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PAKISTAN

Estimated flood damage to Pakistan: \$9.5B

The Asian Development Bank and the World Bank are estimating that this summer's floods caused \$9.5 billion in damage to Pakistan's infrastructure, agriculture and other sectors.



RUSSIA

"Caucasian Stonehenge" uncovered

A Russian archaeologist claimed Tuesday to have found the well-preserved ruins of a "Caucasian Stonehenge" built by a previously unknown Bronze Age civilization in southern Russia.



CHINA

Communist elders issue free speech appeal

A Chinese Communist Party of elders stated that although China's constitution guarantees freedom of speech, the right is constrained by a laws and regulations that should be scrapped.

CONFERENCE CLASH

Volleyball team prepares for critical weekend matchups



REBECCA VILLAFANE/THE BEACON

Andrea Lakovic [above] has emerged as one of FIU's top offensive producers in 2010.

RICO ALBARRACIN
Staff Writer

When asked about how the team was reacting to the recent loss of team privileges that she enacted, head coach Danijela Tomic talked to her team's captains for a response.

"I talked to our team captains, Ines [Medved] and [Natalia Valentin], and I asked them when the team will earn back their privileges," Tomic said. "They said 'Not yet.' They have to show us that it's not with just one win they get everything back."

The team will look to earn some privileges back when Middle Tennessee and Western Kentucky come into town this weekend.

FIU (9-8, 3-2 Sun Belt) has a chance to split the season series with Middle Tennessee (17-4, 8-0 SBC) tonight, and with Western Kentucky (17-5, 6-1 SBC) on Oct. 13. This will be an important step for the Golden Panthers to get on a roll as they look to extend their winning streak to three games, tying their earlier season high.

Tomic is looking for consistency from this team. She pointed out the team's performance against Florida Atlantic as an example of their inconsistency. "The first thing that comes to my mind is inconsistency," Tomic said. "The sets

that we won, the first set, the third set, and especially the fifth set, shows you how good we can be. There is also inconsistency, to go from one set to the next and forget what it took to win the sets."

It is not only the team aspect, but also some players that Tomic is expecting a high level of play day in and day out. Tomic spoke about junior middle blocker Andrea Lakovic's career high 22 kills against FAU, and how she expects that more often.

"I was impressed," Tomic said. "But the same thing, inconsistency. The weekend before she had four kills in two matches. You can't have a career high one weekend and then not even have any kind of presence the next. Andrea is a junior. She cannot have these highs and these lows. We need her bad game to still be pretty good."

The inconsistency has to do with the youth on the team, according to Valentin, the team's senior leader. She knows that it's not easy for young players to play at this level, but they must not get too high or low with their emotions.

"It's going to go up and down," Valentin said. "We just have to be patient. Execute as much as we can when we're playing well."

VOLLEYBALL, page 4

FIU VOLLEYBALL WEEKEND SERIES

MTSU

- Time: 6:30 p.m.
- When: Oct. 15
- Where: U.S. Century Bank Arena
- TV: None

WKU

- Time: 6:30 p.m.
- When: Oct. 16
- Where: U.S. Century Bank Arena
- TV: None

Websites prone to cyberbullying, cases underreported

NATALIA LOPEZ
Staff Writer

Over the last few weeks, the issue of cyberbullying among students has received enormous amounts of attention stemming from six suicide incidents in the United States, each resulting from the pressures of being the victim of hate crimes.

"Cyberbullying is becoming more and more of a problem," especially with websites such as Facebook, RateMyEx and CollegeACB available, explained Erika A. Nerette, assistant director at the University's Victim Advocacy Center.

Senior Leonardo Ramirez explained how some comments referring to his sexual orientation were posted on JuicyCampus, a former gossip website that targeted college communities.

"People said that because I didn't have a girlfriend, I must be gay," said Ramirez.

"It just shows how sad people can be and how they haven't grown up."

JuicyCampus was shut down on Feb. 5, 2009 as a result of shortage in revenue.

People are desensitized because the person is not in front of them. [They] post things that can destroy someone's life.

Erika A. Nerette, Assistant Director University's Victim Advocacy Center

"The site is likewise not shutting down as a result of any lawsuits or other sort of legal trouble," stated Matt Ivester, founder

of JuicyCampus on the official JuicyCampus blog. "All traffic is being redirected to www.collegeacb.com."

According to Nerette, many of these cases of cyberbullying go "underreported" at the University.

This is because most people do not know what to do when caught in this scenario, she explained.

In the case of cyberbullying she said: "people are desensitized because the person is not in front of them."

The main concern when it comes to these websites is that one does not have to log in to post a comment, explained Nerette.

Therefore, students may post a thread or comment without having his or her identity revealed.

"If you have something to say about somebody, you should tell them to their face," said freshman Brittney Polo.

Besides being disrespectful, Polo feels

it is cowardly and, as adults, people should have the respect to explain what they feel about someone in that person's presence.

Nerette explained that most students have probably posted these threads as a joke to get a laugh out of it.

According to Nerette, what is not thought about beforehand is how much one comment can affect someone's emotional stability.

"People post things that can destroy someone's life," Nerette said.

She hopes that the recent tragedies, like Tyler Clementi's suicide, will bring light to the issue.

ABC reported Clementi, 19, committed suicide after his roommate at Rutgers University secretly filmed him during a sexual encounter with a man and published it live on the Internet.

CYBERBULLYING, page 2

NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

DCF won't appeal ruling against Florida's gay-adoption law

Florida child welfare administrators will not appeal last month's ruling that tossed out Florida's controversial gay-adoption law, according to The Miami Herald. George Sheldon, secretary of the Department of Children & Families, announced Tuesday his agency will not appeal a ruling by the Third District Court of Appeal that declared the 33-year-old law unconstitutional.

The ruling involved two former foster children adopted by Frank Martin Gill, an openly gay North Miami man who took custody of the boys under DCF's authorization. As of last week, the state had challenged the Gill adoption, and so, regardless of the law's status, the two children will remain Gill's adoptive children.

WORLD

Chile miners rise to the surface

By Wednesday afternoon, rescuers rose to the surface more than half of the 33 miners trapped in a Chile gold and copper mine. After 69 days, the miners ascended to freedom one by one, hoisted through a more than 2,000 feet of rock in a rescue mission that began in the desert night.

As they came out in a capsule, the miners celebrated. One led the crowd in a chant for Chile, another dropped to his knees and prayed, but mostly they embraced their families.

