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**VOLUME 21, NUMBER 10** 

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**FEBRUARY 12, 2007** 

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# A NATIONAL SEARCH ...AND IT'S NOT FOR AN AMERICAN IDOL

The decision for the next president of BCC is still being worked out.

BY BUZZ LAMB STAFF WRITER

Dr. Jeff Hockaday from Sanford, North Carolina is providing consulting services to the BCC Board of Trustees for the presidential search. Hockaday was also the consultant hired when Dr. Larry Calderon was selected to become BCC President in 2004. Hockaday's contract for \$25,000 was approved by the Board at their January meeting.

In his role as consultant, he has developed the advertisement that will be sent to national publications expressing the Board's intent to hire a new president for the college.

He will also screen the applications that are submitted and anticipates he will present approximately 35 candidates on the first go-round.

**BCC** President Willis Holcombe told the Board that he had contacted all 11 of the members nominated to serve on the search committee and they have all agreed to participate.

The advertisement encouraged submission of applications

by Feb. 12 but stated that applications would be accepted until the position has been filled. The Board voted to have one Provost from the college sit on the search committee as well. They are still considering whether they will have a student sit on the committee.

Hockaday presented the Board with a draft time-line of how he anticipates the search will transpire; Feb. 12 to March 16 for the applications to be screened down; interviews would start mid-March and conclude in mid-

Hockaday told the Board that in his conversations with Dr. Holcombe he has determined that a target date for the new president to be seated would be July 1.

"Will is pretty adamant about that date," he said. Hockaday felt that the person selected will probably already be under a contract with an institute of higher learning and would need to give 60 to 90 days notice to their current employer.

Hockaday asked the Board members to give him an idea of what they were looking for in regard to the qualifications of the new president. Board Chair, Levi Williams was the first to respond.

"I'm looking for someone this time around who understands our Florida politics...who understands how a Board in Florida, like ours, works," he said. Williams said that he would like to have a president who has a sincere appreciation for the Board's role at the college. Hockaday said that he needs five or six real "triggers" to help him in the interviewing process.

Board member Georgette Sosa-Douglass, co-chair of the search committee, said that she felt it was important to have someone who is connected politically.

"We're way down south from Tallahassee. We need someone who can move at ease with our local officials and who can develop contacts in Tallahassee," she said. Douglass said that the Board wants to do lots of things but they can only do what is allowed by Florida Statute.

"The main thing that I will be looking at is that the person

> SEARCH CONTINUES **CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**

# BCC goes on TV

### Television campaign to start in March

BY CARLA KERSTENS CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Beginning approximately in March 2007, BCC will be launching TV commercials for the first time, together with radio promotion and several other unusual advertising approaches in order to let the population know about the school thus enhancing enrollment.

All of this is part of a strategy

for the newly developed "Education Master Plan" for the college, which of the principal goals is to "Respond directly to the

current and projected racial, ethnic and income patterns in Broward County."

This realization came after internalizing the deep and drastic demographic changes that have occurred in South Florida in the last few years.

This plan came in order to satisfy the demand of college level preparation in the county.

In short, BCC is attempting to generate awareness of the college and its programs, specifically by implementing a comprehensive campaign throughout Broward County in order to brand BCC as "the first choice for corporate training, workforce development, continuing education academic programs."

With the last campaign, where predominantly advertisement

> was done over the Internet, the PR department achieved a 3 percent increase in enrollment for this year. This alone can be seen as a success factor especially

taking into consideration their primary goal was to ensure this year's enrollment didn't decrease.

The desire to use TV as a new media to advertise the school came as a result of vast

> TV COMMERCIALS **CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**

# \$5 million in state funding available for challenge grant

BY MICHAEL KRYSCZAK CONTRIBUTING WRITER

College is expensive; that fact is self apparent to students. When you add the ever increasing cost of tuition and books to the already high cost of living in South Florida, it is a wonder that some people are not able to afford a higher education at all.

Luckily the BCC foundation is stepping up to bat with a new

scholarship program for students and they are the first in their families to attend college.

"The BCC foundation will make roughly \$800,000 of financial assistance. It will be made available to qualified students through the first generation in college challenge grant," said Nancy Botero, the Executive

> CHALLENGE GRANT **CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

**DECIDING ON A MAJOR?** GET SOME ADVICE.

SEE PAGE 14

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# Public safety building dedicated

BY BUZZ LAMB STAFF WRITER

Former Florida State Senator Walter "Skip" Campbell sat quietly on the portable stage set up in the courtyard near the entrance to the brand-new Bldg. 21 on Central Campus. Campbell was waiting his turn to speak at the dedication ceremony of the new Public Safety Institute (PSI).

The project that was begun in 2001 at a cost of over \$12 million is now completed. The new facility provides 54,000 square feet of space to provide training annually to more than 5,000 local, state and federal officers. The institute also enrolls more than 400 degree-seeking students and is the regional training center for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

Among the supporters who BCC President, Dr. Willis Holcombe thanked was present Gov. Charlie Crist who was Commissioner of Education when this all began and Congressman Connie Mack. "They conducted

a fact-finding visit to BCC. The result was their support for funding of this critically needed facility," Mack added.

Holcombe Dr. introduced Campbell to the crowd as "the champion" of the project.

"Senator Campbell was not just responsive to our needs. He and his staff picked up the idea

of an expanded Public Safety

became their (pet) project," said Holcombe.

"I am truly honored to be here with these distinguished guests and distinguished members of the law enforcement community," Campbell said. Campbell revealed to the crowd that in 1968 he worked at the sheriff's department pumping gas into their vehicles. Campbell explained that he had two brothers who graduated from the Police Academy at BCC.

According to the BCC Foundation, the original Criminal Justice Institute design was conceived in 1970 when the Broward Police Academy moved from the Fort Lauderdale Police Department to BCC's Central Campus.

BCC Board of Trustees Chair, Levi Williams, comments that "One of the significant contributions BCC makes to the economic health and safety of Broward County is through the programs offered right here at the Institute. The citizens of Broward County are literally protected by law enforcement officers that



(Left to right) Lois Bolton, Central Campus Provost, Dr. Willis Holcombe, Interim BCC President, Susan Starkey, Town of Davie council member, Walter "Skip" Campbell, former Florida senator, Georgette Sosa Douglass, District Board of Trustees Chair, Levi Williams, District Board of Trustees Vice Chair, Leo Callahan, former Ft. Lauderdale Police Chief and Cheryl Krause, District Board of Trustees member.

Williams mentions that about 117 adjunct instructors, many of them active police officers, teach

the new building. Ware told the gathering that both of Callahan's daughters are graduates of the

Broward Police Academy.

BCC Central Provost, Dr. Lois Bolton presented commemorative plaques to the guest speakers at the conclusion of the ceremony which was held on Jan. 24 at 11 a.m. She then invited all of them to join her at the front doors of the facility to participate in a ribbon cutting which officially marked

opening of the new building.

Guided tours were offered to the attendees and groups of five at a time were allowed to enter the new state of the art, 22-lane indoor firing range, where it is estimated that trainees will expend over 750,000 rounds of ammunition each year.

Bldg. 22 which is adjacent to the new facility will now undergo an extensive re-modeling project which is expected to cost approximately \$8 million.

The building formerly housed the PSI and now will be made more functional according to Jeff Brezner, BCC Facilities Department. "That building was essentially five projects that were linked together. You have to go outside to get from one place to another," he said. Brezner adds that they will begin to select an architect in mid-Feb. and the design project will begin in July 2007.

Actual construction will start in July of 2008 with an anticipated completion date of July 2009. According to Brezner, once construction begins, classes will be moved to portables or to the new facility that just opened.

"One of the significant contributions BCC makes... is through the programs offered right here at the institute."

### BCC BOARD CHAIR LEVI WILLIAMS

were educated by the programs Institute and this facility and it offered at this very facility."

# Kenpo practitioners pass their test

BY DANIELLA DORCELUS CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

With a serious demeanor and intense concentration, members of the BCC Kenpo Club demonstrated their knowledge of various martial arts techniques. In the semi-annual Belt Ceremony, the practitioners were required to perform katas, forms and basic techniques such as punches and kicks that they have learned throughout the semester. Since each member varied in their level of experience, they tested for different ranks and executed different movements.

However, everyone was required to demonstrate basic techniques kihon waza. To complete them one must be in horse stance to generate power in their action. The techniques include Gedan barai (low block), Jodan Uke (high block), Mae Geri (high kick) and Mawashi Geri (round house kick). Some of the students that took part in this event included James Ponder, Sarah Wade, Paul Pemberton and Mona Abed.

Abed, who tested for her orange belt, had to show proficiency in Nai Hanchi

Shodan (horse riding Kata I) and Naihanchi Nidan (horseriding kata II). Abed said that the ceremony helps students to work under pressure and build selfconfidence after accomplishing the task. Paul Pemberton has been with the club since the fall semester of 2005 and also earned the rank of orange belt.

"Not only did BCC Kenpo's promotion ceremony help me gain a better self-image but it put me on a higher level of self-confidence, which will help me face any problems in school, work or life itself," said Pemberton.

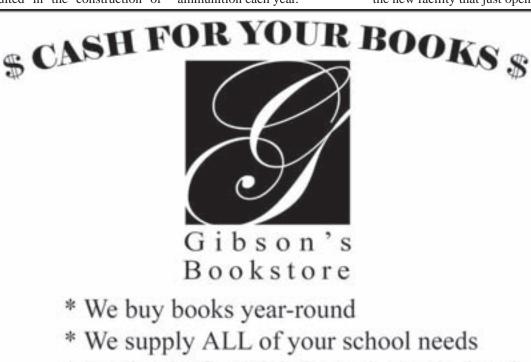
The person who attained the highest rank in the ceremony was Greg Barnes, a speech professor at BCC. He earned the rank of purple. "It was stressful but at the same time rewarding to show what you've learned," said

The group also demonstrated self-defense techniques such as white crane and cobra strike.

The club meets on Mondays and Wednesdays 6–8 p.m in the Pavilion on Central Campus. Anyone wishing to join may contact the advisor, Michael Nolan, at 954-201-6882.

classes at the Institute.

Joyce Ware, BCC Associate Dean of the Criminal Justice program said that the family of Leo Callahan, former Fort Lauderdale Police Chief donated money that in part provided the funding for the concept plans that resulted in the construction of



\* Textbooks for BCC Central, North, South, Downtown Center & FAU

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# A Holocaust survivor shares her story

BY HEATHER DULMAN SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

For Holocaust survivor, Lisl Bogart originally from Prague, a slice of white bread resembles freedom. That's what she received from a soldier when her concentration camp was liberated by the Russians on May 7, 1945.

"Now 61 years later, every morning I have a slice of white bread for breakfast," she said. "I get angry at my grandchildren when I see them waste food, especially bread."

Bogart, 80, was one of the 12 survivors who shared her story at BCC South Campus during a student awareness day focusing on the Holocaust on Jan. 25. They showed a film entitled "Children Remember the Holocaust," hosted by actor Keanu Reeves, about the Jews' plight and hardship through this terrifying ordeal. The survivors were willing to think back to their past to tell the harsh stories that they went through as a "youngster."

They had no identity, no existence, all but a number on the arm. Bogart had a sad look in her eyes as she relived the past by telling her story of what happened during the Holocaust. Old friendships ended, new friendships would be cherished if they were lucky to see another day. "Growing up I had a wonderful life, nothing missing. I had a beautiful family and home. I had a brother four years older than me," said Bogart, who was 13 at the time. Everyday there was a new law for Jews; they took away every value my parents built. We created our own families and friends from the camps and have been friends for 61 years." Bogart said the people in the concentration camps were treated like dirt. "Animals were treated better then us. Animals get food and water; we got nothing."

She also explained that nobody could come or go freely and they had to wear a Star of David on the left side of their chest that



Rubin and Gena Offenbach, Holocaust survivors, were present at a student awareness day that focused on the history of the Holocaust.

As the film started, music poured through the air waves, and smiles were seen upon everyone's faces. There were no obstacles until German leader Adolf Hitler used the Jews as a scapegoat and blamed them for Germany's problems. It started in 1933, and through it all, about 11 million died; 6 million were Jews. They almost succeeded killing 75 percent of the Jewish population when all was over in 1945.

Soldiers banged on doors and took all the Jews capturing them and putting them in the cattle cart with barbed wire 100 people to a cart. Their heads were shaved and they were stripped. If the elderly and the young were not able to work they were killed and thrown upon other dead bodies. Nazis cut fingers and any other body part for fun to see how long they would live. They had showers of gas but not water. The costs for the gas chambers were 1.8 cents. Long line for bowl of soup looked grayish brownish mush they would share with some who were weaker.

