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PHOTO BY JOHNNY LOUIS

Sporting M4A1 automatic assault rifles, the Pembroke Pines Police quickly responded to reports of an armed individual on campus.

SOUTH CAMPUS LOCKED DOWN

BY GRANT ABRAHAM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Around 3:15 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 14, the Pembroke Pines Police Department was called on South Campus by an anonymous woman who allegedly witnessed two Hispanic males attempting to gain access to a vehicle in the north parking lot.

The two men were said to be confronted by a Black male,

which campus security described as having dreadlocks and wearing a green and white windbreaker and jeans.

The witness claimed to have seen an unusual bulge in the shirt of the Black male, and that he proceeded to flash what appeared to have a handle and "not look like a cell phone."

As per standard police procedure, a lockdown was initiated and BCC faculty and

students were directed to stay inside until the situation was over.

The lockdown lasted for approximately an hour and a half, during which time a specialized police unit was assembled to search for the suspects.

Armed with assault rifles and vests, the unit checked

■ **LOCKDOWN**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Students still waiting on parking permits

BY BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

Students arriving on BCC Campus for the 2007 winter semester, which began Jan. 8, were surprised to find that even though they have paid for a parking sticker when they paid their tuition bill, none will be forthcoming until the end of January or early February.

There seems to be some confusion about what is available now and what will be available later on. Paola Munoz, a secretary at the South Campus Safety Office said that the parking hangers are available now but the stickers won't be available until sometime around the end of January. The hangers are used to hold the stickers. The stickers are for parking.

So, what is a student to do? How does one avoid getting a parking ticket because a valid



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS CUTRO

Students continue to wait weeks for their parking permits this semester.

sticker is not displayed in the vehicle? According to Barbara (she wouldn't give her last name) in the Central Campus Safety Office, no tickets will be issued if students follow the current rules; do not back in to a parking space; do not park in a yellow space; do not park in a faculty parking space and do not park on a roadway.

"The new decals will be mailed the end of January or the beginning of February," Barbara comments. "We have to wait until after the drop/add period to see who is still a student," she said.

Central Campus Business

■ **PERMITS**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

FACULTY CONTRACTS RENEWED

BY BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

Thanksgiving Day 2006 was a day of celebration for the faculty at BCC.

Not just because of the turkey and all the trimmings but because just one day before the holiday, the BCC Board of Trustees decided to unanimously ratify the contract the United Faculty of Florida (UFF) union had negotiated with the college way back in July. The contract was signed by both sides and took effect immediately.

According to a press release from United Faculty of Florida (UFF), the contract provides a guaranteed 4 percent minimum increase for all faculty members (union and non-union) and the overall package contains 6.75 percent in new money for faculty raises.

"It has been a long and labor-intensive journey towards the ratification of our contract," said Catherine Leisek UFF/BCC Chief Negotiator. Leisek added that she is pleased that in the continuing tradition of BCC, the Board of Trustees, the Faculty and the Administration can move forward with the business of providing a quality education for the students and for the community. "That is the ultimate goal of all parties," she said.

UFF State President, Tom Auxler comments, "In the process (of the contract negotiations) union membership grew dramatically to super-majority size." According to the press release, the state UFF sent in a team of legal and communications specialists to make sure that every right was protected, and every resource was available for the faculty to make their case.

Tom Green, UFF/BCC Union President, said, "I think the Board of Trustees was involved in trying to pressure the president out of the college and they were getting us caught in the fight, perhaps even using us as part of the process." Green added that he felt that the primary reason the Board of Trustees seemed to object to the contract was due to the fact that Dr. Calderon had approved it. Green sensed

that they didn't seem to have as much of a problem with it after Calderon had left.

Green said that even though it took a long time to get the contract ratified the preliminary negotiations were right on schedule. "Essentially we had agreed with the college president in early Jul. and that didn't seem to take so long. The process that made it so lengthy was the board coming up with all kinds of questions and seeming disagreements," he said.

Green comments that the UFF/BCC is supposed to start negotiation for the next year's contract in a couple of months. "Now that we've had a holiday, we're right back at it," he said. The union leaders plan to start working on the next contract at the end of Feb. or early Mar. Green said that the union added about 40 new members during the time that it took to ratify the contract. "That might not seem like much, but with a faculty of about 400, that's a pretty good percentage," he said. According to Green, about 66 percent of the faculty belongs to the union.

When the contract negotiations were stalled the faculty began "working to contract" which means that rather than volunteer their time with various campus organizations they would only do what was required by the current contract.

"Two or three people were getting so involved that I had to remind them that they had to serve on at least one committee according to our contract," Green said.

Green added that one of the problems that the union encounters with the

Board is that they insist on running the college on a day-to-day basis. "Part of the problem is...the Board has decided that they want every employee of this college to get the same percentage increase, and so when we negotiate we're trying to negotiate just for the faculty but the college keeps giving us statements like 'a four percent raise for everyone is going to cost the college x-million

■ **CONTRACTS**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast 2007

BY BUZZ LAMB
STAFF WRITER

Student Life on Central Campus will hold the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Breakfast Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2007 at the Library (Bldg. 17), Room 146 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The breakfast celebration is being arranged by three prominent campus organizations: the African-American Student Union (AASU), the American West Indian Club (AMWI) and the Haitian Student Organization (HSO). The celebration is being planned completely by the students.

This will be the third year that the breakfast will be offered. Central Campus Student Life director, Adrian Carter said that they are not putting numbers on the celebration but they plan on having it every year.

According to Carter, the event will have a new twist this year. “The x-factor is that we are doing the event as if it were a birthday party. There will be hats and confetti handed out,” he said. Carter mentioned that Monday, Jan. 15 would have been Dr. King’s 78th birthday. “We’re throwing him a party in the old-fashioned way,” he commented.

Carter said that they hope to have the Dean of Students offer the welcome but that had not been confirmed at the time of this writing. That will be followed by an invocation by one of the students and then Donald Cleveland, AASU advisor, will offer “Libations,” a tradition from Ghana used to remember someone who has passed on.

Cater added, that this year’s program will be highlighted by a one-act piece about



FILE PHOTO
Martin Luther King Jr. is still a heralding figure to the black community and much celebrated.

black history presented by a professional actress called “M’zure” (pronounced mah-zoor-ay). According to Carter, she is a paid performer who will present the 45-minute play.

Following the presentation, attendees will be invited to join in the celebration breakfast, this year it will include a mixture of soul food offerings as well as a variety of other delicacies.

Parking garage becomes reality

BY NATHANIEL KAYE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Holes have already been drilled for the parking garage that will be located over the current entrance of 30th Street into BCC Central Campus on the western (College Ave.) side. The capacity is set at 1000 cars. But the other details of the garage, such as architecture and the date the next phase of construction begins, are now uncertain while the project waits until questions about financing can be settled.

Dr. Jeffrey Brezner, Associate Vice-President of Facilities Management at BCC, has incomplete design documents that specify criteria for the garage. His office hired architects to create the criteria. In the original planning, the budget for the completion of the Garage was \$17,000,000. The money to repay the loan was envisioned to come from about a one third portion of the fees students pay for BCC and FAU parking privileges. The rest of the parking fee money is for cross campus parking lot maintenance and security. However, questions have arisen on the part of FAU as to whether there is enough money available from their fees to float the \$17 million loan.

Before the project can continue, the exact amount of money available from FAU has to be determined. “Once those financing issues...get resolved we can go out and advertise for the design-build-finance team to come in and take the existing criteria documents, complete the drawings, and construct the garage” said Dr. Brezner. He doesn’t know when the decision will come, but his projection is for three to four months from now, which is sometime in Feb. If the decision is not made my then, he is concerned the project will “suffer architecturally” because updated projections would not be in the budget.

If it is determined that the original design can be financed, the façade of the garage will be red brick, matching other buildings on Central Campus. Elevator towers would be located on either side of a new 30th street entrance for car traffic and pedestrians. If a cheaper garage can’t be built, perhaps one of the typical looking concrete variations might be used as alternative.

No matter what happens, the new garage is at least one year off. When construction begins, it will temporarily displace 200 parking spaces. There are also plans for another 200 parking spots to be converted into space for a new FAU student union building.

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Lockdown!

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

each building and no traffic was allowed in or out of the campus without first going through a police checkpoint.

Dr. Scott Feaster, an English professor who was on South Campus at the time, was caught in the middle of the lockdown. He said that everyone remained calm and that there were only a few moments of nervousness when the police had asked everyone to exit the rooms and line-up in the hallway.

Dr. Feaster said he had maintained a calm demeanor when the situation occurred. “I was more concerned with my students’ grades,” he said, also noting that while some of his co-workers were nervous when they noticed the officers were carrying assault rifles, the tension quickly dissipated.

A campus security officer described the police response as “swift.” The security officer noted the importance of students and employees who

call in suspicious situations and thanked the “good observance of fellow employees who are the additional eyes of [the safety].”

All students and college

employees are encouraged to call their local law enforcement agency and campus security if they notice any suspicious activity.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Fax: 954-201-6987

Downtown Center

Office: 954-201-7419
Cellular: 954-879-8463

North

Office: 954-201-2229
Cellular: 954-974-8782
Fax: 954-201-2037

South

Office: 954-201-8970
Cellular: 954-893-5700
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or 954-831-8900

Davie Police:

954-767-1200

Pembroke Pines Police:

954-431-2200

Coconut Creek Police:

954-973-6700

Fort Lauderdale Police:

954-828-5700



PHOTO BY HEATHER DULMAN

Left to right: SGA Vice-President Orlando Fraticelli, and SGA President McArnold Charlemagne.

