



**Paying cover is a crime,
have fun for free!**

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**Smokers should light
up for education**

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SPOTLIGHT

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The Marine Biology department brings top scientists to campus to talk chemistry and natural research to students.

AT THE BAY PAGE 3



Weekends with Paradise is back, and she tell us all about her yoga positions.

OPINION PAGE 4



Governor Herbert of Utah asserts gays should not be a protected class.

OPINION PAGE 4

SGC-MMC strives to serve the student body through more events and funding.

LIFE! PAGE 5

El Floridita offers a taste of Florida and it is delicious.

SPORTS PAGE 8

Men's soccer loses via penalty kick in home opener. Both teams had a combined three red cards in the match.

SPORTS PAGE 8

Yarimar Rosa will most likely miss some playing time this weekend. But she should see consistent playing time at home vs. Miami on Sept. 10.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Laughing Gas Comedy Improv Theater, Sept. 4, 11 p.m. For \$12, enjoy a night of laughter. For more info, visit: laughinggasimprov.com or call 305-579-0069.

Cabaret, Sept. 5, 11:30 p.m. Every Thursday at Ache Supper Club, enjoy the wonderful talents of a cabaret show with your dinner. Call 305-442-1363 for more info

Lil Wayne, Sept. 6, 7 p.m. The rapper will be performing at the BankAtlantic Center. Tickets will be starting at \$79.50. Call 954-835-700 for more info.

WEATHER



FRIDAY
PM T-Storms
LOW: 79 HIGH: 88



SATURDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 80 HIGH: 88



SUNDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 80 HIGH: 88

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FUN *for all* AGES

UNDER 21

**You don't need drinks to
have a blast — it's true**

MONICA PUERTO
Staff Writer

Miami has long been a popular tourist destination due to its climate, surroundings and entertainment. Those who don't like to drink or who are under 21 can sometimes feel as if they are left out of the nightlife experience. Although many of Miami's popular venues are for the 21-and-over crowd, there are still places to go that are open to those too young to drink legally or who simply don't like to drink.

First off, FIU has a student-run council that specializes in event planning known as the Student Programming Council. They are the main providers of events around FIU and last year brought famous rapper Ludacris and Grammy-nominated local Miami band, Locos Por Juana, to the Modesto Maidique Campus.

These events are open to all FIU students.

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21 AND OLDER

**Party with no limits,
just have your ID handy**

MELISSA VARGAS
Staff Writer

Miami is a metropolitan area with plenty of places that offer opportunities for fun and levity. The number of opportunities are even greater once you turn 21 because so many places are exclusive to those 21 and older. For those old enough to enjoy a drink or two, here is a small sampling of places you can put on your priority list next time you plan an outing.

Cinebistro is a movie theater targeted at those who can legally drink. The theater is located on the second floor of Dolphin Mall and is conveniently close to campus for those of us who live in residence halls. The concept of Cinebistro is a combination of fine dining and the movie theater experience. You are expected to arrive 30 minutes before the movie time and will be guided to your

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Facebook aids students' causes

Group petitions to decrease tuition for online classes

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
Contributing Writer

Where there is a will, there is most likely a Facebook group to support it.

The cause to lower FIU Online tuition fees is no exception. There are currently 2,994 members in the "FIU Students Together to Claim FIU Online Course Fee to be \$14.31/Credit" group, which was created by senior and international business

major, Leandro Mazufri.

As the name of the group suggests, Mazufri and the students supporting the cause want to lower FIU Online tuition's cost to \$14.31 per credit taken, regardless of how many semesters the course includes (i.e. multi-semester courses).

The group's petition claims that "if there isn't a minimum of one classroom course in the night shift and one in the day shift, which shall also have enough seats for all

students who wish to take classroom course; the online fee shall be null."

The Facebook group outlines the online tuition fees of every major public university in Florida and compares them to FIU's.

Out of the 12 universities mentioned, FIU ranks seventh among them in terms of lowest online tuition fees, with University of Central Florida being the most expensive.

"It is undeniable that tuition fees are too high," Mazufri said.

Dr. Joyce Elam, executive dean of the College of Business Administration and University College in

ONLINE FEES, page 2

SGC-MMC

Updates, renovations included in new agenda

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff Writer

On the eve of the Graham Center Pit graphic unveiling, Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus President Anthony Rionda scurried around GC's second floor ripping down picture frames.

He gave impromptu tours pointing out what theme a certain wall would carry after the remodeling. Rionda had called GC his "pet project" and said he was determined to make it "more student friendly."

Improvements is the running theme Rionda hopes his administration is remembered for.

"I think our biggest legacy will be that we just made it work better," Rionda told Student Media. "A better way to allocate students' money, and to represent them."

The SGC-MMC president is expecting that three pillars will guide his administration to those improvements — advocacy, school involvement and spirit, and co-curricular learning.

As advocacy goes, the administration hopes to get to know students' concerns and be their voice when communicating with the University administration.

"We are going to be real active with focus groups and town hall meetings where students can tell us about their problems and hopefully get answers," Rionda said.

One component will be to revamp SGA's sparsely updated Web site. As of the time of printing, the Web site has many sections under construction.

Rionda told Student Media that after the "face lift" the site will sport flash animation and a host of content aimed at informing the student body.

"We are going to have a blog, video content, social networking capabilities like Facebook and Twitter," he said. "It's going to be all connected so we can post through Facebook or e-mail."

The video content has been slated to include video recordings of all SGA meetings. This has been a goal of SGA's since the start of the summer.

Up to now, however, they have not been recording the meetings. The delay on this promise, according to

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Rising online tuition fees spur student involvement

ONLINE FEES, page 1

charge of overseeing FIU Online operations, said that “a new law passed by the state last session allows universities to charge a fee for cost recovery.”

Florida legislature recently raised the tuition costs of its universities by 8 percent, while also giving the schools the option to raise it another 7 percent.

The online course fee structure has been a regular complaint of students at the University.

