



UNITED STATES

US eyeing a 'trusted shipper' program

The U.S. is in talks with its allies, airlines and maritime groups about creating a global vetting system for international cargo, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said.



SWITZERLAND

Calls for Egypt to guarantee freedoms

The protests in Egypt drew the unparalleled attention of leaders who were at the World Economic Forum in Davos, calling on Egypt to guarantee freedoms for its residents and avoid violence.



FRANCE

Debate after 'no' to gay marriage

An ongoing debate over the issue of same-sex marriage is now gathering steam when the Constitutional Court ruled laws banning gay marriages don't violate the constitution.

White House easing restrictions on travel, remittances to Cuba

NICOLE CASTRO
Staff Writer

Within the Cuban community, the recent White House press release easing restrictions on travel and remittances to Cuba has caused polarized views due to the 52-year presence of the communist regime.

Public Institutions around the country applauded the changes made on regulations allowing accredited institutions of higher education to sponsor travel to Cuba for academic work - all except in the state of Florida.

In 2006, the FIU Faculty Senate and individual faculty members joined the American Civil Liberties Union in chal-

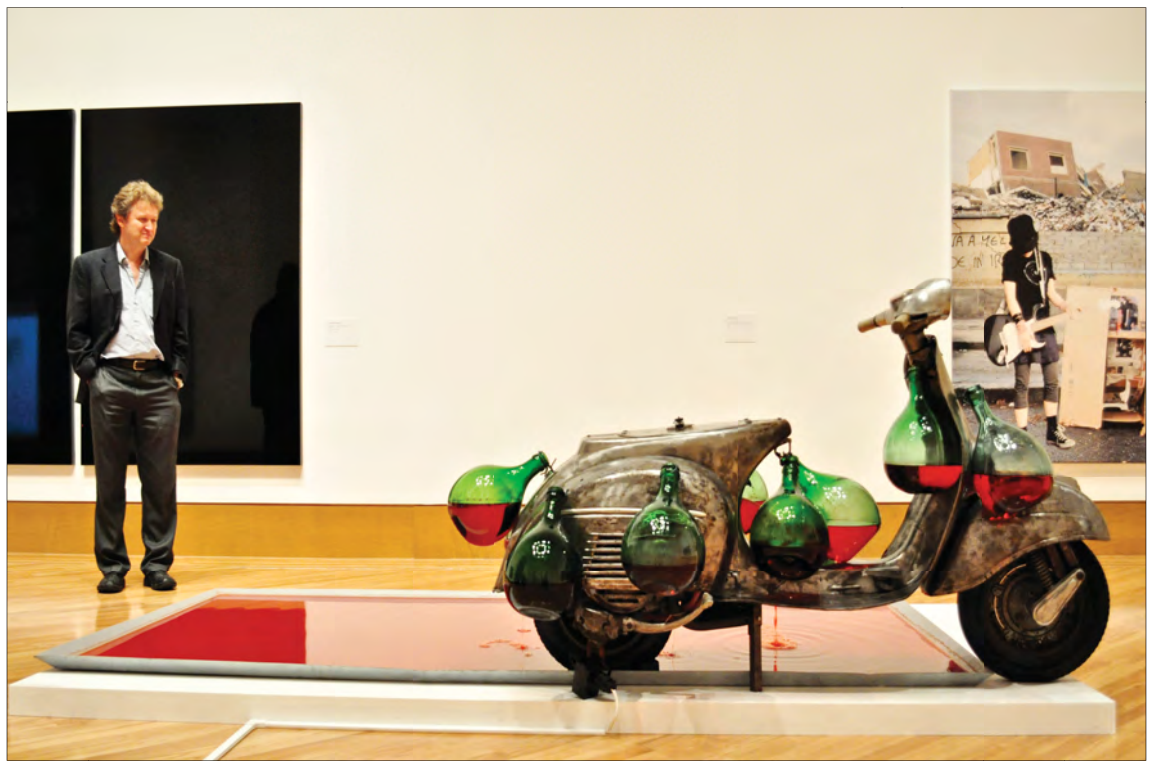
lenging the constitutionality of two Florida statues prohibiting state universities and agencies from using funds from any source to travel to countries designated as "state sponsors of terrorism." These countries include: Cuba, Iran, Sudan and Syria.

Although the statues were overturned, they came in full effect once again on November 2010. Cuban expert and Associate Director of the Cuban Research Institute at FIU, Uva de Aragón, comments on how "it is unfortunate that some of the provisions regarding academics do not impact us at all."

"The CRI has had as a policy

TRAVEL, page 2

"ANDIAMO"



LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

The Phillip & Patricia Frost Art Museum opened several new galleries on Jan. 26. Gran Torino: The Crossroads of the Italian Contemporary Art Scene features a *Composition for Glass Objects on Vespa* by Enrico Iuliano (above). **For more photos featuring the other galleries, turn to page five of the Life! section.**

Faculty, students find University scheduling unfavorable

POLIANA GUIMARÃES
Contributing Writer

It's been four years since a milestone agreement to change the scheduling of classes at Florida International University, the last of the state's colleges to move from a Monday-Thursday to Monday-Friday structure.

The 50-minute blocks in the Monday-Wednesday-Friday rotation have affected both the professors and the students, who say the choppy and lengthened weeks limit opportunities for better employment and participation in extra-curricular activities.

"(Last) semester I had three hour breaks between each of my classes and had classes in the morning, afternoon, and night," said Beatriz Furtado, 21, an environmental studies student. "That would be understandable if I lived at school and had no other occupation other than being a student, but that's not the case."

As urban universities and community colleges around the country begin providing students with more flexible schedules, Furtado and others believe FIU is heading in the opposite direction.

Although the schedule goes from 7 a.m. to 9:10 p.m., the majority of the classes are offered

during business hours, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

"It sucks," Marina Dos Santos, 24, a biology student, said. "The labs are always in the middle of the day and they are three hours long, so of course I can't take them because I have to work."

Students who attend urban universities compared to those who attend more traditional universities are more likely to perform multiple roles while they attend school; in particular, they are more likely to have extensive work and family obligations.

"I need to work to pay for school and as a full-time student I have a really hard time finding a job because my availability is virtually non-existent," Furtado said. "The only jobs available are low-paying and completely unrelated to my major or future."

