



IRAQ

Baghdad bombings kill 31 people

Al-Qaeda's front group in Iraq claimed responsibility Friday for two Baghdad bombings last week that killed at least 31 people at a government security agency.



JAPAN

Chinese fishing boat released

Japan on Saturday morning released a Chinese fishing boat captain involved in a collision near disputed islands, following intense pressure from China.



BRAZIL

Fire ravages slum, destroys 300 homes

A fire has raged through a Brazilian slum, destroying more than 300 homes. Fire officials say nobody died and only 10 people were hurt. A cause has not been found.

Board of Trustees gives final go-ahead to campus smoking ban regulation

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

The regulation to ban the use of tobacco products on all University campuses was given the final approval by the FIU Board of Trustees at their full board meeting on Sept. 24.

All members of the board, which met at the Biscayne Bay Campus, voted in favor of the regulation except Helena Ramirez, president of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus, who was opposed to the implementation, and Trustee Cesar Alvarez, who abstained from voting.

"This regulation is truly a reflection of a commitment to two of the things that the [University] president has presented; our commitment to environment and our commitment to health," said Rosa Jones, vice-president of Student Affairs. "We believe that the regulation will provide us an opportunity to make our campus smoke and tobacco free and build a healthier university and move the [it] in greater alignment with the American Disabilities Act."

Jones complimented the University's partnerships with Miami Dade Health Department in providing resources for smokers who want to quit.

She added that the University Health Services Department has been offering tobacco counseling, tobacco management services and reduced cost nicotine replace-

Our focus will be and has been on creating the resources to be able to support our tobacco users, faculty, staff and students.

Rosa Jones
Vice President of Student Affairs



ment therapies.

The steering committee in charge of promoting the regulation has also been meeting throughout the past year, in order to further garner information from different representatives from the University community on how to approach the shift to a "healthier FIU," Jones said.

"The University's approach to this initiative is really one that is driven by an educational approach, recognition that this will be, for some, a cultural change," Jones said. "Our focus will be and has been on creating the resources to be able to support our tobacco users, faculty, staff and students."

Ramirez at times voiced strong opposition, specifically when talk turned to enforcement: namely, how the University would handle violations.

She inquired on what would happen once the method of social enforcement is deemed insufficient and stressed that a number of students are not completely on board with

the regulation.

"My only concern is that students have voiced that the implementation policy, in regards to the designated smoking areas that have been around for 15 years, was never truly enforced. What they kept saying to me was that if that [the previous policy] was not enforced, this is as good as having no policy at all," said Ramirez. "Students have yet to see a current implementation policy. That is why, on behalf of the students at MMC and BBC students, we are not in favor right now of taking this measure because students don't know what it is."

Ramirez introduced a motion to the board proposing that the topic of the smoking ban be tabled until the next full board meeting on December 9.

She was hoping that by doing such, there would be more dialogue between the students and the steering committee through

SMOKING, page 2

Senate confirms four new senators

VINCENT FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

Through heated debate and many candidates, the Student Government Association at Modesto Maidique Campus found and confirmed four candidates on Sept. 20 to fill empty senate chairs for the College of Business, College of Architecture and the Arts, College of Education and College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Among the four, the most highly contested senate seat was the College of Business Administration. After being voted on twice, it came down to Nick Autiello, SGC-MMC vice president, who cast the tie-breaking vote which had international business major Matthew Mockridge coming out victorious.

"I am very proud to say all candidates were superbly qualified, and the selection was very competitive, particularly for the seat for the College of Business Administration. Seven candi-

SGA, page 2

Political Scientist Finkelstein discusses Gaza blockade

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Students for Justice in Palestine, a student group advocating Palestinian freedom, held an event on Wednesday Sept. 22 featuring Dr. Norman Finkelstein who spoke on the so-called "Gaza Blockade" in the Middle East and other Israeli-Palestinian related topics.

"What happened in Gaza gives good reason to be concerned," Finkelstein said, "things are now taking a dangerous turn."

The Israel-Gaza conflict involves a number of battles in Gaza following the Israeli retaliation to a series of missiles fired at Israel by Palestinians in 2007.

The struggle between the two countries continues after the break of a six-month truce in 2008.

"I've been a fan of [Finkelstein] for a long time so it was great to see him in person," said political science major Hunter Altschul.

Finkelstein spoke in favor of the Palestinian government,



PHOTO CREDIT/THE BEACON

Dr. Norman Finkelstein (left) speaking to students during a lecture held on Sept. 22 in the Green Library

quoting sources such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch to support his opinion that Israel "did not have the right to place a blockade [on Gaza]." He felt that Israel's actions were "illegal under international law" and that "Israel used insane amounts of firepower in Gaza."

"[Finkelstein's talk] was a

great opposition to the mainstream media," said junior Sociology major Victor Agosto.

Finkelstein is a political scientist and activist with his main focus being the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and politics of the Holocaust.

He is a graduate of Binghamton University in New York

and Princeton and has served as a professor in several universities around the United States such as Brooklyn College, Rutgers University and New York University.

"If more people would share [Finkelstein's] perspective then we could get a two-state solution going," Altschul said.

The two-state solution, supported by Finkelstein and others, is a theoretical response to the Israeli-Palestinian problem.

It envisions a Jewish Israel alongside a newly established Arab country. Following the lecture, when asked by students about the best strategy to counter the conflict, Finkelstein preferred to "stick to the law."

"Our challenge is to muster enough will to have Obama do the right thing," Finkelstein said, "its pointless to speculate on what Obama wants."

Those opposed to Finkelstein's notions also participated in the lecture.

"I don't agree with everything [Finkelstein] said," said activist Jack Lieberman, co-chair of the Jewish-Arab Dialogue Association in Miami. "He prettified Hamas too much."

When asked about Jewish organizations that supported his ideas, Finkelstein identified the Jewish Voice for Peace.

