A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

Vol. 24, Issue 20 www.fiusm.com Friday, October 8, 2010



**CHILE** 

#### Miners close to being rescued

Chile's president said Monday that his government is "very close" to pulling 33 trapped miners to safety and he hopes to be there in person to see the rescue before leaving to Europe.



#### **ECUADOR**

#### State of siege extended until Friday

Ecuador has extended until Friday the state of siege it declared during a police revolt over planned benefit cuts in which mutinous officers roughed up President Rafael Correa.



**UGANDA** 

#### Uganda may send troops to Somalia

Uganda is willing to provide as many as 20,000 troops to restore order in Somalia if enough money is provided for the mission, Uganda's president told visiting members of the U.N.

# FOOTBALL: FIU VS WESTERN KENTUCKY Panthers face off against Hilltoppers tailback Bobby Rainey leads the Sun 16 yards ahead Pittsburgh's Ray Graham

**IGOR MELLO** 

Staff Writer

Although a quarter of the season may be over, the Golden Panthers are looking for a fresh start. According to Coach Mario Cristobal and his squad, the "real" season starts now.

The Golden Panthers (0-4) will open up Sun Belt Conference play host (3:30 Cristobal said p.m., FIU Stadium) against a team who has not won a game since September of 2008. The only problem is that FIU has not won a game at all this season as

Western Kentucky University (0-4) owns a 24-game losing streak, the longest current losing streak in the nation, but according defensive tackle Josh Forney, they don't plan on overlooking this

"I'm not going to take them lightly because I know what they can do," Forney said.

What the Hilltoppers do best is run the ball. Junior

Belt Conference in rushing yards with 508 yards on 94 carries, averaging over five yards per carry.

'It's not just him, it's the offensive line and it's the scheme as well. He runs hard, sees the field well and he's very effective catching the ball out of the backfield. He's a power runner with great speed,'

Not only is Rainey among one of the Sun Belt Conference's best rusher, his rushing yards

17th in the nation



yards rushing.

FOOTBALL, page 2

### **DREAM** act gets stalled in Senate

**MARIELLA ROQUE** 

Staff Writer

On Sept. 22, the United States Senate met to vote on the National Defense Authorization Act for the Fiscal Year 2011 that was unable to pass because of its attachment to two controversial bills, namely a repeal of the 1993 "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military policy and the DREAM

The DREAM Act legislation would allow illegal youth who were brought to the United States at a young age to obtain permanent residence if they are in good academic standing or if they serve in the military.

"I think that by not honoring the Dream Act, it is a direct violation of the American dream and about everything that our country stands for," said political science major Janiel Vargas.

First introduced in 2001, the DREAM act was made top priority for passage by Sen. Richard Durbin of the Democratic Party. Since its inception, the bill has been changed and edited in order to gain enough support to be passed. These changes include specifying the age limit for the recipients and the removal of all things relating to in-state tuition benefits.

DREAM, page 2

### Career fair brings employers to students and alumni

**LAUREN ROVIRA** 

Contributing Writer

500 students and alumni, all vying for the attention of 90 different potential employers present for the University's career fair on Sept. 30.

Twice a year, once during the fall and once during the spring, career services hosts these events in hopes that students will find jobs and internships that will get them started on their careers. Professionally clad students were given the chance to hand in resumes, speak with

potential employers and explore opportunities offered both within the state and beyond.

"I'm here to learn about different compa-The US Century Bank Arena hosted over nies and gain experience...I'm competing with many students, and experience is vital, explained Tiffany Davis, a public relations

> Alumni also made their way back to the University to get in on the action. Robert Iglesias, a graduate in political science who currently holds a job with Preferred Claim Solutions, a public adjusting firm, came to scope the scene for "better opportunities."

"There's always a potential for growth," Iglesias said. "I'm here looking into government agencies and offices."

who ripped FIU's defense apart for 277

lenge defensively this Saturday may be

stopping Rainey and Western Kentucky's

running attack. The defense has allowed

a 100-yard rusher in each of the last three

The Golden Panthers biggest chal-

According to Kenneth Setzer, a marketing coordinator for the office of career services, the career fair was originally held in the Graham Center, but was moved to the US Century Bank Arena to accommodate its growth.

"The career fair has expanded over time," said Setzer. "Everything from public to private, from government to military employers are

The fair was also impressive to employers

who commented favorably on the organization of the fair, the readiness of students and the treatment they were given by the university staff.

"Whoever put this together was very clear about how to dress properly," said Stephanie Gallitano, field sales manager for G&K. "Students are very well prepared and they have the dressing and resume thing right."

Considering the economic downturn that has many people currently unemployed, students are faced with a "job market that is tough for

FAIR, page 2

### Comptroller Rosa-Blanco set to appear before senate

**VINCENT FERNANDEZ** Staff Writer

After a week of deliberation and thorough review of the statutes, the supreme court of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus has decided that Comptroller Maria Rosa-Blanco will have to appear before the SGC-MMC senate.

At the beginning of the fall, the senate decided to call forth four members of the executive cabinet to appear before them and answer questions about their current and future

Although Blanco was summoned, she was not in attendance because of a grievance filed against the constitutionality of the summons.

While the senate is given the power to call members of the executive cabinet, the constitution states that the executive branch is made up of a president, vice president, comptroller and executive cabinet.

Because of this error in wording, the grievance was sent to be reviewed by the judiciary, which announced this past Monday that the comptroller is, although not stated by the constitution, still considered a part of the executive cabinet and can be called

for questioning. Associate Chief Justice Octavio Mella concluded that "although the comptroller is not an executive cabinet position, it is being treated as

"Exempting the comptroller from

senate questioning would ultimately create the only position in the executive branch that would not be [held] accountable to the student body through direct election or indirectly by senate oversight," said the court.

With the court ruling finalized, Comptroller Rosa-Blanco is set to appear before the SGC-MMC senate on Monday, Oct. 11.

#### **NEWS FLASH**

### **Bailouts Cost Just \$29 Billion**

The controversial federal bailouts passed under President George W. Bush two years ago will cost taxpayers \$29 billion, far less than earlier estimates of about \$350 billion, reports *The Wall Street Journal*. The Treasury Department is declaring the Troubled Asset Relief Program a success.

Most of the losses come from the bailouts of GM and Chrysler (\$17 billion lost) and programs to deal with the housing crisis (\$46 billion lost), such as mortgage modification. Almost 80 percent of banks that received money have paid it back, and Treasury says that small banks that got bailout money made more loans than banks that didn't.

