



IRAN

At least 66 executed this year

Iran has executed at least 66 people this year, an alarming surge that has defied outside pressure, Navi Pillay, the U.N.'s top human rights official, said on Feb. 2.



EGYPT

Chaos in Cairo as demonstrators clash

Thousands of supporters and opponents of President Hosni Mubarak battled in Cairo's main square on Feb. 2, raining stones, bottles and firebombs.



ISRAEL

Iran wants 'another Gaza' in Egypt

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, says the Iranian leadership wants to take advantage of the chaos in Egypt to create "another Gaza" there, run by Islamic fundamentalists.

INTRODUCING...

Coach Mario Cristobal welcomes 2011 recruiting class



BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

Head Coach Mario Cristobal introduces his new recruiting class, during the 2011 National Signing Day party.

RICO ALBARRACIN Asst. Sports Director

National Signing Day is considered Christmas for coaches in the college football world and FIU Head Coach Mario Cristobal was able to show off the presents he received.

The Golden Panthers signed 25 players on Wednesday, 11 offensive players and 14 defensive players, to add to the overall talent that is already on the football roster. Cristobal spoke about getting bigger, stronger and more athletic on the defensive side of the ball, which he feels the Golden Panthers came away with.

"The focus was getting bigger, rangier, and longer," Cristobal said. "It's not only about being bigger. It's about guys who can cover enough yards on the field."

One of the key factors that Cristobal looks for when he is recruiting players is leadership.

"Every single one of these players have the distinction of being a former captain on their teams," Cristobal said. "We look for it. We're a blue-collar place. That mentality is what we search for."

One of the biggest questions going into the off-season would be

how FIU would replace the likes of First Team All Sun Belt Conference players cornerback Anthony Gator, linebacker Toronto Smith, and defensive lineman Jarvis Wilson. Coach Cristobal found that it was important to replace these players by mid-season, while at the same time having players that can be plugged into the system right away.

There are a few standouts in the 14 defensive players that signed with the Golden Panthers, including position players that will be able to fill the void left by the all SBC players. Derrick Thorpe, a 6'4", 260-pound defensive lineman from Neptune Beach, FL, shows good flexibility, agility and balance when lined up in the three-point stance against opposing offensive linemen.

With long arms, nimble feet and quick hands, Thorpe has the tools to be a force in pass protection. Although he is a raw talent, Thorpe has a tough, aggressive attitude that will help him have a productive career at FIU. Joining Thorpe on the defensive line is defensive tackle Max Martial, defensive end Giovanni Francois and defensive lineman Lars Koht,

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Zogby speaks on Middle East

JONATHAN SIMMONS Contributing Writer

Dr. James Zogby, president of the Arab American Institute and member of the Council on Foreign Relations, has made a career out of informing Americans about one of the world's most strategically important – and, he says, most misunderstood – regions:

the Middle East.

Dr. Zogby addressed an audience of students, faculty and community members at the Frost Art Museum at Florida International University on Monday, January 31, and spoke of the common misperceptions that pervade Americans' understanding of the Middle East and its peoples, and the impact that American ignorance

of the region has had on U.S. government policy.

Zogby's speech was titled after his recent book, "Arab Voices: What They are Saying to Us and Why It Matters," and was followed by a book signing.

Early in his lecture, Dr. Zogby spoke of the question that was printed

ZOGBY, page 2

Radiate FM nominated for mtvU Woodie award

GABRIEL ARRARÁS News Director

WRGP Radiate FM, the University's student-run radio station, is currently among the top 50 nominees to receive an mtvU Woodie award for "Best College Radio Station."

After initially asking their fans to vote once to nominate their favorite college radio station, mtvU cut down the list of nominees to 50. The competition is going to experience another round of cuts, as mtvU will trim the list to the top 25 college radio stations by Feb. 8.

Those who wish to support their favorite college radio station can do so by visiting www.radiowoodie.ratemyprofessors.com. Once there, supporters can vote as many times as they would like.

After finding out through one of his DJs that Radiate FM had been nominated, Ryan Morejon, promotions

director for Radiate FM, told Student Media that they began campaigning on campus to promote the nomination through tabling in front of the Green Library and other events.

"We are amazed," said Morejon. "It goes to show that our programming is what speaks to our listeners."

Radiate FM is one of two radio stations from Florida universities to be among the top 50 nominees for a Woodie award, with the other being WVUM – the University of Miami's radio station.

According to mtvU's website, "crowning the biggest names in indie rock and hip-hop for the last seven years, the Woodies are the definitive award show for college students and the music they care about."

The 2011 Woodie Awards take place on Mar. 16, in Austin, Texas. The award show will take place live during the South By Southwest Music Festival.

POLAR POLITICS



BEN GUZMAN/THE BEACON

Dr. Dario Moreno lectured students on Jan 30 in DM at an Honors College Colloquium. Dr. Moreno specializes in Cuban-American politics and is also experienced in local politics. Moreno lectured about the "Polarization of US Politics".

NEWS FLASH

Scott wants public employees to contribute to pensions

Gov. Rick Scott released his plan Tuesday to cut costs in the state's pension fund by requiring all public employees — including teachers, police officers, current state workers and other government employees — to contribute 5 percent of their salary.

The employee contribution would apply to the more than 650,000 government workers, ranging from firefighters and judges to clerks and cafeteria workers, who are covered by the Florida Retirement System.

Obama says Egypt's transition 'must begin now'

President Barack Obama warned Tuesday of "difficult days ahead" for Egypt and said the transition following President Hosni Mubarak's earlier announcement that he won't run for re-election in September must begin immediately.

In a brief statement to reporters at the White House, Obama pledged continuing U.S. support for both a longtime ally and the aspirations of protesting Egyptians, whose eight days of growing demonstrations led to Mubarak's dramatic announcement on state television.

"We've borne witness to the beginning of a new chapter in the history of a great country and a long-time partner of the United States,"

Pathways To Prosperity: Students Need More Career Paths

The current U.S. education system is failing to prepare millions of young adults for successful careers by providing a one-size-fits-all approach, a Harvard University study published Wednesday concludes.

