



Chili's Too opening reigns in the masses

NICOLAS SARAVIA
Staff Writer

As a crowd of students lined up to order everything from quesadillas and fajitas to hamburgers, others enjoyed drinks by the bar while watching FIFA World Cup highlights during the grand opening of Chili's Too at the Graham Center on June 23.

Sitting booths were not completely filled, yet the waiting time averaged twenty minutes; approximately 600 people congregated at the restaurant for the aperture, with 1,500 transactions made the first two days.

The new Chili's Too is scheduled to be open every Monday through Thursday from 11am to 8pm, during the Summer B semester. The total seating capacity of the restaurant is 316, with approximately 204 inside and 112 seats outside, 24 of which will be added during the next month.

Associated with Panther Dining Services, the Chili's at FIU also offers the option of accepting Panther Bucks as

a source of payment.

"The service was great in most aspects, except that the food took too long," said Khudaija Awan, a Speech Pathology major.

"This is a very interesting job," said Vanessa Peña, Chili's Too greeter. "We have had a very successful opening day and the clients are really happy," she added.

While having a fairly successful opening, the arrival of Chili's Too to the Graham Center was not free from controversy. Mixed opinions have surfaced due to the serving of alcoholic beverages on campus grounds, which include piña coladas, margaritas, beer, and wine.

"This is college and some people go crazy with alcohol," said Alberto Gomez, a sophomore Biology major. "Hopefully people will be able to hold their liquor," he mentioned.

To ensure responsibility, Aramark has added the Intelli-Check ID Verification system and instituted procedures based

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BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

Student enjoy alcoholic beverages while watching FIFA World Cup highlights at the bar during the grand opening of Chili's Too.

BE NEGATIVE



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

University Health Center employee Albert Garcia gives freshman nursing major Tyler Crawford condoms in an effort to raise awareness about HIV on Monday Jun. 28 in front of Green Library.

Fraud hotline opened to report ethics violations

MELISSA CACERES
Staff Writer

In the effort to prevent further abuses to University policy, FIU has introduced the Ethics and Compliance Hotline.

Through the company EthicsPoint, which provides a confidential internet and telephone based service, members of the University community are allowed to report any activities that might involve "improper conduct or violations to FIU policy."

This may include instances such as abuse, fraud or mismanagement of funds.

"This policy sets forth what we expect of our employees because they have an obligation," said Dr. Kenneth Jessell, senior vice president for finance and administration, and chief financial officer at FIU. "If you think that someone is stealing or is not using the University's resources in the best possible way — maybe there is a cheaper version and we're going out and buying the Rolls-Royce version when we don't need it — to me that is an issue."

EthicsPoint, founded in 1999, is a nationally recognized fraud prevention company that provides telephone hotline, web-based reporting and case management services for over 2,200 organizations.

With the service being available 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, students, faculty and staff can file a report through two methods: online, by using the EthicsPoint website, or by calling toll-free at 1-888-286-5154.

Complaints can be filed under specific categories: accounting/financial, athletics, human resources, information technology,

medical, research, risk and safety matters, and academic affairs.

Overall, the program is said to be costing the University around \$7,000 to \$7,500, respectively.

"It's really not a lot when you look at what the potential savings would be to the University," Jessell said. "We're hoping that this will become just part of our regular compliance of checks and balances program."

The hotline is not merely one person disclosing information to another, but a two-way dialogue that, while protecting the anonymity of the person, enables the University to follow up on the caller for further conversation about the abuse, according to Jessell.

The calls placed through the hotline are not recorded or traced, leaving the person able to interact with the EthicsPoint representative who then provides a summary of the information in the form of a written report. Through the Internet portal, each visitor is never identified by a screen name and the system automatically deletes Internet addresses.

While FIU consulted with other companies about the service, Jessell stated that "what set [EthicsPoint] apart was having that interactive, anonymous code that can be used for additional feedback when necessary."

"One of the elements of an effective compliance program is to have in place and to publicize a system whereby individuals can report or seek guidance regarding potential or actual misconduct without any fear of retaliation," said Leyda Benitez, university compliance officer and interim privacy

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EthicsPoint to manage hotline

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officer who is one of the three administrators in charge of investigating fraud claims.

“EthicsPoint is the means to that end, as the individual who makes a report is provided with a unique key number and password that allows the individual to check into the status of his or her report and communicate with University officials while being able to remain anonymous,” Benitez added.

Using a supplemental video featuring University President Mark Rosenberg, the program was presented by Jessell to the Board of Trustees through the Finance and Audit committee on May 20. It was mentioned that the past abuses of the University procurement card by faculty could have been prevented and that FIU “had a lot of weaknesses in the system that came to light.”

“I believe that FIU faculty and staff are principle and ethical professionals dedicated to doing the right thing,” said Rosenberg in the video.

“Unfortunately, we’ve had some incidents of staff members using the University-issued procurement card inappropriately. Those incidents don’t detract from our commitment to our highest ethical standards, but they do redouble our efforts to make sure we get it right.”

NEWS FLASH

FIU

Voting for energy fee referendum will be open to students

Students will have an opportunity to vote on the constitutional and green energy fee referendum on Wednesday, June 30.

The Student Green Energy Fund is a Florida student-led initiative aiming to give students the right to vote on a minimal fee to generate large sums of money for campuses to spend on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The approval of the fund would give campuses the ability to reduce their greenhouse gas footprint. While it did not appear on Student Government’s general elections ballot last semester, students will be able to vote from 9 AM to 5 PM on Wednesday at <http://www2.fiu.edu/~sga/index2.html>.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo



BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

Chili's Too takes a fast food approach, taking all orders at the register, yet differs from other FIU dining locations because of its waiting service.

Chili's Too maintains part of FIU history

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on the University's Alcohol Policy.

While Chili's Too is brand new, it retains a part of FIU history, keeping the name of the Graham Center patio as “Gracie's Patio.”

“Gracie is a part of the FIU history. The former Rathskellar/Gracie's Grill facility proudly showcased the name of Gracie and at the Chili's Too facility it will continue to be memorialized” said Nancy Cadavid, Marketing Manager of Business Services.

“This history is also near and dear to the hearts of our students, as SGA drafted a resolution a few years ago in support of maintaining the name of Gracie” added Cadavid. The story of Gracie is usually part of the orientation script that is shared with incoming students.

The restaurant's management has also confirmed that they will be showing the rest of the games of the 2010 FIFA World Cup currently taking place in South Africa.

State of the art GIS technology aids FIU students in research projects

RUSSELL QUINOA
Contributing Writer

Some of the most modern technology in mapping and geography is no farther away than your local Green Library.

