

 <p><b>TUNISIA</b></p> <p><b>Demonstrators mourn slain protesters</b></p> <p>Thousands of demonstrators began three days of mourning, lowering flags and reciting the Quran to mourn dozens who died in protests that drove their autocratic leader from power.</p>	 <p><b>VIETNAM</b></p> <p><b>Icy weather kills over 20,000 livestock</b></p> <p>Hoang Kim Giao, director of the Livestock Breeding Department said a cold spell over three weeks has killed at least seven people as well as more than 20,000 cows and buffalos.</p>	 <p><b>ALBANIA</b></p> <p><b>3 dead, 55 injured in anti-govt protest</b></p> <p>An anti-government clash left three people dead from gunshot wounds and dozens more injured. Police responded with tear gas, plastic bullets and water cannons.</p>
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## SPRING ARTS PREVIEW

### New exhibits bring worldly influence to Frost Museum



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

María Brito's installation, "As of 24-03-07" will be on shown from Jan. 26 to April 3 at the Frost Art Museum.

**JESSICA MENDOZA**  
Staff Writer

A new series of exhibits are set to open at the Frost Art Museum offering a taste of different cultures and diversity.

The themes of the exhibits span from Spanish influenced sculptures to Italian contemporary art to the teaching gallery in conjunction with the Wolfsonian providing images of the human body.

The first exhibit opening on Jan. 26 is an exhibit by Spanish artists Mar Solis and Esther Villalobos. Originally a short novel by Portuguese poet, Jose Saramago, "A Journey into the Unknown," will engage patrons as it explores the depths of abstract themes through photographs and sculptures.

Saramago passed away in his

home in Spain and the exhibit serves as a commemoration of his life and works thanks to Villalobos and Solis.

When Gran Torino is mentioned, the Clint Eastwood film is probably the first thing to come to mind. The Torino mentioned at The Frost is much different. Torino, Italy is known for their dynamic contemporary art scene.

Gran Torino: Italian Contemporary Art, curated by Paolo Facelli and Francesco Poli, will present the work of Torino artists who not only capture the essence of Italian art but will add a hint of their own cultural influences as well as significant trends, movements of new Italian art and shifts in popular art. Gran Torino hopes to introduce this modern

**FROST, page 4**

## Kill-a-Watt Challenge saves University over \$21,000

**ZORAIDA PASTOR**  
Staff Writer

In a competition that challenged students to reduce their energy consumption, Intellectual Decisions on Environmental Awareness Solutions' Kill-a-Watt Challenge saved

more than \$21,000.

"Kill-a-Watt is an energy saving competition between all buildings on campus. It's modeled after a program [at] the University Of Central Florida that has been going on for four years," said Viktor El-Saieh, president of I.D.E.A.S.

Residents in each hall competed against other buildings to reduce their electrical consumption by the greatest percentage. The savings are then compared to the average of each building's energy consumption from previous years. University Park Apartments won the competition by saving the Univer-

sity more than \$7,500.

According to El-Saieh, FIU saved over 40,000 kilowatt hours, most commonly known as the billing unit for energy delivered to consumers by electric utilities.

**IDEAS, page 2**

## Jain nuns spread the faith, seek state of supreme being

**LUCIA SASTRE**  
Contributing Writer

Light beams through the half-open window into the spacious white room, reflecting on the glass top of a bamboo frame table.

Surrounding the table, three generations of Jain nuns sit cross legged on the floor breathing peacefully the heavy air of a hot Miami rainy day.

Samani Chaitanya Pragma, the senior of the three, maintains a perpetual stare into the distance and closes her eyes as if succumbing to a deep, wise sleep.

Mumukshu Sheetal, the youngest of the three, fidgets her garments with a wide smile as if waiting for a chance to talk, and Samani Unnata Pragma sits in the middle of the two observing every move in the still room with a benevolent stare.

The voice of Samani Unnata Pragma breaks the silence

"We are an order, a team; we are sisters connected by Jainism."

Samani Unnata Pragma is a Jain nun who teaches Asian religion, spirituality and meditation at FIU. She has been living in Miami



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

Samaniji Chaitanya Pragma (left) and Samaniji Unnata Pragma (right) wear white "because it symbolizes purity." Samaniji Unnata Pragma has been living in Miami for four years. Samaniji Chaitanya Pragma is a professor in the department of Religious Studies.

for four years but is originally from Bangalore, India.

Identified by students and staff as Samani Ji, she is also the director of the Preksha Meditation Club and practices traditional Jain

customs.

"We dress in white because it symbolizes purity," Mumukshu Sheetal said. "It's also a reminder of the path we've chosen; it's harder to turn back."

Free from any material attachment, the room where they spend their days looks empty and bare apart from a mattress on the floor, a chair and a small table. There aren't any TVs, radios or air conditioning. The only sounds are the casual strokes of the wind against the curtains and the occasional chatter of passersby.

"Life is simple for us," Samani Ji said. "What might be an attraction for you might be a distraction for me."

According to Samani Ji, Jainism consists of the total detachment from the material. It embraces the idea of nonviolence and self-effort in order to elevate the soul to divine consciousness and liberation. The goal is for a soul to conquer its own inner enemies and reach a state of supreme being called a Jina.

"All this comes with great effort," Samani Ji said. "We wake up at 4 a.m. every day for our daily prayer and we have many rules we must follow."