The two-year study by the Pathways to Prosperity Project at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education notes that while much emphasis is placed in high school on going on to a four-year college, only 30 percent of young adults in the United States successfully complete a bachelor's degree.

— Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

Senate speaker tenders resignation

VINCENT FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

In a press release sent out on Feb. 1, Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus Senate Speaker and College of Engineering and Computing Senator William-Jose Velez announced his resignation.

"I have had to make a difficult decision to step down from my positions in order to be able to focus on my academics," Velez wrote.

Due to SGC-MMC Senate statutes regarding line of succession in the specific case of the Senate Speaker's resignation or removal, the Speaker Pro Tempore, in this case Hector Mujica, will become Senate Speaker.

Velez went on to say that he is confident that Mujica will do "an extraordinary job as Speaker and [that] the Senate will continue its work on the many reformations we began this year."

With Mujica moving to Senate

Speaker, the position of Speaker Pro Tempore will be up for grabs. While there is a line of succession for cases in which the Senate Speaker is removed or dismissed, there is no explicit statement in the statutes regarding the process for replacing the Speaker Pro Tempore by succession. However, if it were to be by succession, next in line would be the Finance Committee Chair, which is currently held by Cristina Loreto.

Student Media spoke with now Senate Speaker Hector Mujica, who has been consulting with both Campus Life Advisers and the SGA Judicial Branch to confirm the correct process for replacing the Speaker Pro Tempore position.

"As of now we are planning on asking Senator Loreto to step up and be confirmed by the Senate on Monday as Pro Temp to avoid any legal issues," Mujica told Student Media. "Should she fail to pass the Senate, we may need to have open elections within the Senate for the position."

Mujica went on to say that if Loreto is approved for the position, the Senate will present nominations and hold elections on Monday to fill the vacant Finance Chair seat.

"Assuring we have a Pro Temp is currently of the utmost importance as the budget process starts next week and the Pro Temp is a voting member of both the University Wide Budget Committee and the Campus Specific Budget Committee," Mujica added.

Until the confusion about whether Senator Loreto will be able to fill the vacant position clears up, there is no set date to consider refilling vacant senate seats, which include the College of Engineering and Computing and the College of Business.

Vincent Fernandez works as a beat writer, covering the Student Governing Council at Modesto Maidique Campus for The Beacon.

Zogby: Arab culture skewed in Media

ZOGBY, page 1

in headlines across America in the days following the attacks of September 11, 2001. The "Why do they hate us?" question, Zogby said, was fundamentally flawed, and symptomatic of Americans' skewed understanding of the Arab world.

Zogby felt the Arab world and people had been represented in the American media for decades through crude stereotypes. Following the attacks, the Arab world had been personified in the minds of many Americans in the faces of 19 hijackers.

But the question, and the American perception of a widespread Arab hatred of America and American values which underlie it, is in fact

based on a fallacy - polling across the Arab world, Zogby said, indicated that "65%, across the board, like American values."

This general sympathy with American values and culture is evidenced consistently in polling but can also be seen in massive Arab consumption of American cultural products—particularly television and film. People in the Middle East, Zogby said, get our Seinfeld jokes.

Americans don't know this because, according to Zogby

Institute polling, the country remains oblivious to the realities of the Arab world.

"We're in a deeper hole, knowledge-wise, than we were back then," said Zogby, "and it's become a partisan hole; a deep, partisan divide has come to characterize this lack of awareness..." Zogby cited statistics that 73% of Democrats polled desired greater information about the Arab world, while 82% of Republicans were uninterested in learning more.

Zogby spoke about his

perception that this kind of American ignorance — in some cases, what he referred to as "willful ignorance," of the Arab world has contributed to policy debacles in the Middle East and led to actions on the part of the U.S. government that have eroded American credibility in the region.

Zogby points out that the neoconservative movement suffered from "a mindset that all these natives understand is force." In Iraq, he said "... their wrongness cost us four thousand lives."

THE BEACON

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2,000 COLLEGES. 8 MILLION ROOMMATES. WHICH ONE WILL YOU GET?

LEIGHTON MEESTER MINKA KELLY CAM GIGANDET

THE ROOMMATE

SCREEN GEMS PRESENTS A VERTIGO ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION "THE ROOMMATE" ALEX MICHALKA
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PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13
VIOLENCE AND MENACE SEXUAL CONTENT LANGUAGE AND TEEN PARTYING
TheRoommate-Movie.com

IN THEATERS FEBRUARY 4

NATIONAL SIGNING DAY 2011

SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED

Playmakers headline arrivals

IGOR MELLO

Asst. Sports Director

After landing eleven out of 25 offensive recruits on National Signing Day, Mario Cristobal focused on finding athletes who can be a threat in multiple facets of the offense and possibly on defense.

"We recruit like men possessed. It's our lifeline. We have some real nice plays run up on paper, but you have to have the players to make those things happen," Cristobal said. "We want to take another significant jump this year. These were the body types and final pieces that we need to make this offense explode."

For nearly a year Cristobal sought out for a home-run hitter in this class, in anticipation of one day, having to deal with life without FIU's most explosive player - T.Y. Hilton.

"We don't want to talk about life without T.Y. [Hilton]," Cristobal joked. "The home-run hitter mentality, in terms of our approach to recruiting this year was a major point of emphasis."

Ten out of eleven of Cristobal's recruits on offense came from high schools in the state; four of them were a wide receiver.

Cristobal did not have to go far to find a player similar to Hilton. Cristobal has been recruiting Corey Tindal for



REBECCA VILAFANI/THE BEACON

Mario Cristobal announces his 25 recruits during his National Signing Day press conference.

about three years and has finally received a letter of intent from the 5-10, 180-pound product from Boyd Anderson High School.

"You can't deny the fact

that every time he touches the ball, he is dangerous. I see him doing a lot of the stuff that T.Y. Hilton did," Cristobal said. "We always thought that he was the cream of the crop

in Broward County and in the state. There's a big package in store for him."

Tindal played running back,

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Recruiting class focuses on defense

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just to name a few.