The FIU Library Geographic Information Systems (GIS) teaches many academic units in different fields and is located inside FIU's Green library where it is currently available to all students.

GIS supports research and teaching with 25 high-end workstations, with specialized software for GIS and statistical analysis and staff to help with digital projects. FIU is one of the few academic institutions in the nation with a capability for geospatial statistical analysis.

FIU's GIS can help students in many different fields including Earth Sciences, Public Health, International Relations, Civil Engineering, Sociology and Anthropology.

Estefan Hernandez, 19, Undecided major said “It's nice to know you can have something so accessible, right in your back pocket.”

According to the GIS website, “GIS integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.”

“GIS is a powerful and expansive research tool utilized by many academic disciplinary areas, so it makes perfect sense for there to be a centralized resource unit that is accessible to all academic departments,” said Jennifer Fu, founding director of FIU's GIS-RS Teaching Center in a

FIU press release.

GIS technology can be used for scientific investigations, resource management, asset management, archaeology, environmental impact assessment, urban planning, cartography, criminology, geographic history, marketing, logistics, prospectively mapping, and other purposes.

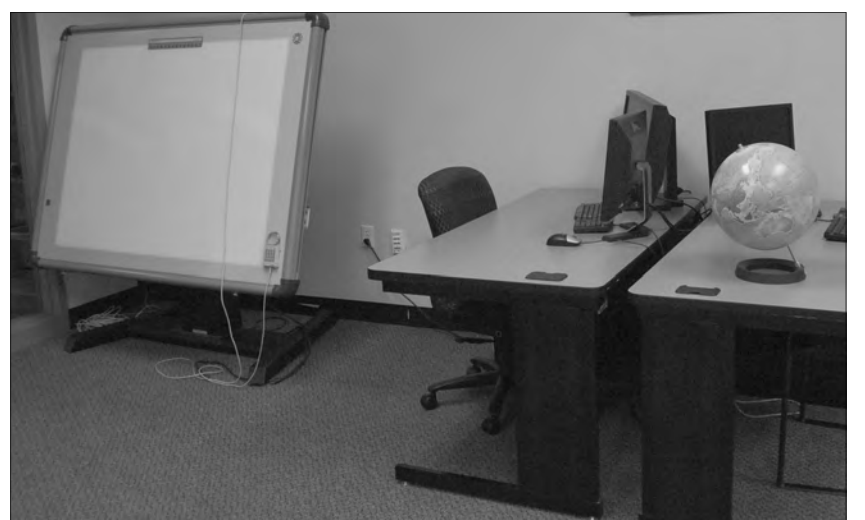
Gaby Herrera, 22, International Relations major said “I'm looking forward for a chance to use GIS in my next research project. I'm glad I can go to school that can give opportunities to use technology like this.”

Modern GIS technologies use digital information, for which various digitized data creation methods are used. The most common method of data creation is digitization, where a hard copy map or survey plan is transferred into a digital medium through the use of a computer-aided design.

The major focus of the research center is in Web Portal GIS technology, geospatial data dissemination and visualization and Geo-spatial metadata management and creation.

GIS also hold annual events, including the recent GIS Day on February 23 where interested parties within and from outside of FIU community got together to educate the public, exchange ideas, showcase research activities and foster opportunities for potential collaboration.

GIS Day had Everglades related research using GIS and RS, Mapping of bio-physical and geo-spatial data, Geo-spatial Web development of the Everglades Digital Learning, History and Chronology of the Everglades, Everglades Who's Who, Social science dimension of the Everglades and Digital libraries, the digital data repositories of the Everglades.



ESRA ERDOGAN/THE BEACON

One of many work stations available at Geographic Information Systems research center in Room 275.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
(305) 348-2709
news@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
(305) 919-4722
bbc@fiusm.com

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
jorge.valens@fiusm.com

Advertising:
(305) 348-6994
advertising@fiusm.com

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SOCCER

HITTING A FEVER PITCH



ELISE AMENDOLA/AP PHOTO

ABOVE: Landon Donovan [left] scored the lone goal in injury time to give the U.S. a 1-0 victory over Algeria that rocked a nation and helped interest in soccer in the United States reach a fever pitch.

RIGHT: Paulo Araujo Jr. [left] of Miami FC, a local pro soccer team of the newly-created NASL, played home games at FIU Stadium in 2009. The team has since moved its operations to Ft. Lauderdale.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JASEN DELGADO

FIU has an opportunity to become regional soccer hub

It may be the hype surrounding the U.S. match with England to open the World Cup for the American squad. Or it could be uproar from the fans after the "foul" call that disallowed the game-winning goal against Slovenia. Maybe it's Landon Donovan's thrilling goal in added time against Algeria that propelled the U.S. into the knockout round.

Regardless, one thing is abundantly clear: soccer has arrived in the United States. After years of frustration and disappointment with small slivers of success riddled in between, a nation was finally watching, and the Yanks delivered the theatrics necessary to captivate a the U.S. on the biggest stage in all of sports.

Walking around FIU campus over the summer, dozens and dozens of students are found huddled between classes (or maybe skipping class) around every plasma television screen in the Graham Center watching any World Cup match that happens to be on at the time, which revealed a truth that has been hidden for quite some time.

CULTURALLY TAILORED

With a majority of its student population boasting a Hispanic heritage alongside a blend of other nationalities that share a rich history and background rooted in the beautiful game, the Golden Panther fan base could be the spark that South Florida needs to kick-start a new era for soccer in the region.

In order for FIU to be the institutional center for soccer in South Florida there needs to be an active outreach, a calculated effort to make FIU the most attractive place for soccer in the region.

COMMENTARY



JOEL DELGADO

Pete Garcia, the ambitious athletic director that has already made strides to bring the game on campus and has the tools necessary to make a splash in U.S. soccer landscape, can only spearhead such a campaign.

Such a campaign would bring people to FIU Stadium who would never come otherwise. It would attract wealthy high-profile investors to our school that would pump in dollars to improve the visibility and economic stability of our school. It would give our students a chance to see players and stars from all over the world instead of just watching them on television screens with an entire ocean separating us.

FIU hosted the Gold Cup during Summer 2009, where a close to a capacity crowd assembled at FIU Stadium to watch to Costa Rica face Canada and El Salvador take on Jamaica. A token of FIU soccer's past was present as Tyrone Marshall, a member of the squad that nearly won an NCAA Championship in the 90s, was on the field for the Jamaican squad.

