

 <p><b>INDIA</b></p> <p><b>Census for billion-plus head count begins</b></p> <p>Millions of census workers fanned out across India on Wednesday as they began a mammoth effort to document every person in the world's second most populous country.</p>	 <p><b>UGANDA</b></p> <p><b>Government minister killed in dispute</b></p> <p>A Southern Sudanese government minister, Jimmy Lemi Milla, was shot dead by his personal driver on Wednesday, an army spokesman said.</p>	 <p><b>COLOMBIA</b></p> <p><b>Rebels free councilman taken in June</b></p> <p>A 35-year-old town councilman, Marcos Baquero, who was taken hostage in June 2009 was released by Colombian rebels, the first of five captives they promised to free this week.</p>
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## Egyptian protests discussed at teach-in

**NICOLAS SARAVIA**  
Staff Writer

Since Jan. 25, a sizable crowd of Egyptians have taken to the streets, demanding political and economic change, including the fall of the regime of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Sharing the insights of a panel of experts on the Middle East, the School of International Relations and Public Affairs held a teach-in on Feb. 7 to a crowd of hundreds in the Graham Center Ballrooms focusing on the historical, influential and demographic aspects of the ongoing protests.

The panel was composed of political science and international relations Professors Majid Al-Khalili, John Clark, Shlomi Dinar, Russell Lucas, Charles MacDonald, Mohiaddin Mesbahi and modern languages Professor

Maya Boutaghou.

Lucas began the discussion with a historical background of Egypt. As described, post-colonial Egypt has had a total of four presidents, Muhammad Naguib, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Anwar Sadat and Hosni Mubarak, who has held office since October of 1981.

Lucas described Nasser as an anti-colonial classic populist, while Sadat made peace with Israel and held an open-door development approach, which according to the professor, "only made the rich richer and the poor poorer."

Mubarak, of Air Force background, has been reelected four times as Egypt's maximum authority. In 2005, he was reelected with a vast majority of

**EGYPT, page 2**

## BEAT BOX



BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

SPC sponsored Jared Mahone: Live at FIU in GC ballrooms on Feb. 2. Throughout his performance, Mahone treated students with his singing, guitar playing, and beat boxing. He produces his beats live on stage and loops them throughout his performance, accompanied by his band.

## Graduate student representative to sit on Faculty Senate

**MELISSA CACERES**  
Staff Writer

With students' voices already resonating within their own form of government, graduate students will now have theirs heard in a different forum—among the University faculty.

After a unanimous approval by its members, the Faculty Senate Graduate Council voted at its January meeting, to

allow a graduate student representative to sit on their board as an ex-officio member. The only other non-voting member of the council is the dean of the Graduate School. By allowing a graduate student to become a member, this marks the first University student to sit on any of the Faculty Senate committees on all three campuses.

"This is something that as a University, we're ready to do. If we want to be really serious about shared governance, it

[cannot just be] about faculty and administration, it's also about the students and staff as well," said Dr. Fred Blevens, chair of the Graduate Council in an interview with Student Media. "I think this is a big step and if the Senate approves it, it will be an important step in the right direction in having shared governance across all of the constituents in the University."

The approval by the Graduate Council will be followed by discussion among the

Faculty Senate members in future meetings. Among other universities, University of Florida and Florida State University are those that FIU will be joining in allowing students on their Graduate Councils; with UCF and FAU remaining with no student representation.

"Any time that you get students involved, you're going to improve the

**GRADUATES, page 2**

## Streak continues with victory over conference opponent



MEGAN KELLEY/THE BEACON

Senior point guard Michelle Gonzalez [left] had a game-high 16 points as the women's basketball team won their fifth consecutive game.

**JACKSON WOLEK**  
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers extended their winning streak to five games as they defeated Louisiana Lafayette 62-52 on Feb. 9 thanks to a balanced scoring night that featured four Golden Panthers in double figures.

The key to the game was how well FIU stuck with ULL on the boards. They only got out rebounded by two, 33-31, even though they have not been very successful rebounding the ball this season. They were led in scoring by Michelle Gonzalez, who had 16 points followed by Jerica Coley with 15 and Fanni Hutlassa with 14.

It was a defensive struggle for both teams in the first half as both teams stayed close to

each other but at the 7:52 mark ULL took a six-point lead and it seemed as though FIU was starting to lose control of the game.

That would all change when they made a furious comeback, going on a 9-0 run and tied the game back up with 6:30 left on a Jerica Coley three. They grabbed their biggest lead of the half with 2:40 remaining off a Fanni Hutlassa jumper, but could not push it any further as the Ragin' Cajuns came back to tie the game at 25-25 at the end of the half.

"I thought that we lacked focus throughout the whole game, we just have been through so much adversity this year and they were down and felt a lot of pressure," coach

**WOMEN'S, page 4**



## NEWS FLASH

### Giffords speaks, asking for toast with breakfast

Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords has recovered enough from a bullet to the brain to ask for toast with breakfast. Few details are available, but Pia Carusone, Giffords' chief of staff, confirmed that the congresswoman made the verbal request on Monday when hospital workers brought her a meal.

She is now speaking "more and more" since she uttered her first words several days ago, spokesman C.J. Karamargin said. He said he didn't know what her first words were and couldn't say how her voice sounded, since he hadn't spoken to her himself.

### Lawmakers demand Florida budget details from Gov. Scott

Gov. Rick Scott's bold budget plan wasn't even 24 hours old before state legislators started ripping it apart and leveling a familiar charge against the governor: He wasn't forthcoming with details.

Whether it was his billions in cuts to Medicaid or to schools, legislators said they weren't sure what Scott specifically wanted to do in his budget, which would further widen a \$3.6 billion shortfall next year due to nearly \$2.4 billion in proposed tax cuts.

The criticisms weren't limited to Democrats; fellow Republicans were skeptical of what many thought were skimpy details in his \$65.9 billion budget.

### Terrorism Threat Highest Since 9/11

The failed Times Square bombing defines the new terrorist threat in the United States. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano told a House committee Wednesday that the danger of attacks is greater than at any time since 9/11.

That's because U.S. citizens and permanent residents who have become radicalized are increasingly willing to mount low-tech attacks that don't require lots of planning or conspirators, making them much harder for law enforcement to sniff out and prevent. The elevated threat comes despite the fact that officials believe al Qaeda has been significantly weakened by American efforts abroad.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

# American interventionism discussed

## EGYPT, page 2

votes, considered to be questionable.