Chilean President Sebastian Pinera called the mission "magical." Florencio Avalos was the first to step out from the "Fenix" capsule, named for the mythical bird that rose from ashes.

– Compiled by Alexandra Camejo

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 21 of The Beacon, in the At the Bay section Daniel Anzueto was not in the photo as the credit said. The person identified was Federico Lastra, tutor in the Center for Academic Success.

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

University to host political summit

GABRIEL ARRARÁS
News Director

Faculty and students will get a first-hand glimpse of world's challenges with poverty, health and sustainability during the University's second ever Geopolitical Summit.

"Challenges of Poverty, Health and Sustainability: A Geopolitical Summit," will be held on Oct. 18 at the Graham Center Ballrooms at the Modesto Maidique Campus and on Oct. 19 at the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

This year's geopolitical summit will

feature thinkers from around the world in the fields of international relations, economics, politics, health, medicine and the environment.

Featured guest speakers include Dr. Paul Collier, professor of economics and director of The University of Oxford's Center for the Study of African Economies; Dr. Len Nichols, a healthcare economist who headed New America's Health Policy Program from 1995 until 2010; and Bruce Babbitt, former United States secretary of the interior.

Tickets are required for the event, and are free of charge for students. The last day to obtain tickets is Thursday,

Oct. 14, however, if there are extra tickets left over they will be available on a first-come, first-served basis on Friday, Oct. 15.

Tickets are available at the MMC and BBC bookstores in GC and WUC, respectively.

With topics focusing on health and the environment, the 2010 Geopolitical Summit will also be celebrating the establishment of the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, which just welcomed its second class at the start of the fall semester, and the establishment of the School of Environment, Arts and Society.

FOR THE KIDS



GLORIA BAILON/THE BEACON

The Dixie Band played a charity show for Hopes for Children of the World on Oct. 5 in the GC Ballrooms. All benefits from the concert will go to help one community's children in Nicaragua.

THE BEACON

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Cyberbullying victims encouraged to seek help

CYBERBULLYING, page 1

"The idea that a young man or woman, in some cases barely teenagers – just at the start of life – would feel so hopeless and tormented as to want to end their lives, saddens all of us," said Valerie Jarrett, senior advisor to the president at the annual national dinner of the Human Rights Campaign.

Nerette explained that students at FIU have the option to report any incidents of harassment including cyberbullying at the Victim Advocacy Center.

The student may choose to report the incident to the police or to Student Conduct.

Under the Student Code of Standards, "cyber stalking involves the misuse of computers," said Nerette.

According to the University student handbook, besides stalking, the misuse of computers includes but is not limited to: "unauthorized access, entry or use of a computer, computer system, network, software, password, account or data." For instance, hacking into an unauthorized Facebook account.

Senior Stephany Da Silva explained how someone stalked her and used her information and photographs to make a fake Facebook account.

"It just makes you doubt people," she explained.

Students may also choose not to report the incident and in any case if the person is willing, he or she may go to therapy.

"All services are free and confidential," explained Nerette.

"Cyberbullying can affect a person's self-esteem and feelings of self worth," said Nerette. "At the end of the day, it's not funny."

Victims of actual or threatened violence are encouraged to visit the Victim Advocacy Center.

Services are available at both Modesto A. Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campus and are accessible 24 hours a day through the crisis hotline 305-348-3000.

FOOTBALL: FIU VS. UNT



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Anthony Gaitor, Darrian Mallary and Wesley Carroll [left to right] hope to give the Golden Panthers back-to-back wins for the first time since 2008.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

FIU aims for win against injury-plagued North Texas

IGOR MELLO
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers are looking to accomplish something this Saturday that they have only achieved once in Mario Cristobal's era: win two consecutive games.

"This game means a lot to us," said quarterback Wesley Carroll.

Carroll will lead the Golden Panthers (1-4, 1-0 Sun Belt Conference) to Denton, Texas to face against a depleted University of North Texas football team (1-5, 1-2 SBC) that has suffered potential season-ending injuries to eleven of its starters.

The injuries have piled up so much for the Mean Green that they're down to its fourth-string quarterback Chase Baine. In his first start against Arkansas State, Baine completed

nine passes for 77 yards, but the bulk of his yards came on the ground as he scrambled 13 times for 80 yards.

"He's better with his legs. For a quarterback, he can move so that's another weapon that he has upon him," said Panthers free safety Jonathan Cyprien. "Just knowing that into the game you can gameplan for him, but we got to take him as any other quarterback because we don't have enough film on him."

Cyprien and the rest of the defense will look to confuse Baine with different schemes throughout the game.

"That's always a technique of ours...trying to keep the quarterback and the offensive line off balance. We'll come at it as we do to every quarterback and play our defense how we know," said Cyprien, who is

tied for first in the Sun Belt with ten tackles per game.

After holding Bobby Rainey, the top rusher in the conference to 94 yards last week, the Golden Panthers defense will have to line up against Lance Dunbar. Dunbar has racked up 582 yards on the ground, second in the Sun Belt Conference.

"Dunbar is really special," said Cristobal, who talked about his pre-season accolades in the Sun Belt. "He deserves all of that stuff and more."

Despite having the second best total defense and scoring defense in the conference, Carroll feels like his offensive line will help decide the result of this game.

"I think our line will determine a lot of the outcome. As long as they play assignment football, I think that we'll be able to block them," Carroll

said.

FIU has had one of the best offensive lines in the conference. Their linemen have only conceded three sacks this entire season, only twice with Carroll under center, tops in the Sun Belt.

According to Carroll, he wants to take advantage of as many man-to-man situations as he can.

"We got to find mismatches in their defense, find a way to set up one-on-one opportunities with our outside guys as with our running backs and our slots," Carroll said.

Outside of Carroll's three turnovers in his first game of the season, the red-shirt junior has settled down and has scored three touchdowns, including one on the ground despite only three interceptions.

According to Cristobal and the

rest of the coaching staff, he has only gotten better.

"He hasn't disappointed," said Cyprien, who gets to play against him in practice. "He can make something

FOOTBALL, page 4

FIU VS. NORTH TEXAS

- What: FIU vs. North Texas
- When: Oct. 16
- Where: Fouts Field - Denton, Texas
- Broadcast: CSS (TV), 790 AM (Radio)

MEN'S SOCCER

Golden Panthers pick up first conference win at home

ANDRES LEON
Staff Writer

After a long road trip around the country, the men's soccer team (6-5-0, 1-2-0 Conference USA) faced off against conference rival Memphis (3-8-0, 0-4-0 C-USA) on Oct. 13.

