



INDIA

Obama backs bid for UN Security

President Barack Obama on Nov. 8 backed India for a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council, a dramatic diplomatic gesture to his hosts at the end of his first visit to the booming region.



GAZA STRIP

Gaza blockade deemed unacceptable

Guido Westerwelle, Germany's foreign minister, has said during a rare visit to Hamas-ruled Gaza that the Israeli-Egyptian blockade of 1.5 million Palestinians living there is unacceptable and must end.



MYANMAR

10,000 refugees flee Myanmar

Fighting between ethnic rebels and Myanmar government troops has sent at least 10,000 refugees fleeing into Thailand after a criticized election expected did not usher in a sympathetic parliament.

Non-governmental organization run by youths builds homes

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
News Director

College students across the nation are making a difference in the world, one roof at a time.

"Un Techo Para Mi Pais," or, "A Roof for My Country," is a non-governmental organization founded in 1997 by college students and young professionals. It started in Chile and eventually began expanding in 2001 after earthquakes struck Peru and El Salvador.

Since then, UTPMP has mobilized over 250,000 volunteers and has been actively building over 70,000 transitional houses in 18 Latin American countries, including: Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico.

"Since 1997 it's become one of the largest NGOs throughout the region and it recently got into the Caribbean because of the earthquake in Haiti," said Alexander Regens, an FIU student majoring in international relations who is also director of outreach in the United States for UTPMP.

UTPMP chose to help Haiti, a

country that is still reeling from a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake that hit the nation's capital 10 months ago, which according to the Red Cross, affected over three million people and destroyed over 250,000 residences. Currently, the NGO is organizing 2,500 volunteers to travel to Haiti from Jan. 6 to Jan. 17. They hope to construct around 2,000 homes.

"The reasons we are going to Haiti on these dates is because it will be a year since the earthquake, so it's a very special date," said Molly Superfine-Rivera, an international relations major who is volunteering with UTPMP.

UTPMP is mobilizing students from colleges across the nation for this upcoming trip to Haiti, including the University of Miami which is fully sponsoring 70 students to go on this trip. Miami Dade College has also volunteered some help for the program, with around 60 students from MDC expected to attend the trip.

According to Regens, UTPMP does most of its fundraising through

ROCK THE QUAD



LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

Singer and songwriter Jeff Leblanc played in the housing quad as a part of the Pringles Xtreme Campus Tour. Leblanc's debut record "Signals" has been featured on TV shows like The Hills and One Tree Hill.

corporations and receives support from The United Nations and The World Bank. When the NGO travels it becomes embedded in the community, creating large campsites where those affected by extreme poverty or disasters can stay until their work building houses is complete.

"We are the organization that has built the most houses in Haiti ever since the earthquake, so the Haitian people love us and respect us," said Regens. "We don't need very high security because we stay with the families and they stay with us in the campsites."

"If you're wearing a "Un Techo" t-shirt, you're welcome to any house in Haiti, believe me," Regens added.

Regens and other members of UTPMP met with University President, Mark Rosenberg, and other

UN TECO, page 2

Parking and Transportation working to allay complaints

MATTHEW MACKLE
Staff Writer

Frustration over the University's parking availability and imbalance has propelled the Department of Parking and Transportation to work harder to allay drivers' complaints.

In times of high traffic, it is not rare for a student or faculty member to wait up to 45 minutes for spot in a desirable parking garage, while another garage on campus remains generally unfilled.

In an effort to relieve this dilemma, Parking and Transportation has created the Panther Mover system—an electric cart service to transport students closer to their intended destinations.

"We have implemented the Panther Mover system to make the hundreds of empty student spaces in the Panther Garage more convenient for daily use," said Bill Foster, executive director for Parking and Transportation.

Despite the creation of this system,

students like Adriana Sarmiento feel frustrated with its efforts.

"One time I got here 30 minutes early to my class and it took me 45 minutes to get to my class. I had to park in a far garage and call [Panther Mover] and it took 15 minutes," said Sarmiento. "It has cost me a letter grade on a quiz. They should add more parking; they have space to build up, so they should add more floors."

Along with availability issues, an apparent disproportion with the ratio of administra-

tion to student and faculty/staff spaces has been at the brunt of parking irritation.

The common vacancy of administration spots, which occupy most of the ground floor in the University's garages, is likely due to the pricey cost for an administration decal. Costing \$945.99 after taxes annually, the price has experienced an increase for PG5 facilitation.

"Prices have been adjusted twice to allow

PARKING, page 2

Florida's new governor-elect may face culture shock

BILL KACZOR
Associated Press

Governor-elect Rick Scott ran as a political outsider, promising to shake up state government by using the cost-cutting skills he showed as chief executive officer of Columbia/HCA, the nation's largest hospital chain.

But when Scott becomes Florida's third-consecutive Republican governor Jan. 4, he may be in for a culture shock: Florida's chief executive has nowhere near the power of his corporate counterparts. He won't be able to simply order cuts and have them carried out — nothing major gets done in Florida's govern-

ment without the Legislature's approval.

His fellow Republicans control two-thirds of both the Senate and House, but they are packed with the Tallahassee insiders Scott railed against during his campaign. They are unlikely to be receptive if Scott tries to shove through proposals that diminish their power or cut programs they like.

"We don't want to see anything ramrodded through," said Mike Haridopolos, the incoming Senate president. "I think you'll see Rick quickly adopt the new style, and I think it's to everyone's best interest."

Right now, Scott is talking cooperation with Haridopolos and House Speaker-designate Dean Cannon, both of whom will have powers that can kill any bill.

"I don't expect to clash with anybody," Scott said in a pre-election interview. "When you say clash, I don't know what that means."

Both legislative leaders say they agree with Scott's plans that include slashing the size of government, cutting taxes and repealing business regulations.

"We're looking for ways to say yes to each other, not looking for ways to fight," said Haridopolos, R-Merritt Island.

One early fight could be over Scott's campaign promise to reduce prison spending by \$1 billion. That will likely get resistance

from legislators with prisons in their districts, many of them powerful conservatives. Nearly every north Florida county has a prison — most are that county's biggest employer.

The governor-elect also is not fan of high-speed rail, a project funded partly by federal stimulus money that's received the Legislature's blessing. It would create hundreds of permanent jobs and thousands more during construction in central Florida.

