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# PRESIDENT RESIGNS

FRUSTRATED WITH LACK OF ACTION FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES,  
CALDERON DECIDES TO LEAVE; BCC SEARCHES FOR NEW PRESIDENT



PHOTO BY JOHNNY LOUIS

BCC President Dr. Larry Calderon has become tired of the Board of Trustees' inability to work with him on pressing matters.

BY SHEENA FERNANDEZ  
STAFF WRITER

At BCC's Oct. 25 Board of Trustees meeting, President Dr. Larry Calderon resigned his position effective Dec. 19.

"I am proud of what the BCC team has been able to

accomplish over the past three years. Nonetheless, it has become increasingly difficult over the past several months to execute the governing board's vision for this great institution, particularly because it is increasingly obvious that I do not have the unqualified and unconditional support of

the entire board... I have strong feelings about ensuring the future viability of BCC as an integral part of our community, and I believe that full board support is vital to any President in realizing BCC's promising future... Therefore, I would like to discuss a termination agreement with the

Board of Trustees."

After Dr. Calderon's announcement, there was a surreal wave of mixed emotion throughout the audience spreading the gamut from joy to

■ CALDERON  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## Mixed feelings on block scheduling

BY EMILY MOORHOUSE  
STAFF WRITER

The new block scheduling instituted at Broward Community College (BCC) this fall means an adjustment for students and professors. According to the Registrars Office at the Downtown Center, there are 35,283 students enrolled this semester at BCC of which 8,875 are taking Friday classes. That means 75 percent of students and a large number of professors now have one extra day of the week to spend as they please. Was changing to block scheduling a positive change? Students and professors weighed in.

North Campus student Steven Grant said he likes the change because you can "get everything out in one shot" and then have extra "downtime for yourself." On Fridays, he either works or goes out with his friends. Also in favor of the change, Britney Wuensch, a Central Campus student, said, "I save a lot of gas." Now, she devotes her open Fridays to doing homework and hanging out with friends.

South Campus student Veronica Malo said, "In the beginning I was upset because I felt like I was cut short, but it worked out for me in the end... Anything that I have to do that I can't do because of classes I do on Fridays." Malo usually takes care of appointments and errands on those days. Antonia Arefieva of Central Campus is one of the students taking a blocked Friday class and considers it a convenient option for students. "It depends on the person," she said.

Not every student is a fan of the transition. Even while being able to hang out with friends, play basketball and watch movies on his extra day off of school, North Campus student Samuel Stpreux prefers the old schedule. "The more time in class the more time to learn," he said. As a result of the change, Friday was the only time Central Campus student Evguni

## Branding, enrollment boost campaign results

BY EMILY CORNWELL  
WHC BUREAU CHIEF

After spending nearly \$700,000 on research for the new Broward Community College (BCC) enrollment boosting campaign, the InterMedia marketing team of Ft. Lauderdale has come up with some new and exciting ideas.

After plenty of testing, debate and deliberation conclusions have been made and new advertisement plans have arose. It was a long and expensive process. So, what will the new campaign, slogan and logo do for our school and its population?

The most recent meeting addressing the importance



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF INTERMEDIA

BCC spent nearly \$700,000 on research to come up with this logo, along with other branding and identity changes.

of launching of BCC's new enrollment and branding campaign was held last Thursday at the WHC center. The testing of four advertising concepts that had been given throughout the past months to a number of different

target audiences' results was covered.

Lynda Flynn, research director, had brought all four campaign ideas around Broward County. From BCC and high school students, along with BCC

student advisors and pre-cabinet staff members, all feedback was taken into account. The four different campaign ideas ranged from personal testimonies of BCC graduates, to fill in the blank sentences and other catchy concepts. The correct wording and message was obviously vital to this campaign because of the vast and various future students it hoped to pull in. The critiques and comments from all who were tested was applied to the direction of the campaign.

The overall goal of the entire branding campaign was to boost

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■ NEW SCHEDULES  
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# Fulbright scholar speaks to pupils

BY DANIELLA DORCELUS  
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

Students of Broward Community College were honored by the presence of Fatima Amarani Zerrifi, a Senior Lecturer from Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, which is located at Morocco. Zerrifi has acquired numerous of honors and awards such as the British Council Morocco Doctoral Scholarship during 1997-2001 and the Graduate School of Spain Certificate of appointment in 2002. One of her proudest achievements was being named a Fulbright Scholar, which is one of the most competitive and highly selective awards.

According to US.fulbrightonline.org, the program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and “is the largest U.S. international exchange program offering opportunities for students, scholars, and professionals to undertake international graduate study, advance research, university teaching, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.” This initiative began in 1946 in order to bridge the cultural gap between nations through education and interaction. It was through the efforts of Senator J. William Fulbright that the bill was signed and became a law. The program granted a total of more than \$250 million by 2004 to an estimated six thousand individuals, which included U.S. students, teachers and professionals. Zerrifi had the opportunity to be one of among the few individuals to receive this

group. “Islam is not an innovation but it’s a re-assertion of other religions,” said Zerrifi. In reference to the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, 2001, she said that the ones who committed the deplorable act are just a small sect of extremists. Afterwards, the media only focused on that small population of terrorists instead of expressing the views of the larger population of Muslims who are committed to peace. A question was asked by a student regarding a scripture in the Qur’an that express violence. The speaker explained that the scripture has to be put in its context and that it is referring to the right to defend oneself and family against any aggressor.

Zerrifi posed two significant questions: Why is Islam the fastest growing religion and why would one want to convert to Islam? In reference to the first question, Reichel Ferguson-Walker mentioned that it was because of the increase of offspring among those who are Muslims. Zerrifi denied the accuracy of that statement and said that a high percentage of Muslims are those who have been converted. It was also mentioned that Islam teaches tolerance and that human diversity is a sign of God’s mercy. The 28 students that attended were not afraid to express their opinion regarding this topic.

“It’s interesting to know about other religions because as Americans, we rely on the media for information. They tend to be biased so we just believe what we see without knowing whether it is accurate or not,” said Heather



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILLIPA VASSELL

Fatima Amarani Zerrifi, Senior Lecturer from Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University.

sexually easy. “Perhaps what is good for you is bad for me,” said Zerrifi.

According to the orator, religion is the true spirit of Islam and consists of the Qur’an (prophet, deeds) and the Hadith Sunnah (sayings.) Epistemologically, the Arabic definition of Islam is “submission to God.” It also means “peace.” There are 1 billion and one-half Muslims in 57 countries and the majority of them speak Arabic. Muslims believe that Abraham is the father of monotheism. It is important for followers to regard Moses and Christ as messengers of God in order to have the conviction that Muhammad was the last prophet. Zerrifi defined equity as “equalities in duties and rights.” She also made the distinction between sex and gender. Sex is based on biology while gender is socially and culturally constructed. In addition, God never addresses only males in the

Qur’an; rather he communicates to both men and women by using words that describe both sexes as living entities. The speaker also mentioned that one of the firsts feminists in the world was the prophet Muhammad. The audience reactions varied. “I find everything she had to say hold enormous importance, specifically referring to American ignorance of Islamic culture,” said Michelle Evans.

Zerrifi’s parents had a huge impact on her life while growing up because they were always supportive of her educational endeavors. Her father, in particular, was willing to do all he can to help her achieve success. One of her biggest obstacles while growing up was overcoming the social and cultural views of women. Females were often expected to get married and have children from the age of 17 to about 21. It was not part of Moroccan culture for women to have a career. Her firm conviction

of Allah (God) is what has given her the strength to overcome the adverse circumstances she has encountered throughout her life. One of Zerrifi’s favorite scriptures is the prophet Muhammad saying that states that “women are the twin halves of men.” This refers to the equality that both sexes possess in the eyes of God. Another one of her favorite scriptures is also related to the previous one. “I shall not loose sight of the labor of any of you who labors in My way, be it man or woman; each of you is equal to the other (3:195.) Zerrifi is passionate about teaching and aims to not only educate her students but to help them with their personal development. When she is gone she would like to be remembered “as a person who loves peace, dialogue and tolerance.” She would also be like to be thought of as someone who has “fought against all facets of oppression, seclusion and intolerance.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILLIPA VASSELL

Zerrifi speaks to students about religion.

distinction. She was sponsored by the Social Science Department to engage students with a series of lectures regarding Islamic culture and women.

Zerrifi’s chain of presentations included “Women and Islam” and “Gender Equity in Islam.” She spoke to Dr. Balzora’s class on Oct. 25 from 12:30-1:45 p.m in her “Women and Islam” seminar. During this lecture, she discussed the misconceptions that people of Western culture (particularly Americans) often have regarding Islamic women. The media often portray them as passive, which implies that they are very submissive. In addition, they are also depicted as oppressed, poor and illiterate victims. The speaker explained the true essence of Islam and refuted many of the stereotypes that are often made about people who belong to this

Scher. The last presentation took place on Oct. 27 and was entitled “Gender Equity in Islam.” The audience consisted of 44 people, which included students from Dr. Thompson’s and Dr. Rocha’s class.

Zerrifi began by introducing herself and told the students about Morocco, which is located in Northwest Africa. She said that the purpose of Fulbright is an “invitation for dialogue.” She also expressed the significance of communication rather than violence. “We need more dialogue than... bombs and weapons,” said Zerrifi. Since Thompson’s class was an ethics course, the speaker focused on that topic briefly. It was mentioned that ethics emanates from one’s culture and education. For example, people from other parts of the world may view Americans as loose and



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## “Art in Low Places” on South

BY HEATHER DULMAN  
SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

Most BCC students go to school and just go straight home, not knowing any special activities and clubs that are present around campus.

From Oct. 16-19, Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, Alpha Delta Rho on South Campus was trying to get as many people involved with their club as possible. Students should know that they don't have to be in a club to get involved all they need is to attempt to help out and have fun and meet new people.

By getting people involved, Vice President of Communications of Alpha Delta Rho chapter, Tanya Jackson came up with an idea to have a four-day event that all clubs, organizations and individuals that normally don't get involved get together and show some art. Jackson went to the Provost, Dr. Pan and Professor Nightingale in order to make this event happen. Jackson said, “I experienced art in low places in my country; it was a good opportunity for club society to come together.”

To express the art, they used chalk and drawings on the concrete courtyard. “So many people that go to this school have no idea of the variety of clubs there are for students,” said Orlando Fraticelli. “Each club is doing something

every time; there are ways to deal with spare time and great opportunities to take an hour of your day.”

There was a registration fee of \$5 per art and \$1 per person of which each person who entered received a ticket stub for their fees.

The stubs were entered into the raffle that was announced after the event at the award ceremony. “We don't want to discourage people so we also had a raffle,” said Jackson.

There were four categories:

landscape, portrait, still life and semi-abstract. The themes were Gold, Gods and Glory. “I just asked a question about the club and I was offered to help out so I did help out. Now my hands are all blue,” said Karen Caceros.

The judging and award ceremony were held on Oct. 19. Everyone was a winner of their own art. Some people won the raffle prizes which included Muvico, Starbucks and Cafeteria passes. Next semester, Jackson plans for children from the preschool on campus and



PHOTO BY NATHAN PHELPS

Students and members of PTK work on their masterpieces.

the students that attend BCC to participate in another art in low places before the semester ends with in the first semester.

## Career opportunities found at fair

BY ANDRES LOPEZ  
STAFF WRITER

At one point or another everyone has choices to make but sometimes it's cumbersome to see an outlet to take. But, what if the outlet was in plain view for all to see, the opportunity to consciously acknowledge that the job students would like to work in is staring them right in the face?

For many students and members of the community from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2006, that opportunity became a reality for them to partake in a job fair held at the South Regional Library.

Carl Edgecombe, technical

education and job developer/placement specialist at Broward Community College South Campus was the events' creative organizer who spearheaded the planning and execution of the 2006 job fair.

Edgecombe was able to create an event that brought both the need and demand for employment in both Broward and Miami-Dade counties. The employers' range of contrast from one another was easily noticed by anyone who attended this job fair.