New faces of SGA

BY HEATHER DULMAN
SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

From working at Student Life, staff of The Observer, Engineer Club, Science club and now taking on as President of SGA South Campus, McArnold Charlemagne has a lot of work cut out for him this semester. Charlemagne started school Aug. of 05 and became a member of South campus SGA. Fall of 06 he was a senate member at Central Campus.

As of Jan. 3, Dean Sloan and Rosa Ortega appointed Charlemagne as President and Orlando Fraticelli as Vice President.

Fraticelli is active in Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Delta Rho Chapter and REACH. Now he is taking on as Vice President. He said, “I want to get all the clubs to work together to be on the same sheet of music.”

“We want to promote Student Government at BCC South, we notice students are not getting involved”, said Charlemagne. “My goal is to let everyone know about Student Government.”

The new SGA Motto is “We make it happen” created by

Fraticelli. First time in SGA a senate member and student life worker Danny said, “I’m very enthusiastic to work with SGA and new activities for the New Year.”

Meetings would be held every other Fri. since most students have no classes. Senators must be present. Charlemagne and Fraticelli would like to meet with every active club at BCC South Campus. “At least one representative per club, if more that would even be better,” Charlemagne said.

“We have to inform the students new and old, that BCC South SGA will go through a transformation this term. SGA are going to work together with all clubs including societies, faculty, and staff”, said Fraticelli.

If interested in making a difference for students just join SGA, the first meeting/ luncheon will be held on Jan. 18 from 11-12:30 in the conference room on the second floor of building 68. Decide to be either a member or a Senate. Member is free. Senate has a ten dollar fee. Students who are a senate member they have voting power for a decision on an issue or events on campus.

Student Union back in black

BY HEATHER DULMAN
SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

The Black Student Union on South Campus is back and getting better. It was once called African American Student Union in 05 it now resumes the name BSU since last semester. Founder and now president Deverene McDonald wanted to make the club’s name broad.

“I wanted to make it alive, it was dormant a while I decided to reestablish the club,” said McDonald.

Every year they go to a leadership retreat called the FAASA which stands for Florida African American Student

Association.

McDonald said, “We are not only focusing on African Americans but Africa on the whole such as the food they eat, the clothing, history, and the language. For instance, instead of saying “hello,” the Swahili term is *hotepe*, meaning I come in peace.”

There will be a contest for a short story and speech on Feb. 9. It will involve academic involvement to focus on Afro Centricity also known as African Culture and a theme. The theme will be “From slavery to freedom.” The contestants will need to create an informative speech. It starts around noon in the Breezeway under Building 68 (Student Life).

Winners will receive a flat screen computer and second place get gift certificates for the book store.

Another event that will be held on Feb. 7 is a Mass media panel at 11 a.m. Several local celebrities will be there. It will be located at the mass media/old library Building 72.

“Everyone is welcome to join the club in order to educate themselves with African Culture and customs,” said McDonald.

Meetings are every Fri. at 4:30 p.m. Conference room. Double up meeting one Food will be served.

BSU can be contacted via e-mail <bcc_blackstudentunion@yahoo.com.>

Be informed: Education Club makes its presence known

BY SAHAR JANGDA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the New Year starts, BCC South Campus’s Education Club congratulates its new president Veronica Banderas, and welcomes the entire student body to get involved with student organizations.

Apparently many students are unaware of BCC South Campus having an Education Club and the truth is that the club is in search of members who have time and dedication to commit to the club.

Membership is open to anyone who is interested, regardless of their major, or anyone who wants to enhance education for others.

Joining the education club can be very beneficial to you.

Students who get involved get to mingle and make long-lasting friendships with their peers, meet new people and staff members, and help out around the community.

The education club is very goal oriented. Their main goal is to help the community by working with kids and doing different community service projects that involve education.

One community service project that they are involved with is working with the daycare on South Campus. Last term they held an afternoon of fun ad games with the children from the daycare, and throughout the week they volunteered to read books to the children from the daycare as well.

The education club wants to

emphasize how education plays an important role in everyone’s life.

“Education is of importance and should not be neglected,” Sahar Jangda, last term’s President of the education club said. “If they can’t learn the way we teach them, we have to teach them the way they learn,” is the Education Club’s motto.

As the New Year begins, the Education Club looks forward to seeing new faces at their general meetings and club events.

Keep a look out for daily announcements posted in Building 69 on the education bulletin board. Keep a lookout for flyers around South Campus regarding upcoming events and meetings.





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Hang out with a movie group

BY SHEENA FERNANDEZ
WHC BUREAU CHIEF

Last April, the WHC Student Life Staff started Movie Night Off Las Olas. This program has become very successful so it will continue this semester.

The first movie on the schedule is *Epic Movie* starring Kal Penn, Adam Campbell and Faune A. Chambers. From two of the writers of the *Scary Movie* series, *Epic Movie* is a spoof of

some of the rich and famous, the biggest blockbusters of 2006 like *Harry Potter*, *Chronicles of Narnia*, *X- Men*, *Nacho Libre* and *Pirates of the Caribbean* just to name a few.

Here is how it works: as a special treat a few times a semester Student Life takes students to the Sunrise Cinema at Las Olas Riverfront, about two blocks from the WHC Center. On Friday, Jan. 26, the meeting time is 6:30 p.m. in

the Activity Center (33/221.) Students must bring a current student I.D. in order for Student Life to pay for their tickets. As a group, students then walk over to the theater where a Student Life Staffer will pay BCC student admission.

To join Movie Night Off Las Olas, sign up in Student Life or the Activity Center (33/109, 33/221.) E-mails will go out to all who sign up on the e-mail list.

Student art showcased

BY SHEENA FERNANDEZ
WHC BUREAU CHIEF

Each major semester, the WHC Graphic Design Department holds a student exhibition for Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Students to showcase BCC student projects. Anchor Point, the WHC Student Graphic Design club, holds a fundraiser for group projects. On Dec. 13, Anchor Point held GRID VI, their semi-annual art exhibition and fundraiser.

Every semester Anchor Point displays the work of its members. With the success of the previous semester, GRID has flourished to include not only the two 5th floor classrooms and hallway,

but also the 12th floor Board Room. Another change this year, the Graphic Design Department extended an invitation to showcase WHC art class projects.

In preparation for GRID, Anchor Point worked around the clock for three days before the event getting donations from students of their prints for the auction and prizes for the raffle like Apple computers, free dinners, designer jewelry, Orange Bowl tickets and many more wonderful prizes. "It was a lot more work, and it was a lot bigger but we had lots of help. We worked for three days but I was really, really happy with it," said Linh, Anchor Point President.

Anchor Point members donated their award winning graphic art designs to be sold at auction. Posters sold very fast at auction pace thanks to Professor Rick Mccawley, our resident auctioneer.

Alicia Sobchak and Rick Mccawley handed out end of semester awards to deserving students and Anchor Point president, Faye-Linh Nguyen, awarded her executive board members with tasty treats and thank you's.

The next GRID is scheduled for the end of this semester, watch for posters. Everyone is invited to attend; you don't have to be a graphic design or art student.

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Contracts, pay raises awarded to faculty

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dollars’ but we are not negotiating for everyone... just the faculty,” he said.

Green comments that the UFF State President came down to one of the BCC Board of Trustee meetings to see what the union was dealing with. UFF sent a team to assist in the negotiations but Green felt that the departure of Calderon was the biggest reason for the contract finally getting approval.

According to Green, David Anderson, the Chancellor of the Florida Community College system, came to BCC for a workshop and tried to explain to the Board that even though they had the legal right to do anything they wanted, it just isn’t done anywhere. Green said that one of the Board members responded that he didn’t care...if he had the right to do it, he was going to do it (run the college on a day-to-day basis).

Under normal circumstances a college board hires a president and allows him/her to run the

college. “I think that’s one of the things they’re going to be asking the prospective new presidential candidates,” Green said. “Do you understand that we run the college?”

Green said that UFF/BCC will be having a retreat with Palm Beach Community College and Miami-Dade College along with some people from the State to try to make things go a little smoother. “One thing that will definitely make the negotiations easier this time is that they agreed in this last contract that each side can only bring up three issues in addition to money. The last contract was totally wide open so we were dealing with an incredible amount of things,” he said.

Green added that there will be a new negotiator on the college side this year. Edna Chun is the new Vice President for Human Resources and Green assumes that she will be the chief negotiator for the college. “This is her first year at BCC,” he said. “She will have to get approval (from the Board) on things that she will be willing to agree to. In the past it has always been that you get

approval from the president.” Green reiterated that he believes the Board has made the decision that they are going to actively run the college and they are going to make the decisions about the contract.

During a telephone interview, BCC Board of Trustees Chairman, Levi Williams, said that his job is to make sure that the interests of the college are protected. Williams added that the delay in ratifying the contract was caused by some breakdowns in the Administration as far as the negotiation of the contract was concerned. “It was a mutual lack of union negotiation experience,” he said.

Williams comments that he was not certain of the amount of experience (or the lack thereof) that Dr. Calderon had in negotiating contracts. “I think the union leadership seized the moment and took advantage of that inexperience to create unnecessary controversy and to further promote themselves either individually or as an organization...I really don’t know,” he said.

Williams further elaborates,

“There really wasn’t any controversy necessary as historically the board has always been very direct, honest and open as far as where we are with what we want to do for the union.” Williams went on to refer to the faculty as “family members” and said that in past years when it (money) has been real lean the board told “the family” why things were that way. “The family also knows that when we do have it...we want to give it to them,” he said. Williams added that everyone needs to remember that BCC is a public institution. “We don’t have pay shareholders...the money (we have) are supposed to be spent,” he said.