Gena Offenbach, 83 and Ruben Offenbach, 85, also shared their stories. They knew each other before going to the concentration camp, Auschwitz, because they lived in the same small town in Poland. Later had the word Jude in the middle. on, after being liberated by the Russians, they reunited and got married and have been married

"I was just like a robot, like a machine. I didn't do much thinking. It's hard to understand why the world was silent," said Ruben.

Former BCC student, Angela King said, "I did not get a feeling I belong anywhere, so I hung out with the skin heads, until going to prison saved my life. "I can change inside but I still see the things I used to do."

They closed by having a lighting ceremony by a lighting a Yahrzeit candle remembering the dead. "We are here to tell you and to take responsibility to not let this happen ever again," said Dr. Abe Gittelson, one of the speakers. "The cruelty, the hatred, the death, the torture...why did it happen? What brought it about," said Gittelson.

"Yes it did happen; it happened to millions of people including gypsies, handicapped, gays and lesbians. It's stuck with you all your life, Bogart said. "We are the last generation we are now teaching the young generation what prejudice can do."

Bogart said that if anyone meets Holocaust deniers that say it never happened they should say "we heard it from a survivor, from somebody who went through it; tell them."

# Security is a student's job, too

### New ideas suggest more student participation

BY CARLA KERSTENS CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After the scary situation some of us had to go through in December, it really shouldn't come as a surprise that the focus on campus security has increased. New alternatives to the current system have been proposed in order to insure student's safety, however, cautiousness should always be at hand, and this is the message Lt. James Sutton, South Campus Safety Supervisor, wants people to grasp.

Let's first examine the main security issues the campus deals with on a daily basis. Most problems are related to distracted parties leaving their belongings in plain sight. The opportunist thief is not going to let that pass, and every day there are reports of purses, backpacks, wallets and items as such, being stolen from their owners while they went to the vending machine, allowed themselves to forget their belongings in the classroom, or simply got distracted and that opened the possibility of someone to enjoy the "festive convenience" as Lt. Sutton said, of taking what is not theirs.

Every student should "treat the campus like you'd treat any other place" Sutton stated, meaning that just because BCC is a school, students shouldn't be any less careful than when they go to any less familiar places.

Campus Security is a relatively small department if compared to the student body. While they have a full staff of four security guards for morning shifts, four in evening shifts and three on midday shifts, usually there are only three guards on campus

during the day and two at night. When this small labor force is weighed against the approximate 5,000 students there are on campus, concerns start rising about how well protected the student body can be, especially in a life threatening situation, and there is no immediate hope of an increasing staff.

This is the reason why recently it was discussed to create a student escort service, in order to accompany students to their vehicles, particularly at night, when they are more vulnerable to an assault.

The initiative seeks the help of student workers, specifically from Student Life, to assist with this new program, which could potentially bring a wider sense of safety to the campus.

Another proposal that was anticipated on a college-wide basis is the installation of security cameras around campus, with emphasis on the parking lots, to help monitor the activities and have a quicker response time and accuracy to verify the events.

Unfortunately, at printing time, neither project has been approved. They are in the early stages of discussion; therefore no implementation date is yet expected. Even though there have been some circumstances in which the campus has been in an extremely cautious state, to evade a tragedy, South Campus is in safe hands, however few. This is why each person has to rely on their own rationale. The best weapon each student has is their own capacity for awareness, precaution, and common sense. Knowing how to prevent and avoid the situations is better than knowing how to get out of them.

# Put some South in your mouth South Campus Student Forum planned for Feb. 28

BY BUZZ LAMB

STAFF WRITER

The BCC Board of Trustees will hold their next regular meeting in the media room of the new library building (81) on South Campus at 1 p.m. on February 28.

Prior to the meeting the Board will be hosting a Student Forum at noon where students may voice their opinions, concerns, comments complaints.

A survey has been produced students to complete and return to the Student Government Office (Bldg 68/ Rm. 249). The survey asks for opinions on what is the most important issue on South Campus, what are students satisfied with and what areas need improvement.

Students wishing participate in the survey may do so by contacting Student Government at 954-201-8941 or stopping by the office.

For the Student Forum on Central Campus in January 464 surveys were collected, compiled and presented to the Board. Following the formal presentation, time was allotted for an "open mic" period.

South Campus students are encouraged to participate in this unique opportunity to speak directly to the Board of Trustees. The Forum and the Board of Trustees meeting are open to students, faculty and members of the administration.



CSO R. Castillo and Sgt. P. Skyers during a recent safety check on South.

# Students need to "get ugly"

### Motivational speaker Joe Martin encourages students to be indomitable by their adversities

BY ANTHONY PERRUCCI NORTH BUREAU CHIEF

Before he was 16, Joe Martin had seen six of his friends die.

Before that, he saw a man killed in the streets of his neighborhood in Liberty City during the 1980 Miami riots.

Before that, his mothersingle, after the father of the two children she had at the ages of 16 and 17 left, and an alcoholic desperate for a male role model for her young son, turned to a male relative for help. And so young, Joe Martin found himself a victim of sexual abuse.

Martin grew up a child of a broken home, in a broken city, surrounded by broken lives. He's seen ugly. He knows what it

By the time he was 20, Joe Martin was a graduate of the University of West Florida, at the top of his class.

By the time he was 24, he was the youngest tenured professor in Florida history.

By the time he was 26, he'd earned his doctorate.

"It doesn't matter where you start," explained Martin during a speaking engagement on Jan. 31, at BCC North. "It's where you finish."

what he grew up.

He entered college on a whim, he says, after seeing his friends going off to college. "You?" he recalls asking, incredulously. "I love you man, but you're dumb!" And why, he thought, shouldn't he go as well?

Martin credits his attitude to life to his mother. He recalled a conversation with her before he left for school and the advice she gave him.

"Don't fight with ugly people, they've got nothing to lose." From then on, Martin said, he was determined to be as ugly as possible. Ugly, he said, in recognizing that one must be willing to be single-minded in pursuit of one's goals. Ugly, he said, in that "Cute people would rather appear to be successful, than actually be successful."

Joe Martin is an engaging speaker, and while his first speaking session was wellattended and required that some students stand due to lack of sufficient seating, his second session was far more intimate. Martin speaks to the potential of students, and the chance to speak on a more personal level with scarcely more than two dozen audience members resonates with

Joe Martin knows ugly. It's him as much as with his audience. He's in his element being one-onone with a small group, a skill he credits to his background in

> "I like smaller [a] group," he said after the engagement, noting with a chuckle that college students are "usually" betterbehaved than the kindergarten students he'd began his career teaching before making the switch to public speaking full-time.

> "He was open and direct, and provided more than expected," said student Edith Simon, a nursing major who seemed to connect with Martin's story. "He knew he had [skills] to develop," explained Simon, a third-year student who recently returned to

> Fully half of Martin's second session was devoted to answering questions from students.

> Simon asked Martin, how to best provide her (own) son with a strong male role model?

> "Find the man you want your son to become," he said.

> "How," the question was asked, "do you reconcile that advice with your own experience of sexual abuse?"

> Martin explained that he was no different than a woman who'd been hurt, and for a time he'd



PHOTO COURTESY OF REAL WORLD UNIVERSITY

Joe Martin, award-winning national motivational speaker.

struggled with differentiating "that man" against "all men." Nevertheless he remains adamant that it is "an absolute necessity" that boys have someone to look

Another question from a

student asked what the biggest step to becoming "ugly" would be. Joe Martin knows ugly. It's

Martin responded, "Removing the fear of what other people think."

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College of Engineering & Computing

# Search continues for presidential candidate

### The hunt is on for the successor to former president of BCC, Dr. Larry Calderon

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

knows that this is not a 9 to 5 job," Douglass said. Douglass said that it would be essential for her that the individual knows that they need to be readily available.

"It's a 24-hour-a-day job," she said.

Board member Cheryl Krause told Hockaday she would be looking for an individual who had a feel for people.

"I need someone who can

communicate a vision clearly and put it into action and make it become a reality," she said. Krause said she agrees with Sosa-Douglass that it was important for the candidate to work the political and the business interests.

"You've got to have that feel for people that allows you to move in a group where you don't know anyone and become everybody's friend...that type of people-personality," she said.

Board member Paul Tanner supported Williams' comments

that BCC is unlike other community colleges in the state.

"I think (what we need) is nonlinear thinking and the mental agility to see Broward County for its changes...someone who will grow with these evolving changes in our community," he said. Tanner said he thinks the leadership role they are asking for is the cutting edge that has made the college what it is today.

"I need a president that can make it happen," Williams bellowed. "I don't want to yield any ground to any institution, whether it is a four year (college) or otherwise."

Hockaday said that so far there has been a lot of interest in the position.

He told the Board that even though the interest is high they still need to recruit candidates as well.

"BCC is a large school that will attract experienced people. You'll have a lot of sitting presidents (apply) and a few rising stars," he said. "You have a lot at stake here."

Kim Brodsky, Associate VP/Personnel said that her office has received 15 applications as of Feb. 2, 2007. "I haven't had a chance to look at all of them but I can tell you that there are a few strong candidates," she said. Brodsky said that she thought that the search committee would have its first meeting on Feb. 19 to look over the first round.

"I imagine Dr. Hockaday will be at that meeting and he will probably have some applications to present as well," she said.

# TV commercials to advertise BCC in March

### For the first time, BCC is launching TV commercials as a branding strategy to attract more students

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

research and focus groups. The information obtained showed that the population being targeted by the college, mainly high school graduates and minority populations, preferred certain types of media to others, thus making it a priority to place BCC advertising in these favored media.

### The Initiative

It was only last November and December when the preproduction started turning wheels for the BCC branding initiative, creating two versions of the commercial, one in English and the other one in Spanish, in order to make the advertising more comprehensive, and to be able to be understood and their message grasped in both English and Spanish speaking households.

Jillian Printz, the special assistant to the president, and head of the promotion and public relations department, has been in change of this project from the start. According to Printz, the goal of this new initiative is to "maintain a positive growth of enrollment through our branding and our Enrollment Boost Campaigns in partnership with our Enrollment Management folks from Student Affairs."

She has worked closely with the other organizers in every step of the process in order to design a "Flexible media plan that responds to our audience need," Printz said, and it was she who contacted Amy Wylie from "InterMedia marketing," the agency in record for BCC promotions the advertising and that has done several projects for the school in the past such as the Guerrilla Marketing Campaign for Enrollment.

Wylie started comprehensive research, both qualitative and quantitative. Among her firm's efforts was using focus groups of about 10-12 people, taking more than 400 phone interview surveys, around 10 minutes each. With this, they reached a

multicultural audience, all this in an effort to develop a specifically targeted marketing strategy.

When analyzing the results of the research, Wylie realized that BCC needed to create a message that was fresh and different in order to capture the attention

of its desired audience, as well as trying a different medium to reach the population beyond the printed media.

After discussing the result and analysis of her research with Printz, Wylie turned to Larry Gotterer, the creative director and copywriter. Gotterer in turn, shaped the notion of the commercial and started the preparation for the filming process. In a common effort, all organizers decided the specifics of the commercial, and after the casting process they chose the protagonist actors.

The main organizers of the whole concept have been Printz, Wylie, Gotterer as well as Mark Gompertz, the senior vice president, video operations of "Power Images" the production company in charge of filming the branding commercial; Gompertz is also a BCC alumnus.

In the commercial, there were five speaking parts, which paid actors performed. There were also 15 extras, the majority of them BCC students involved in Phi Theta Kappa honors society, who were given the opportunity to appear in the commercial due to their academic achievement and community service provided to the school.

The filming of the Spanish and English versions was done the same day, in consecutive sketches.

The translation of the sketch

to Spanish as well as the Spanish speaking casting selections were supervised by Pamela Martinetti, member of the financial aid

BCC needed to create an message that was fresh and different in order to capture the attention of its desired audience.

department, as an effort to make sure the message came across in a clear way

The TV commercial will be aired most likely in March,

and it will be launched together with a comprehensive radio campaign, primarily through local stations, such as Power 96,

WFLZ – 97.3, WPBS 1170AM, WFLL 1400AM as well as several Caribbean radio stations and TV stations such as Telefutura, WFSL CW, WSCS Channel 7 (Fox), and WBSS My33 (former UPN33). BCC has already started to advertise in several

types of local print media, such as the *Sun-Sentinel*, high school newspapers, and is planning on promoting the college in several Minority Market publications as well as State University newspapers. Printz and Wylie are currently exploring several creative types of advertisement placing, such as movie theaters, and malls, among other ideas which have not yet been discussed thoroughly.