The job opportunities came from all areas of interest. Some were from retailers such as Target and Limited, while others distinguished themselves

by showing the attendees the broad spectrum of opportunities that government jobs have to participate in, such as enlisting for the military and working in law enforcement.

“It is my responsibility to find opportunities where we bring our students to get exposed to employment opportunities and the job fair is just one of them,” said Edgecombe regarding the reason for creating an event that would both impact the employers' need for prospective employees and benefit the community. Edgecombe was able to go to ask employers to participate in this event by taking action in what he believes. “[We] are here to serve

the students,” said Edgecombe.

The 2006 job fair at Broward Community College South Campus took approximately four months to plan and execute in what became an experience for students to be present in the attendance of thirty-six employers looking to hire from a diverse pool of students.

Advice offered by Edgecombe to students is to “understand the significance of a job fair and take it seriously before you graduate. If a teacher will be away for a day, faculty should ask the career center to have someone come to the class and be informative as to the information that is available to students.”

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- Not be in default on any federal Title IV loan program or owe a repayment of federal and/or state grants or scholarships.

If you qualify and have received a federal work-study award for the current academic year please take the next step and apply.

Work-study positions are limited, so please contact the Student Financial Aid Office on any campus, or call Oscar Feliciano at 954-201-7627 or email: [ofelicia@broward.edu](mailto:ofelicia@broward.edu).

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# United Faculty of Florida loses faith in BCC's Board of Trustees

*"Vote of no confidence" reached during UFF meeting regarding BCC's Board of Trustees*



PHOTO BY JOHNNY LOUIS

President Tom Green of the United Faculty of Florida (UFF) presides over the meeting that determined the unanimous vote against the Board of Trustees' regarding their ability to lead the college.

BY DANIELLA DORCELUS  
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

The BCC Faculty Senate reached a unanimous decision to pass a vote of "No confidence in the Board of Trustees" on Oct. 19, 2006. This ballot occurred because the United Faculty of Florida's (UFF) disagreement of the Board's excessive control of the college and their refusal to come reach a consensus regarding a faculty contract. Deborah Nycz, former second president of UFF, mentioned that UFF is very upset with the Board's actions.

"They don't know about how this institution works and they are trying to micromanage," said Nycz. The faculty has expressed their dissatisfaction with the Board many times prior to reaching this decision. On Oct. 12, members of the UFF picketed on Central Campus to show their intolerance with the ways that matters were being handled. They also picketed during the Oct. 25 Board meeting. Words such as "back of board" and "let the president do his job" were chanted repeatedly to demonstrate their indignation.

According to Catherine Leisek, Professor of Art and Union Chief Negotiator, the state Collective Bargaining Act was breached, which requires that an interim contract be signed when both parties have reached an agreement. The UFF declared that the faculty ratified the contract on July 21. They also denied a request made by the administration to reopen the contract for adjustments on July 7. During the Faculty Senate meeting, members also requested

that a letter be sent to David Armstrong, the Chancellor of the Florida Community College system.

The letter stated many complaints that the faculty has with the Board of Trustees. "We believe that the appropriate role of a college's Board of Trustees is to establish policy for the institution.

The BCC Board is now actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the college. The members of this Board fail to recognize the professional role of BCC employees, especially the role of the College President." Levi Williams, Chair of the Board of Trustees responded on behalf of the entire Board.

"The BCC Board of Trustees is committed to BCC's faculty and the excellence that they provide to the education of the students and the community," said Williams. In addition, the letter stated that the "Board has treated college employees with disrespect and disdain, and has displayed arrogant behavior towards guests at their board meetings."

Since the letter was issued, Dr. Larry Calderon, the College's president has resigned from his current position. During a Board meeting that was held on Oct. 25, Calderon said that he would like to discuss an agreement on his termination which would take place on Dec. 19, 2006. Calderon made a final statement after his announcement to express the reason for his decision and his appreciation for the time that was spent at BCC.

"I am proud of what the BCC

team has been able to accomplish over the past three years. Nonetheless, it has become increasingly difficult over the past several months to execute the governing board's vision for

this great institution, particularly because it is increasingly obvious that I do not have the unqualified and unconditional support of the entire Board," said Calderon.

In reference to Calderon's

resignation, William said that Calderon made a decision that was in the best interest on the college and himself. He wished the president the best of luck in his career.

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# Calderon proud of BCC despite Board’s problems

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

disbelief to extreme sadness. The end of his closing remarks to the Board of Trustees was given a standing ovation by all present in the audience. There were even a few tears shed. An emotional Trustee Cheryl Krause had this to say “It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I accept these terms... [Dr. Calderon] will be very, very missed.” Chancellor David Armstrong of the Florida Community College System was brought forth and he thanked Dr. Calderon for his leadership on behalf of the State of Florida and its students. Chairman Jim LaBate of the BCC Foundation also took the opportunity to say, “Thank you for your service and leadership on behalf of the Foundation.”

Caught off guard and a

little overwhelmed, Chair Levi Williams gave a five minute recess. During this time, people formed a line to show support for Calderon wishing him success, thanking him for service, or just reminiscing on other times and events. After the recess the Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to Dr. Calderon’s motion for an agreement of termination.

Dr. Calderon joined the BCC family in 2005 after Dr. Willis Holcombe retired at the end of Jan. 2004 after 17 years of service to the college. During his time here he has written our Education Master Plan which consists of nine goals and twenty-six strategies and brought over sixteen million dollars into the BCC foundation. He

served twenty-eight years in the California Community College system before his confirmation here.

There is no stopping Dr. Calderon though. On Oct. 26, 2006, Nova Southeastern University announced that Dr. Calderon will fill the newly created position of Vice President of Community and Government Affairs. Nova Southeastern University (NSU) President Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D. had said in his press release that “collaboration is a hallmark of NSU and Dr. Calderon will continue to forge the partnerships with community

colleges and other post-secondary institutions to complement and supplement our specific fields of study. Strategically, these agreements will also provide a seamless transition to NSU undergraduate, graduate and professional programs... As an institution of higher education we have always been recognized for the diversity of our students, faculty and staff,” Ferrero continued. “The incorporation of Dr. Calderon, who has established himself as a community leader and role model as well as a champion of diversity, will certainly enhance the academic environment we offer to our students.”

Unsure of the legal ramifications Kevin Fernander, the BCC lawyer, will work with

Trustee Lourdes Garrido and Dr. Calderon to come up with terms to bring before the Board of Trustees at the Nov. 22 meeting. On Nov. 6, the Board of Trustees will meet with candidates to fill in the President’s position temporarily until a nationwide search can be done sometime in the near future. Candidates are found through an independent resource then the board gets notice on who is available and qualified for the positions. Chairman William mentioned that former president of BCC, Dr. Willis Holcombe, will be one of the candidates for temporary presidency and that there are no internal candidates. He also assures that being without a president will have little effect on a college of this magnitude and finding a more permanent president will take place at a future Board of Trustees meeting.

“[Dr. Calderon] has established himself as a community leader and role model, as well as a champion of diversity, [and] will certainly enhance the academic environment we offer to our students.”

RAY FERRERO, NSU PRESIDENT

## Fast Track program presents the road to success

BY ENA VALERA-TEANO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Broward Community College (BCC) new fast-track teacher preparation program has had great success so far.

Since it’s starting in January, 16 students had completed the program and 75 are active as of now, said Julia Vattiato, Director

of Academic Affairs. This program targets individuals with a Bachelor’s degree in something other than education. BCC’s alternate teacher certification program (EPI) consists of seven classes and two 15 hours field experiences. The EPI program is great for people who want to change careers or enter the rewarding career of teaching.

The program will not target the general classes such as English or History; instead its focus is on classes such as classroom management, diversity and instructional strategies.

BCC recently received a SUCCEED Florida Grant for this program, which allows full tuition reimbursement to those who successfully completes

the courses. Keep in mind, that the student has to pay at the beginning of the semester but will be reimbursed at the end of that semester. Textbooks will not be covered under the grant received.

A prospective student needs to apply to BCC and then to the EPI program. Once the student has been accepted, they can start online classes and finish in as little

as two semesters, if attending full time. Currently, the program offers their courses on-line; there are no face-to-face courses at the time. Before a student can complete the program, they must take and pass all sections of the Florida Teacher certification Exams.

For more information call 954-201-7668 or you can visit [www.broward.edu/altcert](http://www.broward.edu/altcert).

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# BCC branding and advertising brings in new students

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

enrollment throughout every campus with the messages appealing to all ages and still being intelligent, fun and hard hitting. “[That] can be hard,” admits Larry Gotterer, creative director, “You’re never going to please everyone.”

As it turned out the “word of the day” campaign had the best feedback of those tested. In this campaign, a “big word” that most do not use in everyday life is used to describe BCC in a positive way. Words such as “multifarious,” and “vagility,” are present in large caps letters to grasp attention and used in a sentence connecting BCC’s educational benefits. This campaign is very versatile because it can be used in print, the web, radio and possibly television.

Along with the new media campaign, came a new brand positioning statement, logo and tagline. “That’s a lot of new material for the public to grasp at once,” noted a staff member during the most recent meeting regarding the many new plans. But these new plans are set in place in order to give BCC a fresh perception, as a whole.

For instance, our brand new tag line being used, “We keep you thinking” replacing “opening

doors to a brighter future,” gives potential students an active voice and ends up tying in very well with the “word of the day” ad. The words in this advertising strategy do intrigue those reading to learn more and think of what they’re actually reading about. Therefore interesting them to find the exact definition to the words... at our website and drawing them to our class options as well. (That is if they don’t decide to look in the dictionary first.)

“We keep you thinking” will be shown directly underneath the refreshed BCC logo, in every printed ad as well as on stationary and business cards. The logo that had been shown at the branding feedback meeting was fresh and more modern feeling. It’s attractive and catches the eye slightly more so then the current logo being used, yet it so very similar. Because it had originated in the 1950’s it’s sensible to say that it needed an update, and that given was a small color change (a deeper royal blue) and placing it on top of a parallelogram (a rectangular shape.) But these very minuscule changes do in fact give the logo a whole new look.

But before taglines and logos come in to play, lies the most important part of the schools advertising, the positioning statement. This statement is a sort

of promise to those looking into an education on our campuses what can be expected to achieve.

The new statement reads, “Broward Community College provides a personalized, flexible, quality education for a diverse multi-cultural student community resulting in nationally recognized degrees and certificates.” This positioning statement does in fact cover all positive aspects of Broward Community College as a whole. The effect of which is most dependent on its legitimacy and truth. “As long as BCC lives up to these expectations, the statement will work.” Gotterer says.

Now, when can we plan to see all of these new changes and advertising ideas come into play? The launching of the enrollment gorilla campaign should be seen online from about the second week in November. Some websites that BCC is targeting are those popular among our age group, such as Facebook.com and MySpace.com. The rest of the TV, radio and print ads can be seen in January. The print will be visible on all of our busses along with some of the counties’ as well; also on billboards and possibly t-shirts. The television advertisement’s time frame will be used in afternoon TV (about 4-5 p.m.) as opposed to prime time,

and will be translated into Spanish as well and also used on their specific channels. With the ads being shown in the time frames that were chosen, the intermediate team and of course staff members hope to see a dramatic increase of the numbers attending winter open houses along with enrollment.

Overall, the hundreds of

thousands of dollars spent on testing and application of new ideas so far is seen to be well spent. “If it gets our numbers up that’s really our only concern” said a member of the staff present at the recent meeting. Students should also know that with more students enrolled, more classes will be available to choose.

## New schedules on the block for students

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Molodile’s class was offered. “I had no other choices,” he said. “I don’t like the idea of having [blocked] classes on Friday.”

Students are not the only people affected by the change to block scheduling. A Central Campus Mathematics professor, Angie Matthews, does not teach a Friday class and said, “I like it in same ways and in some ways I don’t. It’s great for when I need to take a day off, but I have to work longer hours the other days.”

Matthews saves Fridays for teaching bible study at her church or grading tests in her office.

