

GRAND THEFT AUTO

Modesto Maidique Campus plagued by car related thefts

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
News Director

One graduate student's negative experience with FIU Police has begun to make waves throughout the University, shedding light on a large number of car related thefts at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

In an email sent out to members of the University administration, Katylynn Beltz, a University graduate student, described her experience with a University police officer just after her car had been broken into. According to Beltz, the police officer informed her that she was the fifth person on July 19 to have their car vandalized or stolen. Already incensed by having her car broken into, the situation came to a boiling point after remarks made by the police officer attending to Beltz.

"He informed me that campus police has no intention of catching the culprits since they want to maintain the 'crime free' status of the campus," stated Beltz in the July 20 email.

According to Beltz, the officer attending to her also went on to say that "the only way they would do anything about it would be if they were forced to after people started to make waves about it on campus."



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

FIU Police Service Technician Ricardo Carballo (left) and Brandon Montalvo (right) respond to students' questions about car thefts on campus.

"The behavior Ms. Beltz describes is not acceptable or typical of our officers," said University Provost Douglas Wartzok in a statement to Student Media. "We have a dedicated team of public safety professionals who work around the clock to maintain our safety and who conscientiously report every

incident." Beltz's email was sent to a majority of the University's administration, including Wartzok, as well as University President Mark Rosenberg and Public Safety Chief Bill King. Since July 20, the email has been widely circulated throughout the University.

"I'd like to apologize if my officer made the statement," stated King referring to the officer's 'crime free' status comment, in an email sent out to the University community. "That is simply not true and it is contrary to the mission of this department."

King then addressed the amount of auto thefts that have

taken place at the Modesto Maidique Campus. According to King, since the start of 2010, the University has had a total of 92 vehicle related crimes reported. These included 19 thefts from a vehicle, 34 burglaries to a vehicle, 23 reports of vandalism to vehicles and 12 stolen vehicles.

Since June 21 there have been seven stolen vehicles reported on campus. Since then, there have also been ten burglaries or thefts which have taken place at parking garages or parking lots on campus; two of which occurred at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Theft crimes include items taken from outside vehicles such as "parking decals, hood ornaments, hubcaps," while burglaries include items taken from inside vehicles such as "cell phones, iPods, laptops and book-bags."

According to the FIU Police Department's "Campus Security Report and Safety Guide," there were 62 car related thefts at MMC in 2006, 30 in 2007 and 32 in 2008.

Sarah Jantzi, a graduate student seeking a Ph.D in forensic chemistry who works with Beltz in the same office, also had her car broken into and was "absolutely disgusted" upon hearing about the alleged remarks of a Univer-

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FBLA-PBL reels in awards

ZORAIDA PASTOR
Contributing Writer

FIU's Future Business Leaders Phi-Beta Lambda chapter has returned with a series of successful outcomes in this year's National Leadership Council Conference, which was held in Nashville Tennessee.

The conference is held annually in different parts of the nation; in which members compete in college wide divisions, according to FBLA President Bruno Cevallos, 19.

"FBLA is one of the largest business organizations, with 250,000 members nationwide," states Cevallos. The purpose of the organization is to "enhance the professional development of students. It was developed to promote the professional development of students," Cevallos states.

This year's Nashville conference, which met from July 8th to July 12th, had chapter members compete in a variety of examina-

[These victories] show the edge that FIU has over other top universities

Jose Betancourt, PBL-FBLA State President

tions and performance events, according to the FBLA-PBL newsletter.

Each year the top-ranking participating chapters present a community service and a free enterprise project.

However, "chapters are not mandated to submit both projects but the trend is that all chapters who place top in the nation have both a community service project and a

FBLA-PBL, page 2

FIU students react to Arizona immigration bill

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

President Barack Obama's recent speech on immigration reform along with controversy surrounding Arizona Senate Bill 1070 has triggered troubled reactions not only across the nation, but FIU campus as well.

Associate Professor of Law José Gabi-londo explained that the Arizona law faces certain legal challenges. He claims the law was invalid – as only the federal government can implement it and it was therefore unconstitutional – giving way to racial profiling.

"It's an unfortunate law, but it helps us understand cultural backlash," Gabi-londo said, "I think it will probably be

enjoined."

Arizona SB 1070 entitles state law enforcement to interrogate any person "where reasonable suspicion exists that the person is an alien" and seeks "to discourage and deter the unlawful entry and presence of aliens and economic activity by persons unlawfully present in the United States."

The bill also mentions that "the person's immigration status must be determined before the person is released and must be verified with the federal government" if arrested.

The controversy surrounding the Arizona law has ignited discussion amongst FIU students as well.

"We don't need a law that prevents

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On immigration, Obama seeks more bipartisanship

BILL, page 1

[Americans] from being diverse,” said junior engineering student Edward Anthony.

Miami-Dade County is home to over one million immigrants and both it and the FIU community would be affected by President Barack Obama’s plan for immigration reform involving the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act and Arizona Senate Bill 1070.

“There are so many immigrants in America, that to kick them all out wouldn’t be good,” said third-year law student Alister McKenzie, “we should give them a path to legalization and the best way to do so is through education.”

In his July 1 speech, Obama explained his views of immigration in the United States, describing what he called the country’s “creaky system of legal immigration.”

The President pleaded for bi-partisan action, calling on all members of Congress “to finally get it done” in an attempt to secure support from undecided Democrats while applying pressure on weary

Republicans.

“Reform that brings accountability to our immigration system cannot pass without Republican votes. That is the political and mathematical reality,” said Obama.

Senators John McCain, Edward Kennedy, Russell D. Feingold and others reintroduced the DREAM Act into the political arena in March 2009.

Obama exhibited his approval of the act when he stated that he “supported this bill as a state legislator and as a U.S. senator” and continues “to support it as president.”

The bipartisan legislation states that children of illegal immigrants who have been brought to the United States before the age of 16, have completed high school or earned a GED and have shown “good moral conduct” may have the opportunity to fix their immigration status. They must also have been residing in the U.S. for five years before the law is enacted.

“It is not a student’s fault if he or she was brought into the U.S. illegally,” said sophomore Ed Vega, “if the child is a good student and has no misconduct, then he or she should be rewarded.”

