



COLUMBIA

Leaders question legalizing marijuana

Colombia hosted the leaders of several Latin American nations, and stated that a California ballot measure to legalize marijuana would send a contradictory message from the United States.



INDONESIA

Tsunami toll at 272; aid finally arrives

Planes and helicopters packed with workers and supplies landed for the first time on remote Indonesian islands that were hit by a 10-foot tsunami, leaving at least 272 people dead and more than 400 missing.



ARMENIA

Archeologists find 5,900-year-old skirt

Archaeologists claim that a fragment of skirt was found during recent digging in southeastern Armenia that could be 5,900 years old, making it one of the world's oldest piece of reed clothing.

Dalai Lama pays visit to South Florida

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
News Director

Hundreds gathered on Tuesday, Oct. 26 at Temple Emanu-El in Miami Beach to hear the Dalai Lama advocate “respect and compassion for all religions.”

The lecture, titled “The Significance of World Religions,” was sponsored by the Department of Religious Studies, to which the Dalai Lama had donated \$100,000 during his last visit to South Florida.

Before beginning his lecture, the Dalai Lama was treated to a special musical performance by Latin Grammy award-winning flautist Nestor Torres, who recently joined the University's faculty as visiting guest artist and founding director of the University's School of Music's first Charanga ensemble.

On stage, the Dalai Lama was joined by representatives of different religions in South Florida, including: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Jainism and Taoism. The stage, which was decorated in the colors of the Dalai Lama's famous red and orange robe, also featured several traditional Tibetan offerings made up of an assortment of fruits.



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

His Holiness the Dalai Lama speaking on Tuesday Oct. 6 at Temple Emanu-El in Miami Beach.

“If you are hungry you can eat them,” the 75-year-old said at the beginning of his hour-long appearance, generating laughter from the audience.

Throughout his lecture, the Dalai Lama spoke about the messages carried by all world religions, which he believes advocate

the same ideals of “compassion, love, forgiveness,” and “religious faith” that “should be part of our daily life.”

“I believe all practices have good human qualities. Biologically these are the basis of our happy lives and our survival,” he said. “Of course I, myself, [do]

not practice 100 percent, but I try, so you, yourself, should try.”

After his lecture, the Dalai Lama answered questions pre-selected by members of the University's Religious Studies Department and members of the

DALAI LAMA, page 2

Miami's most haunted locations

JESSICA MENDOZA
Staff Writer

Miami is a city of lights, beaches and youth; certainly not the most likely setting for ghostly encounters.

Miami's relatively brief history doesn't provide thrill-seekers with the kind of paranormal activity you might find in a historical city like Williamsburg, VA or Charleston, SC. Ghost stories are always up to skepticism simply because they are a matter of heresy. But for those daredevils, here are some of the best places in Miami to go on a ghost hunt.

THE CURTISS MANSION

Just as South Florida began to expand in the early 1900's, aviation pioneer Glenn H. Curtiss built his home in Miami Springs with his wife Lena. Folklore has it that following an illegally performed abortion, Lena burnt

HAUNTING, page 5

Senate finds Comptroller Blanco guilty, fails to remove

VINCENT FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

After unanimously agreeing that Comptroller Maria-Rosa Blanco was guilty of six statute violations, the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus senate chose not to remove her.

The SGC-MMC senate moved to impeach Blanco on Oct. 11, after an Internal Affairs report was conducted and presented to the senate on her current work.

Much of the report covered her absences from the senate and cabinet meetings, which she is required to attend, due to an ongoing internship in New York City.

After Graduate Student Senator Erika

Edwards made the point that a funding request of \$4,400 was not rightfully appropriated because of a missing signature on behalf of the comptroller, the senate concluded that a decision on whether to remove Blanco had to be made.

On Oct. 25, the case was brought before and left to the judgment of the senators. Internal Affairs Coordinator Daniel Gonzalez questioned members of SGA on Blanco's progress as SGC-MMC President Helena Ramirez defended the comptroller's work.

The majority of questions were directed toward the absences associated with Blanco's ongoing internship in New York City.

Clubs across campus claim that Blanco

did not sign appropriations brought to her—an issue that senators agreed could have been avoided with her presence. When Gonzalez questioned Chair of Senate Finance Committee Christina Loreto, she noted that Blanco had only been able to call into finance committee meetings once throughout the entire semester.

Blanco is required by the SGA constitution to attend all finance committee meetings. After questioning ended, the floor was open for debate between senators on the fate of Blanco.

Throughout deliberation, SGC-MMC Vice President Nicholas Autiello said, “By removing Blanco, we will be sending a message to students that [SGC-MMC]

thinks online students cannot be involved. We are also making a statement that your education is not important.”

College of Arts and Sciences Senator Chris Cabral responded, “If we vote to censure [Blanco] instead of removing her, we are sending the message that SGA and the position of comptroller do not matter.”

“I would also like to mention that no senator has seen the reports that Ramirez says the comptroller has been working on,” Cabral added.

Autiello defended the comptroller by claiming that the only argument the senators were debating dealt with Blanco's

COMPTROLLER, page 2

Hampton appointed dean for School of Hospitality

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
BBC Managing Editor

Mike Hampton has been appointed dean of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

Douglas Wartzok, University provost and executive vice president, made the announcement on Oct. 27, close to one month after Hampton and three other

candidates for the position were presented to a search committee chaired by Kenneth Furton, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Hampton will take on his responsibilities as dean on Jan. 3, according to a press release from Wartzok. Joan Remington, another one of the four candidates, will continue her role as interim dean. She has been interim dean since July 2009.

“I express my personal appreciation and appreciation on behalf of the School and University to Joan Remington who has served so ably as interim dean,” Wartzok said in the press release.

Hampton is currently dean of the College of Hospitality Management at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla. Before this, he was a faculty member of HTM.

The final candidates for the position

were John Hughes, associate director and professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University and Rich Harrill, director of the International Tourism Research Institute at the University of South Carolina's College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management.

HTM has been without a permanent dean since former dean Joseph West resigned in June 2009.

NEWS FLASH

Federal probe reveals exploitation of elderly

A federal investigation has uncovered hundreds of allegations of physical and mental abuse and financial exploitation of the elderly, all happening under what is supposed to be the watchful eye of the courts.

