

Syrian civil war creates divisions in United States

RAUL HERRERA
Contributing Writer

As the United States considers intervening in the Syrian civil war, the political divisions in Washington mirror the divisions among University professors and students.

On Sept. 4, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 10-3 to authorize the use of force against the Syrian government. The full Senate is expected to vote on the authorization next week.

The Syrian civil war, which broke out when President Bashar al-Assad responded to Arab Spring protesters through violent force, has

been raging since 2011. The alleged atrocities committed by al-Assad's regime, such as the use of chemical weapons against civilians, are what some, such as President Obama, claim to be a reason for international intervention.

"In March of 2011, protests began in Syria and al-Assad, just like his late father, was determined to crush all opposition, escalating the level of coercion and bloodshed every step of the way to the present use of chemical weapons against innocent civilians in the outskirts of Damascus," wrote Felix Martín,

SEE SYRIA, PAGE 2

CAMPUS GROUNDS USED FOR PARKOUR



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Freshman Leo Mendoza engages in Parkour, an activity involving gymnastic-like training, between classes.

Students commemorate 9/11 through volunteer efforts

MARISOL MEDINA
Staff Writer

Since 2001, universities and schools have commemorated 9/11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance, with the University hosting the Day of Service the Saturday before.

Chris Cole, graduate assistant for the FIU Center for Leadership and Service, has worked to put together the University's Day of Service at both Modesto A. Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campus. This year it will be held on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 9-12 p.m.

Students will engage in cleaning up the bay, maintaining the gardens as well as helping to build a new community garden at BBC.

"We expect about 300-400 students to partake in the community service activities organized throughout both campuses," said Cole.

The Center for Leadership and Service has partnered with the School of Environment, Arts and Society; FIU Athletics and Alternative Breaks to provide a morning packed with activities to engage students.

There is an open invitation for people outside the University community, especially one firefighter who was present at Ground Zero twelve years ago at the time of the

“The events of 9/11 are still a soft spot for many people.”

Phalancia Luisy
Junior
English major

attacks. The officer has yet to confirm his assistance.

"If he were to participate, we will be giving him a special recognition and students will have a reflection

piece as they go through the service to think about what it means to partake in the day of service to commemorate the 9/11 attacks," said Cole.

Phalancia Luisy, junior English major, has participated in the 9/11 Day of Service for the past two years.

"Last year we helped restore the butterfly garden in front of the Wolfe University Center. It feels good to know you are doing something to help this beautiful campus look more beautiful," said Luisy.

Luisy said she doesn't attend the Day of Service solely for the community service part. She attends mostly for the events that are hosted afterward.

"The events of 9/11 are still a soft spot for many people," said Luisy.

"The speakers that come really help you connect to the events. We may not realize that people that we encounter on a daily basis have gone through that," said Luisy.

Students that want to sign up for the Day of Service can do so through the CLS website.

-marisol.medina@fiusm.com

Panthers hack their way into third place in competition

IRVIN CARDENAS
Contributing Writer

Two hundred hackers signed up and 30 teams were assembled, but only three teams made it to the top.

PayPal's Battle Hack in Miami on Aug. 24 was a 24-hour event to "discover the ultimate hackers on earth," according to the event website.

Team RefreshMiami, composed of young entrepreneurs – including Joshua Martinez, a senior in computer science, and FIU alumni Peter Martinez and Brian Breslin – took third place with their idea called PawPal alongside Davide Di Cillo, an Italian technologist and designer who is rooted in the Miami technology scene.

MyPawPal.co is a humanitarian effort trying to remedy the fact that more and more animal shelters are closing down due to underfunding, and those that remain

open have increased the number of animals being euthanized due to overcrowding.

The theme of the event was to create an app that helps solve a local problem.

"We wanted to focus on animals," said Martinez.

"Brian Breslin actually rescued his dog from a Labrador Retriever shelter, so we understand that due to the economy a lot of things have been happening poorly for these animals."

This past July, Miami-Dade administrators sought refuge for dozens of dogs destined to be euthanized because of overcrowding.

MyPawPal.co is a website dedicated to charitywater.org type campaigns for animals. It allows activists to choose a shelter, create a campaign and raise funds for that campaign. All the funds collected go directly to the shelter.

The team's idea extended beyond

PayPal's hackathon and is soon to be live. It will allow people to create campaigns and donate to shelters using PayPal.

PayPal's Battle Hack is currently offering \$100,000 to the world winner of the event.

It is the largest purse yet to be offered during a 24-hour hackathon. The first place winner from each city moves to the final round.

But in Miami, hackathons are not events that have just recently started taking place. Many of these events are currently being hosted throughout the year.

A hackathon is not exactly what it sounds like: most people consider hackathons or hacking as the illegal entry to programs or stealing people's data.

"A hackathon is basically you coming to the event with nothing," said Martinez. "Then, in the time allowed, forming a team, creating a product, some sort of

technology, a business or even a startup to help solve an issue."

Martinez said hackathons usually have an idea, a theme or certain set of tools that you need to use in the application you are developing.

These hackathons are usually 24- to 48-hour events where developers and technology enthusiasts gather to develop applications together.

Martinez said that these hackathons are all about endurance and determination: people will start fast, but as time progresses some get tired and leave, some fall asleep and only the strongest pull through and develop their application.

"Hacking doesn't stop, the timer doesn't stop. If you want to finish your app, you can't just go home and sleep," says Martinez.

SEE HACKATHON, PAGE 2

WORLD NEWS

Auschwitz guards may be charged 70 years later

The German special prosecutors' office that investigates Nazi war crimes said Tuesday it is recommending charges against dozens of alleged former Auschwitz guards, opening the possibility of a new wave of trials almost 70 years after the end of World War II. Federal prosecutor Kurt Schrimm, the head of the office in Ludwigsburg, said an investigation of 49 suspects turned up enough evidence to recommend that state prosecutors pursue charges of accessory to murder against 30 people in Germany who were stationed at the death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Gay activists protest Russian law

Gay rights supporters carried placards and chanted slogans outside the Russian Embassy in Cyprus' capital to protest Moscow's policies on homosexuality. It was the first such open expression of support for gay rights in the conservative country in many years. The main point of contention is a law adopted by Russia's parliament in June making "propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations among minors" illegal.