Forbidden by Jainism to participate in any activity that might involve violent behavior, Jain nuns cannot cook or drive. The cooking

**JAINISM, page 2**

# Students awarded scholarships for energy conservation

## IDEAS, page 1

“Rates fluctuate based on peak and off-peak hours so KWH more accurately describes savings. Taking into consideration the average rate is anywhere from 10 to 15 cents per KWH, we alone saved anywhere from \$4,000 to 4,500 just with the competition whereas the University saved more than \$21,000 in energy costs with our help,” said El-Saieh.

The 2010 Kill-a-Watt Challenge was a two-fold program that aimed to educate

students on energy saving tips with a series of workshops. They were “able to reach out to over 200 FIU students through our ten educational seminars, the majority of which lived on campus,” said El-Saieh.

Each of these seminars provided students with tips and solutions that could conserve energy. Along with raffles and giveaways, seminar participation determined the three resident assistant scholarship recipients. The RA scholarships were based on percentage of student attendance at the seminars. The RA would then nominate students who

would write a two-page essay for a chance to win the three available student scholarships according to El-Saieh.

The Arcalux Grand Prize in the RA division went to Kaylyn Cardella from Lakeview North winning a \$300 tuition scholarship, second place went to Dialita Desty from Bay Vista Housing in Biscayne Bay Campus who won a \$150 Tuition Scholarship, and third place went to Rosenny Augustine University Park Apartments for the \$100 scholarship.

The Grand Prize winner in the Student Scholarship was Alecia Vasciannie taking

first place with a \$200 scholarship. Patricia Saint-Felix took the second tuition spot for \$150, and the last scholarship was awarded to Nicole Hoskens for \$100.

I.D.E.A.S. hoped this program could continue to promote conservation awareness in the years to come.

“Through the Kill-A-Watt Challenge, we found that collectively students can significantly reduce their energy consumption and their university’s carbon footprint, when approached properly and given the right incentives,” said El-Saieh.

# China the main source of international students

## MAJORS, page 8

me,” graduate student Montle Siya said. “FIU is ranked among the top hospitality management schools in the USA and its curricula matched closely with what I am looking for, so that is why I came to FIU.”

Siya is from Botswana, where she worked as a trainee lecturer at the University of Botswana. The university sponsors her education. Like

her, many hospitality management students, such as the Chinese, are on state-funded sponsorships.

“The Chinese students are here on a collaboration between FIU and the Chinese government,” said Diann Newman, director of Academic Support Services at HTM. “The ones doing their bachelor’s come over here for one semester, while others are here doing their master’s degree.”

Zhou Zhang is a Chinese graduate

student.

“The hospitality industry is just developing in China and because of that we do not have the professional classes to offer students who are interested in the hospitality major,” she said. “The FIU hospitality programs are very famous in China, so we chose here because we hope one day to have a competitive advantage.”

In addition to driving the hospitality management numbers, many

Chinese students are also taking business degrees. Business degrees are the second most sought after degrees by international students.

One of these students is international business major Zhi Hao Yu.

“I decided to study international business because China is opening,” Zhi Hao Yu said. “So I want to learn and take back the advance business knowledge to China so we can catch up with the technologies of

America.”

Business majors from other countries agree with the Chinese that studying in the United States gives them a competitive advantage.

Check out the website for the rest of this story, as well as other content from Student Media

[www.FIUSM.com](http://www.FIUSM.com)

# Jainism encourages devotees to seek enlightenment

## JAINISM, page 1

is done by Mumukshu Sheetal, who is in the process of becoming a Jain nun, and they must rely on walking for transportation.

“You’ll find them crossing the street in a single file at 8 a.m. on the dot,” says Florida International University student Laura Flores, who lives in Kendall and drives past Vista Verde Community every day before class. “As far as I know, they haven’t missed a day.”

As Samani Ji straightens up, her face becomes contorted with emotion. The gazes of Mumukshu Sheetal and Samani Chaitanya Pragma are upon her as she leans forward and closes her eyes.

“Life was not always this

way though,” she says. “I once lived a common man’s life.”

Samani Ji decided to devote her life to Jainism at the age of 23. “Back then my life consisted of attending college, spending time with my family and socializing with friends,” she says, noting that she graduated in India with a bachelor’s in science with hopes of becoming a doctor for the spiritually dedicated.

“I enjoyed cartoons,” Samani Ji recalls. “I liked Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck because they didn’t have much violence and they kept us happy.”

Samani Ji lived with her parents and was very close to her aunt, Sadhvi Lakshya Prabha.

“My aunt is my inspira-

tion,” Samani Ji says. “She was always peaceful and willing to help others.”

Samani Ji says the main reason she chose to devote her life to Jainism came when she witnessed a friend’s family fall apart due to illness.

“I’ve always been a sensitive person,” she says. “The fact that I could choose my state of being appealed to me.”

Samani Ji joined the Parmarthik Shikshan Sanstha, a training center in Bangalore that specialized in helping monks and nuns become acquainted with Jainism.

“It represented more or less a test to see if you could devote yourself to Jainism,” Samani Chaitanya Pragma says.

Samani Ji stayed in the training center for six years until she received her renunciation ceremony. A training nun or monk may continue training in the center for as long as he/she needs.

“It is only when you are ready to detach from the world that you pass to being a Samani nun,” Mumukshu Sheetal says.

“In the training center, every nun is appointed a guru,” Samani Ji says. “My guru guided me through my decision to travel to Miami and teach religion.”

A Samani nun may take two paths in life: one being an academic or teaching path, and the other one a leader in the Jain community.

Receiving an education, traveling and leading an enriching life are common lifestyles for a nun before devoting their lives to the religious path.

“The primary goal before seeking enlightenment is

doing everything you want to do,” she says. “You may not know you want something unless you try it.”