Lucas also highlighted population issues currently affecting the North African country, mentioning that one-third of Egyptians are below the age of fifteen.

Also mentioned was the high density of the Cairo metropolitan area.

"Think of the entire population of the state of Florida crammed into South Florida," said Lucas.

Delving into the influence of Maghreb countries on Egypt, Boutaghou continued the discussion by explaining similar trends that have occurred in the region.

"In 1989, Algeria had the same kind of riots, after which it opened to a multiparty system," said Boutaghou. "Egypt is no longer the leader. Tunisia is reconfiguring the political structure of the Arab World. Tunisia is showing the path to democracy."

Dinar remarked on the contrast between the youth in America and Europe, reflecting on the impact that the youth demographic has had in several countries in the Middle East, including Yemen, Oman and Egypt.

"The opposite from the United States and Europe occurs," said Dinar. "Youth development is key to the discussion of transition and the future of our policies. The youth has to be part of the equation."

A major concern raised during the teach-in was the extent to which these protests could influence the rest of the Arab World.

"I do not see an impact in Saudi Arabia, Oman or Bahrain. They have no real culture of protests," explained Al-Khalili. "I do not see it happening in Syria either, as Syrians and Iraqi refugees have been traumatized by the violence in Iraq."

Another aspect of the protests, which has gained much attention in the media, is the use of social networking sites as a forum of expression against the authorities and to organize protest meeting points.

"I have been to Egypt several times and never expected this reaction. The youth of Facebook has proven me wrong," said Al-Khalili.

Regarding the future of Egypt's democracy, there remains an ambience of uncertainty.

"It can be pro democracy, yet it might not turn to be American democracy," said MacDonald. "The truth needs to be pursued, but it will not be easy to understand" he added.

During the question and answer session held immediately after the panel's opening remarks, U.S. interventionism became a major topic of discussion.

"The United States' policy shows that Obama has ideas but no team," said Mesbahi, while Clark mentioned that "the fewer roles the United States

plays in this issue, the better."

The teach-in was well received by those in attendance, some of whom were eager to learn more about the ongoing protests.

"I haven't researched about the protests, so this event was a wake-up call. I had noticed the struggle on Facebook and all that is going on shows older generations that the youth knows what is going on," said Cinthia Sacasa, an International Relations major and freshman.

The call for change is also felt among some members of the Egyptian Diaspora at the University.

"Mubarak's regime has to end right now. He is putting all kinds of pressure on Egyptians these days to gain more time," said Ahmed Al-Tallawi, an Egyptian engineering student. "Unfortunately, some of his tricks worked."

Al-Tallawi argues that for Egyptians to counter Mubarak's attempts to gain more time, protesters must not let up.

"Some people have sympathy for him now and they say he should leave with dignity, even after all he did. Protesters have to continue what they have started," said Al-Tallawi.

*Nicolas Saravia works as a Beat Writer, covering the School of International and Public Affairs and the College of Law for The Beacon.*

## Position to serve as 'ex-officio' member

### GRADUATES, page 2

governance process and the fact that this will be an observer position rather than a full voting member, will give the graduate students more of a voice on how graduate programs are approved and administered on campus," said Blevens.

As one of the 18 committees of the Faculty Senate,

the Graduate Council is a committee that is "charged to recommend and evaluate policies and procedures concerning graduate education at the University, evaluate proposals for new graduate programs, tracks, or academic certificates, safeguard the Curriculum and perform related tasks as assigned by the Faculty Senate."

Graduate student representation on the Graduate Council was proposed and promoted by Kevin O'Shea, interim dean of the Graduate School who approached graduate student leaders, like Erika Edwards, about the issue.

While the dismantling of the Graduate Student Association prompted the creation of the Graduate Student Funding Committee, O'Shea felt that the graduate students needed more of a voice in graduate school governance.

"Graduate students are essential to FIU," said O'Shea to Student Media. "The graduate student body consists of approximately 7,500 students, these students create new knowledge and are critical in our mission to be Worlds Ahead."

On the Nov. 9 meeting of the Graduate Council, Edwards and two other graduate senators made their proposal to the members,

while also mentioning the issue of an overload of dissertation credits among grad students.

"The graduate senators of the SGA will work with the Graduate Committee Council and Faculty Senate to ensure that a graduate representative is appointed to the Graduate Committee Council," said Edwards, former GSFC chair and current SGA graduate senator, who mentioned that applications for the position have already been made. "The process will be led by the graduate senators in order to ensure elected student leaders that represent the entire graduate community, continue to play an integral role."

Shahid Hamid, senator from the College of Business, was initially opposed to the idea, mentioning that a student may end up dominating the discussions about issues that could be resolved by a different department.

"They could have pet peeves about things that should be resolved by Graduate Studies like 'social studies gets more funding' and I don't want to be in a committee that is bogged down by such discussions," said Hamid during the meeting.

"But couldn't we, as faculty, bring up pet peeves as well? So wouldn't this be a learning experience

for the students that this isn't the forum for that?" said Blevens in response.

After discussing the issue of whether the student would have the power to vote on motions, all members of the council agreed with bringing in a non-voting student member.

"The students do bring a different perspective. I think it's a valuable input," stated Victoria Castellanos, associate dean of the Graduate School, who added that the FIU Board of Trustees has a student member.

While the BOT student representative has voting power among the board, the FIU Foundation, which manages all non-tuition based funds coming into the University, has a student on its board that does not have a vote.

"How do you make a policy that's going to affect a certain set of a population and not have that population's voice? That's just wrong, especially when we're paying for it," said Edwards. "This is a small step but it says a lot about FIU and the value of the student voice."

*Melissa Caceres works as a Beat Writer, covering the FIU Foundation, Board of Trustees and Faculty Senate for The Beacon.*

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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Golden Panthers look to avenge earlier loss

**JACKSON WOLEK**  
Staff Writer

Poor shooting from the free throw line by FIU ( 4-7 SBC, 9-14) contributed to the 79-70 loss against Middle Tennessee ( 7-4 SBC, 12-12) on Jan. 29, a game in which they were leading by five at halftime and for a majority of the second half.