Lance deHaven Smith, a Florida State University political science professor, said checks and balances built into the state Consti-

GOVERNOR, page 2

WEIRD NEWS

Couple gives condoms to teen trick-or-treaters

Having a safe Halloween took on a different meaning in one Oregon neighborhood, where trick-or-treating teenagers received condoms in their goodie bags. Daniel and Kathleen Harris, of Silverton, tell The Statesman Journal the free condoms were part of their effort to promote health. They also handed out toothbrushes as well as candy bars.

The father of one 14-year-old girl who received the condoms, Daniel Cote, said it was inappropriate to give them to children without parents' consent. The couple admits that giving the condoms to the 14-year-old was a mistake. Their usual practice is to ask teens if they're 16 or older and to give them a speech on safe sex.

Law curbs McDonald's Happy Meal toys

San Francisco has become the first major U.S. city to pass a law that cracks down on the giving away of free toys with unhealthy meals for children. The law requires that restaurant kids' meals meet certain nutritional standards before they could be sold with toys.

"We are extremely disappointed with today's decision. Getting a toy with a kid's meal is just one part of a fun, family experience at McDonald's," McDonald's spokeswoman Danya Proud said in a statement.

The San Francisco law would allow toys to be given away with kids' meals that have less than 600 calories, contain fruits and vegetables, and include beverages without excessive fat or sugar.

Spider-Man, Captain America and Poison Ivy arrested

Even superheroes can turn out on the wrong side of the law. Connecticut Police broke up a brawl between two men dressed like the Spider-Man and Captain America, and a woman wearing a costume modeled after the Batman villain Poison Ivy. The incident took place in Stamford Halloween morning when two men, dressed as Captain America and Spiderman, respectively, were in a brawl that involved Spiderman's girlfriend, Poison Ivy.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

DUNK THE DEAN



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

An event hosted by Lambda Chi Alpha allowed students to dunk Dr. Kenneth Furton, Dean of Arts and Sciences.

University declines to support group

UN TECHO, page 1

members of the University administration in an attempt to gain University support for the trip, however, they were told the University would not support it for liability reasons.

"They were very interested in the organization but they cannot support us because they don't want to send any student on behalf of the University because of security reasons," said Regens. "I'm respecting that. If you don't want to support your students that's

fine, but I want to reach the students who are interested to let them know that we are here and we can give you the opportunity to come and construct."

Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, senior vice president of External Relations and chair of the Hope for Haiti Taskforce, was present for the meeting with members of UTPMP and, according to her, the University is "fully committed and engaged with other Haiti projects" and was "unable to take on any more."

Also, the University is

currently not allowing students to travel to Haiti, so it would be "impossible for the University to sponsor this kind of project."

Although the University decided not to officially become involved with the NGO, Regens still hopes that FIU students will choose to volunteer and see the good they can do for themselves.

Regens, a native of Mexico, became involved with the NGO five years ago after a flood disaster struck the region of Tabasco, Mexico, where

they constructed 550 houses for the families affected.

"I realized that the program and the approach that the NGO uses is very good because it's not only creating houses, it's creating sustainable communities, eliminating extreme poverty and creating an opportunity for these families who live in the worst possible conditions for them to become part of society," said Regens.

Those interested in volunteering can find out more information at UnTecho.org.

Scott ready to persuade legislators

GOVERNOR, page 1

tution create natural tensions between the governor and Legislature.

Haridopolos and Cannon can kill bills by burying them in committees or not calling them for a vote. Scott will be able to veto substantive bills and he'll have a line-item veto to cut legislative spending he doesn't like. The Legislature could override those vetoes

with a two-thirds vote.

"Legislators have their own priorities," Smith said. They worry more about their districts, while the governors take a statewide view, he said.

If Scott and the Legislature have an intraparty fight, it won't be the first.

Former state Sen. Ken Plante, now a lobbyist, recalled Barron saying on the chamber's floor: "Governor I

know you're listening: Stay the hell out of my Senate."

Even Jeb Bush, a Republican and one of the most powerful governors in state history, took his lumps from a GOP-controlled Legislature. Democrats peeled off enough Republican votes to block proposed constitutional amendments backed by Bush to weaken limits on the number of students in public school classrooms

and restore his private-school voucher program after the Florida Supreme Court struck it down.

Scott acknowledged not every legislator will agree with him.

"I'll see how persuasive I am," Scott said. "You do the same thing in business, not everyone agrees with you. Even if they work for you, they don't always agree with you."

Decal prices go up to recover costs

PARKING, page 1

for the construction on PG5 in the last 4 years. The first increase was ten percent in 2008 and then five percent in 2010. There have been many space allocation changes as new garages are built, buildings are constructed on surface parking lots and to adjust to the needs of the areas," said Foster.

Any vehicles parked in a spot without the proper decal are issued a ticket for approximately \$30. Many frustrated drivers, including University

faculty, find that parking in these spots becomes a last resort to avoid tardiness, despite paying for a distinctive faculty/staff decal.

"I have noticed where there used to be blue faculty spots there are now the white administrators," said Adriana Matas, an adjunct mathematics professor. "I had to pay over \$100 for my decal, and once in the first semester I was here I had to park in an administrator spot and I got a ticket of over thirty dollars. It's a vicious cycle."

PARKING BY THE NUMBERS

Available parking spots University-wide:

- Students: 9,964
- Faculty/Staff: 2,171
- Administration: 442

Registered Decals:

- Student: 26,760
- Faculty/Staff: 2,543
- Administration: 478

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VOLLEYBALL

WINNING BY ANY MEANS

Golden Panthers overcome deficit

RICO ALBARRACIN
Staff Writer

Teams find out how mentally tough they are, not through easy victories but through struggles and trials. Facing a test, being down 2-1, the Panthers passed with flying colors.

FIU (16-10, 10-4 Sun Belt Conference) overcame an uphill battle to beat University of Louisiana-Lafayette in five sets, 25-17, 17-25, 24-26, 25-15, 15-10.

"I'm very proud of them," Head Coach Danijela Tomic said. "This was a tough win. This was a tough team to play. We thought it would be a tough team match. We came out ready to play."

The Ragin' Cajuns played tough, and gave FIU all they could handle. Junior Sabrina Gonzalez was impressed with their performance.

"They have a lot of heart and as they continue to develop, they're going to be a good team," Gonzalez said. "We have to watch out for them in the conference. With teams like that, that's how teams upset other teams. So we need to be careful and continue playing our game."

Gonzalez, who sat out of the last match due to a tear in her abdomen, played through the pain to contribute to the win.



ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON

Sabrina Gonzalez, Natalia Valentin and Ines Medved [From left to right] set up against Ragin' Cajuns.

