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'08-'09 BASKETBALL PREVIEW

PAGES 3-6

Wall of Wind teaches storm smarts at Epcot

SOLDANAYS MUJICA
Contributing Writer

The College of Engineering's Wall of Wind is now part of Epcot in the Walt Disney World Resort.

"Storm Struck: The Tale of Two Homes" is a new attraction that simulates hurricane weather for fun and education. Before entering the attraction, tourists are handed 3-D glasses to watch a video demonstrating how the project came about.

Featuring the University's "RenaissanceRe's Wall of Wind," the attraction is designed to help people learn about the risks of natural disasters, according to *stormstruck.com*.

Audiences can also team up to build storm proof houses and even create their own mini-storms at the end of the attraction. In the video, The Weather Channel's Jim Cantore explains how the Wall of Wind works as it destroys a small house.

Leslie Chapman-Henderson, who helped create the experience and is president of The Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, as well as a member of the Board of Governors of the International Hurricane Research Center, explains FIU's involvement.

"I thought that a small part of FIU's Wall of Wind would be perfect for our pre-show video to

give audiences a demonstration to something similar as to what they will be experiencing in 'Storm Struck,'" Henderson said.

The man behind the "RenaissanceRe's Wall of Wind" is Stephen P. Leatherman, chair professor and director of IHRC. Leatherman's Wall of Wind is the only one of its kind.

We want families to know that there are things they can do when they confront natural disasters...

Leslie Chapman-Henderson,
President IHRC

"Until you actually do it, you don't know how these building materials and construction techniques will actually stand up," Leatherman said in a *Miami Herald* article in 2006.

This wall of giant fans with wind speeds of over 100 mph was created to continue the revolutionizing of South Florida's construction in houses and buildings.

The six-fan prototype Wall of Wind was funded by the Florida Department of Community Affairs and RenaissanceRe Holdings in Bermuda.

"The Wall of Wind will give us information to come up with better building designs and [construction] techniques," said Arindam Gan Chowdhury, FIU's lead wind engineer and researcher, in the *Miami Herald* article.

"We want families to know that there are things they can do when they confront natural disasters, that luck is not the best tool that they have available to them," Henderson said during the "Storm Struck" grand opening.

EVERYBODY WAS CAPOEIRA FIGHTING



JOSEPH KOSANKE/THE BEACON

... AND DANCING: Jorge Cruz (left) and Shawn Rupnasine (right) perform Capoeira, a Brazilian martial arts dance.

FROST ART MUSEUM

Opening exhibitions attract community to new building

MONICA PUERTO
Staff Writer

It's been 10 years since the idea was first conceived and the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum now occupies 46,000 sq. feet.

"It is built site responsive, meaning it is built in correspondence to the lake and curves around it. It's also built from the outside in," said Susan Thomas, the membership coordinator for the museum, giving insight to the architect Yann Weymouth's reason of the building's location and design.

In 2001, the Frost Museum signed an agreement with the Smithsonian Institution on sharing the use of its artifacts and resources with Miami.

Through private donations and local and state government agencies, the Frost Museum allows free admission to the public to all the exhibitions and public events. The Museum's official opening will be Nov. 29.

Exhibitions such as "Modern Masters" will consist of works from the Smithsonian Institution during the modern mid-20th century, focusing on 43 key paintings.

These paintings depict three themes: "Grand Gestures," which focuses on autographic art with

bold colors; "Optics and Order," which are balanced colored and "New Images of Man" which delves into the personal lives of the artists and search of their surroundings.

The museum will also feature an inaugural exhibition with works from its permanent collection, including FIU alumna Luisa Marie Basunevo's solo exhibition.

On Dec. 3, the museum will also have a Student Day sponsored by Target. Student Day will allow students to see exhibitions and take tours of the museum. Free food will be provided.

Along with all these new exhibitions and events, the Frost Museum is giving great opportunities to students interested in the arts to become a museum ambassador, an intern or a volunteer.

The Frost Ambassador Program recruits and trains students to gain more experience in the museum environment by conducting tours and researching the collections and works of art.

The Intern Program allows students to become tour guides to young children and teach educational workshops.

The Volunteer Program looks for people who want to help in event planning and promoting the

events, which would be a valuable experience for people in the communications and public relations field.

"It is so amazing seeing the transition from a student gallery to this amazing museum with a permanent collection, exhibitions, events and involvement with the students. There is no other museum like this. I am so lucky to have such a cultural institution near me," said Museum Assistant Nicole Espailat, who used to be an intern.

Carol Damian, the intern director and the curator of the permanent collection, emphasized how important it is to let students know the availability of the museum's resources.

Damian is also involved in making the Frost Museum accessible to students: she even allowed classes to take place in the museum when there was lack of space in the University.

"Students come first, this museum was built on campus for a reason, it is a museum for the students. They are our biggest focus," Damian said.