Some students find Public Safety response ‘discouraging’

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sity police officer.

“They don’t treat us very well. They treat us like criminals most of the time,” said Jantzi.

While conscious of the recent spree of vehicle related thefts on campus, Jantzi says she’s not the type of person who worries much; however, many of her friends at Chemistry and Biology are “very worried.”

“A number of my fellow graduate students do not feel safe even walking into the garage in the evenings. The response of the campus police is very discouraging,” said Jantzi.

Student Media reached out to President Rosenberg for his thoughts on the vehicle related thefts and FIU police’s treatment of students; however, he was unavailable for comment.

“Every department at FIU is always looking to improve the way it interacts with our students and clearly this incident has brought to light an area where we need to focus some of our efforts,” said Wartzok.

Public Safety Lieutenant Rick Torres met with members of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department on July 21 in an effort to help relieve their fears. According to Jantzi, Lt. Torres appeared “very apologetic” for the poor treatment by the officers and said things would be done.

In the email sent out by Chief King, he urged the campus community to “continue to be vigilant in the protection of their safety and their property,” and to always remember to lock car doors and conceal valuable items when parking.

FBLA-PBL takes unique approach to fundraising



PHOTO CREDIT/THE BEACON

Holding awards for second place in the nation for Digital Video Production are (from left to right) Abdel Perera, Louis Castillo, and Saul Perez.

FBLA-PBL, page 1

free enterprise project,” Cevallos states.

This year’s community service project was “Tribute to Children Week.” The club’s goal was to raise funds for a local children’s hospital—in this case for Miami Children’s Hospital. FBLA-PBL members actively worked to raise funds for the hospital.

“We rolled a giant beach ball around Modesto Maidique campus, and collected donations and canned goods,” Cevallos states.

The chapter also held a “Children’s Miracle Gala,” sponsored by Target. According to Cevallos, the event managed to raise \$1,300.

According to founding member and participant, Abdel Perera, 21, FBLA-PBL also partnered with FIU’s Creative Learning Center, where the children from the day care center made get well cards for patients at the Miami Children’s Hospital.

The chapter took home many prizes. “FIU beat out Berkeley and the University of Arizona,” said Perera in the category of “Tribute to Children’s Week.”

The competition was sponsored by the March of Dimes, and the chapter took home \$1,000 and a trophy, according to Perera.

Perera who considers himself “a

public servant at heart, and is always looking for an opportunity to serve,” expresses his genuine love for the organization and their work.

“To me giving back to children, is the greatest feeling in the world, states Megan Lee FBLA-PBL alumni, who participated in ‘Tribute to Children’s week,’ community service project.

FIU FBLA-PBL also won second place in the nation in the division ‘Digital Video Production.’ Working in a team of three, the club created a recruitment video to motivate high school students to join FBLA-PBL.

“[These victories] show the edge that FIU has over other top universities,” states Jose Betancourt, FBLA-PBL state president.

He was the recipient of the “Free Enterprise” award, winning \$500.

“It wasn’t a personal success, it was a chapter success,” Betancourt stated.

The “Free Enterprise” project is also known as the “Business Olympics:” it is a full day of events ranging from skill competition, written exams, and a performance in which there is a presentation of various business topics, and even impromptu public speaking according to Cevallos

“In three years FIU has exceeded all expectations. I am looking forward to what [the chapter] will do this upcoming year, Cevallos states.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 22, Issue 84 of The Beacon the article titled “Millions reinvested into school” in the At the Bay section misspelled the executive director and founder’s name was misspelled. It is Lee Schrage, not Leesh Rager.”

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

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WOMENS SOCCER

MANAGING EXPECTATIONS

Golden Panthers prepare to defend conference title

JOEL DELGADO
Assistant Sports Director

Some things have definitely changed since Thomas Chestnutt stepped onto campus a little over three years ago to inherit the women's soccer program.

When he arrived and was announced as the head coach, the team was near the bottom half of the barrel in the Sun Belt Conference.

In just his third season at the helm, after two years of transitional growing pains, Chestnutt was able to guide the Golden Panthers into top contention for the first time in a nearly a decade.

The Golden Panthers will be returning most of the team that helped the program storm through Sun Belt Conference play in 2009, winning nine of their last ten games of the season to help FIU finish atop the SBC standings in the regular season for the first time since 2000.

But for all the talent the team will be bringing back it will lose in terms of leadership as it loses seniors Amy Jackson and captain Marina Pappas. Jackson picked up six points last season with two goals and

two assists while Pappas was tied for the team-high in assists with four.

After an early exit in the conference tournament after a heart-breaking 1-0 loss to UALR, however, there is a feeling that the team has something to prove heading into the new decade.

"This is a very motivated group of players and they are hungry," Chestnutt said. "They were talking about that loss in the conference tournament last year in the spring and they feel they can do more."

For a team coming off a breakthrough season in which the team went 11-6-3, Chestnutt acknowledges that there will need to be changes in how the Golden Panthers approach this upcoming season if the FIU wants to prove that their 2009 season was not a flash in the pan.

The challenge will be amplified with FIU sporting a target on their backs.

"We are not going to be sneaking up on anybody this year," Chestnutt said. "Everyone is going to be looking to take you out, so this season we're going to need a different mentality and belief system."

But what the team loses in the leadership department it makes up for in the new, incoming freshmen that will provide something that the was missing last season: depth.

"Player-wise, we should be even better than we were last year," Chestnutt said. "We've added a number of freshmen who are hungry and we expect some of them to contribute right away."

You never know how things are going to go in the regular season but we are very optimistic."

SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

FIU announced the women's soccer schedule for the 2010 season last week and it will be a challenging one for a team looking to renew last season's success.

The schedule kicks off with two road games against SMU on Aug. 20 and Arkansas just two days later, putting the Golden Panthers to the test.

"It's important to get out of the block well on the road against two tough teams [SMU and Arkansas] to build momentum," Chestnutt said regarding the opening games of the schedule. "We hope to



CHRIS GREEN/BEACON FILE PHOTO

Thomas Chestnutt [left] has been able to turn the FIU women's soccer team into a strong contender and will look to help solidify his team's status as a team to be reckoned with.

start the season on the kind of streak we went on at the end of last season."