With FIU Stadium lying dormant for the better part of 8 months during the year and built with FIFA specifications in mind, it makes sense to put the facility to good use and attract soccer fans throughout

the community.

PLENTY OF OPTIONS

There are a number of options at Garcia's hands that can make Miami's soccer dreams a reality. He can actively look for potential MLS investors to bring a team to South Florida and to make the accommodations necessary to make FIU Stadium a prime venue.

He can lure Miami's current pro team, Miami FC of the revived North American Soccer League, back to FIU after their move to Fort Lauderdale's Lockhart Stadium this season and actively promoting the team as they re-launch next year as the Strikers.

Furthermore, Garcia can build on last year's Gold Cup event by inviting international teams to play at FIU stadium, with the goal of bringing the U.S. Men's National Team, which held practices at the Golden Panther's football facility last year, in for a friendly match with another international side.

It may be too late for there to be large-scale soccer matches to be played on a consistent basis this year, but 2011 can be a big year for FIU in terms of becoming a major player in developing interest in the game in Miami and for being hailed by the large group of soccer fans for attracting quality matches to the area.

It is the perfect way to fan the flames of the soccer frenzy that has been created by the U.S. men's national team in the past several weeks. It sure beats watching games thousands of miles away on television all year long.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ferguson arrives on campus and makes first impression

JOEY CRUZ
Staff Writer

FERGUSON ARRIVES

Thomas has added Ferguson, however, who chose over top teams such as Kentucky, UCLA, and even Duke.

Gary has been impressed with Ferguson thus far, even though they have only played in unorganized activities.

"He is just nice," Gary said. "He is going to pose a mismatch night in and night out."

Thomas focuses his coaching emphasis on the defensive side of the ball. Bringing in this freshman may help the cause.

"Our defense will help find our offense,"

Gary said. "And with Dominique's length and size, he'll pose a defensive presence in the paint and up top."

Gary also states Ferguson could play both forward positions, leaving FIU fans to wonder who will play center for the Golden Panthers.

Ferguson, who is 6-foot-8 and weighs 200 pounds, should immediately help the size-deficient team.

Thomas has also added two other notable players: Phil Taylor, who was ranked 35th out of 100 in the ESPN Top 100 2009-10 recruiting class and Dejaun Wright, a 6-foot-8 transfer from Gillette College.

ON THE MEND

Midway through last season, Gary injured his knees for the first time in his basketball career, dealing with knee tendinitis for stretches.

"I never had to ice my knees," Gary said. "And towards the end of last season I had to worry about running too fast and cutting."

Gary states he is getting a lot of rehab and even says he is close to 100 percent healed.

After the FIU men's basketball team scrambled to a 7-24 season in 2009-10, the team can finally begin to work with Isiah Thomas' first full recruiting class as next season approaches.

The buzz has been building since last season's commitment from Rivals.com's four-star prospect Dominique Ferguson. Now it can come full circle.

"We finished the season with a bad taste in our mouth," FIU point guard Phil Gary Jr. said.

SPORTS REPLAY

Wittels nominated for ESPY award after record season

FIU infielder Garrett Wittels enjoyed one of the best seasons in FIU baseball history in 2010, and was showered with awards for his accomplishments shortly thereafter.

But, none of the individual accolades the sophomore has collected thus far can measure up to his latest nomination: An ESPY award for Best Male College Athlete.

Wittels, who is currently honing his skills in the Alaska College Summer Baseball League, found out the news from FIU media relations coordinator Mat Ratner, who made sure he was the first person to tell the All-American.

“When I first heard it I didn’t have much of a reaction, but then I called my mom and she was really excited, and it sunk in after that,” he said. “It’s every athlete’s dream to get there. Just like actors want to win an Oscar [award], athletes want to go to the ESPY’s.”

The former Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School star will know if he received the award when the ESPY’s take place on July 14 at 9 p.m. at the Nokia Theater in Los Angeles.

Wittels will look to beat out additional nominees,

which includes University of Kentucky basketball standout John Wall, who became the first overall pick in the NBA draft on June 24, Ohio State University basketball star Evan Turner, University of Alabama football cog Mark Ingram and University of Wisconsin hockey star Blake Geoffrion.

Wittels will be in attendance at the event, and is hoping to get advice from the some of the biggest stars in sports.

“I’m looking forward to getting some advice from guys like Kobe Bryant, Dwyane Wade, and Lebron James and just sharing information about what we do,” Wittels said.

Wittels finished the season with a 56-game hitting streak, which is the second longest of all time, trailing only Robin Ventura, who acquired a hit in 58 straight contests in 1987 at Oklahoma State University. To go along with the unprecedented streak, Wittels also led the team Golden Panthers with 21 doubles and 60 RBI.

FOOTBALL

The Golden Panthers added JUCO lineman Caylin Hauptmann, who signed with FIU after receiving interest

from UCLA, Cal and Washington among other FBS programs.

The 6-4, 312-pound lineman, who played at the College of the Canyons in 2009, will come to FIU as a sophomore and will be eligible to take the field this fall for the Golden Panthers to add an instant boost to the offensive line.

“Caylin has the ability to be an instant difference-maker in the trenches,” Cristobal said. “We’re extremely excited about having Caylin join the FIU family.”

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Chris Coleman, one of the top centers in the 2011 recruiting class, verbally committed to the FIU basketball program over the weekend.

Coleman, a 6-foot-10 standout at Christian Life Center Academy in Houston, had received offers from FIU and West Virginia according to Rivals.com and had been receiving interest from UConn, Marquette and UTEP.

Compiled by Jonathan Ramos and Joel Delgado



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Infielder Garrett Wittels [left] hit in 56 consecutive games during the 2010 season.

VOLLEYBALL

FIU picks up strong recruits to replace key departures

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

Danijela Tomic has spent a lot of time thinking about the upcoming season during the summer months.

Entering her sixth season as the head coach of the Golden Panthers’ fledgling volleyball program, Tomic is facing what might be one of the most challenging seasons of her coaching career.

With the graduation of All-American Yarimar Rosa, arguably one of the most dominating players in the program’s history, paired with the departure of several other key players, the team will look to find a way to build on a 32-4 campaign in which the Golden Panthers advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament.

“It’s going to be a much different team from last year,” Tomic said. “One player can change the dynamic of a team and we have new players coming in that will have to make the adjustments to the collegiate level.”

In order to avoid the pitfalls of a transitional season, a lot will rest on the returning performers from last year’s roster to keep the squad competitive in 2010.

“Our returning players know what made us successful last season and we will be focusing on that and getting our new players to get used to our system,” Tomic said.