"I'm gonna play through it. I'm not gonna sit out," Gonzalez said. "I'm gonna be good for the conference tournament. I'm gonna take as many pain relievers as I can at this rate."

In the first set, the Panthers stormed out to a 7-1 lead. Leading the charge for FIU was Jovana Bjelica and Gonzalez with kills that stunned the Ragin' Cajun (17-13, 7-7 SBC). ULL would eventually bring the game closer, as the score would show 13-9. That would be the closest that the Ragin' Cajuns would get, as FIU would cruise to a first set win.

ULL would start off the second set strong as junior middle blocker Lesley Mirarchi and freshman Taylor Meade would lead the offensive strike for a 13-9 lead.

It seemed that no matter how many points the Panthers would score, the Cajuns had an answer for them. The closest that the Panthers

would get would be 17-23, as the Cajuns put two more put downs to win the second set 25-17.

The third set proved to be a battle, as neither team held a lead greater than two. The Ragin' Cajuns showed that they had strength on the outsides to attack. The Panthers responded well at the net, with Bjelica and junior Andrea Lakovic pushing the Panthers offensively.

Late in the set, with ULL leading 23-22, a dig attempt by Bjelica sent the ball up and hit the speakers above the court, awarding a point to the Cajuns. Down two, the Panthers responded to tie the set at 24. It was not enough, as ULL scored two points to finish the set 26-24.

The Panthers entered the fourth set with a look of desperation, as the Cajuns were one set away from getting out of Miami with a much-needed win. The Panthers held

strong through the set, especially when Gonzalez came back into the match after sitting out significant time throughout and provided a spark to help FIU gain a 17-11 lead.

After a service error by senior Natalia Valentin, the Cajuns responded with an error of their own by Meade to give FIU the set 25-15.

"When I go out here, all I want to do is help my team," said Gonzalez, after she came back into the game. "I know what I can do on a good day. I know what I can do when I am healthy. All I want to do is contribute to my team and if I do that, we should win."

Freshman Una Trkulja came out strong for the Panthers, as FIU took a 7-5 lead in the final set. After trading points, the teams switched sides. The Panthers pushed their

VOLLEYBALL, page 4

Return of Bjelica gives team vital spark

The emergence of Una Trkulja and the promise of Marija Prsa have hid the fact that the Golden Panthers have been missing something very important this season.

That was addressed in the team's three-set victory over Troy on Oct. 30, when outside hitter Jovana Bjelica made her season debut.

The sophomore, stepping in for Prsa, had a career best 20 kills against the Trojans, giving FIU a mental edge aside from her obvious athletic prowess.

Bjelica, one of the elite underclassmen in the nation, is without question one of the best players in the Sun Belt Conference.

She has immediately brought a special combination of power and skill to the floor for FIU.

The team has won four straight games since she stepped on the court after she sat out the majority of the season for undisclosed reasons, and has made Natalia Valentin's life a lot easier.

"Aggressiveness and that

RAMOS, page 4

COMMENTARY



JONATHAN RAMOS

MENS SOCCER: FIU VS. TROY

Upset bid falls short in season finale against SMU

ANDRES LEON
Staff Writer

The FIU men's soccer team looked to end their season on a good note by beating conference leaders and nationally No. 5 ranked Southern Methodist.

With high expectations to close out the season well, the Panthers honored their seniors and had special dedication ceremony before the match. The ceremony honored veteran goalkeeper Shane Lopez, forward Diego Tamburus, and defender and midfielder Dane Smith, and Marcus Hariston.

The adrenaline the team had from senior night wasn't enough to get a win, however, as the

Golden Panthers fell to SMU 2-1 in overtime on Nov. 5. T.J. Nelson rebounded a shot right past Lopez in the extra period to put the Mustangs up for good.

On a cold night, the Panthers were off to an equally cold start. With a lot of miscommunication in the back, SMU's Josue Soto capitalized off a tangle between FIU goalkeeper Shane Lopez and his own defender to put SMU ahead in the third minute of play.

"We have a habit of put ourselves down early in the game and digging ourselves an unnecessary hole," Head Coach Munga Eketebi said. "We need to find our rhythm early in games and control the pace through out."

As FIU (7-10-0, 1-7-0 C-USA) battled SMU (15-1-0, 7-1-0 C-USA) they encountered violent changes in possession as both teams recorded a total of 37 fouls (SMU 21, FIU 16). At the beginning of the second half, FIU found themselves in quick break-away away off a cross from senior Marcus Harriston. Carlo Schmid was able to push the shot past the far post into the back of net to tie the game up in the 47th minute.

For the next 40 minutes frustration would build as FIU would out shoot SMU six to four in the second half after being out shot by SMU eight to two in the first half. With overtime looming, Eketebi put in Sebastian Frings and gave

Jahbari Willis more playing time to see if they can produce for FIU's struggling offense.

As pressure amounted, SMU head coach Tim McClements would receive a red card for what seemed to be his continued disagreement with the referee's strict calls. With only eight minutes gone by in extra time SMU's Payton Hickey fired a long shot at Lopez. Lopez was unable to hold on and off the deflection TJ Nelson plugged the rebound in the back of net to give the Mustangs their 15th win of the season. Lopez had seven saves on the night, one shy of tying his career high eight saves that he marked earlier this season.

THE FUTURE

"With a team like ours, and the youth we have, I have a lot to look forward to next season," Eketebi said after the final game of the season for FIU men's soccer. "We struggled with the easier teams this season and some how kept up with the top teams in our conference. It was really hard to get these late conference wins with our to best scorers injured. Muehseler and Rodriguez will be back next season, and it'll be fresh start for us and I think that other players will step up to make it a successful season."

FIU has now missed the C-USA tournament three consecutive seasons.

Lakovic leads Golden Panthers with 23 kills in win

VOLLEYBALL, page 3

lead up 10-7 off a Lakovic kill. FIU was not going to relinquish the lead, as they willed themselves to victory in the set 15-10. The win showed a tough side for the Panthers.

“We played through the difficult parts of the game and we proved to ourselves that we can come back from being down 2-1 and win it,” sophomore Chanel Araujo said.

Andrea Lakovic led the Panthers with 23 kills, while Bjelica tied a career-high with 20 kills as she picked up her third double-double of the season, also contributing 11 digs on the day.

Valentin posted her 15th double-double of the season and fell just one assist shy of a season-high, tallying a team-leading 58 assists. On defense, Araujo tied a career-high with 22 digs, while Lakovic posted a team-high seven blocks.

With only three games left in the season,

and the conference tournament just two weeks away, coach Tomic feels anything can happen.