According to CNN, investigators found allegations of this kind of abuse by legal guardians in 45 states and the District of Columbia. In 20 of the closed cases, investigators found that these legal guardians stole at least \$5.4 million in assets from 158 victims. In some cases these same guardians abused or physically neglected the people they were supposed to help and protect.

Federal court overturns part of Arizona voting ID law

A federal appeals court has ruled against an Arizona law that requires residents to prove their U.S. citizenship to register to vote, but upheld a part of the same law that mandates residents to show identification before voting.

The decision made by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco on Tuesday was part of an ongoing court battle surrounding Arizona's Proposition 200, according to CNN. Arizona passed the law in 2004, prompting legal challenges. Arizona's Gov. Jan Brewer and Secretary of State Ken Bennett blasted the court's decision Tuesday in a joint statement.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

Tickets for lecture sell out in advance

DALAI LAMA, page 1

University of Miami's Religious Studies Department.

The question and answer session was led by Professor Nathan Katz, chair of the University's Religious Studies Department and while fairly brief, yielded questions ranging from the Dalai Lama's thoughts on religion dividing people instead of uniting them, to how he handles making a bad decision.

"Any unrealistic effort fails," he said. "Be realistic so that you may be effective."

He was also asked what he considers to be the most adverse moment of his lifetime, a question that gave him some difficulty, having to choose between when he "lost his freedom" at age 16, or when he "lost his country" at age 24 after the 1959 Tibetan uprising which led him to flee to India, where he later denounced the Chinese government.

The Dalai Lama is known as the spiritual leader of millions of Tibetan Buddhists and is also revered by practitioners of different strains of Buddhism worldwide.



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

Latin Grammy award-winning musician Nestor Torres performs in honor of His Holiness.

Followers of Tibetan Buddhism believe he is a reincarnation of a long line of spiritual leaders.

He arrived in South Florida on Monday after a four day tour in Toronto.

One of his stops included the University of Miami's BankUnited Center in Coral

Gables, where he spoke on "The Quest for Happiness in Challenging Times."

Tickets were sold out for both the lecture at the BankUnited Center and the Jewish temple Emanu-El.

Both UM and FIU broadcasted the lectures via live webcast.

"In hosting this interfaith event, His Holiness reminds us of the key role of tolerance and understanding in navigating the complicated times we live," said Katz. "His message is one of unity and peace in the global community."

Censure vote tabled for next hearing

COMPTROLLER, page 1

absence. Several senators acknowledged that although her absence was a critical issue, there were other violations Blanco committed.

"We already agreed that this person does not fulfill the purposes of her office because she is not here. If we censure her, we are asking her to quit her position because she cannot fulfill it," said Senate Speaker William-Jose

Velez.

Gonzalez emphasized that "[Blanco] will continue to violate the laws even after the censure, upon which time a student will fill another grievance, again."

After debate ended, the senators had to vote on whether Blanco was guilty of the charges brought against her.

The senators unanimously found Blanco guilty of not performing her

duties as assigned.

The decision on whether to remove or censure Blanco was then held to a vote.

A two-thirds vote from the senate, or 20 votes, is required to effectively remove Blanco from office.

With a vote of 14 in favor to 10 against, Blanco was not removed. Due to a time conflict, the vote to censure Blanco was tabled for Monday, Nov. 1.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 28 of *The Beacon*, the front page photo credit misspelled the photographer's name. The correct spelling of the photographer's name is Esra Erdogan.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

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Senate candidates debate

BRENDAN FARRINGTON
Associated Press

Independent candidate Charlie Crist was taken to task during the final U.S. Senate debate Tuesday for his answers on leaving the GOP and shifting policy positions.

The governor's switch has been the subject of past debates with Republican Marco Rubio and Democratic Rep. Kendrick Meek, but on Tuesday, it was moderator David Gregory of NBC's "Meet The Press" who grilled Crist over his responses.

"You've dodged this question for months," Gregory said before asking Crist which party he'd caucus with if elected. Crist repeated that he'd ask both parties questions before deciding.

Gregory reminded Crist that he said he'd left the Republican Party earlier this year because of extreme positions within the party on abortion and stem cell research. The moderator then pointed out that those positions aren't new.

"Governor, reasonably, you think Floridians should say, 'Wow! Something changed since 2008.' That all of a sudden the opposition to stem cell research, using federal dollars for that, or overturning *Roe v. Wade* is somehow an extreme view of the Repub-

lican Party when it's been part of the platform for years?" Gregory asked.

"It's been part of the platform for years, but the level of discourse has changed dramatically," Crist said. "I think everybody on the planet understands the Republican Party has gone hard right."

Crist announced his independent run the day before the deadline to qualify for the ballot. He was badly trailing Rubio in the polls. With the candidates seated at a roundtable Gregory then asked Rubio and Meek their thoughts on Crist's shifting positions.

"People change their minds in politics, of course they can," Rubio said. "When you see it as part of a political calculation is when people get troubled by it."

Meek said he disagrees with Rubio on policy issues, but he can believe the former Florida House speaker when he says where he stands on them. And unlike Crist, Rubio has been consistent with his positions, Meek said.

"Being flexible is not a sin. And understanding that facts and circumstances change is being a thinking person with an open mind," Crist said. "It is frustrating for my partisan opponents to understand that, but that's really how I am and I think that's how most of Florida is."

FOOTBALL: SHULA BOWL

THE FINAL NIGHTMARE?

High stakes for FIU in latest match against Owls

IGOR MELLO
Staff Writer

Head coach Mario Cristobal is very aware of the history that Florida Atlantic Head Coach Howard Schnellenberger has in South Florida. In fact, while at Christopher Columbus High School, Cristobal and his brother could have had the chance to play under Schnellenberger.

"Well, he recruited my brother and myself out of high school so he's been to our home a few times out there in Little Havana," said Cristobal about his past relationship with FAU's coach.

This time around, Cristobal will visit Scnelenberger's home - Lockhart Stadium. "He's set the bar high for all of the coaches so I have all of the respect in the world for him," Cristobal said.

SHULA BOWL IX

The Golden Panthers (2-4, 2-0 Sun Belt) will be looking to defeat their Sun Belt rival Florida Atlantic University (1-5, 0-3 SBC) for the first time in school history, again. Despite only beating FAU once in 2005, the Owls lead the Shula Bowl series 7-0. FIU's win that year



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Golden Panthers wide receiver TY Hilton [above] looks to score in last year's Shula Bowl at FIU Stadium. FIU lost the game 28-21, giving the Owls a 7-1 record in the series.