"Besides that, getting an internship is unrealistic and juggling time for any type of commitment outside of school is impractical."

It has become increasingly common for urban colleges and universities around the country to offer late night classes in an effort to meet the needs of those who would like to take classes but cannot attend during the day.

Anne Arundel Community College in Baltimore has begun offering late night classes, which they informally labeled "Midnight Madness." Others in Indiana, Missouri, Oregon and Boston have joined in.

At this point, FIU has not.

In November 2005, the Revenue Estimating Conference predicted an extreme decrease in available PECO funds for building construction after 2006-2007.

The PECO fund, which stands for Public Education Capital Outlay, is the main source of state capital funding for Florida's school districts, community colleges and the State

University System.

Besides private endowments, PECO is a major building fund source for state universities to build new structures or remodel, renovate or repair existing ones.

At the time, Florida's Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability prepared a study that looked at classroom utilization by time of day and day of week at each of the university's campuses. Under their calculations, FIU had the lowest utilization in the state.

That conclusion severely threatened FIU's access to PECO funds, which prompted FIU in 2006 to create the Classroom Space and Utilization Committee to identify new ways to put more students in more classrooms during the daytime hours used for counting purposes.

The committee developed a few strategies, which began with turning FIU's four-day week into a five-day week, initiating classes on Fridays.

Second, it arranged a new schedule, which consisted of Monday-Wednesday-Friday 50-minute blocks from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., thus creating 15 new time blocks per week.

Associate Vice President Jeffrey Gonzalez said the committee's concerns went beyond the utilization data.

"The change in scheduling was part of a larger discussion on the needs for flexible scheduling as we adapt to new teaching styles," Gonzalez said.

Four years after these changes, students and professors question the flexibility of the new schedule.

"I do not like the Monday-Wednesday-Friday 50-minute class schedule that FIU has adopted," business instructor Stephen Luscher said. "It is a complete waste of time when you

SCHEDULE, page 2

IN THE BAY



MEGAN KELLEY/THE BEACON

Senior Sergio Burgas, a marine biology major, sets up an experiment in the mangroves at Biscayne Bay Campus on Jan. 25 for his Marine Biology and Oceanography lab.

Florida legislators criticize the change in restrictions

TRAVEL, page 1

to have contact with Cuban scholars, but this has limited us greatly," said de Aragón.

The progress in research ranging from environmental to cultural studies has been hindered. Only 49 states will benefit from the recent change, yet Florida, which is closest to the island and has the highest number of Cuban scholars and residents, will not see the slightest change.

"It upsets me that legislators can do this. I think that these are uninformed decisions and that [legislators] think they're politically popular," de

Aragón told Student Media. "I have never seen any of them arrive to the university and talk to the students who have gone to Cuba or looked at the work they've done."

Additionally, the \$300 dollar amount that was permitted to be sent exclusively to family members has now been raised to \$500 every quarter and extends to non-family members as well.

Florida Republican Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and the Diaz-Balart brothers have been among those to criticize Barack Obama's move, arguing that these amendments will empower the regime due to the tariff that is placed

on these remittances.

Veronica Valdez, accounting major, believes that if the U.S. wants to help Cuba, then "it should not under any circumstance support actions that will sustain the regime even, if it's at the expense of making some sort of sacrifice. As long as the Castro's are in power, nothing will change in Cuba, that's the reality."

However, others argue that trying to bankrupt the Cuban government has not worked in the past decades.

When Jose Leon, business administration major, learned that his uncle situated in Havana, Cuba was in need of surgery, he knew that he and his

family would have to assume the task of sending medical supply, from "the simplest of band aides, to medicines, lotions, pain killers, sterilized instruments."

"I completely agree with President Obama's proposal of bettering the Cuban society. Cuba is not the same as it was long ago," Leon said. "Everyone is in need of everything."

From the economic standpoint, de Aragón also adopts this view, claiming that opportunities that help the individual Cuban separate him or herself from the state, such as initiating small businesses, should be welcomed.

She does acknowledge that money

will go to the regime, "but when you invest in business you have risks."

"So if you're investing in Cuban society, which is what it is, then yes, you will have a certain percent of it that will help the state, but I think that risk is worth taking" said de Aragón.

According to de Aragón, "there are a lot fundamental resources that don't exist in Cuba" while the island feels the effects of unemployment.

"This is like aspirin for cancer," de Aragón said. "The best move for now is to befriend as many people inside Cuba that will be partners in projects in the future and learn how to work with them."

Current class schedules influenced by budget cuts

SCHEDULE, page 1

consider how much time one has to waste getting to and from class and the loss of time due to the professor getting ready, taking attendance and all that."

Tiffany Bryant, an international

relations professor, concurs.

"Having to come to campus for a 50-minute class results with them [students] having to adjust work and family schedules," Bryant said. "The students often end up taking more time traveling to campus and locating parking than actually having to be on

campus."

Budget cuts and spending decisions have also influenced the current class schedule at FIU.

"They have cut down many classes," said Patricia Araujo, 21, a dietetics and nutrition student. Araujo said limiting sections reduces student

choices of subjects, professors, times and days.

Even so, Gonzalez said, "The university has not received many complaints about the new schedule."

With the addition of the committee and the changes made to the use of space, he said, FIU was able to use

PECO funds to renovate classrooms, a project that will be done in phases over upcoming years.

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

ATM supporting University through variety of events

PARTNERSHIPS, page 8

"When they built the Kovens Conference Center they took down a bunch of mangroves and they have to pay back the mangroves they took out," Grimm said. "What we are trying to do is add to it not as mitigation, but as general restoration."

Grimm's efforts are to link the two sites to make one big mangrove wetland area.

ATM also gave the University the opportunity to provide food and refreshments for the grand opening of ATM's Academy of Hospitality and Tourism.

"Being that this school is so close and for them to have an Academy of Hospitality and Tourism, that's

all I needed to hear," said Mohammad Qureshi, assistant dean of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. "I brought students, staff members, a caterer, helped them design a menu and a few things free of charge.

"I'm proud that our partnership began with us helping AOHT plan and carry out the dedication ceremony."