Samani Ji travels to India every summer to meet with

her guru. During that time, she visits family, attends philosophy chats, studies scriptures and composes scripts for spiritual dramas. She also takes part in Indian

traditions.

“At dinner time,” Mumukshu Sheetal says, “we travel from house to house; each person sharing a bit of their food.”

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The Beacon is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. The Beacon is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. The Beacon is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.

Global Learning for Global Citizenship

## Tuesday Times Roundtable

at Modesto A. Maidique Campus (MMC)

**Moderator & Theme**

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

# Golden Panthers unable to overcome first half struggles

JACKSON WOLEK  
Staff Writer

A 15-point deficit at the end of first half proved too much for FIU as they inevitably fell to UALR 78-70 at home on Jan. 20.

They went were able to do well from the free throw line, shooting 87.8% from the lines, but it was not enough to overcome a poor performance from the field.

It was a very rough start for the Golden Panthers, as they struggled to do anything offensively in the first half. A big part of that was due to leading scorer for the team Eric Frederick's absence, as he got into early foul trouble and only played four of the first twenty minutes.

"It made a huge difference, he's our inside threat and he puts points on the board in a variety of ways,"



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX J. HERNANDEZ

Eric Frederick goes for the dunk in Panthers' home loss against UALR on Jan. 20.

Coach Isiah Thomas said, "Not having him was a big deficit."

Not only did they miss Frederick scoring wise,

but also defensive ly as well. UALR scored much of their baskets off of second chance opportunities and easy layups inside,

outscoreing the Panthers 22-6 in the paint.

When they weren't

**MEN'S, page 6**

## FOOTBALL

# FIU close to finding new coordignator

IGOR MELLO  
Asst. Sports Writer

After organizing a long extensive search, Mario Cristobal may have found his guy.

According to numerous publications, Todd Orlando has emerged as the top candidate to take over FIU's defensive coordinator position.

The school expected an announcement on a new hire as early as Jan. 21.

If hired he will replace Geoff Collins, who left FIU on Jan. 12 to become the co-defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Mississippi State University.

Orlando, 39, served as a member of the Univer-

sity of Connecticut's defensive coaching unit for 12 years.

He began his career at UConn in 1999 as the inside linebackers coach and got promoted in 2006 to defensive coordinator.

A Pittsburgh native, Orlando was hired at UConn by Randy Edsall who recently left the Huskies to become the head coach at the University of Maryland. Paul Pasqualoni, a former defensive coordinator for the Dolphins in 2009, has since replaced Edsall as the head coach at UConn.

Orlando led the Huskies to 48th best defense in the nation (slightly ahead of FIU)

**FOOTBALL, page 6**

## TODD ORLANDO HIRING

# Orlando would be an important and intelligent hire

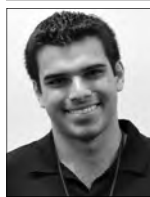
The ability to build a solid defense is an art. system he was attempting to implement.

It usually requires a lot of effort, a lot of time and a lot of confidence in the players implementing the schemes in order for it to make its mark.

Former defensive coordinator Geoff Collins did wonders, elevating the team's play with his energetic coaching style and newly minted schemes.

He was effective mainly thanks to his ability to have his players buy into the

### COMMENTARY



JOEL DELGADO

When he announced that he would be exiting the premises after one season it left a gaping hole, a very large one, in the Golden Panther coaching staff.

But after a couple weeks of searching and interviewing, all the signs are pointing to the imminent hiring of UConn defensive coordinator Todd Orlando as the successor to Collins.

### IMMEDIATE IMPACT

The hiring of Orlando will help prevent the Golden Panthers from losing a step or two from their recent transformation into one of the conference's top defenses. It is nothing short of a coup: attracting a seasoned coordinator with prominent BCS credentials to a Sun Belt school is no small feat.

Orlando will have to do the same thing now and keep the players believing in whatever it is they are trying to do. He did it at UConn and the hope is he will be able to replicate that success on Stadium Drive this upcoming fall.

It is clear that the program is beginning to draw the kind of appeal that just a few short years ago was seen as a distant dream. Drawing in a coordinator coming from a successful BCS program is a huge catch for a team that is steadily rising.

And having a coach at the helm who is accustomed to going up against top opponents on a consistent basis will help this team in non-conference games in the future, especially with games against ACC and Big East opponents lined up for the upcoming season.

Having Orlando's expertise will be invaluable for preparation, in-game adjustments and overall insight for those under his lead. It's something that the Golden Panthers have never had in their short existence at the FBS level.

### MOVING FORWARD

Collins helped kick start what had been an underperforming defensive unit and left a solid foundation for Orlando to build on from this point forward.

It will be interesting to see how Orlando will be able to affect recruiting and bring the kind of talent that he was able to attract to the snowy world that is the state of Connecticut. With the sun and fun of Miami as a new recruiting tool, the hope is that it won't be much of a problem luring top talent to Calle Ocho.

He has been a staple of UConn's coaching staff for over a decade and when he took over the playcalling duties in 2006, the results were swift and a profound success. In 2010, the Huskies were in their first ever BCS bowl, earning a date with the Oklahoma Sooners in the Fiesta Bowl.

He was there when UConn moved up to Division-I status. He was there when they went to their first bowl game. He was there through their struggles and trials and was there up until their rise to football prominence.

In that regard, he has the knowledge and experience that will help in the process

**ORLANDO, page 6**

### TODD ORLANDO

- Age: 39
- Born: Pittsburgh, PA
- Experience: UConn inside linebackers coach (1999-2010), defensive coordinator (2006-2010)

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### FROST ART MUSEUM

## Art ranges from sculptures to Vespas in new Frost exhibits

#### FROST, page 1

style to the American Public.