“I have no choice but to pay an additional \$199 fee for a number of my required courses for graduation because they are only offered online. I believe mandating students to take online classes is absolutely unfair,” said James Richardson, an international business major.

Some of the members

of the petition group argue that students taking courses via FIU Online are actually saving the school money by not taking up classrooms and making the University save on maintenance and utilities fees.

“You don’t use the restrooms, you don’t use the classrooms and you don’t dirty the school,” Mazufri said.

While Elam did not refute the group’s claim, she defended the online costs by explaining where the money goes.

“FIU Online is a separate unit with the sole purpose of designing, developing and delivering online courses. Fees reflect the costs of those services,” she said.

These services include server maintenance, hiring instructional designers, software developers, IT professionals, as well as providing

software like Blackboard or the learning management system known as “Noodle.”

The petition currently has around 187 signatures, even though the group has 2,994 members.

Mazufri remains steadfast and confident that the petition will in fact promote a change – especially if the remaining 2,807 group members sign.

He recently spoke with the Student Government Association, which he said is “very interested” in moving the petition forward, as well as presenting it to FIU’s Board of Trustees.

“The fact of the matter is the University has undergone several budget cuts; it’s been very difficult,” Elam said when asked whether the petition would encourage FIU to lower its online tuition. She later added that she does “not see any funding to offset any of the online costs.”

New LCD televisions for GC on the horizon

RENOVATIONS, page 1

Rionda, has to do with privacy issues. Such issues come up when a special speaker does not grant permission to tape their copyrighted lectures.

All SGA meetings are considered open public meetings.

As for the student involvement and spirit pillar, the president has made it a goal to get at least 6,000 students to each football game. He hopes to get these numbers by teaming up SGA with the Athletics Department.

“Students want to go,” Rionda said. “They need to know there is a game and go to support their school.”

Last week, the president called for the senate to create an athletics committee to help facilitate this partnership.

SGA will also be “laying the ground work for a few things,” according to the president, such as the creation of a veterans memorial.

“It will not just be for veterans, but also FIU

students that passed away,” Rionda said.

He hopes to partner with facilities and the community to start a reflecting garden that may bloom to a full memorial.

The current administration will also try to tackle reforms for the budget process. If successful, the new budget process will include line-item veto oversight for the senate.

As for his pet project of GC, new LCD televisions are on the horizon. With the blessing of Student Affairs Vice President Rosa Jones and the top SGA officials, 75 percent of the Panther TV fund will be reallocated to purchase about eight SGA-funded LCD televisions, Rionda told Student Media.

Panther TV was an initiative started in the previous administrations to give the University a student-run network. Currently, \$40,000 were on retention for Panther TV while details were ironed out. Of that money, \$30,000 will now go toward buying tele-

visions for GC.

“We still have \$10,000 to develop Panther TV,” Rionda said.

The televisions will serve as advertising vehicles, since Rionda plans on taking down most of the bulletin boards in GC; the logistics still need to be worked out.

The vendor carts in GC will also be relocated, according to Rionda.

GC receives additional funding from Activities and Services fees. These include \$13,715 for repairs, \$118,500 for new chairs, \$21,600 for new carpets and \$15,000 for computer equipment. To replace carpets in the ballrooms, GC received \$115,971.

Rionda said the repairs should be done around December or January.

“It’s not about me, but the experience we all collectively have as students,” Rionda said of the upcoming year.

THE BEACON



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CLASSIFIEDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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HEALTH PLANS

Marine biology series begins

Seminars to showcase latest scientific debates

LORENA ESTRADA
Staff Writer

The Marine Sciences Program is kicking off the Fall semester with a series of seminars that teach students about the latest research from top scientists in the field.

The seminar series will cover an array of topics from marine biology and chemistry, to ecology and fisheries. All students are welcome to attend the 45-minute sessions, which all begin at 1 p.m. on selected Fridays and take place in the Marine Science Building reading room, MS 105.

"For many, it will be a good introduction to many different fields of marine science," said Deron Burkepile, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and the organizer of the series. The lecture series began Aug. 28 with Marcio Araujo, a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Biological Sciences, whose lecture was titled "Individual-Level Diet Variation in Natural Populations." Araujo spoke about his current research on how people impact the ecology of mosquito fish in the Bahamas.

Mosquito fish were used as a model system to understand the effects people have on the fish population, Araujo said.

"This is a good opportunity for students to come see what marine science is all about and learn more about cutting edge research," said Mike Heithaus, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

The next seminar will take place Sept. 18 and will feature Monique Grol, who studied in the Department of Animal Ecology and Ecophysiology at Radboud University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands. Grol conducts research on the role of mangroves and seagrass beds, and the effects they have on the survival and growth rate of coral reef fish.

"This seminar series is very important for us because it allows us to bring together scientists from other universities around South Florida for an afternoon of networking," said Burkepile. "They really let us get to know the other scientists in our area that are asking interesting and important questions in all fields of marine science."

Upcoming guest speakers

include: Oswald Schmitz, a professor of population and community ecology at Yale University and Margaret Miller, an ecologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Southeast Science Center.

The third seminar is scheduled for Sept. 25 and will feature Adrienne Simoes-Correa, a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Biological Sciences.

"Students can expect to hear about different perspectives from some currently active debates among coral reef biologists, and the application of a variety of molecular techniques to the study of coral-algal symbioses," Simoes-Correa said.

Miller will speak about symbiotic relationships formed between stony corals and dinoflagellate algae, and how this algae affect the ability of coral colonies to respond to changes in their environment.

It may be two weeks until another seminar, but both Heithaus and Burkepile are hopeful the series will soon run every Friday of the semester.

"We are still getting things sorted out," Heithaus said.

The updated seminar schedule will be available at <http://www.fiu.edu/~marine/seminars.html>.

For more information, contact Deron Burkepile at dburkepi@fiu.edu.