This past February, the University gave ATM 200 tickets to attend "Fun Fit as a Family," a kids version of the South Beach food and wine festival at Jungle Island. This will repeat in February 2011.

ATM AOHT students also attended the University's dean's lecture in the

fall semester, an event in which industry professions share their knowledge, their vision and how they got into the business.

"It's a great opportunity because they get exposed to what's going on in the industry," said Stephanie Trinidad, ATM Academy of Hospitality and Tourism lead teacher.

Trinidad and Qureshi have been working together to come up with ways to benefit ATM as well as the University.

"Hopefully, they [the ATM students] can take advantage of the resources at FIU and when the time arrives for them to decide which university they want to attend, FIU will be their choice," said Cheryl Carter, assistant director of the Institute of Hospitality and Tourism Research and Education at the University.

The Student Government Council at BBC is also doing its part in enticing ATM students to attend the University in the future by educating them about FIU pride.

"A lot of students dream of going to UF or UM and we want to start that affinity with FIU," SGC-BBC President Christin 'Cici' Battle said.

A plan for a partnership between both student governments has formed this fall for this reason.

This plan, which includes a mentoring program from SGA to ATM's student government, will be executed more in spring.

"Because they have student government leaders

and we have student government leaders, we're going to teach them how to refine their skills in high school, so that it could help them in their collegiate career,"

Battle said.

"Our new folks we're training here will train these new people that will hopefully come here."

Elsa Naranjo, a

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

Global Learning for Global Citizenship

Tuesday Times Roundtable

at Modesto A. Maidique Campus (MMC)

Moderator & Theme

<p>Sarah Clegg-Crawford, Student Conduct Can Civility Survive the Age of Technology?</p> <p>Sadiq Abdullahi, College of Education Rethinking Global Education</p> <p>Pallab Mozumder, Earth and Environment To Be Announced</p> <p>Rev. Paul Massingill, FIU-MDC Wesley Is Pure Altruism Possible?</p> <p>Mariam Willis, Architecture & The Arts The Repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell</p> <p>Abuzar Kabir, Chemistry & Biochemistry The Complex Immigration Policies of the U.S.</p> <p>Steve Schwartz, University Advancement To Be Announced</p> <p>Divina Grossman, Vice President of Engagement Deaths in Childbirth: Preventive Care & Policy</p> <p>Michael Brillman, History To Be Announced</p> <p>Laura Boudon, College of Medicine International Adoptions after Natural Disasters</p> <p>Alan Gummerson, Economics The State of the Economy</p> <p>Cem Karayalein, Economics Debt and Unemployment</p> <p>Marc Weinstein, College of Education Do Straight "A" Students Live Longer?</p>	<p>Every Tuesday from 12:30-1:30pm in ZEB 150</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FREE LUNCH PROVIDED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more information, visit us online: GoGlobal.fiu.edu</p> <p style="text-align: center;">presented by The New York Times</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">FIU</p> <p>Student Government Association</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">FIU</p> <p>Global Learning</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Office of the Provost</p>
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MEN'S BASKETBALL

FIU losing streak extended to six games

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

FIU shot ten more free throws than Middle Tennessee in the game but shot poorly from the charity stripe in a tough 79-70 loss that summed up how the Golden Panthers season has gone so far.

"We've been losing the same way for the past three weeks," Head Coach Isiah Thomas said. "They do all the big things but when it comes down to doing all the small things, like making a free throw, they don't do it. And that's the difference in our season."

In the first half, both teams went back and forth exchanging baskets but FIU went out to their biggest lead of the game with 2:29 left when Phil Gary found Marvin Roberts open for a three and then DeJuan Wright went inside for the layup to make it a 37-30 lead.

Middle Tennessee kept the deficit at five at the half, thanks in part to both their great foul shooting and execution in shooting three-pointers.

The Blue Raiders came into the matchup shooting an astounding 72% from the line on the season and it showed in the first half, going 8-8 as a team from the line.

James Washington gave the FIU defense fits, making four of MTSU six three-pointers and scoring 14 points as FIU struggled to contain the Blue Raiders from beyond the arc.

"We lost him a couple of times and every-time we lost him he made us pay, that's kind of their offense," Thomas said, discussing

how much Washington hurt them.

The second half quickly got away from FIU right from the start and saw their five-point lead turn into a two-point deficit in a matter of five minutes. The teams would stay close the rest of the way through, but Middle Tennessee's defense seemed to have the Golden Panthers perplexed at times as they struggled to find a rhythm on offense.

FIU became a totally different team from the line in the second half, which was the difference in the game. Their 9-20 performance from the free-throw line hurt them just as it has the whole season.

"You go back and look at all the games we lost and it goes directly to the foul line," Thomas said. "It's frustrating."

With 2:43 to go the team down by just two, Roberts would turn the ball over twice on consecutive possessions just moments later. MTSU took full advantage of both opportunities and built their lead all the way up to eight. By then, it was too late for FIU to make a comeback.

This was FIU's six straight loss, all in conference play.

Alex Legion once again did not appear in the game, having sat out the last two games in a row in what Thomas describes as a "coach's decision".

WKU 81, FIU 78

DeJuan Wright's 25 points were not enough in a thrilling yet disappointing 81-78 loss to Western Kentucky Thursday night, Jan. 27.



LAURA PACCHIONI/THE BEACON

Marvin Roberts [above] scored a team-high 17 points in loss to MTSU on Jan. 29.

Going into halftime, FIU had a slim 35-33 deficit, something they did not have the pleasure of the last few games. Normally, they would give their opponents double digit leads and have to fight back in the second half have just to get within striking distance at the end of the game.

They played very well in the first half, and held the Sun Belt's third leading scorer,

Sergio Kersch to just four points. The rebounding battle was also won, which going into the game was the biggest concern for Head Coach Isiah Thomas. Eric Frederick had nine points and led the team at half and helped keep the score close. Frederick would not score again in the contest.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Russo earns 600th victory as coach

RICO ALBARRACIN
Asst. Sports Director

The Panthers not only managed to hold the number one scoring offense in the Sun Belt Conference to under their season average, but they also managed to come away with a critical victory.