Brotherhood's fate with judiciary

Egypt's interim president has defended the military's ouster of President Mohammed Morsi, saying he failed to deliver on campaign promises and was forced out by the will of people who elected him and not by a coup. Adly Mansour said that the fate of the ousted president's Muslim Brotherhood group was in the hands of the judiciary. Mansour said he plans to return to democratic rule, restoring security and improving the country's ailing economy are his government's top priorities. He also defended reinstating emergency rule, which gives authorities sweeping powers to arrest, and said the country is defending itself against acts of terrorism by extremists.

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

Syrian civil war impacts U.S.

SEE SYRIA, PAGE 1

Associate Professor of politics and international relations, in an email to Student Media.

Fay Goldstein, senior international relations student and president of Shalom FIU, a pro-Israel student organization, said that many have been using the term "red line" in regards to the conflict.

"President Obama explained then that 'we have been very clear to the al-Assad regime, but also to other players on the ground, that a red line for us is we start seeing a whole bunch of chemical weapons moving around or being utilized,'" said Goldstein.

However, Goldstein claims that this is not simply a matter of responding to chemical weapons, but also of credibility.

"The United States is not strategically interested in having military intervention," said Goldstein. "However, President Obama's 'red line' has been crossed and the entire world is watching and waiting to see if he will stick to his word about changing his status of non-intervention."

Goldstein pointed to the Geneva Convention as being something. She also believes that this is a litmus test as to whether or not the President may respond to an Iranian attack on Israel.

Florida's own senior senator, Bill Nelson, agreed with the President's decision, but also wished that the United States should strike against al-Assad and his regime. However, Marco Rubio, the junior senator of Florida, has claimed that while he does support a plan to help remove al-Assad and replace him with a secular regime, he supports direct military intervention only when the United States

pursues a "clear and attainable national security goal," according to a statement.

The president of the FIU College Republicans, Adriana McLamb, was unavailable for comment. Sahara Fonseca, president of FIU College Democrats, said that many blue state politicians are not entirely on board with the President's decision or with Bill Nelson's stance. Congressional debate, he said, is important.

"The President is jumping the gun on a sensitive issue that deserves a thorough wait before making [an] extreme decision, and the Democratic Party agrees that there [needs]

the Chinese and the Russian [governments] and show the world that these two are embarrassing supporters of a callous regime that systematically massacres its own innocent people."

However, Professor of Political Science Kevin Evans, believes that congressional approval will not deter the Obama Administration, citing a Foreign Affairs article where presidency scholar William Howell explains the same.

"It is important to note that the Obama administration has maintained that they have the right to take action in Syria regardless of the outcome

the Middle East, the military option will be further evidence that the US uses heavy [hands] to intervene in the Arab world to advance its own narrow national interests without regard to the plight and sensitivity of [...] the Muslim world," said Martin.

According to Evans, the goal of the President with regards to Syria is not as directly confrontational as it seems.

"The President has been leery of engaging in the Syrian conflict and he's taken pains to suggest that this would be a limited military engagement with no boots on the ground," said Evans.

A poll released by the Washington Post and NBC on Sept. 3 revealed that 59 percent of the interviewed Americans oppose the use of United States' missile strikes against the Syrian government.

Seventy percent of the interviewees were also vehemently against the United States government and its allies supplying weapons to the Syrian rebels.

Evans points to American war fatigue as one of the reasons behind this. But when foreign policy elites are themselves divided about the wisdom of intervention, the public tends to divide too.

"Yet, when elites band together and provide a common justification, the public tends to give them latitude," Evans said.

Evans pointed to Speaker of the House John Boehner's support for action on Syria as an example of this unification. He believes that this is important to create a "winning coalition in the House", which usually finds itself at odds with the President.

"It's impossible to convince the American people that intervention is necessary," said Fonseca. "So long [as] our troops are being sent to die, the American people will never agree with intervention."

-news@fiusm.com

The Obama administration has maintained that they have the right to take action in Syria.

Kevin Evans
Professor
Political Science

to be a substantial debate with both houses and the executive branch, with the finishing of a thorough investigation before moving on," said Fonseca.

Fonseca added that if the UN investigation does indicate that al-Assad did indeed use chemical weapons, that she would encourage intervention, but that "sending troops should be our final resort."

Martin believes that there are other options other than intervention.

"Congress can reject President Obama's proposed policy to [launch] a punitive attack against Syria, purportedly to degrade the use of future manufacturing and use of chemical weapons against its own," wrote Martín. "The US should transfer the burden of responsibility to

in Congress," said Evans. "Nonetheless, it would be very difficult politically for the president to move forward if Congress denies his request for an authorization of military force."

Martin explained that while he does find the chemical attacks heinous, "killing is killing nonetheless."

"Even the reprehensible aspect of this indiscriminate and callous attack does not warrant the intervention of the US, just like it was not justified in Vietnam, Libya, Egypt or Iraq," said Martin.

The professor also criticized the complexity of the Syrian Civil War and its factions, while pointing to the possible negative diplomatic repercussions of the United States' involvement.

"To some detractors in

You've been hacked: Panthers place third during Hackathon

SEE HACKATHON, PAGE 2

Martinez said that one of the really interesting parts about a hackathon is what you actually see later on in the evening.

"What ends up

happening is that you'll see and feel people's dedication and how strong they feel about their product through how hard they work through the night to get their app completed," said Martinez.

These "hacking" events alongside co-working spaces such as Refresh-Miami, The LAB Miami, Venture Hive and FIU's AppDojo directed by Stephen Luis, director of Technology and Business

Relations, are providing the necessary traction that Miami needs to get ahead as a technological ecosystem.

-news@fiusm.com

THE BEACON

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR IN CHIEF
BRANDON WISE

BBC MANAGING EDITOR
STEPHAN USECHE

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JENNA KEFAUVER

NEWS DIRECTOR
MADISON FANTOZZI

LIFE! EDITOR
EISSY DE LA MONEDA

SPORTS DIRECTOR
FRANCISCO RIVERO

OPINION DIRECTOR
JUNETTE REYES

PHOTO EDITOR
STEPHANIE MASON

CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
(305) 348-2709
news@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
(305) 919-4722
bbc@fiusm.com

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
brandon.wise@fiusm.com

Advertising:
(305) 348-6994
advertising@fiusm.com

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.