CAPABLE REINFORCEMENTS

Tomic went out and brought in a talented

class of recruits that she believes can come in and make an immediate impact for the Golden Panthers.

The recruiting class includes recent signees Jessica Egan, Renele Ford, and Una Trkjula, who joined Jessica Gehrke and Briana Spruill in the 2010 signing class.

“This is probably our strongest recruiting class,” Tomic said of the five additions to the roster. “They were all key members of their former teams and now they are entering a new environment so we will have to be patient and see how they will adjust.”

As far as making up for the loss of Rosa, Tomic acknowledges that it is nearly impossible to simply plug in a player to replace the kind of leader and the numbers that the Puerto Rican native put up during her four years at FIU.

“You don’t replace a player like Yari. Anyone who has coached someone of that caliber will tell you that,” Tomic said. “Every season has its obstacles and we’re going to have to deal with them as a team.”

SCRATCH FREE

As far as injuries are concerned, the returning squad is expected to enter training camp in good health.

Sabrina Gonzalez was nagged by a stress fracture on her ankle throughout the 2009 season, but has been cleared to participate in training and should be ready for the 2010 season.

FLORIDA MARLINS

Valentine no longer considered candidate for manager position

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

As the Florida Marlins’ search for a manager continued Sunday, Hanley Ramirez wanted to clear the air about his relationship with the team’s former skipper.

Yes, he and Fredi Gonzalez clashed at times, something that was no secret.

But the All-Star shortstop insists he wasn’t thrilled to see Gonzalez fired last week.

“Everybody will miss him,” Ramirez said Sunday at his locker before the Marlins played the San Diego Padres. “But at the same time, you’ve got to forget and move forward. A lot of people put it on me. I don’t know why. It had nothing to do with me. Things that should have happened, happened. That’s it.”

Ramirez was benched in May by Gonzalez after the shortstop’s lazy chase of a misplayed popup allowed the Arizona Diamondbacks to score two runs. Ramirez defended the play the next day, and said Gonzalez “doesn’t understand” because “he never played in the major

leagues.”

When Gonzalez was dismissed Wednesday, there was speculation that the shortstop could have played a role in the move. Ramirez strongly denied Sunday that was the case.

“Our relationship was good after that,” Ramirez said. “Everything was good.”

Ramirez said he and Gonzalez exchanged pleasant words after the firing was announced, denying reports that he celebrated Gonzalez’s departure.

“He told me to just keep playing hard and keep doing your thing,” Ramirez said. “We’re going to see him soon. He’s a good manager.”

It’s still a delicate time for the fourth-place Marlins, who were playing Sunday for the fifth time under interim manager Edwin Rodriguez,

“My priority is being the manager and finding a way to help this team get in the race,” Rodriguez said. “That’s number one.”

The Marlins acknowledged interest last week in Bobby Valentine, though those talks have slowed. Florida officials also interviewed Arizona

third-base coach Bo Porter on Friday.

SI.com reported Sunday that Valentine was no longer a candidate for the job. In his role as an analyst on ESPN, Valentine said the sides remain “right in the middle of the process.”

“We’re taking it day by day,” Marlins president of baseball operations Larry Beinfest said Sunday.

“I’m not hopeful one way or another,” Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria said when asked about a hiring timeframe. “We have to do what we have to do and it’s a process. Right now Edwin is the manager. We’ll see what happens.”

It was a rare pregame clubhouse appearance for Loria. Around the same time Ramirez was speaking, Loria emerged in the same corner as his shortstop and expressed his frustration with what he believes is unnecessarily negative media reports about the club, its expectations and the managerial search.

“It’s fair to do whatever you think is constructive,” Loria said. “But it’s not fair to do destructive criticism. I can take anything.”



Resources for students to vacation on a modest budget

JANET CAREAGA
Staff Writer

Taking a much-needed vacation might be high on a student's wish list but after paying for tuition, books and all other unexpected student expenses, vacations sit low on the financial priority list.

"This is the age when we're at our most adventurous and most curious," said Natali Aguero, a junior majoring in English. "We want to see the world but the world doesn't make it easy."

The key to finding a good travel deal is research. Time, patience, and searching multiple places are essential. Never book a flight, hotel, or travel package without searching for multiple websites first for the best deal.

A great way to get discounts on anything from plane tickets to restaur-

rants is an International Student Identity Card (ISIC). This card is the only internationally accepted proof of full-time student status and is used by over 4.5 million students in 120 countries.

Not currently a full-time student? The ISIC Association also offers a card with similar benefits for anyone under the age of 26, the International Youth Travel Card (IYTC).

"Special prices for students are important since we don't have time to work enough to save up for a trip because we have to go to class and pay for those classes," Aguero said.

Group travel companies like EF College Break and Contiki tours also offer tours just for young people varying between the ages 18-35.

Vanessa Gomez, a junior environmental studies major, took an 18-day trip and visited four different

countries with EF College Break for less than \$3000, airfare and lodging included.

"It [EF College Break] is God's gift to college students—awesome trips that won't hurt your pocket," Gomez said.

With Contiki, every tour includes highlights of each destination in the price.

"Wherever you are, we'll line up trips to famous monuments, guided walking tours, organized nights out and more, at no extra cost," boasts the company's website.

Knowing where to look is important so ask around.

Friends can be more of a resource than just for class notes or what's happening this weekend. Their experiences and information are a useful source for narrowing down your search base.

If the travel dates are flexible, checking websites with travel price predictors is a must. This allows travelers to see when airline ticket prices are lowest within a given time frame.

There are also many web sites that act as search engines comparing the lowest price for airlines like Orbitz, Expedia, Priceline, and Kayak.

Finding hotels at low rates can be tough, especially in a popular travel destination.

An alternative to the conventional hotel is a hostel. A hostel is a more budget friendly accommodation where travelers can rent a bed in a shared room. The thought of sharing a room with a bunch of strangers is a scary idea, especially when movies like "Hostel" portray negative images about this kind of lodging.

Guests at hostels are generally young because they are students trav-

eling on a budget so they will be people of similar ages and interests.

Finding the right hostel may seem tricky but companies like HI Hostels, a non-profit organization, specialize in helping youth find quality hostels in countries all over the world.

All-inclusive packages are a great way to stay within a certain budget. Sometimes it is more economical than booking a flight and hotel separately, and many of these packages tend to include meals so there is not as much outside spending required.

Even if there are no immediate plans for travel in the future, it doesn't hurt to sign up for e-mail newsletters. It is possible to unknowingly stumble upon a great deal that wasn't planned but it is in the realm of possibilities. It is hard to turn down a good travel deal, especially as a student on a budget.