ROCKIN' ROARY



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

ROCK STAR: Robert Villalobos (left), a visitor to the campus, and Roary (right) play "Guitar Hero: World Tour," as part of the 2009 Biscayne Bay Recreation Expo hosted by the BBC Recreation Center in Panther Square on Sept. 1.

WEEKENDS WITH PARADISE

My first yoga class proves to be anything but relaxing

I wouldn't call myself a yogini, but I do enjoy doing yoga every now and then.

I read my first yoga article in *YM* magazine and began including some of the poses in my workout routine in seventh grade. I bought a few videos, and within a summer, I knew enough to do it alone. But I had never been to a formal class until this weekend.

I went to the Ayama Yoga Center, and let me tell you, if you want a place to relax and do yoga - DO NOT GO THERE! Maybe that's a little harsh, but my experience there was nothing short of horrid.

From the moment I pulled into the parking lot, I knew it was a bad idea. First of all, it's located in a warehouse. Imagine big blue garage doors and a parking lot covered with rocks instead of asphalt. When I parked, there was no one around but myself, so I didn't feel safe getting out of my car right away.

When I walked in, the instructor said "hello" and asked

if it was my first class. Instead of finding out why I was in the class, he simply asked me if I would be paying \$18 for the class upfront, or if I wanted to wait until after the class to pay for a package deal. I handed my money over, and that was the last time we spoke.

When I walked into the actual studio, I wanted to die. The floors

were made of interlocking foam blocks for children. And from the white stains I saw, I doubt those ever got cleaned.

Luckily there was no smell, but I had a stuffy nose so I could be wrong.

I put down my mats and sat down in the dimly lit room. The only lighting came from the main office and a night light. While I was sitting there cross-legged, everyone around me was already in random yoga positions.

The women in front of me

alternated between up and down dog positions. The guy next to me was standing on his head. I wanted to run out. Everybody was at least 40 years old and looked like those "new age" types. But I thought, "Hey, when the class starts, I'll feel better."

Yeah, right!

The class started normal enough until the instructor made

us get into two particular positions with a partner. Now, since I am convinced that the universe just likes to play games with me, the day I went to class, both partner positions required one person to walk on the other person's back.

"Great," I thought to myself. "Now, I get to have someone put their feet all over my back. All the more reason to shower right away."

Turns out, walking on my back was the least of my worries. Not only did the old lady I was paired

up with walk on my back, but she managed to step on my hair as well. She was a thin old lady, with normal-looking feet, who somehow managed to put all her weight on her right foot and dug it into me.

But the universe wasn't done with me yet.

The other position involved person A lying down and placing his or her head face up between person B's legs, who is sitting down with bent knees. Person A then grabs person B by the knees and pulls person B's legs together while person B tries to keep his or her legs pulled apart.

Yes, I had to spend part of my morning with my head between an old lady's legs.

After that position, I gave up. I was in a warehouse that was hot, humid, probably never cleaned and with a group of unwelcoming

people.

So I sat down in protest during the last half hour of the hour-and-a-half class. When the class ended, I jolted out of there.

I have never been to the yoga classes offered at the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center, but I think I am going to try going there from now on. They are free, and I don't need to worry about lying on a stained floor.

Read Weekends with Paradise every other Friday for more tips on places to go in the North Miami area. If you have any suggestions, e-mail paradise.afshar@fiusm.com. The columnist pays for all food and experiences.

YOGA INFORMATION AYAMA YOGA CENTER

Address: 2624 N.E. 188th St., North Miami Beach
Web site: www.ayamayoga.com
Phone number: 305-932-7755

Free parking available.

CABRALITICS

Smokers do students a necessary service

Florida's education system is going up in smoke.

After years of reluctance on the part of conservative legislators to eliminate tax breaks, exemptions, and subsidies for vital necessities like expensive yachts and the World Golf Hall of Fame, Florida's government has spent the past few years cutting back on the luxuries: schools, hospitals, stuff like that. With education having been slashed by billions over the past few years, and economic stimulus funds only able to prop up our education system temporarily, (more than three billion for

Florida education so far, as reported by *The Orlando Sentinel*) legislators were forced to raise taxes in April on the only item less popular than education cuts – cigarettes. The revenue from the tax will help offset further cuts to education and health care.

As Florida's smokers are forced out of our restaurants, out of our work places and into our increasingly deteriorating streets, isn't it time we thanked them? Sure, in the past, cigarettes were an ugly vice, a public health nuisance, spreading cancer and sadness throughout the land. But now, there is a silver lining to every carcinogenic cloud of smoke. One dollar out of every pack of cigarettes purchased in Florida now goes to undeniably good causes.

Over the past two years, education and health care programs have been cut by billions of dollars. The cigarette tax alone is expected to raise as much as \$900 million, according to *The Miami Herald*. And that's only if smokers continue inhaling at near their current rate. If every smoker gave 110 percent and consumed 12 packs a day, the tax could single-handedly end our state's budget problems.

Yet, while these coughing crusaders are puffing away for the benefit of our state, we shun them. Florida law prohibits smoking in restaurants. A smoker's habit forces them to venture into parking lots clutching their cigarettes, asking people for lights, inhaling in shame.

Despite those obstacles, these poor, persecuted smokers persevere, much like our founding fathers (many of whom smoked). No one knows how many of America's patriots smoked in the Hall of Independence in colonial Philadelphia, for there was no non-smoking section there.

The torch of freedom and prosperity has been passed to a new generation of smokers, wheezing to the sound of a brighter tomorrow and coughing up a better future for our children. As these martyrs light up, the fire from every cigarette they light can set the state of Florida aglow at the dawning of a new era.

So, to the cigarette smokers of the state, I say: thank you. Though you are slowly killing yourself, you'll be dying a horrible death so that others might live a more wonderful life. As your body slowly succumbs to one of a thousand maladies, know that you are sacrificing so that teachers can keep their jobs. So smoke them if you've got them; smoke them for the kids..

Disclaimer: The preceding article was satirical in nature. The Beacon does not endorse smoking cigarettes, dying a horrible death, or the World Golf Hall of Fame.