JOIN OUR STAFF!

The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don't be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124 or apply at fiusm.com.

Not your regular ‘Twilight’ vampire problem

GIOVANNI GARCIA
Staff Writer

Universities are now being targeted by vampires of all kinds.

The time has come for vampire hunters to grab their gear and start looking for...Wait, they're not that kind of vampire? Oh well, better luck next time, Van Helsing.

So who are these “vampires?”

The answer may shock some, but the vampires are...graduate students. And they are not regular graduate students, they are the students who take the most time to pass and are close to being kicked out.

You may be wondering why these students would be considered vampires.

Well, these students eventually latch onto their adviser emotionally within the years, making the adviser grow sympathetic towards his or her struggle.

An article from The Chronicle of Higher Education, “The Case of the Vampire Student,” breaks down the struggle of a professor’s experience with a student of this nature.

It began when this professor, who doubled as the student’s adviser, read the student’s thesis that was riddled with errors and mistakes.

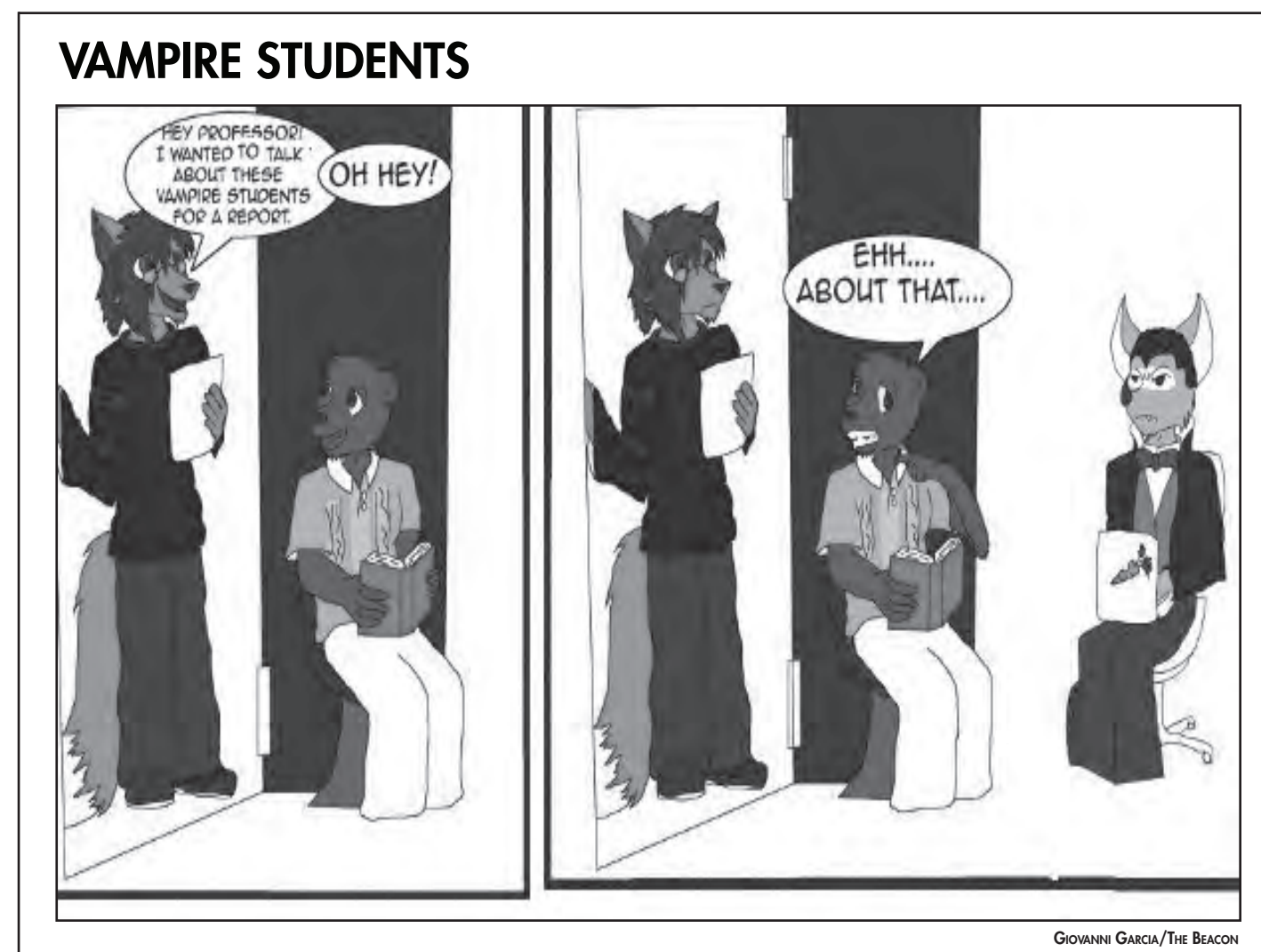
The professor gave the student what was needed for improvement but the student just took it for granted and left. This student also failed the comprehensive exam the previous year.

The student did not take any initiative to improve nor prepare for the upcoming exam and their thesis was still not ready to be defensible.

The professor explained to the student that finishing their degree was beyond their capability. The student cried and begged to stay in the program and promised to succeed.

The professor looked into how to cut the student loose, but the procedure to do so would take too long.

The professor feared having another semester with this student. In an effort to find clarity, the professor confronted another



GIOVANNI GARCIA/THE BEACON

professor about his or her “vampire” and was assured that everything was done.

If the student fails even after given advice or help, it’s not the professor’s fault but the student’s.

Unfortunately, this professor managed to grow attached and fell into the student’s grasp, delaying the inevitable.

I honestly think these students just enjoy taking advantage of poor advisers. The fact that the advisers manage to emotionally worry for the student’s inefficiency is really a sad scene. I can understand being the “coach” and trying to help, as long as the student manages

to rise to the top of the steps of success. But these “vampires” expect to have an escalator installed and do less work for their success. Graduate schools are considered “higher education” for a reason; there is no easy way to get your diploma.

