

# THE OBSERVER

A BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE PUBLICATION

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## Study abroad

OLGA BUITRAGO  
STAFF WRITER

The Study Abroad Program gives BCC students the opportunity to learn more and experience different cultures, customs, languages, history and much more.

This year the International Education Department has added two new countries to their extensive list of international programs and, like every year, they are awarding the William E. Greene Scholarship (WEGS) for students who wish to attend a full semester in one of their four international affiliates.

This program offers full length semesters in over a dozen foreign countries including India, Singapore, Spain, Ecuador, Italy and Australia to name a few. Other summer Study Abroad Programs are being offer in 2008 to Spain, India, Cambridge University in England, Mexico, Germany and two new additions this year: Egypt and Israel.

The Egypt summer program is a combination of classroom lectures on Central Campus from June 9 to June 11 and travel experience in Egypt from June 25 to July 7. Students participating will earn three credits in Social Science, which are transferable to any four-year institution.

Donald Cleveland, Dean of Student Development Department on Central Campus, said "Traveling abroad to Egypt will allow students to see first hand the area where civilization began, visit ancient places and the land of the pharaohs."

During this trip students will visit the Necropolis at Sakkara, the temples of Ramses II and Queen Nefertari, the Luxor, the pyramids and it also includes a five day, four night cruise on the Nile River.

The estimated cost is \$3,799 per person. This includes roundtrip airfare, hotel, transportation, meals, and entrance to parks,

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Professor Khan is protesting BCC by placing black ribbons on his Professor of the Year Awards.

## Security Officer breaks into professor's office

BUZZ LAMB  
STAFF WRITER

In light of what is happening in our world today, it would be appropriate for BCC to be extra cautious when hiring staff, especially in the security department. Students and staff depend upon the college to insure their safety by employing individuals qualified to "serve and protect" using guidelines similar to any law enforcement agency. Granted, the background checks for private security firms are not as stringent as for a police department but that does not make them any less important.

A break-in occurred on North Campus near the end of October

and the perpetrator was caught on tape. Here is how the whole thing played out.

A. Fuad Khan, 48, is a professor of microbiology on North Campus. He was voted Professor of the Year 2007-2008 on North. Khan has been teaching at BCC for 19 years and is an Endowed Teaching Chair Award Recipient.

Khan became suspicious that someone may have been entering his office after hours. According to Khan, he had a student in his class who was doing poorly and then all of a sudden that person's grade improved markedly. "I suspected someone was getting the answers to tests before the tests were given," he said. "I wasn't sure how."

Khan said he went to his supervisor, Dr. Eileen Garcia and expressed his concern. "I asked for permission to set up a surveillance camera in my office," he said. According to Khan, Garcia suggested that he make up a "dummy exam" and leave it and the answer sheet on his desk as bait. Khan said he took her advice. He then proceeded to set up a surveillance camera in his office. The scene was now set... right out of "To Catch a Thief".

Khan's hunch proved to be correct. The very next morning when he returned to his office he sensed someone uninvited had been rifling through the papers on his desk. "I wasn't sure until I saw the video," he said. He was positive he locked the door

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## Student Life hosts workshops

NATALIE BOBB  
STAFF WRITER

Ever dream about getting better grades? Well, students who attended speaker Millicent St. Claire's workshops on Jan. 31 found out how they could become better learners and get the most out of their education.

The two workshops, organized by Student Life, were held in the Mass Media Room on South Campus.

St. Claire, author of the book *Simply Ridiculous*, is a keynote speaker who encourages people to embrace their natural and inherent brilliance.

In the beginning of each session, St. Claire established one rule for the audience—"have fun."

"Now that we've all been able to laugh at ourselves, it's time to get down to business," said St. Claire.

St. Claire's goal throughout the lectures was to help participants achieve what she calls self-correction.

"As I've grown through the various stages of life, I've learned to notice my old programming and the unconscious mechanisms that kept me in bondage and I've learned to self-correct," said St. Claire.

St. Claire said that she lives by the motto LIGMO, which stands for "Let it Go, Move On." According to St. Claire, people have to let go of negative thoughts and behaviors in order to move on and focus on the future.

The focus of the second session differed from the first session. In the second workshop, St. Claire concentrated on helping students realize their full learning potential.

According to St. Claire, a person must "do the thing" in order to effectively learn.

"We learn by doing," she said.

• LECTURE  
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# Crunched for Time?