Panthers poised for needed Shula Bowl victory

The stage is set. The moment has arrived. The only question remaining before the Golden Panthers and the Florida Atlantic Owls meet on Saturday is whether this will be another defeat in a long line of bitter disappointments for FIU or will this be the year they finally break free of this irritating taboo.

COMMENTARY



JOEL DELGADO

The old and outdated Lockhart Stadium will provide a Halloween-like setting for the ninth installment of the Shula Bowl, the annual meeting between two squads that make up arguably the most intense (and lopsided) rivalry in the Sun Belt Conference.

Nightmares have a strange way of repeating themselves; of haunting and tormenting victims until they become a permanent fixture of one's psyche.

And if there is one thing the Owls have been to FIU since both teams entered the college football scene nearly a decade ago, it's been a nightmare. A perpetual nightmare the Golden Panthers have struggled to awake from.

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FOOTBALL, page 4

FANTASY CRUZ

Injuries to Favre, Romo may force owners to make changes

For all you Tony Romo owners out there, I am sorry, but he's done for most of the regular season. Brett Favre also looks like a no-go on Sunday thanks to ankle fractures. I have some great under the radar quarterbacks just for you. This week of Fantasy Cruz offers a special QB Hot Picks section.

COMMENTARY



JOEY CRUZ

When did it become conceivable that the Buffalo Bills could play on the same field as the Baltimore Ravens? Last Sunday, it did somehow. The Ravens barely squeezed out a 37-34 win against the Bills. Unfortunately, none of Buffalo's running backs had any positive production.

This is where I draw the line: I'll never pick up a Bills running back again. C.J. Spiller only had seven carries for 33 yards, while Fred Jackson had 23 carries for only 73. Credit the Bills offensive line for

being the worst in the NFL.

On the positive side, Ryan Fitzpatrick had the game of his life against one of the top three defenses in the NFL. The 374-yard and four-touchdown showing should turn many skeptics into believers. Pick up Fitzpatrick as a free agent and keep him as a backup. You never know when you are going to need a replacement QB for a guy who breaks his clavicle that consistently gives you 200 yards and two touchdowns.

My father, like many aging athletic dads, has a crush on older quarterbacks like Brett Favre who are still competing in the NFL; they give the dads of America a sense of hope that if these guys can still play, so can I. When Chris Johnson fails to have a good game and Vince Young is injured, just turn to 38-year-old Tennessee QB Kerry Collins.

Fantasy owners should

come to realize that wily old Kerry Collins still has some gas left in the tank, throwing for 276 yards and three touchdowns during the Titans 37-19 victory over the Eagles.

I just feel bad for any fantasy owner who started the Denver Broncos defense on Sunday. The Oakland Raiders set a team record for the most points scored in a game, destroying the Denver Broncos 59-14.

Kudos to Raiders running back Darren McFadden for eating his Wheaties on Sunday. McFadden rushed the football for 165 yards and three touchdowns. After not playing in the last two games for Oakland, McFadden definitely made up for his absence on Sunday.

THE TRASH BIN

C.J. Spiller (Buffalo Bills) - In his last four games, Spiller has rushed the ball for under 50 yards and no touchdowns. But many will argue that he is, like Reggie Bush, an elusive receiving back. Not this season.

Spiller has only caught the ball five times in his last four games, scoring only a single touchdown. As I stated before, do not pick up any Buffalo Bills running backs. They are useless. Trash him.

Knowshon Moreno (Denver Broncos) - The one thing I know about Knowshon is that he is not that productive. His numbers are shaky at best, rushing for under 30 yards and no touchdowns in his last two games. Josh McDaniels runs his offenses around Kyle Orton, who gets the job done. I say drop Moreno. While Orton shows no signs of slowing down, Moreno is showing no signs of speeding up.

T.J. Houshmandzadeh (Baltimore Ravens) - The NFL has eased into a throwing league where slot receivers usually prosper with fantasy points. Take for instance Wes Welker or even Percy Harvin. Houshmandzadeh has all the tools around him to be a productive number three receiver

with a solid running game and number one receiver to distract defenses. For some reason he has not had a breakout game this season. In his last three games Houshmandzadeh has been held to under 50 yards receiving. Trash him.

HOT PICKS: QUARTERBACK EDITION

Chad Henne (Miami Dolphins) - I never thought I'd say this but go ahead and start Henne if necessary. He may have only thrown five interceptions and eight touchdowns, but he's consistently thrown the ball for 200-300 yards a game. I don't see Henne slacking this season thanks to Brandon Marshall who gives NFL corner backs nightmares.

Kerry Collins (Tennessee Titans) - Another quarterback controversy in Tennessee before wouldn't surprise me. Collins realizes his career is coming to a close and he certainly proved a point on Sunday with his 276-yard and

three-touchdown showing. If he has another game like this with Young still injured, he might win the starting job again.

Matt Moore (Carolina Panthers) - Let's face it: the Panthers just stink. Their once nearly unstoppable run game has gone flat and now Matt Moore must take the offense into his own hands. Coming back from injury on Sunday, he manhandled the opposition, throwing for 308 yards and two touchdowns. May I add Moore has help at the wide receiver position with the elusive Steve Smith and rookie David Gettus. Stay healthy, Matt.

SANTANA SCRUTINY

I told all the readers my scrutiny would continue if he had a bad game. Well, if not for the cheap touchdown he scored, his performance would have been horrific - five catches for 63 yards. He had an average game and I would still start 20 other receivers over him.

Halloween Eve matchup has the makings of a thriller

COMMENTARY, page 3

That is why the scheduling change of this year's Shula Bowl showdown, a match usually played in late November or early December during the waning days of the season, to Halloween eve could not have been more poetic. Or more appropriate.

This never-ending struggling between bitter rivals provides the perfect premise for a good Halloween thriller filled with twists, turns, and perhaps even an unpredictable ending.

But the script for the latest sequel has yet to be written, and the endings have been becoming more and more unpredictable as the years roll by. Whether it was the heartbreaking overtime loss in 2008 when FIU squandered two 14-point leads in the fourth quarter in the then named Dolphins Stadium, the narrow loss on a cold and miserable December night at FIU Stadium last

season or any of FIU's seven losses throughout this one-sided series, each of those experiences have provided a clear reminder of the shortcomings the program has had to endure.