GAZA, page 2

SR 1045 passes, new committee formed

SGA, page 1

dates in total applied for that one Business position,” said Senate Speaker William-Jose Velez.

Physical education major, Samir Patel, was the next person to be confirmed as the SGA College of Education senator. The SGA College of Architecture and The Arts senate seat went to theatre major Odette Barrientos, who was second to be confirmed.

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences SGA senate seat was the least contested of all the positions, with only one candidate nominated for the position. Nursing major Nicole Petival was selected for the position.

“Based on their platforms, presentations and answers – I

see them proactively beginning to work on their college issues, with specific proposals to address problems like fingerprinting in the College of Education or communication in the College of Business Administration,” said Velez.

Carlos Rodriguez, SGA Housing Senator, is very excited to work with the new senators in the coming year.

“Although they are entering in the middle of the fall term, I am sure that they are qualified to go head first into their work,” Rodriguez said.

Aside from the senate confirmations, a new ad hoc committee to establish political parties’ regulations was established with a 20-0-0 vote.

According to the Memorandum released on Sept. 22,

the committee “will not establish political parties at FIU.”

The purpose of this committee in accordance with section two of SR 1045 “shall be to analyze the current Elections Code and determine the appropriate regulations for political parties within the Student Government Council at Modesto A. Maidique Campus, given the fact that there are currently no regulations regarding groups or parties and their effect in the SGA Elections, based on the Mujica vs. Student Election Board case of 2010.”

Essentially, the committee is being formed to investigate certain regulations that, if it ever were to occur, would constitutionally keep the parties at bay.

According to the memo-

randum, SR 1045 will accomplish is to make recommendations to the Senate as to how political parties should be regulated, should they emerge during elections in the spring 2010 semester.

Senate Speaker William Jose Velez and Vice-President Nick Autiello, who will be a non-voting member of the committee, will head this committee.

The final members of this committee will be confirmed on next Monday’s senate meeting.

“I have already received notifications of interest from senators who wish to take part in the committee, and help conduct research. I see the mandate in the bill as a first step towards ensuring a fair elections process,” said Velez.

Finklestein emphasizes cooperation for peace

GAZA, page 1

According to their mission statement, JVP “is a diverse and democratic community of activists inspired by Jewish tradition to work together for peace, social justice, and human rights.”

“If you want to fight for a just and long lasting peace then we have to work together,” Finkelstein said.

Finkelstein also went into the details of the conflict between Israel and the Arab countries, specifically Israel’s attack on a flotilla heading to Gaza, the unease between Israel and Lebanon and Israel’s settlements in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, stating that he didn’t “particularly like Israel on a good day or bad day.”

“We got a very diverse amount of students to come and that’s what we were hoping for,” said Mnar Muhabreb, president of SJP. “I think it went very well.”

The SJP Chapter at FIU was established in Spring 2010 and has gained over 100 members.

SJP plans to begin meeting on Fridays at 3:30 PM. Their next event is still in process and remains undisclosed. For more information, email sjp@fiu.edu.

“[Finkelstein’s lecture] might be the greatest talk I’ve ever heard,” Agosto said.

Smoking consequences to be addressed

SMOKING, page 1

focus groups and forums.

The motion was shot down with three in support and five in opposition. Alvarez, chief executive officer of the law firm Greenberg Traurig, abstained.

Enforcement through peer to peer interaction will be the primary technique for enforcement for the first six to eight months, according to Jones.

This would give those individuals a “chance to understand the regulation.”

The idea of serious consequences for smokers who continue their habit on University property is a topic that the steering committee will be addressing at their future meetings once it becomes a pressing issue.

For the moment being, they are hoping to continue with positive reinforcement, through offering their UHS resources to those who want to quit the habit.

“In the long run this isn’t going to be easy, but it’s going to be the best thing for

the University,” said Mariela Gabaroni, assistant director of UHS and chair of the Smoke-Free Tobacco-Free Steering Committee. “We’re contacting other institutions that have gone smoke-free so that we can learn from them and have the best implementation possible.”


With the final approval by the BOT, the steering committee plans to focus on their marketing strategies that will make the regulation more public to the University community as well as inviting more constituents from different colleges and departments to attend their meetings in order to hear more ideas on how to make a “smoke-free FIU” more of a reality, come January 2011.

The next full board meeting of the Board of Trustees will be December 9 at MMC.


“What we need to do is have our students understand is that when the previous policy was coming into effect, we had a very open campus. It’s very hard to enforce that policy once the campus was built up and when

you try to get 20 feet from one building, you’re already near another,” said Albert Dodson, chairman of the BOT in an interview with *Student Media*. “It was necessary to revisit that issue. But it is also necessary that we have an educational program prior to an enforcement program so that you get a buy-in from all of our constituents from the FIU community.”

The University-wide smoking ban will take effect on Jan. 1, 2011.



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


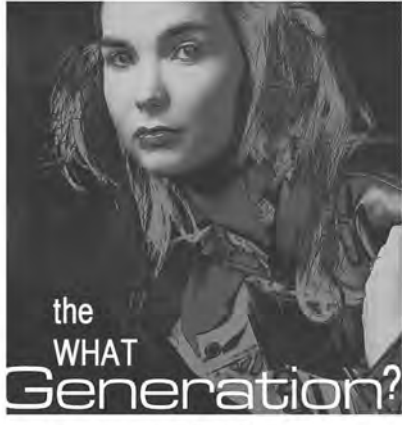
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Time & Location: Tuesday, September 28th, 2010
12:30pm-1:30pm
MMC-GC150
Lunch and refreshments provided!

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FOOTBALL: MARYLAND 42, FIU 28

BLOWN OPPORTUNITY

Panthers' costly mistakes prevent potential road upset

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

Just as the first two games of the season have gone for the Golden Panthers, they started off on a high note as they made their presence known early.

But just like the first two games of the season, the team was unable to maintain their strong early performance and surrendered a number of big plays as they fell 42-28 to the Maryland Terrapins on Sept. 25 at College Park.