FIU was able to upset Middle Tennessee State 62-59 on Jan 29, giving coach

Cindy Russo her 600th victory as head coach of the Panthers, and her 640th win overall. Jerica Coley and Finda Mansare led the charge offensively, scoring 15 and 14 points respectively. Elisa Carey fell one rebound short of her first double-double of the season, contributing 12 points and nine rebounds.

FIU (9-14, SBC 4-5) got off to a hot start over the

number one team in the SBC, as they jumped out to an 11-0 lead five minutes into the game. Finda Mansare and Carmen Miloglav led the FIU charge, scoring eight and seven points respectively. MTSU (17-5, SBC 8-1) would finally break the scoreless drought when Icelyn Elie scored a free throw and a layup, giving the Panthers a 19-3 lead with 11:31 left in

the first half.

"We ran our offense to perfection," said Carey, when talking about the Panther's first half surge.

The FIU defense was strong until they allowed consecutive three point shots by Elie and Anne Marie Lanning to make the score 27-17 with 3:45 left in the first half. MTSU managed to continue their hot streak from three-point range, continuing to cut the Panther lead. The halftime buzzer could not come sooner for FIU, has they clung to a 27-22 lead.

"I told them to hang tough. This was a very good team and we weren't going to keep them down for long," Russo said.

FIU looked to start the second half the same way they started the first, by attacking the basket and running successful fast-breaks. MTSU would continue the pace at which they ended the first half, matching FIU point for point. Both teams continued the frenetic pace of the game, as FIU was able to hang on to 45-41 lead with 11:41 left in the game.

WOMEN'S, page 4

SWIMMING AND DIVING

FIU defeats FAU in season finale

MALCOLM SHIELDS
Contributing Writer

In the regular season finale, the swimming and diving team faced off against their Sun Belt Conference rival, Florida Atlantic, and also against Nova Southeastern in a dual meet on Jan. 29. This meet would be their last until the conference tournament in Dallas from Feb. 23-26.

The Golden Panthers would win both meets by defeating NSU in meet one by the score of 175.00 to 40.00 and FAU 117.50 to 113.50 in meet two.

Coach Randy Horner spoke highly of his team's effort on Saturday.

"It was a complete team performance," Horner said. "We had no standout stars. It was definitely across the board a team effort. Anytime you have a scenario with a meet with an in-conference rival... you want to win that meet. It's always good momentum [to beat FAU] going into conference championships."

In the 200-yard medley

relay, the team of Danielle Sneir, Erin Pavlick, Yesica Rojas and Mariangela Macchiavello got off to a strong start for FIU. The relay team would cruise to a victory with a time of 1:49.36.

"It was really awesome beating FAU," Pavlick said.

The 1000-yard freestyle would see FIU's Mary Boucher, Colleen Quinn, and Joanna Pomerantz finish 2-3-4 respectively.

"I have never worked so hard in my life. Pomerantz said. "Coach Randy is amazing. All the hard work we put in has shown off."

In the 50-yard freestyle, Macchiavello and Kariann Stevens finished 1-2 as Macchiavello finished with a time of 25.03. In the 100-yard butterfly, Rojas would finish second, with a time of 58.65. In the 100-yard freestyle Derr, Macchiavello and Vicnan Torres would finish 2-3-4 for FIU.

Sneir and Caroline Foster would finish first and third

SWIMMING, page 4

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STRONG START



MEGAN KELLEY/THE BEACON

Freshman Giulietta Boha [above] plays against Florida Atlantic University for the season home opener on Jan. 26. The Panthers beat the Owls 6-1 in their first win of the season.

Golden Panthers hold off Blue Raider comeback

WOMEN'S, page 3

The Blue Raiders were able to tie the game at 45 with inside scoring by Laken Leonard, who scored on consecutive possessions. The Panthers would stem the tide by scoring critical jumpshots in consecutive possessions, and by playing staunch defense. MTSU would make another charge to tie the game, this time at 56 with 2:40 left in

the game.

The Panthers would score on a layup before the Blue Raiders would take a 59-58 lead off a Kortni Jones three-point shot. FIU would step up the defense to force the Blue Raiders into bad shot opportunities. Free throws by Michelle Gonzalez and Elisa Carey would ice the game for the Panthers, as they would win 62-59.

The Blue Raiders have now

lost all four games in which they have trailed at half-time.

The Panthers have now won two consecutive games in SBC play, and look to continue to build off the confidence they have when they travel to Troy to battle the Trojans

"We weren't doing well before, but the win against Western Kentucky really helped us for this game. This win will help our confidence," Mansare said.

Consecutive losses sink FIU lower in standings

MEN'S, page 3

The start of the second half did not see the spark that FIU is so used to producing. Instead, it was just the opposite, and they came out with no energy at all. Thomas regrets the lineup changes he made to start the second half.

"The group that I had in to start the second half, I didn't like their energy level so I went with a smaller group in order to get back into the game," said Thomas.

They trailed by as much as 14 points until half way through when they started to make another one of their thrilling comebacks. With Phil Gary and Phil Taylor in the game at the same time and none of their big men in the game, FIU used speed and great press defense to get them within just one point with 1 minute left.

"I thought that their big guys were outplaying our big guys," Thomas said, who credited the play of WKU's big men as the reason why he brought out a smaller lineup late in the game. "They were moving faster, jumping higher, and every time I looked around they were laying it up or dunking it.

So if that's how your big guys are going to play then I'd rather have a little guy in there, at least there's an excuse for it."

They were able to force WKU's Kahlil McDonald to take a tough three-point shot, which he missed, but could not grab the rebound. The Hilltoppers (8-11, 3-4 SBC) got a new shot clock to work with and scored on the next possession.

FIU would score once more off a Marvin Roberts dunk, but once again could not come up with a much needed stop as Juan Pattillo hit a jumper from the baseline to put WKU up by three with just six seconds remaining. Phil Gary would then throw up a last second shot at the buzzer but came up short.

Wright put in 19 of his 25 points in the second half, and was a huge part of FIU's comeback run on the offensive side of the ball.

FIU (8-12, 3-5 SBC) has now lost five straight games, all in Sun Belt play.

"They came out and punched us in the mouth so I took it upon myself to just give energy," said Wright on his performance. "It wasn't about me going out and trying to score I was just trying to bring life."