### Police director, union at odds

The Miami-Dade police director ended his PBA membership after union criticism that he found insulting -- prompting a quick retort from the union president. *The Miami Herald* reported that the head of the Miami-Dade Police Department has resigned his 27-year membership in the Police Benevolent Association.

It was chiding the powerful union for suggesting that he stacked the odds in a departmental softball competition by summoning four officers to his office.

- Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

#### **CORRECTIONS**

In Vol. 24, Issue 18 of The Beacon, the article entitled "Schools collaborate for season preview" incorrectly states that the Peter Paul Rubens are new acquisitions. They are in fact on a one-year loan and are on display in the Permanent Collection Gallery.

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

### Activists still pushing for DREAM

LGBT, page 1

"We're going to vote on the DREAM Act, it's only a question of when," said Senate Majority leader Harry Reid during the NDAA Senate session.

During the vote, a press briefing by telephone was held to examine the significance of the DREAM Act for educators across the country. This briefing included several guest speakers like Arne Duncan, the U.S. secretary of education, Michael Crow, president of Arizona State University and Marielena Hincapié, executive director for the National Immigration Law Center.

"It is no surprise that a common sense law like this one has always been supported both by Democrats and Republicans," Duncan said.

The DREAM Act has received bipartisan support several times as "has passed twice out of the Senate Judiciary Committee, with bipartisan support and passed the Senate in 2006 with the support of 11 Senate Republicans," according to Duncan

The event was called a national day of action called "Realize the DREAM" to encourage the pursuit of helping undocumented students receive legal status.

"[The DREAM Act] keeps youth off

the streets and in the classroom where they can learn more about the country they will be a part of," said Nursing major Nubia Palma.

The exact number of illegal immigrants, as well as children and young adults, is unknown but is estimated by the Department of Homeland Security to be about 10.3 million in 2009.

Hincapié estimates the number of students immediately eligible for the DREAM Act is around 726,000.

"It is appalling that we have allowed the mistreatment of young people to go on in the United States for political gain," Crow said. "These children are innocent; these children are attempting to move forward with their lives."

While the DREAM Act continues to be discussed in Congress, activists for the bill held a Vote4Me! Campaign National Conference Call on Sept. 29 in hopes of coordinating efforts to register eligible American voters for the mid-term Nov. 2 election.

This call was organized by Voto Latino, in collaboration with the United We DREAM Network, the Generational Alliance, and the United States Student Association.

Senators from the Student Governing Council at Modesto Maidique Campus also decided to take a step toward passing the bill.

Senators Moses Aluicio of the College of Arts & Sciences, Joanne Myler, of the Honors College and William-Jose Velez, of the College of Engineering sponsored a "Resolution to Encourage the Passage of the DREAM Act" that passed in the SGC-MMC senate unanimously.

"Now that [the resolution] has passed, myself and the other sponsors aim to send it to our representatives in national politics in hopes that it will act to persuade them to support the DREAM Act," Myler said.

The resolution states that "The Student Government Council Modesto A. Maidique Campus supports the passage of the DREAM Act" because "all young people who are willing to put in the hard work have the right to legally obtain an education."

"It comes to be a pressing issue, especially at FIU where there are so many immigrants," Velez said.

Aluicio, who originally initiated the resolution, told *Student Media* via email that his goal in passing the resolution was "to present it to all of Florida's Congressional Delegation" and "that the voice of over 40,000 Florida International University Students will bring this important issue to their attention."

### 'Boundless opportunities' for students

#### CAMPAIGNS, page 1

graduates," according to Noel Wallin, from Northwestern Mutual Financial Network.

Nevertheless, most employers emphasized that there are boundless opportunities for students of all fields.

Chris Overcash, a representative from Robins Air Force Base in Georgia explained that they "hire a little over 100 engineers every year." Though it was their first time at FIU, Overcash ensured that they will be coming back to recruit again.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** 

Modesto Maidique Campus:

GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

(305) 348-2709

news@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus

WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

(305) 919-4722 bbc@fiusm.com

Fax:

(305) 348-2712

Editor-in-Chief:

(305) 348-1580

jorge.valens@fiusm.com

Advertising:

Others like Nicole Burgess of the U.S. Coast Guard have come to multiple career fairs.

"FIU has quality students and the Coast Guard is struggling with diversity," Burgess said. "We're looking for more Hispanics to enroll and students here grasp opportunities."

The University had a few booths at the fair as well, with Phi Beta Kappa, one of the oldest undergraduate honor societies in the United States.

The National Security Department was also present looking to reach out to interested students. David Twigg of the National Security Department explained that their was to work with students to get them involved with the federal government. They offer certificate programs, undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as study abroad and government internships.

### BEACON

#### E-BOARD AND PRODUCTION STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF

JORGE VALENS

PRODUCTION MANAGER/COPY CHIEF
CHRIS TOWERS

News Director

GABRIEL ARRARÁS

Asst. News Director

Alexandra Cameio Lianamar Dávila Sanabria

BBC MANAGING EDITOR
PHILIPPE BUTEAU

LIFE! EDITOR

Adriana Rodriguez

Asst. Life Editor

Denise Rodriguez

SPORTS DIRECTOR

JONATHAN RAMOS

ASST. SPORTS DIRECTOR

Joel Delgado

OPINION EDITOR

CHRISTOPHER DIAZ

Asst. Opinion Editor

Jasmyn Elliott

Photo Editor Esra Erdogan

COPY EDITORS

BRIAN CORREIA,
SERGIO MONTEALEGRE, DANIELA
PEDROZA

PAGE DESIGNERS

JESSICA MAYA, KAYLIN KONCHAK, MIKE COSTA, JACQUES ROZIER

RECRUITMENT DIRECTOR

VICTORIA LYNCH

BUSINESS MANAGER
CHRISTINA RIVERA

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA

ROBERT JAROSS

ASST. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA

ALFRED SOTO

(305) 348-6994
advertising@fiusm.com

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

are appropriated by student government.





Thursday, October, 2010

7:00 pm
LOCATION:
Palace 18

movie is presented by the National Security Agency solely for the entertainment of the audience. The National Security Agency does not endorse the views expressed in the movie or any entity involved in the production or distribution. The following is a work of fiction and does not represent any actual events or persons.

ARRIVE EARLY! SEATING IS FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!