With this comprehensive campaign, diverse sectors of the community will be reached, surely achieving its main purpose of driving people from different backgrounds in Broward County to get a higher level of education by attending Broward Community College, hopefully making it one of the top alternatives for academic preparation, continuing education and overall didactic progress.



# MySpace, and others, return to BCC

BY ANTHONY PERRUCI NORTH BUREAU CHIEF

BCC students with pages websites MySpace.com Facebook.com again be able to access the ubiquitously popular social networking services

campus computers during the Spring 2007 semester, according to Barney, Vice President of Information Technology for the school.

bandwidth-usage fees as the main reason behind the school's decision to block access to the websites during the Fall 2006 semester.

"We pay a significant amount of money for bandwidth," Barney said, going on to a cite needs "to be cost efficient" as the initial reason for the denial

of access.

The websites will be accessible on a probationary basis this semester. A taskforce is to be compiled to discuss the feasibility of keeping access to the websites through the school network open in the future. The committee will monitor

inappropriate material being posted to the site, but BCC has denied this as a reason.

"Right now, it's strictly a cost factor," said Barney, "not a content issue."

Students welcome the return of access to their favorite website, with many disagreeing

Witt, who has 273 myspace friends, estimates that every week she receives about "14 to 38" friends requests from other users. She uses the site "to keep in touch with friends that moved away... or need to ask about homework with people from my class."

Student Reanne Charles, freshman Business Administration major, spends "over 20 hours" a week on the site. "I have nearly 200 friends," she says, and in the year since she started using the website

"[I've] reunited with a lot of old pals from middle, elementary and high school."

Charles, however, recommends that students exercise good sense when using the website. "There are a lot of jerks on here," she warns. "Ladies, please be aware."

the school network open in the future.

spend logged in to the sites as well as the cost of bandwidth used, as well as any security issues that may arise, and make a recommendation from there.

Recently, many school districts have blocked access to MySpace amid concerns of blocked in the first place.

"I felt like I was back in high school," said student Heather Witt. "I mean we are in college, yet being restricted... it made no [sense] to me. Now, I feel like I am being treated like an adult again."

A taskforce is to be compiled to discuss the feasibility of keeping access to the websites through Barney cited security the amount of time computers with access having been



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# Challenge grant increased

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Director of the foundation. To qualify for the financial assistance students must have at least a 2.0 GPA, come from a household in which neither parent has held a baccalaureate degree and be able to demonstrate financial need. Students may apply by filing a FAFSA form through the financial aid website.

In addition to general education scholarships, there are several degree specific grants for students in fields such as health care or medicine.

In June of 2006 the state of Florida appropriated a \$5 million challenge grant to assist first generation college students. To receive their share of this fund, community colleges across the state must solicit private donations, the amount of which will then be matched by the state. Tallahassee has also stipulated that the funds must be spent before the end of 2007.

\$425,000 have earmarked for BCC. Several fund raising strategies have been employed by the foundation to raise the necessary \$425,000 including a year end appeal to personal donors as well as the International Travel Program, an annual effort undertaken in conjunction with Fort Lauderdale based travel agency, Global Travel and Tours. The travel agency provides the foundation with a \$5,000 portion from the sale of luxury travel packages. The destinations this year include a cruise down the Main-Danube canal and a train voyage between Thailand and Singapore.

The international travel program has been very successful, having raised over \$330,000 (including the state dollar to dollar match,) in the past two years. With the state match, the sale of travel packages is projected to raise \$300,000 for 2007.

The first \$50,000 was the reward for the week of Jan. 29, to students who were identified as needing remedial classes before they could begin pursuing college level courses. Having no current applicants for these challenge grants, the foundation approached these students and made them aware of the funds available. "Our experience has been sometimes, that you have to let students know, and be very aggressive in letting them know that the scholarships exist, otherwise the scholarships will go unused," affirmed Botero.

# Fun for all

### KISS Chili Cook-off burns the house down

BY JOSSIE CARBONARE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Twenty-two years ago on a sunny February afternoon in "Quiet Waters Park," The KISS Country Chili Cookoff was born. Every year since then, country music's hottest performers have been sharing beautiful South Florida afternoons with thousands of devoted fans who kick up their boots as 99.9 KISS Country welcomes the hottest country music artists of the year. This year's stellar line-up included Taylor Swift, Darryl Worley, Jo Dee Messina, Sugarland, Trace Adkins and Montgomery

Forget hip-hop, *hick*-hop dominated the 2007 Chili Cookoff as more than 40,000 die-hard country fans descended on C.B. Smith Park in Pembroke Pines. After seeing this show, or better yet, this crowd, it became very apparent that these people truly feel that South Florida is part of the "South."

Chevy and Ford pickup trucks passed by waving "rebel" flags (a.k.a. Confederate flags). By the time Trace Adkins performed, many people had been "tailgating" since 3 a.m. and were barely able to stand. The blazing South Florida sun didn't seem to keep this crowd from raising their cowboy hats into the air as they sang along to the Trace Adkins song, "Honky Tonk Badonkadonk!"

"Budweiser keg tricks will do that to you," said Vanessa Luca, current BCC student. "I go every year, it's tradition with me and my girlfriends; we are always ready for a good time and some country music."

During the past 22 years, country music fans from all over the world have been making the trip to South Florida to attend the KISS Country Cook-off.

"We here at KISS Country are proud to be an annual 'must do' for so many, not to mention the performers themselves. The entire country music community looks forward to attending the

Chili Cook-off every year. It is amazing to see how this event has grown from a modest Chili cooking contest to a major, national musical event!" said Carole Bowen, WKIS General

Most people, regardless of whether they like country music or not, will agree that country songs tell stories better than any other genre of music

For that reason, here are some tips from the weekend's performers:

"You said the way my blue eyes shined,/Put those Georgia stars to shame that night/I said "That's a lie"/Just a boy in a Chevy truck,/That had a tendency of gettin' stuck,/ On back roads at night/An' I was right there beside him all summer long/An' then the time we woke up to find that summer gone" (Taylor Swift, Tim McGraw)

"Bye bye love, I'll catch you later/Got a lead foot down on my accelerator and the rearview mirror torn off/'Cause I ain't never lookin' back, and that's a fact./I've tried all I can imagine/ I've begged and pleaded in true lover's fashion/I've got pride, I'm takin' it for a ride/Bye bye, bye bye my baby, bye bye" (Jo Dee Messina, Bye Bye)

"You know mamas and daddies want better for their daughters/Hope they'll settle down with a doctor or a lawyer/and their uptown, ball gown, hand-me-down royalty/ They never understand why their princess falls/For some camouflage britches and a southern-boy-drawl" (Trace Adkins, Ladies love country boys)



Norah Jones on her Limited Edition version of "Come Away With Me."

### Norah Jones' latest album is not a minute too late

BY MARTIN BATER SPORTS EDITOR

2006 was a down year for the music business. Outside of Pearl Jam, the Red Hot Chili Peppers releasing their best work yet and My Chemical Romance and Panic at the Disco!

Taking emo music to a whole new level, CD sales have been down and the quality of music has been replaced for music videos with a lot of flash but no substance. I'm talking about artists like Fergie, Nelly Furtado and that annoying Chevy ad that said "This is oooouuur country..."

That is why Norah Jones is a breath of fresh air in 2007 with her new album "Not Too Late," which came out on Jan. 30 and was expected to be one of the year's top CD's.

The album's release, two weeks before Valentine's Day, is no coincidence. With her soft voice and mellow beat, Norah Jones is a specialist in making songs for broken hearts.

In "Thinking about you," her first hit single, she talks about the need to let somebody go without necessarily forgetting that person while "Broken" is about a man who after a painful break-up

seems to be lost and not going anywhere.

The best of the 13 songs that compose the album is "Be my somebody", the most upbeat song of all which resembles a song from her previous CD named "What am I to you?"

Jones composed all of the songs in the CD, looking for the credibility so many artists crave. In "Feels like home," her previous CD, she composed just two or three of the tracks.

So whether you want to get cozy with your significant other or just grab a beer and drown your sorrows, this CD provides 45 minutes of reflection and jazz beats by an artist that could be a superstar but instead chooses to keep things low key and focus on the quality of her music, which gets better and better every year.



"Not Too Late"

Over 40,000 fans attended the 22nd annual KISS Country Chili Cook-off.

### Climb aboard, Mate! The Miami Boat Show returns

**BY BUZZ LAMB** STAFF WRITER

The annual celebration of the boating lifestyle returns to the Miami Beach Convention Center for a five-day run in February. More than 2,200 exhibitors will be showcasing the latest and greatest in boats and boating equipment.

The fifth annual Discover Boating Photo Contest encourages show visitors to bring photographs that capture "the boating lifestyle" whether it is water-skiing, wakeboarding, fishing or simply cruising. The contest is sponsored by the Miami Herald and one grand prize winner will receive an Adirondack Pack boat valued at \$2,500 along with a \$500 boat show shopping spree.



Many seacraft, both large and small, were on display by their owners.

"The Miami Boat Show is truly the world's greatest because it offers something for everyone," said Cathy Johnston, vice president of Southern Shows for the National Marine

Manufacturers Association (NMMA) which produces the show.

"Exhibitors use the Miami show to introduce new products for the upcoming season," she said.

New for the 2007 show will be a Kids Play Area complete with a rock climbing wall, Mutiny on the Bouncer pirate ship and bounce house/slide. Children 12 and under who attend the show will receive a free life jacket on Saturday and Sunday compliments of Allstate Boat Owner's Insurance.

Visit the Miami Boat Show website at <a href="http://www."><a href="http://www.">http://www.</a> miamiboatshow.com> to enter to win a Sea Vee Fishing Trip of a Lifetime that includes lodging for two in Key West; a full day of fishing with ESPN celebrity angler Jose Wejebe aboard his 34 foot Sea Vee as well as a \$500 gift certificate. Entries must be received by Feb. 19 and winners will be announced on Feb. 20.

#### **EVENT INFO**

What: Miami International **Boat Show** 

Where: Miami Beach Convention Center 1901 Convention Center Drive

When: Feb. 15 (Premier) 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

> Feb. 16-Feb. 18 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Feb. 19 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Entrance Fee: \$28 Premier, \$16 adults, \$6 children between the ages of 13–15, free for children under 12.

# Microsoft Vista finally released worldwide

BY WILLIAM BREIM SCI-TECH EDITOR

The long awaited Microsoft Vista operating system was released January 30. There has been a lot of hype and speculation in the tech-industry for quite sometime about it. There are a lot of questions in the air about the software, such as, Who needs it? What are the new features? Is it worth to get it? Is it safer? As with previous OS releases by Microsoft the impact in the tech industry and to great extent the end user is enormous since Windows dominates 90% of the OS market across the globe, including home computers and businesses.

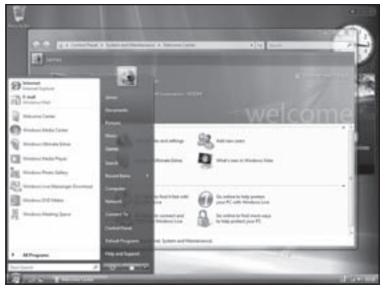
Vista was in development for 5 years after the release of Windows XP, the longest gap between two Microsoft OS releases. During this time speculations ran wild, specially regarding the new interface called Aero the resemblance to Apple's OSX is striking and fueled claims by critics that Microsoft had chosen the route of imitation rather than innovation once again. The Aero interface is one of the most striking features of Vista it is a new hardware-based graphical user interface, it is intended to be cleaner and more aesthetically pleasing than those of previous Windows, including new transparencies, animations.

Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft recently stated during an interview on the popular TV show, The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, that the Vista team polled 50 families from 7 different countries during the development of Vista to really pinpoint what families use the computer the most for and where do they want improvement on and he also claimed 800 different modifications were done as a direct result form this study. The interview has reached viral status on the internet reaching close to half a million views in 3 days on the popular video streaming website YouTube.com

Industry experts say that a smart move by Microsoft when developing Vista was to release the operating system a few months in advance for Beta Testing by the public. The company released a Beta (not final) version of the OS to be freely downloaded by a legion of 5 million tech enthusiasts and these people contributed feedback as to what they felt needed improvement.

It is truly a labor of love for these enthusiasts that put up with faulty and buggy software just for the pleasure of contributing their ideas and testing the latest software. But the major criticism really has been over the security issues such major additions of new code would bring to the software, Microsoft has stated that security is its number one focus on Vista, that is a claim that will have to be time tested as the software is disseminated and the hackers of world start chipping away trying to find new ways to exploit computer systems.