“It’s gonna be tough. Anyone can beat anyone. It’s very even,” Tomic said. “What we’re trying to do in the last couple of games we have before the tournament is use every match as an opportunity to grow as a team. We’re just trying to take it one step at a time. The tournament is a crazy thing. It’s a single elimination, so if you win, you’re in. You lose, you’re done and your season is over.”

It seems the confidence has permeated down to the players as well.

“I think that we’re a lot stronger than we were,” Araujo said. “We had some communication issues that we solved in practice. Our coaches have been working really hard with us trying to get those little things fixed. I think we’re really coming together. There’s a few little things we need to work on but in two weeks we’ll be good to go.”

BJELICA BACK

Since sophomore Jovana Bjelica has returned to the lineup, the Panthers are 4-0, including straight victories over Troy and ULM.

Bjelica has also posted and tied her career high in kills three out of the four games she has played. Although it’s been an exciting return, Bjelica is still struggling. Coach Tomic feels that even with her struggles, teams have to account for her.

“It’s her experience. It’s her competitive spirit. She’s the go-to player,” Tomic said. “We know she’s struggling but the other teams have to worry about Jovana. Even if she’s having a bad night, teams have to worry about her.”

Not only have the offensive players benefited from Bjelica’s return, but also the defensive players. Chanel Araujo not only thinks about what she brings to the court, but about

what Bjelica brings to the team.

“Jovana is the type of person who leads by example,” Araujo said. “She’s a very strong player. She really encourages others, no matter what happens around her. She’s really encouraging towards others. She knows how to put the ball down and just by her doing that and leading by example it really affects the team. People admire her. People aspire to be that. And she does the same thing in the back row. She digs the ball, so us defensive players we want to step up because of that.”

It is that maturity and level of play that senior Natalia Valentin wants from all of her players. Bjelica will only reinforce that.

“Aggressiveness and that passion to play,” Valentin said.

“She plays with heart and she plays to win. She refuses to lose. That energy, she passes to everyone. That’s one thing I think she’s really good at. She just plays with the heart and that’s what we need.”

Bjelica’s impact on lineup relieves Valentin of pressure

RAMOS, page 3

passion to play. She plays with heart and she plays to win. She refuses to lose,” Valentin said. “That energy, she passes to everyone. That’s one thing I think she’s really good at. She just plays with the heart and that’s what we need.”

Unfortunately for FIU, Bjelica has been absent while Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee have ran away with the Eastern

Divison of the Sun Belt Conference and FIU has just begun to find its footing with a youthful group.

“It was the hardest time in my volleyball career,” Bjelica said of her time on the bench watching her team struggle at times.

Bjelica can ease that down the stretch for FIU with her play.

The Golden Panthers got the first seed in the SBC last season, only to fall in the title game.

Riding a five game winning

streak and adding Bjelica to the mix, the Golden Panthers will be a tough out for WKU or MTSU when they meet.

Bjelica struggled at times during a five-set win over ULL on Nov. 7, shaking off the rust of her long absence.

But that didn’t mean she wasn’t accounted for.

“It’s her experience. It’s her competitive spirit. She’s the go-to player,” FIU head coach Danijela Tomic said. “We know she’s

struggling but the other teams have to worry about Jovana. Even if she’s having a bad night, teams have to worry about her. They’re gonna play two blocks on her and key on her, which means other players are gonna be open on our side of the net.”

While Valentin, arguably the best setter in the country, paired up with Yarimar Rosa for three seasons prior to 2010 to form a prolific tandem, the duo overshadowed Bjelica’s outstanding

play.

Add Bjelica’s name to the top of the list when discussing who FIU’s most prolific active athletes. This team will be all her’s next season, and this will be her test run as the squad’s best source of kills.

Regardless of the results in the postseason, Bjelica has given the Golden Panthers an enormous boost and will continue to be arguably the best at her position in the conference.

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THE FASHION SHOW

Students work the runway for a Cause

formed.

The purpose of the foundation is to raise public awareness regarding the potential dangers that carbon monoxide can cause.

Last year carbon monoxide detectors were given out on campus to help prevent something like this from happening again.

Many of the donations help provide a scholarship, The Jenelle Bertot HOSA Memorial Scholarship Award, for other students interested in a health care profession, like Janelle.

Barbara Bertot, Janelle's mother, says, "The girls from Phi Sig are extremely generous for supporting this cause after her accident in 2004.

The message tends to be lost over time, but Janelle's legacy is known in each Phi Sig generation. Now awards and grants are raised in all their Greek chapters"

This is Phi Sigma Sigma's second year holding a fashion show in honor of Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation and even new members are aware of her involvement and memory.

Ms. Bertot hopes that this

fashion show will help bring awareness to the dangers of carbon monoxide.

Last year's fashion show was based around an exotic earthy theme called "Exotique", but this year the ladies are showcasing a "Winter Wonderland" spectacle, embracing the soon approaching winter season. There will be many accessories and attire to suit the overall theme.

Jessica Schumacher, the overall director of the fashion show, says, "Many of the outfits will be colorful and extravagant, but the makeup, body paint and white crystals are in support of the theme."

The Electric Boutique has helped by providing outfits for the show. Some of the designers that made the cut include Jimi Zee, Demi by Desi and other boutique designers. They have been extremely helpful in donating their time to the cause according to the event coordinators.

The designers will sponsor the event. Professional modeling judges make the final selections and then offer critiques and

suggestions for the best runway performances.

Schumacher also notes, "Last year's event had a great turnout, and this year there have been accommodations made in expectation of a larger crowd."

Although it is hosted by Phi Sigma Sigma, this event has support from fashionistas representing a number of sororities, fraternities and organizations. Each supporter is representing a member from Pan-Hellenic. These men and women will display the designs on the catwalk to raise money or working the crowd the night of the fashion show.

Amanda Carballo, the male model coordinator,

says, "It's less about the clothes and more about tying the FIU community together in honor of Janelle. Giving the students an opportunity to participate in the foundation's cause."

The chapter has built up an audience over the nine years they have put on the show. They hope that through this Janelle's memory can stay alive along with her message.

The show is Nov. 12 and starts at 7:00 p.m. The event will be held in the Graham Center Ballroom on the Modesto Maidique Campus. Tickets are \$7 pre-sale.

Proceeds go directly to Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation.

Students modeling at the 2009 FIU Fashion Show held in the GC Ballrooms.

ALEX MACIEL Contributing Writer

Not many campus events are as glamorous and elegant as a fashion show. This fashion show, however, isn't just about glamour and glitz but in support of a sister.