On the bright side, FIU has not experienced any of these students at all.

Ileana Lindsay, Secretary for the Department of Biological Science graduate program, explained that students voluntarily leave from the program. The only way that a student would fall into this problem would be in an academic state.

Lindsay also mentioned that there have not been any students who ended up being a “vampire student.”

The Department of Physics also confirms the previous statement and added that the University has a qualifying exam.

Students only have two tries for this exam, and if they fail, they are not eligible to qualify for the program.

As long as there are qualifying exams, FIU will be free from vampire students.

-giovanni.garcia@fiusm.com

A freshman’s first impressions at FIU

MANUELLA MOTA
Contributing Writer

For many students, the past week has been nothing special - a mere back-to-school experience. Same packed campus, same frustration while trying to find a parking spot, same club fairs typical of a week of welcome. But from a freshman perspective, nothing is quite “the same.”

First, there was the stress of moving in - if you’re commuting, you’ve saved yourself from that one - Wal-Mart runs, unpacking, getting familiar with your roommates and residence hall.

Then the first day of school--waking up earlier than needed and

getting lost on the way to class.

Too many buildings, too many classrooms, too many people.

To add the cherry on top of the ice cream, you might have gotten stuck in the pouring rain while trying to go to class.

Making sure you have all the required textbooks, you probably headed to the bookstore and had the delightful experience of staying at least 30 minutes in line.

Hopefully a visit to the Financial Aid Office wasn’t necessary, unless you had another 20 minutes to spare.

Most freshmen are not familiar with the challenging didactic approach of higher level courses, having to get used to the fast-paced

lectures, demanding professors and loads of reading and/or homework.

What about those jam-packed lecture classes where 450 kids share a classroom and many end up sitting on the floor?

The typical college experience of a “Fresh-meat.” Despite all the negative aspects, college is an engaging experience, especially for freshmen.

Along with the several opportunities given by the University to succeed in your academic career, there are also countless organizations and clubs to get involved with that enrich the college experience and introduce you to a whole new community on campus.

The Career Services Office, The

Center for Academic Success, The Council for Student Organizations, over thirty fraternities and sororities and much more. If one chooses to solely go to class and not get involved in campus life at all, it is not due to lack of opportunities to do so.

Through the lense of a freshman, FIU offers more than just academics and campus involvement. The campuses are vivid and full of diversity, making justice to the international essence of the institution. A truly multicultural community where everyone has the probability of meeting at least one person from every continent in the world, where roughly every language is spoken and where cultural differ-

ences are not different, but rather normal.

For new students it surely is a shock. A shock that should be seen with enchantment, though. Being able to engage in a community where the reality of a heterogeneous world is brought to life is a privilege that should not be taken for granted.

“Be Worlds Ahead” comes first from coexisting in a place where so many cultures are thrown at you and choosing to grow and expand your global perspective, no matter what your career is.

After all, you’re stuck in this world whether you’re a doctor, an architect or an entrepreneur.

-opinion@fiusm.com

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.

Professor helps answer long debated question

EDWIVE SEME
Staff Writer

Who came first, the chicken or the egg? This is one of the many mysteries of the world. However, Assistant Professor in the Marine Sciences Program Heather Bracken-Grissom led a research group that has helped answer one of the most debated questions in evolutionary biology about the relationship between Hermit crabs and King crabs after nearly 30 years. Which evolved from which? The group consisted of experts from George Washington University, the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and the Australian Museum.

Bracken-Grissom has always been interested in the study of sea organisms, especially arthropod crustaceans; the organisms within the group are each unique and have a high degree of body shape variation no matter how close they are.

"I was really intrigued by the diversity of the group and the variation in body shape," said Bracken-Grissom.

She was a perfect fit for this group of researchers given her passion for

crustaceans and the fact that she has been studying the evolutionary relationships of organisms for many years. Her involvement in the project was partly driven by her curiosity.

"I thought this was a really interesting case because we knew these crabs were relatives, but we just didn't know how close of relatives they were. We have these two different forms of crabs and I wanted to know more about how they're related to each other," said Bracken-Grissom.

Apart from belonging to the same infraorder, the Anomura, the relationship between Hermit crabs and King crabs isn't too obvious because the two organisms have different physical characteristics, with only minor similarities. This infraorder contains more than 2,500 species who have all evolved differently to adapt to their ecology. Hermit crabs tend to be smaller and have a shell for protection, while King crabs are considered one of the largest crustaceans and instead of having a shell, they use their exoskeleton for protection.

One of the ways they established that the two crabs might be related was by looking at physical character-

istics to find clues that might suggest it.

"Both of them are united because they have a reduced sixth leg," said Bracken-Grissom. "Even though they look very different, hermit crabs have an asymmetrical abdomen. It's curved to help them attach to the shell, and there is some evidence of this asymmetrical abdomen in female King crabs."

Knowing that there might be a link between the two was just the beginning. In order to prove their hypotheses, they needed more than just a couple minor physical similarities. After collecting many species, they had to study their genetic makeup, which wouldn't have been as easy three decades ago.

"Over the years, scientists have put more time into working on resources for these kind of studies," said Lensley St. Felix, senior biology major. "It's important to study other organisms because of their relationships with each other and with us humans, and the more scientists realized that, the more important it became to develop technology to ease these studies."

Using all the resources available, they were able to continue their research and find what was the exact relationship between the two crabs.

"We came to the conclusion based on DNA sequencing to infer evolutionary relationships. We used molecular data to study relationships, examined morphological characters and did in-depth analysis of their physical character, their larvae and development," said Bracken-Grissom. "All of that evidence put together allowed us to come to the conclusion."

Bracken-Grissom and the group were able to show that Hermit crabs evolved into King crabs.

Knowing how organisms are related to each other helps see patterns of diversity in organisms and it can tell you more about the ecology the organism is in and how it affects it.

"It's important to know about the Hermit and King crabs because they're economically important," said Bracken-Grissom.