COLUMNIST



CHRIS CABRAL

Utah's governor rejects protective law for gays Key legislation has fine lines

CHRISTIAN R. BAUMAN
Contributing Writer

Gary Herbert, Utah's governor, made news for saying there did not need to be a law preventing discrimination against gays, lesbians and transgenders in the workplace. Many have been quick to call him a homophobic Mormon aiming to reverse progression toward social equality.

For me, it would be too easy to go that way, since I feel that I would only deepen the rift of misunderstanding. One side will grow in outrage, and the other will reciprocate in fear. Hands won't shake, fists will only tighten. I think Gary Herbert was wrong, but I do understand what he's asking the American people for. The governor sees this is not as a moral issue, rather a legal one.

Herbert's argument is that he does not want to label the gay and transgender community as a "protected class" like the laws that prevent against race, gender or religion. He simply does not want to legislate protection. Herbert claimed, "We don't have to have a rule for everybody to do the right thing. We ought to just do the right thing because it's the right thing to do and we don't have to have a law that punishes us if we don't."

I'm with you there, governor. Let's have a conversation about "doing right thing." I'm sure if you, personally, were the foreman of a respectable business, you wouldn't see the alternative life-

style as grounds for instant dismissal, just as I wouldn't shut the door on a man for following the faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

We both agree that it is the right thing. Our only difference is that those of Mormon background have laws to guarantee that, whereas the homosexual and transgender community does not.

**We ought to just do
the right thing because
it's the right thing to
do and we don't have
to have a law that pun-
ishes us if we don't.**

Gary Herbert
Governor of Utah

However, the governor stood reluctant toward the legislation. He claimed, "Where do you stop? That's the problem going down that slippery road. Pretty soon we're going to have a special law for blue-eyed blondes." He added, "We get bogged down sometimes with the minutiae of things that government has really no role to be involved in."

Twenty-one states have established laws preventing discrimination against

one's sexual orientation. Will Carlson, the public policy director of the gay rights advocacy group Equality Utah, hoping to help the governor come to an understanding, argued, "We don't have an epidemic of blonde-haired, blue-eyed people getting fired or evicted. We do have a situation where gay and transgender people are being evicted and losing their jobs, not for job performance, but because they're gay or transgender."

Putting homosexuals aside – what if I found myself in a situation where I had to defend my heterosexuality in order to move into an apartment complex? What if my job made me walk for watching an act from the Cirque Du Soleil on YouTube that didn't involve a hot female contortionist?

I don't find anything wrong with a straight man listening to t.A.T.u. (who I'm aware might not be lesbian) or George Michaels. I also don't think Rudy Giuliani should issue an "I'm straight" statement every time he appears on "Saturday Night Live" wearing a dress. SNL already has a difficult time being funny without Tina Fey.

In regard to government, I'm with Henry David Thoreau when he wrote, "The government is best that governs least ... That government is best which governs not at all – and when men are prepared for it, that will be the kind of government which they will have."

We both know what the right thing is, and if everyone did it, we wouldn't need laws to protect Americans being turned away for being black, gay or Mormon. But laws aren't about doing the right thing, laws are about promising it.

THE SOAPBOX

SGC-MMC senate justified in its expenditures

BEN F. BADGER, JR.
Special to The Beacon

In the Aug. 31, 2009 issue of *The Beacon*, an opinion article implied that the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus should be frugal with its funds.

The council would agree. SGC-MMC is given the responsibility of allocating nearly \$11 million in student Activity and Service fees. Every single dollar students pay in their A&S fees should be spent to make student life more enjoyable and improve the overall quality of FIU.

In the past, President Anthony Rionda and Vice President Mykaelle Figueiredo were commended by *The Beacon* for being fiscally

responsible. It is their goal along with the senate to make the 2009-2010 year memorable for its students and their involvement in and outside the classroom, not for how much money is spent.

There are many areas that the SGC-MMC funds, which include the Student Union, the Recreation Center, Campus Life, the Student Programming Council, the Council for Student Organizations and Student Media. These funds enhance student life.

The Hijabi Monologues is a worthwhile project which the Senate decided to fund. This presentation will create a dialogue on a very important subject that rarely receives attention. It fits perfectly with FIU's value of global learning.

The SGC-MMC senate is on its way to becoming the most efficient and effective senate in FIU history. It has acted and will continue to act in a fiscally conservative manner for the general well-being of the student body, those they were elected to represent.

It is important to note that, while being frugal with student funds is important, being too conservative serves no one. As mandated by law, any unused funds in the SGC-MMC account at the end of the fiscal year is moved to a reserve account. These funds are not given back to the student body. So, if the senate were to be too harsh in their funding, students' funds would be wasted.

Again, the SGC-MMC has

a responsibility to allocate funds that will impact as many students as possible.

While it would be ideal for the council to allocate funds to all students who ask for funds, it simply cannot be done.

Some groups are not eligible for funding, such as sororities and fraternities, due to their own policies. These groups, for example, charge membership dues or exclude students for various reasons. A&S-funded projects must potentially benefit any and all students.

So, SGC-MMC will continue its strides to bring the very best activities and services to the student body.

Ben F. Badger, Jr. is a senior majoring in liberal studies. He serves as the SGC-MMC press secretary.

DISCLAIMER

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

WINNER/LOSER



The online auction-house eBay has agreed to sell a majority of its stake in the internet phone business Skype. Ironically, the sale was for \$1.9 billion, far less than the \$2.6 billion the company bought the phone business for in 2005. Maybe eBay should have had a Buy It Now option?



Afghan President Karzai is accused of ballot stuffing after polling sites were shut down and ballot boxes shipped to a Karzai-friendly town. When one villager was asked if democracy could succeed in Afghanistan, he replied that fraudulent elections were an integral part of any democracy.

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 240 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.

OPINIONPIECE

\$6.32
The cost (in billions) of Florida's annual health care costs directly caused by smoking.