The same outcome is not expected during their next game against the Blue Raiders, Feb. 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Although it will be difficult to overcome such a heart-breaking loss to FAU back on Feb. 5, the Golden Panthers have been through tough losses before, considering the fact that all their defeats have been close games that they could have won if it were not for mental mistakes towards the end of each game.

But this poses the question, why are all their games so close to begin with?

At the end of the FAU game, Coach Thomas said that it should have never got that close to begin with.

When the Golden Panthers have a lead, they need to figure out how to put teams away so that

they are never put into the late game scenario

One thing that must remain against competitors such as Middle Tennessee is the three-point shots.

James Washington alone went 4-4 from beyond the arc and as a team they shot 6-7 just in the first half alone.

Ironically, they made just one three in the second half, thanks in large part to keeping a close eye on Washington and not letting him get any good looks.

If they can put tight defense on him like they did in the second half, they will have a great chance on winning the game.

Another area of concern against MTSU is rebounding.

They got out-rebounded 30-23 in the last meeting and most of the boards came from Trevor Ottley who had 12 in the game. The best way to deal with him on the boards is to put a body on him all the time and box out the best they can.

Also, if they can get Ottley into some early foul trouble, he will be either kept out of the game or if he is left in the game, will be less aggressive going after the ball.

It is exactly what happened to

the big men of FIU when Dominique Ferguson and Eric Frederick got into foul trouble against them. Both of them looked like they didn't want to try so hard rebounding because they didn't want to accidentally pick up a bad foul.

FIU's big bodies need to stay in the game without foul trouble for a majority of the time to control Ottley.

The Golden Panthers will have to rebound the ball better, play better defense on Washington (specifically from the three), and if the game does stay close be able to make free throws and not turn the ball over down the stretch in order to get a win this time around.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### FIU vs. MTSU

- Time: 5:30 p.m. EST
- When: Feb. 12
- Where: Mufreesboro, TN



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY PRESS

Dejuan Wright [right] hopes to help break FIU's misfortunes on the road.

## SWIMMING

# Seniors plan to end their careers in a high note

**MALCOLM SHIELDS**  
Staff Writer

The saying is that college will be the best four years of your life. For seniors Erin Pavlick, Yesica Rojas, Danielle Sneir and Joanna Pomerantz, Saturday was their last home meet to wear the Gold and Blue for their University.

During their tenure as apart of the swimming and diving team, these four seniors went through the highs and lows of being student athletes at FIU. On Saturday, that journey came to an end.

"I remember being a little freshman and seeing the seniors [on their senior day] and thinking [to myself] 'I am never going to get there,'" Pomerantz said after the meet.

In his first season, Coach Randy Horner has been impressed with the commitment and leadership of his four seniors.

"They have all taken the lead. After being here when the program was less competitive; to them kind of seeing it through and leading the way to... [see the program] do bigger and better things."

Horner also spoke highly of Pavlick, who was selected to serve as captain this season.

"She's been great all the way through," Horner said of his captain. "She has shown leadership and been the stable person on the entire team. [She] always steps up and competes hard."

Before the meet each senior was given an introduction which highlighted both their

academic and athletic achievements over their four years. Each senior was also greeted by their relatives with flowers and gifts.

"It was a little overwhelming," Pavlick expressed about the presentation. "I was happy and sad at the same time. To win this meet [against FAU and NSU] made it so much better."

Many of the seniors expressed their appreciation for the fans that showed up for their final home meet as Golden Panthers.

"The whole atmosphere here; I've never seen so many people out at our meet," Pomerantz said. "It was so packed. It was a great way to go out."

Sneir, who is also one of the team's best in the backstroke received praise for her ability to persevere through shoulder discomfort this season.

"She is an incredible backstroker, Pomerantz said. "She overcame a lot [with her shoulder] and I am proud of her."

Rojas who was also an accomplished freestyler and butterfly specialist from the Venezuelan National Team was also praised for her leadership on the team.

"She is always there to push us along," Pomerantz said.

The overall feelings for this senior class going into the Sun Belt Conference tournament is of confidence and the expectation to end their college careers on a high note in Dallas.

"We are ready for conference," Pavlick said "We can't fail."

## SOFTBALL

# New season set to begin with raised expectations

**JOEL DELGADO**  
Sports Director

Coach Beth Torina has talked to her team about taking the next step throughout the offseason. She feels that the Golden Panthers are close to being ready to make a big leap forward with a solid young core of players that are coming off their first taste of the postseason last spring.

"I'm excited about this group and I'm looking forward to a good year, hopefully better than last year," Torina said. "Now that we've been to the post-season and tasted it there is an urgency to get back there."

With Ohio State, ranked No. 22 in the nation heading into the regular season, rolling into the town to help the Golden Panthers kick off their season on Feb.11, FIU will not have much time to get things going this season.

After their opening game against the Buckeyes, the

team will turn around prep for Kentucky that same night. FIU will also be going up against Memphis and DePaul on Feb.12 while finally closing out their opening weekend against North Florida on Feb. 13.

The schedule does not get any easier. The slate of games is a difficult for one for the Golden Panthers to start off the year. In addition to Ohio State, the Golden Panthers non-conference schedule includes contests with four other ranked teams: Florida (No. 5), Illinois (No. 24), Georgia Tech (No.18) and North Carolina (No. 25).

The team still views the rigorous schedule as an advantage as they hope to prepare themselves for the conference play when it begins.

"We always try to have the toughest schedule possible, it just means we have to be rolling on all cylinders and come out swinging," Torina said. "We are ready to do that."

Louisiana remains the

favorite to win the Sun Belt Conference this season, coming into the season ranked No. 17 in the country. But the Golden Panthers, who finished second in the SBC Preseason Poll right behind the Ragin' Cajuns and also received votes in Top 25 polls.

With the Sun Belt constantly improving as a conference, it just adds another dimension and keeps the team constantly looking forward without the luxury of enjoying any particular win for too long.

"Anyone can beat anybody at any time," Torina said. "I feel like we have a team that is capable of winning the [conference championship]."

For the players, a conference championship is one of the main prizes the Golden Panthers have an eye on as the season is set to begin.

"Last year it was all new to us," outfielder Ashley McClain said. "This year we know what we need to

SOFTBALL, page 4



# FIU begins season against Ohio State, Kentucky

## SOFTBALL, page 3

do and we're prepared for what we have to do."