For more information on the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, check out *thefrost.fiu.edu*.

NEWS FLASH

FIU

Homecoming Council cancels naming of Homecoming King and Queen

The University has cancelled its annual Homecoming Court for the University Park campus. *The Beacon* repeatedly tried to contact the Homecoming Council, a branch of Campus Life, but the organization could not be met to comment at the time of publication.

The Beacon is currently looking further into the matter.

Workshop shows students how to save money, time

MIKIALA TENNIE
Staff Writer

Christina Bodhidatta's grocery shopping once totalled \$98. Now, she only pays 38 cents.

Coupons saved Bodhidatta from having to pay her remaining balance of \$97.62.

She has used coupons since she tagged along with her parents, running errands as a little girl.

Growing up in a household that valued coupon savings, she is now very conscious of costs.

As a graduate assistant in the International Students and Scholars Services office, she has spent the last two years preaching the coupon gospel to students and co-workers.

Bodhidatta held her first coupon workshop Oct. 1, in an effort to raise awareness about saving at the supermarket.

Although the workshop was open to all students, most of the students in attendance were international students eager to learn how to save money in America.

Not many people realize that using coupons regularly can save hundreds of dollars, according to Bodhidatta.

"People don't know about it, so I wanted to spread awareness," she said.

At the next coupon workshop, which will take place Dec. 3 at

2 p.m. in room 363 of the Wolfe University Center, Bodhidatta plans to help students learn how to save.

She will show attendees receipts as proof of her savings, and will then show them where and how to find coupons.

In her workshops, Bodhidatta tells students how to get and use coupons.

Some students might think using coupons is too time consuming, but Bodhidatta wants to assure it is not.

"You use the Sunday paper for the majority of coupons, in the sale section," Bodhidatta said. "The main thing is to keep them organized before you go to the store."

Once coupons are organized for a specific shopping trip, it's easier to keep to a shopping list and not buy things on impulse, according to Bodhidatta, who also talks about stockpiling.

"[Stockpiling] prevents you from having to go out and buy an item at full price when you need it. Instead you already have it for less," Bodhidatta said. "It's like buying four bottles of the shampoo you use at one time with a coupon. You're going to use it eventually, but it's cheaper right now."

Bodhidatta's co-workers are also fully on board with her saving frenzy.

"I told my co-workers about



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

CAUGHT CLIPPING: Hali Neal, junior majoring in public relations, clips coupons at the Wolfe University Center information desk on Nov. 10. The BBC bookstore provides the coupon booklets pictured above.

it, and they really got into it. It saved them so much," Bodhidatta said. "First, I took them to Kmart, where they were having a double coupon day. That's where one coupon counts for double the value."

For Anoush McNamee, using coupons is a family affair.

"With this economic crisis, everyone is trying to save money," said McNamee, ISSS-BBC assistant director and one of Bodhidatta's co-workers. "My entire family does it. My husband and daughter cut them out of the newspaper, and I organize them into my coupon organizer," McNamee said.

McNamee believes she has

saved between 70 to 80 percent off her grocery bill by using coupons, which makes a big difference because she doesn't have to go to the store every week.

Julie Wilbers, ISSS-BBC coordinator, calls it "coupon mania."

"I'm the type of person that puts convenience over money, and my mom never used coupons. She always said they took too much time," Wilbers said.

Wilbers experienced the advantage of using coupons when she got a dog, and was relieved at how much money she saved on dog food and other essentials.

There are many Web sites and internet groups that people use

to trade coupons, according to Bodhidatta.

The coupons one person cannot use are traded with someone who has a need for them.

"I don't have kids, so I trade any coupons for kids items with someone who maybe doesn't have a need for the coupons for cat items, since I have a cat," Bodhidatta said.

She is also interested in starting coupon-trading parties on campus for interested students.

She is open to suggestions for things to discuss at the upcoming coupon workshop.

Bodhidatta can be reached at (305) 919-5813 or in WUC 363.

On-campus dance classes add exercise, fun to routine

DAIANA KUCAWCA
Staff Writer

These days, students lack the time to take care of themselves and exercise without following the same routine, but the University is offering a variety of free dance classes that can break the monotony.

The Student Programming Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus sponsors salsa, ballroom and hip hop classes as part of the "Dancing with the Wolfe" series, while Campus Recreation offers a Street Cardio class.

The salsa classes, instructed by Jimmy Chang, take place every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center, room 157.

The ballroom classes are on Mondays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in WUC 155 with instructors Richard and Karen Campbell, who have years of experience dancing professionally, according to Melissa Binnes, Student Programming Council's Hispanic Heritage co-chair.

"The [ballroom] class is a mix of five different styles, including Argentinean Tango, cha-cha and rumba," Binnes said.

The hip hop classes, taught by Ekandem

Essiet, take place Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in WUC 330.

The "Dancing with the Wolfe" series was formed by SPC in an effort to promote art, dance and fun exercise to students, according to Binnes.