DAILYQUERY

Utah Governor Gary Herbert thinks gays, lesbians and transgenders shouldn't be protected by the state government. Do you think the governor of Utah is correct in maintaining that homosexuality should not join race and religion as a protected class? Send responses to opinion@fiusm.com

NO COVER

NEON NIGHTS

Clubs offer free entry, DJs, male strippers

There's a very good reason why it's hard to "take it easy" on a Saturday night here in South Florida. With so many beautiful people to see, great clothes to wear and no cover to pay, the four-to-the-floor call of the dance floor is too great — and I'm certainly no Jesus to be able to resist temptation.

Jesus obviously never came to Miami.

My friend, Autumn Atomica and I thought we could take it easy by visiting an exhibit called "What We Do Is Secret" by local artist Manny Prieres at the Spinello Gallery in the design district.

Located on 155 NE 38th St., the exhibit featured striking works done with graphite and watercolor of machetes, knives and religious imagery. The technique and precision of the Prieres' pieces brought the blades to life as if you could pull them out of the wall and slice up your fellow art snobs. That's about the time the theme

of "taking it easy" was discarded by us.

Enter the Electric Pickle, on 2826 North Miami Ave., where the mood is set with sensual

COLUMNIST



BOBBY JOE BRACY

orange-red lighting and a black-and-white projector shows hedonists of the late '60s getting their party on in all sorts of deviant ways. There was no cover, and parking is on the street so if you get there early enough you won't have to walk too far in this part of town.

We got there around 10:30 p.m. and the place was empty. Electric Pickle is now the new home of the infamous Pop Life indie party, so I didn't expect our sovereign rule over the venue would last. The DJ got on the turntables to play an electrified remix of "Paper Planes" and we paid \$5 for a Red Bull. As the beat grinded down our backs and into our shoes we decided, "Hey, make that two Red Bulls please." M.I.A. and *guarana*, once again, comes to the rescue.

That's when I get a call from a handsome friend of mine to come to Nightclub 11, a.k.a. Johnny's, a decent-sized strip bar with a dance club — and no cover.

Johnny's is conspicuously located on 1116 W. Broward Blvd. inside the building with pink neon lights, so from Electric Pickle you can just take the I-95 until you see the exit for Broward Boulevard.

Aside from having no cover, a good-sized dance floor and performances by drag queens and dancers, the staff here is also very friendly. Straight girls always fall for the bartenders who let their jeans hang low enough to reveal the maker and waist-size of their designer briefs.

On our way home back down US 1, we stopped by that 24-hour Taco Bell for chalupas and ice water. Autumn and I noticed a young lady with tears in her eyes waving at us in the middle of the street. We slowed down and I put my window down to see if I could help her.

"Oh my god, but like I need help, my car broke down and I need money for a taxi. I know a taxi is a lot but if you could give me anything, a quarter, it all helps you know, ay please," she pleaded.

I looked into my wallet and saw a \$10 bill and two singles. I figured, "Hey Bobby Joe, what would Jesus do? Just think of the money you saved on cover charges. Be a good person." I gave her the \$10.

"You sure you don't have like, \$15?" she asked.

We drove off.

I definitely don't have what it takes to be the Jesus of this town.

ADVENTURE RUN DOWN

Electric Pickle

Location: 2826 North Miami Ave., Miami, Fla.

What We Do in Secret

Location: 155 NE 38th St., Miami, Fla.

Johnny's

Location: 1116 W. Broward Blvd., Miami, Fla.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

El Floridita offers a delicious taste of Florida's history

If Florida's history were a meal, *El Floridita* would have it on its menu.

El Floridita prides itself on taking its patrons back to a time when South Florida was famous for its ports, saloons and seafood rather than its bright lights, big city and colorful nightlife.

The restaurant, elegantly decorated but somewhat empty, showcases classic seafood dishes which are undoubtedly influenced by Spanish and Latin culture — a fact that is apparent in its bilingual menu.

Appetizers include crowd favorites such as lobster bisque and shrimp cocktails.

But, for a true taste of Florida, try the shrimp *ceviche*, a zesty, refreshing dish that includes the fresh flavors of lime, cilantro and chilies.

The main course offerings at *El Floridita* are extensive. For those who want to become acquainted with the restaurant's flair for seafood dishes, the Paella *Floridita* is a must.

The restaurant's take on Spain's national

dish is a healthy mix of saffron-infused rice loaded with chicken, ham, vegetables and seafood, topped with a whole langoustine for your dining pleasure.

COLUMNIST



JASMYN ELLIOTT

The restaurant also offers paella varieties with only one main accompaniment, such as squid, shrimp or a seafood medley.

Furthermore, they offer meals and specials showcasing a variety of fishes — including basa, salmon and grouper — which are all served with your choice of two sides, such as the

ever-present black beans and rice with sweet plantains, yellow rice, fried yucca or simply french fries.

In the event that you are not into sampling fish, there are plenty of offerings for you as well.

They offer Chicken or Steak Milanese, where either offering is covered with parmesan cheese-infused breading and sautéed, then topped with a savory reduction.

Or, try their version of the Cuban dish, *churrasco*, a seared, 10-ounce flank steak

RESTAURANT INFORMATION

El Floridita

8399 SW 40th St
Miami, FL 33155
(305) 221-1511

Price Range: \$10- \$25

Cuisine: Latin infused
seafood, pasta, chicken
and steak

rate chicken, ham or vegetarian, if that is on your radar.

Their dessert menu includes traditional Latin fare such as *tres leches* and flan, both of which are a fair choice.

I was particularly impressed with their chocolate mousse.

For starters, the presentation was good, as it is covered with a solid layer of chocolate and topped with a milk and white chocolate striped garnish.

Once I got past the shell, the mousse itself was very creamy and did a good job of not being overwhelmingly flavored with chocolate.

The pricing at *El Floridita* is widely varied.

Their house specials, which include a drink, can be had for just a little more than \$10, but some of the more sophisticated items may run in the \$15 to \$25 range.