Besides the new interface which is much more functional and intuitive. There are a few features that may make Vista desirable as an upgrade. The new Windows Reliability and



SCREENSHOT COURTESY OF MICROSOFT

Microsoft showcases the new Windows Vista desktop with the *Aero* 3D graphics system.

Performance Monitor can easily be set by a user to automatically take a baseline performance reading of their new PC. When performance begins to suffer, this tool will help then diagnose what is causing the problem.

A new Enhanced networking Microsoft has rewritten its TCP/IP network stack for Vista to provide better performance. In addition, Vista has dramatically changed how users interact with the network devices in their PC and on their network. Now users can take advantage of the new built-in tools to help diagnose network problems. This will cut down on help desk calls and in some cases, speed up support.

The help desk can use the information provided by the diagnostic tools to help in their troubleshooting. DirectX 10 will be available only on Windows Vista. If the latest and greatest in games is a must have, the

upgrade to Windows Vista is a no-brainer, as this is the only way to get it. Also it has claimed that recent fixes on DirectX 10 could lead to games that can perform six times better than the same game running in DirectX 9 on Windows XP. Parental Controls, allows administrators to control which websites, programs, and games each standard user can use and install.

There is no doubt that Vista is an improvement on XP, faster, more secure with a better interface. But as with any OS change there is the risk that some programs won't run well or at and some components won't be compatible as well. If your computer is more than a couple of years old or it does not Windows XP there is a good chance Vista wouldn't work your machine. Vista is being released in four versions, Vista Home Premium, Vista Basic, Vista Business and

Ultimate. For most users out there the right choice is Home Premium. Basic (\$239) is just \$30 dollars cheaper than Premium and lacks many of the multimedia functions. Vista Business and Ultimate are too expensive (\$299 and \$399) respectively and don't add enough functionality that would be useful for home users. If your computer already runs Windows XP then a Home Premium upgrade might be the best option, it is an \$80 difference between the upgrade and the full version. A Vista upgrade should be considered by anyone who feels being at the frontier of technological innovations is important for work or home use

This latest chapter in the continuing saga of the information age is probably not a revolutionary one but more of a middle step and it will be extremely interesting to see if Microsoft's hold on the world's PC OS market will tighten or if people will start turning to Opensource solutions as computers and technology is more and more globalized.



Vista Home Premium

### Nanomachine unveiled

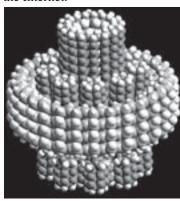
BY WILLIAM BREIM SCI-TECH EDITOR

Tiny particles are making big news at the University of Edinburgh, where scientists have created a motor mechanism for a nanomachine. Last year researchers at the University of Georgia developed minuscule nanogenerator to power the nano world, but this latest unimaginably small machine, about 80,000 times thinner than the thickness of a human hair, and runs on its own power. The idea of this tiny machine is not exactly new. It was first conceived by one of the world's greatest scientists nearly 150 years ago. James Clerk Maxwell, who is ranked along Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein for his contributions to science, imagined an atom-sized device, known as Maxwell's Demon that could trap molecules as they move in a specific direction.

Professor David Leigh, of the University of Edinburgh's School of Chemistry, said: "Our machine has a device -- or 'demon' if you like -- inside it that traps molecule-sized particles as they move in a certain direction. Maxwell reasoned that if such a system could ever be made it would need energy to work.

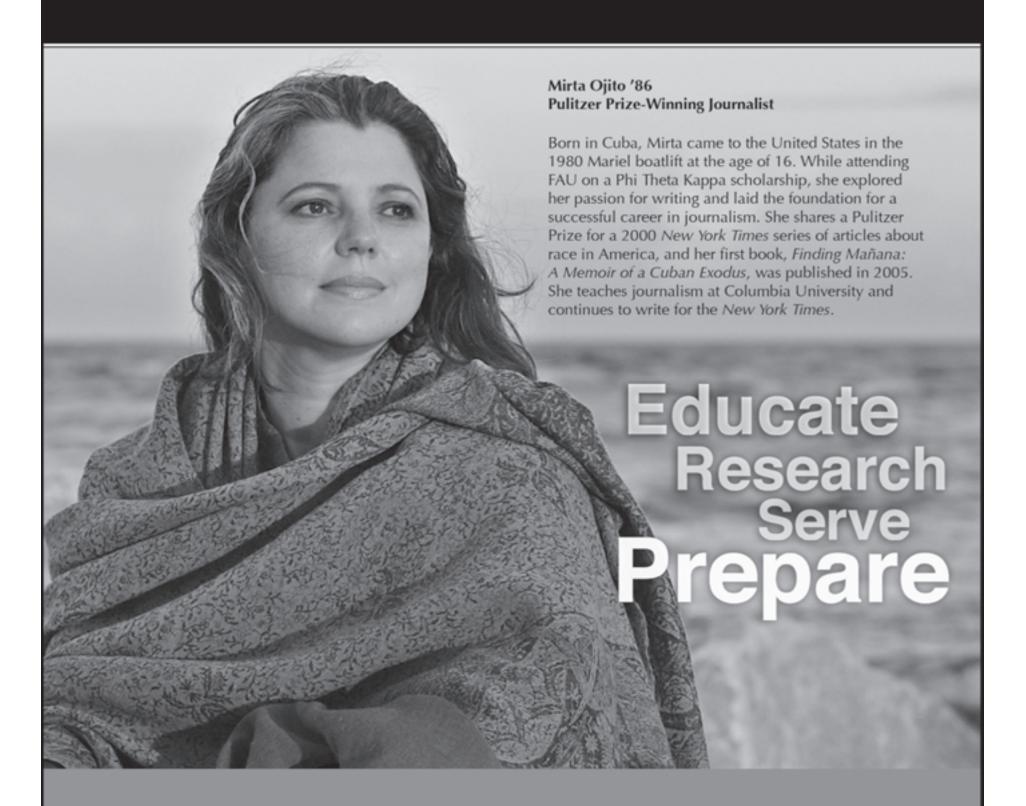
Without energy, it might appear that the perpetual motion of the molecules could power other devices in the same way as a windmill, but Maxwell reasoned that this would go against the second law of thermodynamics.

David Leigh sees the machine and its descendants driving a whole new era in technological progress. "It is a machine mechanism that is going to take molecular machines a step forward to the realization of the future world of nanotechnology." Leigh says this is the first time anything like his device has been developed. This nanotech might spark a series of scientific and engineering breakthroughs that could dwarf the harnessing of electricity, the steam engine, and the Internet.



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THE OBSERVER **FEATURES FEBRUARY 12, 2007** 

# Making your major decision

### Students need to carefully choose their future career path

BY EMILY MOORHOUSE STAFF WRITER

Perhaps you have such an assortment of interests and skills that no one passion pulls you in a certain direction. Maybe you are no longer invested in pursuing what you planned since age eleven. Or maybe you find yourself under parental pressure like Central Campus student, Jessina Metheny, who is majoring in nursing and admitted "a lot of it has to do with my mom." Making a

mistake about your career path can cost time Vordergeissboden and money and puts long-term happiness at stake. A September 2003 Conference Board report reveals that "less than half of workers are satisfied with their jobs."

Whether you've been that subtle, ignoring nagging doubt or you are having a complete midcollege crisis, now is the time to find out what really works for you. Narrowing down on one career path may seem a tough and hopeless task - there are so many options, so many factors to consider, and so many questions to ask yourself, but with a variety of ways to go about the investigation it may be easier than you think.

A simple, yet effective method to deciding on a major

is compiling a list of personal interests, values, passions, skills and strengths. Having a comprehensive list allows you to connect the dots on what suits you. It is also helpful to explore college web sites or pamphlets for descriptions of various majors, especially those you have not considered yet. You might also try consulting college course catalogs to identify courses of interest and to get a feel for what subject areas you would most

10 Min

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3 Std. 35 Min.

3 Std. 10 Min

1 Std. 45 Min

30 Min.

enjoy. As different careers start to stand out, challenge yourself with questions such as "how will this occupation affect my family?" or "how stressful will this profession be?"

Another great way to explore career options is by simply doing a Google search. You will run into valuable resources such as the "Occupational Outlook Handbook 2006- 07 Edition" at <a href="http://www.bls.gov/oco/">http://www.bls.gov/oco/> which will give you the ins and outs, from working conditions

to earnings, of almost

profession. There are a lot of aspects to a career that you might not have thought about. You may even find that your "dream job" is not as glorious as it seems. Be sure to look at not only career destination, but the path in getting there, including the classes you will have to take. After all, an appealing career might require a

Probably the most useful and underused means of career investigation are BCC's Career Centers located on North, South and Central campuses. You will find a slew of resources from book guides on college majors to take-home assessments, from career comparison web sites to

painstaking journey.

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

# Citizenship test modified for '08

**BY CAROL WANG** CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For many immigrants who come to America, taking the citizenship test also known as the naturalization exam created by the Department of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is the one-step that comes in between becoming a legalized American.

On Nov. 30, 2006, it was announced that a newer version of the naturalization exam is in the works according to the USCIS website <a href="http://www.">http://www.</a> uscis.gov>. The actual pilot testing however will occur in early 2007. "We found that the current naturalization exam process lacks standardization and encourages applicants to memorize facts just to pass a test, but that doesn't guarantee that they understand the meaning behind the question," said Emilio Gonzalez, the current U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director, within a press letter found on the site. "Our goal is to inspire immigrants to learn about the civic values of this nation so that after they take the oath of citizenship they will participate fully in our great democracy."

This pilot test for a new naturalization exam will have 144 questions that will be given to 5,000 volunteer citizenship applicants in 10 cities early next year. According to the press letter released by the USCIS it also states that these cities will be Miami, Fla.; Albany, N.Y.; Boston, Mass.; Charleston, S.C.; Denver, Colorado; El Paso,

Texas; Kansas City, Mo.; San Antonio, Texas; Tucson, Ariz.; and Yakima, Wash.

The USCIS have created the new questions to gear towards the principals of American democracy, system of government, rule of law, rights and responsibilities, American history and geography. The newer version of the exam will still include the 100 multiplechoice questions, an interview and the reading and writing portion. Major changes include the questions being slightly up to date and there will be emphasis on whether or not applicants understand the material through the writing section.

What the USCIS hopes to achieve through this pilot test is to seek out any problems and issues in order to refine the exam before introducing it nationwide. Through the pilot, they hope to have a range of acceptable answers to questions for the writing section so that applicants can learn more about a topic and select from a wider range of responses, according to their press release letter. Some of the questions will be applying the knowledge instead of just memorizing facts.

What intertwines this future change of the naturalization test includes the reactions of people who might be affected by it in one way or another. "The U.S. government should not change the citizenship test. I am an immigrant myself and so are my parents," said Cristina

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



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#### THE OBSERVER SPECIAL

# A wet night at halftime-Super Bowl XLI

BY ANDRES LOPEZ STAFF WRITER

On a typical Sunday, being parked at Nova Southeastern University might seem like a nonchalant ambience; however on Feb. 4, 2007, 26, BCC students felt the exhilaration of what it was like to be in the final steps of an event that would be seen worldwide, Super Bowl XLI in Miami, Florida.

Nielsen Media Research states Super Bowl XLI to be the third highest most most-watched program in television history. So, how was it that 26 students from BCC got the opportunity to participate in the halftime Super Bowl show? When did this web begin to untangle for dreams to come true? Perhaps the commencement of it all would be the uses of the formula for success, having preparation meet up with a one of a kind opportunity.

At a time when most people only wish they could be involved in an event that becomes part of history, Orlando Fraticelli, vice-president of SGA on South Campus, along with Raichelle Williams, Josias Fabien, and Deverene McDonald began registering the names of the volunteers on Monday, Jan. 29, into the official website of the halftime cast for Super Bowl XLI. The initial step of this 2 week process occurred on Jan. 17, when Sherry O'Brien



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE CARR

Andres Lopez, Cami Carr, Heather Dulman, and Bjorn Mercado.

volunteer coordinator of Student Life at South Campus received an e-mail from Melinda Cote, Super Bowl XLI casting coordinator of volunteers. O'Brien then distributed the attached flyer throughout South Campus as well as to various student organizations such as The Observer, Phi Theta Kappa, and the Student Government Association.

When Fraticheli received the flyer he decided to "take action and make it happen." Fraticheli was the individual who led a group of students to the experience of a lifetime. Originally the number of students that had been placed on the list was 56; however that number quickly changed when Sunday, Jan. 28 came by.