Williams comments that everything that happened over the past few months regarding the issues with Dr. Calderon was out in the open. “I don’t think the Board held its tongue, as some boards would,” he said. “The issues between Dr. Calderon and the Board were uniquely separate from (the issues with) the union.”

Williams said he was not aware of who would be the next negotiator for the Administration

as that would have to be a decision by the college president who is currently Dr. Willis Holcombe. “I have full confidence in Dr. Holcombe who has been successfully negotiating contracts with unions for umpteen years,” he said. Williams added that Dr. Holcombe will be president of the college until a new president is selected so Dr. Holcombe will definitely be involved in the next contract negotiations.

Williams comments that the issues of dealing with the union and the governance (of the college) are issues that every institution deals with. “This year had abnormal circumstances and has been more contentious than it needed to be,” he said. Williams added that the BCC Board wants to create a place where all employees have a quality work environment...a place where people can do their job. “Just a place where people enjoy waking up and coming to work...where they make friends,” he said.

Dr. Holcombe and Dr. Chun could not be reached for comment at the time of this writing.

Permits yet to arrive

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dean, John Stancil said that “Campus Safety will relax its enforcement during the month of January until the stickers are mailed to the students.

When asked why students still had to park face in now that the parking permits hang from the rearview mirror he added, “It’s a little more cumbersome for the safety officers to check the parking permits but it is safer for the students to park that way.”

All campuses will follow the same “relaxed” rules except the Willis Holcombe Center downtown campus. “That campus is special because the students have to park in a city garage and the parking enforcement is done by city officers,” he said. Stancil comments that under those circumstances the student should go to the Safety Office for that campus and they will be issued a sticker. “We have a special agreement with the city”” he said.

Stancil added that the hangers are made “in house” but the stickers are outsourced to another company. “We don’t even mail them out ourselves, another company does that for us as well,” he said. Stancil states furthermore, that the college opted for the hanger system when the decision was made to charge for parking.

“There were two reasons for the change...first was the flexibility of the hanger system. A student could move the hanger from vehicle to vehicle if they needed to,” he said. “The second is because some people complained that the old stickers were too hard to remove from their vehicles.”

North Campus Safety Officer Lt. Eli Brown said, “Normally we don’t write tickets for the first couple of weeks each semester. We just give warnings.”

Brown comments that his department realizes that it is not the students’ fault that they don’t have a new parking pass at the beginning of each semester. “It was implemented by BCC so the Safety Officers just have to be patient,” he said.


Brown said he “can live with the new system” because he has been with BCC over 20 years and he has seen a lot of changes over the years. Brown said that he was somewhat concerned that it is now more difficult for the officers to verify a parking pass on a vehicle. “We have to get off the cart, go around to the front to look at it and that takes time”” he said. Brown said that in light of the recent attack at the North Campus he is deeply concerned that things that take away from patrol duties are not good when their primary responsibility is to protect the students.

“Until they come up with something different, this is the way we are going to do it,” Brown said. “I personally liked the old system...register for classes (es)...bring your receipt to the security office...get your sticker...stick it on your car and forget about it,” he said. “If something works well, why change it?”

New students entering BCC for the first time will have to go to the Safety Office on the campus where they have enrolled. According to Brown, the safety office will then issue them a sticker from the previous semester which they can display in their vehicle and be covered by the “grace period” as well.

HOSTED BY THE STAFF OF THE OBSERVER, THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Graduating class looks toward the future

BY DANIELLA DORCELLUS
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

Graduation is a proud moment for many students and parents. While some may feel excited about pursuing their next step. Others may be a bit sad about leaving the ones who have closely impacted their lives over the years. Whatever the case may be, the Dec. graduates of the 2006 class will have many memories from their experiences at BCC to take with them wherever they go.

Dr. Winston Thompson was the invocation speaker for the commencement. He made a series of remarks regarding life at BCC from a student's perspective. At one point, he incited laughter from the crowd when referring to the hassle that students often experience when trying to find parking spaces. Like last year, there were two commencement ceremonies that took place at the Omni Stadium, located at North Campus. Dr. Deborah Sloan, Dean of Student Affairs at South Campus, was the morning commencement speaker. Teresa Justice, Dean of Academic Resources and Instructional Technology, also from South Campus, was the afternoon commencement speaker.

Sloan was born in Syracuse and grew up in the Finger Lakes area of New York. She left

Skaneateles High School in 1973 to start her career at Broward Community College as an early-admission student. Despite the ease that Sloan experienced in pursuing a college education, there were others who were not fortunate enough to attend college. Therefore, Sloan made it her mission to assist students in obtaining a college education.

After Sloan received her Associates of Arts degree in 1975, she enrolled at Florida Atlantic University. At the institution, she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Welfare during 1977. She spent some years working at BCC while taking classes and later became an academic adviser in 1975. She remained in that position for five years, attending to students at both North and South campuses.

Sloan made another advancement in her educational career in 1981 when she earned her Master of Science degree in Counselor Education from Florida International University. With her training, she served at the college as a counselor, faculty member and coordinator of academic advisement. In addition, she also became the founder of a Student Ambassadors program and initiated career-planning and goal-setting workshops.

Sloan achieved another vision in 1991 when she earned

her Doctor of Education in Community College Teaching from Florida International University. As a result of her superior performance at the university, she was honored with an academic excellence award. Sloan continued to make progress in many areas of her career. She was honored as a Distinguished Alumna in 1994, a Leadership Education and Advancement Program Scholar in 1995-96 and was the first counselor to earn a BCC Foundation Endowed Teaching Chair. She uses her talent by serving on various college committees such as the Lumina core team and the college prep steering committees.

Sloan has also used her ability in other educational organizations and private sectors. In the afternoon, Teresa Justice shared her experiences as a student at BCC with the audience.

Justice compared the prices of items such as stamps back then to today's prices. She discussed some situations that she has encountered with students who needed a helping hand. Justice, originally from Charleston, West Virginia, moved to Fort Lauderdale at the age of ten. She enrolled at BCC as a music student after graduating from Stranahan High School in 1968. She received her Associate in Arts degree in 1970. In that year,

she also was chosen as a student conductor of the College Abroad Women's Choir that traveled to Europe.

Justice later earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Education in 1972 at Florida Atlantic University. At FAU, she became musical director and performance conductor for Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta *Iolanthe*.

Justice served as the director of choral and orchestral music at Deerfield Beach High School after graduating from FAU. Afterwards, she spent five years with Fort Lauderdale's First Methodist Church as director of youth and children's music.

In addition, Justice directed and produced presentations of *Roar of the Greasepaint*, 1776, and *Godspell*. She was an assistant musical director at Florida Southern College's Summer Music Camp. She was captured by the technology that accompanies production and decided to study educational technology as a graduate student at Nova University. She earned a Master of Science degree from Nova in 1978 and came back to BCC as the coordinator of learning resources at South Campus.

Justice has been with the college for 30 years and has worked on projects such as the BCC Foundation's annual golf tournament as the logistic director.

She continued to make her mark in the college. Justice was the co-chair of BCC's Campus Learning Communities Committee in 2004. During that year, she was also honored with the Excellence Award by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development. She was also acclaimed as a Distinguished Alumna on May 17, 2006.

There were many students prepared to embark on their next journey. Nancy Nicolas, a nursing student said that she plans on attending the University of Central Florida. "I had a great time with the faculty, staff and especially with the Blue Hawks of Student Life," said Nicolas. Another graduate, Sheree Pender is an education major and is anticipating on going to Nova Southeastern University. There were numerous of graduates who were grateful for their time spent at BCC such as Amit "Ace" Suer.

Suer majored in finance and graduated as a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the Honors Institute. He plans on going to Florida Atlantic University to study music performance and business. "It (BCC) helped me to expand my horizon to change my perception not only about academic but about people in general. It helped me to recognize my strengths and improve on my weaknesses."

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New Year’s resolutions: here to stay?

BY CAMI CARR
LAYOUT EDITOR

Are resolutions something that people still believe in and adhere to or are they just ideal wishes that give comfort that things can be made better? Over the centuries, New Year’s Resolutions have been set, promised and then sometimes even dropped, but they are a big tradition not only the United States but in other countries as well. In the distant past, resolutions started as a device of the British monarchy to give hope to the lower classes, small changes to the yearly fall, to improve their lives at the beginning of a new year. These promises could

include lower percentage on tariffs against certain products, an expanded military or police force, or a few holidays off of work for celebration. This tradition trickled down to the lower classes and they became a staple to the everyday man while it slipped from the practice of the monarchy. When the pilgrims came to the New World, they brought this practice with them to show their thanks for all their freedom the promise of their new home.

A cliché of resolutions has always been that no one can or even tries to keep and enforce them in their lives. Is this true? Does public opinion find that resolutions are fodder for

breaking? Student opinion can give us some insight into of what our generation thinks of this long running tradition and many different views abound. Emily Shrift, a Central BCC student, had this to say, “The basis of resolutions is that a new year makes a whole new chance. I like that idea, but it really isn’t something most people really stick with.” Tim Hernandez, another student, said, “New Year’s Resolutions are just fluff. They never are acted on.” The negative side of opinion has it that resolutions are just a tradition but not something that people take seriously.

Not all public opinion is negative though, a few students

had positive things to say. Neil Patrice said, “I’ve kept about three of my resolutions in my life and sometimes they can be great motivators and improving yourself is never bad.” Resolutions can be seen as motivators, incentives and positive promises to better yourself, but they can also inspire.