The confidence of being home brought the Golden Panthers a 2-0 victory over the Tigers, especially for Sebastian Frings, who put in the final goal in the 89th minute to secure the win.

"There is a huge difference in playing at home," Frings said. "Our mood is up, our style of play is more confident, and when we have confidence in each other we find openings and score goals."

Frings is pleased with the team's progress, as the Golden Panthers have now won two consecutive contests after losing three straight.

"Team chemistry is up, I scored my first goal this season and I'm glad our team is helping the man next to him out each game," he said.

Frings scored nine goals last

season and was named to All-Conference USA Third-Team and the C-USA All-Freshman squad last season. This season, Frings is off to a slow start, but could be poised for a breakout.

Frings' last minute closer wasn't the only goal scored on the night. The opening goal belonged to Panthers midfielder Carlo Schmid early in the second half off a double assist from Frings and star freshman forward Nicolas Rodriguez.

"It was a tough time last week, recently we've all been playing better. When you pass more, you find open spaces and with open spaces always comes better opportunities and the better the chances more goals in the back of the net," said Schmid after scoring his first collegiate goal.

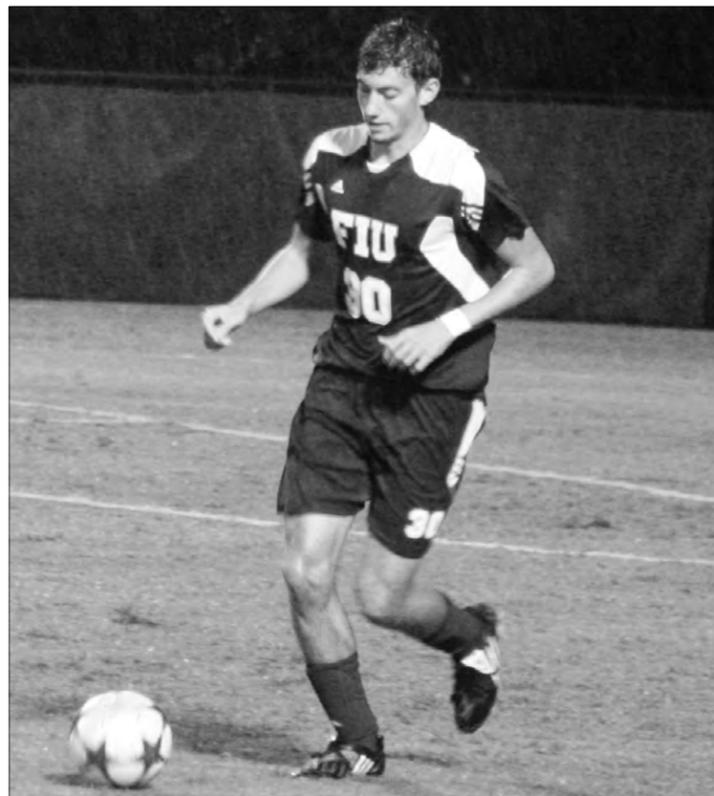
Early in the first half, the Panthers were dominated and couldn't get the ball out their own half. But, as Memphis continued to pressure into the second half, the Panthers quickly broke through on a through ball from Rodriguez that was then

deflected off Frings and buried into the back of the net by Schmid.

As the game pushed on, the Panthers spread the ball out opened up the Tigers back four. Off another swift counter attack Frings took a shot on goal only to come off the cross bar shortly after the opening goal. Panthers midfielder Jahbari Willis followed with another shot only to be saved by Memphis goalkeeper Jordan Leedle.

For the Tigers, midfielders Mark Sherrod and Liam Collins both had two shots on goal. Jamal Keene and Maxim Van Dyck also combined for five shots on goal. Throughout the game Memphis out shot FIU 13-11 and out cornered 6-3. It was the Panthers swift counter attack that sent the Tigers back home with their fourth conference loss.

The biggest story of the night, however, was Golden Panthers star goalkeeper Shane Lopez. Lopez tied last year's season high with eight saves against Memphis. He also got



KARINA TELLEZ/THE BEACON

Midfielder John Kite handles the ball during critical win vs. Memphis.

MEN'S SOCCER, page 4

WOMEN'S SOCCER

FIU prepares for two-game road trip

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

After ending their streak at five in a row, the women's soccer team looks to start anew as they travel to both North Texas and Denver for a two-game road trip this weekend.

The Panthers are now 5-1 in the Sun Belt Conference, just a game behind undefeated Denver for first place in the SBC standing. In order to pass them, they will have to first beat North Texas on today, which will not be a very easy task to conquer. The Mean Green are currently riding a four game win streak, and have just two losses in the conference, one of them coming at the hands of Middle Tennessee, a team that ended FIU's streak on Sunday.

FIU has been a team that typically out shoots their opponents and it will look to be one of their most difficult challenges in dealing with North Texas. They average the most shots in the SBC, which

goes hand-in-hand with them having the most goals as well. Along with there great scoring is the fact they have the lowest goals scored against them, and the most shutouts.

"No matter how good your defense is, you have to give up something. We just to look for the weaknesses, and use our strengths," said Panthers midfielder Victoria Miliucci.

One player that the Golden Panthers must contain is Julie Lackey, as she ranks third in the conference with eight goals on the year thus far. FIU's game against North Texas ended in a tie last year, and have not been able to beat them since the 01-02 campaign.

With FIU's first loss, Denver is now the only unbeaten team left in the conference, and it will be the Panthers biggest test of the year come Oct. 17 when they must face the Pioneers on the road.

Nicholette DiGiacomo is both first in the conference in assist, and is clearly their most potent offensive player. If FIU

looks to have any chance of taking them down, they will first have to contain her and not let her get the ball as much as she normally does so that she does not get as many opportunities to pass the ball.

"If she gets the ball, you don't give her any breathing room," Miliucci said. "You don't want to be risky, but you might just have to be a little bit more aggressive."

FIU will be taking on North Texas Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. They will then proceed to Denver on Oct. 17 with a game time of 1 p.m.

WOMENS SOCCER

- What: FIU at Denver, UNT
- When: Oct. 15, Oct. 17
- Time: 7 p.m., 1 p.m.
- Where: UNT, Denver

Second half surge lifts FIU to shutout win

MEN'S SOCCER, page 3

his fourth clean sheet of the season, the second in a row for the Canadian native.

"We got the win, it was a collective effort," Lopez said. "We've been on a slump as we went away but it's a different energy when you play at home. Our team has good chemistry and as long as they score goals and we don't concede then there is no stopping us."