Earlier that week volunteers were told to meet at Nova High School, located in Broward County. By 2:30 p.m., the BCC students that attended had already registered and been checked off by their group leader, Fraticelli.

Around 3 p.m. the volunteers were sent to the football field and were arranged in groups of "pods." The pods would later be used to designate their spots for the show. At the end of that day, it was announced that the rehearsal for Tuesday of that week had been

The first dress rehearsal was on Feb. 1 at 2 p.m.; on the previous rehearsal volunteers had been given special passes that allotted them to park their vehicles at the Dolphin Stadium, the site for the 2007 Super Bowl.

While the volunteers waited to be called, they were able to witness the vibrant energy that the marching band for Florida A&M University had to showcase for their performance alongside the famous singer of the 80's hit "Purple Rain."

Once all the groups had registered and received special bracelets that allowed them to enter the restricted areas of the rehearsal, practice began aside lot 13 of the parking lot. Everyone who participated was screened by metal detectors before entering the stadium. Then, for the first time they were able to see Prince perform. A dinner break was given around 8:30 p.m. where sandwiches were offered along with water, chips and a cookie. Within an hour the volunteers were called in, this time for the final dress rehearsal of the night.

Before everyone information was given about parking and location to meet on super bowl Sunday.

The location would be Nova Southeastern University, where rain seemed to be the omen for the night. At around 4 p.m., all of the BCC students had been registered and given 2 bracelets, one which would indicate their group and the other which permitted entrance into Dolphin Stadium.

At 6:37 p.m., volunteers were led to yellow buses that would take them to the site of the football game between the Chicago Bears and the Indianapolis Colts.

During the departure it was extremely visible how extensive security had been taken when streets were closed for the more than 30 buses, which were escorted by police, from Nova Southeastern University to Dolphin Stadium.

Volunteers were ponchos prior to being screened by metal detectors. Later, they would have to wait as the stage handlers and members of the marching band for Florida A&M University entered. Then, the choreographers announced through their speakers, "thirty seconds until you run inside." Raichelle Williams said "this was the most fun I've had in the rain," then the cue was given "everyone run, run, run and continue running!" The expressions on the faces of these BCC students had more to say than what words can describe. Four songs were sung and then the less than 12 minutes of fun had come and gone. After the show everyone was rushed to get into the waiting buses. Where they were again escorted by police, this time the destination was Nova Southeastern University. At arrival the volunteers were given a small pin recognizing their participation, a blue shirt that read 'cast' on the back as well as Don Mischer Productions, the company that took care of the production of the event. Prior to leaving for the night, Fraticelli took a souvenir that was autographed by some of the choreographers of the halftime

# Chinese affiliate school approved

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PRESS RELEASE

The Broward Community College District Board of on January Trustees approved creation of an affiliation agreement with Beijing International School. Under the terms of the consulting and support services for BIS as the school creates an American-style associate degree program for students residing in Beijing.

Instruction at the BIS will be offered in English and classes in English as a Second Language will be offered to students who are not prepared to take college courses in English.

BIS has operated a K-12 program in Beijing since 1994, when it began operations as a subsidiary of the International School of Singapore. ISS has partnered with BCC since 1986, with the creation of the Center for American Education, which offers college-level programming, BCC courses and degrees. ISS operates the Beijing school under the leadership of Elvis Tan.

The affiliation between BCC and BIS begins Jul. 1, 2007 and runs for five years, with options for five-year renewals. The BCC-BIS program will begin in the fall of 2007 with a small selection of courses offered, using BCC as a model. Students will be recruited from the current BIS student body and agreement, BCC will provide throughout Beijing, a city of more than 20 million people.

> BIS aims to become an accredited international campus of BCC as are the college's affiliates in Singapore and Bangalore, India. BIS is the ninth affiliation or branch campus of BCC. Others are in Sri Lanka, Spain, Mexico (2), and Ecuador (2).



BCC now has a presence in Beijing, China.

# An act of compassion

BY HEATHER DULMAN SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

On the side of the entrance to BCC South Campus, there lay an

iguana with cars passing by.

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, Vicki Hendricks, an English professor, was driving into the South Campus parking lot by the old library. On her way she found an injured iguana on the side of the road, thinking it was getting some sun but checked

"I turned back around and left my flashers on, poked him with a stick and he just looked at me," says Hendricks.

She saw blood on the right side of its head and called the Wild Life Center. Hendricks "picked it up; you would think that their skin was slimy and rough but it is like a beaded handbag." She put it by the lake and placed it on metal square

"I used to have an iguana, I did not realize he was hurt that badly," said Hendricks. "The Wild Life Care Center was very nice but took a long time to explain to me the diagnosis." Its tail was broken and was not going to heal; they gave a shot within five seconds. The injured iguana was put to sleep. "I was impressed with them of how sympathetic they were trying to let me down easily."



PHOTO BY HEATHER DULMAN

Vicki Hendricks, and English professor on South Campus and iguana lover.

Hendricks had a bond with the iguana and it reminded her of the last iguana she had named Chinasky. It lived for about 10 years and died of an infection. "I'm not going to have another iguana. They are hard to take care of." Although she does not want another iguana for a pet she would always look out for iguanas.

This English professor has five published books. Including the 1999 Iguana Love. A love story on how a guy acts just like the characteristics of an iguana.

"An iguana can never love you back, can never return your love. [My book,] Iguana Love was a metaphor about a guy with unrequited love... no matter how much you do how much you love it, it will never love you back they just don't have the brains for it."

"I'm not sure the look of them they are beautiful I can stare at them for hours. They do have some sort of personality."

Her next book will be coming out in May called Cruel Poetry. "I tend to have animals in most of my books the next one will be an albino

Anyone interested in rescuing exotic animals can contact the Wild Life Center at 954-524-4302.

# Help us, Howard

### TV personality comes to BCC to hear students' concerns

BY HEATHER DULMAN SOUTH BUREAU CHIEF

Have a problem? Have any questions? Just ask for Help me Howard. Howard Finkelstein, 53, is well-known for the TV segment on WSVN 7 called Help Me Howard.

He said that the show is not successful because of him but it is the people that make the show.

"Every night I'm in their bedrooms while they are in their underwear. It's a very personal relationship. They feel like they know me."

Finkelstein was at South Campus Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. to assist BCC students that were in need of help.

Dr. David Goodrich, professor of business and law studies, contacted Finkelstein to speak for the Legal Assisting Society. "Officers suggested Howard as a potential guest speaker. The purpose is to hear speakers who can give real life practical experience," said Dr. Goodrich.

It all started in 1995 with the O.J. Simpson trial, when Finkelstein was teamed up with Patrick Fraiser. Later on in 1998, Finkelstein was offered a chance of a life time and almost denied the offer that would make him known and feel like a local celebrity. "Fraiser is the brains of Help Me Howard, he's the one who writes it, he is the one that chooses what to do, and he is the one who comes up with the funny sayings in the end of the segments. I think of it as Shakespeare, telling a story of somebody's pain. All I'm doing is telling the people what the law is and hopefully we solve it."

Finkelstein receives about 70,000 phone calls a year.

Other then WSVN Finkelstein works at the Broward County Public Defenders Office and has been a public defender for 30 years. He started the first mental health court after representing a child that was mentally ill.

Nothing is weird to him anymore. He has seen best friends fighting, people having sex with corpses, men dressing



The host of Help Me Howard hears out students on South Campus.

up as women in court trials, young children as prostitutes and parents as drug dealers.

When he had his own law firm Brackey, Finkelstein, and Dallas from 1980-1987 he had a drug

"Cocaine changed my mind, changed my values, it took away my soul," he said. "As a result, I went 7 years on a path I should not have been on. Being arrested in 1987 was a wake up call. The moment I saw my first child's head come out of my wife I knew what my role was; I never looked

The speech started off with how the young generation can make a change. Finkelstein said he wanted to excite the students about being Americans and the field of law.

"Young people are at a crossroads that would change what this country is 10 years in the making. I always believe and I still do believe if anyone asks me for my time and it comes from an educational institution or charitable institution, or religious institution I think that it's the least I can do to give back to the community. It's an honor and a pleasure. I get to talk to young people who are at a crossroads of really accepting the mantel of power to change what this country is, where this country goes, because my generation maybe has 10 more years to make decisions of where the country is going to go."

Then Finkelstein moved on on TV."

to questions dealing with the problems students were having. It varied from signing up at a gym to renting policies, to what extent people have of their own privacy. "Good lawyers understand people, best lawyers know human race. Don't sit back, don't sit on the sidelines. You can become a lawyer or whatever your beliefs are. Any body can be a lawyer; I don't care what their background is. They can major in art or political science."

BCC Student, Kim Carr, said, "It was very educational, very knowledgeable. He touched on many different aspects from religion, politics, to law. He made me believe in the law system. I eventually want to pursue my career in law."

Finkelstein teaches semester on contemporary legal issues at American Heritage High School and said he adores

Two segments of Help Me Howard air each week Monday nights at 10 p.m. and the same show on Tuesday mornings and Tuesday at 6 p.m. A new one comes out Wednesday nights and Thursday mornings and Thursday

"Law is not a bunch of words; it is something that effects everyday people in everyday life. I'm looking at the future. You are the future. Study hard, love the law, remember you wanted to be a lawyer," said Finkelstein. "Give me a call and I'll put you

# Music professor strikes a note with students

BY SAHARA CAMACHO CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What comes to our minds when we hear the word music? Probably the first thought is the artists and genres that are hip in at the moment, Beyonce, John Legend and many others. Have you ever thought that behind music, there is not just a lyric, a rhythm or just an artist singing, but that music also implies history? Through music you can learn about love, violence, daily life and also about the time

"Music can really make history come alive, and gives you a new sense of that time period," said Lydia Pabon, a student at BCC.

Dr. Richard Corseri, professor for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department at the South Campus in Broward Community College, understands this and much more about music. Through the different performances that he has done with different styles of music, Corseri intends to teach our students at BCC how to appreciate various kinds of genres of music.

"My intention is to reach our students here at BCC with music that is not familiar to them so that they can get exposed to the music that they are not aware," said

Students should listen to music that is unfamiliar to them and from that, they can decide whether they like it or not. According to Corseri, the exposure to a variety of music and its history, gives the students the elements they need to make an informed decision on what type of music they like or dislike.

Corseri had been interested in music since he was a child. He plays the clarinet and the saxophone. He has been invited to play with different bands and he has played in restaurants, bars and other places.

teaches outside BCC. Tones.

giving lectures in communities like Hollywood where he teaches Judaism and Western Civilization.

"Dr. Corseri is a nice guy, who teaches us about our background and we enjoy when he comes to the complex," said Phil Goldneo, who has heard him speak in his community.

The BCC Foundation has sponsored the performances that Corseri has made through grants. This year he has done three presentations on The Beatles in October, "The Sources of Jewish Tradition" in November and "A Day at the Opera" in January.

The most recent presentation held at the Performing Cultural Arts Theater was "The Day at the Opera" where he played the clarinet with different opera songs mainly from Italy, accompanied by shows slides, videos of geography and opera presentations. He relates his Western Civilization class to the "The Day at the Opera" because Opera originated around this civilization and that has a background history to that period. This performance was the most challenging for many reasons. First, the majority of the students will run far away when they hear the word "opera," so trying to attract college students to this type of art is not an easy task. The second great challenge was coordinating the live music with the slide show and video to perfect the timing between the different types of media. Though challenging, it was rewarding when it finally came together.

Corseri has already applied for a grant to be able to continue his presentations in the Fall Term 2007. For now, he is getting ready for his next presentation on March 28, 2007 at 11:15 a.m. at South Campus' Performing Cultural Corseri has worked at BCC for Arts Theatre. This time he will 30 years and teaches American be taking the audience on an History, National Government adventure through the music of and Western Civilization. He the Big Bands and Great Show

# Grace presents "Bearers of Culture"

BY MICHAEL KRYSZCAK CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There is a reason art is sometimes called the universal language. It is an abstract force that can deeply affect people. A powerful piece of art inspires and unites, touching people across the borderlines of faith, ethnicity and background.

It is this universal strength that Arnold Victor Grace's exhibit "Bearer's of Culture"

aims to take advantage of.

The exhibit which has been on annual event since 2003 is the brain child of curator and artist Arnold Victor Grace. The opening reception was held on Feb. 1 at the Willis Holcombe down town campus. The artwork will be on display until March 9. There is no charge for admission and the exhibit may be viewed between the normal office hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The work of twelve artists

will be on display, with about thirty pieces of art making up the body of the show. While all of the artists currently live in south Florida, it is an international line up with several of the presenters originating from places as diverse as Haiti, Venezuela and Nigeria. The works spread across several different media, including paint and sculpture.

