start of 2013.

House members — as well as Gov. Rick Scott and other top state officials — have been paying \$8.34 a month for individual coverage and \$30 a month for family coverage.

Scott, who does not take a salary for his job as governor but pays less than \$400 a year to cover himself and his wife, has tried for three years to get all state workers to pay exactly the same for health insurance. But his proposal has

been shot down each time by the Republican-controlled Florida Legislature.

The low cost of state health insurance for legislators and some state officials came into sharp contrast this past legislative session when Weatherford and House Republicans rejected accepting billions in federal aid in order to expand Medicaid to nearly 1 million Floridians. The expansion of Medicaid has been a key component of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul.

Weatherford acknowledged during last year's legislative session the low cost of health insurance for legislators. But he

waited until this fall to announce that premiums for his own members would be going up.

"The speaker has said multiple times he is aware of the disparity in what House members pay compared to others and we have been working on addressing it," said Ryan Duffy, a spokesman for Weatherford.

Rep. Jim Waldman, D-Coconut Creek, said the move by the House was "long overdue."

"There should not be a discrepancy between what we pay and what the public has to pay and especially what other state workers have to pay," Waldman said.

But he said that Weatherford

needs to take the next step and make sure "all Floridians" have access to health care by expanding Medicaid.

State records from this spring showed that all 40 state senators were enrolled in the state health insurance plan while more than 100 members of the 120-member House were enrolled.

Florida is spending more than \$2 billion during this fiscal year — which ends next June — to cover roughly 170,000 state workers, university employees and retirees. Most of the money comes from taxpayers, not premiums paid by employees.