"It's exercise camouflaged with fun," Binnes said, adding that with the growing popularity of programs like 'Dancing with the Stars,' people are more enthusiastic about wanting to learn how to dance."

These classes have been offered since fall 2007, and ever since, they have had no less than 20 students in attendance.

They will be open until the week before finals and will be offered every subsequent semester of school, except during the summer terms, according to Binnes.

BBC Campus Recreation is also offering free dance classes for students, faculty and

staff.

Similar to SOC's hip hop class, there is a street cardio class that takes place every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at BBC's Fitness Center in WUC room 155. The class is taught by Celeste De Palma, and is based on rhythms like hip hop, dancehall and reggaeton, according to De Palma.

De Palma is a junior majoring in biology and a certified professor of dance fitness. She commutes from University Park to teach this dance class.

On Nov. 5, five girls joined the street cardio class. De Palma showed them the routine as they copied her moves on the large mirrored walls.

She repeated the dance steps to help them catch up with her moves, and they all followed Britney Spears' beat.

"A little bit more gracious, not like this,"

The [ballroom] class is a mix of five different styles, including Argentinean Tango, cha-cha and rumba.

Melissa Bines, Hispanic Heritage co-chair
Student Programming Council

said De Palma as she stopped the music.

De Palma speaks very little during class, and only talks to mark the beats and make the occasional correction. She also stops to answer questions about a specific move or step, but as soon as the music comes on, with the students mimicking her moves, she becomes a virtual Britney clone.

De Palma's background is in rhythmic gymnastics, and she has been dancing since she was 8-years-old.

De Palma has been recognized as one of BBC's Golden Stars.

"This is not supposed to be a hip hop dance class. It's supposed to be the equivalent of a cardio class," De Palma said.

According to her, people can go to her dance class instead of staying half an hour on the treadmill.

"This class is scheduled with respect to heart rates," De Palma said. "This class will never get your heart rate completely down."

The street cardio class will continue to take place every semester, "as long as [De Palma] is happy with it," according to Warren Shaw, assistant director of Campus Life, Orientation and Recreation.

For more information, call 305-919-5678 or visit bbcrec.fiu.edu.

BASKETBALL

PREVIEW '08

NOVEMBER 12, 2008

New players to make immediate impact

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

In FIU head coach Sergio Rouco's five seasons as men's basketball coach, he hasn't seen anything quite like it.

"This is the group of kids, I think, I am the most pleased with coming into a season," he said.

The intangibles the team has coming into the season with the additions of center Freddy Asprilla, guard Michael Dominguez, forward J.C Otero, and guard Harley Fuller have given Rouco something to beam about.

"They like each other. They respect each other. They are very giving to each other. Selfless," he said. "I really enjoy them, they make it very enlightening to come to practice every day."

Besides Otero, who will miss the start of the season with an injury, the group will be looked upon to play heavy minutes on the floor. One of the new Golden Panthers, Dominguez, showed exactly in what capacity he will contribute to FIU in the team's lone pre-season contest.

'SHARPSHOOTER'

Dominguez netted four 3-pointers in a 61-57 victory against Nova Southeastern on Nov. 6, including a decisive one to win the game for the Golden Panthers.

The shooting guard from Northeastern Junior College is expected to be a mainstay on the perimeter, especially with forward

Alex Galindo out indefinitely. With Otero considered a complementary scorer who can defend, the team's two outside position additions will play off of each other.

"[Otero] is a slasher who can defend," point guard Josue Soto said. "And [Dominguez] is going to be able to really open up the floor for us."

Otero will be asked to fill departed senior Chris Fuller's shoes, who was a dependable defender for the Golden Panthers.

When Rouco was asked about Dominguez' role in the lineup, he only had to reference to the amount of minutes he played in the lone exhibition.

"He played 39 minutes, I think that answers that question," Rouco said about his new gunner

playing all but one minute.

Perhaps the biggest inclusion to the team, literally and figuratively, is Asprilla.

The mammoth post player from Patterson Prep school might be behind the depth chart to veteran big's in Nikola Gacesa and Russell Hicks, but there is no question in his potential.

"I'll go out on a limb and say that Freddy is the most talented and touted basketball freshman ever to sign here," Rouco said.

The Colombian native is listed at 6'10", and is probably generating most excitement of any of the newcomers this fall.

Harley Fuller, a heady point guard, will be forced to contribute right away for FIU, who is dealing with the loss of Soto for an extended period of time with an injury.

"I'm excited to contribute immediately," Fuller said. "Josue is a great player so I'm going to have to step up my game."

A GOOD MIXTURE

Fuller also sees the Golden Panthers creating opportunity's by depending on each other. When healthy, the Golden Panthers have a chance to exhibit a solid amount of depth.

"Freddy just brings a post presence besides [Hicks] that teams are going to have a tough time matching up against," he said. "Mike is a great three point shooter who is going to stretch out opposing defenses and make it harder to double down in the post."