While all of the artists are black, Grace endeavored to keep that from being the over riding theme of the show. "I chose a generic theme, art is art," asserts Grace. Instead of focusing on art that was directly related to Black History month, he wanted to use the opportunity to show case talented African American artists and give them a forum which could be used to expose their work to people who may not otherwise have had any contact with it.

Some artists, such as George Gadson, made a conscious decision to submit pieces whose subject was not related to the month long celebration. Gadson's three pieces on display include the warriors, a portrait of two American Indians, Made in America, a photograph of an automobile and harvest a brand new piece of sculpture. "I think that African American art should be showcased in September or March," stated Gadson, echoing the sentiment

# TAKING OFF

# with the Aviation Institute

**BY ANDRES LOPEZ** STAFF WRITER

Taking a look at the sky one can not help but notice, that flying through the clouds are birds and planes that decorate the horizon for all to witness the depth of the immense sky. Wondering how it was possible for the plane to be in the air is what makes aviation an art that is yet to be fully discovered.

With technological new advances in the field of aviation coming out from time to time is what continues to ignite the passion for many professors as well as students at the Aviation Institute at BCC's South Campus.

Michael Coakley, a substitute professor at the aviation institute states that "students learn a good trade at the aviation institute and become part of great technological advancements." Locally flyers announcing the up coming Wings, Wheels, and Waves event were distributed to Millennium Middle School, FedEx, Ft. Lauderdale Airport, as well as to Bass Pro Shops.

At this event careers in the aviation, automotive and marine industries will be showcased for the public to witness and experience the excitement of having an occupation in the given fields of expertise. Raffling of prizes will be given at this event held on Saturday, February 17, 2007 starting at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



This Cirrus SR-20 is similar to the one that will be presented at the Wings, Wheels, and Waves event.

at the Aviation Institute (Building 99), at 7200 Pines Boulevard, Pembroke Pines, Florida.

Admission to this event will be free; families are encouraged to attend and see in person how a turbine engine runs, as well as a search and rescue demonstration that will be conducted by the U.S Coast Guard.

In the afternoon a dedication ceremony will take place commemorating the Boeing 727 aircraft that was donated by FedEx and facilitated by the late Commander Michael Metcalf, an individual whose memory will be honored by the ISTAT Foundation by having a scholarship in his

At this event the public will be able to see for the first time the new Cirrus SR-20 airplane; a plane that has fully integrated cockpit instrument displays, a composite airframe, and is "a 4 seat, all glass cockpit, with a joystick in place of a wheel" according to Vincent Loschiavo, a Professor of Avionics. Kevin Coakley, a general aviation maintenance professor

"students are encouraged to learn about the future possibilities a career in aviation has to offer" and also adds that to be willing to

Loschiavo adds "careers in aviation are not just limited to becoming pilots and mechanics; there are also other careers such engineering, dispatching, and planning." North Perry is the airport that is used for flight training by the aviation students to put in their hours as part of the FAA requirements to graduate. According to Evelyn Ruiz, advisor

for the aviation institute, "students of the aviation department receive an interview with an airline once all the requirements have been fulfilled."

Kevin Coakley has spent 20 years in aviation and mentions that "20 plus years of experience by the majority of the professors as well as the love for aviation are just some of the things that students can look forward to experiencing at the aviation institute, along with the fun to be able to work in all types of weather conditions."

Manuela Mineo-Hicks, aviation maintenance & FAA records specialist, states that she takes care of the process for the students when they need to register for classes and also makes sure that all their requirements are being met before they take the next step. Aviation is a career path that is open to both men and women to take a step into the runway of their life and see their dreams take off into the infinity of possibilities.

#### **EVENT INFO**

What: Wings, Wheels, and Waves

Where: BCC South Campus 7200 Pines Blvd. Pembroke Pines Florida

When: Feb. 15 (Premier) 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

# Meet the mysterious Misty Jean

BY ANDRES LOPEZ STAFF WRITER

could be just the right words to describe Misty Jean, an up and coming singer from the country that is known for its breath 2004, taking mountains, Haiti.

Misty has been entertaining a u d i e n c e s since she began taking dance lessons at the Institute of Lynn William Rouzier. On March of 2002, Misty set in motion her path to success by coming to the U.S.

In that same month this young singer performed at Gusto's in Miami Lakes with Leila Chicot, Jocelyne Labylle and Sonia Dersion. The following month she was crowned Queen of carnival at

The progression of success continued, in the summer of Misty Jean performed at Bayfront Park

for the 4th of July celebrations alongside Lil' Kim. In August of the same year she would head out to French Antilles where she toured. Three

months after, she was awarded female singer of the year by Ticket D'Or of Ticket Magazine in Haiti, an award that would later be given to her for the second time in 2006.

Misty has not been limited to performing in countries that are

the Miami Mardi Gras. Misty generally associated with music has also been photographed of the Caribbean; such is the on several occasions by award case with Paris, France in which Charismatic and enigmatic winning photographer Johnny she performed at Bataclan on Dec. 10 2005.

> When the year 2006 rolled out, so did the opportunities to perform at major venues.

> In February, she was one of the selected singers to take the stage and perform at the Bicentennial Park in Downtown Miami for the Greater Miami Mardi Gras.

> Compa Jeans has been the designer label of choice for this sultry and vivacious singer of Zouk style music. This year she hosted the 2007 Haitian Independence Festival at Bayfront Park in Miami, Florida. "Misty Jean Live Vol. 1" is her most recent CD that is available to the public with such hits as "Maladie D'amour," "Ce Ou Mwen Vle," "Paradi Lanmou," and "Patizan" just to name a



Misty Jean is a rising star from Haiti.

# Softball season is finally back

BY OMAR TORRIJOS

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Fast Pitch Women's Softball season for 2007 has just began with the Lady Seahawks holding a very realistic shot of making a run for the Regional Championship games, these will be played on May 4-6 at the Auburndale Sports Complex in Auburndale, FL., located off Interstate 4 near Orlando.

On his second year as the head coach of the Lady Seahawks, Brian Staubly showed excitement when asked what were the expectations for the present season: "To win enough games in the Conference to go back to the Regional Championship games... we are probably going to be out par with Palm Beach Community College, Miami Dade College and Brevard Community College, so we got to come out in second or third."

The Conference teams the Lady Seahawks will play throughout the season are the ones just mentioned above and Indian River Community College, who is the current runner up losing 2-0 against Gulf Coast Community College in the Division I Regional Championship Game last year.

For the 2007 season, the Lady Seahawks roster is composed by a total of four sophomores and 10



PHOTO COURTESY BY BCC ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

Back Row (L-R): Brian Staubly - Head Coach, Sophia Ratcliff, Samantha Woods, Brooke Slinger, Caitlin Coyle, Jeannie Colina, Wendy Britton - Assistant Coach. Middle Row: Jackie Cargill, Casey Jacobs, Lacey Shine, Ashley Green, Lindly Theroux. Front Row: Elyse King, Adriana Valencia, Diana Ochoa, Amber Perez.

freshmen, when asked about the difficulties the team could face because of inexperience at the college level by most of the team, coach Staubly said: "We are young and it takes some time to yield together, at times we will have to start nine freshman." (For the person who doesn't know, in a softball game there is nine players on the field per team, just like baseball). However, Staubly also commented

about the talent he currently has in the team.

According to the coach, some of the players to watch for this season are: Casey Jacobs (#17), pitcher and third base freshman; Caitlin Coyle (#10), shortstop sophomore and Brooke Slinger (#18), first base freshman.

Another player I would also recommend to watch for, besides the ones above mentioned, is Sophia

Ratcliff (#11), pitcher and also a freshman. Currently Jacobs and Ratcliff are ranked among the best ten pitchers in the National Junior College Athletics Association (NJCAA), which main difference from the NCAA is being a two year college's league instead of a four year's like UM, UF or FSU. Jacobs has an ERA of 2.154 in 13 innings pitched while Ratcliff has a 1.00 ERA in 7.0 innings thrown.

The home opener for the Lady Seahawks will be on Feb. 17 (Saturday), starting at 1 p.m. at BCC South Campus. They will play a double header against the University of Miami Club Team.

The next home game will be another double header on Feb. 22 (Thursday), starting at 5 p.m. against Northwood University.

If you want to see the complete schedule for the 2007 season, please go to <a href="http://www.broward.edu/athletics">http://www.broward.edu/athletics</a> where you can find information about all the sports BCC offers to the students.

If you are looking forward to attend to the Lady Seahawks games, please know that there is no entrance fee charged not only to students but to anyone else who wants to go, it is completely FREE.

I personally encourage students and parents to attend to the games and be part of a very exciting experience while giving support to our team. Just remember that these beautiful girls and coaching staff make a big effort to represent our school both while at home and on the road and we could make a big difference giving them the support they need throughout the season.

With this being said, I want to thank Amber Perez' mum and Casey Jacobs' dad, who I had the pleasure to meet and be entertained by.

# Lady Seahawks need momentum

BY MIKE GONZALEZ STAFF WRITER

The Lady Seahawks have had an up and down season thus far, but look determined to get a playoff spot in the final stretch of the season. With their current record of 12-11, the Lady Seahawks have put together quite an impressive streak.

The Ladies won five of their last seven, starting with a blow-out home win against St. Petersburg College by the score of 73-50. (Position) Lesley Gadson scored 27 points while (Position) Arlande Cherizol added 12 points of her own. (Position) Ivette Brau contributed to the win by scoring 10 points to help the Lady Seahawks capture the Southern Conference opener.

The next day, the Lady Seahawks were tested to a greater extent, but just squeaked by Hillsborough Community College at the Omni 67-63. Four Lady Seahawks scored in double figures. Gadson recorded 17 points and Zina Bouyad chipped in 16 points. Cherizol posted a double-double with 13 points and 10 rebounds and Ianna Ahyoung poured in 10 points.

The Lady Seahawks then squared off against Miami-Dade Community College, but were unsuccessful losing 71-59. Gadson had another great game scoring 19 points while Cherizol posted another double-double with 13 points and 17 rebounds. The loss dropped the Lady Seahawks out of first place in the Southern Conference.

Indian River Community College gave the Lady Seahawks a plethora of troubles blowing out the Lady Seahawks 88-62. Three Lady Seahawks players scored in double figures, including Jenny Eriksson scoring 12 points, Cherizol adding 11, and Gadson with 10 points. Gadson is currently leading the team scoring 14 points, dishing out four assists and close to three

The next match-up would be against Palm Beach Community College on the road and it would be a milestone win for the Lady Seahawks. With the win over Palm Beach 69-57, it was the Lady Seahawks 9<sup>th</sup> win of the season, eclipsing last year's total of eight wins.

Two players posted double-doubles. Cherizol roughed her way to 14 points and grabbing down 16 rebounds. Cherizol is currently leading the team in rebounds snatching down 12 rebounds a game. (Position) Jessica Auguste tallied 10 points and 10 rebounds.

### Seahawks Basketball gets by

BY MIKE GONZALEZ
STAFF WRITER

The Seahawks continue to play terrific basketball and the wins keep on rolling in. With a current record of 15-9 and 4-2 in conference play, the Seahawks are starting to play at an excellent level and show no sign of slowing down.

After losing the Southern Conference opener to Indian River Community College 80-73, the Seahawks regrouped to defeat Brevard Community College 78-66 on the road. Guard Tony Dennison, who has been one of the spark plugs in Head Coach Bob Starkman's offense, had a double-double with 27 points and 10 rebounds. Shamair Williams chipped in a doubledouble of his own with 13 points and 12 rebounds. Rocky Pierre contributed with his performance of 19 points, three steals and three assists. Pierre also leads the team in steals snatching close to three a

Shortly after the win, Dennison was named FCCAA Player of the Week for the second time this season. He first received the honor on Nov. 21. The Seahawks next opponent was Palm Beach Community College squaring off at the Omni. They gave Palm Beach quite a rude reception with a blow-out win of 101-84. Dennison struck again, looking like a junior version of Miami Heat Guard Dwayne Wade going 9-9 on his second-half shots and finished with 30 points, six rebounds, three steals and two blocks. Center Miklos Szabo tallied 19 points and pulled down eight rebounds while Pierre contributed with a doubledouble of 17 points 10 rebounds.

Guard Anthony Clarke joined in the fun by adding a team-high 10 assists.

Three days later, the Seahawks squeaked by Miami-Dade Community College 80-74. The Seahawks performed a terrific come-from-behind display being down by as many as 13 points in the second-half. Dennison posted 26 points as Clarke chipped in 24 points, seven rebounds, two steals and five assists.