Panthers prepare for tournament

SWIMMING, page 3

respectively in the 100-yard backstroke while distance swimmers Boucher, Quinn, Pomerantz and Jennifer Lee would finish second through fifth respectively in the 500-yard freestyle.

The final event of the day was the 200-yard freestyle relay and it would determine the winner of the meet between FAU and FIU. The relay team of Sneir, Pavlick, Rojas, and Macchiavello set the pace throughout, but in the final 50 yards they would be pushed by FAU's relay team. The Golden Panthers would hold on to win with a time of 1:38.47.

"It all comes down to heart," Horner said of his relay team's win to seal the meet. When its close races and close meets; you got to win to win the meet... you got to make it happen, and they showed the

ability to do that."

In diving, Sabrina Beaupre competed in the one and three meter events.

Beaupre finished first in both events with scores of 279.83 and 258.70, respectively.

"I'm happy with my scores," Beaupre said afterwards. "The three meter was a little harder [today]."

Beaupre also spoke about preparing for the conference tournament.

"I'm going to train a lot more than I have been because a week or two off is a lot for diving," she added afterwards.

Horner also gave his feelings on the team's preparation for the conference tournament. "[We will have] one more week of hard training and then its... rest," Horner said. "We haven't seen anything yet. These ladies will swim a lot faster."



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AFTER HOURS SPECIAL



PHOTOS BY LINDA LEE/THE BEACON



The Frost Art Museum revealed their newest exhibits on Jan. 26 as part of Target After Hours. 1. "Hearts, Diamonds, Clubs, Spades" by Nicola Bolla as part of *Gran Torino*. 2. "Decants" by Paolo Grassino made from resin, cement and aluminum as part of *Gran Torino*. 3. *The Tales of the Unknown Island* include works by Esther Villalobos called "Dream States" (left) and "El Bosque que navega (The Sailing Forest)" by Mar Solis.

THEATER DEPARTMENT

Theater students perform at the Kennedy Center

KATHY PAZ
Staff Writer

A modern day form of slavery, human trafficking is an underground, illegal trading ring that sells individuals, mostly women and children, for the purposes of sexual exploitation or forced labor. The 2010 "Trafficking in Persons Report" by the U.S. Department of State cited reports of approximately 12.3 million people falling victim to this practice worldwide.

On Jan. 11, a date Congress has designated as Human Traffic Awareness Day, nine University students from the theater department and one alumnus travelled to Washington D.C. with professor Phillip M. Church to join a group from McKinley High School for a dramatized reading of *Body and Sold*.

"To perform at the Kennedy Center, and to conduct a forum in the chambers of Congresswoman and Chair of Foreign Relations, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen on Capitol Hill is unprecedented," said Church.

Last year, several FIU Theater majors and Professor Church put together a stage reading of *Body and Sold*. The forum, organized by the Soroptimist International Club of Coral Gables, took place in the GC Ballrooms.

"Following the success of the performance, we decided to present it in Washington D.C. in an attempt to draw even greater awareness toward the need for action," said Church.

At the head of the panel was FIU theater major Michelle Antello with special guest Congressman Chris Smith.

"Smith has been instrumental in passing legislation through the house to provide greater financial support for those groups and institu-

tions trying to cope with the rehabilitation of victims." Church said.

The play raises awareness of human trafficking by giving a voice to the victims and presenting ten different stories of teen prostitution and child exploitation. In being a part of this special production, University students assisted the national campaign to raise awareness on the sex trafficking of American children and teenagers and associated issues like abuse and prostitution.

"Going to Washington, D.C. was probably one of the most rewarding experiences in my life" said Victoria Collado, a junior theater major and assistant director.

"Having Dean Schriener there was great. He really gave us a lot of support, and having him there felt as if we had our family backing us up every step of the way. We are proud to say we represented FIU with dignity and professionalism."

Body and Sold was written by playwright Deborah Lake Fortson following interviews with young rescued victims in India, Nepal, Boston, Hartford and Minneapolis. Tempest Productions, the company who helped launch the play, aims to highlight contemporary social issues and motivate audiences to put into action a course that will lead to changes in society. Since its creation, the show has been performed in over ten states.

"The only reward one wishes to see from such projects as this is the growth and development of the human spirit in young people," said Church, theater professor and director of the project and production.

"The cast and crew of *Body and Sold* exemplified in Washington DC, before an audience of

political leaders on Capitol Hill and high school students at McKinley Tech High School, what is best in college students," said Church. "That both adults and students can aspire to the examples that they personified through their work and their social commitment."

Body and Sold will be travelling abroad this summer. The group will work with and present it alongside students from Solent University in Southampton and Kingston University of London in July as part of the 2011 International Youth Theater Festival in Kingston, London. Professor Church shared that Congressman

Smith invited them to perform the play for over 130 delegates at the Helsinki Commission, which is gathering to discuss European security and human trafficking issues in Belgrade following the Festival.

"This is a great honor for FIU and puts us 'Worlds Ahead' in the league of student social consciousness. As you probably realize, part of my own personal mission as a teacher of theater is to develop young actors/directors/designers/playwrights to be socially aware of what theater can do. This is a wonderful opportunity to lead them to that awareness," said Church.

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In partnership with the Center for Hispanic Leadership, FIU kicks off the 10-city Hispanic Leadership Tour March 16 - 18, 2011. The mission of the Center is to educate businesses on how to gain a global competitive advantage by allowing their Hispanic talent to utilize the characteristics that make them great leaders.

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ASK VICKI

Dealing with parents while living at home not an easy task

Dear Vicki,
I still live at home and my family and I are very close. I find that a lot of times I want to go out with friends or pursue new interests but my family is always making me feel like I am never there for them. I just want to enjoy college like other kids do without feeling guilty that I am hurting my family.

Signed,
Confused

Dear Confused,

Balancing competing needs can often be tricky.

On the one hand, you have a need for autonomy: you want to explore who you are, what kind of people you get along with best, what kind of activities you are really good at and what your personal strengths and limitations are.

On the other hand, you have a need to be a "good" child. You want to feel as though you provide the comfort and stability that your family appears to desire. You want to be loved and you want to love back, and at some level you may feel that wanting to explore who you are means you are not loving them enough. I really do think there is a way for you to satisfy all the needs and wishes that you have.