Dominguez senses a unity.

"From what I've heard and what I feel like, this is more of a team and we all look out for one another," he said.

"It feels good. I came from a junior college team and we had a good team but a lot of people had their own agendas and wanted to do their own thing. It feels good to come here and fell more like a family."

BREAKING IT DOWN

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Loss of top guards leaves inexperience in backcourt

AUDRINA BIGOS
Staff Writer

Sable Adams. The 6-foot-1 junior-college transfer was named All-Conference and team captain for Miami-Dade College.

BACK COURT

Ending last season with a 13-18 record was considered successful for the women's basketball team after losing three starters to injuries.

Senior guards and team leading scorers, Iva Ciglar and LaQuetta Ferguson, graduated. With their departure, the Golden Panthers lose the league's leader in assists and a first-team selection who ranked third in scoring average for the conference.

As the Golden Panthers head into this season with 10 returners and 3 newcomers, head coach Cindy Russo is focused on developing the team and maximizing their potential.

"We are a very inexperienced team, especially after the loss of our two lead guards," said Russo. "However, if we can stay healthy, then I am convinced we will make it far this season."

As the team works with young players to prepare them for college play, others on the team are returning to lead the team into a rebuilding phase and fill the voids made during the off-season.

FRONT COURT

The front court is stocked with experienced returners.

Leading the team with 220 rebounds last season, 6-foot-2 senior forward Jasmine Jenkins is expected to contribute to scoring and defense. Jenkins started in 30 of the team's 31 games and averaged over 27 minutes per contest. She also led the conference in blocked shots, with 43.

Junior forward Marquita Adley is returning after a season-ending thumb injury six games into last season against the University of South Florida. At the time, Adley was averaging 9.2 points and 8.5 rebounds per game.

Elisa Carey, 6-foot-2 junior, returns after her knee surgery in 2007 that ended her season after two games.

6-foot-4 sophomore Maja Krajacic and 6-foot-1 sophomore Liene Jakabsonė will also contribute to the front court. The pair was thrust into the line up last year due to injury, and gained valuable experience.

Alongside Gonzalez is newcomer

Sophomore point guard Michelle Gonzalez was recruited during the off-season out of Cisco Junior College in Cisco, TX. Her focus will be protecting the ball, as FIU averaged over 18 turnovers per game.

Freshman Asia Wilson, also playing at point, made All-Seminole County during all four years at Lake Mary High School in Sanford, FL, and led Lake Mary to a 2006 6A state title.

Junior guard and team leader, Monika Bosilj, returns with high expectations from Coach Russo. Bosilj averaged 11.4 ppg and was voted preseason second team all Sun Belt Conference. She reached double-figure scoring and took five or more rebounds in 17 of the team's 31 games last season.

Sophomore Fanni Hutlassa from Hungary averaged 9 points per game last season and will also be looked to by Russo for scoring.

The 6-foot-1 guard had a career high of 23 points in January of 2008 at Denver. Hutlassa's most important area to improve will be in game focus, and full off-season condition program should help tremendously.

SCHEDULE

The Golden Panthers will host Wisconsin-Green Bay on November 14 for the season opener. The Phoenix's finished last season with a 26-6 record.

The next stop be in Jacksonville on November 20 and West Virginia on November 22.

The annual FIU Thanksgiving Classic will take place right after the Golden Panthers head to University of Miami to face their cross-town rivals.

Russo believes that the non-conference schedule will prepare the team for post-regular season play.

The Sun Belt Conference Tournament will take place at the end of the regular season on March 4-10.

The FIU community will be able to engage in regular season play, as FIU hosts 16 games this season.

Size will be utilized to compensate for injuries

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

the off-guard position, and he will likely start the season there. Though Russell was a turnover machine at point guard, the 6 footer also showed an ability to get to the rim and create opportunity's for himself there. Russell will be challenged by new addition Michael Dominguez, who looks the position in his 6'4" frame and can open the floor with his shooting touch, which was on display when he hit four 3-pointers in a preseason win against Nova Southeastern.

POSITION BREAKDOWN

The Golden Panthers saw a few breakdowns during the 2007-08 campaign when starters Redd White and Michael James left the team for undisclosed reasons. Coming into the new season, head Coach Sergio Rouco has already seen a few breakdowns in a different form as a slew of injuries partly halted the momentum of a highly touted recruiting class and the return of a pair of All Sun Belt Conference team performers. Nonetheless, the teams look is different, and when healthy, will highlight six newcomers.

POINT GUARD

Perhaps the position in most need of an upgrade, FIU has three new players in a rotation that diminished into then-redshirt freshman walk on Nick Taylor's hands last season. Taylor gave Rouco stability and hands of glue when he turned it over just 13 times in 25 contests. With sophomore Tremayne Russell moved to the shooting guard position in the off-season, Taylor is the only player coming into to the year with experience in a Golden Panther uniform. Though Taylor is an asset to the team, he does not provide play making ability in any form. That's where Josue Soto will jolt much needed fire power to the position.