After another road game at Florida Gulf Coast, FIU makes its home debut against Delaware State on Aug. 27 to kick start a three-game homestand.

Much like last season, the Golden Panthers will be faced with a rigid non-conference schedule that includes teams from a number of different conferences that Chestnutt

hopes will prepare the team for Sun Belt play in the same way that it did last season.

"We have a diverse group of teams that we are facing from the SEC, ACC, C-USA and other conferences that will help us prepare for our conference schedule," Chestnutt said. "There are many different styles of play in the Sun Belt and I think the tough out-of-conference schedule last year helped us be successful against

the conference last year."

With UALR making a trip to Miami to open conference play for the Golden Panthers on Sept. 24, the team will have an opportunity to even the score in a rematch of the first round of last year's conference tournament.

The Golden Panthers end their season away from home, playing four of their final five regular season matches on the road.

FALL SPORTS OUTLOOK

A look at seven athletes who will break out this fall

In a blowout home win against North Texas on Feb. 6, FIU center Elisa Carey dropped a career high 26 points. The very next

COMMENTARY



RAMOS

game, a win at South Alabama, Carey dominated and scored another 26 points to continue her scoring streak.

It was the best basketball Carey has played in her Golden Panther career.

Carey's mid season run was one of the highlights amongst FIU's best breakout performers during last season's fall sports campaign. And she had company.

Andrea Lakovic led the FIU volleyball team in solo blocks, block assists and total blocks as the team stormed into the NCAA tournament in her first full season as a starter. Despite a losing season on the gridiron, wide receiver Jason Frierson established himself as a constant target in the Golden Panthers spread offense last fall. Women's soccer star Katrina Rose kicked

the stitches off the ball for five goals on the way to a 1st team All-Conference nod after a promising first season.

Freshman like Sebastian Frings, Jovana Bjelica, Kaitlyn Savage and Jonathan Cyprien bursted onto the playing field as big time performers in their own right too.

And that leaves us looking toward this fall, forecasting who will be the next slew of FIU athletes to emerge into leading roles. This list of names will probably be spoken of a lot when their respective season's come around.

1. AARON DAVIS- FOOTBALL, LINEBACKER:

Davis is arguably the most impressive physical specimen in the entire university. At 6-foot-1 and a sturdy 245 lbs., Davis is powerful enough to be an elite run stuffer in the middle, but also nimble enough to get into the backfield if asked. Despite not becoming a starter until a Toronto Smith injury halfway through the season, Davis was the

team's third leading tackler with 59. Expect him to easily lead the team in that category next season and excel at filling Scott Bryant's shoes. Davis will probably lead the team in tackles for loss as well, and turn NFL scouts heads.

2. RAKIA RODGERS- WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, GUARD:



RODGERS

After a promising freshman season at Hofstra, Rodgers only got to play in ten games last season after sitting out the first half under NCAA transfer rules and sustaining a bothersome knee injury. In those ten appearances though, Rodgers was a spark off the bench, featuring impressive shooting range and a hefty handle in scoring 12 points per game. Head coach Cindy Russo praises Rodgers when mentioned, and has a starting spot waiting for her as long as she earns it. If Rodgers can improve her shot selection



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Aaron Davis [right] makes a tackle at UF during the 2009 season.

Freshman Ferguson should impress; Prsa fills shoes

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and discipline in games, she could be the best wing scorer the team has had since Laquetta



FRASER

3. DOMINIQUE FERGUSON- MEN'S BASKETBALL, FORWARD: If there is one freshman in any sport to expect big things from, it's Ferguson. Armed with a silky perimeter shot and a smooth inside game, Ferguson is the highest heralded recruit the team has ever reeled in. He will immediately be thrown into the fire inside, and head coach Isiah Thomas likens his game to Los Angeles Lakers forward Lamar Odom. Ferguson should be mentioned as the front runner for conference freshman of the year. Although he will be more of a finesse rebounder, anything will help the Golden Panthers inside, where they struggled mightily last season. Ferguson played in prep school last season, so he's more prepared to contribute than the average frosh.

4. APRIL PERRY- WOMEN'S SOCCER, MIDFIELDER: Although she has already emerged as a full-time starter and was third on the team in goals in 2009, you would be selling her short if you think she has reached her peak. Perry dazzled at times last season, and could form a devastating duo with Rose if she continues to improve. Perry led Miami Kickers F.C

of the Women's Premier Soccer League in goals this summer, and is poised to be one of the best players in the Sun Belt Conference next season.

5. WINSTON FRASER- FOOTBALL, LINEBACKER: With this being the deepest position on the team, it shouldn't be surprising that another linebacker has the tools to have a big impact this season.



FRASER



CHRIS GREEN/BEACON FILE PHOTO

April Perry [above] scored four goals for the Golden Panthers in 2009.

Fraser has battled nagging injuries his first few seasons at FIU, an issue that dates back to high school. Fraser was a starter last season when healthy though, and has bulked up his already imposing frame this offseason. He will, at worst, be amongst the team's tackle leaders and deliver a few knockout blows to opponents. His health, along with the arrival of impressive new defensive coordinator Geoff Collins will help.