Head coach Munga Eketebi added: "We didn't let the possession phase us, although we played sloppy in the beginning of the season, we've got into a good rhythm, now we are back home and that can only mean more goals and more wins."

Harden set to return for important road matchup

FOOTBALL, page 3

out of nothing. If the protection is down, he can break away and still make a play."

Although the Golden Panthers have only played one game in the conference, they currently stand in second place behind Troy, the only other team that has not suffered a conference loss.

HARDEN WILL BE ACTIVE AGAINST UNT

Despite missing the Western Kentucky game last week, running back Jeremiah Harden is set to play against North Texas.

"As of right now, we feel good about him playing Saturday. We expect him to participate [in practice this week] and if everything is

good, he will be playing," Cristobal said.

Harden, normally the starter at running back, may not get the starting nod this week.

Cristobal is still unsure of who he will start as running back this week after having explosive performances out Darrian Mallary and Darriet Perry against Western Kentucky.

Mallary rushed for 97 yards and a touchdown while Perry gained 64 yards on the ground with a touchdown as well. Kedrick Rhodes also helped the running game with 57 yards rushing.

Harden, a transfer from Syracuse playing in his first full season for FIU, leads the Golden Panthers with 226 rushing yards in four games so far this season, averaging 3.4 yards per carry with one touchdown run.

Strong history at home gives FIU confidence

VOLLEYBALL, page 1

Home is always a friendly place, and FIU knows this well. The Golden Panthers have an impressive home record of 27-2, dating back to the 2008 season.

Most of the time, home games can be a great place to start a winning streak.

"When we play at home, it's different," said Lakovic, who looks to build off her career-high performance. "Our friends are there, our crowd, our court. I'm used to playing there everyday. I think it's really important because the crowd gives us confidence."

Valentin shared a similar sentiment, especially for a young team looking to gain confidence.

"The atmosphere at Middle Tennessee is

pretty intense," Valentin said. "That shouldn't be an excuse for the crowd to get into your head, but again it's a young team and they haven't played in front of crowds like that. The fact that we're playing at home should be more relaxing."

PLAY PINK

Friday's match between FIU and Middle Tennessee will be a battle between two rivals, but also a battle against breast cancer.

La Liga Contra el Cancer, also known as The League Against Cancer, will have volunteers during the game selling team-worn warm-up shirts for \$10 and accepting donations. All proceeds will go to benefit the charity.

During the match, there will also be a T-shirt toss, raffle and postgame autograph session.

FANTASY CRUZ

Bradford not ready for the big time; Let Moore go

With week five of Fantasy Cruz under way, there are no more teams that are undefeated. The Kansas City Chiefs lost to the Indianapolis Colts and now the American Football Conference is the powerhouse of the NFL, especially in fantasy points.

Every year, it seems America's team, the Dallas Cowboys, is a Super Bowl favorite before the season starts. They always tend to have the best team on paper, much of it due to their filthy rich owner Jerry Jones.

How are the Cowboys 1-4? They lost to the Tennessee Titans on Sunday, while Chris Johnson, aka "Every Coach's Dream", had a usual 131-yard and two touchdown performance. Tony Romo had a pretty good game too, throwing for 406 yards and three touchdowns, but finished he game with three interceptions.

Miles Austin was an undrafted free agent coming out of some division IAA school in New Jersey. Now he's one of the league's eight best receivers. Austin led all NFL receivers this week with nine receptions, 160 yards, and a touchdown.

What is going on with the allegations surrounding Brett Favre sending a Jets employee nude pictures and leaving her voice-mails? He cried in a pre-game speech to his

team expressing his forgiveness for putting a burden on them. This situation apparently did not distract the future hall-of-famer's performance on Monday night. Favre threw for 264 yards and three touchdowns, one of them to his new teammate, Randy Moss.

The Jets beat the Vikings on Monday due to the diabolical two-headed monster in LaDanian Tomlinson and Shonn Greene, who both rushed for a combined 155 yards and a touchdown.

After 13 seasons, the Oakland Raiders finally won the Golden State battle between them and the San Diego Chargers. Even though Phillip Rivers had the game of his life completing 27 passes, throwing for 431 yards and a touchdown, he lost two fumbles, which the Raiders defense scooped and scored. Michael Bush had a notable game rushing for 104 yards and a touchdown as well.

THE TRASH BIN

Sam Bradford (St. Louis Rams) - The poor guy had to be drafted by the Rams. The last successful QB to play for the Rams was Kurt Warner and he had Torry Holt and Isaac Bruce. Bradford has already thrown eight interceptions compared to only three touchdowns. As of

right now his numbers are not going to improve, much of it due to the fact that Steven Jackson is having a mediocre season. Trash him.

Lance Moore (New Orleans Saints) - There once was a phase in my fantasy football world where I thought every Saints receiver was worth picking up. Five weeks into the season the hope is all lost and after a single catch and eight-yard game by Moore, it's time to drop him. The Saints aren't playing well. Period. The only way Moore might see production is if their running game emerges from where it fell to. Basura.

Mark Clayton (St. Louis Rams) - By logical methods when drafting a receiver, one tends to think an owner should always draft a number two receiver before a number three any day. Well, there's always that special case. Mark Clayton has had no touchdowns for the past three games and only had six yards last game with a single reception. With the way Sam Bradford's throwing the ball, I would be surprised if he catches another TD this season. Trash him.

HOT PICKS

Tennessee Titans Defense - The Titans defense is similar to what the Saints defense was last season. They are giving up little points and forcing a lot of turnovers. As of right now, they are hot and are a great defense to start against any team. Against the Cowboys, they caught three

interceptions and forced a fumble. Pick them up.

Shaun Hill (Detroit Lions) - Matthew Stafford gets hurt and the Lions are better than when he was their QB because of this guy. Last game against the Rams, Hill completed 21 passes for 227 yards and three touchdowns. Hill also looks like he has a positive chemistry going on with Calvin Johnson, which is great for the Lions, who have needed a QB for over a decade.

Mercedes Lewis (Jacksonville Jaguars) - Lewis is the only productive Jaguar other than Maurice Jones-Drew and this exactly why fantasy owners should pounce on him through trades or free agency. In his last two games, Lewis is David Garrard's go-to target with three touchdowns. With the Jaguars roster intact, it does not look like Lewis is fading away from Garrard's passes any time soon.

SANTANA SCRUTINY

I must give credit where credit is due. Santana Moss had an inconceivable performance with seven receptions for 118 yards. Yet, he still only has one touchdown the whole season.