Patrick Smith, a Central Campus Social Sciences professor, teaches an Honors Interdisciplinary course on Fridays and said, “I have no problem at all... I can cover one subject in depth, or show one whole film all in one day.”

The pros and cons of block scheduling have created mixed reactions among students and professors. Some are all for it, some are still warming up to it, and others would rather revert to the old scheduling. However, with no outward protests, BCC’s Faculty Senate, who made the decision to trial block scheduling, will likely continue it into the future.



## merger

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**[www.huizenga.nova.edu](http://www.huizenga.nova.edu)**

### BACHELOR'S DEGREES

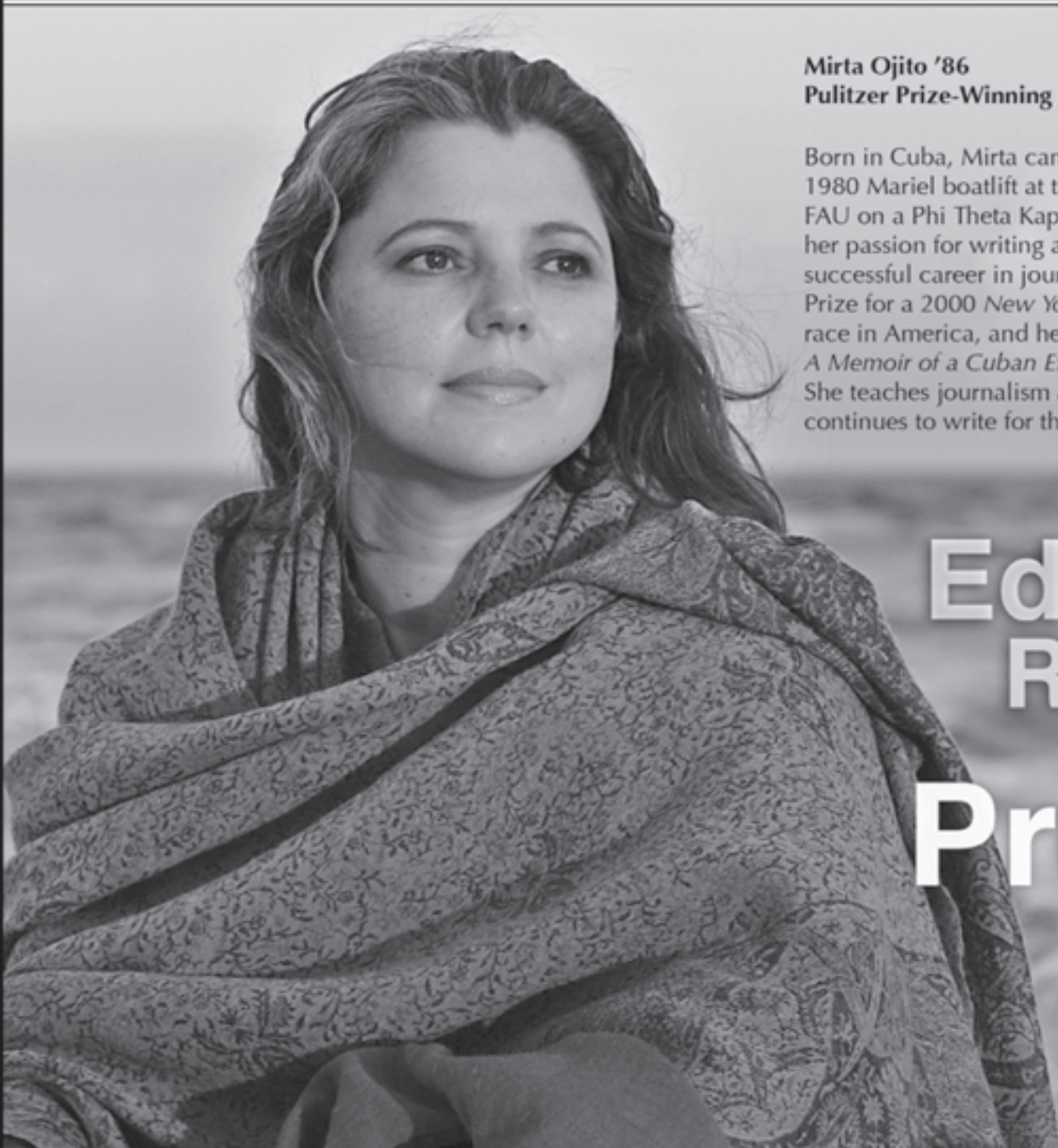
Accounting • Business Administration • Finance • Marketing • Management • Sport and Recreation Management

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MIAMI

PALM BEACH





Mirta Ojito '86  
Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist

Born in Cuba, Mirta came to the United States in the 1980 Mariel boatlift at the age of 16. While attending FAU on a Phi Theta Kappa scholarship, she explored her passion for writing and laid the foundation for a successful career in journalism. She shares a Pulitzer Prize for a 2000 *New York Times* series of articles about race in America, and her first book, *Finding Mañana: A Memoir of a Cuban Exodus*, was published in 2005. She teaches journalism at Columbia University and continues to write for the *New York Times*.

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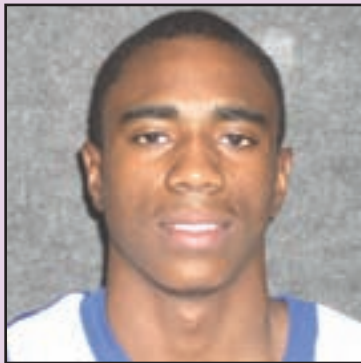
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# 2006 - 2007 Seahawks



#10 Carlos Avila  
6-0 Guard  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - Queens, N.Y.  
Major - Liberal Arts

Graduated from Jamaica High School...Played four years of basketball for coach Alex Crossland...Named first team all-Queens in his senior year...Born November 7, 1987, Nickname is "Los".



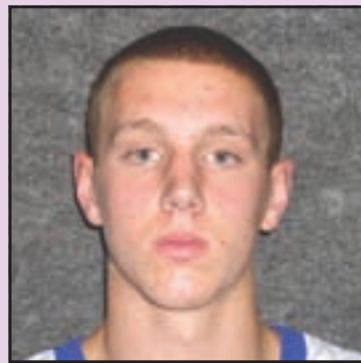
#24 Craig Blair  
6-6 Center/Forward  
Class - Sophomore  
Hometown - Coral Springs  
Major - Sports Management

Attended Iowa Southwestern Community College before transferring to BCC...Graduated from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School...Played four years of basketball for coach Mike Benanti...Selected to first team all-Big 8 tournament team in his senior year...Born September 23, 1984.



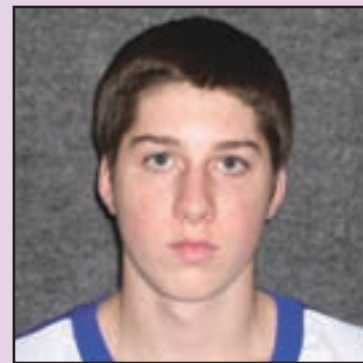
#34 Tony Dennison  
3-3 Guard  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - Long Island, N.Y.  
Major - Undecided

Graduated from William Cullen Bryant High School...Played two years of varsity basketball for John Demas...During his senior year, he was nominated for McDonald's high school all-American, named second team all-Queens. Born October 22, 1987.



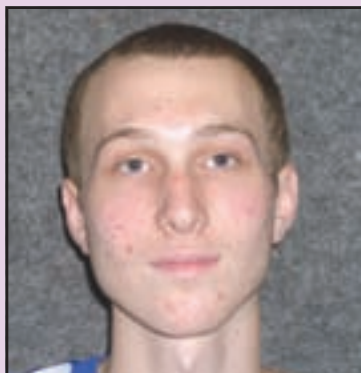
#22 Aaron Shapiro  
6-6 Forward  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - Coral Springs  
Major - Physical Therapy

Graduated from J.P. Taravella High School...Played two years of basketball for coach Clarence Fleming...Received team honor for most improved player in his senior year...Academically, awarded silver cord during his senior year...Born May 16, 1988.



#12 Ryan Kardok  
6-3 Guard  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - Parkland  
Major - Undecided

Graduated from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Played a significant role in helping team win 2006 district championship...During his senior year, selected to Broward vs. Dade county all-star game and was chosen to the Naples Christmas all-tournament team... Born March 30, 1988.



#11 Joe Vecsey  
1-1 Guard  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - New York, N.Y.  
Major - Liberal Arts

Graduated from Archbishop Molloy High School...Played four years of basketball...Received team honor for coach's award in his senior year...Born December 22, 1987.



#5 Anthony Clarke  
5-11 Guard  
Class - Sophomore  
Hometown - Queens, N.Y.  
Major - Liberal Arts

**2005-06:** Played in all 29 games for BCC, combining for 222 points, 127 rebounds and 92 assists...Finished 14<sup>th</sup> in the NJCAA in steals with 86.

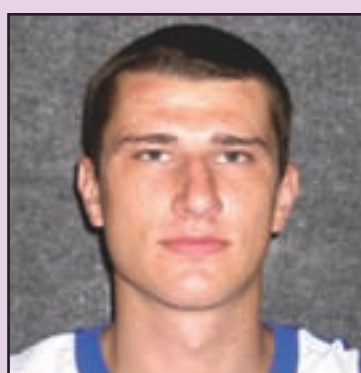
Graduated from Holy Cross High School, Helped team win the prestigious Kreul Classic Tournament in Coral Springs and was also named all-tournament... Born February 9, 1987.



#33 Rocky Pierre  
6-1 Guard  
Class - Sophomore  
Hometown - Lauderhill  
Major - Health Admin.

**2005-06:** Played in 20 games for BCC, totaling 136 points, 36 rebounds, 21 assists and 30 steals.

Graduated from Taravella High School...Played four years of basketball for coach Clarence Fleming...During his senior year, he was selected to the Kreul Classic all-tournament team, Was selected first team all-Broward county. Born June 26, 1986.



#2 Miklos Szabo  
9-9 Center/Forward  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - Szeghalom, Hungary  
Major - Business Admin.

Graduated from Toth Arpad High School...Team won Hungary High School Championship in each of his four season, Nominated to East-West Rookie game in 2005 and 2006... Selected to Hungary Junior National Team...Finished in the top five among Europe leaders in rebounds in 2006...Born August 17, 1986.



#15 Francis Agenor  
6-2 Guard  
Class - Sophomore  
Hometown - Pompano Beach  
Major - Liberal Arts

**2005-06:** Played in 24 games for BCC, totaling 142 points, 36 rebounds, 14 assists and 12 steals.

Graduated from Grandview Preparatory School...Played basketball for coach Joe Dawson... Won district championship in his junior and senior years...Named district 3a-2a-1a player of the year for Palm Beach county. Born September 9, 1986.



#24 Shamair Williams  
6-3 Forward  
Class - Freshman  
Hometown - Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Major - Business Manage.

Graduated from Bishop Loughlin High School...Played one year of junior varsity basketball and three years of varsity basketball. Born June 20, 1988.