Hermit crabs are very essential to the aquarium trade, and King crabs are important for human consumption; they are a main seafood dish at many restaurants. According to

Bracken-Grissom, studying these organisms gives insight about biodiversity. "[You get to] know something about their ecology and life history."

The study lasted more than 30 years, and all the years were spent collecting organisms from the two species to study and compare. "The hardest part was the decades it took to collect all these organisms. Many of the specimens were rare and difficult to find," said Bracken-Grissom. "It takes a really long time to build up the inventory that we need."

Their research was published under the title, "A comprehensive and integrative reconstruction of evolutionary history for Anomura (Crustacea: Decapoda)," on BMC Evolutionary Biology, a peer reviewed journal consisting mainly of articles about molecular and non-molecular evolution of organisms.

It doesn't stop there for Bracken-Grissom, however. She wants to continue studying the evolutionary relationships of different organisms and she will most likely focus on invertebrates.

-edwive.seme@fiusm.com

Rail trains, fake hopes, raping cases on the road

COLUMNIST



CONSUELO NARANJO

however, what happens when, for the first time ever in your life, every night you go to sleep with the fright that someone may break into your hotel room and sexually assault you? Before my trip to the land of the mystical spirits, I strongly believed that all the raping cases in India were just a severe exaggeration of scandalous journalism. Conversely, this actually represents a problematic situation that thousands

of women have to face, not just in India but also around the world. Disappointingly, I wouldn't have ever imagined that a train station could be the scene where I almost became one more statistic of the victims in the long and undisclosed raping statistics.

After my short visit to the temple of love, the Taj Mahal, my expectations for a convenient stay in India increased by some means.

In the second week of my adventure, when I was minutes away from taking the train from New Delhi to Jaipur, an unpredictable nightmare crossed my path. New Delhi train station welcomed me with tens of restless bodies lying around the floor and a thick fetid

smell mixed with humidity spreading around the environment.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people were trying to find the port for their new destination. Heavy suitcases, a folded electronic ticket, and unrestricted anxiety became my companions as tall Indian men with pale red t-shirts begged me to let them help carry my bags to the door.

It was almost impossible to resist their despair and unstoppable insistence, though, they are well known for their strong arms, fast feet and of course for stealing and running away with tourists' belongings.

-Read the full column at fiusm.com.



CONSUELO NARANJO/THE BEACON

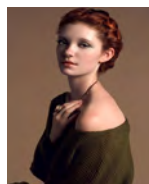
According to indianonlinepage.com statistics, 612.4 million women reside in India. A high percent of them do not have access to education or health benefits.

How to shop for back to school clothes on a budget



ASHLEY GARNER/THE BEACON

COLUMNIST



ASHLEY GARNER

I don't know about you, but when a new school year rolls around, for some reason or another, I like to start it out with a new wardrobe.

But when you're a poor college student, that can be difficult to do. Most of us are living day to day off of beef-flavored Ramen and cafecitos so when it comes to the subject of spending money, the two words seem pretty foreign. As I was browsing through the newest arrivals at Nasty Gal and Zara online in wishful thinking, it suddenly dawned on me that I shouldn't be investing what little money I have in clothing that needs to be made but instead in clothing that

is already here calling to be given a new life.

I've always been a huge fan of thrift store shopping not only for the fact that each piece is loaded with a history and more unique than a recreation of it today but also because of the extremely reduced prices. In fact on Wednesdays, Goodwill even has a 10% discount for students.

One student that I strongly consider to be the Goodwill Queen is fine arts major Sierra Manno. I once went on a thrift store shopping experience with her and let's just say, it was existential. Twice last week she was spotted sporting her vintage finds with more style than you'll ever see on a Forever 21 mannequin.

-Read the full column at @fiusm.com

Senior biology major Keysel Palez's and fine arts major Sierra Manno's personalities radiate through their fashion.



No minimum balances or overdraft fees.

Sorry, there's nothing we can do about the price of books.



The Unofficial Currency of College

Sign up for free at BluebirdForCollege.com or purchase an Account Set-Up Kit for \$5 at Walmart.

Bluebird is issued by American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc. licensed as a money transmitter by the Banking Department of the



24/7 Mobile Money Management



Transfer Money To Other Bluebird Members



ATM Access



Conveniently Add Funds

\$0 MIN BAL

No Minimum Balance



No Overdraft or Monthly Fees

Available at **Walmart**

Panthers look to avenge loss to UCF

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Coming off of a 33 point loss to the University of Maryland in the season opener, the young panthers host a familiar opponent in the Golden Knights of the University of Central Florida tonight.

The two squads are now in year three of a four year play deal between the universities. The series is tied at a game apiece, with the Knights coming off of a victory last season by 13 points in Orlando. With the home team winning each game so far, home field looks to be a determining factor tonight at FIU Stadium.

"We definitely need the freshmen to show up for this week," Junior safety Justin Halley said. "We are for sure a young team but all I really care about is winning."

Halley, who is stepping into one of two safety roles that former Panther and now Jacksonville Jaguar Johnathan Cyprien held, is attempting to take a leadership role with the team

as they go into a season following turmoil.

"I am trying to step into a leadership role to make sure that the younger guys do the right thing on and off the field," Halley said.

The defensive backfield is one aspect of the team that showed a need to improve in the Maryland game after giving up 325 yards in the air to quarterback C.J. Brown and his backup, who played for the entire second half of the Maryland win.

"We need to go out and play on Friday and then we will see where we are now," Head Coach Ron Turner said.

The official news also came down this week that Paul Crawford, a senior defensive lineman who was added to the Preseason Senior Bowl watch list, will be out for the season due to a shoulder injury. David J. Neal of the Miami Herald first reported the injury.

When asked about the status of Crawford for the Maryland game, Turner had insisted that it was not a medical issue but one of not making the travel

squad.

"He (Crawford) didn't make the travel squad. Plain and simple, if you don't make it then you don't make it," Turner said on his status before the trip to College Park, Md.

UCF is coming off a win against the University of Akron, beating the Zips 38-7.

Behind returning quarterback Blake Bortles, the Knights will bring a high powered offense and a defense that only allowed a total of 250 yards last week. That could prove to be bad combination as the Panthers only produced a single touchdown and allowed 576 yards of total offense to the Terps.