The first step is being aware of what is going on. You have two needs that are in some ways in direct contrast with each other. The process of further developing your own identity could mean that sometimes you may need to separate from your family unit.

I think it is important to look at the big picture, though. You can still explore who you are and at the same time enjoy your family and their company.

For example, if you develop a new hobby or spend time with a new friend or romantic partner, include your family in that experience. Come home and take a few minutes to tell them

what you did today and what that experience was like for you.

At the heart of it, there is a large chance that your family fears they will lose you. So just help them see they are not losing you by trying to keep them a part of this new area of your life somehow.

Helping your family see how much you are growing and how excited you are about this new experience will help to make them feel included. As long as they feel emotionally connected to you throughout this new experience, I think they will feel a lot less threatened and a lot more excited and proud of you.

Dear Vicki,

I am stressed just thinking about starting a new semester. Any advice?

Signed,
Nervous

Dear Nervous,

The beginning of a new semester is a great time to start new habits. The first thing I would do is buy a planner. Use this planner to not only write down school deadlines but personal appointments and plans as well. Including your personal life in your planner will make it more likely that you will take it around with you everyday and that you will actually use it.

Once you get your syllabi, write all of the due dates into your planner for the entire semester. You will be surprised how this simple and easy act will already make you feel more accomplished and in control.

Also, try to break down the days and times you can study and write those in your planner being as detailed as possible. For example, instead of writing "Study Chemistry" try "Read chapter 1 in Chemistry and answer practice questions 1-4." Setting up your goals in specific and measurable ways will not only make it more likely that you will do them, but it will also increase the likelihood that you will follow through on future goals.

If you find that you try to plan your study

time but don't know where your day goes, take two or three days to keep track of how you spend your time.

Are you spending three or four hours every night on Facebook or Gchat? Limit that to two hours and spend the other two catching up on assignments. Last and not least, always remember to reward yourself for completing your short-term goals. Watch your favorite movie, eat your favorite meal or spend time with friends.

Vicki Burns is a Predoctoral Intern at FIU Counseling and Psychological Services who will be graduating from University of Miami with a PhD in Counseling Psychology. Once she completes her internship at FIU, Vicki plans on working as a Psychologist and a Professor with college students struggling with various difficulties.

Do you have questions you would like to Ask Vicki? Send an email to: Vicki.Burns@fiusm.com

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011

MORNING YOGA



WHEN: 8-9 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: TBD

CAREER FAIR SUCCESS WORKSHOP

An overview of how to approach career fair with a strategy. RSVP in CBA CareerLink is required.
WHEN: 10-11:30 a.m.
WHERE: CBC 123

BUTCH ROSS



The Chattanooga resident spends as much time as he can on the road, playing shows, and wowing audiences with his mountain dulcimer.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5
WHERE: Luna Star Cafe

MOONLIGHT MOVIE AND POTLUCK

Join SEA and the Garden Club for a potluck and movie under the moon. Bring a dish and a friend!
WHEN: 6-7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Nature Preserve

WEEKLY MEDITATION

WHEN: 3-4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC 343

MIAMI HEAT VS. CLEVELAND CAVALIERS



WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 and up
WHERE: American Airlines Arena

ADVISOR TRAINING

Hosted by Council for Student Organizations.
WHEN: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
WHERE: MMC GC 1235

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2011

SPC BLACK HISTORY MONTH OPENING CEREMONY

Come join as we kick off this year's Black History Month!
WHEN: 12-2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC Pit, BBC Panther Square

CSO'S FIRST GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: 3:30-5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC 243

SPEED DATING



Getting to know people in MUSE. You will also select your top three want to be mentors or mentees so we will try to pair you with someone you want to be with.
WHEN: 6 p.m.-8 a.m.
WHERE: Honor Place II Lounge (Everglade Hall 4th Fl)

BEGINNER'S SUNSET YOGA



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

AFRICAN DANCE ENSEMBLE FEATURING DELOU

Join us and the Delou dancers for a night of educational and artistic entertainment of traditional African dance, drum, and music!
WHEN: 8-10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC WUC Theater

HOPE FOR HAITI

Join Active Minds as it raises money for Haiti.
WHEN: 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC GC Hallways

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Announcement of
Top 6 FIU Finalists:
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in Business Monday:
May 16, 2011

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FIU Pino Shark Tank
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or Entrepreneurship Workshop Series
please visit: entrepreneurship.fiu.edu
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Holocaust survivor shares valuable lesson

GIOVANNI GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011, the University's Honors College hosted a lecture featuring Joseph Weismann, a Holocaust survivor who spoke about the German occupation of France and the round up of over 14,000 Jewish men, women and children by French military police.

Mr. Weismann is a brave man to so frequently recall what must be the most traumatic experience of his life. His words were not only enlightening, but they also provided a beneficial method of teaching historical events that students rarely get to experience.

Aside from sharing his story with many universities in France and the United States, Mr. Weismann provided a firsthand account of one of the most interesting periods of world history. Hearing him speak is nothing like learning from a textbook, or even a knowledgeable history professor, because he saw major historical events with his own eyes.

Even though he told his story in his native French language and needed a translator, the emotions in his words were still apparent almost 70 years later, and that is something you can never get from a textbook. As a living primary source of information on the events of the Holocaust, Mr. Weismann can offer perspectives not available anywhere else.

His story chronicles how he and his

Hearing him speak is nothing like learning from a textbook, or even a knowledgeable history professor, because he saw major historical events with his own eyes.

family were taken to an internment camp where they were separated, and then made a daring escape back to Paris. It cannot be easy to purposely recall such painful memories, yet Mr. Weismann does it often. His goal is to let the world know about a tumultuous time in French history that many French politicians completely denied and for which they took no responsibility.

His personal account not only described the setting and situations of the past but also provided another dimension of information, such as individual details and emotional aspects of the events. This enhanced method of teaching can further educate students about how it would have felt to have been there and, in turn, deliver a better understanding.

In addition to his personal experience, Mr. Weismann spoke about the atrocities done to the Jewish people and the inability of his government to resist German influence. He made the point that the only reason things got so far was because

very few people were willing to stand up against what they knew was wrong.