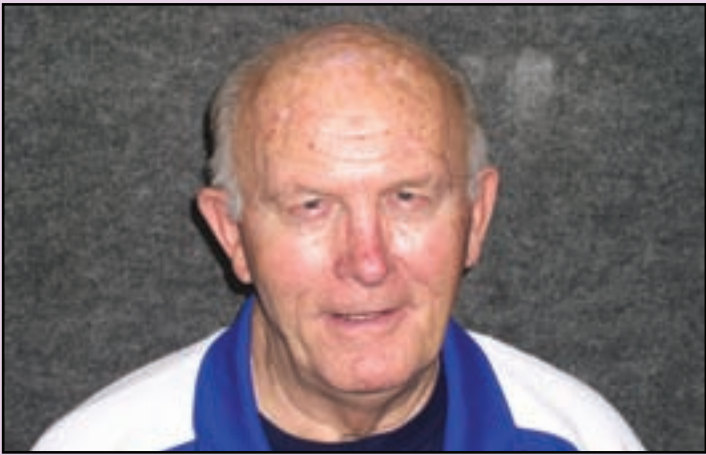
# Men's Basketball Team



Head Coach: Bob Starkman (6<sup>th</sup> Year)



Assistant Coach: Jay McCormick



Assistant Coach: Frank Mulzoff



Assistant Coach: Ande Anderson



Assistant Coach: Majeeda Panchoo

## 2006-07 MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

No.	Player	Class	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown/High School
2	Miklos Szabo	Fr.	C/F	6-9	Szeghalom, Hungary/Toth Arpad
5	Anthony Clarke	So.	G	5-11	Queens, N.Y./Holy Cross
10	Carlos Avila	Fr.	G	6-0	Queens, N.Y./Jamaica
11	Joe Vecsey	Fr.	G	6-0	New York, N.Y./Archbishop Molloy
12	Ryan Kardok	Fr.	G	6-3	Parkland/Marjory Stoneman Douglas
15	Francis Agenor	So.	G	6-2	Pompano Beach/Grandview Prep
22	Aaron Shapiro	Fr.	F/C	6-6	Coral Springs/J.P. Taravella
23	Shamair Williams	Fr.	F	6-3	Brooklyn, N.Y./Bishop Loughlin
24	Craig Blair	So.	C/F	6-6	Coral Springs/Marjory Stoneman Douglas
33	Rocky Pierre	So.	G	6-1	Lauderhill/J.P. Taravella
34	Tony Dennison	Fr.	G	6-2	Long Island City, N.Y./William Cullen Bryant

Head Coach: Bob Starkman (6<sup>th</sup> Year)



## 2006-07 MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Fri.	Nov. 3	at Santa Fe Community College#	Gainesville	8:00 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 4	vs. St. Johns River Community College#	Gainesville	2:00 p.m.
Wed.	Nov. 8	KEY WEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	Nov. 10	ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 11	POLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Coconut Creek	2:00 p.m.
Thurs.	Nov. 16	at Belmont Abbey (N.C.) College	Charlotte, N.C.	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	Nov. 17	at Belmont Abbey (N.C.) College	Charlotte, N.C.	5:00 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 18	at Limestone (S.C.) College	Gaffney, S.C.	1:00 p.m.
Tues.	Nov. 21	at Johnson & Wales University	Miami	7:30 p.m.
Wed.	Nov. 29	AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 2	at Key West Community College	Key West	2:00 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 9	at St. Petersburg College	St. Petersburg	4:00 p.m.
Thurs.	Dec. 14	JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 16	vs. Daytona Beach Community College^	Ocala	3:00 p.m.
Sun.	Dec. 17	at Central Florida Community College^	Ocala	9:00 p.m.
Fri. – Sun.	Dec. 29 – 31	BCC Holiday Classic		
	Dec. 29	Indian River C.C. vs. Carleton (Canada) University	Davie	7:00 p.m.
	Dec. 29	Ancilla (Ind.) College vs. Barton County (Kan.) C.C.	Davie	9:00 p.m.
	Dec. 30	Barton County C.C. vs. Indian River C.C.	Davie	4:00 p.m.
	Dec. 30	BCC vs. ANCILLA COLLEGE	Davie	6:00 p.m.
	Dec. 31	Carleton University vs. Ancilla College	Davie	1:00 p.m.
	Dec. 31	BCC vs. BARTON COUNTY C.C.	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 4	COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND	Davie	8:00 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 10	at Indian River Community College*	Ft. Pierce	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 13	BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 17	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 20	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE*	Davie	4:00 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 27	INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 31	BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 3	at Palm Beach Community College*	Lake Worth	4:00 p.m.
Wed.	Feb. 7	at Miami-Dade College*	Kendall	7:30 p.m.
Wed.	Feb. 14	at Indian River Community College*	Fort Pierce	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 17	at Brevard Community College*	Melbourne	4:00 p.m.
Mon.	Feb. 19	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.
Wed.	Feb. 21	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	7:30 p.m.

\*Southern Conference Game  
#Santa Fe Community College Tournament  
^JUCO Shootout at Central Florida Community College

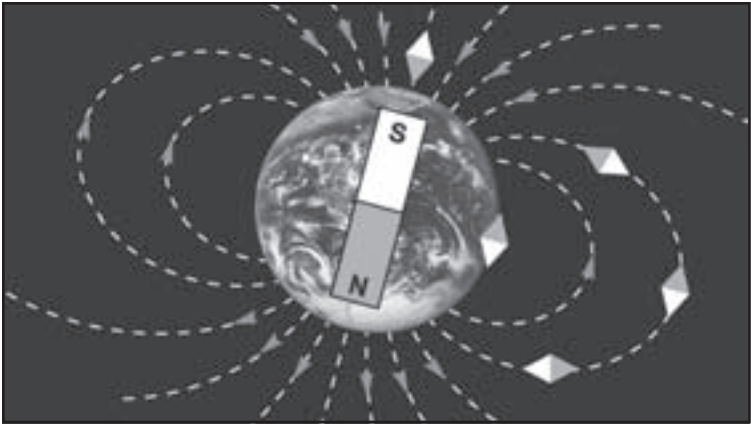


# What if the Earth turned “upside down?”

BY NATHAN PHELPS  
SCI-TECH EDITOR

What if north was south and south was north? Sound confusing? Well, the truth of the matter is that it is not only possible but will most assuredly

occur in the future. The Earth seems to flip its magnetic polarity every 200,000 to 300,000 years. The Earth’s magnetic field is thought to be generated deep inside the planet. The inner core is made of solid iron surrounded by an outer core



A graph of the Earth’s magnetic field. PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA

## The danger of EMP

BY RICK DAVIS  
STAFF WRITER

Everyone has seen a movie where a nuclear device affects electronics, from planes falling out of the sky to computers exploding, the idea makes a great action movie. How about something that is fact instead of fiction? Picture someone with some general technical background building a device that would cripple the world technologically. Computer networks would fail, data would be forever lost and even simple devices such as wristwatches and iPods would be destroyed. Although both of these scenarios are extreme, both are possible through the forces released from an EMP.

An Electromagnetic Pulse, or EMP, is generally a surge that causes current and voltage to wildly change over a short period of time that can cause damage and destruction in electrical devices. Most explosions cause some amount of EMP although nuclear explosions cause a great deal more. EMP can also be generated through a device that is designed to produce it without the added effects of a physical explosion.

Effects from an EMP last only a fraction of a second although anything linked to a cable, antenna or similar item will be drastically affected like being the target of a lightning strike. The saving grace from these pulses is how easy they are to break up by non-conductive materials. In the case of a nuclear blast, mountain ranges would protect many while even a building could protect objects inside in some cases.

The effect from an EMP is based around three variables; they are the height from which the pulse originated, the power of the pulse and the distance of the object in question.

First, the height has importance for two reasons. The obvious one is that the higher the pulse originates the more ground it would cover. The other consideration is that an EMP works through existing magnetic

fields, such as the Earth’s, therefore they would not operate in deep space or on planets that have no magnetic fields. The magnetic field of the Earth is very complex although it should be noted that these complexities will cause EMP to distribute differently from various heights as well as geographical locations. Governed by the laws of physics, all EMP is not equal as it spreads out from it the point of origin. As you move away from the center of the blast the intensity of the blast decreases although this value is highly subjective to the influence of surrounding magnetic fields and non-magnetic structures.

The final variable for an EMP is its yield, or strength, and can be most simply explained in relation to nuclear yields as the EMP yield ranges from 0.1 to 0.5 percent of the nuclear yield depending on weapon design. With this in mind a 20 megaton device detonated 250 to 300 miles up could affect the entire US, according to data from the House National Security Committee. Of course a nuclear explosion this size would have so much effect from the nuclear fallout that the EMP would be a minor problem as this size explosion is hundreds of times greater than the devices used in World War II.

EMP devices made to stand alone are much more dangerous in that the limiting factor is only cost although the trade off is that they have such a small yield that they could only effect a single target such as a small city. Construction is safe without the presence of nuclear material and the knowledge needed moves away from chemistry and nuclear physics to engineering where there are many more people in the know.

In any case while it does not happen as seen in the movies the threat of an EMP is a very real thing. In today’s age there may never be nuclear attacks although as society advances our technological achievement makes the EMP “bomb” a dangerous possibility.

of molten iron. The rotation of the liquid metal outer core creates a large electrical current, it is a property of metals to have loosely bonded electrons so if you have a moving liquid metal it acts like a big wire carrying electricity, the electric current produces a large magnetic field. This field is shifting all the time, periodically growing stronger or weaker, moving around and eventually flipping polarity.

When this shift in the magnetic field occurs, what is now known as north and is aligned to the North Pole will then flip and be aligned to the South Pole. At that point

all compasses will point south instead of north. Some scientists speculate that a flip is underway. Studies suggest that it can take anywhere from 1000 to 28,000 years to initiate and complete a reversal. Evidence from the mid oceanic ridges suggests that the Earth’s magnetic poles shift on a cyclic basis. The Earth’s core shows evidence that four past flips have occurred. Each of these took about 7000 years to complete.

Earth, however is not alone in this change of polarities. The sun also changes polarity about every 11 years and evidence points to the probability that even the

Milky Way reverses. Scientists generally agree that during a reversal the geo-magnetic field decreases to about ten percent of its full polarity value. After the field weakens the direction undergoes a nearly 180 degree change and then strengthens in the opposite polarity direction. It is uncertain as to how long the process of change will take. During the 20th century the polar north has changed on an average of 10 km per year lately this has increased to 20 km per year and

■ EARTH’S POLARITY  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

## Uniting forces

BY WILLIAM BREIM  
SCI-TECH EDITOR

Often enough people take everyday events for granted, but our society is built on a set of theories that allows us to explain most phenomena routinely, but if history has taught us anything is that many of the concepts we live with and accept everyday are not guaranteed to survive time and the crushing scrutiny of history.

For many years physicist believed that the one constant in the universe was time. That nine o’ clock on Earth was nine o’ clock everywhere. It wasn’t until a bright young man through what he described as “thought experiments” concluded that even time is relative and that what is constant in the universe is the speed of light. That young man was Einstein.

Electromagnetic fields are an amazing part of physics and to understand it is useful to split it into the electric and magnetic

fields. The electric field is produced by moving electrons and a magnetic field by the force associated with magnets. Now an electric field when changing will produce a magnetic field and vice-versa. In fact, running a wire through a magnetic field will create a flow of electrons on that wire and electricity running through wires will create magnetic field. Because of the interdependence of the two they are combined as a single entity called an “electromagnetic field.”

The nature of electromagnetism is well understood and regularly used on our daily lives. Radio towers, power plants, cars and computer are just some examples of items that implement concepts of electromagnetism. As the name implies electromagnetism is a union of electricity and magnetism. Both were known to be able to exert a force of attraction and repulsion on objects. William Gilbert in 1600 proposed that electricity and

magnetism were distinct effects. Sailors had long noticed lightning strikes and the effect they had on their compasses.

But lightning itself was not known to be electricity until Benjamin Franklin’s experiments. In 1802 scientist Romagnosi was one of the first to publish a paper noticing that connecting a wire across a battery deflected a nearby compass needle, this effect wasn’t widely known until the 1820s, when Ørsted performed a similar experiment. Ørsted’s work influenced Ampère to produce a theory of electromagnetism that set the subject on a mathematical foundation. It wasn’t until the century that physicist James Clerk Maxwell unified the two. Maxell also discovered the electromagnetic nature of light.

One of the essential aspects of modern physics, electromagnetism is and it will probably be as a time tested and rigorously scrutinized part of physics it stands up to the test of history, at least so far.



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HOW DOES IT WORK?

Batteries: Power and current

BY RICK DAVIS  
STAFF WRITER

From cars and computers to telephones and television society has evolved from living by moonlight to the constant demand for electrical power. Wars are fought over the control of resources that make power while the forefront of science and technology continues to find new clean and plentiful ways to energize our world.