Now the Golden Panthers have a chance to overcome their seemingly never-ending nightmare against a struggling Owl team, the only Sun Belt team yet to win a conference game this season. A loss this weekend to FIU would send the Owls deeper into the conference basement and leave them one loss away from having the plug pulled on their post season aspirations.

But like a cornered animal, those are the kind of circumstances that make teams dangerous to line up against on Saturday, especially when that team happens to be your rival.

Meanwhile, Mario Cristobal managed to turn the ship in the right direction and his team is beginning to trigger murmurs of a potential run at a bowl game and perhaps a Sun Belt crown. A

win against the Owls is a near necessity if FIU wants to turn those lingering whispers into full blown speculation; a lingering mirage into an attainable goal.

In a game like this, the fact that Florida Atlantic has lost five straight games doesn't matter. It also makes no difference that the Owls are 114th in the nation in rushing behind a depleted offensive line. The Golden Panthers are favored to win this game, but little stock should be put into that.

Despite have all the advantages in just about every major statistical category up to this point, the Golden Panthers are at one major disadvantage: the psychological factor.

The Owls know they can win this game. They've done it over and over again. They've blown out FIU.

They've come from behind. They've pulled through when both teams were evenly

matched.

Even the one game in the rivalry that they didn't win back in 2005 was erased from the record books due to NCAA sanctions levied against the FIU football program. Nothing would give Howard Schnellenberger and company more satisfaction than putting a dagger in to FIU's bowl dreams like they did two years ago. This is the game that Florida Atlantic takes a great amount of pride in. Having that Shula Bowl trophy nestled comfortably in Boca Raton for the world to see signifies that the Owls have outdone their neighbors to the south over and over.

But this time, a golden opportunity has presented itself. An opportunity that will help ease the painful memories of the past and provide a long-awaited taste of satisfaction to a program looking for a spark heading into a bowl run in November.

VOLLEYBALL

Injuries becoming a factor as team prepares for late push

RICO ALBARRACIN
Staff Writer

Coach Danijela Tomic gave her team a couple of days off after a long weekend on the road.

The rest came at a much needed time.

The Panthers (11-10, Sun Belt 5-4) are ailing, with almost half of the team dealing with injuries. Natalia Valentin is dealing with back pains, Sabrina Gonzalez with an abdominal strain, Andrea Lakovic has knee tendinitis, Marija Prsa has a tear in her shoulder, a hyper-extended elbow and possibly a pinched nerve in her knee, Una Trkulja is having issues with her hip flexor, and Brianna Spruill also

has back problems and shin splints. Tomic knows that although they are banged up, that can't be an excuse.

"We have a little of adversity going on, but I'm not going to make excuses," Tomic said. "I'm sure other teams are struggling and dealing with adversity, maybe not the same like us, but we have to get through it."

Although most teams are struggling through injury, this is the time of the season to prove your team is mentally tough to get to the end. Valentin knows what it takes to push through, now more than ever.

"We need to play our hardest all the time," Valentin said. "That's how we're going to get better and

get ready for the tournament. We need to be mentally and physically ready to go, like a mission."

The Panthers will be on the road again this weekend to face South Alabama (9-15, SBC 4-15) on Oct. 29 and Troy (10-16, SBC 2-7) on Oct. 30. It will be another test of whether or not they can put up consecutive efforts, which was a problem this past weekend, and a recurring them this season.

"Our hitters weren't able to put the ball down," Tomic said. "Credit to ASU, we couldn't stop their middles, so that is our weakness. Our hitters couldn't put the ball down and that hurt us. You can't score like that. We were not prepared mentally for that match,

and that has been the problem with our team; to put two solid games together."

The team really resembles a Jekyll and Hyde act, which is excruciating for a coach to watch. Moments of pure raw talent shine through and then lack of focus and concentration bring the team down. Most can be blamed on injury. Tomic sees more than that.

"I don't know. I'm still trying to read this team to be honest with you," Tomic said. "They surprise me with some great things they can do and then they'll have beginners mistakes that we shouldn't be making at the point of the season. An experienced coach told me recently that they're learning at

their own pace, not at our pace. We just have to be patient. I'll take their learning curve or whatever you want to call it but the lack of effort and not being mentally ready for the games is something the coaches cannot accept."

Whether it is injury or inexperience, the team does not have much time to clean up their mistakes. The last eight games of the season will be a gauge to what this team can do in the tournament, if they get there.

"We have to be mentally tough," Tomic added. "We talked them this morning and we told them we have 22 days until the conference tournament. Hopefully we'll extend our season into December."

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Golden Panthers hope to extend winning streak

FOOTBALL, page 3

was vacated due to NCAA infractions.

"It's a game that our guys have been really looking forward to for a while," Cristobal said. "Rivalry games always make it that much more intense. It's an intensity that we embrace."

The Golden Panthers are coming off of a well-earned bye week and are in a midst of a two-game winning streak. That winning streak has helped FIU climb up to second place in the Sun Belt Conference standings, just behind Troy.

On the other hand, cross-town rival FAU has been on a slump. Since defeating UAB in the first game of the season, the Owls have suffered a five-game losing streak. That losing streak included a 13-point loss to a formidable undefeated BCS opponent –fifth ranked Michigan State.

"They don't allow big plays," said Cristobal. "You're looking at a real good football team that beat UAB on the road." Cristobal also went on to praise FAU's tight end,

Rob Housler, who according to Cristobal, is one of the best tight ends in the country.

"He's a big rangy guy that can run and when they need a play. They've gone to him on several occasions," Cristobal said.

Housler, a 6'5", 215-pound senior, could pose some problems for the Golden Panthers defense. He has averaged four receptions a game and has caught a pass for at least 20 yards in five of FAU's first six games.

"It's not just a guy that put in the line of scrimmage. They'll flex him out, they'll move him around and put him in motion. They will use him to stretch the field. He's not just an intermediate route guy or a quick gain guy, he'll get down the field," Cristobal said.

MID-SEASON FORM

Midway through the season, FIU has managed to become one of the stingiest defenses in the entire conference. Defensive coordinator Geoff Collins has assemble a defense that has allowed 27.2 points per game and 340.7

yards per game, among the top two in the conference. Cristobal credits the success of his defense towards the improvement on stuffing the run.

"I think our run defense has started off hot, then we took a couple of hits here and there then got back on track," Cristobal said.