Cuban artist, Maria Brito, offers a more mysterious exhibit to the Frost. The exhibit titled 24-03-07 has very little information available before its reveal on Jan. 26. Little has been said about the show partly due to Brito's private nature.

"There's something about the way she builds her installations—very 'man-like,'" said Director and Chief Curator of The Frost, Carol Damian. "In these projects she has total control from beginning to end."

Visitors will also be

invited to Brito's studio to observe the environment in which the artist works.

Worldrenownedphotographer, Robert Farber, will be showcasing a collection of impressionistic movements. *My Eyes Have Seen* will allow viewers to immerse themselves in an aesthetic realm amidst timeless emotion. Awarded the ASP International Award, Farber has garnered international acclaim and fame for his lifelong work.

Women will also play a vital role in producing one of the exhibits. The female physique will be challenged in *Women in Motion: Fitness, Sport, and the Female Figure*.

Government agencies,



'CENTAURA' ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

fitness advocates, advertisers and artists in Europe and the United States provide the photographs and artwork for the exhibit. Many of these pictures will be pulled from the first half of the 20th century. *Women in Motion* was co-curated

by Laurie Shrage, professor of Philosophy and director of Women's Studies, and Dionne Stephens, assistant professor of Psychology and African and African Diaspora Studies. All exhibits open Jan. 26.

# ART

### WOLFSONIAN MUSEUM

## Books and art dominate during Wolfsonian's spring events

#### ALEX MACIEL Staff Writer

Located in the Art Deco district in Miami Beach, the Wolfsonian museum encompasses art, culture, history and beauty.

On the last Sunday of every month from January - March, the Wolfsonian presents a film series called, *Interfaith Out! Reclaiming Our Faith*. This series aims to explore the issues of spirituality and sexual identity in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. It focuses on their struggle for religious acceptance and belonging.

In January, the Wolfsonian will support a double feature of *All God's Children* and *Fish Out of Water*, two movies based on religious acceptance and interpretation. Admission is free for film screenings.

Other events by the Wolfsonian include public talks, book clubs, performances, exhibitions and other film screenings.

On Jan 26, 6 p.m. at FIU's Frost Art Museum, is the free opening of the new exhibition, *Women in Motion: Fitness, Sport, and the Female Figure*. The exhibit is a part of the Wolfsonian Teaching Gallery.

The second February event is considered one of the highlights of this coming semester. The "FIU

Studio Jazz Combo" presents musicians from the University community who will perform a range of jazz, Latin and contemporary works. This free performance will be on Friday, Feb 4 at 7 p.m.

Poetry takes the stand on Feb 11 at 7 p.m. "Speed Limits" is put on by the Boas Poetry Group and consists of an evening of speed-themed poems for informal readings and discussions. Other book club events feature the works *Tropicana Nights* by Rosa Lowinger; *The Trial* by Franz Kafka; *Building Paradise: An Architectural Guide to the Magic City* by Marilyns Nepomechie and Graham Greene's *The Third Man*.

To kick off the start of March, Florida Grand Opera is "Singing Out At The Winter Party." This is a concert event of the Winter Party Festival, an annual celebration of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. The event takes place on Mar 3 at 7 p.m.

The final event of the semester is the member's preview and exhibition opening of Art For All. "It is one of the most important exhibitions of spring," said Julieth Dabdoub, communications manager at the Wolfsonian It will open on Apr 14 at 6 p.m.

Among the collections currently available for viewing at The Wolfsonian are *Seduce Me*, curated by Isabella Rossellini, Andy Byers



CHRIS CUTRO/BEACON FILE PHOTO

The Wolfsonian Museum is located in Miami Beach. The double feature, *All God's Children* and *Fish Out of Water* plays every Sunday.

and Rick Gilbert, which is open through Jan 25., *Speed Limits* with more than 200 different works on display through Feb 20, *Advertising for Health*, a collection by the Wolfsonian Collection and William H. Helfand, on display through Feb 28, and *Art For All*, organized by the Yale Center for British Art, on view Apr 15-Aug 14.

*The Wolfsonian is located at 1001 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach, FL. More information can be found at their website, www.wolfsonian.org or by phone at 305.531.1001*

# SPRING ARTS PREVIEW 2011

## THEATER



TOP LEFT PHOTO AND TOP MIDDLE PHOTO BY ALEXIA ESCALANTE  
BOTTOM PHOTO AND TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY LINDA LEE THE BEACON

1. Costumes for *The Ruby Sunrise* were designed by junior Giovanni Gonzalez. 2. Ruthmarie Tenorio was the head student set designer for *The Ruby Sunrise*. 3. Jason Caceres, David Gallegos, and Krista Jamison. 4. Jason Caceres plays Paul Benjamin and Victoria Colado plays Ethel Reed. 5. Sarai Heria and Daniel Nieves act out a scene in the play that explores the birth of television and its effect on society.



### IN THEIR OWN WORDS



MICHAEL YAWNEY

Everyone knows that television lies to us. But who decides what the lies will be? *The Ruby Sunrise* shows how ambitious young people with the best of intentions turn the truth upside down. Its funny, sad, inspiring, unpredictable, and bold. There are a lot of surprises in this play and I cannot wait to spring them on our audiences.