The team on the diamond this season will have a peculiar situation: there are no seniors on the roster this season. But Torina, entering her fourth season at the helm of this budding softball program, contends that there are plenty of players on the team that will be able to fill any sort of gap in leadership, filled by captains Jenn Gniadek, Jackie Tetlow and McClain, all juniors.

Along with the type of players that Torina has brought in to the program, she feels that this team is composed with leaders prepared to help this team go far this season.

"The great thing about this team is that we have some highly motivated kids," Torina commented on the kind of players her team is composed of. "When you have people that are motivated it's easy to find leadership. They've done a great job stepping up and I think we're going to be alright."

When pointing out what she believed what the biggest strength her team holds going into the season, she talked about the kind of balance her team has and how at any time one aspect of their game can rise up and make things happen.

"We are very well rounded," Torina stated. "Any part of our game can show up on any day between our pitching, our defense and our offense. Any of them can be our strongest point. When our offense gets rolling it can do a lot of damage."

### LOOKING TO IMPROVE

Brie Rojas is looking to build off of a successful freshman campaign last season when she set a single-season record with a .407 batting average, a new FIU record. In one game last season, Rojas knocked in six runs in a single road game at Western Kentucky, another FIU record.

Rojas, one of three Golden Panthers on the Preseason All-Sun Belt team along with McClain and Jessy Alfonso, is eager for the season to start and is excited to see what this team can do this spring.



THE BEACON FILE PHOTO

Head Coach Beth Torina [right] talks with former pitcher Kasey Barrett [left] during a game last season. This year's roster contains no seniors.

### Returning Leaders 2010 Stats



BA: .365  
RBI: 56\*  
HR: 12\*  
2B: 17\*

ASHLEY MCCLAIN

\* 2010 Team Leader



BA: .407  
RBI: 40  
HR: 8  
OBP: .507\*

BRIE ROJAS



BA: .432  
RBI: 19  
HR: 4  
R: 48\*

JESSY ALFONSO

"We want to go further than we did last year and we're hoping we can win the conference," infielder Brie Rojas said. "We're all really stoked and ready to come out and win."

But while the accolades and success continue to mount for the team and their players as the program continues to progress, so do the pressures to perform at a higher level.

With the expectations on this team higher than ever before, the team appears

willing to embrace them with open arms and with a willingness to prove that they are just starting to scratch the surface of their potential.

"Now we have a target on our back and that's the biggest challenge we have to overcome," Torina said. "It's easy to get to the good spot, it's hard to get to the great spot and staying there. People are going to chasing us, but it's a welcome challenge. If you can't perform under pressure you're not going to be successful."

### FIU SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT
Feb. 11	Ohio State
Feb. 11	Kentucky
Feb. 12	Memphis
Feb. 12	DePaul
Feb. 13	North Florida
Feb. 18	Georgia Tech
Feb. 18	Pittsburgh
Feb. 19	Providence
Feb. 19	Illinois
Feb. 20	Pittsburgh
Feb. 20	Georgia Tech
Feb. 26	at Penn State
Feb. 26	at North Carolina
Feb. 27	at Penn State
Feb. 27	at N.C. State
Mar. 4	at Western Michigan
Mar. 4	at Loyola Marymount
Mar. 5	at Columbia
Mar. 5	at Quinnipiac
Mar. 6	at St. Joe's
Mar. 11	at New Mexico
Mar. 11	at Boston College
Mar. 12	at New Mexico
Mar. 12	at Nevada
Mar. 15	Middle Tennessee*
Mar. 16	Middle Tennessee*
Mar. 17	Purdue
Mar. 24	at Baylor
Mar. 26	at North Texas*
Mar. 27	at North Texas*
Mar. 30	at Florida Gulf Coast
Apr. 02	Troy*
Apr. 03	Troy*
Apr. 06	at Louisiana*
Apr. 07	at Louisiana*
Apr. 09	at ULM*
Apr. 10	at ULM*
Apr. 13	at Florida
Apr. 16	WKU*
Apr. 17	WKU*
Apr. 20	at Florida Atlantic*
Apr. 22	at North Florida
Apr. 30	South Alabama*
May. 01	South Alabama*
May. 06	Florida Atlantic*
May. 07	at Florida Atlantic

\* Conference Games

# Golden Panthers cool off Ragin' Cajuns at home

## WOMEN'S, page 1

Cindy Russo said.

ULL started off the second half in a full court press that seemed to disrupt the FIU offense and in a matter of three minutes the Golden Panthers quickly fell behind by six.

They would soon figure out how to break the press and would make another comeback to suddenly regain the lead again at 14:25 when Gonzalez hit a timely three-pointer.

"I think there strategy was to keep the ball out of my hands," Gonzalez said. "So we just talked about passing the ball back and forth with the guards and passing the ball in the middle so that we could just go straight to the basket to break the press."

The defensive effort from the first half by the Golden Panthers (12-14, 7-5 SBC) finally carried over as they kept ULL (3-8 SBC, 10-14), the third highest scoring team in the conference with 65

points per game, scoreless for four straight minutes.

The ability to take advantage of the 24 turnovers committed by the Ragin' Cajuns helped FIU go on a 13-1 run that would finally allow them to pull away for good as they scored 31 points off the turnovers on the night.

They ended the night forcing the Ragin' Cajuns to a dismal 39 percent shooting from the field and 26 percent from beyond the arc.

The fact that their leading scorer Mercedes Johnson did not play did not help the ULL cause.

### CAREY OUT

The Golden Panthers got some bad news before the game, finding out on Feb. 8 that their center Elisa Carey reinjured her knee and now is officially out for the season.

"It is a catastrophic loss in every way," Russo said. "It's tough to replace her. There really is no answer for her."

Rakia Rodgers did not play either due to a swollen bone in her foot. There is no timetable on when she will be back yet, but Russo is hopeful that Rodgers will be back soon.

### MTSU PREVIEW

FIU will look to sweep the season-series against the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders when they travel to Mufreesboro for their last meeting of the season.

The last time the Golden Panthers faced MTSU (19-5, 10-1), FIU jumped out to a 19-1 run en route to a 62-59 upset win at home on Jan. 29.

It was the only loss that the Blue Raiders have suffered in conference play so far this season.

MTSU fought tough and was able to take the lead at one point against the Golden Panthers until freshman Jerica Coley and senior Michelle Gonzalez were able to ice the game with timely free throws.