Knights Head Coach George O'Leary, who enters year 10 with the team, acknowledges that this is a special game for not only his players but also himself.

"I wrote down the remarks I made on the bus the last time we came back from Miami. On offense, defense and the kicking game, you just can't turn the ball over and create that



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Greg Hickman looks to continue his dominance against opposing offenses when FIU plays Central Florida.

many sacks and tackles for losses. We had our opportunities but we didn't take advantage them. Again, it's another game, we have a game in hand to watch to see what goes on," O'Leary said.

"It's two in-state teams

and the players have friends on both sides as far as FIU and UCF. I tell the kids, 'Don't get involved in jawing with other teams and just worry about us getting better at what we do and let the coaches make sure they put you in the

right position on offense or defense to move the ball or stop the ball."

-rhys.williams@fiusm.com

Swiss sisters add to South Florida rivalry



PHOTO COURTESY JC RIDLEY/FAU ATHLETICS

Sisters Anabela Sataric, who plays for FIU, and Darija Sataric (above) who plays for Florida Atlantic add a new mix into this in-state rivalry.

OSCAR BALDIZON
Contributing Writer

You don't need to look for too many reasons to understand the rivalry between FIU and Florida

Atlantic University. Just over an hour's drive away from each other and separated by only 4 years between their establishment; the two schools were destined to be pitted against each other from the start.

But no one could have predicted a sibling rivalry between Panther and Owl. Well, that's what FIU and FAU will showcase this year in volleyball.

Darija Sataric is a 6-foot-1 outside hitter for the Owls, loaded with experience and skills after 3 years of being reliable in the rotation and playing in over 300 games at FAU.

"Our father really emphasized sports to us growing up, preaching the lessons that can be learned through teamwork and dedication," Darija said. "So sports were a big deal growing up and the women in our family really took over volleyball."

But what many people around this area didn't realize is that Darija has a little sister, and she's been the buzz of Panther pre-season volleyball.

Anabela Sataric is an incoming freshman from Biberist, Switzerland and has been getting ready all offseason to help the Panthers move on from their injury plagued 2012 campaign.

She attended Kantonsschule Solothurn and has been a member of the Swiss Junior team since she was first spotted around 12-14 years old. Sataric served as captain on the international junior tournament squad in Holland in the summer of 2011 and led her U-22 VBS Koniz squad to a third-place finish at the Swiss Championships in 2011.

"My first impression of FIU was that everything is so beautiful and new, but the team really plays at a high level, and its no joke," Anabela said. "Switzerland is definitely a very safe and organized place but I wanted a new challenge. Everything was kind of too perfect and too boring over there which is why I was attracted to come over here." The two schools will meet twice this year, at both venues, with only one match counting towards the standings of the new Conference USA, which both institutions joined this past summer.

In the three years Darija has been at FAU, the Owls have been

unable to defeat their competitors to the south and have only taken away 5 victorious sets of volleyball from the Panthers. She will be looking to change that this year in her last two chances as a Senior.

"I'm very excited to have my little sister so close, after 3 years of being alone in the States, it's nice to know someone from back home," Darija said. "But I really want to beat FIU and there is definitely that sister aspect on top of the rivalry which should make for some great volleyball."

Asked earlier this offseason, who to watch out for this season, Associate Head Coach Felix Hou said to "look out for number eight, Anabela Sataric, she has really impressed in the short amount of time we have been back."

"We both really want to beat each other because it's probably the only chance we will have here in college and it will be challenging but very fun as well," Anabela said.

-sports@fiusm.com

Panther Sports Talk Live

Listen every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on Radiate FM:
88.1, 95.3, and 96.9 fm



FIU battles but falls to South Carolina in opener

OSCAR BALDIZON
Contributing Writer

FIU volleyball returned from South Carolina this weekend with a renewed sense of focus for this upcoming season. After battling back from an 0-2 deficit in the 2013 season opener, the FIU volleyball team dropped a hard-fought, five-set match to High Point on Friday afternoon to kick off the Gamecock Invitational.

Redshirt junior Ksenia Sukhareva led the FIU offense with 16 kills, while senior CeCe Spencer added a career-high 11 kills. In her first collegiate match, freshman Anabela Sataric led the Panthers with 27 assists, living up to the buzz that was surrounding her in the preseason. She also added five block assists.

FIU was actually ahead in the fifth

and final set, but a few costly errors in the latter half of the set would prove too much to overcome.

“There were some out of system issues this weekend we noticed that we need to work on,” Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett said. “So that the next time it gets tight, we’ll know to still employ the system because that’s what wins.”

The Panthers would then drop a 3-0 decision to the University of South Carolina in the second game of the Gamecock Invitational. FIU was out-blocked by a 6-2 margin for the match while sophomore Lucia Castro notched a team-best eight digs, with senior Jessica Mendoza and junior Carolyn Fouts each adding six digs as well.

“It was a rough start to the weekend,” Sataric said. “We weren’t there mentally

at the start, didn’t communicate well amongst ourselves and that kind of carried through to the second game.”

After battling through the first five-set game, and being dismantled by USC in the second game, the Panthers showed their resiliency and steadfast determination in the third game against South Carolina State.

The Panthers only committed 11 errors during the match and got 14 kills from Sukhareva, who only committed three errors in 27 total attempts. Sophomore Ashlee Hodgskin led the Panthers with 15 assists, while Sataric chipped in with 14 helpers on the day, giving her 43 assists in just her first three collegiate games.

“We are a new staff and we still need to learn the competition and our players and their tendencies,” Buck-Crockett

said. “We learned a lot about our weaknesses but the big thing was getting our first win of the season in the third game.”

Sukhareva is a part of the indoor volleyball team for the first time and came over from the inaugural year of Sand Volleyball. She was named to the Gamecock Invitational All-Tournament team and could be the focal point of the offense this year with the potential to lead the team in kills.

“Sand volleyball is always harder but our preseason for indoor this year was pretty tough and I would rather run on court than sand anyway,” Sukhareva said.

The team will break open the regular season Wednesday, against Houston Baptist at the U.S Century Bank Arena at 6:00 PM.