Generally speaking the energy infrastructure which includes power plants, power lines, substations and a variety of other things make up what is commonly called the “grid”. This grid has slowly evolved over the decades to an advanced computer controlled system that monitors and directs the flow of electrical power across the country.

It all begins at a power plant where some form of action produces power. Transformers convert this into a very high voltage then send it along power lines to substations. Substations convert the energy back to a lower voltage which is then sent to homes and businesses, sometimes with more conversions through the

process. With constant computer control of the grid power is automatically routed to areas as demand rises and falls.

Now, all power is not equal as differences in voltage levels separate parts of the grid. While the US employs standard 110-volt wall current most of Europe uses 220-volt therefore an energy transfer between continental grids requires additional transforming.

Countries do interconnect themselves within a grid, mostly within a continent though, for another degree of backup. This energy can be used at anytime although as energy crosses into another countries grid the cost for the user goes up due both to political factors as well as additional steps required to make the energy level compatible.

Another source of power comes from batteries and will help illustrate the math behind power usage. First, consider a standard AA size battery.

If you read the information on it you will see it lists 1.5v and some list another value of mAh, or milliamp hours. These two values determine how much power you can get from that battery. For example, a 1.5v – 1000mAh battery could supply 1000 milliamps for one hour, 10

milliamps for 100 hours or any other combination.

Now, most devices need more than one battery and by arranging them differently you can achieve two very different results.

Assume you had four 1.5-volt batteries. You could arrange them in parallel where the entire unit would produce 1.5v at four-times the current. Or, you could arrange them in serial where the voltages add together to form a 6-volt unit at a regular current.

A great feature of batteries is that they can be recharged by reversing the chemical process involved in using the built up power. This is always a good choice if your most frequently used batteries can be recharged. Besides from helping the environment it is cheaper overall as well as offering the opportunity to use a higher quality battery to get longer use. Battery chargers cost under \$20 while quality batteries are about \$1 each. An example is a 2500mAh AA size battery that offers much more available power in comparison to a standard AA and the cost of recharging them is far less then continually buying new ones in the long run.

Earth’s polarity

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

globally the magnetic field has weakened about ten percent since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The last flip was about 780,000 years ago. Many scientists believe that we are long overdue for a shift and the recent evidence suggests that a change may have started about 150 years ago.

There are several theories about what creates the change in the Earth’s magnetic polarities. At first sight the timing of our polar fluctuations does not coincide with the orbit of our solar system around the Milky Way. This cycle takes about 200 million years. However, our solar system goes through other change on its journey around the galaxy.

As our solar system orbits the galaxy there is a cycle where it bobs up and down, like a horse on a merry-go-round. This bobbing motion creates acceleration and deceleration in a cyclic manner. At the point where the direction changes the Earth would experience the greatest induced gravitational force.

As the Earth moves up in this bobbing motion the magnetic field would be one way—north or south—when the Earth moves down the field would reverse. Had it been north it would then turn to south.

There is also another theory that would cause the same type

of effect, as the solar system orbits the Galaxy it could have a smaller orbit with a group of stars. Either of these two options either the bobbing or the circular orbit would account for the short term cycle of the earth flipping its magnetic field.

The ramifications of a change in earth’s magnetic field could be catastrophic. Magnetic fields extend past the earths atmosphere and provide defense against our own solar system. If the shift would happen rapidly it would be difficult to survive. Power grids across the globe would be knocked out, satellites would plummet to earth, birds, whales, fish and migrating animals would be disoriented and possibly not able to survive.

The advantage that we have is that this change happens gradually, and there is a great possibility that genetic adaptation would take place to aid in the animal kingdom and that man has the time and the capacity to overcome the technological problems that would occur. Man, for his part, is already looking at ways to predict the timing of such an event.

In 2009, The European Space Agency is going to launch a cluster of three satellites to collect enough data to allow for magnetic field forecasting; much in the same way that weather forecasting is done today.

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# Gender: Predisposition for intelligence?

BY BUZZ LAMB  
STAFF WRITER

It was 1991 and the American Association of University Women (AAUW) made an announcement that girls were being “short-changed” by schools, they experienced a “disproportionate loss of self-esteem” and that teaching methods, particularly in math and science, favored boys. Critics said that the AAUW’s claims were based on unreliable student surveys and doubtful resources. Advocates purported boys scored higher than girls on the math SAT. Some educators advised “using words like passion and excitement and joy” to get girls more involved in science classes.

Some schools went as far as instituting single-sex classes so that girls would “feel more comfortable” and “thrive.” The AAUW eventually conceded that there was “no over-all evidence that single-sex education was better for girls.

By May Of 2000 Congress became involved. They commissioned a study which announced that the gender gap had “in most cases been eliminated.” The educational community was left without a gender crisis. But not for long.

Fast forward to Jan. 30, 2006, and take a look at Newsweek’s story “The Boy Crisis.” The lead headline states “At every level they’re falling behind.” There is

a plethora of statistics proving boys are in trouble academically. Unfortunately they are as credible as the statistics from AAUW’s study done 15 years ago. They say that more boys than girls are involved in fights and that girls score higher on the verbal SAT. Duh!

Some experts say boys are “outgunned” because girls reach sexual maturity earlier. Others speculate that boy brains have less serotonin which “may cause them to fidget more” and girl brains are overloaded with “oxcytocin, a hormone linked to bonding.” Without question, there is a multitude of differences between males and females.

When it comes to learning, variations in character, personality and intelligence dwarf the differences that come from gender. On May 2, 2006 the Florida Department of Education released the numbers on FCAT. In addition, their website summarized performance on the Common Placement Test (CPT) by ethnicity and gender for 2004. In all ethnic categories the number of males scoring above the cutoff score in math was 4.8 percentage points higher than females yet in the reading and writing portions of the tests females scored higher than males across the board.

According to the Associated Press, a recent study done by

■ GENDER INTELLIGENCE  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

# Dr. Michael Cleary; a Catholic’s view

BY DANIELLA DORCELUS  
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

Humorous, painful and whimsical are just a few of the words that could be used to describe Dr. Michael Cleary’s Halfway Decent Sinners. The poet, scholar and professor vividly portrayed his childhood experience while growing up from a Catholic background in a poetry reading that was held at South Campus on Oct. 13. When depicting the nature of his poems, Cleary mentioned that most of what he writes doesn’t have “many sunshine and rainbows.”

Some of the poems that Cleary read such as “At Mud Lake in the Morning,” were taken from his previous book entitled *Hometown U.S.A.* The poem portrayed a violent and gory scene that actually occurred at Mud Lake, Idaho. Eight hundred men (young and old) gathered three thousand rabbits, to be slaughtered because of an increase in the population of the species. The piece of literature recounted what actually occurred that Saturday morning in very intricate details. The suffering of the rabbits were bluntly depicted; “and the rabbits start to go down, /some sudden and still, smaller than alive/others jerking, scrambling on their sides, changing snow into a crazy quilt of scarlet specks and patches of deeper read.” Although this poem was based on an Associated Press article read by the writer, others originated from personal



FILE PHOTO

BCC Professor Dr. Michael Cleary.

experience.

“Altar Boy’s First Mass,” a poem taken from *Halfway Descent Sinners*, described the awkwardness of being an altar boy. The attire was depicted as uncomfortable and to emphasize this point, the poem contained a simile of an altar boy’s uniform to that of a football player’s; “helmet, shoulder pads, rib pads/hip pads, thigh pads, knee pads / you crowd doorways, overwhelm chairs.” The experience of being an altar boy was also compared to going out on a first date and feeling uneasy about the situation. The poet recalled his playful and mischievous nature during his childhood in a piece entitled *Jim Montcalm Died for Our Sins*.

The author informed the audience that Jim Montcalm

was the street name in which the setting of the poem occurred. The poem was about him and his friends getting into a lot of trouble by skipping school and urging one of the group members to steal. The Alias that they often gave when asked for their name was Jim Montcalm in order to hide their identity. Comments were made afterward on the impact of Cleary’s poetry.

“He is a wonderful story teller and reader. I liked his imagination, humor and attentiveness to details and his ability to make his poem come to life. I especially liked the sound, structure and rhythm, said Dr. Gary Kay. Dr. Xiao Wang also enjoyed the event. “His poetry has profound and philosophical messages that are very powerful,” said Wang.

# North Korea defies United Nations

BY RICK DAVIS  
STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 9, the isolated North Korea crashed the world nuclear party and the fallout from the uninvited guest has caused political problems and finger pointing along with economic and safety concerns.

After the United States developed Nuclear weapons technology in 1945 four other countries followed from 1945 to 1964. At that point the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which was signed by 188 countries, or states, attempted to put an end to nuclear proliferation.

There have been a few unofficial moves that evolved out of the political situation of the time. For example, India and Pakistan gained the bomb, driven by each others progress, along with Israel although their specific holdings are about the only remaining secret of the nuclear-political world since they refuse to confirm or deny just what they may or may not have.

Since the Korean War in 1953 North Korea has been through a variety of sanctions and embargos and with their esteemed leader, Kim Jong-il, acting randomly an threateningly they quickly became the most secluded country in the world. Since 2000 the U.S.

has had economic sanctions with North Korea under the Trading with the Enemy Act and while they have been a member of the United Nations since 1991 their erratic behavior has caused a variety of problems. With their recent announcement of nuclear testing the United Nations (UN) has been in deliberations about what action to take although North Korea had stated any UN economic sanctions would be taken as “an act of war.” The only serious diplomatic connection to them has been through Russia and China and since the fall of communism in Russia, China has become the sole contact point.

Through evidence gathered by seismic, atmospheric and other methods it has been confirmed that a nuclear test had occurred although the low yield, or explosive power, has led scientists to believe the test might not have been entirely successful.

Another concern is held by those monitoring the situation as North Korea could sell nuclear technology and material to anyone in the market for it. Sanctions against them will eventually leave them needing money and trade and as one of the few remaining communist countries they are in a perfect position for trade with communist China and Cuba or even a terrorist organization.

As they continue to test and grow an arsenal of Nuclear weapons they may escalate

tensions while simultaneously easing outside concerns, and so nearby countries that are in

constant conflict or contact may decide to begin their own nuclear program to look stronger.

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# Tattoo experiences: You never forget your first time

BY AMANDA FERNANDEZ  
STAFF WRITER

Today is different than any other day. You have butterflies in your stomach and you feel light headed. You're so nervous that you've chewed up ten pen caps during your last class of the day. You find yourself parking your car and walking into the building where he is waiting for you, smiling the way he always does. He's going to give you what you've wanted since the first time you saw him. That's right. Today, you're getting your first tattoo. Something you have wanted for a long time. A meaningful and personal concept, idea or person permanently buried and implanted in the first three layers of your skin. You've seen so many different ones on people and you're finally going to have one of your very own.

Many students at BCC have tattoos. Some have special meaning others are drunken memories. Mine, for example, which I had done about a month ago is a small pink star on my right foot. While it seems like a simple drawing, to me it means so much more. You see, I have always associated finding true happiness with being able to touch a star. You know it's impossible, but you can't ever really give up trying. So I thought, "Well if I have a star on my foot, then I'll find happiness someday because my foot is parallel to the sky and I can touch my feet."

Other students have tattoos simply because they love expressing themselves openly to the world. Maria-Linda Gonzalez for example, has a small heart tattooed on her left breast. "I know it looks simple to other people but to me it's a heart that can never be broken and it'll always be with me no matter what."