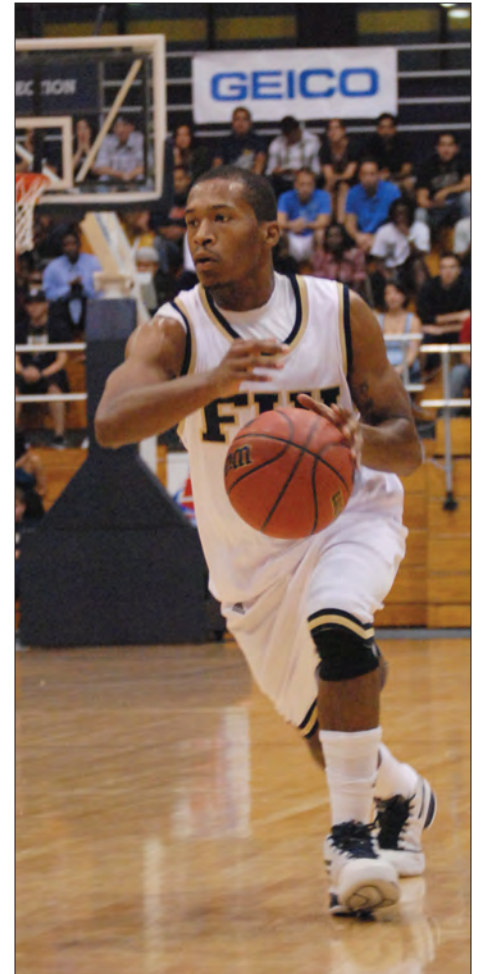
6. MARIJA PRSA- VOLLEYBALL, OUTSIDE HITTER: The most unknown prospect on this list, Prsa didn't sniff the floor last season, and was redshirted after being buried on the bench behind Yarimar Rosa and Olga Vergun. But now Prsa will likely be a starter, and the talent is there to have a very productive career. Teammates rave about her potential. Has good height (5-foot-11) and touted skill set.



PRSA

7. PHIL GARY JR.- MEN'S BASKETBALL, GUARD: Gary will be entering his last season, but wasn't able to fully blossom last year after being forced to the bench with knee issues. He still managed to hold a double digit scoring average, and if he is in form he will bring balance to the offense and again lead the team in assists, only with more. Look for Gary to possibly lead the conference in dimes. Gary, a

senior, will also benefit from the arrival of Ferguson, who will make his life easier as a point guard and help the team be more efficient.



VICTORIA LYNCH/BEACON FILE PHOTO

Phil Gary, Jr. [above] returns and will look to help the offense improve this fall.

SPORTS REPLAY

Golden Panther minor leaguers developing well

JONATHAN RAMOS
Sports Director

BASEBALL: PRO PANTHERS HEAT UP

Similar to their days as teammates with the Golden Panthers, Ryan Mollica and Tyler Townsend are doing their part as minor league baseball players this season.

Townsend, who is currently playing for the Frederick Keys in the Baltimore Orioles organization, is hitting for a .328 average this season to go along with 31 runs batted in. The highlight of Townsend's dominant play came on July 21, when he was a triple short of a cycle in a three-hit game while suiting up for the Delmarva Shorebirds. That game helped Townsend, who smacked 24 home runs in 2009 for FIU, be promoted to Frederick. The first baseman has had a bounce back season after stumbling to a .143 average last season for the Aberdeen Ironbirds.

Mollica, who has fully recovered from April wrist surgery, has recently come on for the St. Lucie Mets of the New York Mets organization. The former FIU star is hitting .333 in 16 games and could be on the cusp of a promotion to a higher-level club soon.

Both players were drafted in the 2009 Major League Baseball June Amateur Draft,

with Townsend going in the third round and Mollica being taken in the 47th.

BASEBALL: FLORES EMERGES

FIU first baseman Rudy Flores, who hit .357 as a freshman in 2010, is turning heads for the Haymarket Senators for the Valley Baseball League. Despite having to adjust to using wooden bats in the summer league, Flores managed to hit over .400 in the first half of the season for the Senators.

"It's just getting more at-bats," Flores told insidenova.com. "The more at-bats I get, the more comfortable I get at the plate."

Flores, hitting in the third spot in the lineup, made the VBL North all-star team for his impressive first half.

FOOTBALL: MARS INJURED

FIU sophomore linebacker Larvez Mars will miss the start of training camp after breaking an ankle in a car accident last month. Mars was a U.S Army All-American in 2008 and a highly heralded recruit, but didn't crack much playing time as a freshman. Mars has had successful surgery, however, and is expected to play this season.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Haren traded to Angels to bolster strong rotation

JOHN MARSHALL
AP Sports Writer

The Los Angeles Angels made a move to keep up with the Texas Rangers in the AL West by trading for infielder Alberto Callaspo last week.

The next step was to add a quality pitcher, one who could counter the Rangers acquiring former Cy Young winner Cliff Lee.

A three-time All-Star who's one of the most durable pitchers in baseball should do the trick.

The Angels bolstered their already-solid rotation by acquiring right-hander Dan Haren from the Diamondbacks on Sunday in a deal that sent left-hander Joe Saunders and three other players to Arizona.

The last-place Diamondbacks also get right-hander Rafael Rodriguez, left-hander Patrick Corbin and a player to be named in the

deal.

"We really felt good about our starting five moving forward with what we had but this is a huge opportunity for us to upgrade not only now but for the next several years," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "This guy still has his stuff and it gives us a deeper front end of our rotation, and that's what every championship-caliber team is really striving to do."

One of the most prized pitchers available as the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline approaches, Haren was the type of pitcher the Angels had been after since Texas traded for Lee in a July 9 deal that sent rookie first baseman Justin Smoak and a package of prospects to Seattle.

Los Angeles has a rotation that's strong up front with Ervin Santana, Jered Weaver and Joel Piniero, but is missing injured left-

hander Scott Kazmir.

A three-time All-Star, Haren has averaged 15 wins over the past five seasons and is 7-8 with a 4.60 ERA in 21 starts this year.

"A top-of-the-rotation guy that's going to help us not just this year but years down the road," Angels general manager Tony Reagins said in Texas before his team played the Rangers. "The addition of Dan gives us five guys that are really talented."

"At this point, being on the West Coast has a lot of value to me, being near my family and going to a ball-club that is dedicated to winning," Haren said after Arizona's game against San Francisco. "I am very excited for the opportunity. I am sad to go from here, all the guys and I had a good time here but I am really excited about going there and having a chance to win."



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COURTESY OF STEPHANIE JIMENEZ

Law student trades books for evening gowns and tiaras

JANET CAREAGA
Staff Writer

July 10 marked the 75th anniversary of the Miss Florida pageant, a day Miss FIU Stephanie Jimenez prepared months for. "I knew that only one girl would

walk away with the crown so I was prepared to give it my best shot and make lasting memories," Jimenez said. "The Miss Florida Organization really pushes you and brings the best out of every girl."