If the latter is what you're after, be sure to save your pennies. In either case, *El Floridita* will most likely be a welcome dining experience.

with a crispy (albeit salty) exterior and a tender interior that goes well with its yellow rice.

Although their pasta offerings center on seafood, they do have varieties that incorpo-

Nightlife for those who can't (or don't want to) drink

UNDER, page 1

According to Cristina Rodriguez, president of SPC, all of these events are free – a point she enthusiastically emphasizes: “They are always free, never forget that.”

SPC holds regular movie nights every Friday in GC 140. This semester, they will be showing movies from the Oscar-winning *Slumdog Millionaire* to the Sacha Baron Cohen vehicle, *Bruno*.

If you want to venture out of the panther zone, but not too far away, you can go bowling at two venues. There is a bowling alley at Dolphin Mall

called Strike, which features glow in the dark bowling lanes, a restaurant with lane service and big screen televisions. The most affordable time to go to Strike is Monday nights from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. People 18 and over can play unlimited bowling, with shoe rental included, for just \$14.

One bowling alley that is a bit more affordable is Bird Bowl, on Bird Road. They are currently remodeling and they are expected to emerge in September with a new lighting and a new sound system, a new expanded game room, new ceiling tiles and new menu themes in their restaurant. The cheapest time to go would be Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

for \$2 games, or on Wacky Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to close when a game costs a \$1.50. Both specials do not include shoe rentals which are \$3.50.

For entertainment without the heavy lifting, the Wolfsonian Museum, on 1001 Washington Ave., offers free guided tours every Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is \$5 with student ID. Until Oct. 11, the museum lobby will be showing the social aspect of fashion swimwear with the “Beauty of the Beach: A Centennial Celebration of Swimwear” and “Sun Stroke Stimulus” exhibitions. Lectures and photographs explore the innovation, glamour and health aspects of the

bathing suit culture. This exhibition is free.

Not too far away, and later in the evening, the nightlife starts in downtown Miami. For the clubbing experience, South Beach is arguably the more popular, but most clubs are 21 and over. However, many clubs in downtown are not. Downtown houses clubs such as Vagabond, White Room, Space, Allure and Nocturnal – all of which allow people 18 or older at least some of the time.

Lauren Sierra, a sophomore who spends many evenings at Vagabond, loves the place: “I never have a bad time there, it's a great social environment with a variety of people.”

Clubs offer more than drinks

OVER, page 1

seat (which you pick when you purchase your tickets). Servers take your order as you sit in your theater seat.

Your food and drinks are delivered to you within the first 30 minutes or while the previews start, and once the movie begins there are no more interruptions. The idea is to enjoy the meal as you watch the movie of your choice, without having to deal with the noise and distractions that can sometimes come with sharing a theater with kids. Cinebistro also has a full bar where you can order drinks at the bar itself or in the theater.

Brickell also has a lot to offer and Badrutt's Place is definitely one of many popular clubs.

This restaurant, lounge and cigar place has a truly open format, at least on Thursday nights, which seems to be popular.

Badrutt's Place comes from a tradition of luxury and comfort being owned by the same company as Badrutt's Palace in St. Moritz, Switzerland.

The lounge draws the biggest crowds on Thursday and Friday nights where you can dance a *vallenato*, salsa or merengue, and jam to Bon Jovi just a few minutes later.

Van Dyke Café is a popular spot on Lincoln Road. The café has two floors, a restaurant downstairs and a lounge upstairs, which can be reserved for special events.

The restaurant has an eclectic menu ready to please many different palates, but the action is definitely upstairs.

Every night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. the

second floor of Van Dyke Café opens its bar and turns on its lights and microphones. You can find local and national artists who play a wide variety of music.

If downtown Miami is one of your favorite destinations, Transit Lounge is one popular option. On any given evening you can dance to a wide variety of music presented here. Monday J.A.M. Sessions start at 10 p.m. and are hosted by Juan Turros and sponsored by SESAC, a performing rights organization.

The night includes \$5 Grolsch swingtops and musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments or “weapon of choice.”

The week continues with ladies' night, which is every Tuesday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. with free Ultimat Vodka and '80s music.

Wednesday afternoons start off with \$5 Jack Daniel's from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. From 6 p.m. until 11 p.m., the stage opens up to aspiring singers and bands to show their talent by playing the *Rock Band* video game, not to be confused with *Guitar Hero*.

The highest score gets a \$50 bar tab, among other things.

Karaoke then goes on until 3 a.m. The week closes with Reggae Sundays from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. with \$1 beers. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays also feature drink specials and local acts like Lanzallamas Monofonica, Suenalo and Jacob Jeffries.

So, next time you are planning to show friends who are over 21 the Miami area or just thinking about having a few drinks, keep in mind some of these local clubs, bars and cafes that Miami has to offer.

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THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

ACTIVE MINDS



Change the way you think about mental illness.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 314

THE HUMDRUMS AND THE PERSONS

Enjoy music from two girls with guitars playing soul.

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$8
WHERE: Wall Flower Gallery
CONTACT: (305) 579-0069

JUST THE FUNNY



Enjoy a night full of laughs!

WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: Just the Funny Theatre

LAUGHING GAS COMEDY IMPROV

Spend a night full of laughter!

WHEN: 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$12
WHERE: Main Street Playhouse
CONTACT: (305) 579-0069

EVERY YOU



Enjoy a rock & roll CD release party.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: The Talent Farm studios
CONTACT: (954) 438-3488

PLANETARIUM LASER LIGHT SHOW

WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$7
WHERE: Space Transit Planetarium
CONTACT: (305) 646-4200

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

DEPECHE MODE



Take a trip back to the '80s!

WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$83.50
WHERE: Bankatlantic Center
CONTACT: (954) 835-7000

SPAM ALLSTARS

Support a local electronic, funk, latin duo.

WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Green Parrot
CONTACT: (305) 294-6133

FLORIDA DUBFEST

Enjoy a live performance by Reel Big Fish and Bunny Wailer, among others.