The Seahawks squared off in a rematch with Indian River at the Omni, but Indian River got their revenge defeating the Seahawks 85-80 in an overtime thriller. The

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Seahawks had a chance to win the game in regulation, but Clarke's shot with less than seven seconds bounced off the rim. Clarke finished with a double-double of 15 points and 10 rebounds while Dennison lead all scorers swishing down 34 points. Forward Ryan Kardok added 9 points of his own.

The latest NJCAA rankings lists Dennison third in scoring with a 27.4 average while Szabo is 22<sup>nd</sup> in rebounds, averaging a little over 10 a game as well as leading the team in Field Goal Percentage shooting a whopping 62.7 percent. Dennison also leads the team in free throwpercentage of 79.3 percent.

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### Ice Cold Season

**BY BELAL JABER**STAFF WRITER

After last season, there looked like so much promise for the entire Southeast Division of hockey. What was once called the "South-least" Division, because of the poor play for the five teams in it, has now been the division of the last two Stanley Cup champions.

It was hard to argue that it wouldn't be any different this season with all the young skilled players the teams have. Tampa Bay has Vincent Lecavelier, Carolina has Eric Staal. Washington has electrical defense with Alexander Ovechkin, who won Rookie of the Year last season. Atlanta has the high scoring Ilya Kovulchuk. And then there's the Florida Panthers.

Captain Olli Jokinen signed a four year extension because he was promised the Florida Panthers was headed in a positive direction. He was sure he would finally get a shot to play in his first playoff game. He didn't want to go anywhere else. He wanted to stay a Panther.

Then the Panthers traded arguably the league's top goalie, Roberto Luongo, to Vancouver for an unproven but

young goaltender and a former dangerous power forward who wanted a change in scenery to find his old self in Todd Bertuzzi. At the time, the trade didn't look bad. One could have argued the Panthers got the better deal.

Then, just about everything that could go wrong, did. Alex Auld, the goalie brought in to replace former Panthers goalie Roberto Luongo, struggled. Bertuzzi, who was once regarded as the most dangerous and physical scorer in the league hurt his back a week into the season and has not played since.

Veterans Joe Nieuwendyk, and Gary Roberts, both in their forties, also suffered from injuries. Nieuwendyk was forced to retire early in the season due to constant back problems and Roberts has also missed a lot of games for the same reason.

The Panthers are currently one of the worst teams in not only the Eastern Conference, but the entire league. While the remaining Southeast Division teams are all playing well and making a strong push for the playoffs, the Panthers are faced with yet another season on the brink of extinction.

# The NBA in Vegas

**BY MARTIN BATER** SPORTS EDITOR

There are some things in basketball that just don't make sense. The unnecessarily long regular season, the New York Knicks and Atlanta Hawks being in playoff contention, and the 2007 NBA All-Star game in Las Vegas.

The game, which caps off a weekend that features a dunk contest, a skills competition and a three point shootout. Why isn't the Miami Heat's Jason Kapono in it? Can somebody explain to me why a guy who is shooting 55% from three-point range, best percentage in the NBA right now, isn't considered one of the top six shooters in the league?

I tried calling Commissioner David Stern, but all I got was his answering machine, which said: If you are appealing a one game suspension, press 1. If you feel like you have been snubbed from the All-Star game, press 2. If you are Stephen Jackson or Ron Artest, please hold.

In the dunk contest, which features five foot nine Nate Robinson and up and coming Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard, young stars will try to gain more exposure and attempt the same dunk 15 times. I think the NBA should offer a \$500.000

grand prize and then the ultimate Slam Dunk contest would follow with LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Dwayne Wade and Dwight Howard as the participants.

After all the waiting and partying in the Sin City, the Eastern Conference faces off against the Western Conference. The starters for the East are Miami's own Dwayne Wade and Shaquille O'Neal, Washington guard Gilbert Arenas, Cleveland Forward Lebron James and the Toronto's Forward Chris Bosh. Lakers' guard Kobe Bryant, Rockets' guard Tracy McGrady, Minnesota's Forward Kevin Garnett, Spurs' Forward Tim Duncan and injured Rockets' Center Yao Ming were named the starters for the West. The East will be coached by Washington's Head Coach Eddie Jordan and the West by Suns' coach Mike D'Antoni.

In my opinion, the All-Star game should start being the U.S. against the world, but besides that there are many things wrong this year that are mainly our fault as fans. How can Shaq be starting for the East when he has started less than 10 games this season? I'm not saying that leaving Knicks Center Eddy Curry out of the game was wrong, but putting Shaq in as a starter was.

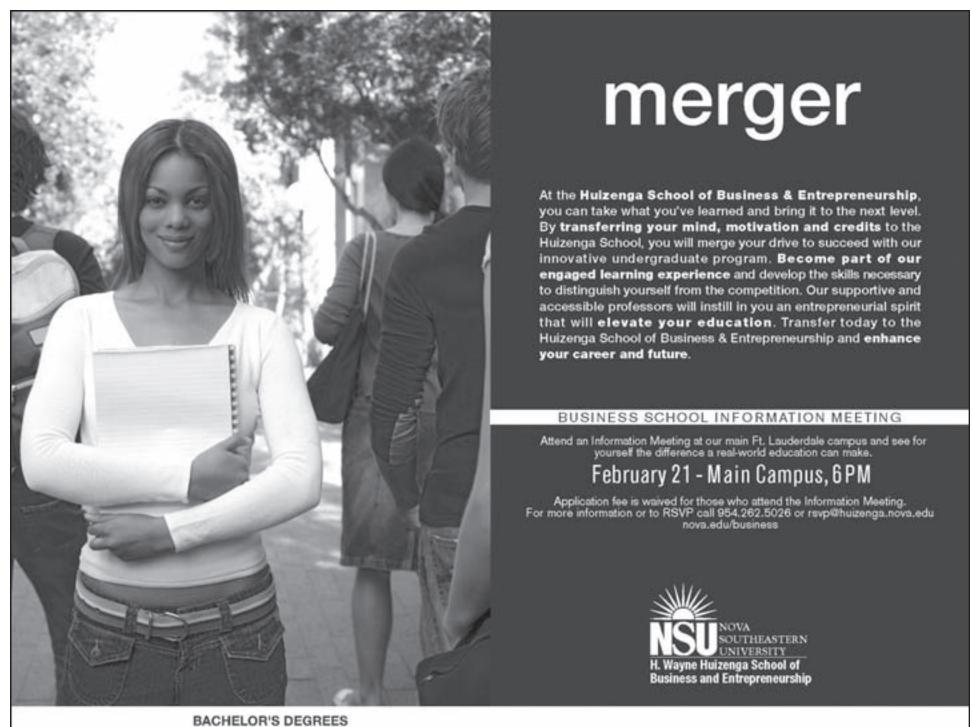
Fans screwed up royally by leaving Steve Nash (who is leading the Phoenix Suns to a 38-10 record and is arguably the league's MVP) and Dirk Nowitzki (leading Dallas to 38-9, the best record in the league) off of the starting line up. There is no reasonable explanation to leave out two outstanding players like that. They will come in as reserves.

I guess a prediction is in order since there is a game being played, even though it is an exhibition. The West wins 125-114; Dirk is the MVP and will sing the national anthem to the tune of one of David Hasselhoff's



PHOTO COURTESY OF NBA

Dwayne Wade dunks



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# SEAHAWKS 2007: MEN'S BASEBALL

#### BCC SEAHAWKS 2007 MEN'S BASEBALL ROSTER Hometown/High School Pos. B/T Ht. Wt. No. Player <u>Yr.</u> Tito Espinosa C R/R 5-11 225 Miami/Brito Adan Severino So. OF L/R 6-0 205 Hialeah/American Anthony Mesa Fr. OF R/R 5-9 175 Miami/Braddock Joaquin Valdes **INF** R/R 6-4 210 Miami/Florida Christian Rafael Vera So. **INF** R/R 6-1 187 Sarasota/Sarasota Miami/American 10 Stephen Merino So. INF R/R 6-1 165 Jon Fernandez **INF** R/R 5-11 190 Weston/American Heritage Rian Kiniry OF L/R 6-0 180 Davie/Chaminade 13 John Broderick **INF** R/R 6-3 210 Sunrise/Piper 14 Yudelmis Hernandez OF R/R 6-5 225 Miami/Braddock 15 Matt Gilson P L/L 6-4 214 Pembroke Pines/American Heritage J.J. Jimenez **INF** R/R 6-0 201 Hialeah Gardens/Pace 17 Andy Fernandez P R/R 5-11 220 Hialeah/Hialeah 18 Sergio Morales OF R/R 6-2 205 Hollywood/Hollywood Hills 19 Jeff Lara P R/R 6-1 170 Miami/Braddock 20 Joe Ferrer P L/L 6-2 200 Davie/St. Thomas Aquinas Cory Weech Southwest Ranches/St. Thomas Aguinas 22 P R/R 6-2 215 23 Mitch Walker R/R 6-0 170 Miami/Florida Christian 24 Pablo Lopez R/R 5-11 176 Hollywood/Nova Michael Vitale 25 So. L/L 6-2 190 Bayonne, N.J./Bayonne P Dylan Lindsey So. R/R 6-4 205 Deerfield Beach/American Heritage Evan McGrath Pembroke Pines/Chaminade 28 R/R 6-2 210 30 Matt Latos R/R 6-6 216 Margate/Coconut Creek 32 Franco Valdes C S/R 5-10 205 Miami/Pace 33 Nick Criaris L/R 6-2 225 Jersey City, N.J./St. Peters

#### No. Coaches

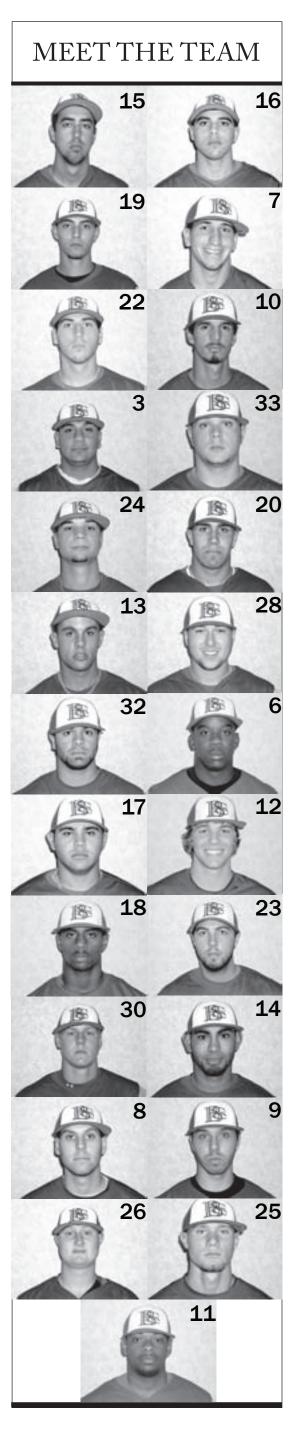
- 4 Bob Deutschman Head Coach (5<sup>th</sup> season)
- 2 Carl Andrietta Recruiting Coordinator (8th season)
- 5 Jeff Foley Outfield/Third Base Coach (8th season)
- 29 Felipe Suarez Pitching Coach (4th season)

\*Southern Conference Game (2) Doubleheader

- 27 Kyle Bone Catching/Hitting Coach (1st season)
- 21 Tommy Dong Infield/First Base Coach (1st season)
- Burgess Macnamara Bullpen Coach (1st season)

### MEN'S BASEBALL SCHEDULE - SPRING 2007

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<b>Location</b>	<u>Time</u>
Feb. 13	FLORIDA MEMORIAL COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 15	at Palm Beach Community College	Lake Worth	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 17	ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE (2)	Davie	2:00 p.m.
Feb. 20	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 22	ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 23	COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY ESSEX	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Feb. 24	at St. Petersburg College(2)	St. Petersburg	Noon
Feb. 25	at Polk Community College (2)	Winter Haven	Noon
Mar. 2	at Brevard Community College*	Melbourne	6:00 p.m.
Mar. 3	at Brevard Community College*	Melbourne	1:00 p.m.
Mar. 6	INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 7	at Indian River Community College*	Fort Pierce	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 9	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 10	at Palm Beach Community College*	Lake Worth	1:00 p.m.
Mar. 11	MACOMB (Mich.) COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	Noon
Mar. 13	at Miami-Dade College*	Kendall	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 14	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 15	NEOSHO COUNTY (Kan.) COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
<b>Mar. 16</b>	SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
<b>Mar. 17</b>	SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	1:00 p.m.
Mar. 20	at Indian River Community College*	Fort Pierce	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 21	INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 22	MONROE (N.Y.) COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 23	BREVARD COMMUNTIY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 24	BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	1:00 p.m.
Mar. 25	SUNY JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 27	MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 28	at Miami-Dade College*	Kendall	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 30	at Palm Beach Community College*	Lake Worth	3:00 p.m.
Mar. 31	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	1:00 p.m.
Apr. 6	at South Florida Community College*	Avon Park	6:00 p.m.
Apr. 7	at South Florida Community College*	Avon Park	1:00 p.m.
Apr. 10	INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Apr. 11	at Miami-Dade College*	Kendall	3:00 p.m.
Apr. 13	BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.
Apr. 14	at South Florida Community College*	Avon Park	1:00 p.m.
Apr. 17	PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE*	Davie	3:00 p.m.