DIRECTOR OF 'THE RUBY SUNRISE'; JAN. 20-30



PHILLIP M. CHURCH

*Pride and Prejudice* will appeal to young audiences — college students especially — because the play concerns itself, amongst other things, with the releasing of the questioning mind and the freeing of personal expression and why they are so very often frustrated by those of limited vision who teach and guide by the old structures; the way instruction has always been and the way it ought to be. Mainly through the character of Elizabeth Barrett, our play reaches out into a risky, new world. A brave new world of self-actualization, and this, for any generation, is reason enough to find much with which to take away meaningful associations.

DIRECTOR OF 'PRIDE AND PREJUDICE'; MAR. 3-13



WAYNE ROBINSON, JR.

Don't be intimidated by the plays of William Shakespeare! His words and stories can be as fun and accessible as any other theatre. We have a great opportunity to demonstrate this with FIU Theatre's upcoming production of *Twelfth Night*. This comedy, originally commissioned for the amusement of lawyers on the last and most drunken day of the Christmas revelries, celebrates life lived to its fullest. Our audiences will enjoy our mix of the old and new — the beautiful and the profane — the profound and the silly. The evening includes mistaken identity, mischief and music.

DIRECTOR OF 'TWELFTH NIGHT'; APR. 7-17

## MUSIC

## School of Music plans to reach out to students through social media

#### KATHY PAZ Staff Writer

The Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center is the home of

the FIU School of Music among other programs in the College of Architecture and the Arts (CARTA). With the spring semester now in full effect, CARTA is ready to present what their students

have been diligently working on to the University community.

The School of Music's programming features multiple weekly events, most of which take place right on campus at the Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall. One of the goals for this season is to increase promotion and get the word out. "We're trying to put in place a plan to [inform students of the events taking place]," said Geisha Garcia-Pares, marketing coordinator for the College of Architecture and the Arts.

Garcia-Pares said the school has begun using social media to reach out to students and intends to establish stronger ties with the Alumni Association to keep graduates involved in the programs. On Jan 28, the School of Music will host a chapter of Collegiate Music Educators National Conference in a faculty spotlight charity concert called, "Music in Need." The proceeds go to the award-winning program created and administered by music students. The show will take place at 7:30 in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert

Hall, and tickets are just \$5.

Other things happening at the School of Music include multiple series performances, ranging from jazz to keyboard arts to wind and percussion. On Friday, Feb 4, student jazz combos will be showcasing both popular and new material at the Wolfsonian Museum on South Beach. Tickets for the seven o'clock show are \$5. On Feb 19 at 7:30 p.m., the FIU New Music Miami ISCM Festival will take place. Since its commencement, the purpose of this festival has been to bring renowned composers to the University.

Taking place in April is the Arts and Design Culture Awards Dinner. The previous dinner was held in honor of Paul Cejas, a University donor.

"This one will be on the 14th of April in the GC Ballrooms. It's rewarding Dr. Wertheim for everything he's done for the College [CARTA] and the University... He's very supportive of the Arts at FIU, so he's a great choice for a dinner like this," Kenny Gelock said. For music enthusiasts and supporters,



ESRA ERDOGAN/BEACON FILE PHOTO

Students practice the French horn at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center.



ESRA ERDOGAN/BEACON FILE PHOTO

Professor Catherine Rand conducts a concert as part of a fall concert series.

CARTA offers season passes to its events. "We instituted that last year. We have some for the entire year, seasonal ones and specific ones for music or theater. Based on what you purchase, you get a

certain discount," Garcia-Pares said. For a full list of the School of Music's upcoming programming, visit <http://carta.fiu.edu/MUSIC/events/calendar-events.aspx>.

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## Top candidate has experience to help FIU reach next level

ORLANDO, page 3

to fulfill the aspirations that the Golden Panthers have had for quite some time: becoming a Top 25 team.

It is similar to the kind of experience that Cristobal brought to FIU from Rutgers, coming with a blueprint of success that can

be copied in this environment.

Now in a much warmer climate with a fertile recruiting environment, Orlando will have an opportunity to perhaps build one of the strongest defenses in the non-BCS world.

It should be the beginning of a very successful partnership.

## Gaitor ready to play in annual all-star game

FOOTBALL, page 3

and sixth in the Big East conference. His defense helped the Huskies reach the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl last season where they fell short to Oklahoma.

If hired, it would be the first time that FIU has selected a coordinator who has coached in a BCS bowl game the season prior.

In his first season as defensive coordinator in 2006, Orlando turned UConn's defense around when they became the top-ranked defense in the Big East and seventh in the nation.

Cristobal was unavailable for comment on the current coaching vacancy.

### GAITOR TO PLAY IN NFLPA GAME

Senior cornerback Anthony Gaitor will get to showcase his skills at the collegiate level one more time.

The senior has been selected to play in the NFL

Players Association game, formally known as Texas vs. The Nation game, set to take place at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas on Feb. 5.

Gaitor, a four-year starter, had two interceptions, one of them returned for a touchdown in 2010.

The All-Sun Belt cornerback will play for team Nation, coached by former Houton Oiler and Atlanta Falcons head coach Jerry Glanville.

Gaitor is the second FIU senior to be selected to an all-star game this offseason. Center Brad Serini participated in the inaugural Eastham Energy College All-Star game in Tempe, Az. on Jan. 23.

Gaitor and Serini are one of the few Panthers being pursued by NFL scouts. Both have a possibility of being drafted come April.

### THORPE COMMITS TO FIU

Not only is Cristobal on the verge of making a

big splash on his coaching vacancy, he's also making a splash in recruiting.

Neptune Beach Fletcher High School offensive lineman Derrick Thorpe has verbally committed to FIU.

The 6-5, 260-pound offensive tackle made his commitment to FIU on Jan. 20.