# PORTS

The Beacon - 3 Friday, October 8, 2010 www.fiusm.com

**VOLLEYBALL** 

# **HUNTING OWLS**

### Panthers host cross town rival in attempt to halt losing streak

**RICO ALBARRACIN** 

Staff Writer

FIU is looking to get back into the win column after suffering two road losses to conference opponents.

The Golden Panthers (8-8, 2-2 SBC) will face Florida Atlantic University (10-10, 1-3 SBC) on Oct. 8, and they will look to take out some of their frustration from the losses to Middle Tennessee and Western Kentucky.

No one was happy with the performance, including senior setter Natalia Valentin.

"We felt how it is to lose that bad," Valentin said. "When you lose competing, it's not the same as when you lose doing nothing. So now we have that feeling and I'm pretty sure no one wants to feel that ever again."

Junior middle blocker Sabrina Gonzalez felt that the quick turnaround did not help with the emotional aspect of playing a backto-back matchup.

"After the blow against Middle Tennessee, who is one of our biggest rivals, it kind of brought us down,"

Gonzalez said. "Western Kentucky then just be us three straight."

Coach Danijela Tomic was disappointed with the effort the Panthers showed on Saturday.

"It was an embarrassing loss, especially on Saturday," said Tomic regarding the loss to Western Kentucky. "It was totally unacceptable. It was probably the worst loss since I've been head coach. I never had a team that just laid down and did not compete."

The team did lose privileges, including access to the locker room. Although Coach Tomic is showing tough love, she feels it can be a learning tool.

"We told the team we can turn this into a positive thing," Tomic said. "We're at the half point of the season, and it's up to them."

FIU will play an FAU team that is much improved. After going 6-20 a year ago, the Owls are 10-10, being led by sophomore middle blocker Christina Wallinger, who leads the team in kills with 180. Setting up Wallinger for those kills is senior setter Joanne Marras Tate, who has 621 assists, good enough for 7th place in the Sun Belt Conference.

On defense, sophomore libero Cintia Nightingale works hard with a team leading 216 digs, while Wallinger and senior middle blocker Kristyna Dzmuranova protect the net with 60 blocks each.

With the improvement FAU has shown, junior middle blocker will not be taking them lightly.

We're going to beat them," Lakovic said. "We always have to be positive and think we're going to beat them. We're not going to underestimate anyone. We have to think that every opponent is our biggest

"They are much improved from last year," Gonzalez said. "We have to approach it as if we're playing Middle Tennessee."

When it came to expectations for what the mentality should be for the season, Coach Tomic was very clear.

"What we've done for the program, here at FIU, the players have to understand that we don't take steps back," Tomic said. "We move forward.





Una Trkulja [left] and Sabrina Gonzalez [right] have played well, but coach Danijela Tomic has disciplined her team and expects better.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER** 

### Team preps for biggest weekend of season

**JACKSON WOLEK** 

Staff Writer

The women's soccer team head into the week with a 4-0 conference record to face off against both Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee. The team will host WKU on Oct. 8 at 8 p.m. and MTSU on Oct. 10 at 1 p.m.

If how they performed so far in conference play is any indication as to what's to come of this weekend, then expect a low scoring affair. The Panthers has out-scored their opponents 7-0 since conference play has started, and could tie the record with most consecutive shutouts in school history if they allow no goals to Western Kentucky on Friday.

In order to do this, they must stop Mallory Outerbridge, who leads the Troopers in goals with four on the year, as well as be able to get past there goalies who have combined to post four shutouts on the year themselves.

This will be the 11th time FIU and Western Kentucky square off against each other, with WKU leading 6-3-1. The last time both squads played, it was a 1-0 overtime win for FIU. As of right now, WKU stands at 5-4-2 on the year and 3-1 in the SBC.

"Ithink Western Kentucky hasn't had there best season yet as far as there non-conference schedule, but when it comes time for conference play to come around, everybody's different, and there always ready to go," Head coach Thomas Chestnutt

Home field has been and should still be an advantage when they play WKU, as FIU's only loss against the Troopers at home came four years ago in 2006.

After they take on Western Kentucky, FIU's next test will come against Middle Tennessee, the only Sun Belt Conference team to beat FIU last year. The Blue Raiders currently stand at 6-7 overall, with a 3-1 record in conference play. Vanessa Mueggler is FIU's biggest threat, who leads the conference in goals scored with eight. They have also been able to post two shutouts this year, and are coming off of a three game winning streak.

Both WKU and MT only loss in conference play has come from the hands of Denver, who along with FIU are the only undefeated teams in the SBC.

"We know the teams are going to be lot tougher more aggressive, freshmen Chelsea Leiva said, comparing this upcoming week to last week's games.

"For both of these teams it's a chance for them to knock us down because, just like us, they would like to win the conference title. It's a big weekend for all the teams involved, so it should be a lot of fun, and I'm definitely looking forward to it," said Chestnutt on the big weekend **FOOTBALL** 

### Hilton back to health; Bryant excels at guard

FOOTBALL, page 1

"It starts up front. We have to win that battle up front at the line of scrimmage. Being physical and being able to push the line of scrimmage back. Everybody has to swarm to the ball," Forney said.

Like the Golden Panthers defense, the Hilltoppers have struggled to stop the run as well. But that still concerns some of the offensive lineman.

"The blitz game [stood out]. The linebackers are very downhill players," said sophomore right tackle Rupert Bryant Jr.

Despite the blitz schemes, the Hilltopers' defense has allowed over 200 yards rushing in three out of their first four games, which could result in a big day for Jeremiah Harden and Darrien Mallary at running back.

Quarterback Wesley Carroll is playing statistically better than WKU's Kawaun Jakes. Carroll has throw for 861 yards including four touchdowns and five interceptions.

According to Cristobal, Jakes has played a role of a caretaker at quarterback, throwing for 582 yards and only three touchdowns

The Golden Panthers lead the season series 3-2 over Western Kentucky, including a 37-20 victory last year on the road.

According to Cristobal, wide receiver T.Y.

Hilton will be 100 percent for the conference opener against Western Kentucky.

Hilton suffered an injury to his leg during the third game of the season against Maryland and was limited the previous week against Pittsburgh.

"He's definitely much farther along than he was last week. He has practiced full speed and we expect him to be full speed by Saturday," said Cristobal.

#### **CURTIS BRYANT SET TO START AGAIN** AT RIGHT GUARD

Before the season started Curtis Bryant was listed as a defensive tackle, but now the 6-2 283-pound junior may have found a new home at the right guard position.