WHEN: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: \$40
WHERE: Hollywood ArtsPark
CONTACT: (561) 681-5626

AUDIOFLY

Catch a set from this DJ/producer duo at this event.

WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: The Vagabond
CONTACT: (305) 379-0508

CABARET



Enjoy music and stand up.

WHEN: 11:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Ache Supper Club
CONTACT: (305) 442-1363

PINKGHOST OPENING



Come celebrate the grand opening of the designer toy store.

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Pinkghost

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6

LIL WAYNE



The concert of the year!

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$79.50
WHERE: Bankatlantic Center
CONTACT: (954) 835-7000

JAZZ NIGHT OUT

Let loose and enjoy some smooth tunes.

WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHERE: Van Dyke Cafe
CONTACT: (305) 532-1233

WORLD BEAT MUSIC FESTIVAL

WHEN: 2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$25
WHERE: Palmetto Bay

CHOCOLATE SUNDAYS

WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Purdy Lounge

Disney On Ice

It's Disney princesses on ice!

WHEN: 1 p.m.
CONTACT: BankAtlantic Center
WHERE: (954) 835-7000

GREAT COCONUT GROVE BED RACE

Watch as groups race while pushing twin beds on the street!

WHEN: 2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Commodore Plaza

CRIME SCENE INSECTS



Fun exhibit at the museum.

WHEN: 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15.30
WHERE: Miami Science Museum

Former Golden Panther returns to campus as a professional player

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

When Miami FC played its first home game at FIU Stadium this past April, the first professional soccer match ever played at FIU, it was a homecoming of sorts for Miami FC midfielder John Pulido.

The 27-year-old former Golden Panther played in his first soccer match on-campus since he last put on an FIU uniform in 2003.

His return to his alma mater sparked memories of three conference championships, Atlantic Soccer Conference Player of the Year honors and a career at FIU that took him to the professional ranks.

"I had a great experience at FIU," Pulido said, recalling his days at the University. "It was one of the most amazing times of my life both soccer-wise and social-wise. I did everything I wanted to do, had good seasons and made it to the professional level afterward."

Pulido was born in Colombia and moved to the United States when he was 11 years old.

He played at American High where he helped lead the team to a state championship in 1999. When scouts from different colleges were calling for his services, he made the decision to play at FIU.

"It was my home," he said. "They were a good team at the time, just coming from the Division I finals a few years before. Good players were there and it was a good program to go professional from."

Golden Panthers men's soccer coach

Munga Eketebi, an assistant during Pulido's time at FIU, was one of his major influences as he matured throughout his soccer career. Eketebi knew about the midfielder since he started playing in high school and watched him grow as a player.

"Johnny has always loved the game, there is no question about that," Eketebi said. "Johnny always used to stop by the office and always ask, 'Do you think I can make it to the pros? What do I need to do?' His love, his dedication and his passion for the game have always been outstanding, bar none."

Pulido emerged as a leader during his last two seasons as a Golden Panther, he was an offensive-minded midfielder.

"He was very good technically," Eketebi said concerning Pulido's playing ability. "He sees the game with great vision, holds on to the ball, has deceptive speed, can take people on. But he can find the open man, also."

After his FIU career had come to a close, Pulido's professional career began when he was selected in the sixth round of the 2004 Major League Soccer Super-Draft by the Colorado Rapids.

"When I got drafted, my dream came true," he recalled fondly. "I worked hard for that moment, and when it happened, I said to myself, 'Thank God.' Now I have to maintain myself, which is even harder than making it to the pros. I just keep working hard."

In 2006, Pulido was signed by Miami FC before its inaugural season, giving

him a chance to return to Miami.

Pulido has been the one constant on Miami FC's always changing roster.

"You automatically have to be a leader. You have to be strong during the tough times and demand the best from your teammates during those times," Pulido said. "Coach Zinho gave me a lot of confidence to take on that responsibility."

Shortly before this season began, the ownership group behind Miami FC announced that they would play a number of their home games at FIU Stadium for the first time. Miami FC has one more home game left at FIU this season on Sept. 5 against the Austin Aztex.

"We were hoping that playing at FIU would bring good things and so far, it has," Pulido said.

Miami FC has enjoyed success at FIU, gaining at least a point in five out of six matches at the stadium.

One of the major challenges for the team has been the ability to earn the respect of the South Florida soccer community.

Pulido is participating in the MFC Challenge, where for every 500 fans in attendance at the season finale this month, one player will shave his entire head.

"I don't wanna shave my head," Pulido joked. "But it's a good thing. We need to have the support of the fans, so hopefully it brings out a lot of people."

"We have to win and we are winning. We definitely have to play good soccer," Pulido said. "Going through what we've been going through, we make ourselves stronger. We want to be successful."

Thomas, Garcia back off boycott

UNC TOURNAMENT, page 8

all win that night, without necessarily having a winner or loser of the basketball contest."

The Coaches versus Cancer tournament has raised nearly \$50 million for the American Cancer Society, according to the society's Web site.

After the opening game in Chapel Hill, the Golden Panthers will host three Subregional Round double-headers from Nov. 20 to 23.

Two players ejected late

MEN'S SOCCER, page 8

ball and midfielder Cristian Raudales was tackled inside the penalty box.

Starting goalkeeper dove to his left but he could not stop Raudales' shot from entering the goal.

BROTHER'S KEEPER

The Golden Panthers received two red cards during the last 11 minutes of the contest. Goalkeeper Shane Lopez ran and tackled an FGCU player in the 79th minute. Lamarre was unable to play so his brother, midfielder Chris Lamarre, played goalie for the final 10 minutes of the game. He managed to record one save.

Phillip Lamarre and Cabas are expected to start the next contest vs. St. Thomas on Sept. 4. Eketebi noted that the lack of depth was a hindrance against the Eagles.

"What didn't help us at all was not being deep today."