Despite spending most of his high school career playing at offensive tackle, Thorpe has been recruited to play defensive end.

The Jacksonville product turned down offers from West Virginia and Arkansas, both BCS schools.

Thorpe, a member of the Florida Times-Union Super 24 team this season, will have some familiar faces in Miami.

He's set to join quarterback Jake Medlock and kicker Dylan Lynch, who were recruited by Cristobal in 2010.

Thorpe is a three-star recruit, according to Rivals and Scout.com.

## Fast second half start not enough to earn win

MEN'S, page 3

scoring from inside, they stepped back to the three-point line and started draining shots from there as well.

"We came out very flat and I thought they played a really good first half," Thomas said. "I thought their movement was excellent and their small ball actually looked tough for us to guard."

Nonetheless, FIU (8-10, 3-3 SBC) came back with a roaring start in the first five minutes of second half play, cutting the UALR (12-9, 4-2 SBC) lead down to as little as four.

Much of it had to do with Frederick being back in the game but also from Jeremy Allen, who scored 18 points on the night, seven of them during the big run.

They could not keep it close for very long, however, and the deficit grew all the way up to as much as 12 again.

Towards the end of the game, FIU was still very much in it, but could not get the few key stops on defense needed to get the win.

One solution is to practice more on that part of the game, and another one is

possibly not getting into such a huge deficit like they did in the first half of action.

"We dug ourselves into too big of a hole," said guard Phil Gary, who had 13 points and three steals. "We need to start up instead of down; we practically spotted them points in the first half."

A bright spot in the game was FIU's constancy from the foul line, which practically kept them alive in whole entire game.

"We didn't shoot the ball well, but go figure we shot the ball well from the foul

Line," commented Thomas. "If we can put the two games together in terms of shooting the ball well and converting from the foul line, then we have a chance to be pretty good on most nights."

Though new member of the team Phil Taylor did not play, he was suited up and ready to go, and is thought to make a great piece to a FIU team.

"If he can get acclimated to the things that we're doing, we can gel over the next month or so, hopefully by tournament time, we'll be a good basketball team," commented Thomas on Taylor's availability.

ECON WITH NEDA

## Financial giant backs out of Facebook

Just over a week after Goldman Sachs offered its most prized and selective clients a chance to invest in Facebook, the firm randomly announced on Jan. 17, 2011 that it withdrew the opportunity from their clients in the United States. However, Goldman Sachs said, "In light of this intense media coverage, Goldman Sachs has decided to proceed only with the offer to investors outside the United States."



NEDA GHOMESHI

I think a contributing reason to Goldman Sachs' withdrawal is, in part, a result of the regulations set by the Security and Exchanges Commission. Essentially, Goldman Sachs decided to prevent a legal fiasco.

On Jan. 2, 2011, The New York Times Dealbook reported that Goldman Sachs reached out to its private clients with a chance to invest in Facebook, the hot social networking giant currently dominating the Web. With the sudden change of plans, it is unknown what Goldman Sachs is going to offer its clients.

According to The New York Times, "It is unclear how much money Goldman

will raise for Facebook." In a private memorandum to U.S. clients when Goldman Sachs originally made the offering, the plan was to raise as much as \$1.5 billion. The overall deal would have valued Facebook at \$50 billion, making it worth more than companies like eBay and Yahoo. The recent withdrawal from

**Goldman Sachs is conveniently positioning itself as the leading candidate to win the lucrative and prestigious assignment of Facebook's initial public offering - we all know that day is coming relatively soon.**

the plan is not completely warranted and people -including myself- are questioning the move. The only logical reason to back out of a plan like this is legality.

It is rumored that Facebook will become public to all investors in 2013. In the first memo sent out to selected clients, the firm warned prospective investors

that if they invest, they will not be able to trade Facebook stock in a private marketplace. With the investment structure in its initial plan, Goldman Sachs had strategically prepared itself for a successful future, which is why it is odd that the plan was drastically revamped.

Facebook is not a publicly traded company, however, it trades on secondary markets. Goldman Sachs is conveniently positioning itself as the leading candidate to win the lucrative and prestigious assignment of Facebook's initial public offering - we all know that day is coming relatively soon. Due to Facebook's promising future, the sudden change of plan leaves investors and spectators, especially in the U.S., curious.

The sudden decision to pull out of this investment in the United States remains ambiguous. I think that the original investment plan would have breached U.S. regulations designed to restrict share trading in private companies.

Goldman Sachs and Facebook have both decided to remain silent on this matter. This leaves us followers and those prestigious American clients very confused.

*Econ with Neda is a bi-weekly economics column. To submit story ideas, email neda.ghomeshi@fiusm.com.*

THE BEACON | Editorial

## Suspension of Wittels maintains vital precedent

Whether he is guilty or innocent, star FIU infielder Garrett Wittels should be suspended from the baseball team until the ongoing investigation into rape charges brought against him is finished.

Wittels, who was arrested while on vacation in the Bahamas and charged with the rape of two 17-year-old girls, will have to wait until April 18 before the hearing on the case begins.

However, the 2011 baseball season begins on Feb. 18 and Wittels, whose hitting streak is at 56, is expected to continue chasing Robin Ventura's NCAA record 58-game hitting streak.

The NCAA has already said that they will not be taking any action on the matter, leaving it to the University's Athletics Department to decide whether or not Wittels will be punished.

The Athletics Department has been largely silent on the matter, with Director Pete Garcia only commenting to The Miami Herald, saying: "We will continue to gather any possible information as it becomes available."