Jill Ramos said, “When I was young my parents split and it was really hard for my mother to raise me on her own. One New Year’s when I was in middle school, my mother made the promise to me, as the ball in Times Square dropped, that our lives would be better and she would be the best mother she could be. After some hard work and some striving, my mother kept

her promise and it improved both our lives and our relationship. I credit that New Year’s Resolution with changing my life all those years ago.” For one person at least, a resolution was held up and it made a change in her life. The New Year, in a sense, really is a new start, a fresh new number, the start of another cycle of months and there are celebrations to celebrate all over again and a chance to reevaluate your life. A resolution doesn’t just have to be a traditional thing that you do in passing, but a true promise to yourself for improvement, and a new possibility to be the best you can be. Have you made that resolution yet?

“Toys for Tots” light up the Holiday Season

BY DANIELLA DORCELLUS
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

The holiday is known as the season of giving. While many kids get excited over the gifts that they anticipate on receiving, there are some who often go without any at all. This is why Student Life has collaborated with the Salvation Army of Broward County to conduct the Toys for Tots drive as well as Adopt-an-Angel.

According to Hansel Garcia, the coordinator for the 2006 year program, over 200 toys have been collected. Faculty, staff and students from various organizations were encouraged to participate in this altruistic project. While Phi Theta Kappa was the organization that contributed the most toys, Professor Whiteshield’s paramedic class was the group that surpassed everyone by donating over 80 teddy bears. Garcia mentioned that the toy drive will benefit needy children from all background. His goal was to have every child’s need met for Adopt-an-Angel and to have every box filled for Toys-for-Tots. “The extent of the need of the child shouldn’t matter. As long as there is a kid out there who doesn’t have a toy, that’s who the toy should be going to,” said Garcia. In conjunction with Toys for Tots, Student Life also participated in Adopt-an-Angel.

In this initiative, the Salvation Army gave instructions and a list of children’s names that will need toys to Student Life. The information was sorted out and sent to departments and clubs willing to participate. When the

toys were received, they were placed in an individual bag for each child. “The best part about coordinating an event like this is helping out people in any way possible through the friendliest of experiences,” said Garcia.

Diana Honeyblue-Monroe, Administrative Coordinator, said that Student Life has participated in the Toys for Tots drive for 2 years. Last year, instead of Adopt-an-Angel, an Adopt-a-Family project was conducted. In addition, they were able to collect 3 full boxes of toys. Honey-blue said that the purpose for taking part in Toys-for-tots and the Adopt-an-Angel program was to create awareness about people who are less fortunate and to show that there are people out there who care. She also said that this was an opportunity to introduce future Student Life events.

Emily Moorhouse, former Vice President of Leadership for Phi Theta Kappa said that the organization collected 35 toys. Phi Theta Kappa became involved in this mission as part of a contest among the different clubs to see who can collect the most toys. Moorhouse said that the best part was picking out the items. She mentioned that Phi Theta Kappa plans on participating in another one in the future. The major obstacle that this group faced was time. “I was surprised that we collected as many toys as we did considering it was last minute. It was exciting to have so many toys to give to the kids and to get so many points for our club. It was a real accomplishment,” said Moorhouse.

Students reveal what’s in their bags

BY EMILY MOORHOUSE
STAFF WRITER

What’s in that purse? What’s in that backpack? Ever wonder what students are trucking around with them to school? Students were tracked down and asked to reveal the secret weapons that get them through their school days. It turns out that a lot can be told about them just by rummaging through their bags.

It seemed that Margalie Carpel of North Campus carries the world around with her in her large, wheeled backpack. Yet, she revealed that it was only the basics - folders, notebooks and school supplies occupying all that space. Ironically, another North student, Heather Anderson, who had a small purse, was the one with a slew of extra items. She was able to stuff a nail file, a Bible, a toothbrush, toothpaste and floss in her tiny purse. Not surprisingly, Anderson is a Dental Assistant.

On Central Campus, student Maria Acosta equips herself with bags of tea every day which helps her to stay awake. “I love tea,” she confessed. Also on Central Campus, Student Life worker Phillip Vargis had workout gloves, a shirt, and shorts inside his backpack. As one might infer, Vargis has been visiting the gym.

When Nubia Carboneau, another Central student, unloaded her wheeled backpack, she had a wide array of items which, aside from school books, included a rosary, an umbrella, band aids, a tape recorder, and rechargeable batteries. A Phi Theta Kappa member and devoted student, Carboneau’s preparedness seems to pay off. Also, as with Anderson’s bible, Carboneau’s rosary speaks to her spirituality.

Andron Creary, an engineering



PHOTO BY EMILY MOORHOUSE

The contents of Nubia Carboneau’s backpack is a lot like that of most student’s bags around BCC.

major at South Campus was carrying with him a heavy shoulder bag, but besides hand sanitizer, napkins, lotion, and an umbrella, notebooks and “huge text books” are what weigh down his bag.

Every day, David Molina of South Campus can be found in or by the cafeteria, along with a case containing a chess set. “I’m very competitive,” he said. Molina has been bringing a chess game with him to school “ever since high school.” His chess opponent, Simon Shamay, pulled from his bag several psychology books and a stack of

bus schedules. “When I transfer to FIU, I am probably going to double major in psychology,” he explained. Also, the bus is Shamay’s primary mode of transportation.

The general consensus of the purse and backpack raid appears that students’ do not carry around anything exceptionally strange, but what students do bring with them to school can provide an insight into their career paths, spirituality, hobbies and possibly even their dedication to learning. Take a look at what you have with you every day. What does it say about you?

LADY SEAHAWKS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE SEAHAWKS 2006-07 WOMEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Wed.	Jan. 17	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 20	INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	2:00 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 24	at Palm Beach Community College*	Lake Worth	7:30 p.m.
Wed.	Jan. 31	at Brevard Community College*	Melbourne	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	Feb. 2	at St. Petersburg College*	St. Petersburg	6:00 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 3	at Hillsborough Community College*	Tampa	2:00 p.m.
Mon.	Feb. 12	at Indian River Community College*	Ft. Pierce	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 17	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	2:00 p.m.
Mon.	Feb. 19	at Miami-Dade College*	Kendall	7:30 p.m.
Wed.	Feb. 21	BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Coconut Creek	5:30 p.m.

*Southern Conference Game



WOMEN’S BASKETBALL ROSTER 2006-2007



#50 Storm McCullough
5-8 Forward/Guard
Class – Freshman
Hometown – Coral Springs
Major – Nursing



#34 Marla Drew
5-8 Forward
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Miami Lakes
Major – Law



#35 Ofelia Giannakopoulos
5-7 Forward
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Sunny Isles
Major – Criminal Justice



#21 Jessica Auguste
5-8 Forward/Guard
Class – Freshman
Hometown – North Miami Beach
Major – Elementary Education



#24 Chriscy Mirand
5-5 Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Tamarac
Major – Psychology



#13 Jenny Eriksson
5-4 Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Stockholm, Sweden
Major – Undecided



#32 Lesley Gadson
5-6 Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Columbia, S.C.
Major – Biology



#10 Zina Bouayad
5-7 Guard
Class – Freshman
Hometown – Miramar
Major – Accounting



#22 Arlande Cherizol
6-0 Forward
Class – Freshman
Hometown – North Miami Beach
Major – Architecture



#12 Karena Jackson
5-8 Forward/Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Weston
Major – Criminal Justice



Keri Joseph
Assistant coach



#33 Gyvania Powell
6-3 Center
Class – Freshman
Hometown – Miami
Major – Graphic Design,
Advertisement Illustration



#14 Geatgens Cherizol
5-8 Forward/Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – North Miami Beach
Major – Social Work



#23 Ianna Ahyoung
5-7 Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Southwest Ranches
Major – Criminal Justice



#15 Ivette Brau
5-7 Guard
Class – Sophomore
Hometown – Miami
Major – Accounting

HOW IT WORKS: THE NATURE OF LIGHT

BY NATHAN PHELPS
SCI-TECH EDITOR

Light is something that we are all familiar with, it is even something we take for granted. It's what allows us to see the world around us, but how many of us know what light really is? Light is a radiant form of energy. What the nature of light is has been debated by scientist and philosophers since ancient Greek times.

Examining where light comes from is the first step to understanding its mystery. Visible light is a type of electromagnetic wave. Electromagnetic waves are how energy moves, or propagates, through substance. An electromagnetic wave is a complex interaction between an electrical field and a magnetic field. This whole interaction starts when energy is released from an atom; we call this released energy a photon. The movement of this photon creates an electric field which in turn creates a magnetic field; this is due to something known as electromagnetic induction, a fancy way of saying that any electric field will generate an equally powerful magnetic field and vice versa. The cycle continues infinitely which gives light one of its most fascinating properties, it goes on forever. This is what allows us to see the stars in the sky even though they are billions and billions of light years away, that means that every time you look up at the sky you are quite literally looking back in time, because it has taken billions of years for the light given off by the stars you see to reach the earth and your eyes.

Light comes in many different colors and shades. What makes one color different from another is the way that the photon moves as it travels. As the photon moves it begins to vibrate with a certain frequency that corresponds to the amount of energy the photon was given when it was created. The frequency is a measure of how many times per second that the photon vibrates at. This frequency is directly what determines the color of the light that is seen, red light is the lowest energy because it has a lower frequency where violet has the highest amount of energy and

has the highest frequency. The colors of light are different than we may expect, when we mix all the colors of light together we do not get black as we do in paints, we instead get white light. This may seem odd yet makes sense because black is actually the absence of light. This is shown no better than when you shine white light through a prism or crystal, the light is split into all the colors of the rainbow.