Bryant got his first start of his collegiate career last week against Pittsburgh and made the best out of it.

He is the third different starter this season at right guard but according to Cristobal, he may be there for the rest of the season.

"He got his opportunity last week against a very physical defense. He went in there and did a great job. Actually him and Brad Serini graded out the highest for the offensive line this past week," said Cristobal. "He's a guy who has taken a huge step for us and he is a guy who is going to be playing a lot of football. It's going to be hard to unseat him as a

### Underdogs take center stage; Hillis the season's surprise

Everybody loves the For some reason, people love to see

COMMENTARY



JOEY CRUZ

the weaker opponent upset the favorite. Whether its Rudy or The Replacements, we praise upsets in football.

Week four of Fantasy Cruz entailed a plethora of upsets in the NFL.

The Colts have won 12 games a season seven years in a row. They have dominated the American Football Conference South for the past decade. And how the tables have turned this season for Indy as they sit dead in the middle of the division.

Peyton Manning is considered the all-mighty everything of football to many fans. So, how does the guy lose to the worst team in his division at home?

Fantasy owners are dropping David Garrard like a bad habit this far into the season due to the lack of productivity he's provided in the first three games. Proving all the doubters wrong, he shined against the Colts throwing for an impressive 162 yards and two touchdowns. Peyton Manning didn't have a bad day either tossing the pigskin for his usual 352-yard, two-touchdown game.

Maurice Jones-Drew was practically the third overall pick in everyone's draft. The bowling ball finally got his "Mojo" back giving owners something they can work with. They say patience is a virtue and now I understand why. Jones-Drew had a stellar 100-yard rushing game and two touchdowns.

Despite losing at home to the Jags, the Colts receiving core showed no sign of slowing down. University of Miami alumnus Reggie Wayne displayed his athleticism by catching 15 balls for 196 yards, while Dallas Clark and Austin Collie both had over 60 yards and a touchdown to their credit.

The Bengals have been the frontrunner in Ohio since both them and the Browns existed.

Can anyone explain how a receiver manages to have a 200–yard game and that team still loses? The battle of Ohio proved to go Cleveland's way surprisingly. Peyton Hillis came out the woodwork rushing for 102 yards and a touchdown.

Terrell Owens is Batman and Chad Ochocinco is Robin in their dramatic diva world. The duo looked more like Seinfeld and Kramer against the Browns as Ochocinco had an effortless performance, while Owens had an impressive 222-yard game and a touchdown.

The Bears finally don't

have to rely on special teams to win football games. They shocked the world beating Green Bay, but shockingly lost to the New York Giants at Chicago. Both defenses were fantasy focuses. The G-men had seven sacks against Jay Cutler, who suffered a concussion during the game.

#### **TRASH BIN**

Pierre Garcon (Indianapolis Colts) - The Haitian Sensation has been a fantasy bust this season only playing in the first two games so far. I don't know if he's even going to see the field for the rest of the season. With Anthony Gonzales and Austin Collie competing with Garcon, his future doesn't look too promising. Basura!

Percy Harvin (Minnesota Vikings) - Harvin is nothing without a go-to receiver alongside him. Not to mention Brett Favre isn't having the season of his career either. He hasn't had a great game yet this season and only has one touchdown against Detroit. The Vikings are trying to make him a number one receiver and he's definitely not. Trash

Brandon Jackson (Green Bay Packers) - For a second there, fantasy owners thought maybe this no-name back up could provide some points. He's just not good enough, running for less than 50 yards



Tony Dejak/AP Image

Peyton Hillis has emerged as a viable contributor for the Browns this season. He warrants a start the rest of the year.

in each of his last three games. The Packers throw the ball guys.

#### **HOT PICKS**

Peyton Hillis (Cleveland Browns) - This guy is definitely the second best Peyton in the NFL. He has two back-to-back 140-yard games with a touchdown. Hillis is looking like the next Mike Alstott. If you have him on your roster, start him. Hillis is showing no signs of slowing down.

**Shaun Hill (Detroit Lions)** - Hill is a great addition to your team. There is really

no word on Stafford's return as of now and Hill played an amazing four games throwing for 900 yards and seven touchdowns already. I mean, he does have Calvin Johnson and that pretty much guarantees success when your receiver is top five in the league.

Ahmad Bradshaw (New York Giants) - With Brandon Jacobs issues and lack of production, Bradshaw is shining with nearly 80 yards a game and three touchdowns. Bradshaw is an elusive and explosive back that can burst for a big screen or run at any

time during a game. Start

#### SANTANA SCRUTINY

I hate to say I told you so. He didn't even have an attempt thrown at him against the Eagles. He got a reverse and ran it for five yards. Are you kidding me?

Like I have said since the beginning of the season, Moss is not worth the start and you might as well drop him. The Redskins play Green Bay this week, so don't expect Moss to do anything against Charles Woodson. He's done.

A LOT OF OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT YOU AFTER COLLEGE.
BUT ONLY ONE IS CALLING YOU.

computer science to meteorology. Get the most out of college in AFROTC. Learn more today.





Why work for just another company after graduation when you can be a part of something more. Joining Air Force ROTC will help you develop valuable skills that will prepare you to be a leader both in the U.S. Air Force and your chosen career. Skills that otherwise may take years to develop in the private sector, if ever. And when you graduate, you'll be ready to serve as an officer in a variety of high-tech fields ranging from engineering and

AFROTC.COM • 1-866-4AF-ROTC



The Beacon - 5 Friday, October 8, 2010 www.fiusm.com

## **BEAUTY KING**

### Mr. FIU pageant debuts

**JANET CAREAGA** Staff Writer

This Friday, 10 male students will be showing off their school pride by competing for the title of Mr. FIU.

The first Mr. FIU pageant, hosted by the Miss FIU Scholarship Pageant committee, will be held on October 8th in the GC Ballrooms at 7 p.m.

The 2011 Miss FIU Scholarship Pageant, taking place in February, will be the seventh in the University's history.

Over the past few years, the pageant has awarded hundreds of dollars in scholarships to contestants.

Miss FIU titleholders have also had the opportunity to represent the University at the Miss Florida Scholarship Pageant, a direct preliminary to Miss America.

FIU's Student Government Association funds the Miss FIU program, and every year the committee works hard to find additional sponsors.

"Mr. FIU was an idea that we have been wanting to do for some time now," Maribel Chaluja, Executive Director of the 2011 Miss FIU Scholarship Pageant and Mr. FIU.

"When I got my position as executive director it was one of my goals and the question. committee loved it!"