Adding to the FIU secondary is Richard Leonard, a 5'9" cornerback from Killian High School in Miami, FL. A speedy cornerback that can play on an island, Leonard can keep up with many players step for step and has the burst to recover quickly. Leonard needs to become a better tackler to truly be a shut down cornerback, yet with the feistiness and scrappiness he shows on the field, he can easily be a force for the FIU defense.

Leonard is only one of a few players in the secondary that can make an immediate difference, including cornerback/athlete Corey Tindal, safety Lyndon Edwards and cornerback Tevin Blanchard, an All-Region First Team player in Mississippi.

Many of these players were recruited by Bowl Championship Series teams, making it all more impressive that FIU was able to land some of these players. Cristobal spoke about having to fight for players that may not be able to play at the school of their choice.

"We want to continue to scratch and fight for every prospect that will make FIU into a better program," Cristobal said.

"We found a way to use the conference championship to and bowl win to catapult us into a new era."

Mario Cristobal
FIU Head Coach

Since the departure of defensive coordinator Jeff Collins, now the co-defensive coordinator at Mississippi State, there have been rumors swirling about Todd Orlando taking the job. When asked about how close the possibility of having Orlando take the job, Cristobal did make one thing clear.

"He is here," said Cristobal, when speaking about Orlando.

Orlando was previously the defensive coordinator at the University of Connecticut, where he ran a defense that ranked 35th in points allowed (22.0) in 2010, as the Huskies went on to win the Big East championship.

Cristobal was very excited with the prospects who committed to the university, especially being able to add talent to a defense that

finished first in the Sun Belt conference, and to a team that shared a conference championship. Cristobal credits the spark in recruiting to the Golden Panthers win in the Little Caesar's Pizza Bowl and the excitement the players have for playing for the program.

"We found a way to use the conference championship and bowl win to catapult us into a new era, a new realm, a new caliber of student-athletes," Cristobal said.

Coming off the Golden Panthers best season, there are growing expectations for the football program. Cristobal is ready to show that he can meet those challenges.

"As your expectations continue to grow, so does the commitment to the program," Cristobal said.

New class brings depth, stability to the program

The growing buzz of excitement in the FIU Stadium Club as Mario Cristobal spoke to fans gathered to celebrate the latest batch of collegiate hopefuls, along with the aroma of fresh pizza lingering throughout the room, effectively captured the state of the Golden Panther program for at least one night.

COMMENTARY



JOEL DELGADO

A Little Caesars Pizza Bowl victory along with the newest additions to the football roster have provided the first tangible sense of hope for the future, a tangible taste of what could be for this program nestled on Tamiami Trail.

And the general feeling is that this coaching staff has only begun to scratch the surface.

It's easy to see the excitement Mario Cristobal has for the latest batch of recruits that will soon be making their way down to Tamiami Trail. And that enthusiasm seems to be contagious as fans left the Stadium Club buzzing about the next generation of FIU football and what they could accomplish on Saturdays wearing the blue and gold.

Once again, Cristobal and his staff of coaches went after highly-regarded recruits that were being targeted by some of the more established programs in the country. They lost some, but they also won some key battles and picked up players that will help the Golden Panthers prove that they are more than a one-hit wonder.

FILLING THE GAPS

More importantly, the recruits that signed on the dotted line on Feb. 2 will be filling in gaps that were recently created when last season came to an explosive finish.

In the midst of the excitement, All-Sun Belt defensive back Anthony Gaitor had played his last down.

Toronto Smith would no longer be a tackle garnering machine at linebacker. The defensive line would also lose some key pieces to the puzzle.

The class more than adequately tackled those potential pitfalls with some key acquisitions in this year's strategically-constructed class.

In particular, the Golden Panthers were able to stack up talent in the defensive backfield with the re-acquisition of Richard Leonard, who signed with FIU in 2010 but needed another semester to qualify for play at the collegiate level, along with the additions of Jordan Hunt, Corey Tindal, and a

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SUPER BOWL

Miami filled with great places to watch the Big Game

JOEY CRUZ
Staff Writer

Forget the World Series, people want to watch the real American sporting championship every year and just go nuts. Why drink Natty Ice to wash down the generic corn chips and salsa in your small apartment, when you can party it up at one of the best pubs and sports bars in Magic City.

The Super Bowl is a national relic and basically a holiday here in the United States. Every year it's celebrated to the fullest extent. The one-day that beer is purchased and consumed the most during the year is the Super Bowl. Heck, the Super Bowl is second in food consumption behind the all-mighty Thanksgiving Day where most gain seven to ten pounds from then to Christmas.

To all Dolphin fans, I'm sorry that your team will not be playing in Dallas this year. Remember, there's always next season. Miami is known for its party life and promoting special events whether it's South Beach or even Bayside.

Last season, the highly anticipated title game was proudly held here at Sun-Life

Stadium in Miami, Florida. This doesn't mean this year's Super Bowl in the most expensive stadium in America will not be celebrated throughout local joints here in our beautiful city.

Whether you live in Kendall or Coral Gables, there are plenty of neighborhood hot spots where you and your friends can experience the adrenaline-pumped fans support their team in chaotic fashion.

THE ALE HOUSES OF MIAMI (KENDALL, DORAL, AND ACROSS FROM THE FALLS)

Here we have a case of local Miami natives, who show up to just have fun. The fifty dollar all-you-can-eat buffet and drink combo at the Ale House is a great way to spend your Super Bowl extravaganza money. Why spend those hard earned fifty bucks on propane, food, and drinks all to have to clean up the house right after the game? All alcoholic beverages are inclusive! Not to mention the ribs, wings and seafood buffet they provide as well. All buy-ins include gift packages such as bartending bottle openers and other great rewards.

THE SPORTS GRILL (SUNSET AND

WESTCHESTER)

What are the essential consumptions during any sporting event? Wings and beer of course. No one does the combination better than the Sports Grill. Their infamous special grill marinates the taste buds like no other chicken wing in Miami. You can wash down those mouth-watering wings with an array of tasty beer all while watching the big game on the many televisions they have around the restaurant.