The Golden Panthers struck first with the help of several clutch third down conversions and a questionable penalty deep in Terrapin territory that helped put FIU in the red zone. Jeremiah Harden capped off the 64-yard scoring drive with a two-yard run into the endzone with a few ticks over four minutes left in the first quarter, giving the Panthers the early advantage.

Maryland then managed to open up the passing game as quarterback Danny O'Brien connected on a short pass to Torrey Smith, who then ran on for a 32-yard

gain after cornerback Emmanuel Souarin went for the interception and missed, giving the Terrapin receiver plenty of open field. A facemask penalty as Smith was brought down put Maryland deep into FIU territory as the first quarter came to a close.

The Terrapins picked up where they left off as O'Brien floated a pass for LaQuan Williams into the corner of the endzone to even the score for the Terrapins on the first play of the second quarter.

With the momentum beginning to swing in Maryland's direction, the Golden Panthers were forced to punt once again and Tony Logan was set deep to receive for the Terrapins.

After eluding a couple of defenders, Logan was off to the races and dashed 85 yards for a touchdown run to put Maryland ahead.

Despite the Golden Panthers ability to shut down the Terps on the ground, they still had problems containing O'Brien, who continued to effectively move the chains through the air in the

second quarter.

But the defense was able to cut a threatening drive short and force a missed field goal, which set up a drive that ended with Carroll rifling a pass to Greg Ellingson, who broke coverage and raced easily into the endzone to tie the game with 5:33 remaining in the second half.

It did not take long for the Terrapins to reclaim the lead as the Golden Panther rush defense, which managed to keep the Maryland run game dormant with negative yardage, fell apart on one play as Da'Rel Scott broke free and ran 56 yards for a touchdown.

The Golden Panthers regained a spark in the second half when Carroll helped engineer a drive in which he connected with Ellingson on three passes for 39 yards to help set up short touchdown pass to Jonathan Faucher to tie the game.

The back-and-forth shooting match continued as Maryland fired back with a 68-yard pass from O'Brien to Smith just after the Golden Panthers committed a costly pass interference call on a

third down and long situation.

Things went from bad to worse when a pass intended for Junior Mertile near the sideline bounced off his chest and into the air, where it was intercepted by linebacker Adrian Moten and set up another scoring drive for Maryland.

The defense kept the Golden Panthers in the game late and a touchdown run by Darriet Perry

with just over four minutes left cut the deficit down to a touchdown.

But on the first play of the following drive by Maryland, Davin Meggett took it to the house for a 76-yard run to put the game out of reach.

For full game coverage, including player and coach reactions, visit FIUSM.com.



ROS CARR/AP PHOTO

Da'Rel Scott runs for a 56 yard touchdown in the second quarter of the game to put the Terrapins up 21-14. FIU went on to lose 42-28.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: ELISA CAREY AND MICHELLE GONZALEZ

Pair of seniors share contrasting leadership methods

RICO ALBARRACIN
Contributing Writer

On a September afternoon, with the heat blazing down, Elisa Carey walked into U.S. Century Bank Arena.

With sweat beading down her jersey and crutches in hand, she takes a breathe and sits down.

She is not alone, as Michelle Gonzalez walks in to the arena, comfortable as one could be in sandals and sunglasses.

Both players have smiles on their faces, as if they know something good is coming. Carey is a senior this year, along with Gonzalez, both of whom are facing a lot of expectations from a leadership standpoint.

While Gonzalez is the vocal leader, Carey has always been the soft-spoken leader on the floor. She hopes to change that this year, starting with the season opener against Baylor on Nov. 12.

"I feel that I'm not the vocal leader, but I will show by example. And the challenge for me this season is to be the vocal leader," Carey said. "To show by example, and to also be the voice that's heard in practice."

She seems to be ready for an even bigger role this season. When asked about head coach Cindy Russo's expectations,



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Carey chuckled.

"She's expecting a lot from me this season. And I'm gonna give it to her," Carey said. "She's expecting basically what I did last year plus more."

Carey led the Golden Panthers in scoring and rebounding last year, posting 13.6 points per game and 9.8 rebounds, all while being named to the Sun Belt Conference All Second team.

While those may be career highs for Carey since she joined FIU in 2006, she expected to push for more in the team aspect.

She won't be alone.

Michelle Gonzalez, a senior point guard from Puerto Rico, will also be looked upon by Russo to push this team to the next level.

Leading the SBC in minutes per game for the second season



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Elisa Carey, top, looks to stop an inbound in a game last season. The senior center is coming off the best season of her career.

Michelle Gonzalez, left, has been the vocal leader for the Golden Panthers since she became a starter in 2008.

Russo, an institution in the program, has had success in the past. Carey and Gonzalez hope to bring some success back to the program, both of whom which respect Russo and have enjoyed playing for her in their time at FIU.

"She's a great person and she will definitely support you. She's been really supportive of me. She let's me know how she truly feels. How much she thinks of me and I really respect that," Carey said.

Gonzalez went on to add, "Shes always there for me, and for my teammates. They all just want to work hard, to win, to help you as a person, to help you in basketball. I've been really happy to play for her. We understand each other. Of course there are things that we're not on the same page on but we just talk about it and it's great."

The Golden Panthers struggled to a 14-16 record in 2010, but that was an improvement over a 6-24 year in 2009.

"Yes I feel that last year we could have done better. Of course everyone feels that, but I believe this year we have more players and more variety," Carey said.

"I believe we can really do things this year."

in a row in 2009-10, Gonzalez is a workhorse.

When asked about what Russo is expecting from her, Gonzalez had much to say.

"Same thing she always asks me to do," Gonzalez said. "To lead the team, to talk to them. To listen to her. To follow what she wants me to do. Just stay focused on the game. Be positive all the time with my teammates."

VOLLEYBALL

Valentin, Trkulja lead team to first home win

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

FIU spent its first 12 games in of season on the road, losing to three ranked teams but surviving with a 6-6 record.