Every year the women of Phi Sigma Sigma host an annual fashion show to raise money for a non-profit organization.

This year the show's

proceeds go to Janelle's Wishing Well Foundation, set up in honor of Janelle Bertot, a former Phi Sig member. Janelle was 19 years old and on her way to her second year as a pre-med biology major at Florida International University. She died in 2004 when a leak in her car caused carbon monoxide poisoning.

Many people were devastated, but out of this a helpful foundation was

FIU FASHION SHOW

Sponsored by Phi Sigma Sigma

- Time: 7:00 p.m.
- When: 11/12/10
- Where: Graham Center Ballrooms
- How Much: \$7

TARGET WEDNESDAY AFTER HOURS Where curiously creative minds meet. November 10, 2010 / 6-9pm



Sequentia

Can a DNA Sequence generated randomly have any parallel to an existing life form? Come and find out at the next Target Wednesday After Hours.

How to get an internship / 5pm

FIU Students join us for an informative session on How to get an internship. FIU's Career Services department will teach students the tools necessary to help find the perfect internship.

Meet The Artist / 6pm

Join us as Miami-based contemporary artist Xavier Cortada and FIU Department of Molecular Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Founding Chair Dr. Kalai Mathee discuss their collaboration on current exhibition *Sequentia*, which explores the sequence of events that make up life on the planet from the molecular to the monumental.

All events are free and open to the public.

For a full list of events please visit <http://thefrost.fiu.edu>



The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at FIU
10975 SW 17th Street | Miami, Florida | 33199
<http://thefrost.fiu.edu> | 305.348.2890
Free and open to the public. Donations are encouraged.

FUNNY GIRL



BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

Comedian Iliza Schlesinger performed at the Panther Prowl Comedian Show on Nov. 1 alongside D.L. Hughley and Kyle Dunnigan. Schlesinger was the first female winner of NBC's "Last Comic Standing."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Disney World's food festival offers international flavors

On Oct. 30, I managed to travel the world one bite at a time at the Epcot International Food and Wine Festival in Orlando, FL. Held every autumn for the past 15 years, this celebration is open to all that enter the Epcot Theme Park with a regular admission fee, giving vacationers a chance to sample the best cuisine of many nations.

While touring the World Showcase Promenade, small booths are set up with a small plates menu, costing between \$3-\$7 per bite according to the nation you're visiting, making it a fairly cost-effective way to try new cuisines.

During my "world tour," I started off with something fairly familiar: chicken souvlaki with tzatziki from Greece. The savory chicken mixed with the cool, refreshing creaminess of the tzatziki ensured that I began on a good note.

However, my European tour took a turn for the daring as I tried French escargot for the first time. To be honest, the thought of eating snails bathed in a butter garlic sauce scared me.

As it turns out, my \$4 were well-spent. The escargot was warm, tender, flavorful, and the mini brioche they were served in soaked up just the right amount of sauce. I may have found my new favorite food.

I ended my tour of Europe with Belgian mussels in garlic sauce. The mussels were fantastic and the garlic sauce was surprisingly mild. I just wish the bread they served alongside it wasn't stale.

The next stop was Asia. Once again, I started off with an old friend of sushi, a spicy tuna roll to be exact. As I've come to expect, it was delicious, especially when paired with wasabi. Another recognizable taste was Chinese barbecued chicken skewers and black pepper shrimp with lo mein.

In keeping with my vow to try some-

thing new, I found myself with a plate from Singapore: a shrimp cake with spicy noodle salad.

The shrimp cake had a yummy crusted shell from searing and a soft, slightly sweet center full of its namesake. However, the noodle salad's spiciness literally cleared my nostrils. Thankfully, the sugarcane garnish cleansed my palate so I could feel my taste buds again.

Latin and South America rounded out my trip around the world, with bites from Mexico and Brazil.

I'm a consistent fan of Mexican food, but this was the first time I've tried Tamal de Pollo: corn tamale stuffed with shredded chicken topped with queso blanco and tomatillo sauce.

The first few bites were welcome, but the heaviness of the tamale and the absurd absence of chicken soon made this a bore. I only got three-quarters of the way through.

On the other hand, the Brazilian shrimp stew, made with lime and coconut and

served over rice, was divine. The mild flavors with just a hint of citrus were a satisfying reminder of summer. I knew I loved this when I started searching for the recipe immediately after I returned home.

A note about dessert: the dessert trio was a godsend. Although this booth boasted no specific region, it did serve up a sampler of strawberry shortcake parfait, pear tartlet and chocolate truffle.

I've had the parfait and the truffle a number of times, but the pear tartlet was the star of this plate.

The pears used were perfectly ripe and the juice made a natural syrup that I couldn't get enough of.

This was yet another recipe I researched upon my return.

In all, I enjoyed my time at the Epcot Food and Wine Festival. Hopefully, when I return, I will be able to sample the food of more nations.

Better yet, I hope that more nations are present to show what they are made of.



JASMYN ELLIOTT

HEALTHY BITES

Tailgating doesn't have to break diet, options available

Football season is upon us, and when attending the games the tailgate is half the fun. We all love spending time with friends, laughing, and enjoying a game but who said it can't be done in a diet friendly way?

Typical tailgating foods are high in calories, fat, and low in nutrition. Incorporating healthy and delicious options is simple, and doesn't require sacrificing great taste. Just try some of these tips at your next tailgate party.

1. LEAN MEATS

Tailgating usually involves grilling meats, which is a healthy preparation method so you are half way to a healthy bite. Choose lean proteins such as boneless skinless chicken breast marinated in barbecue sauce, lean ground turkey breast for burgers, and veggie burgers. Cut portions of the hamburgers by

preparing mini sliders. Try purchasing whole-wheat burger buns for additional fiber. Prepare fish such as tilapia by cooking it over the grill in an aluminum foil envelope. Boost the flavor with herbs, spices, lemon, and olive oil. Also, bring a bean salad that is served cold as a delicious protein alternative. Just toss in rinsed canned beans into your usual salad and use low-fat dressing.

2. VEGGIES

Incorporate more vegetables by offering grilled veggies such as corn, asparagus, onion, peppers, squash, mushrooms, and tomatoes. Try making vegetables kabobs with alternating mixed vegetables. Additionally, offer finger veggies such as raw broccoli, baby carrots, cherry tomatoes, and celery sticks with a homemade low-calorie ranch dressing. Prepare this ranch dressing by mixing a ranch seasoning packet with low-fat sour cream and non-fat plain Greek yogurt. Also, load your burgers up with

freshly sliced tomatoes, onions, and lettuce to add bulk and a crunchy bite.