FISTFULS OF TECH

Limited internet access a dumb choice for smart phones

Most of us who have smart phones love the fact that we can surf the Internet and use our apps as much as we want. But recent moves by Verizon Wireless and AT&T are looking to put a stop to that and I'm going to tell you why that sucks.

In the late 90s, AT&T was the first company to introduce the idea of unlimited Internet to the masses. When this happened, Internet service providers either died or dramatically restructured, like AOL, who is now a more content focused company.

The unrestricted, unlimited Internet is what made everything what it is now. It paved the way for Google to dominate the cloud and it led to the dissemination of Internet access to mobile smart phones and now tablet computers.

AT&T Mobility announced last month that it would be doing away with the unlimited data plan on its handsets and will be transitioning to

a two-tier price structure with the highest plan capped at two gigabytes. Verizon announced that it would follow suit later this year.

Ironic isn't it? The same company who gave the world unfettered access to the Internet is now taking it away, announcing it near the release of the new iPhone 4 no less.

"And now it's AT&T that turns the clock back on," said Jeff Jarvis, writer of BuzzMachine.com and professor of Journalism at City University of New York. "Just as mobile is about to explode with new devices... AT&T says it wants nothing to do with that explosion (because it would have to work harder and invest more to do better)."

It's true. AT&T doesn't want to convenience you with better pricing; it just can't handle the load anymore. It refuses to expand and better it's network so it imposes a boundary on your data use, at a time when you use it the most. AT&T's network can't handle a five minute phone call with my mom, much less a Hulu or Netflix app.

Now, two gigabytes of data is still a lot for the average user; I myself haven't gone over

one gigabyte much less two. However, a cap is a cap and in the event you do go over, you'll be slammed with overages.

As a student with a smart phone, I can say that it can be pretty easy to go over your data. Downloading email attachments, large applications, watching the World Cup on my iPhone during a boring class; it adds up.

A side that not too many people notice however is that this cap won't just affect users, it will affect developers as well.

Who would want to develop an app that users won't use for fear of data overages? Moreover, developers will now have to keep the data caps in the back of their minds as they design and develop their apps, stifling creation.

So what should you do? Well, you have a few options.

Your first option is basically to shut up and accept it. Verizon and AT&T are, sadly, the two biggest carriers in the United States. They have the most users and the largest network.

If you enjoy Verizon's reliability or the fact that AT&T has the phone you like, you

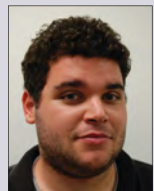
might as well stick with them. The fact is, for the average user two gigabytes of data is more than enough, even if it is a looming clock ticking over your head, as Jarvis might say.

Your second option, and your most extreme, would be to abandon ship as soon as you can. Both Sprint and T-Mobile, though lower in the mobile food chain, both offer very competitively priced unlimited data plans.

If you can put up with the lesser quality network, or when compared to AT&T an equally qualified network, these carriers might be able to accommodate you. Both have a great line-up of phones and work well in the Miami area.

The average user may never notice the caps, but rest assured they are there and if you go over them, they will charge you extra. In the end, these caps serve only to hurt the Internet. AT&T should invest in their infrastructure and make sure that when they promise unlimited, they can deliver it.

Fistfuls of Tech is a weekly technology column.



JORGE VALENS

DYNO'MITE



ALEX GARCIA/THE BEACON

Tommy Sanchez, a bassist, provides musical entertainment at the first Dyno'Nite Music and Happy Hour on Friday Jun. 25 at the FIU Wolfsonian Museum in Miami Beach.

REVIEW: TOP GIRLS

Theater festival begins with moving comedic production

MARIA MURRIEL
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, June 23, at 8 p.m. outside the lower level of Modesto Maidique Campus' Deuxieme Maison building, theatergoers milled around a small box office table, waiting to take their seats in what would be the premiere of the first play in the Alternative Theater Summer Festival, Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls*.

The first full-length feature directed by FIU Theater student Shani Bernard, *Top Girls* demonstrated an admirable level of professionalism and talent from the participating cast and crew.

The first sequence, a traditional Japanese fan dance, took a few in the audience by surprise. Perhaps, after reading the play's description, the dance came on a bit disconcerting.

Nevertheless, the scene progressed into a disorganized hen party carried out by several female characters from the past, and one Marlene, brand new top girl at Top Girls Employment Agency. It was a picnic by a cherry blossom tree, attended by a pope, a geisha, an English traveler and a warrior. The party waded through various ups and downs, going from a labyrinth of high-pitched cackle and commentary to a solemn monologue delivered by Sarai Heria about having her village pillaged and her

children attacked.

Heria, the same actress that spent most of the first act of the play devouring strawberries as a barbarian, also brought a staunch performance of a disenfranchised working woman in her forties and a submissive but motivated wife, determined to save her husband's pride.

Heria, like some of the other performing ladies, demonstrated her on-stage versatility by quickly switching from one type of role to another, all within the same play.

All in all, the roughly two-hour-long piece was dotted with subtle yet evident stains of sexual and gender oppression. Jordan Sasaki and Amanda Sparhawk, especially, clearly portrayed the dutiful woman, bending every which way to "serve" their male partner, whether it be an emperor in feudal Japan or a prince noble enough to take in a peasant.

Though Marlene, brought to life impeccably by Jeannette Galup, was the protagonist, the entire performance was bursting with strong acting. Sarah Bartels as the matron Isabella Bird, in her divine, unfaltering British accent; Michelle Moreno as the female pope, flailing herself in madness at the thought of her own death by stoning; Fadua Hanine as an insufferable, heart-wrenching Angie, the troubled child whose struggles are both painful and infuriating; and Krista Jamison as

Joyce, bitter and beautiful sister of Marlene's, in the end giving an over-the-top dance interpretation of her battle with emotional baggage.

A special mention should go out to Zayika Markland—although her hilarious, energetic performance of a lying interviewee may have taken precedence to her main role as Angie's young friend Kit, her impressive voice was the undeniable force behind Jamison's slam-dance. Markland sang fearlessly, her voice full of body and feeling.

Top Girls has been deemed a dramatic comedy, and rightly so.

While at the very beginning, sparks of comedy flew from the picnic set, as the story progressed and the plot revealed itself and became more intelligible, the sour tones of family gripe emerged. However, throughout the outline of Angie's irreverent antics, characters like Sparhawk's Nell and Emily Barona's Win kept the mood light.