MR. MOES (COCONUT GROVE)

Not only has ESPN ranked the place one of America's greatest sports bars, but the Super Bowl party is great too. Thursday night can be a pre-Super Bowl party selection, while Mr. Moes hosts the craziest college party with a lot of drinks and ladies to keep the night exciting. During the game, there will be four-dollar shots all night, including three-dollar domestics and four dollar you-call-it drinks. After the game, leaving Mr. Moes will be a night to remember.

TOBACCO ROAD (DOWNTOWN, MIAMI)

If you have not been to the oldest bar in the city, the Super Bowl is a great event to enjoy your first time. Tobacco Road has been open since 1912. If you want one of the best burgers in Miami, Tobacco Road has the solution. And if you can't make it during the game don't worry, they're open until 4 a.m. to satisfy their customers.

THE YARD HOUSE (MERRICK PARK, CORAL GABLES)

If you want a classy place to watch the Super Bowl, but aren't too classy yourself, the Yard House is a great place to watch the game. Located in Merrick Park, one of the finer malls in Miami helps establish its laid back atmosphere.

The food is great, but the beer is where the Yard House makes a name for itself, offering the world's largest selection of draft beer. The restaurant offers a chance to have a glimpse at the 600 kegs they use to keep their guests at ease through a clear room.

Try to take advantage this year when making your Super Bowl plans because there might not be football next season. Wherever you watch the game, remember to have fun and drive safely.

Depth issues addressed in new recruiting class

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cornerback and participated in special teams for B.A. last season, but according to Cristobal, he envisions the Broward talent to line up as a tail back, slot receiver and possibly a nickel cornerback during third down scenarios.

Alongside Tindal, the newest members on offense: Quarterback Loranzo Hammonds, Running Back's Cedric Walker and Shane Coleman, Receiver and Cornerback Terrance Lowder, Receiver's Ezekial Turner, Dominique Rhymes and Clinton Taylor, Offensive Lineman Richard Reay and Prince Matt and Tight End Ya'Keem Griner.

Hammonds, the only quarterback in the class, threw for 2,315 yards his senior season, connecting for 31 touchdowns. But it's not just his passing abilities that drew the South Carolina prospect to FIU, it's his ability to run the ball. Hammonds rushed for 1,016 yards as a scrambling quarterback, reaching the endzone 13 times on the ground.

"He's a dynamic quarterback. He plays with a rage. When he's carrying the football, he's not afraid to put his shoulders down," said Cristobal, who sees Hammonds as contender for the starting quarterback spot. "He already runs the system that we run, so I think he's going to step right away and compete for the job."

"We recruit like men possessed. It's our lifeline... we have to have the players to make things happen."

Mario Cristobal
FIU Head Coach

According to Cristobal, he has no concern about acquiring too many quarterbacks on his squad. In fact, he hopes to have at least four quarterbacks in the depth chart by spring practices.

"I think you want to carry four to five quarterbacks. There are some guys that are interested and want to come to FIU, we're just trying to figure it out," said Cristobal. "You always want as many as you can. To say that you always have enough at one position, I think we'd all be crazy to say that because you never know how camp and preseason work out."

Cristobal also snagged up Walker, who won MVP honors for the Dade-Broward All-Star game. Walker, a short 5-9, 178 pound tail back from Gulliver Prep, rushed for 133 yards in the All-Star game.

Despite having eight running backs on roster, Walker could be a compliment Cristobal's top ranked rushing team in the Sun Belt.

"A guy like that will find a way to fit in. He is more than talented to get in there, mix it up, and earn plenty amount of playing time," Cristobal said.

FIU beginning to draw players from top schools

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number of other recruits.

The defensive line got an important boost as they look to build off the kind of success they achieved during the 2010 season with the rush defense and the pass rush.

The ability to stop the run is what helped the Golden Panthers attain a Sun Belt championship and it will be what gives this team a chance to do it again next season.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

For as long as the Golden Panthers have played at the Football Bowl Subdivision level, one of the nagging issues dealing with the program has been establishing depth.

Injuries decimated FIU towards the end of the season as they struggled to deal with finding adequate reinforcements to compete when the later stages of the season came around.

But this class is a sizable step towards making those problems a thing of the past, adding depth at a number of positions.

Still, Cristobal feels that they still have a bit to go before they are able to be comfortable and able to develop players the way they would like to.

"We're getting there," Cristobal said. "The moment they step on campus it's a mile a minute."

They were able to assemble depth at the running back position with one of the county's top running backs in Gulliver rusher Cedric Walker and Shane Coleman.

It also doesn't hurt that FIU snagged a number of explosive receivers in this class to maybe fill in the gap expected to be left by T.Y. Hilton when he starts preparing for the NFL Draft at this time next year.

It will be recruiting classes like this one that will make the Golden Panthers a program that will endure in the long term, one that is geared for sustained success.

They were able to address significant needs and question marks while at the same time thinking ahead towards the future in anticipation of future needs.

Not to mention that Cristobal continues to bring in a group of guys with an ability to lead. Every member of this year's recruiting class was a team captain in their respective schools.

These are players that understand what it takes to build something from the ground up and know how to lead a group of players on game day and in the locker room.

"We're a blue collar place," Cristobal said. "We don't have the glitz and the glamour. We're not afraid of doing it the hard way. That mentality is what we search for and that mentality is going to help our guys be successful."

This team has shown that they are past the "laying the foundation" stage and are currently focused on building on top of that solid foundation.

Each class appears to be a step above the last. And at this rate is there is no reason next year will not be different.

2011 Football Recruits

	Position	HT/WT
Richard Reay	OL	6-5/285
Derrick Thorpe	DL	6-4/260
Loranzo Hammonds	QB	6-1/195
Ezekiel Turner	WR	5-10/170
Maw Martial	DT	6-3/290
Aaron Nielsen	DE/TE	6-4/235
Giovani Francois	DE	6-1/235
Denzell Perine	DE	6-3/215
Prince Matt	OL	6-4/280
Ya'Keem Griner	TE	6-4/210
Cody Horstman	DE	6-3/265
Dominique Rhymes	WR	6-4/205
Lyndon Edwards	S	6-0/195
Shane Coleman	RB	5-7/190
Corey Tindal	RB/DB	5-10/180
Luis Rosado	LB	6-2/210
Kenneth Proctor	S	6-0/201
Lars Koht	DL	6-5/220
Cedric Walker	RB	5-9/178
TJ Lowder	WR/DB	5-11/178
Jordan Hunt	LB	6-1/228
Tevin Blanchard	CB	6-0/180
Richard Leonard	CB	5-9/170
Elijah Maxey	LB/S	6-0/210
Clinton Taylor	WR	5-9/175

BUILT TO LAST

FISTFULS OF TECH!