Lauren Madera, another BCC student has two tattoos on her lower back. One reads, "Give me a reason to believe" and the other reads, "I can't help but

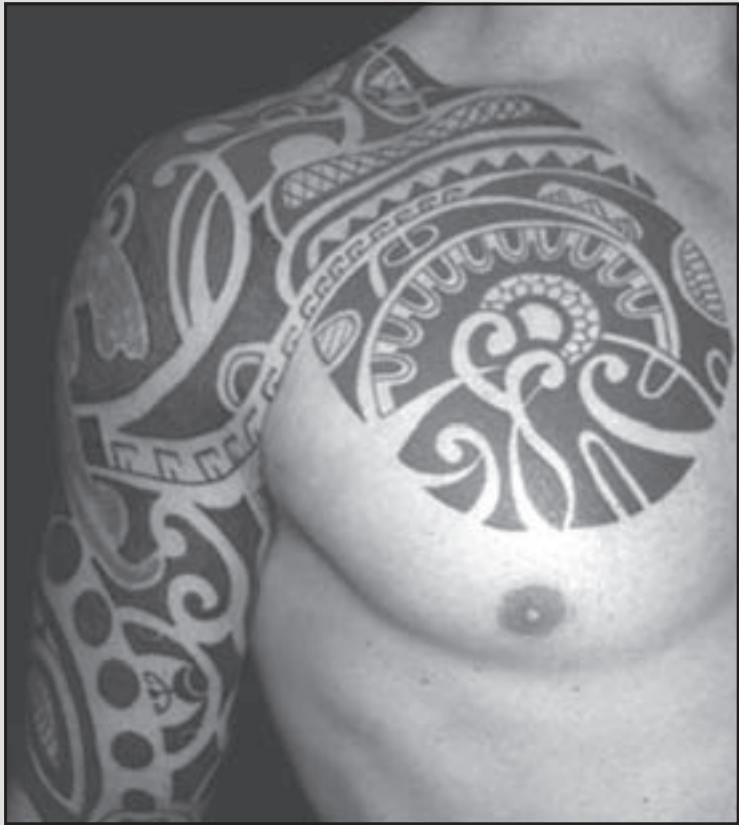


PHOTO COURTESY OF BMG

**Tattoos, both tribal and modern, have become part of the American sub-culture.**

think I'll die alone" which are lines from two songs sung by "My Chemical Romance." Others may chalk it up to; "My Chemical Romance" is her favorite band so she got two cool lines from their songs. However, when speaking to Lauren she revealed that the tattoos meant so much more than just her favorite band during our interview.

She explained the one that rest just above the small of her back, the one that reads, "I can't help but think I'll die alone."

"My dad died when I was 10... I couldn't seem to cry for him so at the funeral I was looking at everyone and was wondering how they were all so upset... and the person that should be the most upset was my mother because I couldn't imagine being fully in love with someone... devoting your life to someone, having their children, making a life together and then having that person ripped from you. So since I was young... my biggest fear was to die alone." She'd wanted

to get a tattoo commemorating her father but she wasn't sure what. Then one day, while she was listening to Cubicles which is a song on "My Chemical Romance's" second album. "Its all about how they think dying alone would be so glorious and stuff and I thought that it was so funny... so contradictory" She said with a soft smile. "I knew that line, "I can't help but think ill die alone," was perfect... it makes me think of my father, it commemorates my favorite band and it makes me face my fear."

Regardless of what is said, it's safe to conclude that every tattoo no matter how small or simple is extremely personal. It means different things to different people.

Tattoos are a permanent form of expression which is why when you get one; you should know exactly what you want as well as where and why you want it. After you know the answer to that, the sky is the limit.

# NCBAA Conference a success

BY DONALD THOMANN  
STAFF WRITER

The BCC chapter of the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA) recently hosted its 2006 Southern Regional Conference, a four-day event that spanned from Thursday, Oct. 19 to Sunday, Oct. 22. The theme of the conference this year was *Freeing your mind: Breaking barriers to cultural, educational, and economic development* and took place at the Ft. Lauderdale Airport Sheraton Hotel; with a brief, one-night dinner cruise on Friday, Oct. 20.

On Thursday, Oct. 19, the first day of the conference, much of the time was spent registering guests. Connie Beal, Rosa Gaskins, and Willie Alexander sat on the second floor balcony, overlooking the bar and the check-in desk, and handed out nametags. From 1 to 4 p.m. only the vendor area was open, where the newly registered guests could browse the displays of black literature and traditional African clothing. Many of the guests who came in suits on Thursday spent the following three days in caftans and dashikis.

By 4 p.m. the conference was underway and didn't slow down for six and a half hours. In rooms Palm 1 and Palm 2 the NCBAA held a Southern Region Board Meeting and hosted a Panel of Presidents. Featured on the panel was Dr. Niara Sudarkassa, African-American Research Library and Culture Center; Dr. Dennis Gallon, Palm Beach Community College; and Dr. Staffard Thompson, Enterprise State Junior College. The day was concluded poolside with a President's reception and a cultural program that lasted until 10:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 20 began promptly at 9 a.m. with an opening general session. Kisha King, President NCBAA-BCC; Levi Williams, Esq., Chair, BCC Board of Trustees; and Sylvia Husain, Vice President for Academic Affairs, BCC were given formal greetings and Dr. William C. Parker, Parker and Associates delivered a speech.

Later that morning, in rooms Citrus 3 and Everglades 1 and 2, three workshops were conducted simultaneously. Norm Seavers, Associate Vice President of Economic Development at BCC, presented *Covenant with Black America: What It's All About*. Jomo Faulks, a musician from Dayton, Ohio, presented *Expressing Yourself Through The Arts*. Donald Cleveland, Student Success Center Faculty Member at Central Campus, presented *Have You Been Educated or Miseducated?*

After a break for lunch, two more workshops were presented at 1:45 p.m. Dr. Denise St. Patrick-Bell, BCC psychology professor and director of a Title V Co-op grant, gave a presentation on

*Increasing Student Success*. Phil C. Thomas, Academic Adviser at St. Petersburg College, presented *Professional Development: Getting Where you Want to Go*. Later a student panel occupied rooms Citrus 1 and 2; and the night was concluded with a dinner cruise. "The NCBAA sent a letter to all the attendees, encouraging them to wear traditional African clothing," said Connie Beal, in reference to the suggested attire for the cruise. "The shuttle will be leaving at 5:30 p.m. and returning around 1 or 1:30 a.m."

On Saturday, Oct. 21, a new vendor stand was set up, tended by a girl named Bunmi. On display were pieces of art, like traditional tapestries and carvings. "All the pieces come from different parts of Africa," she said. "Tanzania, Gana, Nigeria." At 10:30 a.m. the Memorial JRC breakfast for Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke was being dismissed and in rooms Everglades 1 and 2, guests filed in to attend the workshops presented by Dr. Barbara J. Bryan and Horace D. Allen. Dr. Bryan, provost of BCC north campus, gave a presentation entitled *Developing Black Leadership at Community Colleges*. "If you want to consider yourself a leader in the community college or any other environment, then you need to know the theory of what you are applying to," said Dr. Bryan, who went on to explain four of the many different types of leadership theories, among other topics. Horace D. Allen's workshop was entitled *Recruiting and Supporting Black Males in Higher Education*, and the presentation focused on TeamPact, a revolutionary system for mentoring black males in the college world and encouraging economic and professional growth.

The rest of the afternoon was devoted to a three different meetings for Members, The Council of Presidents, and Student Leaders and Mentors. At 6:30, in the DCOTA Atrium, the guests attended a banquet, where they listened to guest banquet speaker G. Vincent Lewis, Chief Ministerial Officer and Executive Pastor Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Carol City, Fl. Lewis has spent more than thirty years working in nonprofit organizations and community outreach. The rest of the night was spent dancing.

Sunday, October 22 was the last day of the conference. Many of the guests checked out and the only activity was the Southern Region Board Meeting that ended at about 10:30. By 12 p.m. the artwork, the literature, the dashikis and caftans, and the bright personalities had been cleared from the second floor; business men and women in suits filled the hallway and conference rooms. It had been a busy four days for the NCBAA, but the BCC chapter hosted a successful 2006 Southwest Regional Conference.

# Gender intelligence?

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Thomas Dee, an associate professor of economics at Swarthmore College and visiting scholar at Stanford University, boys learn more from men and girls learn more from women. Dee's study is based on a nationally representative study of 25,000 students that was conducted by the Education Department in 1988.

Dee found that having a female teacher raised the

achievement of girls and lowered that of boys in science, social studies and English. Dee also contends that gender influences attitudes. In a class taught by a man, girls were more likely to say the subject was not useful for their future and in a class taught by a woman, boys were likely to be seen as disruptive.

Dee's study comes at a time when the proportion of male teachers is at its lowest level in 40 years. Roughly 80 percent of teachers in today's public schools are female. Reg Weaver, president

of the National Education Association is quoted as having said, "Experienced teachers, good textbooks, smaller class sizes and modern equipment all influence how boys and girls do in class." Weaver contends that student success cannot be narrowed to the gender of the teacher.

So, who is smarter? Males or females? For those who think they have the answer to this question, just remember this old adage... "It's better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt."



# Red Colors of Disillusion: Irina Dakhnoskaia

## Photographic art inspired by Soviet control opens at BCC Central’s Fine Art Gallery

BY CAMI CARR  
LAYOUT EDITOR

A beautiful political statement was made on Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. with the opening of Russian Artist Irina Dakhnovskaia-Lawton’s photo exhibition entitled “Red Colors of Disillusion” at the art gallery on BCC’s Central Campus. The exhibition features the artist’s original photographs along with Soviet-era posters, newspapers, video of propaganda and other artifacts to show the true arm of Soviet oppression.

The inspiration for her series of photographs, which were taken on trips back to Russia, came from an experience while in her native country. Dakhnoskaia said, “Walking along the street of a Russian provincial city three years ago, I was struck by the image of a hammer and sickle under my feet. I turned around and saw the remains of a propaganda decoration on the top of the typical Soviet era concrete fence. The shadow, created by the late September sun, peacefully existed on the ground as any other ordinary shadow... people were walking by unaware.”

Born in the former Baltic Republic, now Latvia, and soon moved to Moscow in the former Soviet Union, now Russia, where she lived for most of her life

before coming to the U.S. to pursue a career in the arts. She is currently studying for her Master of Fine Arts Degree (MFA) from Rockport College in Rockport, Maine. This exhibition is part of her MFA thesis.

Her experiences in Russia of the communistic control seemed to her like just another part of her life, “When you live inside of it and you’re a regular citizen, you don’t see everything, the propaganda was everywhere—our brains were full of propaganda. Twenty-four hours we heard it and it became so much. On the outside, you see the differences and can compare with what the rest of the world is like.”

Her art is a political statement on control and the threat that it may become so deeply rooted, it becomes part of you. Her personal memories and view is pressed at the very heart into her dramatic and effecting art.

“From the outside, like in the U.S, it seemed so threatening but it was our world. Then after a while, to us it became just so full of irony, you’ve become so sensitized. This shadow existed on the fence but no one noticed, such irony exists in old emblems,” said Dakhnoskaia.

John Kaufman, BCC Art Historian had this to say of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF IRINA DAKHNOSKAIA

**Irina Dakhnoskaia's photo collection brings to mind thoughts of darkness, beauty, emotion and strength as one considers the depth and creativity put into each and every work of art. Her images evoke power where there is none and perhaps the fading sense of grace from a time long passed that may have provided layers of pain, but now they emerge with new found meaning.**

exhibition, “Her photographic montages reconstruct lingering Soviet ideology through on homage to Constructivist style. At the same time, her work recalls the historical censorship of visual culture.”

The exhibition will be open until December 13. The BCC Central art gallery is open until 2 p.m. every weekday, for more information on this and other exciting exhibitions, visit [www.geocities.com/bccfineartsgallery](http://www.geocities.com/bccfineartsgallery), or call 954-201-6984.

# Royal performances abound in “Last King of Scotland”

BY MICHAEL GROVER  
CONTRIBUTING STAFF WRITER

Uganda was ruled by a man named Idi Amin. Not only was he a powerful figure, he was bloodthirsty and cruel. “The Last King of Scotland” is a movie which vividly tells his story.