The pageant will begin just as the Miss FIU pageant does, with an opening number performed by all of the contestants.

There will be a round of formal introductions and contestants will provide a fun fact about themselves.

"People can expect to laugh and really enjoy themselves," said Jasmy Garbalosa, 2011 MMC Public Relations Chair on the Miss FIU committee.

"This event is more laid back than Miss FIU, so I expect people to relax and just have a good time while promoting FIU spirit," she

There will be an "FIU spirit" round where contestants will be dressed in their most spirited outfits and answer questions about the University.

"I've been putting much thought into each round and what I'm going to do and I've been brushing up on my FIU history," said nursing major Daniel Tamayo, who is a junior competing in the pageant.

Other rounds consist of a special round, where people will have to attend to find out what the secret round will be, and the evening round, where contestants will be in formal attire answering a final on-stage

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

"When it comes down to it. I love this school! The idea of representing it as Mr. FIU would be a huge honor and a privilege," said contestant Robby Valls, a junior advertising major.

The committee will announce the second runner-up, first runner-up, and crown the first ever Mr.

There will also be a viewer's choice winner determined by which contestant receives the most monetary donations in his viewer's choice collection bowl at the pageant.

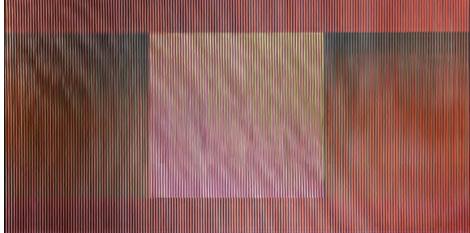
The overall winner will receive a sash and a crown as well as the chance to co-host the 2011 Miss FIU Scholarship Pageant in the spring with 2010 Miss FIU. Stephanie Jimenez.

Mr. FIU will also be making appearances with the 2011 Miss FIU at FIU events throughout the year.

"Miss FIU is at the beginning of spring so we figured having Mr. FIU in the fall is something fun and that way we can have an event each semester," said Chaluja.

The Miss FIU committee hopes to make Mr. FIU an annual event.

Tickets to the Mr. FIU pageant cost five dollars and all the money collected will be used for the 2011 Miss FIU Scholarship Pageant.



Carlos Cruz-Diez, Physichromie 1024, 1975, Aluminum, PVC

### Fall Exhibition Openings

#### TARGET WEDNESDAY AFTER HOURS

Where curiously creative minds meet. October 13, 2010 / 6-9pm

#### Fall Exhibition Opening Reception

Come celebrate the opening reception for four major exhibitions during Target Wednesday After Hours. The Museum will feature the opening reception for Embracing Modernity: Venezuelan Geometric Abstraction; Florida Artist Series: Selections from Anomie 1492-2006 by Arnold Mesches; Xavier Cortada's Sequentia and La Habana Moderna in the Wolfsonian Teaching Gallery at The Frost Art Museum.

This evening will also include a speed networking event, "How to Work a Room" open to all FIU Students with valid FIU ID. The presentation will begin at 5pm.

Target has teamed up with The Frost Art Museum to sponsor its popular programming series Target Wednesday After Hours. Designed to complement The Frost Art Museum's exhibitions, these events give visitors the chance to meet contemporary artists and engage with controversial art, live music, talks, films, dance, and performance art.

All events are free and open to the public.

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













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



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

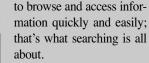
The Graham Center celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month by sponsoring a Colombian musical group, Guaimaro, and folkloric dancers on Oct 6.

### Internet search engines should focus on search, not ads

LIFE!

Since the Internet began, the one thing that has been constant is that people need to be able

**COLUMNIST** 



But what is the next step for Internet search?

Remember Lycos? Alta Vista? Ask Jeeves? All these sites sought to simplify the way people surfed the web.

Now they are all dead or dying, lost in a world dominated by Google and Bing.

Internet search has basically stayed the same because people didn't require anything more from it. Simply type something in and your results pop up.

Google recently launched Google Instant, a version of search that shaves seconds off of the average query by displaying results in

But I have to ask myself, is Instant the

next step in search or just a gimmick to satisfy shareholders with the illusion of growth?

Google Instant is cool, but other than giving you results faster and organizing things into different boxes it really doesn't change the core idea; search is search is search.

One thing to remember is that what makes search lucrative for Google is the way they interlace advertisements into it.

Fortune reported that 99 Google's revenue comes from the sale of ads in search through the use of services like

Google auxiliary services like Apps and GMail don't bring in the cash that ads and search do, so they really need to innovate in this respect.

So what's the future of search? Well, Qwiki, a new start-up that won Techcrunch's Disrupt event, a showcase of new start-ups, seems to think it's all about the "information

Qwiki is a new search engine that takes a

search query and compiles a video presentation based on that search.

It then plays the compiled photos and video while a computerized voice reads a Wikipedia-like synopsis.

Doug Imbruce, Qwiki's chief executive and co-founder, described it as a Hollywoodstyle experience.

It's hard to put into words, but imagine you lived in 2218, and you asked the computer about Justin Beiber and it just told you about him while showing you a video of him getting hit by a water bottle and some pictures of his ridiculous haircut.

The service, which you can see on Qwiki. com, is kind of like that.

On the surface, Qwiki looks cool, but I don't think it would be my go-to service for web searches.

I don't want to watch a video, I just want to search for something.

Searching on the Internet is kind of unpleasant for me. I don't want to be there too

long because there is really nothing to see.

I search, I find, I click, I move on. That's

Google needs to constantly evolve search in order to fight off Facebook as it is armed with a lot of freshly mined data from its 500 million users that make marketers drool.

Google needs to really keep innovating search, but not by making it faster but by making it more efficient and accurate.

They also need to diversify to make sure that 99 percent of the revenue doesn't come from one thing anymore.

In the end, Google does well when people use their services.

They may be the search option on the Web, but as it has shown us before, that might not last forever.

Fistfuls of Tech! is a weekly column about all things technological. For more tech news and commentary, check out FoF! online at fistfulsoftech.fiusm.com

**REEL TO REEL** 

### Animated film proves that age does not hinder quality

he struggle between vengeance speaking in a tone appropriate for the Ghost A and justice lies at the core of Bruce Wayne's existence.

COLUMNIST



DAVID BARRIOS

What else would drive a man to wear a cape and stalk criminals through the night except having your family taken from you in the blink of an eye in a Gotham City

Tossing a henchman off of a building with a certain

amount of strength or from a certain angle can mean the difference between a broken leg or leaving the sap to be a paraplegic.