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# Three huge events at Central library

**BUZZ LAMB**  
STAFF WRITER

The grand opening of the Will & Jo Holcombe Institute for Teaching and Higher Learning was a landmark event which brought together numerous dignitaries including Senator Jim Scott and Alan & Susie Levan from BankAtlantic and the BankAtlantic Foundation, Inc.

The Jan. 29 grand opening ceremony was the lead-off of a chain of events that took place on the fourth floor of the library on Central Campus. One of the highlights of the celebration was the presentation of an award to the Levans for their continued support of the BCC Foundation and the work that it does in the community.

The purpose of the program was to honor Jo & Will Holcombe for their untiring efforts in furthering the support that BCC offers to its students. According to BCC President, J. David Armstrong Jr., the Holcombes' vision for the Institute is to recruit and retain world-class educators and to disseminate effective, up-to-date teaching skills through a comprehensive faculty development program.

Lloyd Rhodes, Chairman of the BCC Foundation, said that five years ago the funding for the Holcombe Institute was spearheaded by the BCC Foundation. His comments were met with a laugh when he recalled one fund-raising event at which Susie Levan arranged for a high school marching band to provide entertainment. "To this day I don't know how she ever arranged that," he exclaimed. "That was incredible."

Dr. Joyanne Stevens, FAU Vice President, was there representing FAU President Frank Brogan. Stevens said she didn't think BCC could have chosen a more fitting tribute to honor Dr. and Mrs. Holcombe. "Early on, under the leadership of Will Holcombe, in our partnership with BCC, we began to focus on developing programs that encouraged students to enter the field of education. We called it a challenge, but Will called it an opportunity, so today we are expanding on that opportunity with the opening of this fabulous institute," she said.

When Holcombe was introduced by Stevens he received a standing ovation from the members of the audience. In his remarks Holcombe acknowledged numerous people who over the years have been involved in the evolution of BCC to where it is today.

"Back when all this began we had meetings where we tried to figure out how we could create, in Broward County, a better-connected teaching force," he said. "Not just for people coming into the (teaching) profession but for people who are already in the profession."

Holcombe said that the new Teaching Institute will also be the spring-board for the new

baccalaureate program being offered at BCC. Julia Vattiato, Director of the Educator Preparation Institute (EPI) said her section of the Holcombe Institute will be targeting people currently holding degrees in other areas convincing them to switch their career to teaching.

Following the grand opening ceremony, guests were invited to an informal tour of the fourth-floor facility which now houses the BCC Collection which is being cataloged and assembled by BCC archival librarian, Andrew Dutka. A buffet lunch was provided at noon and the Central Campus Student Forum began immediately following the break.

David Asencio, Dean of Student Affairs on Central Campus said his office had over 700 surveys returned from concerned students voicing their opinions on campus issues that are critical to them. The student's voice was heard via presentations from Ashley Airaghy, Central Campus Student Government President, Katherine Efthimiou, SGA Vice President and Carl Engelman, WHC Campus Senator/Anchor Point President.

The concerns voiced during

the forum are common to all BCC campuses, not just Central. Lighting, security, parking lot flooding and lack of parking continue to be the main focus for students. Students on Central Campus said they would like to see more outside areas (referred to as stress-free

Campus-wide Internet access was also an issue with the students. "Right now only the library, on the first floor, and a few select spots on campus have access," Ashley Airaghy said. According to Armstrong, the college made an investment to improve the computer technology

conducted its regular monthly meeting where Trustee Levi Williams received a plaque for his service to the Board and his participation as Chairman of the Florida Council on the Status of Black Men & Boys.

One of the action items to be decided upon by the Board was the renewal of President Armstrong's contract. Although Armstrong's contract is for two-and-a-half years, it is reviewed annually at the first meeting of the calendar year. The Trustees not only unanimously approved the renewal but they rolled it up to a full three-year term, thereby indicating their satisfaction with his performance to date.

The terms of the contract also include a guaranteed bonus. Before the Board could vote to approve that expenditure, Armstrong interjected his desire to not to receive the automatic five percent increase to which he is entitled. "With the budget constraints the college is facing this year, I feel compelled to ask you not to grant me the increase," he said. Because of this magnanimous gesture, Board attorney, Kevin Fernander advised the Board that they would have to pass a motion to revise Armstrong's contract for 2008 and then vote to approve an amended renewal. The stunned Board members happily voted to approve the contract and then continued on with the business of the day.