The emission of light is everywhere from the light bulbs that light our homes to the very sun that keeps our world lit. Every thing that emits light works on all of these simple principles of electromagnetic waves. For example when you strike the head of a match you see an orange and red flame, what you are actually seeing is the excitation of air molecules around the match head by the heat it is giving off. This heat is adding energy to the air and causing them to give off photons. The flame appears red and orange because those are the lowest frequencies of light and don't require a lot of energy to create, also the flame is not as bright because of the little energy that is being provided. However in the case of butane torches and other such devices the flame appears much brighter and if examined closely at the origin of the fire, occasionally, the flame appears blue. This is due to higher energy being provided by the fuel.

One of the most fascinating properties of light from a scientific point of view is how it has the ability to act as both a wave and a particle. This simply put, means that depending on the experiment you are doing the light can behave differently. Light can either be viewed as a electromagnetic wave moving through space or as a particle that is being emitted. When measuring light as an electromagnetic wave it is measured in terms of frequency and wave length, however when measuring it as a particle it is measured in something known as lumens. A lumen is a measure of the intensity of light. Light is the only thing in the entire universe to act in this way. With all of these interesting properties it is no mystery why even today we do not fully understand light and all of its intricacies.

Evidence of flowing water on Mars

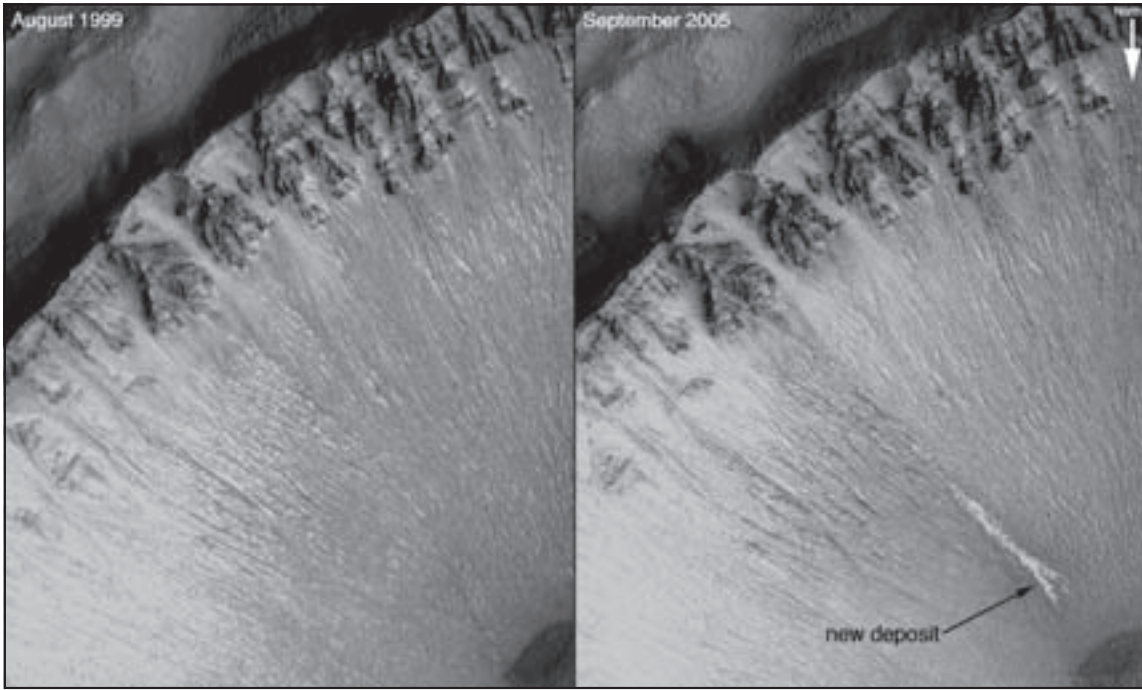


PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA/JPL/MALIN SPACE SCIENCE SYSTEMS

A new gully deposit in a crater in the Centauri Montes Region.

BY WILLIAM BREIM
SCI-TECH EDITOR

Striking new images of the Red Planet have raised hopes life could be found on Mars after all. Scientists say they have photographic evidence that suggests liquid water may have been on the planet as little as five years ago. Experts say Mars now appears more active than previously thought and the latest study shows why it is vital to continue to search for life on our planetary neighbor.

The first images of Mars' surface were taken in the 1960's and they suggested it was a dusty, cratered world much like our Moon. Now a new set of photographs has suggested that liquid water may have flowed on the planet a mere five years ago. The discovery resulted from images taken by the Mars Global Surveyor which first recorded gullies and trenches that could have been made by fast-flowing water coursing down cliffs and crater walls. Scientists decided to retake images of the gullies to search for any sign of recent activity. Two of those originally

photographed in 1999 and 2001 then photographed again in 2004 and 2005 showed changes consistent with water having flowed down the side of the crater. Mars Global Surveyor began orbiting Mars in 1997. The spacecraft is responsible for many important discoveries. NASA has not heard from the spacecraft since early Nov. Attempts to contact it continue. Its unprecedented longevity has allowed monitoring Mars for over several years past its projected lifetime.

The discovery was made by scientists at the San Diego-based Malin Space Systems which operated a camera aboard the spacecraft. The researchers said the properties and settings of the deposits in the gullies are consistent with water flow. However some scientists advise more caution over the findings. The interpretation of the images as water activity was compelling but it is still only one explanation. Until now the question of liquid water has mainly focused on ancient Mars and on the Martian North Pole, where water ice has

been detected. Water along with a stable source of heat is essential for life to emerge.

"These observations give the strongest evidence to date that water still flows occasionally on the surface of Mars," said Michael Meyer, lead scientist for NASA's Mars Exploration Program, Washington.

Mars formed more than 4.5 billion years ago and scientists generally believe it went through an early wet and warm era that ended after 1.5 to 2.5 billion years, leaving the planet extremely dry and cold. Water cannot remain a liquid for long because of subzero surface temperatures and low atmospheric pressure that would turn water into ice or gas. But some studies have pointed to the possibility of liquid water flowing briefly on the surface through a possible underground water source that periodically shoots up, a sort of Martian geyser. This new discovery underscores the importance of searching for life on Mars, either present or past it is one more reason to think that life could have been or is there.

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SCREEN CAPTURE

Edward Speelers (as Eragon) and his dragon, Saphira gear up for battle with a large burst of fire.

Eragon disappoints

BY CAMI CARR
LAYOUT EDITOR

In the fantasy epic *Eragon*, the new dragon themed film adapted from the teen novel of the same name written by Christopher Paolini, doesn't seem to have impressed many. Though the novel has won awards, accolades and the public's appeal, the film hasn't seemed to capture the world's heart like the novel did. It does win the award for having a stellar cast including big names like Jeremy Irons as the storyteller Brom, Rachel Weisz as the voice of dragon Saphira, John Malkovich as tyrannical King Galbatorix and impressive new-comer Edward Speelers as Eragon.

The film broadens in the story of Eragon (Speelers), a 16-year-old farm boy living in the village of Carvahall in the land of Alegeasia who finds a dragon egg propelled by an elf with magic into a forest clearing. This discovery takes Eragon's life and flips it upside down by turning him into one of the long dead and legend told Dragon Riders, a living legend. He strikes out with Brom (Irons), the village storyteller, who later turns out to be a former Dragon Rider whose Dragon was slain, on a voyage of revenge against the evil Razac, monster-like soldiers who killed his Uncle. On the way they meet a witch, an elf, a Shade, who is described as a spirit possessed magician

and a rogue fighter who turns out to be the son of the enemy.

Many mystical things happen during the movie and the CG is truly remarkable, but it really doesn't hammer up to the standards of the story first penned by Paolini in his novel. Many key things are left out, taking most of the dimension out of a tale that was once extraordinary.

The only thing that really holds up is the acting, and even that is down-played by the disappointment of the slaying of the original story. It is to be admitted however, that if the movie stands alone, it is in the least entertaining and the imagery beautiful.

Old versus new: Rocky returns

BY MARTIN BATER
SPORTS EDITOR

There are movies that, no matter how old they are, transcend everything and become part of pop culture forever. *Star Wars*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Back to the Future*...every one of those movies came out 20 or 30 years ago and is still to this very day is popular or fondly remembered today. The Rocky saga is one of those movies too.

No matter how much time passes, Rocky I through V will always be shown and rerun endlessly in cable television and passed down from father to son. Now Rocky VI (or Rocky Balboa, for those of you who prefer to pretend Rocky V was just a bad SNL sketch and never really actually happened) was coming out in theaters, and it was my first chance ever to watch the immortal Italian Stallion on the big screen. It was something exciting, even if that stallion was now 60 years old and his face looked like Homer Simpson's after he fell off the cliff in Bart's skateboard.

After the New Year's Eve party this year, I came back home and turned on the T.V. Tired of "Dick Clark's new year's rocking eve", I stumbled upon the final 15 minutes of Rocky II on Telefutera. Watching Rocky

fight Apollo in Spanish was a new and strange experience for my stepdad, who only speaks English. Here is a testament to the movie's greatness: Even though the fight was in a language he didn't understand, he still loved it and was as compelled to it as if it was in English.

Rocky VI wasn't nearly as great as the first four movies, but it wasn't nearly as bad as the fifth one either. It was all about closure for Rocky, who lost his wife Adrien and now had a hole in his life he tried to fill with owning a restaurant named after her and remembering the old days of glory with his customers. The movie goes down nostalgia lane for Rocky, who finds old acquaintances and lives peacefully in Philadelphia.