Apple restricts eBook sales in App store

I have written various columns about Apple's draconian control over the App Store and how it both hurts and helps the iPhone's growth. But Apple's decision to restrict applications from using alternative pay methods is a left field attack against the eBook apps, mainly Amazon.



COLUMNIST

JORGE VALENS

The *New York Times* reported that Apple rejected the Sony e-Reader app's entry in to the App Store on the basis that it circumvents the iTunes in-app store purchasing API's. What that means in English is that Apple is not getting a 30 percent cut on eBook sales.

"We have not changed our developer terms or guidelines," Trudy Muller, an Apple spokeswoman told the *New York Times*. "We are now requiring that if an app offers customers the ability to purchase books outside of the app, that the same option is also available to customers from within the app with in-app purchase."

It seems odd that Apple would allow eBook ecosystems like the

Kindle and Barnes and Noble's Nook to set up shop on iOS devices to, all of the sudden pulls the rug out from under them.

I understand what these guys are trying to do and frankly, I admire the idea a bit. Amazon doesn't really want you to buy a Kindle, but they do want you to buy eBooks.

The fact that Amazon's Kindle reader is available on almost every type of mobile device and operating system is impressive. The company is striving for ubiquity in terms of their reach and distribution and it's ubiquity wins consumers.

"If this were implemented today, it would be a disaster—there's not even room in Apple's system for all the books in Amazon's catalog. And while a 30 percent cut on all sales in the App Store seems reasonable, that same 30 percent cut for content that's neither tracked nor served by Apple seems high. It would be impossible for Amazon or Barnes and Noble to maintain existing book prices while also cutting Apple in for 30 percent," Macworld's Jason Snell said.

The fact of the matter is, when this happened Amazon would be more likely to leave the AppStore

PEACEFUL LOTUS



ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

Claudia Camas, a junior psychology major (left), and students practice yoga during the class Meditation and Spiritual Development taught by Samani Unnata Pragma.

rather than raise prices to comply with Apple's demands, a move that would hurt Apple more than Amazon.

The fact that iOS devices offer access to all these types of eBook readers is a selling point. One of the reasons I love my iPad is because I can read Kindle books on it.

The Kindle ecosystem is very reliable and popular, especially in the

United States where Amazon recently announced that it was selling more Kindle books than physical books, according to *The Guardian*.

Amazon's presence on iOS, as significant as it may be, is not a deal breaker for the company's service. Apple is just pushing users and companies that add value to its product away just to bolster their failing competitor.

Apple is giving consumers another reason to buy the Kindle, which at \$139 for the Wi-Fi only version, teeters dangerously close to the "impulse buy" price target.

Hell, it's so cheap I might even buy one right now.

Fistfuls of Tech! is a weekly column on all things technology.

Six girls...one chance to be a superstar.

TALENT

THE CASTING CALL

NEW SERIES
Premieres Tuesday Jan 11th
on www.thetalentshow.com

COVERGIRL Secret PANTENE Venus Olay

REEL TO REEL

The King's Speech award season's biggest contender

The King's Speech is what is commonly referred to within the film community as Oscar bait. It's an inspirational period piece and taken as that, it's entirely watchable and equally forgettable.

The world around Prince Albert, the Duke of York (Colin Firth) doesn't so much unfold around him as it looms. At one ceremony, he is paralyzed in fear by the portraits in the chamber that surround him: Queen Victoria and George V, his father, among others. At his coronation, the walls of Westminster Abby look as if they'll pounce on him.

He is reluctant to hold the crown, forced to it after his brother Edward VIII (Guy Pearce) abdicates the throne yet the threat of war with Nazi Germany mounts daily.

He looks at newsreel footage of Hitler addressing an assembly in 1936. He is struck not so much by the threat, but by the dictator's oratorical skills, which he envies. There

is a force and authority in that voice. And he doesn't have that damned stutter.

Albert, also referred to as "Bertie," among his family, is soft spoken, held back by a severe speech impediment, lacking the confidence to tell his brother his honest opinion of his wife-to-be, Ms. Wallace Simpson.

There is a discomfort in the audience as Albert goes into a stammering fit. Then embarrassment as his brother Edward ridicules him. But after a while, our sympathy drains. That feeling turns to impatience.

Firth spends most of the film playing another sad sack, albeit without the depressive streak that defined his work in *A Single Man*. This is an inspirational tale of a man overcoming adversity, after all.

Here, he has to stammer, and be embarrassed and retain a little fire to show his characters frustration now and again. And he does it quite well. By the time he's making any progress, over an hour of the film has passed.

At the core of the film is the relationship between Albert and Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush), his speech therapist who insists on referring to Albert as "Bertie," and has a penchant for reciting Shakespeare.

In his role, Rush has to recite his lines, show knowledge of his profession and some wit. Sprinkle in some assertive advice and almost fatherly warmth and you've defined what he does for the course of the movie.

Lionel will serve more as a psychiatrist to Albert rather than as a therapist. Which is fine because he's Geoffrey Rush, who is that type of actor who can make his five minutes in a film like in Spielberg's *Munich* shine.

Helena Bonham Carter occasionally shows up, playing Albert's wife, Elizabeth, the queen's mother. She holds his hand, remains faithful while wearing some nice furs and being charming.

Director Tom Hooper has an interesting visual flair that is not in step with the usual historical film. The camera is fluid, following Albert and Lionel as they walk through a park. As Albert grows furious with his therapist, the camera's tacking shot itself grows more violent. This is certainly not Merchant-

Ivory territory.

Still, one word defines this film: routine. The acting works and the story is somewhat interesting. There is really not much else to say about the proceedings.