What is most disheartening about all this is that Moss is having a much better season than Marques Colston, who has Drew Brees throwing to him. So to Santana Moss, do not mess up or the scrutinizing will become worse.

COMMENTARY



JOEY CRUZ

A FUN, SEXY TIME

Erotic museum gives a new spin on ordinary objects

MALIHA AHMAD
Contributing Writer

If you're not into Rubens and Baroque art and you're looking for something a little naughtier, then the World Erotic Art Museum is the place for you.

The World Erotic Art Museum, WEAM, is known for being the home of the largest collection of erotic art in America.

Located on 1205 Washington Avenue, the private collection has pieces from antiquities to contemporary times and shows numerous different cultures and lifestyles through a historic time line.

The collection includes paintings, sculptures and other one of a kind art pieces, including a Kama Sutra bed. It doesn't get much more authentic than that.

The museum is a little hole in the wall in South Beach with a few surprises and bright spots.

You enter a tiny room adorned with a welcome sign to something the prudent type may not be ready for.

This museum is an interesting place well worth a visit if you are not too sensitive to explicit images.

Each room has its own theme and culture.

There are collections of



MALIHA AHMAD/THE BEACON

The World Erotic Art Museum collection includes works from Pompeii to Picasso that all display the nature of erotica.

celebrities like Madonna and Marilyn Monroe as well as some historic pieces that are actually quite interesting and educational.

The museum goes from sensuous to vulgar, to completely pornographic but still pretty entertaining.

Even though the World Erotic Art Museum does have some risqué pieces,

most of which feature nudity, those who appreciate the art of love, sex and the human body would very much enjoy the collection that owner Naomi Wilzig has put together.

For example, a giant golden penis that guests can sit on and take pictures with sits in one of the main halls of the museum.

There is a cool sculpture of a peacock that takes the name of the animal pretty well and literally.

It's the shape of a penis (cock) with the beautiful feathers of the actual animal yet the features of a penis are still clearly there.

Not to mention the hilarious parody done to all the Disney characters.

It features Goofy, Tinker Bell, Mickey and Minnie, and more of our childhood favorites performing sexual acts and other naughty things.

You have to really like art and be comfortable with sexuality to appreciate the WEAM fully.

Wilzig clearly took a lot of time to gather all

these pieces from around the world for her guests to enjoy.

The museum offers guided tours at \$12 a person, tailored to the group's interests; however, a minimum of 10 people per group is required.

The WEAM also has a great gift shop with a collection of published "Fine Erotica" books, postcards, posters, museum reproductions, and rare pieces of art for guests to take home at reasonable prices.

Guests can even rent out the museum for any special event, social gathering or business event.

Even if this type of art is not your normal scene, you should add this interesting attraction to your list of things to do on South Beach.

It's great for those nights when you're bored of the movies or going out to dinners and want to see something different.

The World Erotic Art Museum is open Monday-Thursday from 11:00am to 10:00pm and Fridays and Saturdays from 11:00am to midnight.

Admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$14.00 for seniors, and \$13.50 for students (with I.D.) You must be 18 or older to be admitted into the museum.

FISTFULS OF TECH!

Not in the Moodle

Students, the fate of your online learning experience is at hand.

COLUMNIST



JORGE VALENS

The University is currently on the fence when it comes to what software will be used in all online and web-assisted courses.

In one corner, Moodle, an open-source educational software platform that is slowly gaining market share.

In the other corner Blackboard Learn9, the newest iteration of the system we have all grown to love...or hate? Gus Roque, e-learning consultant and instructional designer for FIU Online, gave me a tour of both systems. Currently, these are the two systems looking to replace the java-based Blackboard 8. Let's

see how they match up.

MOODLE – OPEN SOURCE IS AWESOME...SOMETIMES.

Moodle is the better-known system among students, as there are currently over 20 classes that are using the service. The system is designed around three columns of information, the central one being where all your class information is displayed.

What makes Moodle appealing is the fact that this is an open source platform. Open source software allows for an enormous amount of flexibility in that it can, with some work, be tailored to any specific needs. The platform also offers students the ability to access wiki directories and podcasts.

However, I find Moodle's user

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LA VIE EN ROSE



ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON

As a part of the French Music Festival, faculty member Kathleen Wilson (right) sang *French Folk Songs* by Sieber and *Haitienesques* by Casseus. Wilson, a soprano, was accompanied by Rafael Patron on the guitar and Elissa Lakofsky on flute.

Online learning platforms pit Moodle vs. Blackboard

FOT, page 5

interface to be lacking; it really doesn't look user friendly.

These types of problems tend to come with the turf when using open source anything: they require a lot of customization to be efficient.

Other complaints I have with Moodle include the overwhelming amount of information displayed on the class's homepage and the lack of announcements, a feature students are familiar with after using Blackboard CE8. Roque noted that a professor could regulate the amount of information on the class page, but few do.

In general, I'm just not in the Moodle. The allure of an open source platform simply doesn't make up for the fact that it just lacks the user friendliness that a lot of students and professors look for.

BLACKBOARD CE9 – WHOA, WAIT. SO YOU ARE TELLING ME IT TWEETS?

The newest iteration of the Blackboard has actually gone through a lot of changes under the hood, you know, the good kind of changes.

First off, Learn9's UI is familiar but fresh; gazing at the screen I had little trouble getting acclimated with the software.

Currently, FIU Online offers 14 courses on Learn9. The software itself is particularly useful as it, according to Roque, is built specifically for higher-education institutions. He added that the platform integrates well with Adobe software and other third-party services like Turnitin.com.

Learn9 also has a trick up its sleeve that Moodle doesn't. Out of the box, Learn9 can integrate with Facebook and Twitter along with sites like NBC News.

But the feature I like the most is that it provides free mobile applications for popular smart phones like the iPhone/iPad. Imagine taking a test on your iPad while sitting at home or at your local coffee shop? That is a step in the right direction in terms of keeping the convenience of students in mind.

Roque noted that in the future Learn9 will be able to integrate with eBook distributors, so a student could, theoretically, download the text for their class straight from the site and export it to their eBook reader.

Overall, Blackboard seems like the next logical step for the aging platform. Social integration, mobile apps and the fact that it is much easier to use make Learn9 quite a contender.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS...

The clear choice here is Blackboard

Learn9.

The system is specifically built for higher-ed, it offers a lot of modern features, solid technical support and requires a lot less effort to maintain and deploy.

"Though I applaud FIU Online for considering an open source alternative, in this case it's simply not the best choice for students.