Offensively, Cristobal believes that the running backs have been the biggest improvement so far this season.

"The running game [has improved]. In the last two games we've been able to put up [nearly] 200 yards. It's a credit to a mentality, it's a credit to a change in culture, it's a credit to the offensive line and it's a credit to the running backs," Cristobal said.

Despite acknowledging some of the improvements with his team midway through the season, Cristobal still feels that his players will improve even more as the season progresses.

"There has been plenty of improvement and plenty to make, so I rather not to give our guys any sugar just yet," Cristobal said.



Photo of the historic Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, FL.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.BILTMOREHOTEL.COM.

Local landmarks home to many infamous hauntings

HAUNTING, page 1

down the couple's mansion in a fit of rage. Following Curtiss' death in the 1930s, the mansion was sold and is now known as the Curtiss Mansion. The landmark remains run down after numerous attempts at reconstruction.

It went from being a day care in the 1920s to a Bed N' Breakfast by the 1970s. The historic building spooks locals with reports of lights turning on and off, sounds of screaming at late hours of the night and the figures of laughing children playing.

THE MIAMI RIVER INN

Sitting at the edge of the Miami River is the Miami River Inn. It is considered one of the oldest sites in Miami. Famous figures, from Henry M. Flagler to several U.S. Presidents,

have stayed here over the years.

Many guests that stay in one of the quaint cottages often request room changes after reporting a night of disturbing and unexplained noises. Most incidents include doors swinging open and shut, furniture and decor being thrown to the ground, and the sound of running in the hallways towards guest rooms followed by the fierce shaking of the door knobs.

CITY OF MIAMI CEMETERY

Outdoor ghost hunting is always interesting especially in a cemetery. The City of Miami Cemetery is a ten acre land mass that currently holds up to 9000 bodies, the oldest of which dates back to 1897. Much of the paranormal activity that is reported in the cemetery can be traced to various incidents of violence and crime that took place there.

In the mid 1990s, serial killer Francisco Del Junco brutally bashed open the heads of four

women and left them exposed in the cemetery's Burdine Mausoleum. The Baby Mausoleum was also the center of vandalism as looters damaged fifty-seven graves. The graffitied walls of the mausoleums serve not only as a marker for the violence but also reportedly ignited a stream of ghostly activity right after. In this cemetery, the dead don't always rest in peace.

THE BILTMORE HOTEL

The historic Biltmore Hotel is the epicenter of Miami's most haunted places. The hotel was built in 1926 and has played host to many famous celebrities and U.S. Presidents as well as serving as a military hospital during World War II. Some of the biggest names in the mob business sought refuge in this infamous luxury hotel during the 1930's. Al Capone stayed there while on vacation from his Chicago based operations.

Rumor has it that Capone, for whom the Biltmore's Everglades Suite is nicknamed, roams the halls of The Biltmore, as do wounded soldiers from the days when this was a post WWII hospital. However, a bigger gangster made headlines.

Thomas "Fats" Walsh moved down to Miami from the vicious streets of New York. It was in this extravagant estate where he met his fate. Noted gambler Ed Wilson shot Walsh while he was in a room full of people. Walsh's notoriety caused the officials to 'lose' any documented evidence to charge Wilson with the murder. Incidentally, the murder took place on the thirteenth floor of The Biltmore where most reports of paranormal activity have taken place.

Miami is young but most definitely very active in the paranormal. It certainly plays host to some grisly murders, terrifying locations and ghostly hauntings.

REEL TO REEL

Exorcist still manages to scare audience decades later

I am an atheist.

A retired Catholic for the past five years, the whole angels and demons thing makes about as much sense to me as Paladins and Warlocks in "World of Warcraft."

During a scene late in the film, two priests discuss the malady at hand: a young girl named Regan McNeil (Linda Blair) who may or may not be possessed by Satan.

Father Karas (Jason Miller), a young priest reeling over the recent death of his mother has spent the film questioning his faith. They sit in a darkened stairwell, next to the room where they are performing the exorcism promised in the main title.

Karas asks, "Why her? Why this girl?"

Father Merrin, (Max Von Sidow), his face worm and beaten, tries to answer. "I think the point is to make us despair. To see ourselves as... animal and ugly. To make us reject the

possibility that God could love us."

I'm not sure Merrin believes what he's saying just as I'm not sure there is such thing as a definitive good and evil.

It doesn't hold back this film from being a triumph of mood and technique.

The best parts of director William Friedkin's two most popular works, The French Connection and The Exorcist are that there are no simple answers to what we'd seen on the screen.

At the end of The French Connection, our protagonist, Detective Popeye Doyle has killed a fellow officer by and is still in pursuit of the drug kingpin he's been after for the course of the film in an abandoned warehouse.

In this film, we're not really sure as to what is wrong with Regan. Modern medical science claims that she may have a legion in her brain or be suffering from epilepsy.

That would certainly explain the violent shaking of her bed in the middle of the night. But we as the audience watch Regan crying

to her mother (Ellen Burstyn), asking to make the shaking stop. Her mother jumps on but the shuddering continues.

The film is a series of indelible set pieces there after: Regan descending the stairs in the middle of the night to a party hosted by her mother with the elite of the Georgetown area where they reside. Regan tells an astronaut that he's going to die on his next flight, then urinates on the floor.

She grows increasingly more vulgar and moody. Regan masturbates to a crucifix, then smacks her mother furiously as items and furniture fly around the room.

Merrin arrives after being summoned by Karas and the President of Georgetown University to practice the exorcism with Karas. He steps out of a taxi cab into the night, faces the McNeil residence with a suitcase in hand and porkpie hat atop his head. He's illuminated by a lone streetlamp and a light from the second floor window of Regan's room.

He's come to perform business. Catholicism almost looks cool again.

The audience is left off balance throughout the film. As the vomit flies and her head twists while her face seemingly looks to decay, we're utterly frightened.

It does not build up to a large showdown versus good and evil and we're left unsure as to what just happened. In Friedkin's eye, that conflict doesn't matter. He's inciting a reaction from the audience; trepidation at things that can't be understood. He presents it all with a documentarians flair throughout. Thirty seven years ago, when the film was release, Billy Graham called the film "evil."

The Catholic Church meanwhile reviled in the attention the film brought to them once again as church attendance soared.