The Beacon believes Wittels should not be allowed to play until he is acquitted of all charges. While the media attention gained from Wittels and his streak have been positive for the University, we believe the media attention from having a player under investigation for rape charges would eclipse any victories the Golden Panthers baseball team could accomplish.

If the University declines to take action, we feel they would be keeping a dark cloud over the reputation of the Athletics Department, in addition to setting a horrible precedent for incidents of this nature in the future.

Other universities in the Sun Belt Conference have come across similar situations and have taken action against their players. Middle Tennessee State University had two baseball players who were arrested and charged with rape in December after an 18-year-old victim came forward to MTSU detectives saying she had been raped.

Later, both players admitted to authorities they had sex with the victim, who they knew to be too drunk to give consent. The MTSU athletics department immediately acted and removed them from the baseball team once the information came out. While this is different from Wittels' situation in that the investigation is still underway, it is worth noting MTSU took action immediately after finding out about these allegations.

When MTSU Baseball Coach Steve Peterson learned from the school's Judicial Affairs department two of his players were accused of rape, he took action and suspended them from the team.

In November, Peterson said he did not dismiss the players because he "in no way, shape or form wanted to compromise the investigation of both police and judicial affairs."

We believe Peterson and MTSU set the best example in how matters like this should be handled. Even if Wittels is innocent, the situation he has put himself in has tarnished the image of the University and its Athletics department. Furthermore, allowing that distraction in the locker room would be a disservice to the entire baseball team.

The Athletics' department must take a public stance on the matter. Staying silent is not an option, unless they deliberately want to make themselves look bad on a national scale. Give Wittels his due process, but do not allow him to step foot on the baseball diamond.

Which would be better: To break the streak while under an investigation into rape allegations is under way, or to break the streak after being found innocent of all charges? We think the answer is obvious.

## Financial aid grants overspent, misused

SANAH FAROKE  
Contributing Writer

While shopping during the Christmas season with a friend, as she swiped her debit card she merrily said, in great Christmas spirit: "Thank you financial aid!"

Right then, it occurred to me that many students every year apply for financial aid and use it for the wrong reasons. This leads me to believe that the Financial Aid department should reduce the amount of money it gives to each student.

According to the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics, during the 2007-2008 school year, 66 percent of undergraduates received financial aid to pay for tuition, classes, books and room and board. What should we do with the rest of the nearly \$2,000 left, but use it fruitlessly over the holidays, planning trips or, in this case, shopping.

It is nice that we gain

a couple thousands in our pockets, but the purpose of this cash is not being upheld. Financial Aid should give out less money, just enough for students to pay for their essential college needs.

According to the Federal Aid website, "We consistently champion the promise of postsecondary education to all Americans —and its value to our society." Although we are in a bit of a crisis with the current recession, I do not believe that students should stoop down to the level of using their financial aid money for anything other than aiding in the sole purpose of education.

Education is everything: power, strength, wisdom. Financial aid funds provide us with the ticket to all these internal blessings. Instead, we trade the golden ticket for the short-term desires of a nice pair of Jimmy Choos, an iPhone or, even more sensibly, a year's supply of ramen noodle soup.

I propose that Financial Aid refrains from giving students an excessive amount of money for "education," considering that most of it will be used for recreational purposes anyway. Essentially, these "gifts" as eHow presents, are actually money from tax payers' dollars that are deducted from each paycheck. Then, this money is distributed by the federal government to students who qualify for financial aid.

There is so much that could be done with those thousands of dollars that are becoming the source of student shopping sprees and vacationing. Instead, these thousands of dollars should be used toward environmental improvement, social security, foreign affairs, financial debt, and overall improvement of our society.

At this point, many will think that I am deranged for wanting to decrease the amount of financial aid that students, including myself, will receive. I believe that the idea of cutting down the

amount we receive will not only help America as a nation, but also each individual that makes up this nation. Current students will soon become the leaders of this world. We will soon also become the leading adult consumers of this world. Financial Aid, although unaware, is breeding people who are consumed of greed and even lie to pursue their desires.

I propose that the amount of aid be lowered not only because it is mostly used vainly, but this is also a moral issue that needs to be resolved. One would think that, as college students, most people could handle money and pursue it only honestly. However, taking a closer look, I can see the greed and the real truth behind some students' use of financial aid awards.

The restraint will be good for us and we will improve. Maybe then, students will really appreciate the gift of the golden ticket, the gift of education.

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.

VERBATIM

*"To the Golden Globes and all of those actors who went home and cried into their Egyptian cotton bed sheets because of Ricky Gervais — get over yourselves and learn to laugh at your own expense. It'll add years to your life and it won't leave any blemishes."*

Madelyn Kearns, Opinion Editor for The Maine Campus

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](mailto:opinion@fiusm.com)

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (500 words maximum) in to [opinion@fiusm.com](mailto: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.



## BRAZIL

### Disaster-prevention system underway

Brazil will create a nationwide disaster-prevention and early-warning system following recent floods and landslides that killed more than 750 people in mountain towns north of Rio de Janeiro.



## MEXICO

### Shock verdict puts legal reform on trial

The trial in the murder of a 16-year-old girl found burned in a trash pile was supposed to showcase U.S.-backed reforms to Mexico's secretive justice system.



## VENEZUELA

### Chavez says he won't give up decree powers

President Hugo Chavez said Thursday he won't relinquish special legislative powers — a possibility he raised last week as a means of seeking reconciliation with Venezuela's opposition.

# Hospitality a top choice for international students

W. EARLE SIMPSON  
Staff Writer

More than 25 percent of the international students studying at the University are majoring in hospitality management, the largest number of international students in any one major.