Ultimately, the choice will come down to one thing: money. How much will this cost? What is the cheapest solution?

We need to keep in mind that online learning is a very forward moving trend. Pretty soon technology will allow online classes to be on a par with web-assisted, "real life" courses.

A choice needs to be made that provides students with the most feature-rich platform to facilitate online learning that is, above all else, easy to use.

Moodle is not easy to use. It requires heavy tweaking to deploy.

Blackboard Learn9 is familiar, packed with features and abilities and is custom tailored to the needs of a higher education student and faculty member.

The choice to me seems clear.

Fistful of Tech is a weekly technology column. Look for it every Friday.

MOODLE

PROS

It's open source and can be custom-tailored to fit with some tweaking. Also benefits from a vast plug-in community.

Supports access to podcasts and wiki directories.

CONS

It's open source. Requires a lot of work, a lot of attention, and when things go wrong, very little help. Typical with open source projects.

Prone to bombard students with class information

BLACKBOARD CE9

PROS

Familiar interface but with welcomed improvements.

Integrates social media, Adobe flash, and other news sites and third party services like Turnitin.com

Specifically built for higher-education institutions.

CONS

Closed-source. You have to depend on Blackboard to move the platform forward.

Though the UI is cleaned up a bit, it's still not very welcoming. If CE8 looks like Windows 95, then Learn9 looks like Windows 2000.

REEL TO REEL

Borat breaks standards of humor for higher purpose

Borat is quite simply one of the great miracles in cinema.

It's a comedic triumph. Nothing

is to be expected or should be expected on first viewing. It's a firestorm set along the American landscape, tearing down popular conventions about decency, behavior

and common sense.

It's also the reason I'm no longer welcome at the Hialeah Muvico Theater.

Most comedies that come out today seem to have the life span of week old milk: already terrible when you take a whiff of it and quick to be thrown out.

Five years after *Borat's* release, it's still able to leave me heaving in laughter like the first time I saw it on a miserable November day in 2006.

I knew I was in store for something different by the time our sweetly offensive protagonist, Borat Sagdiyev (played by Sasha Baron Cohen), was doing televised commentary for a popular event in his home country of Kazakhstan, "The Running of the Jew."

A blend of the popular Running of the Bulls and traditional Chinese New Year Celebrations, hordes of Kazakh citizens run in fear from an oversized papier mache Jewish figure: demonic glare, fangs and all. A female figure chases more citizens down with a rolling pin and then lays an egg. Children rush as Mr. Sagdiyev urges them to crush the "Jew Chick" before he "hatches."

Borat is a television celebrity in Kazakhstan, a country plagued by three problems, "social, economic and Jew." Sent by the Ministry of Culture to learn what makes America the greatest nation in the world, he travels

around America in the greatest road film since *Easy Rider*.

Except they travel in an ice cream truck. Sometimes with a bear chained inside of the truck. And Peter Fonda never defecated next to a Manhattan office building. Or washed his underwear at the lake in Central Park

It's that kind of movie.

Borat is lightning caught in a bottle. Upon its release back in the fall of 2006, the film was not only a cultural talking point but the cause for millions of terribly forced faux-Kazakh accents at many an office water cooler.

Cohen insists on staying in character and not batting an eye even as he runs nude around a hotel chasing down his producer and sidekick, Azamat (Ken Davitian).

This is guerilla film making at its finest. Cohen as Borat, Davitian as Azamat and director Larry Charles, often with just hand held cameras,

bring common Americans into their film under the premise that the film is a legitimate documentary. Most, if not all, are not in on the joke. They are the punch line.

Cohen and Charles tried to recapture the sheer sense of shock with their 2009 film, *Bruno*. Though they met with success the second time around, that sense of discovery and unpredictable was gone. Cohen, although star of *Da Ali G Show*, was no great star. His low profile among the American public allowed him to move along the landscape without encroachment.

The full title of the film, *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit for Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan* is itself nonsense, reminiscent of Kubrick's extended title for *Dr. Strangelove*.

Strangely sweet yet utterly ignorant, Borat spurts out hilariously offensive lines. Example: "I arrived in America's airport with clothing,

U.S. dollars, and a jar of gypsy tears to protect me from AIDS."

Yet people accept him for who he is.

At a Virginia Rodeo, Borat spurs on a crowd of thousands. "My name i' Borat, I come from Kazakhstan. Can I say first, we support your War of Terror." The crowd cheers.

"May we show our support for our boys in Iraq." The crowd cheers even louder

He continues; "May George Bush drink the blood of every single man, woman and child of Iraq." The crowd continues to cheer loudly.

He holds a mirror to our collective faces, and what's frightening is that, if you can actually find the time to stop laughing during the 82 minute run time, you'll wonder who we are as a nation.

Reel to reel is a weekly movie column. Look for it every Friday.

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, OCT. 15

CHRONICLE OF AN ESCAPE



SPC-MMC Hispanic Heritage movie.

WHEN: 5 and 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 140

PAELLA BLOCK PARTY

Free food, giveaways and HIV testing. In celebration of National Latino AIDS Awareness Day.

WHEN: 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: In front of PG5

Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture

Topic: "The Renaissance of Haiti: A Template For Caribbean Integration" Guest speaker Hon P. J. Patterson.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: RDB 1100
CONTACT: 305-348-6860

FIU VOLLEYBALL

"Dig Pink" night. The Golden Panthers host the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for students
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

FRENCH MUSIC FESTIVAL: GLORIA!



Presented by FIU Music.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5 students; \$10 faculty/staff/senior; \$15 general admission
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall

FIU VOLLEYBALL

The Golden Panthers host the WKU Hilltoppers.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free with student ID
WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena

MUSIC FOR GUITAR



FIU Music's French Music Festival.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5 students; \$10 faculty/staff/seniors; \$15 general admission
WHERE: WPAC Concert Hall

SATURDAY, OCT. 16

KAYAK DAYS ON THE BAY



Go kayaking in Biscayne Bay and through the mangroves of Oleta Park.

WHEN: 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for students; \$7 for non-students
WHERE: BBC, boat launch are behind Aquatic Center
Register at WUC 160

FIU MEN'S SOCCER

The Golden Panthers host the UAB Blazers.

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID
WHERE: Soccer Stadium, MMC

FIU SWIMMING & DIVING

Support the Golden Panthers as they compete against North Florida.

WHEN: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free with Panther ID
WHERE: BBC Aquatic Center

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS IN CONCERT



Presented by FIU Music.

WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: WPAC Concert Hall

LINCOLN ROAD FARMERS MARKET

WHEN: 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Lincoln Road, between Alton and Ocean

SUNDAY, OCT. 17

CIRCO DE LOS HORRORES



First time the Spanish show hits the U.S.! "An innovative fusion of horror, comedy and drama."

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$31 to \$99.50 on Ticketmaster
WHERE: James L Knight Center
400 SE 2nd Ave, Miami
For more info, visit circodeloshorrores.com

VILLAGE OF HORRORS



Featuring two haunted houses, panic zones and more!

WHEN: 7 p.m. - midnight
HOW MUCH: \$13 in advance, \$18 at door
WHERE: War Memorial Auditorium
800 NE 8th St., Ft. Lauderdale

SPINNING CLASS

WHEN: 4 - 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$2
WHERE: MMC Rec Center

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

Breast cancer needlessly sexualized

BRANDON THOMPSON
Staff Writer

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the month where people are to wear pink in honor of those who are suffering, have died or who have survived a battle with breast cancer.

Although there are many ways to support the cause, there are various inappropriate slogans and campaigns going around that treat breast cancer as a joke when it is no laughing matter.

Vibrantly-colored wristbands showcasing quotes such as "I Love Boobies" and "Save the Ta-Tas" are nothing but ways for people to get a laugh out of something serious.

There are not only wristbands with these types of slogans. There are also t-shirts, mugs, bumper stickers and many other products. A couple other slogans that belittle the issue of breast cancer are, "Have you had your boobs squeezed lately?" and "Don't let cancer steal second base."

These slogans are watering down the issue of cancer and highlighting the subject of breasts for

personal entertainment.

Instead of worrying about saving "boobs," these people should worry more about saving the person with breast cancer.

Breast cancer a matter that needs to be taken seriously. The American Cancer Society reports that in 2010 261,100 cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in women. By the end of this year 38,840 women are expected to die from it.

For someone to get a laugh from these so-called funny ideas of advertisement is wrong. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death in women.

According to the Keep A Breast Foundation, the creator of the "I Love Boobies" wristbands, they are meant to increase awareness, educate and help with early prevention among the younger generation.

They may have been trying to spread awareness about breast cancer, but the route they took undermined it.

Referring to breasts as "boobies" or "ta-tas" turned this issue from something serious into something that focuses on sex. In trying to

THE BRIGHT SIDE



MELODY ALEMAN/THE BEACON

be sexy to sell their wristbands, this campaign is taking away how deadly breast cancer can be.

The "sex sells" method has also leaked onto Facebook. Since the beginning of October, women have been leaving status updates such as "I like it on the bed", "I like it behind the door", "I like it on the dresser", and so forth.

These status updates allude to the idea that these are the locations

in which women enjoy having intercourse, when it really is where they like placing their purse.

Solely focusing on women with these campaigns is also sexist, seeing as though men are also affected by breast cancer.

It is estimated that in the year 2010, 1,970 cases of breast cancer will be found among men, and 390 men will die from it according to the American Cancer Society.

Although the statistics of men may be lower than women, they are still affected by this disease.

Men and women suffering from breast cancer need to see that people are taking their condition seriously and are there to support them.

Wearing wristbands that clearly do not state their purpose does more harm than good for the awareness they are trying raise.

Cookies legislation a waste of time

GISELLE RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

You have probably heard of Internet cookies, little text files that some websites tag you with in order to remember various things for you.

Most of these cookies are innocuous, remembering your audio settings or the contents of your shopping cart. Some of them even process your authentication when you try to log in somewhere.

The problem some folks have with cookies is that they also allow the website to track you as you move around their site and, as of a Supreme Court ruling in 2001, around the web.

This hasn't really been a problem, as the issue most people tend to have with cookies is their tendency to build up.

Like cleaning out your sock drawer, cleaning this back-up of cookies from your Internet browser is a task that can be left for a while, or done every day depending on the kind of person you are.

Flash cookies, though, are a kind of cookie tied to your Adobe Flash plug-in. Adobe Flash is the software used to run YouTube videos and other various online programs. While most cookies are relatively simple things, Flash cookies have

the peripheral ability to 're-spawn' after clearing them.

While it might not sound like that big of a deal, sites like *AmericanIdol.com* and even Disney who are utilizing these kinds of cookies now have the ability to return the cookies you deleted back to your browser.

This allows them to continue tracking you across websites and compile a profile of your web movements, even after you've specifically deleted them.

This kind of privacy "hacking" is leading to a spate of folks complaining that their private information is being stolen, distributed and sold to the highest bidder and ultimately calling for Congress to just do something about it.

The thing is, we don't need the federal government to waste money working out the kinks of legislation that will be obsolete when the newest update is released.

With so many other things to worry about, it isn't really important that the federal government spend time, money and energy to regulate something that is really better off regulating itself.

Flash cookies reappearing in your browser may seem like a gross invasion of privacy. In reality, however, it is no different from how regular cookies

operate.

These cookies can't see "you." Rather, they are compiling a list of preferences based on sites you visit and things you look up. To the cookie, and to their website, you are a number with a list of preferences next to it.

This tracking with cookies helps websites provide targeted ads and sidebar links, something we're all familiar with from Facebook.

In order for free content to continue to be available, there must be some sort of advertising to provide money for the servers to keep running. No one is being duped here. The longest running rule of the Internet is: if it's online, everyone can see it.

We should want targeted ads as they help keep our sites free. The problem comes when Flash cookies and their ilk re-spawn in a seemingly subversive attempt to gather this information.

The answer to this is not government intervention, but awareness on the part of users as well as awareness on the side of the companies.

Flash cookies are not a new thing. They don't deserve a full-blown federal freakout. Maybe targeted ads will even help you find that perfect motorcycle helmet you were Tweeting about.

PERSPECTIVES

Is it right for the University to establish, enforce social norms?



"I don't think it's right. I feel like it's discrimination. They're trying to force you to do something you don't want to do."

-Ahmed Madriz, Junior International Relations



"No. You basically can do whatever you want. No one should be able to tell you otherwise."

-Nathalie Morot, Junior Liberal Arts



"Absolutely. There are some social norms that shouldn't be allowed on campus. This is a place of higher learning and we need to respect it."

-Israel Fajardo, Junior Political Science

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

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SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.



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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Protest over bad roads ends with 1 dead

A protest leader, said riot officers opened fire with live ammunition, killing one protester and wounding four others. Police said they are investigating the incident in the northern province of Espaillat.