Ebony Rowe scored 17

points for the Blue Raiders in the loss and grabbed 11 rebounds during the game at the U.S. Century Bank Arena. Senior Anne Marie Lanning, who on Feb. 5 joined the 1000 point-club at MTSU, chipped in with 12 points, all from behind the arc.

Both teams will participate in the annual WBCA Pink Zone game. The Blue Raiders will be wearing special pink jerseys that will be auctioned off after the game for breast cancer awareness.

Rico Albarracin also contributed to this story.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

#### FIU vs. MTSU

- Time: 7:00 p.m.
- When: 02/12/11
- Where: MTSU



MEGAN KELLEY/THE BEACON

Fanni Hulassa scored 14 points in a 62-52 win over ULL.



## SWEET SOUNDS

# Miami Symphony performs at The Frost

**ALFREDO APARICIO**  
Staff Writer

In the spirit of music and art, the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum is launching a fund raiser titled *MISO: A Journey through Art and Music* featuring the Miami Symphony Orchestra. The fundraiser, which serves as a venue to raise funds for the museum itself, will also serve as an opportunity to expose music and art lovers to both hemispheres.

The core idea of combining music with art came from Miami Symphony Orchestra conductor, Eduardo Marturet. His credits include such experimental pieces such as "Las Campanas del Silencio" in 1992 and "La Hamaca" in 1998. While he provided the full set list for the fundraiser, Carol Damian, director of the Frost Museum, collected all the artwork which is to be shown along with the music.

Music performed at the fundraiser will range from classical pieces by Wolfgang Mozart to more contemporary music from Paul Clay.

"While the fundraiser will serve to collect funds to benefit the Frost Museum, what we hope to achieve is to expose fans of both music and art to each other," said Damian. She has always wanted to collaborate with the Miami Symphony Orchestra and when Marturet offered, she jumped at the opportunity, she said.

Working closely with Orlando Garcia, chair of the School of Music and his experimental music programs, FIU students perform recitals at the museum often.

FLEA, the Music School's electronic and computer ensemble directed by Paula Matheson, has also performed at the Frost Museum.

The Frost Museum also has their very own program, *Crossing Boundaries: Art and Music*, a lecture series geared toward artists fascinated by music. Its purpose is to investigate the connection between music and art and the spell they cast on each other.

While looking for the pieces in her collection, Damian credits the help of art collector, Juan Antonio Pérez Simón. "He has an incredible palace full of art," said Damian.

The art collection process began with Damian listening to the pieces from the set list and imagining what painting or piece of art would best represent the piece. For Mozart, Damian looked at classical Grecian-Roman artwork which she thought would best represent the mood of the music. For the modern pieces, Damian imagined the art sculptures of Alexander Calder as the best fit while more lively and whimsical pieces to represent the contemporary style of musician Paul Clay.

"It's all very subjective," said Damian. "When I played the music, and knew it was

inspired by a particular artist, I looked at the art of the artist and chose what seemed to go with the music."

The images will be projected in the background while the music plays in the foreground.

The event will also feature violinist Kristóf Baráti, winner of the Sixth International Paganini Violin Competition in Moscow last year, playing Ottorino Respighi's "Trittico Botticelliano."

"It's a really a once in a lifetime opportunity," says Damian, who hopes that the estimated success of the event will lead to more exposure for the museum around the world.

The fund raiser will be held at The Wertheim Performing Arts Center at Florida International University in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus for one night on Feb. 12 starting at 8:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (305) 348-2890 or online at <http://thefrost.fiu.edu>.



COURTESY OF THE MISO

The MISO will perform at The Frost on Feb. 12, conducted by Eduardo Marturet.



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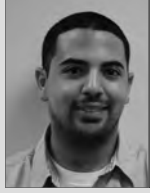
SCANLIFE

## REEL TO REEL

# 1960s film released from the Criterion Collection

Jean Pierre Melville's *Army of Shadows* is a film of silences and uncertainty.

## COLUMNIST



DAVID BARRIOS

Recently released from the Criterion Collection, the film is armed with monochromatic color pallet of grays and blues that dominate the proceedings, this is one of the most disarming works to emerge from the 1960's.

From the silences, what I remember the most are the haunting screams of a young French Resistance member. The young man has betrayed members of his group to the Vichy French authorities, forced into a safe house at gun point by members of the resistance. Gerbier (Lino Ventura), a high level leader, looks on as the teenager is tied to a chair by Felix (Paul Crachett) and Le Masque (Claude Mann).

But complications arise.

A family has moved to the home next door. The British have not supplied the resistance forces with silencers for their handguns. None of the men holds a knife on him. But an example must be set. He is strangled with a torn piece of a curtain,

his cries growing more desperate the more taut the cloth becomes around his neck, almost the sound of a pig having its throat slit. Tears creep down to his cheeks.

The members of the French resistance whom we follow are not action heroes. The violence is brief and jarring, the motivations of the resistance group is extremely muddled. Catholics, Communists and French Nationalists forge together to disrupt the Nazi occupation of their country.

We're never told much about Gerbier's or Felix's past nor that of any of the other protagonists in the film. They are working for a free France, or so it seems, but their look of disgust at their actions and their attempts to hide is as a necessary evil bring this all into question.

What's more, these people may very well not have allowed themselves to be caught dead drinking coffee with their current comrades in arms. Military occupations usually make strange bedfellows.

Much is made of Ventura's laconic performance as Gerbier as he assembles a small group of operatives. Virile, intelligent, bookish he holds a quiet dignity that is constantly tested.

Early in the film, after being transferred to an interment camp, Gerbier is ordered to a Nazi headquarters, a premiere hotel in Paris, to undergo interrogation by the Gestapo. The audience understands the threat at hand, just as they pick up on the visual allusions to the holocaust displayed at the camps.

Gerbier sits on a bench with another gentleman. While his captors are out of ear shot, Gerbier convinces the stranger to stage an escape and run out of the nearest doors. Gerbier stabs the guard who hovers over them. His partner in crime has run into the night.

As Gerbier runs through the night, we hear machine guns in the distance along with the echoing sounds of his feet as he barrels down the sidewalks (during an incredibly extended tracking shot). The other escapee has most likely met a lead-ridden fate, but Gerbier has other business, mainly survival.