The show was a long, moving presentation of the challenges of womanhood in the modern workforce. Aside from one or two dancing sequences that didn't seem connected directly to the storyline, the flow of events was generally uninterrupted, and the acting was immersive and respectable.

The first run of this year's ATSF opening number was, indeed, a sterling success.

Summer television promises athletics, action, drama

KATHY PAZ
Contributing Writer

What was once "Lost" has now been found. "Glee" is on summer vacation, "Grey's Anatomy" is in surgery and "The Office" is closed for renovations. You won't have to worry about spoilers either because "Gossip Girl" is having problems connecting to the Internet.

These are just a speck on the spectrum of television shows that have either wrapped up their series or season.

While the majority of our favorite shows are simply on hibernation for the summer, big hits like "Lost," "Law and Order" and "24" have, in fact, gone off the air for good.

So, what is there to watch after a long day at the beach?

As you douse yourself in aloe vera and find a comfortable spot on the couch, feel free to pick up the remote control. Surf the channels, and you just might find yourself hooked and held over until the fall.

Whether you're a sports junkie, a drama queen, an action aficionado or a reality programming has something for you.

One of the most talked-about segments on the airwaves right now comes from the athletic realm. What is widely considered the largest and greatest sporting event around, The FIFA World Cup, is currently taking place in South Africa. Three games take place daily and can be watched on "ABC"/"ESPN" (live at 7:30 am, 10:30 am and 2:30 pm or on late night repeats). So, check out your favorite team's schedule, grab a vuvuzela and start your cheering section!

If football doesn't tickle your fancy, fret not. Baseball season is also currently underway.

One of television's most popular shows last year has also returned to the screen. "HBO's True Blood" has commenced its third season. Based on "The Southern Vampire Mysteries" novels by Charlaine Harris, this is one show that packs a punch.

Don't be hasty to throw this show into the "Twilight" category just because vampires are the subject. Emmy award-winning, "True Blood" is dramatic, sexy, and witty with the perfect balance of fantasy, drama and darkness. Starring Anna Paquin and Stephen Moyer, it airs on HBO Sunday nights at 9

p.m., and is available on Hulu the following day for those without a subscription.

If action is your calling, the USA network has got your answer. Filmed right in our own backyard, hit series "Burn Notice" has begun airing new episodes. Now in its fourth season, the show follows the story of Michael Westen (Jeffrey Donovan), a burned spy, and the missions he takes on as he tried to get back into the field that has shunned him. If you haven't seen an episode of this show already, you're missing out! Catch it Thursdays at 9 p.m.

TNT's "Leverage" will also return for the summer. Starring Timothy Hutton, the show revolves around the operations of his group of professional thieves with a Robin Hood complex. It airs Sundays at 9 p.m.

Battling reality television cravings? Fox has your dose. Season seven of the network's hit competition, "So You Think You Can Dance?" is currently under way. It airs Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

Bravo TV's "Top Chef" has also returned for its seventh season, this time set in Washington D.C.. See chefs from around the country whip up some incredible

meals in our nation's capital on Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

Also kicking off a new season is "America's Got Talent" on NBC. Tune in to see a variety of talents ranging from singing to martial arts to ice sculpting. Having just wrapped up its

Orlando auditions, you can see it Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

If you prefer drama and fighting over competition, you'll rejoice in "MTV's Jersey Shore" returning to the air. But, you're going to have to wait a little bit longer.

The show, which includes material shot in South Beach, won't be premiering until July 29th.

Whatever your preference, this summer's got something for you in the world of television. So, kick off your shoes and enjoy!

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THE BEACON | Editorial

Administration blowing smoke while students oppose tobacco-free campus plan

Campus-wide smoking bans are not a new trend within the university system. The University of Florida has a smoking ban and tag themselves as a "tobacco-free" campus.

On March 23, the Tobacco-Free Steering Committee hosted a town hall event to allow students and faculty to chime in on this highly contentious issue. Many of those who spoke out at the event were against the initiative.

Many students came to the event to let the administration know they were adamantly opposed to the smoking-ban. They left unconvinced otherwise.

What we at The Beacon have discovered during this meeting is a disturbing trend established by the committee: complete disregard to those against the smoking-ban. Though students spoke, there was no discussion. The committee stoically sat there and listened to one student after another without responding. It was as though student and faculty input, positive or negative, was irrelevant. They might as well have been speaking to a wall.

If there was to be any shift in public thinking, it would have to come at later town hall events, promised by the committee.

The next event was to be held May 4th. It was postponed at the last minute to May 11th, leaving students standing in an empty room. On May 11th, students once again found themselves stood up. Contacting the steering committee, they were told that no such meeting was ever scheduled. In actuality, the event had been scheduled and was posted on Facebook by STOPP, an organization that has a seat on the committee.

The committee had decided to renege on its promise for future town hall forums without bothering to inform students. In their place, they decided educational forums would be best. Why? The smoking-ban had become inevitable, despite plenty of opposition. Thus speaking in opposition to the smoking-ban would be like spitting into the wind. But that appears to have been the case all along. These town hall charades were a smoke-screen. Why pretend that students and faculty have a voice and a say in the matter? This disingenuousness is downright insulting, but sadly it is not all that surprising. If the administration cared about student opinion, then it would have held a vote much like the University of Florida did.

What followed the town hall forums was an educational forum on May 25th, where students and faculty could sit and be mesmerized by statistics and shed tears at touching anecdotes. It was as if the committee was running the D.A.R.E. play book. Where the previous town hall forums filled the GC Ballroom to capacity, this educational event could barely fill the first two rows-and there are more of these educational forums to come.

Yet the purpose of the educational forum is to market this smoking-ban. The smoking-ban rests, at least initially, on social enforcement. The expectation is that students and faculty will walk up to smokers and tell them smoking is not allowed on campus. This in turn will pressure people to stop smoking on campus. Of course, in order for this to work, students and faculty have to support the smoking-ban.

In all likelihood, social enforcement will not work. No amount of educational forums will change this.

If the administration wants to effectively market this smoking-ban then it needs to begin by making genuine attempts at listening to those against it. They need to recognize that rolling ahead with the smoking-ban, while facing plenty of opposition, means their social enforcement plan will fall on its face. If they want the cooperation of students then they need to work with them and not despite them.

Need for oil drilling unfounded

ROMNEY MANASSA
Contributing Writer

As of the writing of this article, millions of gallons of crude oil are still being spewed into the Gulf of Mexico from BP's Deepwater Horizon oil platform. This incident is already believed to be the worst environmental disaster in American history and, two and half months later, little has been accomplished in stopping it. Some, like Republican Congressman Joe Barton, would like to continue drilling for oil. I am not amongst them.