Although no single group could have taken the blame for what occurred, many people could have been blamed for not taking any action and allowing the German war machine to grow and prosper with little resistance.

Details like these tend to be lost in the factual style of history taught in classrooms.

As the old adage goes, "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." Mr. Weismann speaks at many universities because he believes deeply in education and spreading true information, which allows people to make informed choices and better prepares them to resist questionable politics.

In his closing statements, Mr. Weismann let the audience know that even after what he lived through, he still believes in mankind and if there is one lesson he would want to pass on to the rest of us, it is to never accept the unacceptable.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Accusations should not hinder Wittels

In a recent Beacon Editorial, The Beacon suggested that Garret Wittels should be suspended from playing baseball until after his trial. In no certain terms do I feel that should happen.

The last time I checked, you are still innocent until proven guilty in the United States of America.

A lot of the evidence reported in the media suggests the alleged victims were acting of their own free will and were even sexually aggressive towards Wittels.

Also, neither of the alleged victims reported the alleged rape, it was one of their fathers.

To say that Wittels should

be punished based on an accusation is over the top and goes against a previous Beacon Editorial statement. In the editorial "Wittels rape trial exposes ignorance, misinformation"

The Beacon said "It is not for The Beacon to discuss the details of the case and come to any prediction regarding its outcome, nor is it our place to question the moral character of anyone involved."

But this latest editorial seems to be doing just that.

I do not believe it was done intentionally, but The Beacon appears to be coloring public opinion in much the same way it promised not

to do. Punishment is meant for those who did something wrong. And by asking for Wittels to be punished, The Beacon is saying he did something wrong.

Until there is a guilty verdict, Garret Wittels has done nothing wrong or illegal.

I would also like to add that at any time an accusation can be made. Does that mean every time there is one against an FIU player, said player should be suspended? I would hope not.

Furthermore, if he were to be suspended now, that would mean a year's worth of punishment for nothing. Rape trials, especially one

as complex as this one, can go on for months and even years.

While I understand The Beacon's concerns over bad publicity, it is simply unfair to try and punish Wittels for an accusation.

It is my hope that the Athletics Department will stand by their player and allow him to continue playing.

Which would be better: to abandon a fellow Panther in his time of need or stand by our fellow Panther until proven otherwise?

I think the answer is obvious.

Ben F. Badger Jr. is a senior liberal studies major.

THE BEACON | Editorial

Complaints highlight need for housing expansion

Bay Vista Housing is going on 30 years old, and the conditions its age has brought about are more than apparent to its residents.

The Beacon published an article on Jan. 19 detailing the unkempt conditions of the Bay Vista Housing at the Biscayne Bay Campus. According to our findings, much can and must be done to improve the living conditions for the health and well-being of the student residents.

Bay Vista "has received numerous complaints from residents regarding issues of dilapidated buildings, broken toilets, unrepaired ceilings, mold, pest infestations and an untimely work order response from staff," according to the article. Such a gross lack of maintenance carries a multitude of health and safety risks, some of which could prove fatal if not addressed immediately.

Granted, the original design for Bay Vista did not lend itself to a residence hall. Gregory B. Wolfe, the president of the University at the time, hired a private developer without any dormitory construction experience to build it. The result was a dorm constructed in the style of a motel. Even so, that is no excuse for not maintaining a sanitary, safe environment. Also, these are issues that are a routine part of building maintenance for any living environment, so cost should not be an issue in taking care of these complaints.

Since Bay Vista was built in 1983, five housing facilities have been built at the Modesto Maidique Campus. Furthermore, plans for expanding MMC housing capacity by 1,200 beds is under way, according to James Wassenaar, executive director of Student Affairs Operations and Auxiliary Services. The expansion will give MMC approximately 4,200 beds in comparison to the approximately 375 at BBC.

With such progression at the University, it surprises us that housing expansion has yet to occur at the BBC. Granted, the rate of student population growth at BBC is not as exponential as MMC, but significant growth is still present and warrants expansion.

Residents at MMC housing facilities have access to gazebos, luxury swimming pools, social lounges, two multipurpose lounges and wi-fi lounges. Meanwhile, the only computer lab at BVH was closed and turned into a study room. We don't expect the services and amenities at both housing facilities to be completely parallel, however certain simple services like a computer should be available to students at Bay Vista.

As the University expands it needs to accommodate the growth in population, but not neglect Bay Vista and its current residents. By moving ahead with plans of expansion that do not include Bay Vista, the University is turning a blind eye to the living conditions of Bay Vista residents.

We understand the University can't build new housing until the debt for the BVH is paid off in 2016, but this does not excuse the University from meeting the basic needs of current residents. Although the number of students at Bay Vista does not match the number at the MMC housing facilities, they are students nonetheless and deserve to live in the same conditions as those living at MMC.

In our story a housing resident at MMC raved about the services and her experiences there, while a BVH resident said it was "ghetto." These two completely different experiences are not indicative of the 'one university' vision University President Mark B. Rosenberg has set and this should be remedied sooner rather than later.

VERBATIM

"You may have heard once or twice that this is a job-crushing, granny-threatening, budget-busting monstrosity. That just doesn't match up to the reality... I can report that Granny is safe."

President Barack Obama defending his health care law

DISCLAIMER

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters (500 words maximum) regarding or in response to its editorials, send them to opinion@fiusm.com

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? 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.



BOLIVIA

Thousands chew coca in protest

Thousands have taken to the streets to chew coca leaves in support of the country's bid to remove an international prohibition on the age-old practice. The chief target of the peaceful protest was the U.S. Embassy.



BRAZIL

Man charged with locking up wife

Police in Sorocaba say they have arrested a man for allegedly keeping his wife locked in a cellar for 16 years. 64-year-old Joao Batists Groppo was arrested on Jan. 27 after his wife was found locked in a cellar.



HAITI

Ruling party says candidate out of race

The ruling party announced that Reven Preval's chosen successor is withdrawing from the disputed race for president under pressure from the U.S., the Organization of American States and local protests.

SGC-BBC

Council battles to update their website

BECCA GRIESEMER
Staff Writer

The Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus has a website that is clearly stuck in the cyber-past, as its homepage emphatically offers the "SGA News & Events for Fall 2009!"