3. FRUITS

When tailgating outside in the heat, nothing is as refreshing as cold fruit! Also, this healthy treat won't weigh you down like some of the other foods you may consume. Bring cut watermelon wedges to the game for an easy and delicious snack. Other great snacking fruits include grapes, melon wedges, and pineapple. Keep on ice to keep cold until ready to serve, and enjoy.

4. HYDRATE

Make sure plenty of cold water is available and that water is the drink of choice over sugary drinks such as soda. Drinking water instead of soda is an easy way of saving calories, but if you must have soda have one can and then enjoy water for the rest of the game. Keeping water on hand at all times will encourage consumption and will help fill you up without additional calories.

5. CHIPS AND DIP

Re-do the traditional chips and dip by making fresh Pico de Gallo ahead of time and bringing it to the party. Dice tomatoes, onions, and cilantro and mix with lime-juice to make a tasty dip. Add jalapeños for some spice. Next, try baked tortilla chips instead of the regular fried ones and significantly cut the calories. This swap doesn't sacrifice any flavor.

6. ADDITIONAL HEALTHY TIPS

Even if you are not the person preparing the food and you are just a guest, bring a healthy dish to the party so you can keep yourself on track. In addition, once you are done eating, chew on gum or suck on mints to keep your mouth busy without consuming additional unnecessary food. Last, Never show up to a party on an empty stomach. To avoid overeating at the party eat a small healthy snack before going such as an apple or a slice of whole wheat bread with low-fat cream cheese to curb your appetite.



DANIELLE HAMO

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10

ORGANIC FARMERS MARKET



Local, organic produce, smoothies, yoga and more!
WHEN: 12 - 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Along the red wall behind the Green Library

SPC LECTURE: MICHAEL USLAN



Michael Uslan is the original and executive producer of the Batman movie series. He will talk about his career and how he brought Batman to the big screen.
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for students. Tickets available in GC 2240, Campus Life.
WHERE: GC Ballrooms

TARGET WEDNESDAY AFTER HOURS

Sequentia panel discussion with Xavier Cortada and Dr. Kalai Mathee, founding chair of the Dept. of Microbiology.
WHEN: 6 - 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
WHERE: Frost Art Museum

THE GREAT ROMANTICS

Presented by FIU Music Chamber Music Series.
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students; \$15 faculty/staff/seniors; \$25 general admission
WHERE: WPAC Concert Hall

FREE YOGA

Hosted by the Yoga Club at the Farmer's Market. Spanish session will be available too!
WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: In the lawn by the GC Central Fountain.

THURSDAY, NOV. 11

A VERY WOLFSONIAN WEEKEND: Speed Limits Celebration



Come celebrate the Wolfsonian-FIU's 15th anniversary, featuring a time-based "wine" performance, Le Vin des Minutes, by French artist Laurent Moriceau.
WHEN: 6 - 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for members; \$5 students
WHERE: The Wolfsonian-FIU 1001 Washington Ave.

THURSDAYS AT PERRICONE'S

This Italian restaurant in the heart of Brickell offers \$10 pasta dishes all day on Thursdays.
WHEN: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 pasta dishes
WHERE: 15 SE 10th Street.

KINGS OF RAP CONCERT STARRING LUDACRIS

With performances by Breeze DTA, Quest Slick Cash, and more.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$36.50-\$163
WHERE: James L. Knight Center, 400 SE 2nd Ave.

RENT



FIU Theatre's production of the award-winning rock opera!
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15 students with Panther ID; \$20 general admission
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center - MMC

Write to calendar@fiusm.com to have your event featured!

Diversions

7		2	3			1		
				8				
5			2			8	4	
			7				2	
		1				3		
	6				8			
	1	9			4			2
				9				
		8			1	4		3

Puzzle by websudoku.com

To solve the sudoku puzzle, every row, column and 3x3 box must contain the numbers 1-9 only once. Check your answers on FIUSM.com

Puzzle Difficulty: Evil

Sound bites a deficient source of political info

JASMYN ELLIOTT
Asst. Opinion Editor

In a world of news snippets and fast information, people often rely on sound bites to get a handle on what is said by many public figures, including celebrities and politicians. However, these sound bites are an inherently flawed source of information, as they are often taken out of context and, thus, can be easily manipulated to make anyone sound like someone he is not.

Take, for example, the "Taliban Dan" ad. Florida Representative Alan Grayson, a Democrat, showed an ad depicting his Republican opponent, Dan Webster, as an extremist who supported the principles of the Taliban, particularly in relation to making divorce illegal and making women's rights a thing of the past. The audio-visuals used in the ad showed Webster saying things such as "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands," and "She should submit to me. That's in the Bible."

However, when one looks at the original footage of this speaking engagement, Webster's full statement is the following: "I have verses for my wife. I have many verses for my wife. But, don't pick the ones that say 'She should submit to me.' That's in the Bible, but pick the ones that you're supposed to do."

I could show several other cases where politicians and organizations conveniently used sound bites in order to push an agenda, many doing so successfully. It is unfortunate that they stoop to such a level of dishonesty. In my eyes, it shows a lack of faith in their causes, as if the truth is not enough to gain supporters. If they cannot gain support by showing why they are right and must rely on underhanded tactics and smear campaigns to show why their opponent is wrong, or at least inferior, then their own message must be wrong or established on a weak foundation.

Furthermore, in cases where the falsehood comes to light, the use of sound bites causes much more harm than good. In Grayson's case, several news outlets aired the original footage of Webster's speech, causing editorial boards nationwide to condemn him for such a low-brow tactic and casting inescapable doubt and embarrassment on Grayson's campaign. Several news outlets believe that this ad cost him his seat in the House of Representatives, as it ultimately alienated his base.

Likewise, if other politicians and organizations are exposed in this manner, they too will suffer a loss of support and rightfully so, since they didn't respect their supporters enough to tell the truth.

Whether politicians and organizations will cease using out of context sound bites and rely more on factual information remains to be seen. In the meantime, we as citizens need to demand that our media do more than play ten seconds of audio and call it "news." We must also be able to distinguish between legitimate news outlets and pundits who try to pass themselves as journalists.

We should demand that these pundits refrain from sensationalist rhetoric and instead make an effort to gather the facts of a situation or a person so that his or her true colors are shown with logic and with reason.