"Josue gives us a high level point guard I haven't had," Rouco said. "He is a point guard who can score and brings us the kind of excitement that we haven't had here since Ivsn Almonte."

Besides Soto, who will start when he recovers from a pre-season wrist injury that will stop him from making his debut to start the season, Harley Fuller joins the team and will play a lot early on. Fuller averaged 8.1 assists per game last season at SUNY-cobleskill last season.

A pure point guard, Fuller is similar to Taylor in his steady demeanor at the point. With those three a lock to start the season in the rotation at the point, the football-subdivision's leader in all-purpose yards this season, T.Y Hilton, will join the team at some point as well.

SHOOTING GUARD

Rouco believes that Russell's athleticism and potential warrants a position change to

SMALL FORWARD

First option. Alex Galindo. Second option. J.C Otero. Unfortunately for Rouco, both are hurt entering the season. Galindo, who was a lock to start after being a stone at the position two straight seasons, is out for a lengthy amount of time with a dislocated ankle. Otero, an addition from Miami-Dade College, is not expected back for at least a month while he recovers from a knee injury he sustained during the summer. That leaves Dominguez likely to kick it at the position at times, with Cedric Essola as another option. Essola is a junior who can be has been solid at times for FIU, but was not expected to start this season. Combo forward Nikola Gacesa is the wild-card in the rotation as he has been a power forward throughout his career but can play small forward with his perimeter ability.

POWER FORWARD

This position has been upgraded by 280 pounds with Freddy Asprilla, who can also play center. Asprilla, arguably FIU's most heralded recruit ever in the sport, has a chance to dominate Sun-Belt Conference big's as long as he can stay on the floor. The freshman does not look like one and is older than the average frosh, is not expected to play like one. Gacesa will also see time here and might find himself starting on opening day.

CENTER

Rouco will roll out arguably the best center in the conference when seven-foot All Conference threat Russell Hicks mans the post for the Golden Panthers.

Hicks will play a lot and will be expected to produce. He averaged 12.5 points per game and 6.1 rebounds a contest last season.

Center for the Golden Panthers starts and ends with Hicks, but Asprilla will capably fill-in when needed.



#13 Monika Bosilj, Jr.
Guard/Forward

Bosilj has played in all 61 games since arriving, despite a torn labrum last season. Brings scoring ability, both slashing and long range shooting; and toughness.

#3 Jasmine Jenkins, Sr.
Forward



Led the Sun Belt in blocked shots (43) in 06-07, and led FIU in total rebounds (220). Productive defensive player.



#10 Fanni Hutlassa, So.
Guard/Forward

Ranked second on the team a year ago in free throw percentage, 74% and three point shooting percentage, 31%.

#1 Antonia Zeigler, Sr.
Guard



Career reserve, Well need to be a steadying presence in the early going to help the younger ball handlers along.



#12 Elisa Carey, Jr.
Forward

Forward who recorded 10 rebounds in season opener, but tore ACL after game two, and missed entire season.

#15 Marquita Adley, Jr.
Forward



Sat out most of last year with torn ligaments in her thumb. Needs to improve FG % near the basket to be successful.



#5 Michelle Gonzalez, So.
Point Guard

JUCO transfer expected play big minutes at point guard, replacing the departed Iva Ciglar.

#21 Asia Wilson, Fr.
Guard



Will be counted on for back court minutes. was a member of the '06 6A state championship team.



#33 Liene Jakabsonė, So.
Forward

Forced into duty as a true freshman due to injuries. Progressed well throughout first college season.

#35 Maja Krajacic, So.
Center



Center, who is still being brought along, and groomed for the future. Showed flashes in limited duty last season.



#32 Russell Hicks, Sr.
Center

Hicks enters 08-09 as a pre-season All-conference performer. He was among the best shot blockers in the nation.

#1 Freddy Asprilla, Fr.
Forward



Arguably best incoming recruit in the history of the program. Will cause matchup problem for SBC big men.



#3 Tremayne Russell, So.
Guard

Guard will have opportunity to play off the ball and use superior athleticism to create offense.

#34 Michael Dominguez Jr.
Guard



One of three junior college transfers for FIU, the 6'3" guard will be among best long-range shooters in the SBC.



#15 Nikola Gacesa, Jr.
Forward

Rouco calls him the most improved player. Penciled in as a starter and will be called upon to carry scoring load.

#21 Cedric Essola, Jr.
Forward



Played in 26 games last season. Can score when called upon. Has also started 14 career games.



#11 Harley Fuller, Jr.
Guard

Racked up assists during junior college stop at SUNY-Cobleskill. Will be asset in the backcourt.