Then he finds out that some

things need to be dealt with personally, he talks about how he needs to put "the beast inside him to rest." Even though his son tried to convince him otherwise, Rocky accepts to fight in an exhibition fight against Mason Dixon (the new champion.) During the fight, something amazing happened in the theater, people started chanting: "Rocky! Rocky! Rocky!" That was surreal; I mean this isn't even Philadelphia, where Rocky Balboa is right up there with the Founding Fathers.

At the end of the movie, Rocky fades into the locker room after one last standing ovation from the crowd. Finally putting the "beast" to rest, Rocky will now live on TNT and HBO for decades to come as one of the most inspiring stories Hollywood has ever made.



SCREEN CAPTURE

Sylvester Stallone as Rocky.

Glamming it up with the *Dreamgirls*

BY HEATHER DULMAN
SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

Dream Girls has sung its way up to the box office charts since it hit the theaters on Dec. 25.

Based on the musical from the 60's and 70's, three women who were called the *Dreamettes* wanted to get known and they end up being stars. The movie is loosely based on the history of *Motown* and *The Supremes*.

Effie White, played by American Idol's Jennifer Hudson, gives an outstanding debut and even had audiences on their feet giving standing ovations. Hudson is the lead singer but gets kicked out and is replaced by Deena Jones, played by Beyonce Knowles.

It seems like Beyonce fits the part of Deena Jones perfectly. It was similar to the situation with Knowles and the group Destiny's Child; now she has her solo career and forgot about the once well-known group. Knowles plays a back up singer who becomes lead. She got tangled up with money and fame and for once she was in the lime light.

Jamie Foxx plays Curtis Taylor Jr., the one that discovers the dreamettes and later on calls them Deena and the Dreams. He is the love interests of Effie at first and then Deena.

James Thunder Early, played by Eddie Murphy, was at the top of the charts and the Dreamettes got their first gig by performing as his backup singers. He was the love interest of one of the back up singers in the Dreamettes, Lorrell Robinson played by Anika Noni Rose. Murphy's next movie is coming out on Feb. 9 called *Norbit*. It is similar to *The Nutty Professor* just a different storyline.

The songs that the cast sang were great. Beyonce's solo for the song *Listen* was amazing and heart felt. The other songs were *One Night Only*, *Dream Girls* and *I told you I'm Not Going*, sung by Hudson, which received the standing ovation. This was not only a musical, but a journey for three ordinary women to make it to the big time.

Let them sing their hearts out and see if they can be your dream girls.



SCREEN CAPTURE

Beyonce Knowles stars in this year's hollywood big hitter, *Dreamgirls*.

Blood Diamond shines



SCREEN CAPTURE

Djimon Hounsou in his role as a fighter and a father shows through in this drama.

BY ANTHONY PERRUCCI
NORTH BUREAU CHIEF

“In America, it’s bling-bling, over here, it’s bling-bang,” explains Danny Archer (Leonardo DiCaprio).

Blood Diamond, set amid civil war in the West African nation of Sierra Leone during the late 1990’s, follows mercenary, smuggler, and gun-runner Archer and fisherman Solomon Vandy (Djimon Hounsou) as they race to retrieve a valuable gemstone and find Vandy’s young son, Dia, kidnapped and pressed into service as a child soldier by the violent Revolutionary United Front.

For his part, DiCaprio more than ably carries the leading role of the film, which requires that he speak with a believable, consistent accent as well as meet, butt heads with, and then gradually warm to intrepid-and-idealistic-yet-not-naïve news reporter Maddy, played by Jennifer Connelly. It is testament to DiCaprio’s skill as an actor that he remains perfectly believable throughout the film, charming yet menacing; Archer is ex-military, and at various points is either slathered in mud or using firearms or delivering a monologue about hunting that ends with a chilling threat against a man’s life.

Hounsou is often relegated to the background for long stretches of the film, although he stands out in a few notable scenes. His interaction with Dia, though brief, is the equal of DiCaprio’s work.

Yet the film is less concerned

with Solomon Vandy’s journey across Sierra Leone as much as it is with Archer. Or the diamond he’s chasing.

The subject of diamonds, of course, is contentious both in the film and the world around it. The diamond in the film is to be sold to finance the purchase of arms for the violent rebels, and laundered by being processed alongside legitimate gems from nearby countries, a tactic used during the actual conflict in Sierra Leone.

Real-world diamond cartel De Beers has expressed reservations about the film, and claims that conflict diamonds make up only 1 percent of the diamond market they control the lion’s share of through artificial scarcity and price inflation.

But jewelers concerned that fewer men will shell out to purchase diamonds for rings for fiancés are not the only ones likely to find fault with *Blood Diamond*.

Despite the excellent acting of DiCaprio and Hounsou (and to a lesser extent Connelly), *Blood Diamond* is not without a few glaring faults. Foremost is its length and pacing; the film drags in an on-and-off fashion and runs a half hour or so too long.

Blood Diamond sparkles—DiCaprio fans eager to see where he’s come since his excellent turn in Martin Scorsese’s *The Departed* will find plenty to keep them engaged, and action fans will be impressed—but its faults keep it from realizing its full potential.

Holiday movie season: More money, less bang

BY HEATHER DULMAN
SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

To bring out the new year there have been movies catching the movie-goer’s eyes. This is no surprise. There have been some remakes, for once new ideas of course taken from a book, some movies based on a true story, and some revisits of hit movies from the 80’s.

Movie-goers would think that Rocky has put the glove down yet he wants one more fight after 15 years in the movie titled *Rocky Balboa*. Sylvester Stallone, face it, he is old and has an unusual six pack, but is in good shape for his age. The movie was alright; the ending could have been better.

Charlottes Web made its way to the big screen this time not a cartoon. It was very sad and yet happy at the same time.

Santa Clause Three, the movie is over played. Tim Allen should put away his hat and stick with his tools from the old sitcom Home Improvement. If there is another Santa Clause it will be over played even worse then it

already is.

Unaccompanied Minors, another movie just like *Home Alone* but this time there are five kids stranded at an airport. This movie is good for kids. *Home Alone* was completely better then *Unaccompanied Minors*.

Happy Feet is one of the best cartoon movies since *Cars* came out in June of last year. It has a lot of songs from the 90’s; with Michael Jackson, Prince, etc. Mumble is cute yet he is different from all the other penguins. He likes to dance and everyone else likes to sing yet he can not sing at all. Robin Williams did a great job with the characters he played, Ramon and Lovelace. The flick was eye catching with something new and fresh. It is fun for all ages to watch.

Another eye catching movie was *Night at the Museum*. Ben Stiller did a great job. The movie is perfect for all ages to take an adventure to see what happens at night at this particular museum.

Black Christmas is not your average holiday movie. It’s however, perfect for the horror

fans. It is something different and new for the movie-goer to go see.

Dream Girls is one of a kind. It is a musical that is amazing. Beyonce Knowles and Jennifer Hudson did a great job in their performances. Everyone should go see this movie. Their voices and the story-line are well put together.

Pursuit of Happiness is a true story of Chris Gardner played by Will Smith. Smith delivers a well done performance. He is not that kid everyone knew from *Bel Air* from the 90’s sitcom *Fresh Prince of Bel Air*. This is one serious role that he has done and the little boy in the movie is his own son. Jaden Smith

Movies have been getting better. Yet some movie studios don’t learn their lesson and make remakes that should just be left alone. It’s amazing how movie prices have gone up in price 50 cents. An adult movie is \$9.50 and a student ticket is \$7.50. Matinee is no longer up till 6 p.m. It is now at 4 p.m. Figure out what to see and enjoy.



SCREEN CAPTURE

Mumble the penguin and his friends go flying down an icy slope, laughing all the way.

Magician Ilan: Look Again

BCC PRESS RELEASE

DAVIE, F.L. – “Through his deceptions he creates moments of truth.” Ilan appears at Bailey Concert Hall Saturday, Jan. 20, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in his show “Look Again.” Ilan is donating his talent to help the local community Ultimate frisbee team, Pompeii’s Children, to raise enough money to travel to out of state tournaments. Because Ilan and the team believes in giving back to the community, a portion of the proceeds of the afternoon show will benefit the Fort Lauderdale Children’s Theatre while a portion of the proceeds from the evening show will benefit JAFCO, Jewish Adoption Foster Care Options.

Ilan will unleash the imaginations of audience members with his illusions and sleight-of-hand. Ilan is the consummate showman, hiding his secrets behind charm, humor and wit. The moment he steps on stage, the

audience is engaged and having so much fun they don’t even realize they have become part of the play Ilan calls magic. With Ilan’s rave reviews throughout Florida, the show is sure to be a success. It has been said that “Ilan manages to sneak into the hearts of all who experience his magic—filling them with wonder and joy. And how he does that is his greatest secret.” For more information on Ilan visit <<http://www.ilanmagic.com>>.

Pompeii’s Children was organized in 1999 and has become Broward County’s largest and most organized Ultimate team. Recently the team received the sport’s most coveted award, the “Spirit of the Game” trophy, at the 2006 Sunshine State Games. Spirit of the Game is the central governing principal of Ultimate in that it places the responsibility for fair play on the player. Highly competitive play is encouraged, but never at the expense of the bond of mutual respect between

players, adherence to the agreed upon rules of the game, or the basic joy of play.

Ilan, who performs magic full-time, is an Ultimate player himself. Ilan has been performing magic since age twelve and he became one the youngest authors of magic when he published Fell’s Official Know-it-All Guide to Advanced Magic. Ilan has developed courses that teach magic for several summer camps and after-school programs. Ilan has performed at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, the Boca Hotel and Resort and the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts, to name a few.