Then, of course, there's the matter of going on patrol through the city every night after mobsters, Jokers and such.

At any engagement, he faces death.

One well placed bullet or blunt force head trauma lies between him and a gravestone next to his mother and father.

What keeps Batman (voiced by Kevin Conroy) from being a psychotic fascist is his, at times ridiculous, sense of ethics: differentiating vengeance and justice.

It's a differentiation that the newest vigilante in Gotham refuses to make; a character that, like Batman, stays shrouded in the shadows and disappears into mists of

This vigilante goes without a name,

of Christmas Future. A scythe in hand, he kills his targets: members of Gotham's crime

It is their similarity in size and dark appearance that ultimately brings Batman under suspicion by the Gotham Police

Animated and produced by the same crew behind Batman: The Animated Series, Batman: Mask of the Phantasm is a darker take on the Batman legacy more in the vein of Christopher Nolan's work with the franchise in The Dark Knight than with the more fantastic elements of the 1970's cartoons or the Batman films produced by Joel Schumacher and Tim Burton in the 1990's.

Masks are constantly being put on and taken off throughout the film.

In a flashback we see Bruce Wayne on the eve of becoming Batman.

He stands in a corner of his newly constructed Bat Cave, a silhouette against indigos and blacks.

He looks at his cowl, perhaps with a look of defeat or self-loathing. His faithful butler and confidant, Alfred (voiced by Efraim Zimbalist Jr.) gasps.

In the midst of all the mounting pressure around him, Wayne's former lover Andrea Beaumont (voiced by Dana Delany) is returning to Gotham after years in selfimposed exile.

Upon learning the news, Wayne retreats from a party held in his mansion, lets go of the façade of the billionaire playboy and remembers times when he didn't need masks.

When Batman approaches Beaumont while investigating leads into the killing, she exchanges terse words with the man she once

As he leaves through the window, she breaks down into tears.

This is a film with people who are ultimately faced with major choices in the way

The flashbacks throughout the film are of key moments: first kisses, first meetings, first crimes fought and heart wrenching goodbyes. Wayne made decisions and so did the killer. And so did Andrea.

The consequences of these answers are of course what this film is about.

And of course, there's always the Joker (voiced by Mark Hamill) to throw into the mix; the villain who doesn't care about consequences as long as he can bring laughter and

People seem to forget just how groundbreaking Batman: The Animated Series, was in terms of overall impact.

The gorgeous art deco inspired city scapes of Gotham City and the innovative process of animating the show on black paper were Look for it every Friday.

striking to both adult and child audiences.

It brought uniformly perfect voice acting that made each episode feel like a small movie, an asset that is one of the best parts of this film.

Bruce Timm, one of the executive producers, describes their version of Gotham City as if "the New York Worlds Fair had kept on from 1939 into the 1990's and incorporated itself into the city."

The film is relatively short at only 76 minutes. There's so much great drama and action to seize upon in the story that you almost want more.

Originally intended to be a direct to video release, it was bumped to a full theatrical release and bombed only to become a cult

For a time, it was the only Batman film to give an intelligent spin on the character.

At the end of the day, the cartoons, and this film for that matter, were aired on Saturday mornings and on afternoons after children returned home from school.

That the filmmakers would entrust such adult themes to a young audience is brave.

It's also the reason why I can return to this film some fifteen years after first watching it and call it a legitimately great work.

Reel to Reel is a weekly movie column.

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 8



Presented by SPC-MMC. WHEN: 5 and 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free WHERE: GC 140

**WOMEN'S SOCCER** The Golden Panthers take on the WKU Hilltoppers. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID WHERE: Soccer Stadium

**FIU VOLLEYBALL** Support the Golden Panthers as they take on the FAU Owls. WHEN: 6:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID. WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

#### DYNO'NITE

Multimedia jam session with FLEA. WHEN: 6 - 9 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free WHERE: The Wolfsonian 1001 Washington Ave. CONTACT: 305-535-2649

#### **MARIO PRISUELOS** ON PIANO



Presented by FIU Music and Spanish Cultural Center Series.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. HOW MUCH: \$10 students: \$15 faculty/staff/ seniors; \$25 general WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center

#### **FIU FOOTBALL**



on the WKU Hilltoppers. WHEN: 3:30 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID WHERE: Football Stadium

#### TELESCOPE TAILGATE

Join the Astronomy Club at the tailgate and enjoy some solar observations. Weather permitting. WHEN: 12 - 3 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free WHERE: FIU Lot 6

### **DOUBLE TAKE**

THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY, OCT. 9

The MFA candidates invite you to the opening reception of "Double Tailgating will be in Lot 6

#### WHEN: 7 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: Mosaic Building 161 NE 40th St., 2nd floor CONTACT: 786-256-7774

#### **ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE** Presented by FILL

Music. Faculty Woodwind Quintet performs an all-French program.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public WHERE: French Cultural Center, 618 SW 8th Street

#### ART + DESIGN NIGHT

Gallery walk at Miami's Design District. WHEN: 7 - 10 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free WHERE: Miami Design District. Call 305-573-

8116 for more info.

#### F. DANIEL RZICNEK



his work, answer questions and sign books. WHEN: 5 - 6 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free WHERE: Bas Fisher Invitational 180 NE 39th St, Suite 210

FIU takes on Middle Tennessee. WHEN: 1 - 3 p.m. WHERE: Soccer Stadium

#### **BURIED TREASURE** HistoryMIAMI presents a

SUNDAY, OCT. 10

talk by educator Nathan Samuels about the history of pirates in South Florida

WHEN: 1 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free for members; \$8 general; \$7 students/seniors; \$5 kids WHERE: HistoryMiami 101 W Flagler St. CONTACT: 305-375-1621

#### **DARK SIDE OF SPIRI-**TUALITY - NAZISM AND THE OCCULT Lecture by Peter Levenda,

FIU alumnus. WHEN: 5 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public WHERE: Temple Emanu-el 1701 Washington Ave. CONTACT: 305-348-7266

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

HOW MUCH: Free



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

# OPINION

Friday, October 8, 2010 www.fiusm.com The Beacon – 7

# Homosexual adoption risks outweigh benefits

SHEDWIN ELIASSIN

Contributing Writer

A Florida law that banned same-sex adoption for over three decades was recently deemed as being unconstitutional, thus allowing Floridian and homosexual couples, Robert Lamarche and his partner Donal Giustiniani to become the adoptive parents of a young boy.