With the support of her friends and family, Jimenez

made it through an intense week of rehearsals, appearances, and competition in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Jimenez said she enjoyed the rush and overall her favorite phase of competition was the interview portion.

"It gives me a chance to show

the judges who I am and how ready for the job I am," she said.

Although Jimenez did not win the title of Miss Florida, she did not leave empty handed.

She walked away with two preliminary awards, evening gown and the scholastic achievement

award.

"The whole Miss Florida experience can be stressful at times, but Stephanie handled it with grace and class, always staying positive and being supportive of the other

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Wolfsonian celebrates quinceañera

DENISE RODRIGUEZ
Asst. Life! Editor

Florida International University's Wolfsonian Museum is celebrating its fifteenth birthday this year with a lengthy lists of events that commemorates the museum's accomplishments.

Considering how young the museum is, the Wolfsonian's endeavors

are notable as its reputation is one of making the university very proud.

In only fifteen years, the museum's accomplishments consist of developing an international reputation; producing innovative and provocative exhibitions and programs that encourage the public to consider the historical significance and contemporary relevance of collection themes; forging collaborations

and affiliations with local, national, and international museums, universities, and cultural institutions; received competitive grants from major local and national funders; establishing and maintaining a renowned fellowship program and producing several award-

WOLFSONIAN, page 6



COURTESY OF WOLFSONIAN

Beauty and brains wins

PAGEANT, page 5

contestants," Jenise Fernandez, fourth runner-up at Miss Florida and Miss FIU 2007 said.

A Miami native, Jimenez had been doing pageants for three years and held the title of Miss Hialeah USA 2009.

Jimenez decided to compete for Miss FIU so she could take the experience previous pageants had provided her with and continue to grow as a confident young woman.

"She is an extremely motivated, dedicated and respectful young lady that represented the University with great pride, and still continues to do so. She has been involved with the University in numerous ways and holding the title is something she greatly deserved," Stephanie Lozano, a senior nursing student who held the Miss FIU title in 2009, said.

"From the moment Stephanie Jimenez walked in to the room, there was something about her that caught everyone's eyes," said Maribel Chaluja, the 2011 executive director of the Miss FIU Scholarship pageant and last year's director of contestants.

Although she had a sprained ankle the day of the pageant and was on crutches for an entire week, Jimenez was able to compete and even dance for the talent portion.

"It was a tough competition and any girl would have truly represented the university well,"

she said about the Miss FIU pageant. "I felt truly honored."

In addition to representing the university at Miss Florida, Jimenez also knew that the crown would serve as a vehicle to promote a cause dear to her heart: advocating on behalf of people with intellectual disabilities with the People First organization as her philanthropic platform.

"She is a beautiful person inside and out and truly cares about her university and making a difference in the lives of others," Fernandez said.

As Miss FIU, Jimenez has had the opportunity to attend various University events as well as put together the FIU Special Olympics. She also worked at IHOP to raise awareness about the Children's Miracle Network.

"Pageants prepare you for life and every obstacle that comes your way," Jimenez said.

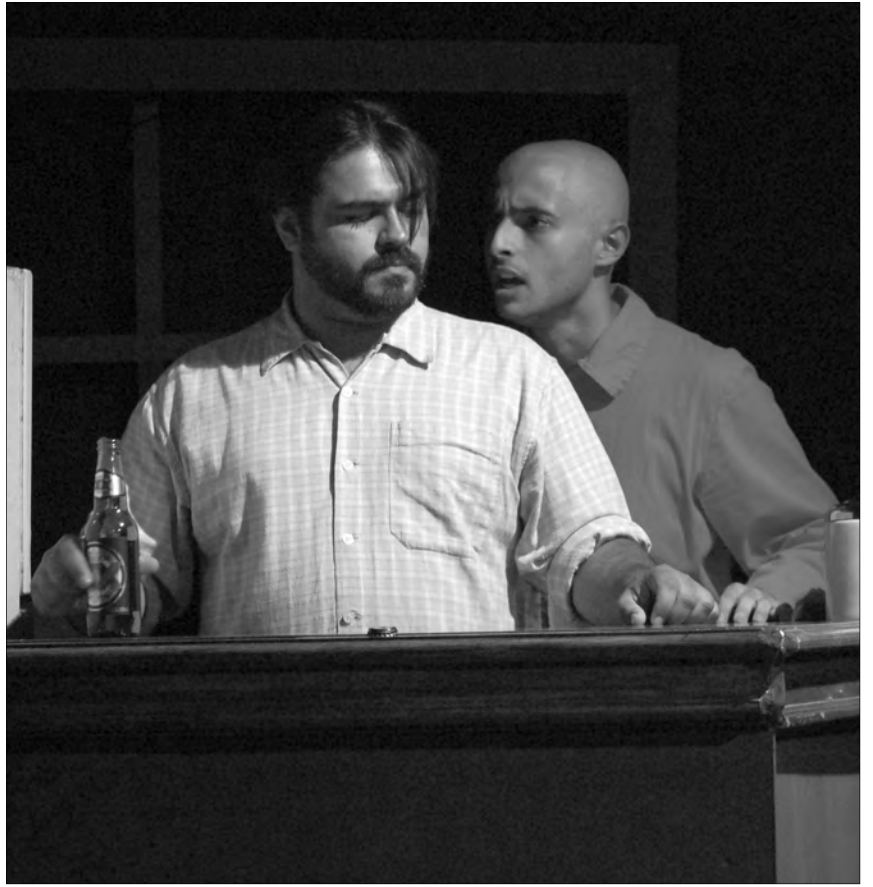
She graduated with her Bachelors in Political Science and a Certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies this past spring.

Although she said she would love to continue pageantry, she will be starting law school in the fall and her time will be limited.

Jimenez continues to work on campus at the Office of Protocol and Special Events and as an intern at U.S. Senator George LeMieux's office.

"Stephanie is a hard working, levelheaded, strong willed individual who remains very humble although she has accomplished many things," Chaluja said.

FAMILY MATTERS



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

DADDY ISSUES: Matthew Mur and Daniel Nieves play a troubled father and son in the last production of the Alternative Theatre Festival, *Prodigal: The Execution of William Spencer*.