Gender bias: men are victims too

PAOLO RAMOS
Contributing Writer

In every society, cultural and social roles are changing constantly, especially in the United States. Members of both genders are doing things that were previously unheard of. For instance, today we see larger numbers of women serving in the military and more men who choose to be stay-at-home dads.

The lines between the sexes are becoming blurred and the spectrum of power is becoming more balanced. However, there are some underlying feelings that refuse to go away and, in a period of social transition, casualties arise from their misapplication to crucial legal issues.

Andrew Gallardo, 18, was denied full custody of the child he conceived with a 30-year-old student aide at the school he was attending when he was 13 and was also ordered to pay \$50 in child support every month.

Jordan Meyer, 19, was charged with statutory rape and was added to the sex offender registry when he had sex with a 16-year-old girl. They were both attending an event for people 18 years of age and over at a night club, which the girl had entered using a fake I.D. Unfortunately for Meyer, the age of consent in Texas is 17.

These men are both victims of a civil rights crime that is grossly under-reported in today's society: gender bias against men.

When it comes to child custody cases, women are predominantly the victors and, most of the time, the decision is made independent of financial or structural capability.

In Gallardo's case, the court inexplicably

When the term sex offender comes to mind...the woman is always seen as the victim and the man is demonized without a doubt.

granted the custody of the child to a sex offender instead of an eager father.

In a more chilling case, Helen Prince, who won custody of her daughter over her ex-husband Johnny Smith, turned her cheek to the abuse inflicted upon her daughter by her new boyfriend and his sons.

Smith has been fighting tirelessly to win the custody of his daughter, but has faced many financial and legal road blocks, creating an unnecessarily complicated situation that requires only a simple answer, which is to grant custody to the parent who demonstrates the moral capability to raise a child.

Smith essentially drained all of his finances in a struggle to save his daughter from an unfit mother; a fact that the courts and child services incomprehensibly chose to ignore for almost two years.

When the term "sex offender" comes to mind, the image of a middle-aged or older man immediately pops up. The woman is always seen as the victim and the man is demonized without a doubt.

As proven in the aforementioned case, women are just as capable of sex crimes as men are. In Andrew Gallardo's case, the line is clear

and Duran is, without a doubt, the criminal. However, in Meyer's case, the answer is not so simple. Most are ready to place the blame on Meyer because he is the adult, but ignoring the liability of the girl is both wrong and unjustified. By placing herself in the environment and by consenting to the act with Meyer, she should face some, if not equal, legal ramifications as Meyer.

She knowingly put Meyer in a criminal position, after she herself had committed a crime by sneaking into the event that was intended for an older crowd. She will most likely get off without any serious consequences, while Meyer is branded by a mark that will hinder him for the rest of his life.

Most young males are uninformed about the consequences of their actions. Some feel they have been granted invincibility by their gender and may allow themselves too much dexterity and, as a result, find themselves in legal situations designed for them to lose.

They may lose a significantly important part of their lives, or their lives all together, if they are not careful. Gender bias goes both ways, and society must actively fight against this issue in order to retain integrity.

Reality T.V. is stupefying, degenerating

GIOVANNI GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

The reality television phenomenon is, surprisingly, one that has proven to have some power over the masses and it has encouraged many different shows to emerge on various networks.

"Jersey Shore" and "The Real Housewives" series are two of the many popular reality shows one may currently come across while surfing channels. Despite their popularity, the content of these shows encourages shallowness and materialism among viewers.

Anyone who manages to sit through an entire episode either of these shows will surely find an overflow of senseless drama, irrationality and ridiculousness.

MTV's "Jersey Shore" centers on a group of roommates who do nothing but promote promiscuity and immature behavior, drink and party endlessly and bicker amongst themselves.

The roommates seem to be devoid of the requirements to form meaningful relationships

and they all spend their nights simply looking for the next hookup.

These ideals are detrimental to an already desensitized society. These reality shows glamorize meaningless relationships based only on sex and a lifestyle based solely on partying.

The term "reality T.V." alone implies these are real people who actually live like this, but no one can actually have a fulfilling life while only partying and hooking up. It is a bad idea to popularize and pay people for living like this, because it can only encourage such behavior among others.

"The Real Housewives" has popped up in almost every major city at present. However, these women are anything but real. This form of reality television follows a group of wealthy women in your preferred city and chronicles their lives from activities like shopping to social gatherings.

One housewife admitted to buying a different wig of human hair of the same style for every day. When asked how much

she spent on that habit, she responded with "about \$400 per day."

That is \$12,000 of her husband's money on hair per month and, keep in mind, she still has her own.

While these people surely have the means to live materialistic and wasteful lifestyles, it does not mean they should. The

The idiocy of these shows promotes negative, selfish values that are all too common in our society and their popularity only shows that people are willing to embrace them.

money they waste could be spent on an infinite variety of better ways. Also, their lifestyles give the impression that material wealth will provide happiness, and there is definitely more to life than that.

These people have every right to have the material wealth they worked hard for, or married into, but they have achieved fame through selfishness and materialism, not through deeds that make a positive difference for others.

The idiocy of these shows promotes negative, selfish values that are all too common in our society and their popularity only shows that people are willing to embrace those values.

The meaningful principles that lead to a better society seem to be lacking in television overall, but are especially absent in shows like "The Real Housewives" and "Jersey Shore."

It is appalling to know that these people really exist and are centers of American entertainment. Though their exploits are often scripted to provide more drama, much of the settings and occurrences are, indeed, real.

This fad can only continue if we let it and we, as viewers, cannot continue to praise these shows with high ratings. Enough with idolizing people who have absolutely no positive contribution to society.

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SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.

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

VERBATIM

"Some of the Grimm's Fairy Tales are quite grim. Are you going to ban them too?"

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia
Speaking on banning the sale of violent video games



ARGENTINA

Gays proud of 500 same-sex marriages

Thousands marched in Argentina's Gay Pride parade, celebrating the country's status as the first Latin America to legalize same-sex marriage and vowing to campaign for new rights for transgender people.



CUBA

Dissident vows hunger strike

A prominent dissident, vowed to begin a hunger strike to pressure the government to free the last 13 prisoners after a midnight deadline for the men's release passed without any news of their fate.



HAITI

Govt suspects cholera has entered capital

Health officials said they are examining 120 suspected cases of cholera in Haiti's capital, the most significant warning sign yet that the epidemic has spread from outlying areas to threaten as many as 3 million people.

SGC-BBC

Cafeteria renovations postponed

BANELLY PAZ
Contributing Writer

Since the beginning of the Fall 2010 semester the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus has been striving to transform the cafeteria into a lounge area for students to study and relax.