#23 Nick Taylor, So.
Point Guard



Walk-on started several games toward the end of last season. Averaged just .5 turnovers per game.



#2 Alex Galindo Sr.
Forward

Veteran forward has led team in scoring back-to-back seasons. Out due to dislocated ankle until conference play.

#5 Josue Soto, So.
Point Guard



Now-eligible transfer from Florida State will give FIU its best point guard since Carlos arroyo.

From 5240 miles away, a leader emerges for FIU

AUDRINA BIGOS
Staff Writer

Monika Bosilj's tenure as a Golden Panther women's basketball player is only a foreshadowing of what is to come for this junior shooting guard.

Her career began at FIU in 2006 after being scouted while playing for her country of Croatia during the European Championships at the end of the 2005-2006 season.

"I was playing for a na-

coming a better basketball player," said Bosilj.

Language barriers and alternative playing styles were some of the most difficult aspects of her transition to the United States.

"I knew English before I moved here but it is hard to understand and speak all the time in English," said Bosilj, "but luckily I received help from friends and teammates that came to the states with me."

Former teammate Eva Makela along with current

on getting an internship," said Bosilj.

Although she is spending the year focusing on her degree, Bosilj first priority is preparing for a post-college basketball career.

"Well, my dream is to become a CSI agent but with practices and traveling I have no time to focus on forensics, which is important for my major," said Bosilj.

Instead, she is fulfilling her desire to play in the WNBA upon graduation or maybe even playing professional basketball back home in Croatia.

For now, Monika is focused on the season and fulfilling her role as a team leader after the loss of two leading scorers during the off season.

She will not have a problem with this after finishing in the top 20 of the Sun Belt Conference scorers with an average of 11.4 points per game.

Her performance last season also place her among the top 10 in 3-point field goals made.

Bosilj is fully recovered from a shoulder injury that plagued her throughout the end of last season.

A torn labrum in her shooting shoulder did little to limit Bosilj's scoring although i did slow her down in practice. Bosilj averaged 15.6 per game after being injured, more than four points higher than her season average.

I miss my family, my mom's food, and my friends, but I came to Miami to follow the dream of becoming a better basketball player.

Monika, Bosilj, junior shooting guard
Women's Basketball

tional team in Croatia and last year's team manager, Gordana Bedalov, recommended me to the coaching staff at FIU," said Bosilj.

During the 2005-2006 season with PGM Ragusa, Bosilj helped the team to a third-place finish and was Named MVP of the "Viudi Kup" in 2003 and 2004

Bosilj competed with a club team in Croatia beginning at age 14. She continued her career with the PGM Ragusa for six years until she moved to the United States to become a Golden Panther at age 20.

"I miss my family, my mom's food, and my friends, but I came to Miami to follow the dream of be-

teammate Maja Krajacic are also from Croatia, and according to Bosilj, played an essential role in transitioning to an English-speaking team.

Bosilj began at FIU with an undecided major, but now, she is pursuing a bachelors degree in criminal justice.

She hopes to gain experience at a local police station instead of traveling home to Croatia in the coming year.

"Because of the schedule I have, I usually only go home once a year to visit my family during summer A," said Bosilj, "but this year I'm going to stay here [in Miami] and focus

FRESH FACES



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

NEW AND IMPROVED:

Although there are many injuries slowing the Golden Panthers early in the season, FIU is hanging much of its potential success on newcomers like Harley Fuller (left), and Michael Dominguez (left), as well as highly touted big man, Freddy Asprilla

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HUMAN EXPLOITATION

Emancipation Proclamation only made a dent

ODETTE BARRIENTOS
Staff Writer

We exist in a world full of secrets and disguised horrors. After the American Revolution, the nation took the first steps to voice an opposition to slavery in the United States. The American Civil War paved the way that later abolished chattel slavery – or so we thought.

To date, we regard slavery as a thing of the past. Unfortunately, it is not. We have yet to realize that slavery grew to be more than a mere dark chapter in American history. It is a universal chapter, and modern-day slavery – known as human trafficking – is a hidden secret in the world today.

Slavery is alive and thriving, and in fact, there are more slaves in the world today than there ever were in history.

Research conducted by Free the Slaves, a non-profit organization dedicated to liberating slaves around the world, suggests that the modern-day slavery industry is among the most profitable in the world. Evidence suggests that in 2007, slave traders made more money than Google, Nike and Starbucks put together – all on the backs of 27 million people.

These 27 million are comprised of child slaves, labor slaves, sex slaves and child soldiers – mostly found in India and African countries. One of the most difficult aspects to swallow is the magnitude of the success

behind these occurrences.

The United Nations estimates that human trafficking generates \$7 to \$10 billion annually for traffickers, making it the third largest profits for unlawful activities, behind arms dealing and narcotics trafficking.

Across Asia, children are sold into prostitution or hard labor, sometimes by their own poverty-stricken parents. According to the International Labor Organization, at least 1 million children are prostitutes, with the largest numbers in Thailand, India, Taiwan and the Philippines.