Social viewpoints against same-sex adoption have made this issue controversial matter, causing unsettled feelings in many who which to keep traditional institutions intact.

When the case for lifting the ban on gay adoption was taking place, the state presented experts who argued that there was a higher incidence of drug and alcohol abuse among same-sex couples, their relationships are less stable than those of heterosexuals and their children suffered a societal stigma.

Teenagers raised in homosexual households are less chaste than children raised in heterosexual families and more prone to have homosexual relationships themselves in their adult life.

A study conducted by sociologists Judith Stacey and Timothy Biblarz reports children of lesbians are more likely to engage in homosexual behavior. The research in an *American Sociological Review* article in 2001 has found that daughters are more sexually adventurous.

Timothy J. Daney, Ph.D., found in his

research that there are high rates of promiscuity among homosexual men and couples, and a majority of their relationships are highly unstable. In male and female homosexuality, M. Saghir and E. Robins found that the average homosexual live-in relationship lasts two to four years.

Homosexual relationships do not teach children to respect the institution of marriage. Brad Hayton writes in the journal *AIDS*: "Homosexuals model a poor view of marriage to children. They are taught by example and believe that marital relationships are transitory and mostly sexual in nature. Sexual relationships are primarily for pleasure rather than procreation. And they are taught that monogamy in marriage is not the norm [and] should be discouraged if one wants a good 'marital' relationship."

A study in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* examined conflict and violence in homosexual relationships. The study found that 90% of the lesbians surveyed had been recipients of one or more acts of verbal aggression form their intimate partners during the year prior to this study.

D. Island and P. Letellier, authors of the book *Men Who Beat the Men Who Love Them: Battered Gay Men and Domestic Violence* states that "the incidence of domestic violence among gay men is nearly double that in the heterosexual population."

Grave concerns for children raised in homosexual families are the long-term

#### **AFTER THE SMOKE CLEARS**



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

Starting Jan. 2011, the tobacco-free campus regulation will prohibit students like Stephen Nuñez, sophomore, advertising, from smoking. Nuñez is trying to quit.

psychological damage and the eventuality that children placed in homosexual households who will be orphaned because of the destructive homosexual lifestyle. Wayne Tardiff and his partner, Allan Yoder, were the first homosexuals permitted to become adoptive parents in New Jersey. Tardiff died in 1992 and Yoder died a few months later, orphaning a five

There are a number of studies that claim that children raised in gay and lesbian households fare no worse than those reared in traditional families. However, much of that research is compromised by methodological flaws and driven by political agenda. The deficiencies of studies on homosexual parenting include reliance upon an inadequate sample size, lack of random sampling, lack of anonymity of research participants and self-presentation bias.

The facts are that these children are affected gravely and it remain in the long-term interest of any child to be placed in heterosexual families.

### Campus eateries must extend hours

#### **BRANDON THOMPSON**

Contributing Writer

This year the University welcomed many new dining locations on campus such as Chili's Too in the Graham Center and others like Chik-fil-A, Papa Johns, Salad Creations, and Dunkin' Donuts that came with the construction of Parking Garage Five.

Sadly, students whose daily schedule has them busy for the entire day will miss the opportunity to enjoy these fine dining establishments due to their early closing times

The students who live on campus have nowhere to eat if they are in need of a late- night meal or snack because of the early closing hours of the campus restaurants.

This causes campus residents to drive off-campus to find a snack, but for those who are without cars they have to find an alternative solution. I am one of those students who reside on campus without a car, and it is upsetting to have great restaurants on campus that close early.

Some students venture to the P.O.D Market in the Towers Residence Hall to find late-night fillings, but this market is

pricey and closes at 1 a.m.

If the hours of these places were extended they would receive great service from the community of students on campus as well as the faculty.

For the students who have nowhere to go on a Friday or Saturday night, they could hang out at Chili's or one of the other restaurants if they were open later.

A restaurant such as Chili's is known for having hours reaching into the wee hours of the night, but shockingly on campus it closes at 10 p.m. on weekdays and 8 p.m. on weekends.

Normally the hours of a restaurant on the weekend are supposed to exceed the hours open on the weekdays. The regular closing time of a Chili's is 11:30 p.m. on weekdays and 1:30 a.m. on weekends.

Having a busy class schedule in addition to with frequent club meetings keeps me away from these restaurants during the school day.

The time in which many students would like to go to enjoy these dining facilities is after their school day is done.

After 8 p.m. everything in the Graham Center besides Chili's Too is closed except for Fresh Foods and Jamba Juice, which closes at 9 p.m. on weekdays. On

the weekends nothing is open except Fresh Foods, Subway, Café Bustello, and Chili's Too. In PG5 everything closes at 8 p.m. on weekdays, 5 p.m. on Fridays, and the only things that are open on Saturday is Chik-fil-A and Dunkin Donuts, which close at 3 p.m.

For the students who have classes or labs on a Saturday they are limited to dining at Subway, Café Bustello, Chikfil-A or Dunkin' Donuts. All of the restaurants should be open on Saturdays.

For some of the restaurants to be open on Saturday, and others closed simply causes irritation for those who have to be here over the weekend.

Although staying open later would be a hassle for some of these places because they may be short-staffed, it would provide more jobs for students on campus.

Later hours calls for a demand of more staff members to work, and those students who are looking for work could have the opportunity to get a job.

Extending the hours of campus restaurants would give student's what they want and at the same time provide successful business. This would be a win/win situation for all.

PERSPECTIVES

### Do you think high school prepared you for college?



"I went to a dual enrollment high school. Even though I was doing college courses, I had a high school advisor that was really able to help walk me through everything."

-Priscilla Astree Sophomore, Pre-Nursing



"My high school didn't. My high school had a little bit more structure, and when I came to college the difference between complete restriction and total freedom was uncomfortable." -Stephen Meadows
Junior, Psychology



"I took all of the AP courses I could during my senior year in hopes that it would prepare me for the workload. But, in reality, I really wasn't prepared for college. It's a completely different style of education."

-Melanie Gomez Senior, Art History

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott.

#### DISCLAIMER

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

#### **EDITORIAL POLICY**

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters 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, Promoting Discussion

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

95.3, 88.1, 96.9 and streaming live on FIUSM.com



The Beacon - 8 Friday, October 8, 2010



#### **BRAZIL**

#### Brazil clown may be barred from Congress

The clown who got more votes than any other candidate for Congress will have to convince authorities he can read and write if he wants to take office.