After various meetings, the new name was selected and will now be called "Bistro by the Bay at the Panther Den."

Initially, the Panther Den was expected to be done and ready for use by December, but according to Christin 'Cici' Battle, SGC-BBC president, the visible renovations had to be postponed until Spring 2011.

The "Bistro by the Bay at the Panther Den" project is estimated to be completely done by the end of spring 2011. SGC-BBC miscalculated the length of the time period needed to complete this large scale project.

"We are waiting on Business Services for a budget in order to start the project," Battle said. "As of now we have already brought in the furniture company to get us a quote."

Money used for these renovations will come directly from Business Services, not student funds which SGA apportions.

Business Services is in charge of outside contracts like designing a new cafeteria. They are required to know what is needed; research was done by SGA members, in order for them to know what students' needs are.

"SGA took a hand on initiative on this project after receiving many complaints by students about the cafeteria lack of variety, and its short hours of operation," Battle said.

Battle mentioned that Business Services is planning to bring Subway to the cafeteria.

THE HUBERT LIBRARY



PHOTOS BY DANTE WILLIAMS/THE BEACON

Students, faculty, staff, and administration were present at the unveiling of the newly renamed Glenn Hubert Library on Nov 8. Hubert, an alum of the University of Miami, donated \$2 million to the University.

Since SGC-BBC is depending on Business Services to approve a budget, the funding and exact costs for the phases are still undetermined, in order to distribute the money.

As of now there will be four phases to this project. Phases I and II are expected to get done by the end of the Fall 2010 semester.

Phase I, which is currently underway, is getting a budget approved by the Business Services. Phase II will be decorations that include paint, marketing materials, picture collages and TVs.

Phases III and IV are projected for Spring 2011. Phase III will be furniture and phase IV consist of the development of a coffee station with sofas and tables for students to use as a study area, however it is not set in stone.

"Usually projects like these take years, but a lot has been done by now," Battle said, "there are many things to consider, like getting a budget, paying those who will work

on the project, choose the vendors and approved permissions to act."

While this project is taking place students will be able to use the cafeteria since no construction will be done. Extending the hours of the cafeteria is being considered but hasn't been decided yet.

Phillip Paz, a junior engineering major, pointed out that in comparison to MMC, BBC looks very dull.

"I think it's a great idea to have renovations in this campus, it is important for us students to have a nice place to study and relax in between classes," Paz said.

On the other hand, Jorge Rabaza, a junior double majoring in international relations and history, believes student funds should be used differently.

"Student funds should be used to create more buildings, which will in turn provide more teachers, smaller classrooms and more attention to students, thus harboring a more effective teaching environment," Rabaza said.

ON THE PROWL

Going from 'ex-bf' to 'bff'

They say best friends make the best lovers, but contrary to many skeptics, I believe it can also work in reverse: a couple that was once the best of lovers can in time become best friends again.

The usual peace offering of friendship the dumper makes in order to feel like less of a horrible person. Still wanting to be friends with one's ex provides the dumper the solace of knowing their former lover will still be in their life.

At first glance, this may seem like a cruel punishment. While the dumper is moving on with their life, the person who got dumped will constantly be reminded of having their hearts ripped out every time they receive a friendly text message, Facebook comment, or tweet.

While I agree a flourishing friendship cannot result from every breakup, many of my current male best friends are former lovers in some way.

One of my ex-boyfriends, let's call him Aaron, has truly become my confidant and life advisers. But this obviously didn't happen overnight.

It took us at least a year before we could start communicating at all and I admit it was rough in the beginning. It ultimately took us two years, which I spent dating another guy, until we could talk as trusting as we do now.

Patience and understanding that healing from a break takes time are required. I used those years to completely heal from the trauma and anger the breakup caused. If you're still resentful, it's best to keep it casual, calling on birthdays and inquiring about their family is sufficient.

For Aaron and I, the friendship only worked out because we had absolutely no residual feelings for each other nor any intentions of ever rekindling a romance. If you do, steer clear of your ex.

We were also willing to accept ahead of time that it may not have worked out, otherwise we could have never become friends again.

He could have moved on, fallen in love with a different girl and I might have been just a bug on the windshield of his life. But if there's an equal desire to remain friends, then it is possible.

On the Prowl is a bi-weekly column published on Wednesdays. For questions, comments or ideas, email lianamar.davila@fiusm.com.

COLUMNIST



LIANAMAR
DÁVILA
SANABRIA

Hospitality offers scholarship money in exchange for volunteer hours

NADRA MABROUK
Contributing Writer

A new website has launched for student volunteers to register for the South Beach Wine & Food Festival, held Feb. 24 to Feb. 27, 2011.

There were 435 student volunteers registered at the two-day kick off event for the site, sobefest.fiu.edu, and the registration, Oct. 26 and 27.

Shena Corrado, student associate program manager, and Dale Gomez, associate director of University Computer Systems, have been working on creating the site together.

Student volunteers must be hospitality and tourism management majors or minors as

of Spring 2011, taking a hospitality class or enrolled in an HTM certificate program.

Once students sign up, they may list their top ten favorite positions so student associates can see their preferences and attempt to place them in one of these positions. All students need to be assigned. Students also go through a ten minute interview with the student associate team members so their schedule availability can be matched with a position.

Students once placed with a position have varying duties. They range from helping with registering people into the festival, set up, and some even get to participate in the culinary aspect of the festival assisting celebrity chefs. They may also assist sponsors and help with

guest services.

Student volunteers also receive scholarship money based on the amount of hours they volunteered. According to the sobefest.fiu.edu site, 834 students participated for 27,427 hours and in turn were awarded \$361,836 in scholarships in the Spring 2010 festival.

As of Nov. 8, there are 508 student volunteers registered.

Corrado writes some text on the site and tries to explain her vision of what the site will accomplish. Gomez works on coding and designing the website while managing the database.

The site for registration last year was a much simpler system. The registering volunteers process two years ago was less convenient

using Excel to keep track of volunteers, as one example according to Susan Gladstone, activation director.

"The site allows students to get more involved as it is much more dynamic and interactive than the past," said Corrado.

The website has links to register, contact the office staff along with their different positions and a link to the official site of the festival.

In honor of the tenth anniversary of the festival, Corrado said it will be "bigger and better" with a tenth anniversary party.

"Let them eat cake" is just one event planned among many. Emeril Lagasse and Martha Stewart will host the event, which will be held on Feb. 25.