The ILO also indicates that Africa has the highest percentage of child laborers in the world with 80 million or 41 percent of African children. That's almost half of all the children in the entire continent.

In Burma, some are actually kidnapped by the state and forced to become soldiers. Over 300,000 children under 18 are fighting in wars in over 30 countries.

The facts sound even darker if we can envision this occurring in our own backyards. Although some may assume atrocities of this nature only occur overseas, they are mistaken.

Additional research conducted by Free the Slaves with the University of California, Berkeley found documented cases of slavery and human trafficking in over 90 cities across the U.S.

The figures are disheartening because I, like many others, na-

ively thought this kind of thing could only happen within corrupt countries and governments; it is not a matter of having a crooked government or having the perfect democracy. It is a matter of becoming aware and taking action.

Simply put, governments are not stepping in, including our own. The situation is being ignored and the modern-day slavery industry becomes bigger and stronger every day.

In Africa, traffickers face a low risk of arrest and punishments. They exploit the lack of law and enforcement of existing anti-slavery laws. These loopholes allow perpetrators to go unpunished.

Weak government systems and the ignorance of poverty-ridden people also help allow these atrocities to happen. No one takes action – not in their own country or any other form of intervention.

While the most cited statistics on trafficking comes from the U.S. State Department's annual reports on trafficking in persons, specific data on sexual exploitation is not provided. The U.S. State Department has undergone criticism from anti-trafficking advocates for failing to cite government corruption, complicity in trafficking and for failing to evaluate the effectiveness of the programs that exist to help victims.

Since governments are not playing the role they should, it is up to international organizations,



U.S. SIGNAL CORPS / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

LITTLE SOLDIER: A 12-year-old Vietnamese trooper from the Army of the Republic of Vietnam stands with an M-79 grenade launcher.

businesses, and individuals such as you and me. The first step is knowledge: becoming aware and helping others become aware of the problem at hand.

There are things we can do to improve the world we live in. By informing others about organizations like Free the Slaves, includ-

ing antislavery.org and child-soldiers.org, you can help spread the knowledge about modern-day slavery and what is happening to victims worldwide.

Finally, write to your senators, representatives and other officials. Holding them accountable can lead to action.

Peace out: Pervasive symbol has history of activism

VANESSA ESPINEL
Contributing Writer

The peace sign turned 50 this year, and with age comes a few facelifts. Its skeleton has been left unchanged, but it has been modified to fit a variety of different causes, issues and commercial promotions. Everyone has seen the photos of the flower children, Woodstock and Vietnam war protesters. History has a knack for repeating itself and given the current war, the peace symbol has been shoved back into the spotlight.

Lately, it seems like everyone has peace on their mind, clothes and shoes. Everywhere you turn, the peace sign is being strut on a tee or peeking from the curve of a shoe. Not to be misunderstood, I am guilty of using the badge for peace. I believe that by displaying the symbol, you should be taking a stand for the concept of peace.

The key distinction between the symbol then and now is that the in those days they wore the symbol with a purpose, which is beyond complementing your jeans. In other

words, wearers were rebels with a cause: an active anti-war promoting cause. Some history might help to put the flashback into perspective. In 1958, it was designed by Gerald Holtom and adopted by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

"[Symbols] are adopted and used in society to galvanize members of society and unify individuals concerned with a cause," said Felix E. Martin, professor of international relations, specializing in war and peace.

"This is done by using a very simple graphic symbol that entails a host of concepts, precepts, socio-political positions and message."

According to the Aug. 2008 issue of *National Geographic*, it was purposely never copyrighted, which has made the symbol an easy target for commercial use.

"I want to believe that it still has the same meaning as it did 40-50 years ago but I really don't think it is so," said Natalie Arias, a junior majoring in hospitality.

"I think that it is just popular now and ev-



everybody is going along with the trend because of the high popularity in hippies and the counter culture," Arias said.

"Symbols keep their original and intended meaning but become diluted by other individuals who use them for to profit from them, particularly when the urgency and intensity of the message have ceased or when the historic meaning has faded into the annals of history,"

said Martin.

The peace symbol has certainly come a long way from its initial intent. However, despite all the exploitation of the peace symbol, the meaning has been skewed with time, but it has not lost its value.

To read the full version of this article, with a more extensive history, visit fiusm.com/opinion.

TechnoLust

Net-minded notebooks go easy on the wallet

If you've been itching for a new notebook computer but have a lint colony in your pockets to comfort, then an ultraportable Netbook might be for you.

Starting at \$350, these tiny computers are made for those with budgets and needs in mind. Weighing between two and three pounds with 7 to 10-inch wide screens, Netbooks are small enough to fit into a snug backpack but powerful enough to handle a full day of notetaking, paper writing or presentations for class.