Show date: Jan. 20, 2007; Show Times: 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.; Prices: \$15 for adults, \$13 for groups of 10 or more, \$10 for students with valid I.D. and young adults 11 to 18- years-old, \$7 for Broward Community College faculty, staff and students with valid I.D. and children 10 years and younger.

Can't wrestle these Gators

BY BELAL JABER
STAFF WRITER

I thought the BCS Championship would end just the way it did. It would end in a blowout, with one team embarrassing the other. The only thing that didn't go as planned was the winner. Second-ranked Florida defeated Ohio State 41-14 to win college football's national championship.

Things couldn't have started off better for the Buckeyes. Ted Ginn Jr. returned the opening kickoff 93 yards for a touchdown, and then Ohio State shot themselves in the foot... literally. Ginn hurt his foot in the touchdown celebration and when he returned in the second half, he was on crutches and his team was trailing 34-14.

Buckeye quarterback, Troy Smith, who was this season's Heisman Trophy winner, had his phenomenal season come to a screeching halt. Smith threw just 4-of-14 for 35 yards

with one interception, and was sacked five times. In addition he ran the ball for negative 29 yards on 10 carries.

This is Florida's second national title. Their other championship came under Coach Steve Spurrier in 1996 when they beat Florida State 52-20 in the Sugar Bowl. Back then they were led by Heisman trophy winner Danny Wuerffel.

This time, the coach of the Gators is the 42-year-old Urban Meyer who has now risen among the elite in the coaching ranks, topped off by a title in only his second year at Florida. And Chris Leak led the Gators at the quarterback spot with an impressive showing. Leak went 25 for 36 for 213 yards and a touchdown.

The win also allowed Florida to be the first school ever to hold both college football and basketball titles at the same time.

The only things critics will



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASSOCIATED PRESS
Florida Gators quarterback Chris Leak.

now question is where Boise State stands as they finished their season 13-0. A push for a playoff system will surely be talked about until next year.

But the BCS debate will always be a topic of discussion. The only sure thing after this game is that there is only one recognized champion and they are the Florida Gators.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE WILLIAMS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nick Saban, who reportedly agreed to an eight-year deal with Alabama worth more than \$30 million, being greeted at the Tuscaloosa airport.

Taking the High Road

BY MARTIN BATER
SPORTS EDITOR

"When I was in college it was always about coming to the pros. This is the challenge I wanted. I had a good college job. Why would I have left that if I was going to be interested in other college jobs? I took this as a challenge. We certainly haven't seen this through and gotten where we want to go and finished the job here, so why would I be interested in something else?" (Nov. 27).

"I guess I have to say it. I'm not going to be the Alabama coach." (Dec. 21)

These are all Nick Saban's words. They sound pretty convincing right? Like a guy who would know that there was a job that is nowhere close to being done. Even though he made mistakes along the way, the NFL is in an unprecedented era of parity that allows smart coaches (i.e. Jets' coach Eric Mangini) to turn things around rather quickly.

A 15-17 record in two years doesn't make you a failure as a head coach in the NFL. Matt Millen has a 24-72 record as a General Manager for the Detroit Lions in the last four years and managed to turn an entire fan base

against its own team. Now *that* is failing. The really amazing thing is he still has that job.

"I firmly believe in Nick Saban." (Wayne Huizenga, Dec. 5). We all believed in him. We believed after a six game winning streak to end last season, we believed when the Dolphins looked back from the dead at 6-7 and a 21-0 shellacking of New England at home.

Huizenga has done his share of bad things, but he didn't deserve to be lied to his face by his own head coach. At the press conference where he announced that Saban was leaving, he looked like someone who had given his girlfriend everything she ever wanted, but suddenly she left him for another guy without notice. He refuses to trash her in front of everybody, but deep down he knows.

Watching Saban arrive in Alabama like a hero and feed the public the same B.S. he fed South Florida two years ago was amusing. Watching him manipulate and sidestep the questions he was being asked by the reporters made me think that he doesn't deserve to be where he is, but then I remembered. In the long run, people like him get what they deserve, and it ain't pretty.

Seahawks basketball wins impressive victories

BY MIKE GONZALEZ
STAFF WRITER

The Seahawks' season has been a rollercoaster ride so far. After starting 1-4 in their first five games, the Seahawks have developed quite a winning streak to even their record at 4-4.

The Seahawks most recent road trip started out by facing North Carolina and the team came out with a valuable win. Then, the Seahawks made their presence known at South Florida defeating Belmont-Abbey Junior College 82-65. Freshman Tony Dennison led a balanced offense by recording a double-double with 23 points and 10 rebounds. Fellow Freshman Miklos Szabo joined Dennison in the double-double category after adding 22 points and 10 rebounds to the winning cause. Freshman Guard Shamair Williams finished the onslaught by scoring 19 points of his own and collecting nine rebounds. Not everything was good news for the Seahawks that night though, as they lost Sophomore Guard Anthony Clarke to a leg injury. His status is unknown.

The Seahawks were more than ready to play the next night against Charlotte as Coach Bob

Starkman led his team to one of the highest-scoring games ever in BCC history. The Seahawks routed Charlotte 114-88. If Dennison was playing with a foot injury, nobody noticed. He looked impressive by scoring 40 points and grabbing eight rebounds, dominating every aspect of the game that night. Szabo collected 22 points of his own while Williams had a second consecutive productive game scoring 24 points.

The Seahawks traveled to South Carolina for a three game and two state sweep. They came back from a 14-point deficit to defeat Limestone University 91-88 in a thriller. The big three, Dennison, Szabo and Williams, came up big. Dennison, with a bad leg and all, came close to a double-double scoring 37 points and getting nine rebounds while Szabo collected a double-double with 25 points and 10 rebounds. Williams did his part with 9 points and 9 rebounds. Freshman Forward Ryan Kardok played a huge part in rallying the Seahawks to a victory by scoring 8 big points in a row, starting off with a clutch three-pointer to end the first half on a solid note for the Seahawks. He continued his great

play in the second half propelling the team to a victory.

Johnson & Wales made quite a statement when they faced the Seahawks at the Omni. The three-game winning streak ended after being handed a close 71-65 loss. After the loss, the Seahawks received an early holiday gift when their next opponent, Ave Maria University, forfeited to add another win to the Seahawks resume.

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CHECK OUT THE
LADY SEAHAWKS PREVIEW
CENTERSPREAD
ON PAGES 10-11

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 or call 954-201-8035 to make an appointment with one of the editors or the advisor. The following positions are available:

COPY EDITORS

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.

FACT CHECKER

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.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

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.

DESIGN EDITORS

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.

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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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A READER’S REACTION

The article “How to **Build** a Weapon of Mass Destruction” was a poor choice to print in the *Observer*. This can help give someone an idea for this and encourage a terrorist to follow this. The article is by Rick Davis. Maybe he needs to be checked out. I just can’t believe you would print this in our paper.

Please do something about this. We need to take responsibility for what is printed and what the outcome might be. I hope this doesn’t happen again.

Thank you,
Disgruntled student and employee of BCC

OUR STAFF RESPONDS

Dear Reader,

How much of the article did you actually read? Did you understand what it was about? You should know that in journalism, the headline of an article alone does not necessitate the content of the article itself. This is not unusual in the field of journalism. Oftentimes the headline is treated as a kind of lead-in, always as an attention grabber, and can be used with a word play. In this case, it does not play on words, but uses a term that became popular in recent times (“WMD”) to encourage its readership.

Rick Davis only wrote the article itself. He was not aware of the headline decided on, as the headline was determined by me during last-minute production (layout) time.

If you had read the article, you would know that it makes no true reference to the use of a laser in less-than-scrupulous ways. The photo of the Air Force lab—while indeed is military in nature—depicts harmless testing of a laser device.

As a side note, any information that is learned in a military lab is not limited to wartime application. Did you know that the internet’s origins had a basis in a military project to create a computer information network? This project was known as ARPANET, and was first linked up in late 1969. Not

everything that comes out of the military is used for destructive purposes. Additionally, the specific lab referenced in the photo has projects for technology and education outreaches as referenced on their website at <<http://www.de.af.mil/TechOutreach/>>.

Lasers themselves are not used purely for destructive purposes. In fact, laser products in general are used in applications from medical (such as laser surgery), to information and technological (optical disc drives, such as CD- and DVD-ROMs, and fiber-optic cables), and business and recreational use (laser pointers, projection”laser light shows”). Rick’s article references some of these uses in the conclusion of his article. As you can see (no pun intended), lasers are a very integral part of our society and their use in non-military application far, far outweighs their use in military-only purposes.

The article—and page spread—is about the nature of light. If we had talked about the uses of nuclear energy, would you be as surprised to find out that it has uses in society apart from war? Any topic—and I mean everything—in science can be used for either good or evil. The information presented in the article does not contain practical construction information, merely theory, and any insinuation by the headline to use the information contained

within it (laser theory) for morally reprehensible purposes is light-hearted technology journalism fluff, at worst.

Let me reiterate: The article itself is harmless. If you have an issue with the headline, that is a more worthy argument than a dispute with the information in the article itself, and a different matter entirely.

A person inspired to do something evil with the information (however insignificant...) presented in this article is no doubt already disgruntled enough to do wicked things and find the information in other publicly available, better detailed, and more in-depth sources—maybe the Encyclopedia Britannica or The Anarchist’s Cookbook. Quite possibly there are already innumerable sites on the internet dedicated to this sort of thing also.

Rick Davis is one of our finest writers and I believe you owe him a direct apology, as well as an apology to the editorial staff of my newspaper for your accusation of irresponsibility. He is no guiltier of inciting terrorist behavior than a cooking magazine is guilty of burning its readers with a pre-heated oven pan.