JAMAICA

Panel will probe Coke extradition

Prime Minister Bruce Golding announced that a commission of inquiry will be formed soon to probe his government's handling of a U.S. extradition request for alleged drug kingpin Christopher "Dudus" Coke.



MEXICO

Man blamed in marine slaying captured

Mexican soldiers captured Seiki Ogata, an alleged gang suspected of organizing the massacre of a dead marine's family days after a government raid killed a major drug cartel boss, authorities said.

IMPROMPTU

Get loco for *Locos por Juana* on Saturday

YAZMINE GRANTHON

Contributing Writer

Music is all around us. Cheesy, I know, but if you don't hear it through your headphones, or in your car, then listen to the rhythm while walking or the tapping of your pen.

I'm a prime example of this.

I've been tapping my foot to Beatles' songs like "A Day In The Life" since the womb. If I'm not carrying a pair of headphones or playing the piano, then I'm either sleeping or eating. Studying music since I was six has opened my ears to many great musical experiences, and it's absolutely nothing to be selfish about.

I plan on using this column to share local performances going on around our lovely Biscayne Bay Campus. Because, let's face it, many of us miss out on that epic underground performance or just don't want to waste the gas.

Locos por Juana, two-time Grammy nominated band, will perform at Jazid's "Jam Sessions" on 1343 Washington Ave. Miami Beach this Saturday, Oct. 16 at 11 p.m.

This Miami Latin fusion band blends Bob Marley's reggae, Thievery Corporation's dub, and even Don Omar's rap style. Let's begin that this is the perfect music for the setting at Jazid. You get the full experience of not only great lounge music, but also a great scene on Washington Ave.

The original five members: Tagui Correa, Mark Kondrat, Javier Delgado, Jose Gonzalez and Lasim Richards combine their Colombian, Argentinean, Venezuelan, and Caribbean origins to create a musical style.

The ensemble formed in 2000 and has released three full-length albums to date. In 2001, the band released their first self-titled album featuring "Que Lo Que Esta Pasando" and "Mi Tierra." These first few songs really set the scene that this band was ready to give off that Latin lounge vibe that South Florida lacks. The album gained the group praise from Univision Network's



ALAN DIAZ/AP IMAGES

Members of the group *Locos por Juana* pose as they arrive on the red carpet Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006 before the *Premio Lo Nuestro* Latin music awards ceremony in Miami.

"*Permisos Lo Nuestro*" which nominated them for "Best Urban Band" in 2003 and lead them to a Grammy nomination at the 2006 Latin Grammy Awards.

On December 9, 2004, Locos por Juana's website, locosporjuana.us, stated "their entrepreneurial revolution of musical fusion and spirituality" was ready to explode in South Florida."

After releasing their second album, the exposure gave them a contract with Universal Music Group subsidiary Machete Music, representing many famous Reggaeton artists like: Ivy Queen, Wisin & Yandel, and Don Omar. This was where LPJ's image as a Latin band really stood out, but through these years, their switch to mainstream wasn't the fan base they were looking for. Though the album produced under the label gave them their second Grammy nomination in 2009, LPJ decided to return to their independent and underground status.

Going or staying indie not only puts the

artists in more control of their music and business, it can really give them a better connection with their fans allowing us to hear their sounds.

Presently LPJ is back in their Miami-based studio home working on their next album "*Somos de la Calle*," set to release sometime by the end of this year.

The group continues to tour musical festivals all around the world, visiting countries like: Switzerland, Belgium, Germany and even returning home to Miami to express their native sounds.

This Saturday LPJ will carry their sounds across the heavy lit streets, giving everyone a taste of something authentic and ethnic, so look out for that \$4 kamikaze drink special to join you for the night, or even me.

Impromptu is a bi-weekly column published on Fridays. The columnist pays her own way and receives no special treatment.

CAMPUS TALK

What do you think of The New York Times being on campus?



It's a good thing to have it on campus because it's a good source of current events. I don't think students know that the newspaper is available. I don't mind

paying for it.

Jonathan St. Louis, senior, human resources



I don't even read newspapers. [I don't mind it being paid for through student money because] The New York Times is a popular newspaper so if everybody overall likes it and people do read it, I don't see the point in taking it off.

Michelle Marrero, sophomore, nursing and athletic training



It's very important to have easy access to national events and [having the newspaper on campus] is a convenient way to pass the time. I don't mind

paying if it's not like \$50,000 per semester.

John-Paul Watson, sophomore, art



We have [the Times] and The Miami New Times so the more diversity in the way we get our information, the better.

Akiel Griffith, junior, marketing

THE SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT, ARTS AND SOCIETY

University boats used for marine research in the Everglades

BRIAN CORREIA

Staff Writer

The School of Environment, Arts and Society at the Biscayne Bay Campus houses five boats primarily used for student hands-on research around the bay.

The largest motor boats, a 21-foot Proline and a 23-foot Mayco, are mainly used for research along the southwestern portion of Everglades National Park, commonly known as 'Shark River,' by Michael Heithaus, SEAS director.

The boats are used as platforms to capture sharks and alligators or sampling fish populations. They are also used to take divers to reefs to conduct research or for observing dolphins.

Shark River is a 100-mile long river that is a part of the Everglades and is a major distributor of the Harney River, which resides along Ponce de Leon Bay.

"These boats are used for research on alligators and sharks in the Shark River and will also be used in studies of dolphins and small fishes in the

same area," Heithaus said.

Other professors that utilize these two boats are: Deron Burkepile and Rebecca Vega, professors of Biological Sciences. The majority of their research on these boats is done closer to shore, in shallow waters, studying coral reef and other types of microbiology.

The 14-foot boat, Carolina Skiff, supports more research in shallow waters and areas where students need to research in tighter spots.

Professors are utilizing the Carolina Skiff for collecting specimens for

labs in various disciplines.

"It depends on the project at hand, however, most of the time crews don't bring much back. From time-to-time, tissue samples are collected from the sharks or alligators," Heithaus said.

When samples are brought back, they are usually studied within various labs inside the marine sciences building.

The pontoon boat, which holds 20 people, is an 8-foot boat that hasn't been in use for some time. "Today this boat is currently on blocks, however, we are in the process of rebuilding

it for student studies of marine and biological sciences," said Joel Trexler, professor of biological sciences and director of marine sciences.

The fifth boat located is an inflatable raft recently donated by Judge Raphael Steinhardt.

Calls to Trexler regarding the cost of the boats were not returned before press time.

"We haven't used this boat as of yet, but it will be nice to have a portable small boat for getting into small creeks and shallow waters," Heithaus said.