Firth will probably win an Academy Award for his role, and it will be a shame because he'll have won it for the wrong film. His work in last year's *A Single Man* was affecting and commendable but the Academy decided to award Jeff Bridges. In the tradition of the Academy, they'll toss out the award to Firth this year as a consolation prize.

The irony that Bridges, himself a victim of several snubs during his career, is nominated again this year for a role in *True Grit* that is superior to Firth's role in this film is well worth noting.

Why even mention awards show politics? Because this is a film that begs, "Give me the Oscar!"

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

International students surprised by student fashions

RONNIE FIGUEROA
Contributing Writer

When Beatriz Guimarães came from Brazil, she couldn't believe what Florida International University students were wearing around campus.

From pajamas to hair rollers, there was no sacrificing comfort.

"When I moved here, I noticed that there are no limits to fashion and style," she said.

Brazilian fashion is dictated by novelas, or soap operas, of that season. Whatever the starlets wear is what becomes vogue, so popular. Guimarães says, that nothing else except that specific trend is sold in the clothing stores.

As the novellas' characters and seasons go, so goes fashion.

"Brazil has shot these

novelas in Greece and as a result the trend was Greek wear. They shot one in India, and the trend was Indian wear, and so on," she says. "But once the novela is over, so is the trend, up until the next popular one steals the show."

Guimarães says she's adapted to the freedom of wearing the styles she once deemed inappropriate for school.

For international students at FIU, the difference in fashion often presents the question of whether to assimilate to American culture or preserve home-grown identities.

Tiffany Anne Casas is an exchange student from Australia who spent the fall semester at FIU. She says she's found it difficult to get a good read on American fashion.

"What I've noticed while

being in the States is that the fashion differs from state to state and you can see people dress differently straight away," Casas says. "I don't think I've adapted towards the different fashion trends."

Arriving with only 33 pounds of luggage, the maximum allowed on her flight, Casas struggled finding the right look with limited options. It's why she decided to round out her wardrobe by visiting stores like Urban Outfitters and Zara.

"I liked both these stores because they have similar trends to back home and are quite unique in style," she says.

Casas prefers wearing mostly black, the customary look for people back home in Melbourne, and didn't anticipate changing that style.

Donning a Louis Vuitton handbag, Younga Kim doesn't mind splurging on high-end fashion. A frequent visitor to the Bal Harbour Shops, Kim carries over her glamorous appearance from her native South Korea.

"I've always wanted to look nice," she says. "When I was younger my father would always ask, 'Why do you look so shiny?'"

A self-described avid window shopper, Kim doesn't see herself adapting to the nonchalant way FIU students dress, either.

"To me it seems like the students don't care how they look," she said.

This perception contradicted the views she held of Miami before arriving. She anticipated a city with four different seasons, each sepa-

rating the different trends. Instead she arrived in a place she considers fashionably boring.

She has, however, seized sale opportunities.

"Everything is so much cheaper here," Kim says. "Back home everything is like two or three times more expensive because of high taxes. Here, like on Black Friday, the sales are unbelievable."

Philipp Petzold, 19, describes his look as a mix between clean-cut and preppy. It's the traditional European look, he says.

Since moving from Germany, Petzold, an architecture major, doesn't see much change in his attire. The only exception is his beach-wear.

"When I go back I still see a lot of Speedos, men with capris pants and a lot of

nudists. That's just not me," he jokes.

One of his biggest adjustments has been to South Florida's warm weather.

"In Germany it's a lot colder so down here I wear less clothes," he said.

The same can be said for Han Lang, a 22-year-old exchange student from China also adjusting to the warmer weather. Despite being in the United States for only three months, he already prefers FIU's come-as-you-are dress code.

"I much rather be casual," he says.

Ronnie Figueroa, a December 2010 journalism graduate, produced this story in the JOU 3303 Advanced News Writing course taught by Dr. Fred Blevens.

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, FEB. 4

WORK OUT FOR DIABETES - DIABETES AWARENESS DAY



WHEN: All Day
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC Rec Center

RUBENS AND HIS WORLD - FLEMISH/DUTCH ART IN THE 17TH CENTURY

WHEN: 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free to FIU students, faculty, staff and Frost Art Museum members. \$10 to the general public.
WHERE: The Frost Museum

SPC MOVIE: INCEPTION



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

FIU SCHOOL OF MUSIC AT THE WOLFSONIAN: "ALL THAT JAZZ"

The FIU Student Jazz Combos perform popular standards and new works.

WHEN: 8 p.m. 2pm Sun
HOW MUCH: \$5 students, \$10 FIU faculty, staff and seniors, \$15 general admission
WHERE: Wolfsonian

MISS FIU SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT



WHEN: 6:30-8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for students, \$15 general public
WHERE: MMC GC Ballrooms

WIND AND PERCUSSION ARTS SERIES: CHAMBER MUSIC FOR WINDS



WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

RUBENS AND HIS WORLD - FLEMISH/DUTCH ART IN THE 17TH CENTURY

WHEN: 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free to FIU students, faculty, staff and Frost Art Museum members. \$10 to the general public.
WHERE: The Frost Museum

FIU LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

WHEN: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
WHERE: BBC WUC

SATURDAY, FEB. 5

CAR WASH

GEP will be hosting a Car Wash to raise money for our RELAY FOR LIFE team.

WHEN: 10:30 am-2 p.m.
WHERE: Miami Subs: 14001 N Kendall Drive

SHAKE-A-LEG ISLAND CLEANUP

Come team up with SEA, I.D.E.A.S Miami, and HOSA for an island cleanup!

WHEN: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
WHERE: Shake-A-Leg in Coconut Grove

COOKING WITH THE EXPERTS: GIORGIO RAPICAVOLI



WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Bloomingdale's Aventura

SUNDAY, FEB. 6

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY XLV



WHEN: 6:30 p.m. ET
on FOX

SUPER BOWL PARTIES

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Miccosukee Resort & Gaming

ENTHIRAN



The S. Shankar-directed film took a decade of preproduction and two years of filming.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$9 general admission, \$7 for faculty, free for UM students
WHERE: Bill Cosford Cinema

SYDELL IDA WERTHEIM CONCERT ORGAN SERIES: DOUGLAS CLEVELAND, ORGAN



WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students, \$15 FIU faculty, staff and seniors, \$25 general admission
WHERE: FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

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

American football incomparable to original team sport

IVAN FLORES
Staff Writer

The Super Bowl is around the corner and the Pittsburgh Steelers are getting ready to take on the Green Bay Packers at Cowboy Stadium in Arlington, TX. However, what many real football fans have not said, and what is really the most integral part of any game, is the fans' love for the sport.