-sports@fiusm.com

Crawford, Leonard lost for remainder of season

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

On Wednesday morning it was made public that senior defensive end Paul Crawford, who had been added to the Preseason Senior Bowl watch list as one of the top senior defensive linemen in the country, will have

shoulder surgery that will end his season within the next few days.

After not traveling to the game against the University of Maryland, under the reason of just simply not making the travel squad, Crawford’s loss only adds to the dwindling number of players on the Panthers roster.

After losing defensive

keys in Johnathan Cyprien and Tourek Williams to the NFL, Crawford was seen as one of the three key returners to the Panthers defense along with fellow linemen Greg Hickman and Isame Faciane.

In a previous interview with FIU Student Media, defensive line coach Andre Patterson said that the players who had the greatest possi-

bility of filling into the open spot would be redshirt sophomores Cody Horstman and Lars Koht.

In other bad news for the Panthers, junior Richard Leonard, cornerback and return man who was looked at as the leader of the defense, has been ruled ineligible academically for the entire season.

The team will now be without their lead return man all season and will rely heavily on cornerback Sam Miller.

Miller returned two punts against Maryland for 15 yards.

Leonard averaged 29.5 yards per return throughout the 2012 season.

The Miami Herald

pegged Leonard as the top performer on the defensive side of the ball during offseason training camps.

The Panthers will also hope to have wide receivers Shane Coleman and DeAndre Jasper back for tonight’s game against UCF.

-rhys.williams@fiusm.com

Dolphins counting on big improvement by Tannehill

STEVEN WINE
Associated Press

While Miami Dolphins training camp meant weeks of speculation, prognostication and station-to-station evaluation, one moment of distillation summed up the team’s prospects.

They hinge on Ryan Tannehill.

“We’ll only be as good as he is,” tight end Charles Clay said.

The defense seems stout, the receiving corps looks improved and the addition of nine rookies and eight free agents has buoyed optimism Miami is poised for a playoff push beginning with Sunday’s opener at Cleveland.

But to snap a streak of four consecutive losing seasons, the Dolphins will need for Tannehill to make significant progress in his second NFL season. And he knows it.

“It’s a quarterback-driven league,” he said. “I need to play well in order for this team to do

well. I get to touch the ball every play and get to make decisions that greatly affect the outcome of the game, so that’s exciting for me. And I have the guys who can make plays for me, and it makes it a lot of fun.”

Offensive coordinator Mike Sherman predicted Tannehill will make the biggest leap forward of any second-year quarterback this year, which is saying something because the group also includes Andrew Luck, Robert Griffin III, Russell Wilson and Cleveland’s Brandon Weeden.

Sherman figures Tannehill has lots of room for growth because he’s still relatively new to the position. After switching from receiver at Texas A&M, where Sherman was the head coach, Tannehill started just 19 games. Then he became the first Dolphins rookie quarterback to start all 16 games.

“I believe in Ryan Tannehill,” Sherman said. “I think every day he walks

onto the field he is going to get better.”

Tannehill’s teammates have faith, too. As an indication he’s now considered a veteran, he was one of six players voted by his peers to the team’s leadership council, which will meet regularly with coach Joe Philbin.

Teammates say Tannehill seems more comfortable this year in the locker room, the huddle and the pocket.

“As a rookie you’re feeling it out,” Clay said. “Now he’s a lot more vocal. He knows the offense, and he has taken complete control of it.”

Not that Tannehill was bad as a rookie.

He threw for 3,294 yards, more than Griffin or Wilson — or any previous Dolphins rookie, Dan Marino included.

But he threw more interceptions than touchdown passes and was vexed by red-zone and third-down situations.

New receiver Mike

Wallace is expected to help, stretching the field to provide Tannehill with more inviting targets both long and short. That sounds especially appealing to longtime fans who remember when Paul Warfield joined the Dolphins and teamed with quarterback Bob Griese to help them win consecutive Super Bowl titles.

“He was a big gift from Cleveland,” Griese said. “And Ryan Tannehill is going to have the same kind of gift with Mike Wallace. Not only can he make big plays, but he can set up the offense for the other players.”

The Dolphins also signed free agent receiver Brandon Gibson, who caught five touchdown passes with the Rams last year.

Wallace caught eight with the Steelers, which means the two newcomers totaled more than the 12 Tannehill threw.

Miami lost tackle Jake Long, running back

Reggie Bush, receiver Davone Bess and tight end Anthony Fasano via free agency, and new tight end Dustin Keller suffered a season-ending knee injury in an exhibition game. Plus the offensive line is unsettled, and running back Lamar Miller is unproven.

But Tannehill is unperturbed.

“I like what I see,” he said. “I think we have a lot of talent on the field, a lot of guys who can get open, catch the ball and do something with it when they get the ball in their hands. I’m excited we have playmakers. Now it’s just a matter of putting the puzzle together and doing a good job myself of giving them the ball.”

Tannehill possesses a strong arm and can make every throw in an NFL playbook, but he needs to improve the consistency of his accuracy and make better decisions. Last year seven of his 13 interceptions came on third down,

reflecting a youthful will- ingness to force throws at the wrong time.

His mistakes were especially costly for a team that lost two games in overtime and three others by a touchdown or less en route to a 7-9 finish.

Coaches and teammates praised the way Tannehill handled adversity and learned from it. Now that he has taken more than 900 NFL snaps, Philbin anticipates Tannehill will be more comfortable with the Dolphins’ system and the speed of the pro game.

“It’s one thing for us to sit in the meeting room and tell him about coverages and blitzes and the disguises and those type of things,” Philbin said. “It’s another for a player to get out there and really do it in a game. So he has that bank of information, he has worked extremely hard, and we’re excited about seeing him make progress this year.”



JOIN OUR STAFF!

The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

FIU alumni read to University students and community

MADELINE MODA
Contributing Writer

The Writers on the Bay Reading Series is sponsoring the alumni readings for recent masters of fine arts graduates from FIU and those who have published books.