### 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.

### **STAFF WRITERS**

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.

# STAFF ARTIST/ POLITICAL CARTOONIST

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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### CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 29 issue of The Observer, we incorrectly reported that the college spent \$700,000 on branding.

In fact, the budget for the entire enrollment boost/branding effort was \$700,000. It was distributed as follows for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007: \$360,000 will have been spent on the enrollment boost campaign; \$287,000 will have been spent on branding; \$53,000 on research.

Also, the former BCC logo was incorrectly cited to have originated in the 1950's. It actually originated in 1960, when the college was founded.

# FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY BROWARD-PINES CENTER

If you're completing an Associates degree at Broward Community College, continuing your education at FIU Broward – Pines Center, located in Pembroke Pines, is the logical next step. Contact us to find out more about our bachelor's degree program in Liberal Studies, which provides you with the opportunity to study and incorporate knowledge and concepts from the Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, the Arts and a variety of other areas within the University.

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# Citizen's test changed

#### ■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Rossie, a BCC student from Venezuela. "My mother moved to the U.S. when she was 34years-old and she did not know how to read or write in English. My mother who has only been in the United States for nine years and knows how to somewhat speak English but she can barely write it still. She took the citizenship test this year said that the difficulty of what they ask and how they ask questions on the test is fair for immigrants the way it is now. The U.S. government cannot expect people like my mother to be able to analyze the U.S. Government in English the writing section] especially since they were

not born speaking it. [I feel that] speaking and reading in English is extremely different than writing in it."

Another BCC student also feels the same way. "[I think that] it shouldn't be changed because some of the new questions are questions that even some Americans don't know the answer to. Should immigrants really know more about American history than Americans?" said Sebastian Jofre, a BCC student originally from Chile.

In designing the new exam, USCIS received assistance and worked with test development contractors, U.S. history and government scholars, and English as a Second Language experts. They also gained input from a variety of immigrant

advocacy groups, citizenship instructors and District Adjudications Officers.

Questions considered as the most unsuccessfully answered on the pilot test will not be included in the new exam as a way to narrow the questions down to the usual 100 that appear on the current test. There will also be a new civics-based vocabulary list that will be released by the USCIS to help future applicants study for the English writing and reading portions found on the new version of the naturalization

The expected date for when the new naturalization exam to go into effect is around springtime of 2008.

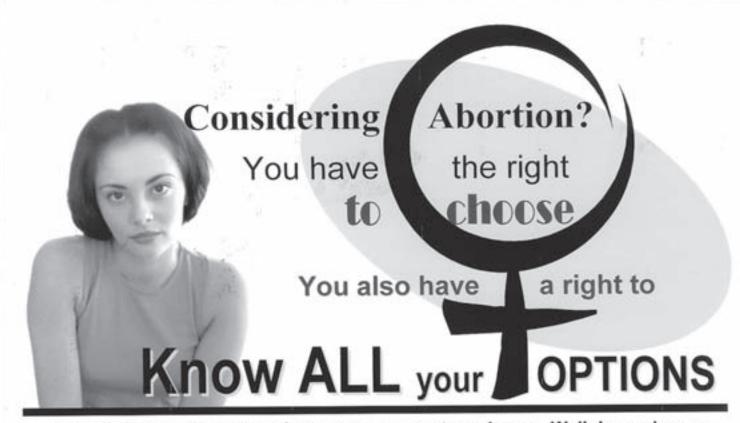
For some sample questions that will appear on the pilot test

for a new naturalization exam, please visit the USCIS website <a href="http://www.uscis.gov">http://www.uscis.gov</a> for the Department of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).



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# Major decision

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

aptitude and career interest tests. Career Center counselors like Central Campus' Sondra Weiss determine which resources will be most effective "depending on the individual student." Each center has its own procedure, but the Central Campus Career Center, for instance, works on an appointment basis, with the exception of "walk-in Wednesdays." If you are short on time, tools are always available on the BCC Career Center web site at <a href="http://www.">http://www.</a> broward.edu/career\_BCC/>.

Don't forget BCC advisement and counseling staff may offer additional ideas. Central Campus Counselor Kathleen McGough suggests students keep "a journal with a list of possible careers that they find interesting and rank them." Then, students should "build up their knowledge base" by "talking to people who have those careers." If you do speak with someone, they may be willing to mentor you or let you shadow them. You can also get a feel for a discipline without actually immersing yourself in it by asking a professor in the related subject area if you can sit in on one of his lectures for

Remember that being unsure about your major is extremely common and that most students end up changing their major at least once, if not multiple times. In fact, McGough says that of the students she sees half of them, "either don't know" what to major in or those who do, "end up changing it." Student Yolanda Ortiz, for example, has had an interest in aerospace engineering since high school. However, her "parents didn't think it was a reasonable career to pursue." So, she originally registered at BCC as a graphic design major. Luckily, she soon realized graphic design was more of a hobby for her and decided to listen to her heart and switch to aerospace engineering.

Whether by self-directed investigation or assisted research, just get out there and uncover what career and corresponding major will bring you the most overall satisfaction. Choosing the perfect career path can take considerable effort, but it could be among the best and most lifechanging decisions you'll ever make. Imagine how satisfying it will be once you select a major you are passionate about as Ortiz did. "I love my major. I can't picture doing anything else," Ortiz gushed.

# The masters of disaster?

**BY BUZZ LAMB**STAFF WRITER

The National Weather Service warned us in May of last year that the 2006 hurricane season would bring eight to 10 hurricanes, four to six of them major. Even the local weather stations last summer took note of tropical storms and hurricanes 2,000 miles out in the Atlantic that would never even come close to the United Sates. Without question, the media over-emphasizes the threat of bad

weather

In my opinion the most responsible for our weatherworries is The Weather Channel, the 24-hour cable channel found in millions of homes across the country. When it first began in 1982 it was a reliable resource of local weather conditions as well as the national weather picture and undoubtedly saved lives with its warnings. "We take the weather seriously, but not ourselves" was the by-line from 1982 to 1986.

Regrettably, today it doesn't just report and forecast as it did in the early days and to me that is a problem. Today's sophisticated weather technology allows for more long-range forecasts and more information than anyone ever dreamed of, allowing us to worry longer about more weather-related potential problems that, in most cases, never affect us. The Weather Channel is giving us a bad case of TMI (too much information).

Nowadays The Weather

Channel broadcasts in a state of continuous concern.

They bombard us with surface maps laced with intense colors of red and orange (too close a link to terrorist alerts) heightening our fears of impending potential disasters. Human beings battling weather is a perfect example of dire weather forecasting that is becoming typical of their procedures. All-powerful "bad" weather versus vulnerable "good" people is a natural association that strikes home with everyone.

The Weather Channel plays it up to the maximum.

The hype has already started the on the 2007 hurricane season. Is it any wonder that Max Mayfield from the National Hurricane Center in Miami packed up his forecasting crystal ball and left the agency Jan. 1st? There is no question that weather is complex and warnings are important but we have enough to worry about without exaggerating a constantly threatening weather world.

Give us a break!

# A feeling of belonging

BY OMAR TORRIJOS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

How many of us actually care about BCC and the activities they organize for the student body? How many of us in reality take some time to read this publication every other week? How many of our classmates don't even know the school has a newspaper, or the different programs the athletic department offers, or that there is a Student Life department that takes the time to organize activities that most of us never take advantage of? For example, did you know that there is an exercise facility on the BCC Central Campus where you can get in without having to pay absolutely anything, just by showing your ID, wearing the proper outfit and having a towel, or have you ever attended any of the games of one of the many teams that BCC promotes? Ok, maybe you don't like sports, so go to your campus Student Life office or check it out online at broward.edu and see what else there is that might call your attention.

I'm Latino and if you can't really pronounce my last name or roll the couple of "r's" in it, that probably means you are not;

I don't really care if you're blond, brunette or black, male, female or in between, at the moment of sharing experiences I believe anyone could contribute, don't you?

I strongly believe we should have a bigger and better "feeling of belonging" to this school and at the same time do something to make it better. Hey, each one of us has a sort of different way of speaking our minds, mine is through writing, others could use art, music, sports, or looks.

It doesn't really matter; if we really want to improve this school all of us need to contribute, if the people can make the difference in a whole country by getting together and voting for the right guy, we can get together too and make BCC better by supporting the current activities and opening our minds when something is not the way it should be.

# 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. 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 (below) for more details.

# Shut up or shut off

BY ENA VALERA-TEANO

**BCC STUDENT** 

The sound of a cell phone can be exciting, fun and more importantly it lets us communicate at any time and place we choose. Many of us have our favorite tunes to our favorite people and really disturbing noises for those who we rather not talk to. And of course there are those obscene and really obnoxious rings that could drive anyone crazy.

In fact these rings could be so annoying that could disturb an entire class. Professors seem not to be annoyed by it anymore. Seems like everyone is up to date on the everchanging technology world and used to the modern classroom days filled with iPods, laptops and cell phones. To me though, the act of picking up a cell phone while in class is so disrespectful and it annoys me when someone does it. There are times for everything we do in life and using a cell phone during classroom time is not a necessity unless is truly an emergency, in which case the act is understood.

Just imagine being in the middle of a math class trying to crunch some numbers and you find yourself disturbed by your neighbor's annoying and repeating beeping noise or even worst to a club or reggae song. Do we not have common sense? I think we do, we just don't use

it to the best of our ability. It's very simple, just follow the classroom guidelines—turn off your cell phone before entering the class, do not disturb your classmates and have respect for other people who are really trying to learn. Just remember some of us have to work really hard and pay for classes out of our own pocket and cannot afford to miss information or fail a course that costs us couple days of hard work.

So let's begin by having some consideration for our classmates and turning off cell phones. It's not cool to be in class text-messaging for the three hours you are stuck in the classroom. If you have so much to say then please stay home.

# Please think of the dogs

**BY JOSSIE CARBONARE**CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On a sunny Tuesday morning on my way to class I found myself in a situation I knew I couldn't ignore. I was on Sheridan and University Drive jamming out to my latest Keith Anderson CD when suddenly two dogs came running across this busy intersection. I was shocked to see that no one had the heart to stop for these dogs, but kept going at 60 plus miles an hour. I became really concerned and knew what I had to do. I stopped my car, put the emergency lights on and ran out in the middle of the intersection to rescue these dogs. I saw that they

had dog tags, so I knew that once I had them in my hands I could take charge and find the dogs' owners. I grabbed the dogs and put them into my little two-door Mitsubishi Eclipse. I looked around helplessly hoping someone would help me out. Luckily, an older gentleman who was right in front of me in a white Ford pickup truck asked if I needed help and I accepted. We drove to the corner gas station and spent a good 2 hours trying to find the dogs' owner, the home, and called the humane society. We finally got a hold of the owner and returned the 2 pups home safely. Apparently, the dogs had dug under the fence

and managed to escape. The owner thanked me and gave me one of the nicest compliments anyone has ever given me. He said, "You are a very brave young girl, I don't think I have ever met anyone that would run out into a middle of an intersection to save two dogs, whatever man you end up with in life is a very lucky man to be with a girl with such a big heart." I was flattered. It's nice to do a good deed every once in a while. I've learned that sometimes, you got to step outside of the circle and go above and beyond. It's a really good feeling to know you made a difference.



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Letters to the editor are encouraged. The writer's name and phone number must be included and the letter signed. Unsigned letters will not be accepted, but requests for anonymity may be honored at the editor's discretion. Letters must be typed and not exceed 300 words. *The Observer* upholds the right to edit for style or length or to reject publications of letters deemed inappropriate.

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of BCC students, staff, faculty and administration.

### **SOUTH CAMPUS**