At the end of the day, it's about mood. It's escapism at its finest through damned good cinematic effects and excellent performances throughout the cast. It's certainly not the gospel.

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



DAVID BARRIOS

New social network targets Greek life on campus

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
BBC Managing Editor

Facebook was created as a social network for Harvard University. Leonardo Miller and Camilo Hernandez want to bring that idea to FIU with FIULife.com.

Described as a safe way for organizations and clubs to communicate, FIULife is a collaborative effort between Miller, a management information systems major, and Hernandez, an electrical engineering major.

Miller and Hernandez are two University freshmen who had trouble finding out about the University's different student organizations and its fraternities.

"We had no idea which frat [we wanted to be a part of]," Miller said.

So they decided the way to make the process easier for future freshmen was to create a social network specifically for FIU students.

"The goal of FIULife is to connect the FIU community,"

Miller said.

The idea for this FIU social network came up in September, before the movie came out, they said.

Miller admitted and acknowledged that although Facebook is their goal, they would never replace it. "FIULife is meant to work with Facebook and complement it," Miller said.

The website entered beta, the test period before computer products are released to the public, on Oct. 21 and as of this writing has 12 members. The only way to sign up for the website now is to have an access code.

Although the duo don't have a date set for when the website will be out of beta, their goal is to it have fully up and running by spring.

What's on their agenda now is promotion aimed at the entire University but particularly Greek organizations, for now.

Invitations that include access codes have been sent out to leaders of chapters of the various Greek

organizations on campus.

"We've gotten major support from Gabe Villanueva [president of the Interfraternity Council] and Robby Valls," Miller said.

Hernandez said Valls, junior advertising major and current Mr. FIU, has been helping them promote FIULife, providing contacts, and in the future will do a voice-over which will explain certain aspects of the site.

Miller added that Villanueva has been speaking on his and Hernandez's behalf to Stacy Lopez, president of the Panhellenic Sorority Council, to help promote the website to sororities on campus.

They're planning an on-the-spot registration event in spring in the Graham Center pit where laptops will be available for freshman to register to FIULife. They're going to have events at the Biscayne Bay Campus as well but didn't provide specific examples.

Though Miller and Hernandez are freshmen, they've quickly gotten themselves involved with the University both financially and

as far as time put in.

Miller said he and Hernandez have set a budget between \$500 and \$1,000 and they wouldn't go over it. However, when starting out, they spoke to a freelance web developer in India who told them the cost to create a social network would be \$30,000. When done the two don't plan on letting their pockets stay empty for long.

"Once we get a big base of students we want to have advertising from anything FIU," Miller said.

His examples were advertising from the University itself, Greek organizations and businesses on campus.

Hernandez added he and Miller have worked on the website until 3 a.m. some nights acting as both content regulators and bug fixers.

They are also working on becoming a club within the Council for Student Organizations, Hernandez said.

"We're doing this more for connections and advertising and not necessarily funding as clubs

only get \$150," Hernandez said.

Miller said he contacted Matt Herzberger, director of web communications for University & Community Relations, to work with the University directly on the website.

In an interview, Herzberger said he wishes the best for Miller, Hernandez, and FIULife, but due to liability issues, and laws that dictate how a university can conduct itself on a social network, the University can't work with them.

"We can't go in 50-50 with them where our developers work with their developers," Herzberger said.

He added however, that once FIULife becomes popular the University would patrol it the way it does Facebook and Twitter.

After Greek life, Miller and Hernandez will target everyone else: non-Greek students, student organizations, faculty and staff.

"Our success will come from members of [the FIU community], not [those] outside," Miller said.

FISTFULS OF TECH!

FIULife unable to replace Facebook as main network

Have you ever been on Facebook and wished that there was a social network that was built specific for you, the FIU student? Probably not. But if you did, then your wish has come true.

FIULife.com, a new start-up social networking site started by FIU students Leonardo Miller and Camilo Hernandez, is looking to bring a hyper-local social experience to the University. I'll have to admit after hearing that a couple of students created a social network for FIU I didn't expect much.

With the success of The Social Network, I can't help but think that this is just an attempt by two students who were inspired after the film and were trying to be the next Mark Zuckerberg, or the next set of Winklevos twins, depending on whom you think invented Facebook.

But, after logging on to it I was pleasantly surprised.

The site is surprisingly clean looking

and very feature rich. It offers a lot of the same features avid Facebook users have come to love, such as status updates, events, photo and music galleries and even a chat program that is similar to Facebook's, a little too similar in fact.

The front page of the site is a tad bit cluttered. Though I got the general idea of what everything did, I needed to take a step back and breath a bit in order to see what was going on. A little bit of refinement in the site's user interface will go a long way. Give people clear choices and limit the amount of information you bombard them with.

Aside from the visual glitches, I have to commend FIULife.com for one thing: the site's ability to gather useful campus information and display it in one place.

The site features a lot of campus relevant information in one place. A Google Calendar widget on the front page readily displays upcoming events on campus. Also, a news section on the site aggregates stories from FIUSM.com and other sites.

Overall, the site has a lot of potential in terms of features. But the challenge behind

this project is going to be its implementation and it's acceptance by the University community. "FIULife is meant to work with Facebook and complement it," Miller said in an interview with The Beacon.

The purpose of this site shouldn't be to compliment Facebook.

A feat such as this is nearly impossible, as Facebook doesn't need to be complimented; it exists, in fact, to compliment other services like news sites and other services that gauge readership.

FIU Students are already very socially connected on campus, with services like Facebook, Foursquare, and Twitter already dominating their computers and mobile devices. In the same interview, Miller stated that one of the targets of the site are the Greek community.

Greeks really need another place where they can talk about how proud and happy they are to be "Jim's lil bro" or "Suzie's big sis." Oh wait, that place exists, it's called Facebook, a service the Greek community here at FIU fully takes advantage of.

The University community doesn't really

need a hyper-local social network because Facebook is both the large network and can be hyper-local, due to the fact that users join local networks based on their city.

Moreover, the main demographic that FIULife.com is targeting are already well represented by Facebook. They are preaching to the converted.

The burden that FIULife.com has is that they need to convince me why I need this service? Why do I need another login and password to remember?

Do I really need another site to update my status with? Not really. I don't think students need another site that does the same thing that Facebook does, especially when Facebook does it better.

FIULife.com is a nice concept but comes at a time when Facebook is just too engrained, too much a part of peoples lives at FIU. I find it shocking that anyone would want to compete with that, or think they could compete with it.