The Golden Panthers let out any frustration left over from the road trip by defeating Denver for the third consecutive year with a 3-0 (29-27, 25-16, 25-19) win on Sept. 25 at the U.S Century Bank Arena.

FIU (7-6, 1-0 SBC) welcomed a home stand in which they were to play five of their next seven games at home by battling off a resilient Denver team (6-10, 0-2 SBC) in the first and third sets and jumping on the Pioneers in the second to preserve a win in it's Sun Belt Conference opener.

The Golden Panthers had 40 assists on the night, led by Natalia Valentin's 35, who single handedly had more helpers than the entire Pioneers team. Freshman Una Trkulja had a game high 18 kills to pace FIU's attack.

The game tilted in FIU's favor when they got through a contested first set.

The long first set had no more than four points separate the team's throughout, but the Golden Panthers would then take a 20-19 lead on a Pioneer error before Trkulja put FIU up 21-19.

Trkulja later added a kill to give her team a 24-21 cushion, but the Pioneers tallied two straight points to come within one at 24-23. Denver then tied the score at 24-24 before going ahead a point to put FIU on the brink

of losing the set.

FIU rallied back before another timely kill by Trkulja on an assist from Valentin gave FIU a 29-27 set win.

FIU then won the second set 25-16 before closing out the Pioneers 25-19 in the third set to clinch the win.

Trkulja and Valentin had nine digs to lead the team and Andrea Lakovic led the way with four blocks.



REBECCA VILLAFANE/THE BEACON

Setter Natalia Valentin makes a play vs. Denver in a win.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Diperna has record setting day in Panthers victory

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

The FIU women's soccer team (4-4-1) started off their conference play at home with a 3-0 victory over UALR (4-5-0) on September 24th.

Going into the game, FIU knew they should be concerned about their whole opponent, and not just one player.

With that being said, they still managed to hold 2010 Preseason Sun Belt Conference Soccer Player of the Year Christina Veasley to only one shot on the game.

"Linn and Vicky did a great job in terms of challenging the first ball, and after that our midfield cleaned up after, so it was just a great job by the whole team," FIU Coach Thomas Chestnutt said when asked about his team's stellar defense against Veasley.

The game got off to a quick start for FIU, as they scored their first of three goals within four minutes. Senior Cassandra Sorzano connected on her third goal of the year as she got the

pass from Freshmen Chelsea Levia, who received her first assist of the year. Also receiving credit for an assist was senior goalie Melanie Raimo.

After the quick start, FIU relied mostly on their defense to pull them through to the second half of play, as they allowed only two shots the whole first half, compared to FIU's eleven.

Just as it looked as if FIU might be in for a close one until the very end, freshman Nicole DiPerna was able to find the net and get FIU a semi-comfortable lead with 18:48 to go in the game, striking the ball from 25-30 yards out, and getting the assist from both Mayara Bordin and Kelsey Rene.

DiPerna must like the feel of cotton, because nineteen seconds later, she was able to get a cross into the box and score her second goal of the evening to put FIU up for good. This time getting credit for the assist was sophomore Carlan Jones.

"The first goal I just had a lot of space and time and I

looked up and found where I wanted to hit the ball, and the second goal went by a lot quicker. I just took my space and found Carley wide and then she got her head up and put a good ball in and I just finished it," Diperna said.

In the end, FIU was able to get 17 shots in the game, with UALR only being able to muster up seven on the night.

Their defense helped Raimo secure her third shutout of the year, but more importantly help FIU to start the conference season off on the right foot.

FIU will now move on to face Arkansas State at home on Sunday at 1pm.

NEW RECORD, STREAK BROKEN

With Nicole DiPerna's two goals in just a matter of nineteen seconds, she shattered the previous record of 54 seconds held by Sasja Odenyo in 2000.

A new streak started for the team as well, as they had not won a conference opener since 2002.



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SPC PRESENTS: MAYHEM POETS



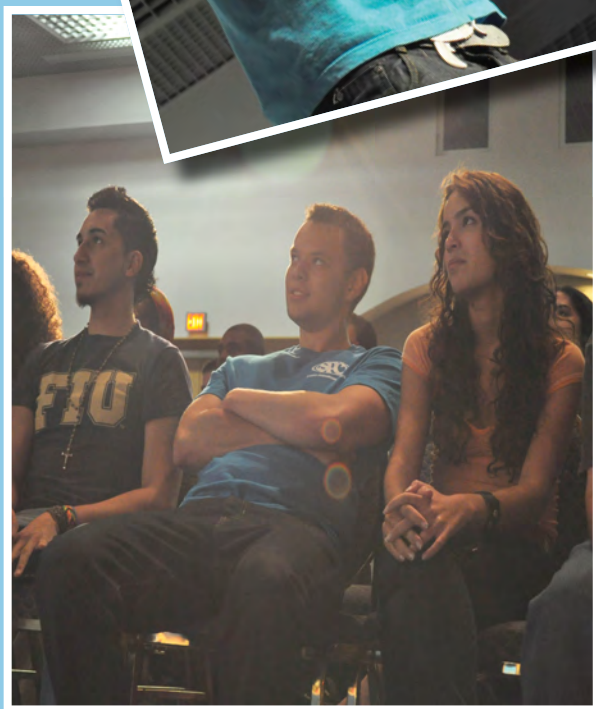
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REBECCA VILAFANE/THE BEACON

On Sept. 20 and 21, the Student Programming Council at Modesto Maidique Campus brought some culture to their events by hosting a poetry show performed by The Mayhem Poets instead of the usual comedy shows. Their event in Panther Pit included an open-mic event where students got to recite their own works. There were also henna artists designing tattoos for students at the event.

Possible reunion in sight for band after seven year hiatus

KATHY PAZ
Staff Writer

Older students at the University might remember Andrew McMahon from when his band, Jack's Mannequin, played the Uproar concert a few years ago.