The event will take place at the Books and Books in Coral Gables on Sunday, Sept. 8 at 4 p.m. featuring readings by FIU alumni Barbara Lissette; Joe Clifford, author of “Junkie Love” and “Wake the Undertaker;” Melanie Neale, author of “Boat Girl;” Leonard Nash, author of “You Can’t Get There from Here and Other Stories” and who will also be reading from the work

of Elaine Winer, who died earlier this year and who was the author of “The Seagull’s Wife;” a remembrance of her success and remarkable writings will be given at the event. Nash said he felt honored to represent Winer.

FIU faculty Sarah Pearsall and Parker Phillips will also be featured in the readings.

Writers on the Bay is a reading series started by Lester Standiford, director of the MFA program at FIU, and is currently conducted by the facility and graduate students in the MFA for the Creative Writing Program.

The Writers on the Bay Reading Series is sponsored by Barnes and Noble.

Julie Wade, assistant professor of Creative

Writing, is currently the coordinator for Writers on the Bay and has been involved since January 2013.

“It’s an extraordinary opportunity for students and members of the community to meet and listen to contemporary writers from a variety of backgrounds and genres read and talk about their work,” said Wade.

The Writers on the Bay gives students the chance to see current writers that have graduated from the University who are publishing and sharing their writings.

Students will be able to ask questions and participate in the discussions with the other guests.

The event will be free

THE PIANOMAN



STEPHAN USECHE/THE BEACON

Terry Jean, senior art major, practiced his piano skills in front of the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms, which he learned from YouTube three years ago.

and open to the public.

Alumni such as Nash said the MFA program helped him with his writing career.

“The professors definitely created a family atmosphere full of encouragement and positive

energy,” said Nash.

Along with Nash, Clifford also took full advantage of the program.

“As time goes by, I realize just how terrific FIU’s program was. I didn’t need handholding. I needed to learn how to be a better

writer. And that is exactly what FIU gave me,” said Clifford.

-bbc@fiusm.com

Cheering to a good cause: Wines For Humanity

COLUMNIST



DANIELA WALTER

This past Monday I was invited to a unique tasting on Ocean Drive. The tasting had no specific theme; the only thing I knew was that I was in to learn more about an amazing venture called Wines for Humanity. I was familiar only with the concept of a company that provides wine tasting and through this outlet they do charitable work. However, I was eager to learn in specific how they operate and contribute to society at the same time.

Lee Blakley, the team leader for Wines for Humanity and chief of operations for the Florida area, invited me to an incredible educational evening. I had arrived on Ocean Drive at a quarter past six.

The tasting was scheduled for six thirty that evening. He provided us with an incredible ocean view sight, and as soon as I walked in, I knew the night was going to be memorable. It was a small group, only eight people present. I was surprised at first when I noticed that Lee had prepared this exquisite evening with extra care for

us. Jonathan, one of Wines for Humanities consultants in Miami started the tasting along with Lee. As we sat in an informal circle, he started explaining what the company was about.

The main product that they sell is charity, wine being the vehicle for that to be accomplished. The company is present in nine estates with more than four hundred people employed. How the company operates?

Well, the concept is pretty simple: anyone can host a wine tasting and they provide the wines and the host – with that you get a knowledgeable wine person that comes to you with a seven bottle wine selection exclusively picked for you and your guests along with wine glasses. The wine prices range from \$15.99 to over \$30 and they are selected, made and bottled exclusively for the company.

They are definitely affordable quality wines. With a glass in hand and with our first wine of the night poured, we had the pleasure to have Jonathan explain to us how to properly hold a wine glass – three middle fingers holding the stem of the glass while the thumb embraces the other side and the pinky gives support under the

base.

As he showed us the proper way to do it, he remarkably told us the story of Ladi Di; during an official event she was holding the wine in the correct form, and inevitably was noted by everyone and this simple little gesture was published and talked in all magazines and journals around the globe.

He also introduced us the concept of the “5 S’s”: Sight, Swirl, Smell, Sip, Swallow and Savor.

We followed his instructions as Lee started to clarify that all the wines in the tasting were selected from the lightest white to the heaviest white, and the same applying for the red selection; where whites should be served no hotter than 55 degrees, and the reds no hotter than 65 degrees.

We were also introduced to the “rule of 20,” for a warm places like Florida, where finding the right condition to storage wines can be very challenging, so 20 minutes before serving whites you take it out of the fridge, and twenty minutes prior to serving reds you should put in the fridge.

Another trick was taught on how to measure the weight of

the wine: light, medium or heavy body.

Placing your thumb behind the wine will indicate that.

If you can see through without any problems, it is a light; if you have a little difficulty to see some details, such as lines in your finger, then it is medium, and if you cannot see anything at all, it would be full body.

A little more about the company was explained and I came to learn that all their wines comes to the main warehouse in Chicago, that is after distributed into the other states by demand.

After the tasting, one can purchase the wines most liked by bottle or by case. Twelve to 17 percent of the revenue from the guests’ selection at a regular paid wine tasting goes to a local charity that helps people that are behind in rent and utilities in order to prevent homelessness in our communities.

Usually a tasting will have a selection of three whites, three reds and a dessert wine.

A tasting with a seven bottle selection will cost only \$69 dollars and can served to as many as 16 people.

The night ended with a toast to

new friends, and I left restless to contribute more to our society.

My favorite white wine of the night was Duca Bortini di Montebello. It is a blend of Chardonnay, Nosiola, Trebbiano, Garganega and Pinot Grigio. The vintage was 2012, with a 10.5% alcohol percentage.

The price of this wine is \$19.99 and would go great with brie or gruyere cheese.

My favorite red wine of the night was Duca Bortini di Montebello Squinzano Riserva. They have a 250 cases total global produced. It is produced on southern Italy, at the heel of the Italian boot; an area with a primitive soil and ancient history, producing a magnificent bold wine. It is concentrated and has an eggplant color with a prune, black pepper and cloves smell and is definitely complex, presenting multiple layers in the palate.

This wine would pair lovely with a steak with blue cheese sauce. The price of this wine is \$29.

-Daniela V. Walter is a Teaching Assistant to professors Chip Cassidy and Bill Hebrank of the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management.

JOIN THE BEACON!

Pick up an application at
MMC GC 210 or BBC WUC 124.