Fistfuls of Tech is a weekly tech column. Look for it every Friday.

COLUMNIST



JORGE VALENS

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, OCT. 29

PRINGLES X-TREME CAMPUS TOUR



Free Pringles, free stuff and a free concert with Jeff LeBlanc!

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: Housing Quad, MMC

STAR PARTY

Come out and enjoy a lecture by NASA's Russell Romanella, and afterwards observe the cosmos with a telescope.

WHEN: 8 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: CP 145

SATURDAY, OCT. 30

FAMILY DAY AT THE FROST

Activities include mask-making, face painting, creative games, music and light snacks.

WHEN: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

WHERE: The Frost Art Museum

FIU MEN'S SOCCER



The Golden Panthers host the Tulsa Golden Hurricanes.

WHEN: 7 - 9 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID

WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

SUNDAY, OCT. 31

HOUSE OF HORROR



Carnival rides, food, music; not to mention the largest haunted house in S. Fla and a zombie graveyard.

WHEN: 5 p.m. - midnight

HOW MUCH: \$22

WHERE: Miami International Mall, 1455 NW 107th Ave

Thriller on Lincoln Road

Block party featuring live music and a special tribute to Michael Jackson and a costume contest.

WHEN: 8 p.m. - midnight

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: Van Dyke Cafe, 846 Lincoln Road

YOUR SKILLS. OUR JOBS.

US PEACE CORPS

FIU SENIORS should apply now for assignments beginning in summer 2011

APPLY ONLINE and check website for events at FIU

www.peacecorps.gov

FIU Campus Rep: 305.348.1006

11200 SW 8th ECS 157

Campus graffiti artist needs to be terminated

JESSICA PEREZ
Contributing Writer

I have no idea if "Dest" is graffiti used to represent a person, a random word or a tag for a gang, but I do know "Dest" is spreading itself slowly all over the Modesto Maidique Campus at Florida International University.

The word is purple on the trash can by Owa Ehan's first floor southeast stairway, it is pink on the Postal Service's blue mailbox in the Graham Center and black on a table at the Chemistry and Physics building, among other places.

I came to the University thinking I would be around people that were slightly more mature. Although I do like and appreciate art, vandalizing the school property crosses the line.

The University has an image to uphold, and as a student I do not want people entering my university thinking that it is a place with defiant students that can't take care of what they have, or that the University has a problem controlling an off-campus person or group of people.

It is unnecessary for a person to mark up different parts of a

school with a word that has no clear artistic, social or political value, especially when the statement only seems to say, "Hey, here I am!"

It is also embarrassing being in a university that has important people from other schools and companies visit regularly and the word "Dest" is on one of the school's information signs. It makes it seem like the University's officials aren't taking care of the school, and it might affect how other people judge the school.

People don't only look at how well a school is doing academically and socially, but they look at how well a school is physically taken care of.

Realistically speaking, no one would want to go to a school they thought was ugly or unprofessional looking, and a school is a reflection of the students whether we like it or not.

If you really want a place to experiment with graffiti tools or styles, and if you are reading this "Dest," then talk to the school about having an official graffiti wall on one of the campus buildings.

This goes the same way for anyone who does graffiti, wants to

start or would like to just try it out one day. Fight hard for your belief to spread artwork if that is your motive, but do not make this or any other campus into your self-proclaimed territory or canvas.

There are churches that openly allow graffiti artists to mark up one of their walls, and they work out great for people that want to practice their skills, have somewhere to go to without getting arrested and enlighten people on the subject. If churches, which tend to be traditional in their beliefs, can be homes to graffiti then I am sure a university that tends to be liberal in its beliefs could.

I wouldn't mind the University making an official wall for graffiti. It could be something similar to the chalk wall in the Deuxieme Maison, as long as it is in one or two specific places and actually has benefits to the University's community. But, allowing graffiti all over the whole school with no control is unacceptable, especially when no one knows the purpose to it or who it's coming from.

There isn't any room for gangs on campus and there isn't time to re-paint different places constantly. The University has enough things to focus on already.

SCARY SIGHT

DANG, THESE DEBATES ARE SCARY! I GET THE SHIVERS THINKING ABOUT WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN ONCE THESE GUYS ARE IN OFFICE.



MELODY ALEMAN/THE BEACON

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SGA reps wrongly attended event

STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE IN
PALESTINE
Letter to the Editor

We, as FIU students, feel completely disregarded on the issue regarding our SGA Representatives attending the AIPAC summit. It is hard to believe that they refuse to recognize a group of students objecting to their participation as a conflict of interest.

They say they will not represent FIU at the AIPAC conference, however, it is hard to differentiate between the individual students they are from the student leaders we have elected them to be.

They are our elected officials who hold titles that connect them to the student body of FIU, which they cannot remove like a hat. As such representatives of the student body we feel that they have choices to make as to what should be considered an apt reflection of FIU and should take this into consideration when deciding what conferences to attend.

We do not believe that attending a conference that has provided expense free trips to Israel, free admission to the conference itself with expensive accom-

modations is not going to require the support of our SGA members in return. We feel as if our student body representatives are being influenced to endorse the ideals of AIPAC.

We do not feel that AIPAC represents the Israeli population, as it should. Going to an AIPAC conference is insulting to any and every individual who believes in human rights and believes in the anti-terror movement.

AIPAC goes hand-in-hand with Israeli policy that kills and tortures thousands every year. We firmly believe that it is a terrorist organization in itself because it supports Zionism, which is a racist ideology that kills and displaces thousands of Palestinians every year.

All these statistics will not be shown at the conference because the fundamental goal of AIPAC is to glorify the beacon of hypocrisy and apartheid state of Israel. We will not stand for this and find it shameful that the very people who represent us are willing to be bought by a political lobby which represents a lunatic state.

For statistics and exact information email us at sjp@fiu.edu

WHAT IS AIPAC?

According to the official website AIPAC.org, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is a 50-year-old organization that works towards strengthening U.S.-Israel relations.

For more information on the AIPAC National Summit, visit AIPAC.org/summit

PERSPECTIVES

Should Juan Williams have been fired? Why? Why not?



"I don't think he should have been fired, but what he said was unprofessional. At the same time, he was just expressing how he feels. Maybe he should have been punished, but not fired."