Others might have heard of him through associations in the music scene or of his battle with and triumph over acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 2005 following a stem cell transplant donation from his sister.

Some may never have heard of him or his original band.

Aug. 16 marked the only Florida stop of Something Corporate's 10 Year Anniversary Reunion Tour. The band had been on hiatus since late 2004 following rising tensions and exhaustion for constant time spent on the road touring.

In fact, after a brief reunion in 2006 where they performed three songs at the Bamboozle Left Festival in California, the band had not been on stage together until 2010.

Rumors spread like wild fire over the Internet and airwaves regarding the possibility of future

shows after the first was confirmed for the Bamboozle Left Festival in Anaheim, Calif.

By February, two other concerts in May 2010, Bamboozle Chicago and the annual Bamboozle Festival in New Jersey, had added Something Corporate sets to their lineup.

On May 15, following the release of "Played in Space: The Best of Something Corporate" album, which had brought the band back to the studio to re-record two rare, unreleased tracks, they announced a summer Reunion Tour. The concert, like many others, was completely sold out. The audience was diverse, and the band's impact on the scene was clearly visible from the significant range of fans present.

From the second the lights dimmed, the crowd exploded into cheering and clapping. The band came to the stage, smiling and waving at fans, as Peaches and Herb's "Reunited" played in the background.

The lineup featured original members McMahon (piano and vocals), Josh Partington (guitar), Kevin "Clutch" Page (bass guitar) and Brian Ireland (drums), as well as Bobby "Raw" Anderson (guitar) who had replaced William

Tell in 2004.

The show kicked off with a high energy that continued to climb throughout the entire concert. It was truly Something Corporate back in their element. The show lasted almost three hours and featured a 17-song set and a three song encore.

"Orlando may be one of the first places we ever visited," McMahon said regarding the band starting out in 2002. "In that way, I guess it [Orlando] has been like a second home to the band for a long time."

When someone shouted, "Jacksonville!" during the show, the band alternated naming cities in Florida to see the reaction. Cheers were heard for every place named including West Palm Beach, Miami, Sarasota and Pensacola, highlighting the extent fans were willing to travel in order to attend this show.

It's been seven years since the release of "North," the band's last full length album. Both the band members and fans have grown up.

What does the future hold for Something Corporate? There has been no indication whether the reunion is permanent or a one-time deal. McMahon has said in the past that Jack's

Mannequin will remain his priority. He spoke of the tour as being "a crash course down memory lane" and how he was glad they had decided to do it.

However, the band has not brushed off the idea of putting out a new album in the future. Just don't expect it to be the half-assed effort that follows the whole "we-got-back-together-we-have-to-make-a-record-right-away" trend.

They plan on taking their time with it and producing something substantial for their fans. The direction of the hypothetical CD takes will be crucial in determining its success. Because Something Corporate shows extreme loyalty to those who have followed them throughout the years, we can only hope for a more mature album.

The band has never been one to succumb to the pressure of appealing to the teenybopper generation for record sales. McMahon's willingness to play "Konstantine" at every show or as he refers to it, "the song that has haunted my daily existence," is an indication of the level of appreciation the band has for their fans and its desire to give them just what they want.

FASHION FINDS

Military fashion is just a fad, don't invest in pricey pieces

Attention: military is in. It isn't camouflage print or combat boots that are causing a stir in the fashion world—it's the versatile purse-in-pants cargo pants and utilitarian jackets that are causing all the ruckus.

COLUMNIST



ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ

Instead of looking like an Army brat with logo tees and camo-print shorts, let's try and test the skinny cargo pants.

Last December, I picked up a variation of the skinny cargo at Anthropologie. To me, they were just a pair of really cute chino pants for \$19 that I couldn't say goodbye to even though they didn't have my size.

The chinos fit me more like skinnies than the loose-fitting, comfortable boyfriend style they were intended to be, but the price tag and my

compulsive shopping problem forced me to buy them.

Little did I know, I was just ahead of the fashion game.

Big denim designers like J Brand and 7 For All Mankind started coming out with jeggings, a cross between jeans and leggings—a weird combination that makes your knee caps look huge and fat.

They later did a cargo version of the jegging. You still get the fat knees and I understand the look they're going for, but it just doesn't work.

The point of the military look is to combine something structured and masculine with feminine choices like silk tops and platform heels. It's too complicated and has to be perfectly calculated to work.

Taking into consideration proportions and trying to still look like a girl when you're wearing such masculine pieces is too difficult for me to wrap my bubble brain around in the

morning when I'm getting dressed for the day.

It's kind of like my dilemma with rompers. I appreciate how they look on others when done correctly, but I'm too much of an over-thinker and a lazy person to figure out how to wear the trend.

I'm also not in favor of the military jacket. It reminds me too much of being in a marching band. It's great for the band, but not for me.

What does look great are army-inspired boots. What I've been seeing lately isn't combat boots, but styles that are taking inspiration from the rugged boot and giving it a softer appeal.

Now that it's going to be cooler than 95 degrees outside, it is awesome that they are in style because it won't be a brutal situation for your feet. Shoes are the easiest ways to spice up jeans and a tee and the boots do just that, so why not?

Forever 21 carries quite a few cute options for military boots, but I would recommend

investing in shoes with genuine leather to avoid feet funk.

My favorite are a pair of top-stitch short boots that run at a sweet \$26.80. What I like about these boots is that they aren't completely military, they have a hint of the western look, too.

However, be warned that Forever 21 shoes are notorious for giving its wearer feet funk.

Vince Camuto makes a beautiful pair called "Fivvy." The price tag isn't pretty, though; they're around \$200.

That's not the most expensive pair of shoes ever but for a trend, it may not be worth it to you.

If you are going to spend a good chunk of money on a pair of boots, stick to riding boots.

Fashion Finds is a weekly style column. Reviewers do not receive any goods in return for favorable reviews.