True identities are hidden between operatives. A pair of brothers work within the resistance, Luc and Francois (Paul Meurisse and Jean Pierre Cassell), both unaware of the others' involvement or their extent of dedication to the cause.

Mathilde, another operative, is asked by Gerbier if her husband knows about her work.

"Certainly not. And neither does my child," she replies.

The romanticism is minimal, for though they attack a group that represents oppression and barbaric acts, there is a futility towards their actions. They face death or torture constantly, with no sight of the end of their occupation in sight. It's the Autumn of 1942, well over a year before the Allied invasion at Normandy.

When a key member of their group must be eliminated, it is done with the understanding that it is for the good of their cause. Never have I met a group of more commendable yet deplorable individuals on film.

This is not a tribute to the French Resistance but rather a statement about the balance between futility, loathing and admiration insurgencies must face internally and externally which a final jarring question: What was earned?

*Reel to Reel is a weekly column on films. Look for it every Friday.*

## Domestic violence awareness walk

## BRIDE, page 8

initiate such a movement despite the lack of support was truly inspiring."

Starting at 1:00 p.m. on Feb. 11, the 7.5-mile walk begins at Barry University and travels north towards Biscayne Bay Campus. Participants are encouraged to wear wedding dresses, prom dresses or bridesmaid dresses. The event is also open to men and encourages male participants to wear tuxedos.

"The reason I decided to do [the walk] was because a lot of people were saying she brought it upon herself," said Ashton. "Having been working

with the criminal justice field for seven years prior I knew that wasn't the case and the evidence needed to come out. But in order to change the media outlook on it, I decided to give them something as radical and as drastic as the murder itself."

During the walk Ashton stayed in 14 domestic violence shelters and visited 22 cities. The walk took her 72 days to complete and she called it the Brides March.

"The most amazing part of the walk was that I was actually able to stay with victims, talk to victims, eat with victims and sleep with victims," she said. "I got to experience what a

lot of these women are going through when they are in such an uncertain situation."

She learned that getting out of an abusive relationship wasn't about leaving the relationship, but going into the unknown, she said. By living in a shelter she said she got to experience first-hand what it was like to be a victim.

"People don't understand how scary it is to be in the unknown. How scary it is to be in a different place, depending on people that you don't really know whether they really care about you or not. It was very significant," she said.



KARINA TELLEZ/THE BEACON

Guadalupe Juarez (far left) and Josie Ashton (far right) wear wedding dresses as they promote College Brides Walk.

## THIS WEEKEND

## FRIDAY, FEB. 11

## SPEAK TO MY HEART

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC Panther Hall 1st Floor Lounge

## THE STEVEN &amp; DOROTHEA GREEN CRITICS' LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS:

"Christo & Jeanne-Claude: Two works in progress: Over the river, project for the Arkansas River, Colorado; The Mastaba, project for the United Arab Emirates"

WHEN: 7 p.m.  
WHERE: The Frost Museum

## SPC MOVIE: LIFE AS WE KNOW IT



WHEN: 5 & 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC DM 100

## BINGO NIGHT

WHEN: 7-10 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC GC314

## VALENTINE'S DAY RECEPTION



WHEN: 8-11 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: MMC GC Faculty Club

## SAVE A CHILD'S HEART

WHEN: All day  
WHERE: Inside GC and by the Green Library Breezeway

## MOVIE NIGHT "NAKED GUN"



WHEN: 6-7 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: CP151

## FIU NUTRITION, EXERCISE AND WELLNESS WALK

WHEN: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
WHERE: In front of GC near the yellow umbrellas

## SATURDAY, FEB. 12

## MIAMI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AT THE FIU WERTHEIM



"A Visual Journey Through Art & Music," featuring works by Davies, Garcia, and Mozart.  
WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Ticket information at the MISO website: www.themiso.org  
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

## FIU STRING SEMINAR



WHERE: TBD

## SAVE A CHILD'S HEART

WHEN: All day  
WHERE: Inside GC and by the Green Library Breezeway

## A VISUAL JOURNEY THROUGH ART &amp; MUSIC

The Miami Symphony Orchestra will be featuring violinist Kristóf Baráti, winner of the Sixth International Paganini Violin Competition in Moscow 2010.

WHEN: 8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Visit: <http://themiso.org/season.php#43> for ticket purchases  
WHERE: The Wertheim Performing Arts Center

## FIU BASEBALL &amp; SOFTBALL DIAMOND DINNER



WHEN: 6-9 p.m.  
WHERE: MMC GC Ballrooms

## SUNDAY, FEB. 13

## MIAMI HURRICANES VS. DUKE BLUE DEVILS



WHEN: 6:45 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$28 and up  
WHERE: BankUnited Center

## SIGMA STUDY SESSIONS

A place for students to come and complete their work or study for any upcoming tests, quizzes, etc.  
WHEN: 5-7 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Graham Center, in front of Bustelo and Burger King

## NURSING HOME ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Spend the day socializing with the elderly!  
WHEN: 2-4:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Memorial Manor Nursing Home

## MY MUSICAL COMEDY LIFE



WHEN: 2 & 7:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$30 to \$100  
WHERE: The Playground Theatre

## BRUCE WEBER: HAITI/LITTLE HAITI



WHEN: 12-5 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: \$5 general admission, \$3 students and seniors, and free for members  
WHERE: MOCA-Museum of Contemporary Art

## SAVE A CHILD'S HEART

WHEN: All day  
WHERE: Inside GC and by the Green Library Breezeway



# Student body largely unaware of major world events

**PAOLO RAMOS**  
Staff Writer

On Jan. 24, 2011, a blast rocked an airport in Moscow, Russia. At least 40 people were killed and over 100 were injured. Although no one has claimed responsibility, Russians suspect the bombing to be an act of terrorism by the Caucasus, who have been known culprits of terrorism in the past.

Also happening at this time, are the riots in Egypt to overthrow the government. The Internet and all cellular activity have been blocked, yet somehow, information has been transmitted, and it is clear that the country is in a state of upheaval.

These two international events have one single thread tying them together: the ignorance of them throughout the western world. This is well reflected in the University population. Very few people have

heard of these incidents, especially with the simultaneous occurrence of the State of the Union Address by President Barack Obama.

There is little to no information currently circulating throughout campus about these crises. Neither the administration nor any student-run organization has responded or showed any concern.