Florida's association with the spill, by nature of its proximity to it, has threatened the state's vital tourism industry, leading one economist from the University of Central Florida to declare it the "the worst disaster in the history of Florida tourism." Florida is calculated to lose nearly \$3 billion in tourism revenue, a big part of the state's already troubled budget. FIU students should contemplate the damage this spill could likely cause to school funding.

The full economic effects for the long term, though unknown, are predicted to be severe. One University of Georgia academic believes the industries, like the environment, could take decades to recover. Tellingly, the area around Alaska that had been affected by the relatively smaller Exxon Valdez spill of over 20 years ago still has yet to fully recover.

With alternative energy sources apparently unfeasible or slow to come, finding our own domestic source of oil seems like an acceptable alternative. Such a quick fix, however, will only be a bandage of a greater problem: our energy policy, as it stands, is unsustainable for the long run. Our long-term energy needs won't be met by increased domestic oil supply, and the costs far outweigh the benefits.

With just 5% of the world's population, we're responsible for a quarter of the planet's global consumption of oil. There is clearly a correlation here: oil consumption has grown so fast, even beyond what's needed for a developed nation, that we've outstripped what could be provided by domestic supply.

The American public's insatiable appetite for cheap gas - and lots of it - is partly to blame for disasters such as this spill, in which the petroleum industry often cuts corners or pursues oil in riskier regions in order to keep the oil flow constant, and cheap, for consumers. Urban sprawls like Miami are indicative of an entrenched automobile culture that feeds this increasingly risky and dangerous industry.

Even much of the reasoning behind expanding drilling - such as cutting foreign dependence - is rife with misconceptions.

Despite the popular perception that most American oil imports come from countries in the middle-east or OPEC, our greatest source of oil is Canada, which every year

sends us nearly double of the next runner-up, Saudi Arabia.

The fact of the matter is that oil, whether outside America or within it, is a finite resource. While it's not agreed when peak oil will be reached (or if it already has been), the reality is that oil will run out, and we'll be woefully ill-prepared to convert our fossil-fuel based economy and livelihood to adjust to it right away - unless we start to prepare now.

Instead of putting all our efforts in finite oil supplies, we should seek to bring up domestic renewable energy sources to far past the 5% they are currently at. Though many alternative sources of energy, such as nuclear and solar power, are comparatively more expensive than petroleum, technological improvements are being made every year. More investment will be needed to continue development and innovation in these relatively new and underfunded initiatives - we shouldn't give up on them yet. Alternative energy sources are only half the battle; focusing on energy efficiency and getting more from less will be just as crucial in weaning ourselves off of oil and easing our dependence.

A few decades are not much time to prepare, and oil ventures into this ultimately exhaustible research will only distract us from facing the inevitable. In the meantime, our environment and industries may not be able to handle any more disasters along the lines of Deepwater Horizon.

Arizona law sets dangerous precedent

MICHAEL FOLEY
Contributing Writer

The porous borders that have come to symbolize this country are on the path towards fortification. Tell Everyone you know. Tell your aunt Olga who's visiting from Norway, warn your cousin Mompoti from Sri Lanka, your friend Hiroko from Japan, and your visiting secret admirer, Esperanza, from Mexico.

I imagine that a harsh, repugnant taste would linger in your mouth if your expatriated friend experienced what Leslie Cocche did on March 12th, 2010. While in transit to Miami-Dade College, Leslie was questioned and arrested by U.S. Border Control. The 18 year-old Peruvian was believed to be an illegal alien, living under the auspice of her family. She was immediately detained and transferred to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The immigration reformation in the U.S. is happening quite peculiarly. Polls indicate that Americans favor the tightening borders and uphold laws

that punish employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens. However, the process and specifications of such an act have caused commotion in the legislative halls on both state and federal levels.

There is at least 12 million illegal aliens currently living in the United States. A majority came across the US-Mexico border. This entrance of undocumented aliens has added costs to the American economy, lowered wages, resulted in uncollected tax revenue, and created an unfair labor advantage for businesses that have hired them.

The passing of Arizona's immigration bill, S.B. 1070, has acted like a virus to the rest of the country, impacting even our own community. Since its recent drafting, 18 other states have considered adopting comparable laws. This bill has not only changed the way officers do their job, but has given steam to nativists across the country.

Currently, on the federal level, authorities operate pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations. This permits law enforcement

officials to arrest and detain any individual who is an illegal alien, and has committed a felony in the United States. So, you might ask, was Leslie Cocche, on her metro ride to school in the act of committing a felony? Had she ever committed any felonies in the United States? The answer is no.

On the state level, Arizona's S.B. 1070, infamously gives authorities the ability to arrest anyone without a showing of prior felony charges. Further, under a clause of the Arizona bill, enforcement of the immigration law is exercised where "reasonable suspicion exists that a person in question is an alien who is unlawfully present in the United States." Strikingly, the Arizona law gives much broader power to its state officials compared to the Federal law.

The criminality of the person is not a focus, but simply a cosmetic one. It seems no longer that authorities are focused on criminals, but rather performing sweeping, discriminating raids in public places.

Leslie wasn't even in Arizona, yet she was targeted, questioned, and arrested by federal officials in Miami. The law has been turned on its head across the country. If you can't provide proper identification enjoy your trip to jail.

Leslie Cocche was eventually released from her detainment. However, she will not be the last to be discriminatively questioned.

Most likely, as the fervor surrounding the immigration reform ascends, people in Miami will be spotted and questioned. Miami is often considered a desirable immigration spot and such a reputation will certainly augment one's chances of being interrogated.

It is necessary to fix our immigration system. However, the proposed Arizona bill is putting the nation on the wrong path. Although the law doesn't openly authorize discrimination, the law in its nature and through its implementation, will be a unequally and discriminatorily executed. For now, it's best to keep your ID on you.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"If somebody's gonna smoke a joint in their house and not do anybody any harm, then perhaps there are other things our cops should be looking at."

Former Governor Sarah Palin

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.

SPINNING FACTS



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

Darrell Reagan, a senior in engineering (left), and Damauri Sims, a senior in communications (right), spin a wheel to see their reward for participating in an STD awareness survey by nursing students and the Health Center in Academic One, June 28.

Student discounts planned

JACQUES ROZIER
Contributing Writer

Students may soon save a little more money with local businesses if a new initiative is successful.

Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus President Christin “Cici” Battle is working on a plan that would get students discounts with stores on Biscayne Boulevard.