PRESS START

Shorter games more valuable than long adventures

Prepare for an epic adventure with 70 hours worth of content to fill this world.

That's a popular tagline among developers to throw around when trying to convince players and consumers that their \$60 won't be wasted on a shallow game.

However, when I hear that lovely tagline, two things always come to my mind: "Oh boy, padded length," and, "How the heck will I have the time to even beat that?"

COLUMNIST



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE

Recently I've been on a bit of a nostalgia trip, so I've been revisiting older games like *Sonic The Hedgehog 3* on the Sega Genesis and *Chrono Trigger* on the Super Nintendo. Both of these titles showed me one thing: short games are quite nice.

Developers should shy away from creating long games and focus on titles that are shorter but include solid gameplay and remain as entertaining on replays.

For modern games packing a \$60 price tag, the

onus falls on developers to justify the price with content in their games, even if it means artificially inflating game play to force the player to "play" for longer periods of time.

Square Enix is a master of this practice, pitching titles like *Final Fantasy XIII* as "having over 100+ hours of game play," but leaving out the fine print that a large chunk of that is doing the repetitive task of killing monsters to make the characters stronger or have better equipment, a practice known as "grinding."

When you're a college student who also has a job

(maybe even two) and a social life to keep up with, this only serves to drag out the game to unbearable lengths, making it less likely the player will ever see the credits roll.

Older games, despite often carrying a price point of \$50 to \$70 back in their day, were rather short and often beatable in an hour or two, or 30 hours at the absolute most.

While smaller memory size and the use of expensive cartridges are key factors for the high price, these limitations forced developers to really make a game shine in order for it to compete in the market.

This included making the game entertaining enough for multiple playthroughs.

Experiences like this are still common on portable systems like the Nintendo DS line of handhelds and Sony's PlayStation Portable, but the long-game effect is slowly beginning to enter this realm too.

Only one platform has embraced the "micro-game" experience fully.

Apple's iPhone is an excellent embodiment of quick games; its portability has been a fine home for pick-up-and-play titles such as *Plants Vs. Zombies* or *Angry Birds*.

When waiting for a friend or riding the bus, players can just jump in and play for

small bits of time and stop just as quickly.

No need to hunt for a save spot at all.

Nintendo, Microsoft and Sony have similar models with their online services, though they aren't as well developed, even with the portability of Nintendo's DS line and Sony's PSP.

Games should be treated similarly to a good book: utilizable in spurts and contain an experience that enamors players enough that the world in it can be revisited again.

Unless you like reading through all of "War and Peace" quite often.

Press Start is a weekly column on video games.

RESEARCH=\$\$\$\$\$\$!

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<http://tinyurl.com/246umht>
APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCT 15, 2010**

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

MONDAY, SEPT. 27

CAPOEIRA IN THE PIT



WHEN: 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5
WHERE: Graham Center Pit

FREE HIP-HOP

Free hip-hop; no registration necessary!

WHEN: 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Rec Center

SHAKIRA IN CONCERT



WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$13.90 - \$110+
WHERE: American Airlines Arena, 601 Biscayne Blvd.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

GC WII SPORTS



Presented by SPC-MMC. Show off your Wii Bowling skills!
WHEN: 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Graham Center Pit

TUESDAY TIMES ROUNDTABLE

@ MMC
Topic: The WHAT Generation? Defining Your Place in History

WHEN: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 150

@BBC

Topic: We're No. 11!
WHEN: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: WUC 159
Free lunch. For more info, visit goglobal.fiu.edu

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

Employers misusing internships

NEDA GHOMESHI
Staff Writer

The United States' high unemployment rate has been a persistent problem in the last couple of years. As the unemployment rate continues to grow, firms are expanding their demands on interns to an alarming level.

I see this as an exploitation of interns who have limited options. According to a Washington Times article published on April 7, 2010, "Labor market analysts are questioning the fairness and legality of the entire practice."

With each passing year in this dreadful economy, employers are increasingly relying on their unpaid interns to the point of often laying off some of their full-time employees to save revenue.

Between 1992 and 2006, there has been a significant increase in the percentage of internship participation. According to the Washington Times, "In 1992, just one in 10 graduating college seniors said they had worked as an intern. By 2006, the percentage had jumped to 83 percent 2.5 million U.S. students annually."

Nothing can be done about this unfortunate cycle as employers have every right to hire unpaid interns and lay off other employees to save costs.

However, the process is affecting the unemployment rate in the United States. Labor law blogger, Jeffrey M. Hirsch, associate professor of law at the University of Tennessee, College of Law, said, "It's obviously been an issue for some time, but the bad economy has given employers more incentives to pinch pennies and made interns more desperate for experience."

This is a growing issue for students graduating. Unpaid internships are taking away from the job opportunities that were once available.

Unemployment rates are consistently high throughout the United States. According to the New York Times, the national unemployment rate remained unchanged from June to July, hovering at 9.5 percent.

Unfortunately, Florida's unemployment rate rose to 11.5 percent in July from 11.4 percent in June.

In Palm Beach County, the unemployment rate rose to 12.2

percent from 11.8 percent in June. By offering more internships, and less jobs, employers are aggravating the unemployment rate.

Sometimes, employers have good intentions. They truly want their interns to learn and benefit positively from their internship. Often, however, that is not the

Employers are increasingly relying on their unpaid interns to the point of often laying off some of their full-time employees to save revenue.

case.

In April 2010, The New York Times reported that states such as California and Oregon have begun probing whether private employers are using unpaid intern programs to dodge minimum wage laws.

In addition to managing payroll costs, employers cut

their tax obligations by hiring unpaid interns. Larger companies benefit the most from such unpaid interns since the benefits are multiplied.

This is unfair to qualified applicants with respectable résumés and the eagerness to work. Many recent graduates are feeling the tense unemployment environment.

A New York Times article published on Feb. 20, 2010, explains the unfortunate financial situation of Janine Booth.