Alas, the site will be brought up to speed after it receives a complete renovation by the end of the spring semester, SGC-BBC President Christin CiCi Battle announced in the general meeting held on Jan. 26.

Battle explained the website has been a huge concern for the council, so she took up the project after the former SGC-BBC press secretary, Oehleo "O" Higgs, graduated from the University, but failed to fix the website.

Battle contacted the University's External Relations department and was put in contact with Ashleigh Brymer, University web assistant, who knows the website's issues firsthand from visiting it as a student in the Public Relations Student Society of America.

Brymer said that the SGC-BBC site is plain and outdated, and the reason is because it takes a lot of work to update a site through a website designer.

Therefore, the Web Communications department is going to change the website to a content management system, which Brymer described as being similar to WordPress, a personal publishing platform.

"CMS gives the operators access so at the moment they want

to change something, they don't have to call us and wait for us to do it, and we don't have to bill them for it," Brymer said. "They can just do their own little updates."

Brymer will manage client relations in the project, alongside Web Communications director Matt Herzberger, developer Andre Oliveira, and designer Fabian Alcantara.

"Fabian and Andre redid the main FIU homepage to be as beautiful as it is now. They have talents beyond mine," Brymer said.

Currently, the website has "dead links" that go nowhere, and sections that should provide information about officials and government documents but are simply blank, or at the most read: coming soon.

Conversely, the SGC homepage for Modesto Maidique Campus displays a crisp blue flyer for the National Signing Day event on Feb. 2, and has links for the current SGC-MMC officials with their photographs and bios.

Web Communications is performing content inventory by mapping the SGC-BBC site as-is to a spreadsheet, in order to find out what needs to stay and what needs to go for easier navigation.

"We're going to focus on the students needs, because right now it's more of a business layout," Brymer said.

Battle wants the designers to use the student government websites of the University of Florida and University of Central Florida as a foundation because she likes their dynamic and interactive design,

MUSICAL INTERLUDE



JESSICA PEREZ/THE BEACON

Austin Kyle tunes the strings on his guitar while preparing for his performance in Panther Square on Jan. 26. The Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Campus presented the musical entertainment.

Brymer said.

Another clarification Battle made is that she wants the site to stand on its own, so the designers will remove it as a subpage of the Wolfe University Center site.

Brymer said the project is in the initial stages, and not until she meets with Battle will she know a price estimate or date of completion for the new website.

The renovated website will make things easier for Tiffany Huertas, SGC-BBC's new press secretary.

Huertas worked under Higgs as the SGC-BBC assistant press secretary, but was recently promoted to his former position. Huertas was informed about the new website developments just before the general meeting.

Huertas, a journalism senior, said the stall in the website's development under Higgs was due

to the scope of the press secretary position combined with technological difficulties, though she was unsure what they may have been.

Higgs was unavailable for comment.

"'Press Secretary' is a big position to fill; it's not just a reporter. It's not just a PR person. It's everything in one," Huertas said. "So that's why I need people to help me, honestly."

Huertas is looking for three BBC student interns to work directly with her including one that would be in charge of website layouts and graphic design.

Huertas said the positions: marketing coordinator, PR coordinator, and media coordinator, will be included in an issue of *The Ship*, a School of Journalism and Mass Communication email advertising available internships and scholarships.

Huertas doesn't think it will be hard to get the help she needs.

"There are students that are so hungry for internships right now that if there's an internship in your school, why not take it?"

While Higgs didn't complete the website, Huertas said he did an amazing job, and she will use him as role model.

"[Higgs] did town hall meetings and press releases that exposed a lot of people to come here to donate, et cetera," Huertas said. "That's what I want to do."

The aspiring television anchor's goal is to expand the Student Government Association as much as possible.

"To not only BBC, not only to MMC, but to the community: North Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Boca, Miami communities, everyone."

Local schools join forces for educational partnerships

ELSA NARANJO
Contributing Writer

During the past four years, the front porch to the Biscayne Bay Campus has changed dramatically.

David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center opened in 2006, followed last year by the Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High School, fondly referred to as ATM.

The namesakes of both schools are significant in Miami. Lawrence was a longtime and legendary news executive at The Miami Herald who now is chair of The Children's Trust, while Alonzo Mourning is the immensely popular former center for the Miami Heat.

The education facilities named

for these community giants have formed an education corridor that now hosts developing collaborative relationships between and among the campuses. One of the first was in Marine Science.

"I started [the program with David Lawrence] in 2008. We worked with 6th, 7th and 8th graders," said Jennifer Grimm, BBC's environmental coordinator. "We tried to use marine science to help them understand general science concepts and get them more interested in school."

Grimm and an undergraduate science major would visit David Lawrence to give presentations and do hands-on activities with the kids in the classroom. Once a month, the kids would go to BBC to work in the

marine biology lab or perform field activities. Such activities included measuring water quality, counting birds and looking at the types of sediments that were in the mitigation restoration site on the south end of BBC.

According to Bernard Osborn, principal of David Lawrence, the students also have participated in testing the water for the mangroves in mitigation sites along 151st Street, but the joint programs are not growing in the bad economy.

"This year, unfortunately, we are not running any programs at David Lawrence. We don't have any more grant money to use on activities," Grimm said. "But we are looking to get a grant to provide money to do

activities over there."

Grimm is talking with David Lawrence faculty about a small grant the K-8 center has received in hopes of being able to use the money to continue these activities.

When Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High School opened, the University began to collect and raise mangroves in the green house located at ATM. This included David Lawrence, University and ATM students. Grimm said those would be planted in Oleta State Park, the fourth component in the education matrix along the corridor.

University and Marine & Environmental Science Academy students at ATM tested whether the

mangroves they collected last fall, as part of a cleanup project at BBC, survive better in soil or water. Each mangrove is planted in red plastic cups filled with rocks and water or in plastic containers filled with soil.

Martin Roch, lead academy teacher, explained that the mangroves they collected last month will be planted next year.

Grimm hopes to plant these in the restoration site on the south side of BBC.

BBC has two mitigation sites that are now restoration sites as a result of the construction that took place when building the Kovens Conference Center.