In this compelling film, a Scottish doctor named Nicholas Garrison (James McAvoy) travels to Uganda on a medical mission. While treating the natives, he meets Amin and is first impressed by his leadership. Garrison soon discovers Amin’s dark side when he becomes Amin’s personal

physician. Amin eventually forces him to stay in the country and when the physician tries to flee, he is subject to intense torture. McAvoy is excellent as a doctor who is trying to treat sick people while trying to protect himself. Forest Whittaker gives a first-rate performance as the

brutal dictator throughout the entire film. Some of the most memorable scenes include Amin’s first appearance promising “independence” to his people and Dr. Garrison treating Amin for gastritis by inducing flatulence (which may or may not have actually happened). Director

Kevin MacDonald has not only given us a fine cast with superior performances, but he has also perfectly described the political turmoil that was occurring at the time. “The Last King of Scotland” is a major accomplishment and an authentic story of one of the worst dictators in world history.

# The life behind a professor

## An ESL professor at BCC’s Student Success department shares her love for writing

BY KELLI RUSSELL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Describing herself as impulsive yet pragmatic, 39-year-old Wendy Ramer, currently teaches for the ESL department and advises in Student Success at BCC.

Her first career goal was to be a teacher or an architect. She attempted architecture, but ended up in Interior Design, which was her major at FIU, and hated it. She “fell into teaching by accident at age 24.”

Always wanting to study abroad, Ramer left behind an unstable job for pursuit of

thrill overseas after graduation. Originally wanting to go to England, her Colombian “partner in crime” convinced her to study Spanish, and move to Spain with her instead.

After returning to America, Ramer met her husband and continued her education with a Master’s of Science Degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at FIU. With her passion to still travel across seas, her husband “sought out work abroad,” and they ended up in Italy for a little over a year.

Upon their return to Miami,

they were wed, and later gave birth to a son and daughter.

“Though I never dreamed of being a writer, I have been writing stories since I was nine years old,” she says.

Ramer’s first novel, “Enzo’s Mama,” is about a mother unwillingly separated from her young son and her struggles to rebuild her life while never giving up hope for a future with her lost child. The novel was published in late August of 2006 by iUniverse, which she chose because “they are very reputable and connected with Barnes & Noble, backing their legitimacy.”

While writing “Enzo’s Mama,” Ramer could not stop. “The story came to me so quickly that my fingers had a hard time keeping up,” said Ramer. “In fact, I’ve developed carpal tunnel syndrome as a result...no kidding.”

In her spare time, Ramer loves to write and she doesn’t plan on stopping anytime soon. What Ramer dislikes most about herself is her “inability to just veg out and do nothing.”

Before writing Enzo’s Mama, Ramer wrote, “Saffron Dreams,” which, according to Ramer, “has yet to be published because it has

been over 10 years in the making, obviously too dear to my heart to settle with a final stage.” She has also written a romantic novella, “Five Days,” which has yet to be published, and has begun a few chapters to “Jonah’s Wail.”

“Enzo’s Mama” can be found only on internet bookstores such as [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and many others.

In ten years, Ramer sees herself as “NY Times Bestseller, represented by a major publishing house, writing one novel every 12-18 months, living part-time in South Florida and part-time in Seville, Spain.”



# Reliving The Beatles

BY WIVINIA CABEY-EDGEcombe  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“It was wonderful, but it’s over!” This simple statement made by John Lennon summed up the contribution of the legendary English band “The Beatles” almost a half century ago. This same statement signaled the opening of the 2-part musical performance sponsored by the BCC Foundation which was held in the South Campus auditorium on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

Clad in black and white suits, the multitalented duo featured veteran History professor Richard Corseri supported vocally by BCC honor student Luis Soriano. They provided an impressive performance of “The Beatles” music to a full house of predominantly adolescent college students. This commemorative event was filled with wit, musical versatility and technological manipulation that kept the audience enraptured for an hour.

Punctuated by a sequence of biographical data about “The Beatles,” the heavily animated musical included a repertoire of several Beatles hits like “Michelle” and “Obla Di Obla Da” and an instrumental rendition “for the girls.” Also well-graphed into

the biography were instrumental music interludes featuring the clarinet and saxophone.

A major highlight of the program was interjections of Corseri’s humor. In one bout, he compared sayings that were hip 40 years ago to those of today: “Then-growing pot; now-growing pot,” said Corseri as he caressed his imaginary swollen midriff with a sly grin across his face. This, among others including the lip singing of the 1969 hit, “Octopus Garden,” stirred laughter from the audience.

During part two of the program there were video recordings of “The Beatles” performances interspersed with instrumental music interludes during which Corseri showed off his versatility playing the woodwinds. These clips gave the audience a sense of “The Beatles” impact on their fans worldwide. They highlighted throngs of screaming, teary eyed followers with scenes that wowed the young audience, lending a momentary hush to the dimly lit theater.

The 1988 hit “Carry That Weight” featured on “The Beatles” last album was the Grand finale. As the lights returned, the voice of John Lennon reverberated throughout the quiet auditorium.

“It’s coming from heaven,” said Corseri.

Feedback from the audience was very positive. “I really liked it,” said Alexa Sandoval, a freshman on South Campus who attended the program to gain extra credit points for her Earth Science class. “The way he plays the Saxophone, I think he tries to encourage young people to listen to old music.” A similar response was expressed by Brittany Hoover who attended the show to obtain credit for her Psychology class. “I thought it was great,” she said smiling, her partner nodding in agreement. She added: “I really like the Beatles. I only wish he had sung more and played the guitar, but the video and background helped.”

The performers were also pleased with the audience response. “There were at least 250 students present” said Corseri with a broad smile on his face. “I only expected about 100 to 150, but it was fun, I had a great time and I truly appreciate everyone attending and taking part to make it possible.” Corseri also pointed out that there will be similar performances in the future, the first of which is entitled From the Sources of Jewish Tradition to be staged on November 15, 2006.

# “Marie Antoinette” a royal bore



SCREEN CAPTURE

Marie Antoinette chatting with friends at a party.

BY STEVE MANSFIELD  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If you’re looking for lots of conflict and drama, look somewhere else. This film is a \$40 million beautiful snoozefest. It’s scene after scene of rich French folk without an accent gossiping, popping pastries and wondering how they can get Louis XVI to consummate his sham marriage. It’s interconnected with a loosely strewn together screenplay that doesn’t really put the historical events into perspective.

The film begins with Dunst getting whisked away to France to marry the pathologically shy Jason Schwartzman. She’s literally stripped of everything in the opening scenes, which isn’t necessarily a bad thing. Lacking the skills needed to survive in this repressed, gilded society what ensues is Mary trying to adjust to a world she cannot understand.

She soon falls into the trap of gambling, excess and debauchery. This goes on until the final scenes when Mary and her husband are sent off to her beheading, and she finally has a chance to get an idea on what life she’s leaving behind.

The actors do a fine job with what little they are given, and really bring life to their characters. Jason Schwartzman and Kirsten Dunst are especially great. Dunst only improves as an actress and offers the perfect emotional anchor for this film, and Schwartzman turns a boring shy character into something poignant.

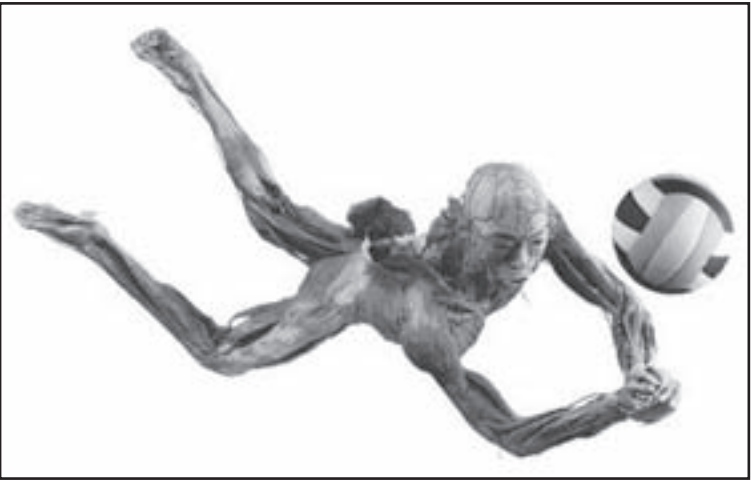
Overall, the film wasn’t really bad. If your girl is the type of person who loves these kinds of chick flicks, I’d bite the bullet and see this. The snobbery and ignorance of the silly aristocrats might grate on your nerves at times, but at least there are plenty of cute girls to go around.

# “Bodies: The Exhibition” opens its doors in Miami

BY ENA VALERA-TEANO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

*Bodies: The Exhibition* has finally arrived in Miami. Much controversy has followed the exhibition throughout the country, especially because of the corpses, which come from a medical hospital in China and are in question whether the families gave consent for the bodies to be use as experiment or to be put out in exhibition. Apart from the negativity of certain people and agencies, the exhibition opened and is here through March of 2007.

The Exhibition features 21 whole-body specimens and more than 260 organs that have been meticulously dissected and preserved through an innovative process called polymer preservation. In this process, water in tissue is replaced with silicone rubber to the deepest cellular level. This creates a preserved human specimen without changing any of its structure allowing the viewers to experience an amazing connection to the body. *Bodies: The Exhibition* unveils the many



FILE PHOTO

“Volley,” one of the many pieces of art available at the exhibit.

complex systems, organs and tissues that drive every aspect of our daily lives and unite us all, as Humans. The exhibition is great for students who are interesting in the anatomy of the body, or for those who will enter careers in medicine, criminal justice and forensic science. I found the exhibition to be very educational and was greatly surprised to see how the human body could be used as a piece of art. Some may find it weird, but to me it was a good experience; all you have

do is to have an open mind and see the exhibition as art, said Ryan Perez, a BCC student. The displays will give you a clear representation of the muscular, skeleton and respiratory system.

*Bodies: The Exhibition* is located at The Shops at Sunset Place in Miami.

For more information on the process they have used to preserve the bodies, history of the anatomy of the body, and fun facts, visit their website at [www.BodiesTheExhibition.com](http://www.BodiesTheExhibition.com).

# O.C.

BY RAFAEL D. VELAZQUEZ, JR.  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While things cool down here in South Florida this fall, things are heating up on The O.C. The O.C. which premieres Thursday Nov. 2 at 9 p.m. ended last season with so many twists and turns that finally lead to what could have been the most shocking season finales in teenage melodramatic history. The death of the shows leading lady, Marissa Cooper played by Mischa Barton.

It might have come almost all too obvious to some who believe that there was no where else to go for Barton’s character. She had already experienced so much in a mere three seasons, such as alcoholism, bi-curiosity, attempted homicide and a near rape experience to name a few.

Not only had the show ended with Barton’s demise, but the remaining characters were all set and ready to go to college. To regular viewers, so many questions come to mind for the next chapter in Newport’s, the hometown of our protagonists, over-the-top history.

According to Josh Schwartz, the creator of the series, the new season will not pick up directly where we left off before. A few months have passed, and we see who has moved on and who is still mourning. But the shows central stories are now heading back to its original idea.

“The show was originally about Ryan and the Cohen’s and that’s what it’s going to go back to next year” Schwartz explained. “Its really going to be about the Cohen family surrounding Ryan after this [the death of his girlfriend] and the battle for his soul.”

Rumors around the internet point to what could be two new season regulars on the show. The arrival of Kaitlin Cooper, Marissa’s younger sister played by Willa Holland and that of Taylor, Marissa’s rival turn friend played by Autumn Reeser. Kaitlin is just starting high school, which means viewers will be getting exposed to two sets of characters; the younger high school crowd with Kaitlin and the new world of twenty-somethings with our original cast.



# THE OBSERVER WANTS YOU!

The Observer is looking for talented people to augment its staff. Positions are always available for a variety of areas and could lead to scholarship eligibility. Students at BCC can develop their portfolio and join a team of students with an interest in the communications field.

Please e-mail [bccobserver@gmail.com](mailto:bccobserver@gmail.com) or call 954-201-8035 to make an appointment with one of the editors or the advisor. The following positions are available:

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Strong English and journalism majors are encouraged to participate in the copy editing process of production. Fearless attitude and the ability to work on short notice a plus, but not required. Previous experience or professor's recommendation a plus.