Booth is a 41-year-old mother of three. She has a résumé full of well-paid sales jobs, and seems the sort of person who would have little difficulty getting work.

Yet two years of looking have yielded little but anxiety. She claimed that most places hired interns and were not looking for full time employees.

The purpose of an internship is to learn, but employers are aiming to capture a side benefit: no employment cost.

Employers are taking advantage of young, eager and driven students by giving them tasks that should be assigned to employees.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student veterans' chance to create change

ZACORY RUIZ
Special to The Beacon

Student veterans are those rare individuals who have not only answered their nation's call to service, many of them having deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, but who are also playing an active role in our economic recovery.

By complementing the managerial and leadership skills they learned in the armed forces with industry-specific bachelor degrees, they are better preparing themselves to excel in the job market and help lead America out of this recession.

I myself am a student veteran. I served in the United States Marine Corps from 2004 to 2008 as an 0351 infantry assaultman. I completed two combat tours to Iraq before being honorably discharged as a sergeant and I am now in my junior year majoring in finance and minoring in math.

FIU has the third-largest student veteran population in the state of Florida at 954 strong. We are currently an untapped resource with the proven ability to lead and execute, and if we could only unite towards a common goal, we could quickly begin to make a difference.

The world that veterans of the past came back to after their time in service was much different than the world that today's veterans are returning to. Family members being laid

off, the family home being foreclosed or the family business going bankrupt are somber events that have touched nearly every American, let alone veterans.

For many veterans, the established friend and family support network that they thought they would be coming home to has long since been reshaped. Nevertheless, as the old adage goes, "when the going gets tough, the tough get going."

The time has come for our generation to take the lead and establish ourselves as a decisive force in ensuring our nation's continued success.

That is the goal of Future Veteran Leaders of America. FVLA is a student veteran organization that is truly unique to not only the FIU campus, but to the nation as a whole. FVLA's mission is to ensure student veterans' success in the job market upon graduation by exposing them to networking events and internships in their intended fields while they are still in school.

We plan on getting involved in the community to cultivate the lasting relationships that will build the support base and alliances needed to further our goals in the future. We want to lead the way in ensuring that the nation we fought so dearly to protect has a future that is brighter, and more prosperous than it has ever been in the past.

FVLA was only created this semester, so now is the perfect time to get involved. This is an opportunity to become one of the founding members of an organization with nationwide potential, to have your vision help shape FVLA's future.

We will be hosting our first meeting on October 6th, at 3:15pm in GC 280 for all of those who are interested. Our path is far from set in stone, and neither are our leadership positions.

We welcome and encourage ideas and motivated individuals who want to make a difference, but in order to make all of this work we need your support! Mark your calendars and spread the word! I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting.

Zacory Ruiz is the president of FVLA. To contact FVLA, go to their website at <http://fiucampuslife.orgsync.com/org/fvla>

FVLA

FIRST GENERAL MEETING

- Time: 3:15 p.m.
- When: 10/06/10
- Where: GC 280

PUBLIC REASON

A radio show gathering opinions and promoting discussion every Tuesday and Thursday at 1 p.m. on Radiate FM, 95.3 in Miami, 88.1 in Homestead, 96.9 in North Miami and streaming live on FIUSM.com.

VERBATIM

"I think it's a political mistake. It's a dumb thing to do to try to use the defense authorization bill in times of war to advance a liberal agenda. And what is that liberal agenda? The liberal agenda is to have open gays serving in the military."

Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe, Republican

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 5-600 word letter 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.

THE BEACON | Editorial

To make University a healthy campus, administration needs to step up to the plate.

Given the University's profound care for the health of its students, smoking shouldn't be the only product banned on campus.

"The University has to stand for something, and we know that health is critical for students, faculty and our professional staff," said University President Mark Rosenberg in a recent interview with *The Beacon*, while justifying the University-wide smoking ban set to be effective on Jan. 1, 2011.

According to a University Health Services spokesperson, only 20 percent of the available options in vending machines and the convenience stores on campus are considered healthy alternatives.

Some experts think that carbonated soft drinks, with their high amounts of artificial sugars and caffeine are unhealthy.

The Florida public school system, in an effort to reduce the formations of bad habits beyond teenage years, is moving forward with a ban on sugary drinks from primary through secondary education, including chocolate milk.

The Beacon agrees with the Florida law that young students shouldn't be guzzling down caffeine and sugar throughout the day. The University should follow suit if the health of the student body is the main concern.

Pepsi Co. was contracted by the University to be the official drink provider for five years, with the possibility of renewal for up to nine years. The \$8 million deal allowed Pepsi to sponsor events and plaster the campus with vending machines filled with sugary soft drinks as well as signs.

Perhaps the University should either give the money back to Pepsi or use the funds to invest in healthy projects, such as Smoking Cessation Sessions, a program offered by the University Wellness Center geared toward helping students stop smoking.

But let's not stop there, students have to eat don't they?

On campus dining options for students offer more fatty fast foods than they do healthy options. Restaurants such as Chick-fil-A, Burger King, and Dunkin' Donuts feature large menus of food that offer little nutritional value.

Furthermore, these options outweigh healthier alternatives like Subway and Salad Creations, the latter buried in a deep, dark corner of the thriving PG-5 Market Station, which made \$72,000 in combined sales in the first week of school.

Moreover, the university serves alcohol on campus. Chili's Too, which was opened early this year, serves beers and margaritas to students 21 years old and over on a daily basis.

The negative effects of alcohol on the body are well documented, and with the University's new concern for the student body's health, perhaps alcohol should be next on the administration's list of things to ban.

If the University administration truly wants to step up to the plate, then these places should be put on notice as well; make student's health your priority or be banned.

The University wants to improve its image by enforcing this smoking ban, making the institution a healthier place for students and faculty all the while maintaining parity with similar policies of bigger institutions, particularly those with medical schools.