Museum to commemorate birthday with book launch

WOLFSONIAN, page 5

winning publications.

The Wolfsonian joined forces with Florida International University in 1997 and demonstrated a solid commitment to its constituents.

"The Wolfsonian, situated in a wonderful old furniture storage building in Miami Beach, is one of the finest applied arts museums there is. From the antique-steel book stacks of the café and bookshop to the ornate art deco fountain in the main lobby, the building embodies a passion for design. The collection focuses on a clearly defined era and uses design to illuminate social history," wrote Edwin Heathcote in

the Financial Times,

The Wolfsonian is celebrating its fifteenth birthday in several ways, one of which is by publishing an autobiography titled 1995-2010 and Beyond: Portrait of an Institution on its 15th Anniversary, that compiles key information from the past, present, and future in one well-designed package available through the online bookstore Blurb.

The autobiography is a gift to the museum's constituents and to the museum itself.

Wolfsonian director, Cathy Leff hopes the book will disseminate the museum's history.

"We hope you read it and then re-gift it to a friend to help propa-

gandize our achievement, it is our hope that through learning our story, the remarkable accomplishments of our first fifteen years, and our future goals, we will motivate others to help us achieve our long-term objectives.

Wolfsonian art director Tim Hossler designed the 114-page, highly illustrated, full-color publication, Portrait of an Institution.

The publication is a compilation of facts about the institution, lists of accomplishments such as grants and awards received, images from the collection, and quotes about the museum's impact.

A variety of sources including renowned art critics and local educators who have participated in Wolf-

sonian programs contribute to the publication explaining the Wolfsonian's impact.

The sources include late New York Times architecture critic Herbert Muschamp, who called The Wolfsonian, "One of America's most remarkable museums."

As well as Steven Heller, art director and author of more than one hundred books primarily on graphic design, who wrote in Print magazine, "The Wolfsonian has emerged as a well-spring of design artifacts. The vast range of its permanent collection—from matchbooks to Machine Age murals, from political posters to architectural elements—represents the highest standard of popular art."

A section of the book is devoted to goals for the future, providing readers with a fascinating glimpse at ways in which The Wolfsonian plans to build on the strong foundation of the first fifteen years and how it will continue to grow.

The Wolfsonian will be celebrating its fifteenth birthday through various events during the second half of 2010.

The birthday celebration events will include: the annual fundraiser A Very Wolfsonian Weekend, which takes place November 11-13, and The Wolfsonian Quinceañera that Friday evening, hosted by The Wolfsonian Visionaries at the Eden Roc Hotel.

Online magazine satisfies literary demand

AMY RAMIREZ
Contributing Writer

Gulf Stream, FIU's student-run, online literary magazine makes a wave upon the release of its latest issue.

Since its inception in 1989, *Gulf Stream: South Florida's Literary Current*, has published poems, short fiction, and nonfiction pieces by a selection of nationally and internationally renowned writers.

Each semester, section editors and teams of students from FIU's renowned MFA Creative Writing program read about 500 submissions, and carefully select pieces for the publication.

The newly incorporated feature, The Streamline, allows for readers to provide their own literary contribution. By mailing in a postcard, readers can provide "thoughts on literature, sent the old-fashioned way."

Both "nuggets" of literary input featured on The Streamline in this issue provides for interesting insight into both a poet's particular motivations and advice for those who

want to further develop their literary craft.

An example of this is a student-submitted question that asked American poet Thomas Lux what was the best craft lesson he learned throughout his time as a writer.

"Use adverbs very sparingly. Good verbs should absorb, have their adverbs implicitly in them," Lux said

Valuable advice for anyone who looks at writing as a craft.

The third and most recent issue of *Gulf Stream* features 11 poems, 5 fiction pieces, 2 non-fiction pieces, an interview with National Book Award finalist Dan Chaon, and book reviews for poets Stacey Lynn Brown's, *Cradle Song* and FIU graduate Amanda Hosey's, *Sum of Every Lost Ship*.

Among the authors in the issue is Jan Beatty, director of the creative writing program at Carlow University. Beatty's fragmented poem, *Why I Don't F*** Intellectuals*, captures a moment of uninhibited desire while *Outside the Carnegie Library, 2008* records a multi-faceted internal dialogue.



COURTESY OF FIU

Novelist Connie May Fowler's charming *How Clarissa Burden Learned to Fly* reveals a house fly's inner thoughts.

F. Daniel Rzciznek's earthy poems, *Summer Hermitage* and *One Monk* describe nature's elegance with mystical grace.

The magazine's website also keeps

updates for all those who are interested in workshops being offered at FIU throughout the year and rents a booth at the Miami Book Fair International every year where interested parties can make browse back issues, make donations or just meet the staff.

THE BEACON | Editorial

Auto burglaries, theft spike; so should student actions to protect their personal property

With six different entrances and exits as well as Florida's Turnpike nearby, cars on FIU are ripe for the picking.

While public safety and campus police patrol the campus, they lack the manpower to keep watch on thousands of automobiles.

Even if campus police were to catch a car thief in the act, they can only follow them for one mile due to jurisdiction issues. This allows the thief to jump onto the turnpike and enjoy a leisurely car ride to the nearest chop shop.

With a noticeable rise in car thefts on campus over the past year, some students are beginning to feel a little uncomfortable when it comes to leaving their cars inside one of the university's many parking garages and lots.

It is nearly impossible to deny the fact that there is a growing problem concerning the security of vehicles in parking areas around campus. There are ways for both the university and students to help limit the number of crimes that are committed on vehicles on campus.

But instead of waiting for the administration, student government or someone else to take action, students should take the initiative and begin making efforts to prevent or reduce the risk of car thefts and crime.

When parking on campus, students need to prevent leaving valuable items, such as jewelry, laptops, iPods and cell phones in plain view of people who may be passing by your car. Making sure that these items are stowed away from view can deter someone looking to break in and commit a crime.

Investing in a wheel lock, a floorboard lock that disables the gas or brake pedal, or other devices that would prevent potential car thieves from stealing your car would probably be the most effective of way of ensuring that your car isn't stolen.