I love football, but I do not mean American football, referred to as gridiron outside of the United States and in the remainder of this article. I love football as the world knows it, as the 24.3 million people who tuned in to watch the World Cup in 2010 know it and as America has come to slander its good name by calling it "soccer," a disgusting and ill-fitting word that I refuse to say, since "football" is much more apt for a game that is actually played with feet.

Football is a sport that can be played with any number of people on any size pitch. In football, the field is referred to as a pitch. The pitch is massive, between 100 and 130 yards lengthwise and 50 to 100 yards width-wise, compared to an American gridiron field, which is only

100 yards by 53.3 yards. The game is literally played around the entire globe and every four years a world champion is crowned after weeks of intensive competitions against qualifying nations.

Football takes 90 minutes, two 45 minute halves, of nonstop play with limited breaks and constant action. The ball is gracefully passed back and forth between players in what is aptly referred to as "The Beautiful Game." Scoring is straightforward: get the ball into the net without the use of hands.

American gridiron is split into 15-minute quarters but manages to take three hours to end. The average play only lasts a few seconds and is really one person throwing the ball to another person in the hopes that he can sprint a few yards before being tackled and having to reset the game from a new position, a time-consuming and repetitive exercise.

The superiority of football stems from the fact that it is a real team sport. There is not just one player who drives the ball up the pitch and then kicks it into the net and becomes a champion. There is no way that football superstars like Rooney or Ronaldo can take the ball

CRITICAL THINKING



MELODY ALEMAN/THE BEACON

from their side of the pitch, avoid all the defenders and then score. To get the ball up the pitch and around the other team takes the collective efforts of many, not just one man passing the ball to another in the hopes that he can score, as it is in American gridiron.

In gridiron, the only real aspect of teamwork is the fact that if you are not throwing or catching, you are only trying to stop the quarterback from getting pummeled by the opposing team. Once the ball is in the hands of the receiver, he is the

only one that will or will not score, very limited teamwork indeed.

I understand the American disposition to real football. It comes down to the fact that the game is nonstop, with the exception of halftime, which only lasts 15 minutes. There really is no time to get up and grab a beer, chat among friends while the players reset for the next play or even watch commercials, which is why I assume most people watch the Super Bowl anyway.

Football takes dedication and a 90-minute game means 90 minutes

of continuous play. If there is an injury or a substitution time will be added at the end of the game. The staccato stop-and-go rhythm of American football is dull and repetitive; the ball only moves down the field and to one player.

On a more positive note, American gridiron does have something that real football has not quite mastered in its hundreds of years of existence and it is something that I am looking forward to this Feb. 6: entertaining commercials and even better cheerleaders.

Horoscopes an asinine method for predicting success

SANAH FAROKE
Contributing Writer

Included at the end of several magazines, there is a monthly horoscope which completes the issue. Many deny even reading the horoscope page, yet they secretly love it. The current problem is that many people live off of monthly and even daily horoscopes as if it is second nature-wake up, check the daily horoscope and live the day accordingly.

Horoscopes have become somewhat of an insight for many individuals and it helps them make choices, but no one knows who really comes up with this garbage on which readers constantly depend. A person may read his horoscope surreptitiously but I, for one, openly declare my disbelief in the power of horoscopes.

Everyone, including the self-absorbed, the scientific and the horoscope-obsessed is in awe once again when Parke Kunkle, a Minnesota astronomy professor, declared that "the astrological calendar was all wrong." Those who once believed they were a Libra may now be informed that they are a Virgo. There is also a new sign

added to the mix, "Ophiuchus", which is the serpent holder, ranging from Nov. 29 to Dec. 17. People around the world somehow feel like they have lost part of their identity, as irrational as that sounds.

In an interview with The Miami Herald, Mary-Iris Taylor, a writer from St Louis, said, when told she was the new zodiac sign Ophiuchus, "I'd just like to know what I'm supposed to be like now; as a Sagittarius, I was supposed to be the life of the party - at least, that's what I wanted it to mean - now what?"

People who cling on to zodiac signs and horoscopes seem to be lost when informed that their sign has possibly been changed. The buzz going around says that the new zodiac signs and dates only affect those born after 2009, so believers are safe. The affected, on the other hand, must embrace their whole new personality as well as a whole new fate. This is a whole lot of nonsense.

It is impossible that, because of the planets, the millions of people in the world born in a time range are declared to have a certain type of persona. It is as if all people with the same zodiac sign were all

replicated clones- instead of describing someone with a nice personality, to be more accurate, just say that they were a Libra.

As for the modified, if you are born after 2009, all of a sudden your whole personality is swapped with another. Rather, if you were born before 2009, you remain the same zodiac sign, but this is vague considering that the dates have changed for each zodiac sign so, if this is true, then there must be two horoscopes created every day to actually be compatible with the readers.

In reality, there is no scientific evidence that proves this and it is not faith, either. Mere people are creating these daily horoscopes that are so broad that their "predictions" can relate to anyone. So, when "that cute guy you've had your eye on will finally ask you for a pencil on the 17th, sparking your relationship," remember that your horoscope didn't really make it happen. It also is unlikely that two people born on the same date can have the same events take place in one day.

In addition, predicted events can occur to millions of people worldwide. Plus, anything that a horoscope says is rarely

ever negative toward the readers, but rather something that embellishes their astrological qualities that become more intense as "Venus orbits nearer creating a new love attraction."

Horoscopes tell the readers what will take place during the day or month, and people are more prone to making those decisions subconsciously simply because they were told to do so. Horoscope creators are playing God and stringing along average people as their insignificant puppets to be played with.

It is constantly overlooked that horoscopes are purely a business designed to convince the naïve of the supernatural qualities they possess. Horoscopes have become an addiction, especially to the self-absorbed who have willingly put their trust and fate into someone else's hands.