Many of these students are from China, where there is a joint hospitality management program between the University and the Chinese government, according to the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management's website.

The 2009-2010 Institute of International Education's "Open Doors Report" states there is a record-high three percent increase in the number of international students in the United States of America, and the "growth was primarily driven by a 30 percent growth in Chinese student enrollment in the United States...making China the leading sending country."

The "Open Doors Report" is an annual census of international students in the United States.

However, according to the University's 2009-2010 "Open Doors Report," more countries than just China are strongly

represented at the University.

"The top five countries of origin are India, Venezuela, China, Trinidad and Tobago and Columbia," said Nancy Hernandez, director of International Student and Scholar Services at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The University's international students come from 125 countries and represent approximately seven percent of the student population.

Data from the University's Office of Planning and Institutional Research shows that international students are enrolled in 189 degree programs, with the top five sought after majors being hospitality management, business administration, international business, electrical engineering and computer and information science.

But the degree most sought after by international students is hospitality management.

"I chose hospitality management because from when I was in primary school, I discovered hospitality is a part of

**MAJORS, page 2**

## CLEANUP FOR THE KING



LUIS ROCA/THE BEACON

Students helping out at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center as a day of service for Martin Luther King on Jan. 15. The event was co-organized by Miami Parks Recreation, Service for Peace and the University's Center for Leadership.

SGC-BBC

# Unifying elections process a goal for new commissioner

BECCA GRIESEMER  
Staff Writer

Though the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus is the council that tends to have unfilled positions, there is one that both campuses struggle with satisfying: the elections board commissioner.

For this reason, when Angelena Adams, junior psychology major, became the current SGC-BBC elections commissioner, she didn't have much ground to work on.

"There was no transition, because the last elections commissioner wasn't there for a full year," Adams said.

Kielia Samuels, former SGC-BBC internship coordinator took the elections commissioner position for a month because it was unfilled as elections approached, so a board member was needed to take up the position quickly.

But Adams said after she was chosen for the position, Larissa Adames, SGC-BBC clerk, President Christin "CiCi" Battle, and Vice President Denise Halpin, guided her through the process.

One issue Adams is confronted with is communication with the SGC at Modesto Maidique Campus on matters such as coordinating dates for elections-related events, but until its council announces a new elections commissioner, elections aren't being handled by anyone in particular.

Carlton Ng, senior finance clerk for SGC-MMC, said someone has been appointed for

elections commissioner, and that an announcement will be made in the SGC-MMC senate meeting on Jan. 24, but said he could not give the name of the candidate.

Not only is the commissioner position tough to fill, the elections board lacks members at BBC as well.

While the elections board should consist of five members, there are currently only three: Adams, Christopher Lawton, the new SGC-BBC chief justice, and Michael Aquino, an intern.

Adams said there's a conflict of interest for an elections board member to run for any senate position which stops people from being on the board, and she hopes students from other outlets, such as SPC, will come forward.

As the new commissioner, Adams will use the elections she's seen in her two years at the University as a model for change.

Adams feels strongly that campaigning should be increased. One way she plans to do this is by opening the application process at the end of January as opposed to mid-February, so there will be more time to market and inform people of the upcoming election.

The elections board will use flyers and other advertising to publicize as much as possible, in an effort to gain a senator for each of the schools. Adams said the senate has only recently acquired a senator for the College of Arts and Sciences.

"That's a problem we're trying to overcome. We're trying to get all the senate positions, it's our main goal," she said.

Adams attributed the problem to scarce publicizing and said she heard about student government by chance, through word-of-mouth, instead of organized information.

"It could be as simple as going to other schools' events and publicizing the upcoming elections, because I'm sure there are students who don't even know about it at the time," Adams said.

Another innovation is that for the first time at BBC, the presidential and vice presidential candidates will be featured on one ballot instead of separate ones. The change is being applied because the University-wide Council of the past administrations voted in Spring 2010 to amend the new SGA constitution to change SGC-BBC's ballots to a single ticket system.

Adams agrees that there's no reason why the president and vice president shouldn't be on the same ballot. "We're trying to unify the two campuses because for a while they've been kind of apart," Adams said.

To further this unification, Adams is currently reviewing and editing the SGC-BBC Elections Code to be more consistent with the SGC-MMC Elections Code.

Adams said in about a week it will be ready for the senate to accept, and will then be available by request in the Student Government Association office.

Adams was unaware that in Fall of 2010, a judicial decision declared the SGC-MMC elections board statutes unconstitutional, but said the SGC-BBC Elections Code is completely

different. She said it does not include the statute that raised concerns, which gave the elections board power to establish temporary guidelines during elections.

Adams got involved in student government after Battle talked to her about SGA while she was running for president.

She applied for a few different positions, such as intern coordinator, participated in an interview and was recommended for the elections commissioner.

Adams believes she was recommended for that specific position because she wasn't ready for a senate position, but elections commissioner was a position she could readily handle.

"They saw my involvement in school already and they kind of needed a little help with that more than the interns, because the elections is a lot more hardcore and they were like, 'We think you're up for it,'" said Adams, who plans to run for senate in the fall.

Battle said in an email that she felt Adams was the person fit to head the elections board as commissioner "because she is a just person that will patiently monitor the process."

Candidate interviews will be held the week after Spring Break, and candidates will be finalized that weekend, Adams said.

Adams said the student body will learn about the candidates through mass emails, and platforms, or posters with the candidate's intention of running, will be posted around campus.

Adams is unsure of who will be running in elections, and said people are being vague because they want to surprise everyone.