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Diligent editor for story accuracy is needed to assist copy editors with the fact checking of stories. Stories that have lots of quotes and information need just as much effort to check the validity of the facts in the story. Ability to work on short notice a plus, but not required. Previous experience or professor's recommendation a plus.

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For those interested in sports, features, or event photography. Staff photographers should have their own camera, digital preferred, but not required.

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Seeking writers to cover events and features concerning any or all BCC campuses. College-level writing ability is a must. Great opportunity to improve writing skills and meet new people.

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Graphic design students with experience in Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign are wanted to assist in the layout and design of the paper. Must be creative and able to work on deadline. Prior professional experience not required, but is a plus. Applicants must bring samples of their work to The Observer.

## STAFF ARTIST

Those with artistic talent and are interested in drawing are encouraged to submit a sample of their work to *The Observer*. Digital submissions are preferred, but not required.


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*The Observer* would like to thank its staff for all their hard work this issue while the editors were away on conference in St. Louis, Missouri.



*Good work, everybody!*

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# Increased penalties by colleges for student marijuana use is counterproductive

BY DONALD GARY THOMANN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

College students are notorious for marijuana use. Be it the financial stability to purchase it, the newfound freedom and absence of parental control, or the eagerness to experience something new and previously forbidden, marijuana use among college students has been steadily rising since 1990. Since 1999 it has leveled off at roughly 20 percent, whereas the average percentage of use for all ages has been hovering somewhere around 5 percent. Of course, the frequency of use changes by location. In Alabama, the average is 12 percent, but in Massachusetts it's 25 percent.

The point is that college students are some of the most frequently inebriated people in the country, many proudly so. So how does marijuana smoking, alcohol and drinking reflect in student test scores? The commonly believed theory is that both of the activities, especially when taken simultaneously, will make one less intelligent over time. The evidence has shown though, in studies like Finnell and Jones (1975); Picou, Wells, and Miranne (1980); Pullen (1994); and Hallinan (2004), that marijuana use has little to no affect on college grades and test performance. All of the aforementioned studies', regarding alcohol and/or marijuana use in college students, resulted in findings that were contradictory to one another. Finnell and Jones concluded that students who smoke marijuana do better on ACT tests than those that do not smoke or drink at all, while others have come to the opposite conclusion.

The facts are unclear to say the least, but what is clear is that schools across the country have been joining the latest trend in the war on drugs by increasing penalties for students who smoke. Aside from the financial and social

burdens that come with being arrested for marijuana, students now face consequences from their schools that could ruin their academic careers. Suspending a student from anywhere between one semester and an entire year is not uncommon; but expelling students from their dorms, even if they were not smoking in their dorms, has been happening more often in recent years.

As an example, in the September 30, 2005 issue of the UC Santa Barbara Student Paper, in an article titled County Lengthens Pot Seizure Season, reporter Matt Cappiello quotes Brad Odom, director of the National Organization to Reform

this lightly. In the publication Cannabis News, where Maggie Wolcott describes the efforts of Josh Kappel, a college junior from Missouri, to organize a chapter of NORML on campus. "Kappel said he hopes one day people will look at marijuana prohibition like they do at alcohol prohibition."

NORML is a political organization that aims to inform the public about marijuana and refute many popular myths. College students have succeeded in organizing NORML chapters throughout campuses nationwide. Florida alone has chapters at FSU, UF, FAU, and UCF, according to NORML's website, UCF's chapter being one of the most active in the nation. The school was voted number five in the October 2006 High Times article The High Times Guide to Higher Education: Top 10 Counterculture Colleges. The article goes on to read, "The NORML chapter at UCF is arguably the largest and best-funded student drug-policy organization in the country. Last year the group was voted best organization on campus by the student body, won best float in the UCF homecoming parade and raised enough money to send 20 students cross-country to attend the 2006 NORML conference in San Francisco."

These accomplishments should speak volumes for the marijuana smoking community and against the unjustified treatment of smokers. The national government will be in a feeding frenzy for marijuana smokers until the bitter end, satisfied with endlessly throwing citizens in jail and effectively creating their own statistics that they will use in future campaigns; but at a college, a community that should be encouraging learning and success, suspending students, booting them from their dorms and taking away their financial aid does nothing but hold students back.

Marijuana Laws, "UCSB students are definitely gonna take a blow...If you get one infraction of marijuana possession, you cannot get financial aid anymore. It will mess up people for no good reason."

This trend can be seen as far back as 1995, when the National Drug Strategy Network wrote an article titled Drug Arrests Rising on College Campuses. A portion of the article reads, "'University of Michigan campus police claims to now arrest about 50 people... every year at the annual Ann Arbor 'Hash Bash.' For more than 20 years, police only occasionally handed out citations at the event."

Students are not taking

# Workshops for the impolite and inconsiderate

BY AMANDA FERNANDEZ  
STAFF WRITER

My original intention for this article was to cover the Safety Zone Training seminar which was held on October 12. This Safety Zone Training has been established in academic institutions across the country and has proven to offer a safe haven for students, staff and faculty. However, during the course of my research and the day before I planned on contacting Andrew Dutka, who was one of the facilitators of the meeting and the sponsor for the Gay Straight Alliance at Central campus, I decided that I had so much on my mind concerning not only this "Safety Zone" deal but the fact that people are under the impression that transsexuals, lesbians and gays need to be treated with "kid gloves." While in a way that may be true, they are human beings nevertheless. Why would you hold a workshop teaching you how to be kind to a person? Granted, I think the workshop is a great idea and I believe that people do gain (awareness and knowledge) from attending such workshops. I cannot seem to fathom however why there has to be a need to even have them.

This workshop covers homophobia, biphase and transphobia as well as how it hurts everyone and the quote unquote "heterosexual privilege."

It also discusses the myths of homosexual, bisexual and transsexual individuals. It's safe to say that this workshop basically teaches people compassion towards the Gay/Lesbian/Transsexual society. While it's a wonderful idea and has been proven to help people, I don't understand how we as a society have become so uncompassionate to the point that we need a workshop to reach out to people who are simply different than we are. Is it safe to say that sexual attraction has no bearing on one's character? Of course it is. Your best friend, your sister, your father could be gay and that shouldn't alter the way you treat him or her.

Just because you're attracted to a certain sex, that doesn't mean that your personality changes too. I don't understand why people can't be kind to other people just because they are people. Why do heterosexuals feel that they need to censor themselves around homosexuals and vice versa? Why can't everyone just treat each other with the same respect that they would want in return? I guess we'll never know. In the mean time, we'll have these workshops to try to unite everyone into one human race as opposed to the labels we all put on each other due to our incapacity to accept people that are different from us...



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Letters to the editor are encouraged. The writer's name and phone number must be included and the letter

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# SPORTS ROUNDTABLE

## MIKE GONZALEZ AND MARTIN BATER BATTLE IT OUT LIKE A BUNCH OF SILLYHEAD BAT-EATING SPIDER MONKEYS

### DOLPHINS

Mike Gonzalez: I think they will finish 4-12, Culpepper is finished for the season, Harrington isn't a quality backup and their offensive line sucks. They need to draft Brady Quinn; he will be a good fit in the Saban system. Or we could draft a Wide Receiver, Booker is getting too old and we need at least two big names at that position.

Martin Bater: I think the record doesn't matter as much as the team finding an identity and having something to build on for next year. Culpepper is an afterthought this season, but he better come back strong this season. 33 years without a Super Bowl is enough already.

Mike: My Super Bowl picks are the Chicago Bears and the New England Patriots. The Chargers will be the best team not to make the playoffs just like last year, I GUARANTEE they will suffer a major injury this year.

Martin: My picks are the New Orleans Saints, if they get home field they will be unstoppable riding a wave of emotion, and the Patriots. Not because they are the best but because neither Manning or Plummer can do anything right in the playoffs. Don't count out the Falcons, Bengals, Ravens or Panthers though.

### HEAT

Mike: I think the overall health of the team is a key issue this season, if Wade and O'Neal stay healthy we will repeat as NBA champions. Washington is the biggest threat in the Heat's division since the Magic are still too young, the Hawks aren't even worth mentioning and the Bobcats are still in development but they are making slow but steady progress.



Martin: I think the biggest threat in the East is going to be the New Jersey Nets. Third year with the same team, finally starting to gel.

Mike: I think the Chicago Bulls will be the biggest bump on the road. Ben Wallace will give them the defensive presence they need in the paint, he will be the heart and soul of the team.

Martin: Who do you think will come out of the Western Conference?

Mike: I think Dallas will do it again. They did a good job this postseason with the draft and free agency.

### MARLINS

Mike: I'm not sure about the manager change and I don't know what he can do with a whole team on his shoulders. I think it was a good move to bring the pitching coach back, but the front office has to stop being cheap.

Martin: But what about the fans? If we don't support the Marlins sending 10,000 people to Dolphin Stadium how are they going to have money to spend?

Mike: Bring new talent in, the New York teams bring in new talent every year and sellout every day.

Martin: I think Barry Bonds could be an interesting option this offseason. Shell out some money for once and put fans in the seats. Cabrera would have incredible support and Willingham could get 100 RBIs hitting behind Bonds.

### PANTHERS

Mike: No team can ever make the playoffs if it can't win on the road, period. The only time the Panthers had a winning record on the road (in 1996) they went to the Stanley Cup.

Martin: What is their biggest problem right now?

Mike: They need a quality starting goalie, they should have kept Luongo he is a great player. Better coaching is needed too. They do have veteran leadership and the tools to be a potential Stanley cup team.

Martin: No, their biggest problem is CONSISTENCY. They don't need a winning record on the road, just a string of victories to put them in playoff contention and solid play at home.

### BCC TENNIS

Mike: I think it's really tough to win a national championship in tennis, for one you have to be psychologically tough and additionally be in tip top shape (physically.)

Martin: Do you think they could repeat?

Mike: Sure, if they are focused and work hard they can definitely do it again.

### TOSS UP: WHO WILL WIN A CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST? THE DOLPHINS OR PANTHERS?



Mike: Dolphins. Football is such a big thing in Florida, but not many care about the Panthers. Like I said before, if you bring in good talent you are going to be successful.

Martin: I'm going to say the Panthers. More teams make the playoffs in the NHL and the rebuilding phase for the Panthers is ending, while the Dolphins' is just beginning.

### TOSS UP: FIRST SPORT ADDED AS A COMPETITIVE ONE HERE AT BCC: SOCCER OR FOOTBALL?

Mike: Football, but only by a small margin. The school would have more revenue and more people would be interested in it

Martin: Yeah, but how would the recruiting work?

Mike: We could give scholarships or the players could just walk on.

Martin: I think neither sport will be added, but if I had to pick I would say soccer. BCC has a huge Hispanic community and isn't doing anything with it. Playing Intramural Soccer on Mondays I see a lot of talent that is being wasted.



### ODDS: CHICAGO BEARS GOING UNDEFEATED.

Mike: Looking at their schedule, Patriots and the Giants on their only challenges are the talented enough to beat the road. The Jets aren't many weapons to beat them. Chicago has too have a quality QB in you with and they outstanding and Rex Grossman, fantastic special teams. I say there is a 90 percent chance they go 16-0

Martin: I'm going to go with 30%. They are 7-0 right now and just scored 41 points in the first half against the San Francisco 49ers, but remember 0 they could rest their starters for the rest of the regular season, even though that clearly didn't work out for the Indianapolis Colts last season. I think they will finish 15-1, close but no cigar.



### ODDS: DOLPHINS WITH THE FIRST 2007 DRAFT PICK

Mike: 40 percent. Oakland is going to be one of the worst teams in the NFL along with the Cardinals and the Titans, the Lions aren't looking any good either.

Martin: 80%. The Raiders are 2-5 and figure to finish 4-12, the Cardinals will win 4 or 5. We could finish 3-13.

Odds: Volleyball team winning 5 or more games next year.

Mike: 50 percent. Depends on recruiting and how the coach approaches next season.

Martin: I will agree with you on this one, 45%. There is nowhere to go but up for this team after it went 1-14 this year.