But no matter what students do to take matters into their own hands, the administration needs to begin taking a more active role in maintaining a constant presence in the parking garages around the clock.

The truth is that if police officers and security personnel are visible and in clear view most of the time, especially at night when people are most vulnerable to car thefts and break-ins, the visibility itself will act as a deterrent and will go a long way of making feel students safer late in the evening.

Students should not have to worry about leaving their cars in the parking garages or lots on campus, and as long as the number of crimes continues to rise, the situation will only continue to worsen.

With speculation being that those responsible may not be people who belong on campus, it is time for the University to begin taking the initiative and making sure that those who do not belong on campus stay away.

One option can be to perform hourly or other sporadic checks around the parking garage to make sure that those looking to commit a crime are unable to do so.

Time is important when dealing with the problem facing security now. It is better to get to the root of the problem now and begin making efforts to stop the rise in crimes dead in its tracks.

Focusing on preventive measures will go a long way to making our parking areas safer.

SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

Sarah Palin: it's not that funny

BROOKE MIDDLETON
Special to the Beacon

Former governor Sarah Palin managed to embarrass herself, again, this time via twitter. What she posted was not only an abomination to the English language, but a total showcase of xenophobia and intolerance.

"Ground Zero Mosque supporters: doesn't it stab you in the heart, as it does ours throughout the heartland? Peaceful Muslims, pls refudiate."

Her abysmal command of the English language, and her usage of the non-existent word "refudiate" are, indeed, comedic. But beneath the layer of stupidity that most pundits capitalized on, was the perpetuation of misconceptions and falsities involving Islam and terrorism.

In the laughter at the village idiot's gaffe, Palin's ignorant sentiments complete with screaming xenophobia and blaring intolerance, were drowned out.

In a piece titled, "Palin Speaks Jibberish To Express Her Xenophobia" Jezebel writer Anna North articulates the collective response to Palin's blunder and the danger in letting the comedic value overshadow the despicable stance Palin is taking

It is tragic that Palin is so impervious to how damaging and untruthful it is to perpetuate the myth that Islam and terrorism are synonymous.

on this particular issue. Fully agreeing with North's assertions prompted the writing of this piece.

Palin's tweets are referring to her disgust with the building of the Cordoba House, a Muslim led community center and place of worship near the World Trade Center.

It's mission statement as written on The Cordoba Initiative's website reads, "Cordoba House will provide a place where individuals, regardless of their backgrounds, will find a center of learning, art and culture; and most importantly, a center guided by Islamic values in their truest form - compassion, generosity, and respect for all."

This organization is seeking to extinguish the very fires of misunderstanding and hatred that Palin is fueling. It is tragic that Palin is so impervious to how damaging and untruthful it is to perpetuate the myth that Islam and terrorism are synonymous.

In her disgust, which on her Facebook page, Palin refers to as "just common

decency," Palin has contributed to the myth that Islam instead of radicalism is responsible for the despicable September 11th attacks.

Islam had about as much to do with the 2001 terrorist attacks, as Christianity had to do with the murder of abortion doctor George Tiller in 2009.

An opportunity that seeks to destroy stereotypes and forge true cultural understanding is being presented. Palin and citizens who oppose this community center are consciously choosing to continue the volatile West vs. Islam mentality.

Let us not be so amused by the hilarity of Palin's stupidity that we let her hurtful words that propel the ostracism of Muslims go unnoticed.

Let us not be so blinded by a profound nationalism that it makes us reject this opportunity thus furthering the reality of an evolution towards a more diplomatic, respectful relationship between Islam and the West.

THE SOAPBOX

Freshmen Interest Groups benefits students

ERIC FELDMAN
Special to The Beacon

I am writing in defense of Freshman Interest Groups and in response to the July 21 article, "Freshmen groups limit, stifle growth."

The writer is correct in stating that FIGs are a way for incoming freshmen to make friends while making the first semester easier to manager. The criticisms of the program, though, are short-sighted.

While students may be looking forward to picking their own schedule for the first time, FIGs do not completely render this experience irrelevant. Students select the FIG that is right for them based on their intended major and the times and locations of the classes that are best for them.

Despite the assertion that the amount of FIGs offered is slim, for the Fall 2010 semester, there are 34 different FIGs available, with courses tailored to a wide range of intended majors.

In addition to choosing which FIG they prefer, since each FIG only contains in the ballpark of 8 credits, the students still have the flexibility to pick which additional classes they wish to take that semester, and to choose those classes on their own.

Some concern was presented over the classes within the FIG, mainly that "taking two liberal arts classes is pointless." The classes that are offered within the FIG are all necessary for students to satisfy various sections of the University Core Curriculum, and are structured in a way that is beneficial to freshmen.

For example, Summer B FIGs include a class which satisfies the Art requirement of the UCC, which, quite contrary to being "pointless" is very helpful considering that the condensed summer semester is an ideal time to get this requirement over with as opposed to a pure math or science. Fall FIGs include a science class and lab.

Since a majority of students entering as freshmen have to take a similar set of classes, using FIGs eases the process of enrolling students into classes during orientation greatly.

Picking your own schedule is exciting for freshmen, but using FIGs is not "hand-holding," as much as it is a combination of structure and freedom that allows students to have a bulk of their classes ready for them at once, while still getting the experience they need in navigating the myFIU online system to register entirely on their own in the coming semesters.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of FIGs is the consistent interaction with the fellow students in the cohort.

Especially in a institution that is already one of the 25 largest universities in the nation and quickly growing, having students that you met at orientation with you in several of classes helps retain students because it combats feelings of isolation and gives students a

resource among their peers to get help in the class and other problems.

In addition to this, most Freshman Experience courses within the FIG contain a Peer Mentor, who is a student leader on campus, that co-facilitates the course with the instructor and further fosters the sense of community within the FIG.

FIGs have proven to be successful nationally and here at FIU, and that is the reason for their continued existence.

According to Undergraduate Education, students in FIGs nationally are more successful at finishing their degree program, and at this institution are more likely to continue their studies here and have higher grades after the first semester.