Grant Abraham
Editor-in-Chief

Dear Reader,

I must confess that I too was shocked at the title my article was given by the Observer editorial team, although I do understand the common use of these attention getting headlines. I only hope that others that were caught up in the article’s title took the time to read the article and perhaps learn something new.

I can only assume that after becoming upset at the title of my article you immediately stopped reading. I say this because if you look at the article you can see that it in no way makes reference to weapons or “mass destruction.” I have spent a great deal of time working with lasers and after looking over my article I find it absolutely impossible to construct one with the information I presented. Your claim that, “This can help give someone an idea for this and encourage a terrorist to follow this.” is completely ridiculous and unfounded and makes me certain you either did not read the article in its entirety or seriously misunderstood the material. In fact, reading the article you will learn that the operation of a laser prohibits it from affecting anything in a

“mass” fashion and operates only in a limited realm under strict conditions.

Now, you continue to suggest I should be “checked out” and that “we need to take responsibility for what is printed.” Again, your vague comments make me wonder what you would like checked and in what way I have avoided responsibility. I stand behind my article and I am sure the editors do as well. There has been no wrong doing in the design or printing of the article however I invite you to initiate any action you would like although I suggest you read or reread the article first.

Let me also comment that although I find your letter surprising and completely unfounded I appreciate you taking the time to contact the staff of the Observer. I hope other students share their views and opinion on the articles they read as well as additional content they would like to see printed. The editorial team, other writers and I are only half of the process, the other half is entirely made of readers like you.

Rick Davis
Staff Writer

Dear Editors,

There are many important decisions a college student must make, and one of them is choosing classes to take. That leads to an even more important choice—picking a professor. We are lucky to be living in the computer age, though, and one website that I strongly urge all students to use, *RateMyProfessors.com*, has helpful information. Unfortunately, I did not use this site when I first registered for my freshman classes; however, I did use it when I needed to drop one class and take another.

I compared what someone told me about two teachers to the information on the website and the website reviews matched my source very

closely. This person went to BCC over ten years ago, yet those teachers really haven’t changed. The information on *RateMyProfessors.com* seems to be accurate, informative, and helpful.

I’m not sure how teachers react to the comments on *RateMyProfessors.com*, but I’m sure some of them do read them. What puzzles me is why someone who has taught a core class for many years continues to only pass a few people instead of changing his approach. More importantly, what would happen if nobody signed up for his classes? So, students do your homework before you register for classes.

Julie Leach
BCC Student

Letter to the Editor:

Don’t ever expect to get into the Financial Aid’s office even if you have a number. It is ridiculous how they can hand out numbers and then never call on them and next thing you know they close the doors on you. The least thing they could do is

say, “oh here is your number but don’t expect *for sure* you are getting in and when five o’ clock comes we will close all the doors and if you are called on ok and if not, oh well good luck next time.” Some people stood in front of the Financial Aid’s office with a number for an hour and they were never called. I’m

pretty sure they left there extremely mad that day. For the next time, Financial Aid needs to calculate before giving out numbers or just plainly state, “Just because you have a number doesn’t mean you will get in.”

Stefanie Penela
BCC Student

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?
YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

Got a gripe? Want to vent your frustration? Maybe you have some words of praise or accolades for a fellow student or event. Or, perhaps you just want to scream at our editors? *No problem!*

We want to hear from you. If you have an opinion and want others to know, write us and let us know what the deal is. If you want to talk to our editors, write a letter and we’ll publish it. Just don’t forget to include your name and phone number, and sign your letter. Read our policy on the bottom of page 19 for more details.

Transcending holidays and breaking traditions

BY ANDRES LOPEZ
STAFF WRITER

Fall and winter are passing by for what seems to be a six month stay, which will encompass many facets that have been understood as mere traditions. For certain areas of the United States the weather will change from sunny to near freezing, while others will nearly have an indistinguishable effect. However, there are various points on the grid of a calendar year that have exclamation marks, marks that point to an emphasis on holidays that are both religious and non-religious.

Days that will affect the motions of the daily routine, whether direct or indirect, the mark of a holiday will be felt. For some, the effect will be transpired by what is known as ‘teacher planning days’ which means NO SCHOOL for students, and others will simply not be able to incur in certain activities due to the fact that it does not sustain with their religious beliefs during that specific time or plainly because retail stores will be closed in observance of the holiday. For a number of people the day will have come and left like no major event has occurred,

but for others it will be the start of a religious tradition practiced by millions of people around the world. One of the major questions of those not practicing certain holidays is to ask, why even celebrate it if they are not practitioners of such faith or, who even cares if people celebrate this? And the key answer to such a troubling question is that if one does not practice the holiday at hand who is he or she to have a say at what should or should not be observed? Perhaps at that point it would be worthy and poignant to ask if an extra day of school would help them get the point across.

Advisors not working for their students

BY CAMI CARR
LAYOUT EDITOR

When it comes to decisions in college, some of them can make or break your college career. Though BCC boasts many capable and high diploma toting individuals, the efficiency and availability of their advisement is very sparse. A new system of arranging appointments with advisors has left this college’s students in the dark as to how to arrange their new semester. Your options for arranging appointments is to either set one up with the indifferent online applet or by

waiting in lines of an excess of a few hours two days a week; neither is very appealing nor helpful. What is needed most during your college years is firm direction and stellar decisions that will help you strive and succeed to the best of your ability, clear and concise advice can council and help you achieve this. The college’s system is really not fulfilling these needs for their students. They have the power. They have the people. The questions is, can they make it work for their students?

Darker nights at Central Campus

BY ANGELA OSBORNE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

During daylight hours, Central Campus is filled with students, and after dark the campus is still very much alive and busy. However students who frequent the night classes have to face a problem that the daytime students do not have to face, scarce lighting. With the recent attack on North Campus, BCC should realize that it is not impervious to violent crimes. And crimes, especially violent crimes normally tend to happen when it’s dark out. Shortly after the attack on North Campus, BCC released a list of

personal safety tips, and number three on the list was stay in well lit areas, but in the evening it is almost impossible if the well lit areas are few and far between. Darkness also brings out another kind of predator, wild animals that live around the campus. It is not unusual to see foxes, raccoons, or possums scurrying about the courtyards or parking lots. This is an issue of safety, what if they bite a student? We should be able to see wild animals running around the campus. If something were to happen, a predator attacking a student, either a human or animal, what would security do, write the

attacker a ticket, or run it over with their golf cart? Monday through Thursday students can be on campus until midnight, since the library closes at midnight. And around the library there is ample space and time that predators can act on students. There is a high volume of students who take advantage of the campus at night, either for classes, LRC, or the library; they need to be protected. There is only so much that campus security can do, and the best way to solve crime is preventing it. And one of the best ways to prevent crimes from happening is to keep areas in which students are well lit.

Is your current reality actually a surreality?

BY ANDRES LOPEZ
STAFF WRITER

Everybody is in their own theme; being sharp and slicing at everything that does not concur with their immediate response to what is, and not to what could be. They all disappear away from reality. With the anticipation of one day finding what they have expressed to be a surreal reality. A reality that seems more like pocket lint, emerging at any given moment and vanishing away like dust on a windy day. The truth of the matter is that for those with such profound thirst for the elixir of knowledge, the drink is often brought too late, and countless of times the person is left dehydrated with nothing to drink but the bitter taste of what seems to be the realm of uncertainty, doubt and insecurity. Where, within that vicinity, hope is what occasionally hits the floor before anyone can see it plunging to an abyss of what is seen as possibilities that have not been seized. The remarkable aspect about all the thoughts that cross our mind is that some are meant to be used and others’ sole purpose is to

remind us who it is that we should be striving to become. Consider the following quote: ‘That life is a journey, not a destination’ holds any truth than it is up to those who want life to be an enjoyable experience, to go out into their life and make any dream or goal a reality. It is understandable that often situations arise that propel our dreams to go in different directions, such as taking a class because it is a prerequisite for a certain major and then asking themselves ‘Am I really passionate about this?’ Having to undergo tedious decisions that question the veracity of our pre-established beliefs is what makes who we are, be who it is that we strive to be. Perhaps the question that is repeatedly asked when the age of maturity strikes is, ‘If I had to relive the life that I just lived would I do everything the same or would I try to write an alternative outcome for the events that transpired?’ It is only the person who honestly sees themselves in the mirror of their soul, who can see their pristine essence that can truly decipher this intricate riddle that is known as life...

Steps to a more organized you

BY HEATHER DULMAN
SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

Well another new year. Another day goes by. Everyone asks what is your New Years resolution? An array of people cheered and screamed for joy for a new year and without any fear. Some people say that they would like to lose that holiday weight they have gained. Some would like to start anew and forget the year that has just passed. So what is a year? It’s amazing how a year goes by so fast. Did you accomplish anything? Did

you get what you want? Always try next time, right... but next time was last year so might as well make plans and set goals to accomplish for this year. By creating goals you have something to rely on. Start off with the small short term goals, then the long term goals. Try to think when you want to accomplish them and push yourself to the limit. Always think positive. Never think negative. Don’t let anyone bring you down. Goals will be accomplished one day. It is what you put in. No one is going to

help you but yourself. Try to plan things out. Create a “To Do List.” List priority ABC meaning must be done as soon as possible. It actually works when you get the hang of it. To be even more organized and ready for your day, try to plan your whole day out. Make a list of the 24 hours and plan by hour. It starts with a pen and paper or a computer waiting for you at your finger-tips. You just need motivation and determination of how you want your year to be. Try to find what you want in life and not let things pass you by.



**Broward
Community College**

**2006 FCCPA General
Excellence Award**

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