If the University really cared about the health of its students then it would ban soft drinks and unhealthy fast food from campus as well, taking a stand regardless of how much profit they bring in.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Teens found guilty of killing 7 cab drivers

Five teenagers have been found guilty of killing seven taxi drivers and seriously injuring two others by forcing most of them to drink drain cleaner. The teenagers were sentenced to three to five years in prison.



PUERTO RICO

Extension for voiding birth certificates

Puerto Rico is giving islanders one more month to use their original birth certificates before they are no longer recognized, as offices struggle to handle a flood of applications for new, more secure documents.



TURKS & CAICOS

T&C party abandons reform talks

Doug Parnell, chief of the People's Democratic Movement, said the country discontinued talks with British officials until a guaranteed date is set for an election restoring self rule.

FLOWERS FOR PEACE



NANCY ORTEGA/THE BEACON

Hospitality majors (from left to right) Christian Clark, freshman; Maria Reynaga, sophomore and Alina Ortiz senior make potted plants in honor of World Peace Day on Sept. 21 in Panther Square.

Banned Books Read-out returns

JOANNA SANCHEZ
Contributing Writer

One week during the fall is dedicated to reading banned books aloud.

In honor of this week, Sept. 25 to Oct. 2, the University will have its 10th annual Banned Books Read-out event on Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., in Panther Square.

Administration, staff, faculty and a student government representatives will read from banned or challenged books and discuss the impact censorship has on civil liberties during the read out.

President Mark Rosenberg, Dean of Libraries Laura Probst, Librarian George Pearson, Marian Demos associate professor of classical languages and humanities and Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus President Christin "Cici" Battle will be reading excerpts.

They will be reading a passage from various banned books and say why each one was banned.

There will be a question and answer session from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in which students will be able to ask questions regarding banned books. Students are encouraged to grab a banned book from the selection and read aloud a passage and then state the reason it was banned.

"It's a great opportunity to participate in our first amendment," said Lauren Christos, associate librarian. "We take it for granted that we can do

these things. For example, being able to physically get a big group together and do this."

Christos has been hosting the Banned Book Read Out since 2000.

To classify a book as a "banned book", it must be: a library material that has been challenged in an oral or written complaint, attacked publicly and recommended for further action and removed from the library collection. Books get banned for a variety of reasons ranging from: sex, politics, language, to witchcraft or supernatural topics.

"I wanted to give the campus community an opportunity to see our first amendment in action," said Christos. "I wanted to inform people that book banning is a never ending challenge that has been going on for centuries, and it still goes on today."

The Banned Books event is a way to express the meaning of Article 3 in the Library Bill of Rights. Which states, "Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment."

"This isn't just something in the past, it's something we have to be concerned with today because suppression of free speech and free expression through books is still an ongoing problem in many places around the world," Pearson said.

According to the American Library Association, censorship in the United States is currently moving toward

the Internet, video games and social networks, such as Facebook and Twitter. Parents are also depending more on rating systems for their child's safety.

Besides participating in the Banned Book event, students can get involved in many ways by: supporting school and public libraries by serving on the board and voting, joining the Freedom to Read Foundation or joining the Office for Intellectual Freedom on Facebook and YouTube.

The Perks of Being a Wall Flower, To Kill a Mocking Bird, the Twilight series and Harry Potter all have one thing in common: they are all banned books.

The top three reasons cited for challenging materials as reported to the Office of Intellectual Freedom are the material was considered to be sexually explicit, contained offensive language was unsuited to any age group.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky was banned for drugs, homosexuality, offensive language and religious viewpoint.

To Kill a Mocking Bird by Harper Lee was banned for racism, offensive language, and being unsuited for age group. The Twilight series by Stephanie Meyer was banned for its religious viewpoint and being sexually explicit.

"[The readout] is an opportunity to highlight [the] importance of this right to read and not have someone tell us what could and could not be read," said Probst. "This event helps raise awareness of censorship."

TUESDAY TIMES ROUNDTABLE

Motivation, involvement on the decline

BANELLY PAZ
Contributing Writer

With student apathy being seen as a major problem at campuses across the country, the University is attempting to shed light on the issue and come up with solutions that may help spark active participation among students. The upcoming Tuesday Times Roundtable is called "Who's to blame for student's success?"

Fernando Figueredo, professor and chair of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications' advertising and public relations department, will be the moderator at the fifth roundtable taking place at on Sept. 28 in WUC 159 at 12:30 p.m.

The roundtable is set to address issues concerning student motivation and involvement in their own education.

Figueredo chose to address an article written by Thomas Friedman from The New York Times called "We are No. 1(1)!" Because it talked about issues affecting education, student values and work ethic now-a-days.

"In this generation the drive has been to blame everyone else, and not take personal responsibility for actions," Figueredo said.

According to Figueredo, there's a lack of motivation in students. This being the result of culture, parents and the environment they are being raised in, which has a high concentration in lack of effort. If students understand these issues they would have the opportunity to change the way they do things for better.

"My biggest hope is that we get in a lot of discussion," Figueredo said. "That this article becomes somewhat controversial so that all points-of-view from students and faculty members start to come out so we can reach conclusions that we agree are fair."

According to the article, "What made our greatest generation great was a combination of factors. First, that the problems faced were huge, merciless and inescapable. Second, the leaders were not afraid to ask Americans to sacrifice. Third, the generation was ready to sacrifice, for the good of the country. And fourth, because they were ready to do hard things they earned global leadership by saying: Follow me."

"This is a combination of things that makes it seem like the United States is not advancing as a country," said Sebastian Escobar, senior international relations major. "Like some people like to say, 'the US has reached its peak and it's on its way down.'"

He disagrees on how grim the picture is for the US.

"This is just a difficult time, it is not the end of the US, but it is a perfect time to ask ourselves what we are doing wrong and improve with real debate by our political leaders, like the article suggests." Escobar said. "But the fact that we are talking about this problem means we can engage it and accept that a lack of motivation exist and is the major force that affects our performance at school."