“We have many [resources] in the area and I don’t feel they cater enough to the FIU students,” Battle said.

In its current state, the program is mainly an information initiative to educate the students. There are many businesses already providing discounts to FIU students such as T.G.I. Fridays on Biscayne Boulevard in North Miami.

The problem is no one knows the concessions exist, Battle said.

One of the important factors of the program is that it is not designed to raise any student fees to fund it, nor will it require special allotment from SGC-BBC’s budget.

Battle is currently in talks with the Walgreens on Biscayne Boulevard and NE 151st Street concerning the logistics of the program. Battle first met with a Walgreen’s manager between spring and summer semesters. She became aware of a mutual interest between Walgreens and BBC at that point.

Walgreens initially wanted to set up special discounts for Welcome Week in the fall. However, Battle seeks a more permanent discount program. She is also planning on meeting with them again in the near future.

Though the tentative start date will be for Welcome Week in the fall, starting the program sometime in Summer B is not out of the question.

Walgreens is in preparation to post flyers on campus to raise awareness about the offers they provide students.

According to Battle, beginning with Walgreen’s is actually a good fit for the BBC community, tying in with concerns of being unable to get food and other amenities on campus after 8 p.m., when all venues on campus are closed.

“They are open kind of late and we do have housing students here,” said Battle.

The program can incorporate more businesses to offer special incentives to students who support their stores. Battle has attempted to reach Friday’s as well.

The program will be used through the PantherCARD or a separate discount card exclusive to FIU students. According to Battle, there is no program such as this at the Modesto Madique Campus, although local businesses around MMC offer similar deals. This discount program is the beginning of various initiatives designed around students’ wants and needs.

are asked to find an alternate route through Panther Square, as traffic will be redirected to minimize the number of people around the work site.

Jennifer Cooper, assistant director for operations, said that the windows haven’t been replaced in her 15 years at FIU, and possibly since the building opened in its current form almost two decades ago.

Besides leakage during heavy rain, the current windows weren’t designed to withstand impacts during hurricane-force winds,

which had worried John Cal, associate vice president of Facilities Management.

“This will be a great help in the event of a hurricane since protecting them with shutters was difficult and dangerous,” Cal said.

Moreover, deterioration of the caulking, a waterproof filler and sealant used in building repair. Current technology has allowed the University to replace the skylights with impact resistant windows.

“We’re very happy about that,” Cooper admitted.

Gregory Olson, senior director

of student affairs, agreed.

“We hope they will remedy the water leaks in Panther Square,” Olson said.

The approximately \$78,000 cost of the replacement skylight windows will come from Public Education Capital Outlay infrastructure, a state program run by the legislature that provides funds for the maintenance, repair and construction of public education facilities.

This renovation is part of a larger effort to revamp the WUC. The offices for the Student Govern-

ment Council at Biscayne Bay Campus and the Wellness Center were moved to the third floor at the site of the former fitness center in early 2010.

In addition, the WUC expects to start construction within the next few months on the old second-floor cafeteria, pending budget approval.

The proposed layout for the space includes new offices for the women’s center, several storage rooms, two “multi-functional” meeting rooms, and a game room for students, which includes a pool table.

SGC-BBC

Executive, legislative branches discuss salaries

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
BBC Managing Editor

The executive branch of the Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus has made a proposal to balance the emoluments of the councils at BBC with those of the Modesto Madique Campus.

Emoluments, both a tricky word and tricky subject, refers to the salaries of members of SGC and governing councils, which are below SGC in terms of hierarchy. These governing councils are Student Organizations Council, Student Programming Council, Panther Power and Bay Vista Housing.

Christin “Cici” Battle, SGC-BBC president, said in an interview with Student Media that emoluments have been reviewed and changes have been made but not in the sense of someone will have an increase in their salary and another person will have a decrease. She said

the changes are being thought about in terms of the University as a whole and not campus-specific.

Currently, senators of SGC-MMC are paid a total of \$600 for a two-semester term and SGC-BBC senators are paid a total of \$1,100 for the same period of time. The president of SGC at MMC and BBC make \$13,000 and \$12,000, respectively.

Battle said the changes are being made so that “presidents make about the same [salary] and senators make about the same.” She said animosity is created when certain positions make more or less than their counterpart at the other campus.

Emoluments are campus specific but Battle said to help the relationship between the two SGCs she and Helena Ramirez, SGC-MMC president, are working together.

“[Ramirez] gave me her set of emoluments and what she was planning for her council and I tried hard to make [emoluments] even,” Battle said.

“We’re trying to push people to work

with each other and have a relationship,” Battle said. “And it’s hard to do that when you know your counterpart is making double what you’re making.”

The goal is to put everyone on the same playing field, Battle said, but in trying to deal with that animosity some adjustments had to be made. Some positions received cuts and others received increases. She added, however, it wasn’t about increasing or decreasing specific positions.

The original plan, Battle said, was for senators of both campuses making the same amount, but senators of SGC-BBC felt differently.

Dametreus Vincent, graduate senator and speaker pro tempore, told Student Media he wouldn’t mind cuts, but feels the BBC senate shouldn’t take deep cuts because their work load has doubled.

SGC-BBC isn’t complete as a legislative body. Of the 20 senate seats available at SGC-BBC, only five have been

filled. Therefore, Vincent and his fellow senators have had to cover every school at BBC and do the work of the unfilled positions, he said.

“I wouldn’t want to do a lot more for a lot less,” Vincent said.

Vincent, who took charge of writing the proposals for the senate because the senate speaker was out of town, said the salaries of the two SGC legislative branches shouldn’t be the same. He said if the SGC-BBC legislature were to receive cuts, it should be a \$100-\$200 cut.

According to Vincent, the decision of who gets how much rests on the executive branch. The senate does not vote on the matter.

The proposed cut to the senator salaries was \$300, but Battle adjusted it so the senate would not receive any cuts.

Regarding the other governing councils, the plan is to allow them to set their own salaries.

Vincent said SGC-BBC plans to allot money for the governing councils so that they can make their own decisions.

We’re trying to push people to work together and have a relationship

Dametreus Vincent, Speaker Pro-Tempore
SGC-BBC

Wolfe Center renovations bring needed improvements

BECCA GRIESEMER
Contributing Writer

The sky’s the limit with the Wolfe University Center’s latest renovation.

Students and visitors to WUC at the end of Summer B should expect to find new skylight windows. Pirtle Construction Inc, which began the replacement of Panther Square’s skylight windows on June 21, expects to finish by July 30.

Scaffolding and a lift have made Panther Square unavailable for events. Students, faculty, and staff