Before you run out to buy one, there's a crucial thing you need to know: These are not substitutes for full-sized notebooks. They're called Netbooks, as in Internet Book, because they're designed for light Web surfing and text based work like e-mailing and writing. You won't find CD-ROMS, more than one gigabyte of upgradable RAM or high screen resolutions here, just a basic machine to get work essentials done – ideal for the easily distracted. (Yes, I'm looking at you pointedly, World of Warcrafters.)

But these limitations should mean nothing next to saving a few hundred dollars to those for whom "disposable" and "income" won't play nice in the same sentence. Fellow students, I give thee a list of the latest Netbooks with their pros and cons for your consideration before parting with your hard-earned cash. I love you, too.

ACER: ASPIRE ONE

Other than its 8.9-inch screen, Acer's Aspire One is all about options. You can pick between eight and 16 GB solid state or 120 and 160 GB hard disk drives and five fashionable colors: black, blue, brown, pink or white.

Your drive choice, however, will depend more on your work habits than your wardrobe: Go SSD if you work long hours and store your data externally, HDD if you work shorter periods but prefer keeping files at hand.

Likewise, you have an operating system choice between Linpus Linux Lite or Windows XP Home Edition that translates into functional ugliness or battery draining prettiness.

Choose ugly: The Linux interface may not be easy on the eyes but it'll keep you company on long campus days.

Penny-pinchers beware, though.

If you plan on saving some cash by opting for 512 MB of RAM over the one or one and a half GB configuration, there's a headache waiting for you when you'll have to remove the keyboard just to upgrade that little bit more.

ASUS: EEE PC

Although the fashion conscious will appreciate the multiple case color offerings

similar to Acer's Aspire, Asus's Eee PC is aimed more toward the chic geek than the wannabe scenester with its four to eight GB max SSD standard. Sorry, data-mongers, you're not welcome here.

The Eee PC is a geek's efficiency dream with a Windows friendly Linux OS. There's an option to install Windows XP Home Edition, but why slow down this lithe little minx with that?

You can pick between a 7 or 9-inch screen size to keep your eyes happy. Weight remains the same two pounds regardless of screen size but the 7-inch screen takes advantage of the spare real estate by placing the system speakers outside for clearer sound than the 9-inch's interior ones.

DELL: INSPIRON MINI 9

Dell's Inspiron Mini boasts a sleeker wedge design compared to Acer and Asus's mid-nineties box-top inspiration and prefers SSD economy to HDD bloat but goes further into space saving by abbreviating its keyboard.

Shortcut enabling function keys are

gone in favor of a single function and letter key combination similar to Apple's command and letter key system.

In compensation, the Mini's 1024 by 600 pixel screen resolution makes reading its 8.9-inch screen easier and crisper for your eyes.

Its preference for Windows XP's familiarity over Linux's functional but spartan interface makes for a friendlier transition to light computing for new users.

HP: MINI 1000 SERIES

For those still cringing over how small these previous Netbook screens are, HP's Mini Series wants you to stop.

Offering both 8.9 and 10-inch screen size options, HP's Netbooks understand that not everyone may be ready to sacrifice too much desktop space for form just yet.

HP Minis' preference for Windows over Linux and choice between eight or 16 GB SSD and a 60 GB HDD makes them the casual computer users' Netbook.

Geeks in love with the scratch and ding camouflaging the case's "Swirl" pattern offers can always wipe the drive and upload their favorite Linux version to extend battery life.



TECHNOLUST



SUSANA RODRIGUEZ

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 12

WHAT: Dance Marathon "100 Day Celebration"
WHERE: GC Pit
WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: SGA General Meeting
WHERE: GC 140
WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: The Black Crowes
WHERE: The Fillmore Miami Beach. @ The Jackie Gleason Theater. 1700 Washington Ave. Miami Beach
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Prices vary

WHAT: I.O.U.S.A
WHERE: GC 140
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: Kingsly Soul & Jazz
WHERE: Van Dykes Cafe. 846 Lincoln Road. Miami Beach
WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Prices Vary

THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 13

WHAT: Spring's Awakenings
WHERE: FIU WPAC Main Stage
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5 Students, \$10 Faculty, \$15 General Admission

WHAT: FIU Music Faculty Voice Recital
WHERE: FIU WPAC Concert Hall
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: November
WHERE: GableStage @ The Biltmore. 1200 Anastasia Avenue. Coral Gables.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$37.50

WHAT: Business Etiquette Dinner
WHERE: GC 243
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$20 per seat/ \$150 for table

WHAT: Jose Ivannes: The Best of Frank Sinatra
WHERE: Van Dykes Cafe. 846 Lincoln Road. Miami Beach
WHEN: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Prices Vary

- Compiled by Paul O' Swath

YOGA BEAR



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

EASTERN FEAST: Frank Gualchi, a Yoga club member, serves vegetarian food to students outside of the Green Library on Nov. 10.