#### **CHILE**

#### Chile president sees miners before Oct. 15

President Sebastian Pinera said his government is "very close" to pulling 33 trapped miners to safety and he hopes to be there in person to see the rescue.



#### **PARAGUAY**

Ill, Paraguay president faces calls to step aside

After President Fernando Lugo was rushed to a top Brazilian hospital on Oct. 2, many urged him to put his well-being before his presidency – a suggestion his aides say is actually an effort to push him out of power.

**BLEEKER MEETS BISCAYNE** 

# From the story of poles, to that of a puppet

I am like most women, emotional, crazy and sometimes I let my emotions get the best of me.





SANDY ZAPATA

This week has been far from easy. With events, reports, tests and quizzes, I felt just a little bit more exhausted than I usually do and just when I didn't think things could get

worse, relationship problems occur.

Needless to say, I was not in the mood to go out by the end of the week. With my luck, I have friends who refuse to take sulking as a solution to heartache, so they dragged me out. This time I didn't know where I was headed and with no goal in my mind, just crossed my fingers and left my life in their hands.

The plans apparently started on Friday night. My friend and accomplice back home in New York, Veronica Bernace, dragged me out of my sweats and my house. She's the random, crazy friend every one should have in their life.

There's this place that Drake sings about in one of his songs called King of Diamonds, yeah it really does exist and that's where we started. Right on 17800 and Northeast 5th Ave. If you haven't guessed it yet, it's a strip club.

I've never been the kind of girl who enjoys these types of places. I mean, why go to a strip club and see other women dance and shake their asses on men when all I ever end up doing is criticizing each and every one of them.

For some reason, this time it was different. The women in this strip club were actually pretty. Nice bodies, pretty faces and very friendly.

It still made me a little uncomfortable, so I resorted to the drink specials.

But after a few glasses and shots of patron, I was okay.

The music was good and luckily for me the people I went with weren't all about lap dances or boobies in the face. This wasn't at all how I expected to spend my Friday night, but for a non-strip club attendee, it wasn't too bad. The DJ, the drinks and neon lights did just what I wanted it to: forget. Even if for just a moment, everything that was troubling me in the past weeks went away.

Saturday on the other hand was the complete opposite of Friday night's event. Again, I owed it to my good friend Emilio Botts, who has always been into the theatre scene. I'm not much of a theatre person, but since I had no other choice I went along with it.

We went to go see "Petrouchka" at the Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida in North Miami. It's a ballet based on three puppets whose tricky puppet master gives them human emotions and brings them to life while putting them in different scenarios.

After a night of naked women, it was a real delight because all I

wanted was a little calm to the storm. As much as I enjoyed "Petrouchka" the actual character of Petrouchka brought out the emotional woman in me. I cried and sobbed as thoughts of my troubled relationship rushed through me.

Like most people in denial, I guess these are the stages we go through: anger, bitterness, indifference, nostalgia and sadness. It's a tricky little cycle, but it's inevitable.

After a weekend full of unexpected events I realized a few

One: I am so grateful to have friends who pick me up and drag me out of the house when I act like

And two: much like the great city that is New York, Miami has places that will make you forget and make you fall in love all over again.

Bleekr Meets Biscayne is a biweekly column published on Friday. The columnist pays her own way and receives no special treatment.

#### IN THE NAVY



Mary Lise and Carlos Ure, lieutenant and chief petty officer, respectively, from the U.S. Navy Officer Program, speak to Emily Grossman, senior psycology major, about active duty service on Oct. 6 during Career Services' Career Fair.

### Justices hearing class size amendment case

**BILL KACZOR** Associated Press

came under tough questioning Wednesday during arguments before the Florida Supreme Court as he challenged a ballot issue that would loosen state class size

Florida Education Association lawyer Ron Meyer wants the justices to prevent votes from being counted on Amendment 8 as it's too late to remove the measure from the Nov. 2 ballot.

The justices did not immediately rule, but some had a hard time with his claim the ballot summary for the Republicancontrolled Legislature's proposed state constitutional amendment is misleading.

Meyer said it's flawed because it doesn't say larger classes also would reduce the minimum amount of state money that must go to public schools under an existing constititional amendment.

"You're moving the floor A teachers union lawyer down," Meyer told the justices during oral argument. "The people of Florida are not being told in this summary that ... they're losing money."

> Justice Barbara Pariente was skeptical.

> "My humble question to you is isn't that obvious?" she asked.

> Meyer replied that voters need to be told specifically that it would "let the Legislature off the hook" on school funding. He noted that estimates of savings to the state range from \$350 million to \$1 billion a year.

> Although she's sided with the union in past decisions on school vouchers and redistricting, Pariente repeatedly challenged Meyer's arguments. So did Justice Peggy Quince, who said she wasn't sure Amendment 8 would make much difference at all in funding.

Assistant Attorney General Timothy Osterhaus argued a funding decline is mere speculation so there's no need to mention it in the summary. He pointed out that appropriations to pay for

gone up and down year to year. "There's no floor that you could walk on," Osterhaus said. "It's not a floor at all."

an existing class size provision

in the Florida Constitution have

Voters in 2002 passed a citizen initiative setting class size goals and requiring the state to pay for additional teachers, classrooms and other expenses needed to achieve them.

Then-Gov. Jeb Bush campaigned against that amendment. Bush and Republican legislative leaders repeatedly tried to repeal or water down the class size requirements but were unable to get a new amendment on the ballot until this year.

During that time the limits have been phased in but this fall for the first time every classroom must comply. The caps are 18 students in pre-kindergarten through third grade, 22 in fourth through eighth grade and 25 in high school.

Amendment 8 would allow three more students in pre-kindergarten through third grade classrooms and five more in higher grades. It also would require each school to meet the existing goals on an average basis.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce is among the proposal's supporters. The chamber's executive vice president, David Hart, attended the oral argument and later said he was "cautiously optimistic."

Amendment 8 "does nothing more than give us the flexibility at the local level," Hart said, but he acknowledged it also would "save the state money in these difficult economic times."

Hart said those savings could be used instead for teacher pay raises and other education needs.

Amendment 8's opponents, including the Florida PTA and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as well as the teachers union, argue there's no guarantee the savings won't be shifted to nonschool purposes.

"I have no faith that the Florida Legislature's going to redirect that money into education," said FEA President Andy Ford. "They're going to use it for something else. They always