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MEN'S SOCCER: FGCU 1, FIU 0

Penalty kick downs FIU despite one-man advantage

SERGIO BONILLA
Sports Director

Even with its starting goalie and forward not in the lineup, the Golden Panthers men's soccer team had a clear advantage for a 31-minute span in the home opener vs. Florida Gulf Coast University.

FGCU received a red card in the 48th minute of a 0-0 contest.

The Golden Panthers had one more player on the field, but failed to score. Coach Munga Eketebi said the Golden Panthers (0-1) should've capitalized during that span.

"When they got the red card, we had the extra man up. We should've taken advantage of that," Eketebi said. "Offensively, we moved the ball well. But we need to be deadlier in the box,

which we weren't."

Their 31-minute window of opportunity closed and the FGCU Eagles, with just 10 players, scored on a penalty kick to defeat the Golden Panthers 1-0 at FIU Soccer Stadium on Sept. 1.

After the Eagles' goal, the Golden Panthers received two red cards of their own. The team had a depleted back-line.

"Pretty much all of the forwards didn't play in the preseason," Eketebi said.

UNDERMANNED

Goalkeeper Phillip Lamarre, and forward Steven Jair Cabas were two sure starters who could not play in the home opener. They both received red cards in the last game of last season.

The team played just two weeks of preseason together.

Eketebi noted how the players might need more time to gain some cohesiveness.

"It's going to show," Eketebi said. "It's probably going to take a couple more games for them to get in the thick of things."

The first half was an evenly contested match as both teams nearly got the same amount of scoring chances. The Golden Panthers had six shots and the Eagles had five. But in the second half, the Eagles outshot the Golden Panthers 10-7.

In the 65th minute, the Eagles offense applied pressure on the opposing defense.

A shot on goal was inches away from entering the net, but it ricocheted out. The Eagles managed to regain control of the



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

SEEING RED: Midfielder Christian Dominguez controls the ball during the team's 1-0 loss. The team received two red cards during the match.

MEN'S SOCCER, page 7

ATHLETICS AGREES

FIU will not boycott cancer tournament versus UNC

JONATHAN DAVILA
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers men's basketball team will not pull out of the Coaches versus Cancer tournament and go to Chapel Hill in November after all.

Athletic Director Pete Garcia announced at a press conference on Sept. 1 that FIU will begin the season against the University of North Carolina Tar Heels on Nov. 9.

The news comes nearly a week after Garcia told The Associated Press he felt FIU was being "bullied" into the matchup by the Gazelle Group, the New Jersey-based organizer of the tournament.

"After going over everything with the tournament organizers the last few days, there's a couple of things that we all came to the conclusion of. Number one, there is a

TIME LINE OF EVENTS

- Nov. 2008 - Garcia signs contract to play either Ohio State or UNC.
- Aug. 25- Associated Press reports Athletics might pull out of tournament.
- Sept. 1 - Athletics agrees to honor contract, face UNC.

higher cause here than FIU, or North Carolina or any other school. And this is the fight against cancer," Garcia said. "When it's all said and done, it is a basketball game, but the proceeds go to a very worth-

while charity."

Garcia said he looked at the option of being a part of the tournament in 2010, but chose to be a part of it now because it's best for everyone involved in the tournament.

"At the end of the day, it was the right decision and the easiest decision because, like I said before, it's more than basketball we're talking about," he said.

Golden Panthers coach Isiah Thomas said he is honored to open the season against North Carolina and be a part of the tournament.

"My father died of cancer. My former coach and mentor, Hall of Fame coach Chuck Daly died of cancer," Thomas said. "I had a brief conversation with Dick Vitale. He's all excited about us playing this game, and we're excited. I think it's going to be a great time and a great night down in Chapel

Hill."

The last time Thomas faced North Carolina, it was as a player in the NCAA championship game in 1981. Thomas' Indiana Hoosiers were victorious in that matchup, and the Hall of Fame coach was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player.

This time, the odds are against Thomas and the Golden Panthers, considering the Tar Heels were last year's national champions.

Thomas said that doesn't change the team's mindset, though.

"We're going in to win the basketball game, first and foremost. That's how you approach the game. We'll get our players ready to compete and ready to go in and execute the game plan," he said. "We can

UNC TOURNAMENT, page 7

VOLLEYBALL

Rosa looks to play sparingly before home opener vs. UM

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

Yarimar Rosa wasn't able to start off her senior year how she would've liked.

"I'm feeling better. But I'm mad at the same time because it's the beginning of the season," Rosa said. "Everybody was excited and I was back with my team and then just like that, I was out."

It is still unclear if Rosa, who suffered a strained hip muscle, will be on the court for the tournament in Kansas this weekend where the Golden Panthers will finish their

road trip. More than likely she will be back at full strength for the home opener on Sept. 10 against the University of Miami.

"They're telling me I should play one or two sets to see how I feel. That depends on me," she said. "I'll definitely be ready for next weekend."

With a strained hip abductor, the Sun Belt Conference's Preseason Player of the Year was forced to sit out the first tournament of the season last weekend and is day-to-day, according to Coach Danijela Tomic.

Rosa first injured her hip while playing for the Puerto Rican national team over

the summer; she felt better after resting for several days. The injury began to resurface in the days leading up to the season opener.

"It was a big shock because she didn't know until right before we played the first game," Tomic said. "She got re-injured during warm-ups before our game against Western Carolina."

Despite her absence, the Golden Panthers fared well in the Kentucky Classic with victories over Western Carolina and Northwestern.

"Taking into consideration that we were playing without Yari, I'm pleased that we

won two," Tomic said. "I think that tells a lot about our team."

That doesn't mean that the Golden Panthers wouldn't like to have their three-time All-American back in the lineup.

"Everybody knows what Yari means to this team," Tomic said. "Hopefully we'll have her back and we'll just build on last weekend."

During the week, Rosa has been doing cardio, light weights and other light activities to try and get back to form.

She participated in practice for the first time on Sept. 2 with a light workload.