During rush week, a few members of the various Greek organizations were asked to comment on either event, and only a handful of members were aware of the issues. When random students were asked if they had seen any online posts about the occurrences in Egypt or Moscow, only one had seen anything related to the issues on his news feed.

Though technology seems to be hardwired into our culture, we have evidently been underutilizing it. The internet is truly one of the last bastions of free speech, and it

seems as if American culture has failed to grasp that as a concept.

Rather than absorb as much critical information as possible with this technology, most of the University's student body's technological activities consist of such mundane things as keeping up with their Facebook, updating their Twitter, or watching the latest episode of "Jersey Shore."

There is no sense of higher-intellectual drive with the advanced technology that is available to the average American, let alone the average University student.

Despite being so in-tune with technology, western culture has detached itself from the real world. More important are the bits and pieces of useless data that float through invisible connections rather than actual situations happening all over the globe, let alone the events on the home front.

*There is little to no information currently circulating throughout campus about these crises. Neither the administration or any student organization has responded or showed any concern.*

When students were asked if they were interested in politics in a recent colloquium conducted by the Honors College with Dr. Dario Moreno, only a handful of the hundreds in attendance raised their hands. If the supposed elite of the University have little interest in something as critical to American life as politics, what does that say about the rest of the students and their peers?

If society refuses to encourage

the further utility of informational technology, it risks driving itself into the ignorance which it has tried so hard to avoid. If the American public cannot even acknowledge an airport bombing, especially after the recent dilemmas with the new security measures, it doesn't bode well for the future.

Unless this disconnect is rectified, people will continue to sink more and more into themselves, isolated from the rest of the world.

## International students have chance at success

**YUE WANG**  
Contributing Writer

My life abroad started as the airplane landed at sunset in the Miami International Airport. Though two years have passed, the scenery is still very fresh. Before my graduation, I would like to share my experience with other international students. Though I was well prepared for my new life abroad physically and mentally, college life actually gave me more challenges than I had expected.

The first and foremost challenge is the language barrier. Continue improving your English; the more you learn, the easier your academic life in the United States will be. Though I passed the Test of English as a Foreign Language and the Graduate Record Examination, my reading speed was still slower than the native students.

The volume of books I had to read per week forced me to stay in the library day and night. In order to finish weekly assignments, I had to get up at 6:30 a.m. every morning. At other times, I would go to library around 9 a.m. and stayed there until 11 p.m. Studying took up nearly all my spare time during my first semester. Due to the improvement of my English, life got better as the second semester came and I could finish my assignments faster and

spend more time exploring college life.

In making new friends, do not be shy to talk to your new classmates or team members. Give yourself a chance to show your personality and give them a chance to know you. They might be your connections when searching for a job. I found that the college life here is more than studying, especially after joining the Academy of Leaders. It was a great experience. As the only Asian student in this program in Spring 2010, I had many troubles such as language and cultural differences. With my team members' help and encouragement, I made great progress in my English.

Another two things I would like to mention are driving and housing. Having a drivers' license is very important in Miami because the transportation system is not efficient. Also, do not need to carry your passport everywhere at the risk of losing it. With your own car, you will become more independent. In terms of housing, it is better to ask senior students for suggestions. In doing this, you can avoid many troubles and save a lot of time.

Life in the U.S. goes fast, so time is very precious. Increase your efficiency and make good and full use of your time here. In doing so, I believe that you will have an unforgettable experience.

## Laws against sex workers promote danger, vulnerability

**BROOKLYN MIDDLETON**  
Staff Writer

In issues of sex work, there is an utter lack of humanity and empathy that stems from laws that not only make sex workers criminals but also increases stigmatization and marginalization.

Inexplicably, American society does virtually nothing to protect the human rights and ensure the safety of sex workers. It is not until there is a media frenzy surrounding a potential serial killer of sex workers that Americans turn their heads towards the issue. Even then, sex workers are shamed for their professions and given little resources to cope with abuse.

On Jan. 24, 2011, police identified the bodies of four young women found on a Long Island beach. All of them were sex workers who lived in the New York area and had advertised their services on Craigslist. This is the most recent tragedy of sex workers being victimized, and it is demonstrative of why there needs to be a drastic rethinking of sex work laws.

The illegality of sex work possesses inherent risks that make sex workers vulnerable to exploitation, abuse and murder. The more underground and illegal

a profession is, the more seedy, dangerous and prone to exploitation it will be. I would like to argue that the illegality of the work that is perpetuated and supported by laws contributes to the dehumanization of sex workers, thus leading to a flawed perception that sex workers are disposable, even subhuman.

Gary Leon Ridgway, a serial killer who brutally murdered 48 sex workers and, prosecutors often think, many more, gave an explanation as to why he chose women in this profession as his victims. *CBS News* quotes Ridgway as saying, "I picked prostitutes as my victims because I hate most prostitutes and I did not want to pay them for sex. I also picked prostitutes as victims because they were easy to pick up without being noticed. I knew they would not be reported missing right away and might never be reported missing."

This view, while disturbing, is actually a perspective that bears analysis, as it provides a basis for one of the fundamental reasons sex workers are so often victimized. The "unnoticeable" nature of sex work is problematic and exactly what makes sex workers so easy to victimize. This brings me to my point about how the illegality of sex work does nothing to

protect women.

The patriarchal notion of lawmakers and even feminists asserting that sex workers are victims of circumstance, poverty and drug addiction and are forced into sex work is an interesting point. The complexities of sex work absolutely possesses these elements and thorough and effective outreach to these women is crucial. However, the legal system fails to protect sex workers.

If the legal system gave a damn about "protecting" these women, there wouldn't be implementations of laws that paint these women as criminals and brand them with convictions that not only legally affect them, but also socially stigmatize them. Furthermore, the profession would be heavily regulated and limitless access to reproductive health would be given.

The assertion that criminalizing sex work "protects" women in any way is illogical; it only drives their work into silence and gags them from reporting crimes. Until a revolution not just in the political and legal environment surrounding sex work but also in the stigmatization of sex work, occurs, sex workers will continue to be victimized and preyed upon. That is truly a crime.

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## CHILE

### Ex-president's death must be solved

Chile's president vowed to help find out what really killed one of his predecessors, Sebastian Pinera. A cable published by WikiLeaks predicted that questions about the death will never be fully resolved.