-Janoi Burgess,
Junior, Nursing



"No, that's not right, because you shouldn't be fired for an opinion you have. Nervousness is an involuntary response, and whatever makes you nervous will make you nervous no matter what."

-Jenaeah Givens,
Sophomore, Psychology



"Although what he said was insensitive, I don't think they should have fired him for expressing his opinion."

-Eduardo Vargas, Junior,
Mechanical Engineering

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott.

DISCLAIMER

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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 regarding or in response to its editorials, send them to opinion@fiusm.com

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.



Gathering Opinions Generating Discussion

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BELIZE

Jaguar escaped in hurricane blamed in death

A jaguar that escaped from its cage at a Belize animal rescue center during Hurricane Richard has been blamed in the mauling death of a U.S. citizen whose body was found on Oct. 26.



COLOMBIA

Latin leaders question move to legalize

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, who hosted the presidents of Mexico and three other countries at a one-day summit, said if Californians approve Proposition 19, it would send a contradictory message



HAITI

Cholera fears spark anti-clinic protest

Protesters threw rocks at a cholera treatment center as it was preparing to open in the city of St. Marc, highlighting the fear surrounding a disease that was almost unknown before it began, aid workers said.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Events that will bump in the night this All Hallow's Eve

SANDY ZAPATA
Staff Writer

Halloween is one of the very few holidays people can't do without; whether someone is a scaredy pants or loves the adrenaline rush of psychos on a killing spree. Most people love to get dressed up and go out.

"I'm not really big on anything scary but Halloween is the exception," said Breanne Markley, a junior marine biology major.

For most Miami first-timers, the Halloween experience shouldn't be South Beach or Broward clubs but rather the Coconut Grove scene.

"Halloween in Coconut Grove is going to be the thing this year," said Tom Falco, a writer for *The Miami Herald*.

For those who are looking for a party the Seminole Hard Rock Casino, and all of its venues, have different Halloween themed parties on Saturday night.

Head over to Las Olas Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale where a different crowd of grown and sexy Halloween fanatics are

sure to make anyone's night.

Most, if not all clubs on South Beach have Halloween parties starting Friday night, plus there are the downtown 18-and-over friendly clubs. Nocturnal - at 50 NE 11th St Miami, Florida 33132 - is hosting a costume contest.

People who like haunted houses and scary movies can get their thrills from "Buried Alive," a haunted theme park next to the Miami Seaquarium on 4400 Rickenbacker Causeway Key Biscayne, FL 33149.

It has all the delights of a conventional carnival fun and dressed up maniacs scaring the crowd all around the park.

Another well-known Miami haunted house is "House of Horrors" right next to Miami International Mall in Doral.

The entrance fee is a little pricier than the \$13 at "Buried Alive" but if you're willing to pay \$22 for a night of horror then by all means, enjoy.

Whatever the decision is this Halloween weekend, don't drink and drive, and stay safe.

HALLOWEEN EVENTS THIS WEEKEND

Nocturnal

- When: 10/29/10
- Where: 50 NE 11 St Miami, Fla. 33132

Buried Alive

- When: 10/29/10
- Where: 4400 Rickenbacker Causeway Key Biscayne, Fla. 33149

CAMPUS TALK

What are your plans this Halloween weekend?



Afro wig."

Suray Dieleman, senior, journalism

"I'm taking my niece trick or treating in south Miami. I love free candy, even if my niece wasn't going I would still go. I don't know what I'm being but I'm busting out my



debating between being a nun or Lara Croft."

Carolina Alcala, senior, journalism

"I would like to go to Lincoln road but seeing how Halloween falls on a Sunday this year and I have class on Monday I'm limited to Friday and Saturday house parties. I'm



perform."

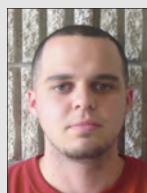
Jacob Abdulla, senior, journalism

"My girlfriend and I are dressing up as zombie prom king and queen. We're going to a warehouse party in Hialeah and then to transit lounge to watch a friend's band



"I'm going to my fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi's, costume party at Nocturnal in downtown Miami."

Robert Brown, senior, journalism



Luis Estrada, senior, journalism

"I don't do Halloween. I don't like dressing up. It's just a reason for girls to look like they want to look all year, half naked."



Jaclyn Santos, senior, journalism

"I'm going to a bar I usually go to called Exit 66 on Las Olas. [It's] hosting a fetish party and I've never been to one. I'll be dressed up as Neytiri, the avatar."

-Compiled by Lauren Khalaf

IMPROMPTU

Afrobeta comes to the Pickle for "Hollerween"

YAZMINE GRANTHON
Contributing Writer

Don't miss out on Afrobeta, Saturday, October 30, 2010 at The Electric Pickle for their "HOLLERWEEN" show!

Disco house group Afrobeta will host the Halloween party at the Pickle Other guest artists and DJs like Holy Ghost and Depressed Buttons will perform all night starting at 10 p.m.

The duo, consisting of lead singer Cuci Amador and keyboardist Tony Smurphio, formed in 2006 with their funky synths and

house beats.

The group had their trial run between the years of 2006 and 2008, really hitting their underground fan base. In 2009, the group found their groundbreaking year by releasing tracks like "That Thing" and "Nighttime" on iTunes.

The Miami natives even got an early slot at the 11th Annual Ultra Music Festival, the largest and most popular electronic music festival that travels the world to cities like Miami, Florida and Ibiza, Spain.

Cuci's vocals and Smurphio's electro beats come together as a consistent package thus

differentiating themselves from other house performers. So instead of just listening to them to boogie down, they tweak their sound to be able to reach different audiences with ballads and acoustic versions. They're able to stray away from the drums and bass to experiment with something new, bringing that added personality. Don't get me wrong, I'm the first person to stand right in front of the speakers when Dutch DJ Kaskadee is playing his set, but the fact that everything comes to life, like vocals, just gets that crowd going.

In a way, Afrobeta can even be considered a performance art group. Performance art is

a genre of art that even Lady GaGa associates herself with. It combines music and art by using the stage and costumes to its full capacity to communicate with the audience without using a formal theatrical pattern. The pair really does accent this throughout their performances. It becomes completely impossible to avoid the spunkiness of both performers.

While Cuci sings her heart out, Smurphio decorates the sound with his elaborate chords and scratches on the turntables. Be ready for Afrobeta to surprise you with their disco sounds and merge right into lounge vibes.