I predict that many horoscope lovers will be upset by this article, including the Aquarius, Gemini, and Ophiuchus, who will have a horrible morning after reading their horoscope, opening The Beacon and being dumbfounded that a non-believer criticizes the astrological system. Folks, the universe does not revolve around you.

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Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts (500 words maximum) in 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 and year.



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BRAZIL

Storms, floods kill 6 in southern Brazil

Torrential downpours triggered severe floods in mid-January have killed at least six people in southern Brazil and forced nearly 21,000 people to leave their homes and 71 cities to declare a state of emergency.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Dominican crackdown sows fear

Thousands of illegal immigrants in recent weeks were deported, sowing fear among Haitians living in the country and prompting accusations its government is using a cholera outbreak as a pretext for a crackdown.



HONDURAS

Ousted Honduran prez denies latest action

Ousted Honduran President Manuel Zelaya said a leaked diplomatic document wrongly implies he acted on behalf of the U.S. during negotiations on lifting Cuba's suspension from the OAS.

IMPROMPTU

Ever So Klever power swings to Van Dyke Cafe

Let's stray away from Miami's local beatniks and bring it home for at least one series of Impromptu. Fellow University students, Taylor Vega and Sam Savage will perform with their band Ever So Klever, Friday, Feb. 4 at the Van Dyke Cafe on Lincoln Road.

Taylor Vega, Ever So Klever's saxist, has been a friend of



YAZMINE GRANTHON

COLUMNIST

mine for quite some years now. I can remember the high school practice room rendezvous and the late night jam sessions. Now majoring in Jazz Performance at the University alongside Savage, the band's trombonist, the high school jazz soul that was creeping inside of him comes to life.

Named after a racehorse that never

won a race, Ever So Klever combines 1930s big band sounds with Ska, creating a genre of music they like to call "Power Swing." Big Band is style of music that became popular during the swing era, focusing on big brass sounds from horns like trumpets and saxophones.

Ska on the other hand, emerged from a 1950s Jamaica as a precursor to reggae. Notable artists like Sublime and No Doubt really brought this

calypso music to the limelight and so does Ever So Klever.

The band uses all aspects of instruments within their sound from guitars to keyboards and drums to bass, layered with two smooth female vocals. Sometimes I feel I repeat myself, documenting bands that use at least five instruments in their ensemble, but who doesn't love a full sound blasting through their headphones?

ESK masters in musicality and technicality. Songs like "Here Comes Mama" allows each instrument to equally sing.

You can hear that walking bass line just as much as the horn line, added with the provocative melody and harmony the girls carry. "Russian Mafia" carries that energy of perfectly executed guitar riffs and hard drums beats and clashes. ESK brings the diversity every band would like to have in their repertoire.

Miami.com says it all: "In the same way that people during the era of The Great Depression used swing music to dance their troubles away, Ever So Klever hopes to provide an outlet for joy."

Impromptu is a bi-weekly highlighting local music artists performing locally. The columnist pays her own and receives no special treatment

AFRICAN BAMBAATAA



PHOTOS BY NED CHANDLER/THE BEACON

The Delou African Ensemble performing in the Wolfe University Center Theater on Feb. 1 to celebrate the start of Black History Month. The event, which the Student Programming Council and Black the Student Union sponsored, provided students with a night of educational African culture

EVER SO KLEVER

- Time: 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
- When: Feb. 4
- Where: Van Dyke Cafe
- 846 Lincoln Road

Eating healthy on campus involves three important keys

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 65 percent of American adults are either obese or overweight today. Health care costs associated with obesity are approximately \$100 billion per year.

Over the years, portion sizes have distorted to sizes unthinkable, such that the car's cup holders have increased their sizes to accommodate the ever-increasing soda drink sizes.

It's time we think what are we doing and what are we eating.

Adults who go to school spend about five to six hours on an average there, which means cafeteria food is the major way for most freshmen and plenty of upperclassmen to get food.

The three keys to eating healthy on campus are: planning, balance and variety.

It is important to educate oneself about the food they eat, as it is essential to changing their lifestyle and adopting a healthier one. It is important not to just graze around and grab everything and anything, it is critical to know what you are eating and make a choice.

But at the end of the day, it is a student's choice whether he or she wants to adopt healthy eating habits or not. Fast foods are cheaper, tasty and convenient, and a lack of planning and time on the part of the students makes them an easy prey to restaurant foods and cafeterias.

The biggest challenge is the food industry's advertisements, as they overwhelm the public health messages. Here's an example: in 2004 food, beverage, candy, and restaurant advertising expenditures weighed in at \$11.26 billion versus \$9.55 million to promote healthy eating.

So powerful is the bombardment of the fast food advertisements that

the healthy messages fail to make an impact on the minds of children and young adults.

Eating on the go is often the way of life for students where they are always in a rush because of their hectic life. With the scheduling of meal times and some healthful tips from this article, eating healthy can become an ingrained part of life as is studying. During my internship at the Biscayne Bay Campus, I researched and evaluated the foods and beverages available at the campus. You can find lot of healthy foods for under \$5.

Eat the way you know you should. Use these guides to help you overcome the barriers of time, location and healthy eating knowledge. This week's tips are ways to eat healthy at Moe's Southwest Grill.

Mandal is a nutrition and dietetic intern doing her community nutrition rotation and nutrition counseling at the BBC Recreation Center.

MOE'S SOUTHWEST GRILL

Good Choices

- Burritos: Joey Junior
- Salads: Personal Trainer
- Kids Menu: Moo moo mr. Cow, Power Wagon
- Tacos: Overachiever, Unanimous decision, Funk Mester

Healthy Tips

- Go for the kids menu.
- Go easy on 'Dress it up' sides like cheese, sour cream and queso.
- Opt for chicken or veggie choices rather than red meats.
- Go for beans, tofu or chicken to add protein.
- Ask for a whole grain tortilla.
- Ask for beans or rice for sides rather than chips.
- Choose whole grain tortilla, 'streaker', soft taco rather than crispy corn taco shell.
- Add flavor with Pico de Gallo.

COLUMNIST



PRİYANKA MANDAL