Eric M. Feldman is a senior majoring in criminal justice and the current Orientation Peer Advisor Coordinator for the Office of Campus Life & Orientation at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

PUBLIC REASON

A radio show gathering opinions and promoting discussion every Tuesday and Thursday at 12 p.m. on Radiate FM, 95.3 in Miami, 88.1 in Homestead, 96.9 in North Miami and streaming live on FIUSM.com.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It is true that there's a big difference between the Tea Party and the [National Black Panther Party]. The former has quickly become a potent political force in America, while the NBPP is few in number and brain cells."

Bill O'Reilly
Political Pundit

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

SGC-BBC

Council lays out goals for year, meet administrators

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
BBC Managing Editor

Mentorship and “The Panther Den” are two goals the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus announced during a kick-off event held to introduce themselves and their goals for the 2010-2011 school year to the campus and the University community.

University administrators listened as Christin ‘Cici’ Battle, SGC-BBC president, reviewed her 2010 elections campaign for their benefit. “Customer service” and “council visibility” are examples.

Those are but two of the goals Battle and her vice president, Denise Halpin, presented to the moderately-sized crowd. Among those in attendance were Rosa Jones, vice president of Student Affairs; Cathy Akens, assistant vice president of Student Affairs; Gregory Olson, senior director of the Wolfe University Center and Oscar Loynaz, interim director of University Health Services.

“Vote 2010” is a goal meant to get University students registered to vote. The council wants 75 percent of students registered in time for this year’s national midterm elections, and 75 percent of those students to actually vote.

The council visibility goal is about getting students to know the individual council members. Battle said during this part of the presentation that SGC-BBC will implement a “guerrilla marketing” campaign that, if successful, will get every student to know the council.

The mentorship goal is aimed at getting students of the nearby high and middle schools, Alonzo & Tracy Mourning Senior High and David Lawrence Jr K-8 Center respectively, involved in campaigns and with campus events.

“These are students that could eventually come to FIU, so let’s start getting them involved now,” Battle said.

SGC-BBC has a plan that will increase the quality of customer service on campus if things go their way. Details of the plan include sending a random SGC-BBC member to places students frequent, such as the offices of Financial Aid and Multicultural Programs and Services, and rating his or her own experience.

Also under the umbrella goal of customer service is an online newsletter SGC-BBC is planning called “BBC Today” and a campaign called “You Have Questions? We Have Answers!” The latter is to “empower students of their rights and to increase engagement,” said



PHILIPPE BUTEAU/THE BEACON

Members of the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus introduce themselves to University administration at their kick-off event on July 21 in room 150 of the marine Science building.

Battle during the presentation.

“The Panther Den” is a larger goal for the council aimed at renovating and re-branding the BBC cafeteria.

Among the shared goals of SGC-BBC and its Modesto Maidique Campus counterparts are

greater cohesion, increased presence at their respective campus, improving University transportation, and improving public safety. Battle said for the last two goals she and Helena Ramirez, SGC-MMC president have had meetings with Bill Foster, executive director

of Parking & Transportation.

Battle ended the presentation by giving two long-term goals for SGC-BBC, an amphitheater and increasing the dorms available on campus, and asking the staff and faculty to keep the council accountable for the goals they’ve set.

Theme for Homecoming, week of events revealed

SANDY ZAPATA
Contributing Writer

More than four weeks remain until the fall semester, but it’s never too early to think about

homecoming.

“100 Days Until Homecoming,” sponsored jointly by the Student Programming Councils at Biscayne Bay Campus and Modesto Maidique Campus, was held on July 21 to introduce this



SANDY ZAPATA/THE BEACON

Homecoming paraphernalia was thrown out to awaiting students after Student Programming Council’s “100 Days Until Homecoming” event on July 22 in Panther Square.

year’s theme, “See the World in Blue and Gold,” revealed to both campuses and at the same time in order to show a unified University. The theme itself has a TV set displaying blue and gold colors, nothing more. The school colors take up the whole screen to symbolize “everything FIU.”

Even though freshman criminal justice major Aaron Roberts is a South Florida native, he decided to live on campus at Bay Vista Housing to take full advantage of the college life.

“The celebration was real fun, and all of the events coming up look real promising,” Roberts said while hanging out with his fellow classmates after the event.

Upcoming events include tabling, students game nights in Bay Vista Housing, giveaways and Summer Splash on July 29 in the Hospitality Management field and pool area from 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., both campuses have split the calendar of days filled with different events to get students hyped up for Homecoming.

“As [University] President [Mark B.] Rosenberg asked for bigger and better events for the school year, we are taking the initiative to do just that,” said Tanha Dil, a public relations major and president of SPC-BBC.

The Homecoming committee at MMC thought up the theme and, although SPC at BBC did not have much involvement in the theme itself, they were there every step of the way to bring it all together, according to Dil. SPC-BBC didn’t have any say in the theme for Homecoming but did after the fact. The events coming up for both campuses and the scheduling was worked out between both SPCs. The theme was the responsibility of the Homecoming committee it.

Students and staff of BBC gathered around Panther Square and the atmosphere began to fill with enthusiasm and excitement.

The festivity that took place on July 21 on campus was the kickoff event meant to get students excited for homecoming week. There were free giveaways, free food, information about SPC and this upcoming year’s theme and activities were revealed.

With blue and gold balloons, cupcakes, table clothes, boards from different student organizations and a video with music of past homecoming week events on replay, the vibe at BBC that day was definitely “thumbs up, and the ambiance was amazing,” according to Semaya Lane a freshmen marine biology major.

“One school that works together, that is our new initiative,” said Dil about how the Homecoming theme will be implemented to reflect the University and Rosenberg’s plan more traditional University with homecoming being one of the biggest events to take place during the school year.

Both SPCs will be hosting small events and teasers throughout the 100 days left until homecoming week, which is November 1-6.

“With the assistance of Panther Power and the Council of Student Organizations on campus, homecoming week should be a great success,” said Wolfgang Acevedo, a graduate assistant at SPC-BBC and higher education administration major, after the kickoff celebration was over.

“We have been really successful with both campuses working together and hopefully can continue with this success to the point that we can have a greater community of FIU alumni and students together pumped up for homecoming and FIU Pride,” Acevedo said.