## CUBA

### Bomber names ex-CIA operative in Cuba

A Salvadoran man jailed in Cuba in connection with a string of 1990s hotel bombings says he told a U.S. prosecutor that he got explosives and money directly from a former CIA operative.



## MEXICO

### Army rescues 44 kidnapped CentAm migrants

Mexico's Defense Department says soldiers rescued 44 Guatemalan migrants who had been locked up by kidnappers in a house in the northern city of Reynosa.

# Common spoke of being great

DEBORAH SOUVERAIN  
Staff Writer

He had his ups and downs with H.E.R and shared with the world how much used to love H.E.R, but ultimately his passion for "Hearing Every Rhyme" keeps him and hip-hop bound in his journey to greatness.

Common, acclaimed Grammy award winning hip-hop artist, actor and activist visited the Biscayne Bay Campus on Feb. 9 to discuss his journey to greatness and empower others to find their "light."

In true hip-hop fashion the night began with a freestyle from Common where the rapper poetically used references from the Biscayne Bay Campus, the Miami Heat and south beach.

Expected to discuss hip-hop and its effect on society, Common had a far more profound message in mind. "I came to talk to [you all] about greatness," said Common ending his freestyle and transitioning into his lecture.

Recounting the summers he spent with his cousin in Cincinnati at the age of 12 and writing his first rap song, inspired by Run DMC and the Bond Hill Crew, it was then Common realized his passion for the art of rhyming.

Finding his light, Common expressed that he didn't simply want to become a hip-hop artist he wanted to be a great hip-hop artist.

"I did not only want to be good I wanted to be great."

Common referenced his own life experiences to assert the importance of recognizing and utilizing your greatness.

"You have to find your path, believe in your path and live it."

In an interview with Common had with Student Media before his lecture, the artist expressed that he hopes the audience will "walk away feeling like they can achieve whatever they really want to achieve in their lives and find that voice within them and use that voice for a higher purpose."

Throughout the lecture

Common made frequent religious references and at one point read from the Book of James chapter 1 verses two through four in Holy Bible, a verse he says he often visits when going through difficult times.

Common gave the audience insight into his personal life, beyond hip-hop, briefly alluding to his relationship with fellow musician Erykah Badu.

Stating he was willing to play second fiddle in the relationship that ultimately dimmed his "light."

"Dimmed my light to make others happy, to make her happy."

Jokingly, Common went on to say, "[You all] know 'Window Seat,' yea I know window seat too...on the real!" Referring to Badu's most recent controversial music video.

Common ended his lecture by reinforcing his philosophy of achieving greatness and the importance of believing in one's self.

"Let your life shine.... Belief is contagious."



NED CHANDLER/THE BEACON

As part of its ongoing lecture series, the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus presented hip-hop artist Common to University students, staff in ballrooms of the Wolfe University Center on Feb. 9.

## FOODGASM

# Though just raw fish, shashimi can have 'majestic qualities'

Most people I have known go through stages in their eating inclinations. As children and young teens they find certain foods to be disgusting. I'm referring to acquired tastes, something that takes repeated exposure to enjoy. As much I can remember, I was not one of those people. At least I was always eager to try new things. So when my parents were eating raw fish, I probably

thought it sounded good.

Japanese typically serve sashimi as a first course, before any other strong flavors influence the palate. This is a testament to the delicate taste of raw fish. In order to fully appreciate the taste it should be eaten delicately. Just like you ought not throw back a full glass of fine wine as soon as you open it, the same goes for sashimi consumption.

The process of pulling a fish from the water, cleaning it and

then eating it in its raw state has to be sort of a human instinct that we never abandoned. The preparation of sashimi ties us back to the eats of millenniums past. The simplicity of the dish is splendid; there is almost nothing to it.

Some lined up slices of fish flesh and that's all. Yet something so simple can have majestic qualities.

Biting in to some of my favorite raw fish is an enchantment for me. White fish for example, with its buttery,

melt-in-your-mouth consistency provides jubilation. Tuna and Himachi (red snapper) share a similar buttery consistency, but also have a fuller lightly sweet sea flavor. Other fish like Salmon are among the sashimi staples as well.

Sashimi is commonly served alongside wasabi, pickled ginger, and soy sauce. Other sauces like ponzu are also common. Wasabi, which is a spicy green paste, can be mixed with soy sauce for dipping, or used separately as a condiment. The pickled ginger

serves as a palate cleanser to eat before trying a different fish. Sake is an apt beverage to enjoy with sashimi, if you're old enough to order it.

Sashimi can be found at most Japanese restaurants. Any place that serves sushi will likely also serve sashimi. The difference between the two is that sashimi is just raw fish, while sushi is the raw fish served on top of rice.

*Foodgasm is a bi-weekly column on food and cooking. Kravets is a hospitality major.*

## COLUMNIST



GENE KRAVETS



KARINA TELLEZ/THE BEACON

Guadalupe Juarez (center), a senior elementary education major with a certificate in women's studies, and other brides at the Modesto Maidique Campus on Feb. 2 promoting their upcoming walk.

# Alumna starts college bride walk

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ  
Life! Editor

Just hours before her wedding, Gladys Ricart's ex-boyfriend murdered her as she passed out bouquets to her bridesmaids in front of family and friends on Sept. 26, 1999. Her murder gained national attention, specifically Josie Ashton's.

The murder was caught on video on a party member's camera. Garcia was later sentenced to life in prison.

At the time of Ricart's murder,

Ashton was a criminal justice student at the University. She pitched the idea of walking in Ricart's honor to her professor and he encouraged her to speak to the family about her idea of a walk in Ricart's honor.

After approaching the Ricart family about the idea, Ashton put on her own wedding dress and walked from Ridgefield, NJ, where Ricart was murdered, back to Miami.

Now known as the College Brides Walk, which is not designed as a fundraiser but rather to raise awareness on domestic violence, Ashton has joined forces with the

University's Women's Studies Student Association, WSSA, to bring the walk back to the University and start a new tradition.

"Many walks are done to raise money and awareness about illnesses that everyone knows about," said WSSA president, Guadalupe Juarez. "Brides Walk on the other hand, wishes to simply raise awareness about an issue that many individuals prefer not to talk about. Also, knowing that a courageous and active woman could

**BRIDE, page 6**