From left to right: J. David Armstrong, Lloyd Rhodes, Susie Levan, Alan Levan, Jo Holcombe, Will Holcombe.

PHOTO BY BUZZ LAMB

zones) with benches and tables installed where they may gather between or after classes. Trustee Georgette Sosa-Douglass asked if anybody knew the cost of the new plastic benches she noticed on her way into the library. "Yes ma'am, I do," responded North Campus Provost, Barbara Bryan, "twelve hundred dollars each." Trustee Paul Tanner gasped, "that's incredible."

in the classrooms and the libraries rather than invest the money in wireless. "It was decided that it was more important to bring the technology in the classrooms up to speed," President Armstrong said. Armstrong added that the college is reassessing the situation and will give a report to the Board in the near future.

Following the Student Forum, the BCC Board of Trustees

## February is women in distress month

**JESSICA BEANS**  
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

Throughout the month of February, Central Campus Student Life will be recognizing women in distress. There will a lot of interesting events that students

month. The cell phone drive is something Student Life is very excited about. "All students and faculty are encouraged to bring unused cell phones throughout the month..." said Diana Honeyblue, Operations Coordinator at Central Campus. Cell phones can be

for many years and has had tremendous success in assisting female victims of domestic violence. Their services include counseling, shelter, classes and support services.

Student Life is very passionate about this cause and anyone interested in making a difference please stop by Building 19,

on Central Campus, for more information. If you know someone who is suffering from domestic violence there is also a 24 hour crisis line and there are plenty of helpful links that can help someone in need.

[www.womenindistress.org](http://www.womenindistress.org)  
1(800)-500-1119 24 hour crisis line



PHOTO COURTESY OF BCC

and faculty members will be encouraged to take part in.

On Feb. 19, on the patio outside Building 19, Student Life will be having a Pizzathon. Members of Student Life will be selling pizzas and asking for a donation. All donations will go directly to supporting women in distress.

They are also conducting a cell phone drive throughout the entire

dropped off at Central Campus, in the office of Student Life, Building 19. There are off campus communities contributing to this same cause.

Women in Distress of Broward County are a state-certified full service domestic violence program designed to help women who need help. This organization has been involved with this

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# Lecture

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Another point St. Claire made is that instead of being right-brained or left-brained, people are whole brained and have multiple intelligences. Therefore, in order to achieve one's full potential, he or she must use all of their abilities.

"The difference between regu-

lar people and geniuses is that geniuses use more of their abilities and they use them more often," said St. Claire.

St. Claire engaged the audience in several physical activities in order to re-enforce her idea that people must learn by doing. One of the activities required that the audience recite the alphabet while lifting either their right arm, left arm or both arms. According to St. Claire, the activity helps people use more than one part of their brain.

In addition, St. Claire offered the audience study tips. According to St. Claire, in order to facilitate learning students should listen to instrumental music such as jazz, classical baroque or new age and limit study sessions to 20 minutes at a time.

"[When studying] get a timer and time yourself, after 20 minutes, get up, stretch and take a little break," said St. Claire. "Then you will be able to jump right back in to studying," she added.



PHOTO: CORTESY OF WWW.PROSPEAKERSBUREAU.COM

## SGA appoints new president and vice president

BARBARA QUIJANO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There has been an unanticipated replacement of the President and Vice President of Student Government (SGA) on South Campus.

For the past two years, change has permeated within and throughout the halls of BCC, but this semester there has been resolution.

Bethzabeth Ordaz and Francesca Gonzalez have been appointed as President and Vice President until upcoming elections of March 2007, taking the places of Orlando Fraticelli and Kevin Blackmon.

SGA, whose goal is to have the student body recognized,

*"It was a pleasure" working with Blackmon and Fraticelli and as for the changes that have been made, in regards to Ordaz and Gonzalez, it's a "transition phase."*

- Rose Ortega  
Student Life Director

will give students something to look forward to, making students realize that they have "the voice" of change, and SGA will represent that "voice".

Fraticelli was part of SGA since January 2005 as Vice President before being elected President in

March 2006. He then decided to step down in December 2007 to continue his education, majoring in Psychology. He left his mark and now, as he says, "it's their time to shine."

Their main goal was, as Fraticelli said, "to teach them [SGA and the student body] how it is in the real world."

Before being appointed Vice President, Blackmon started off as a member in the Fall of 2006, becoming Senator of Governmental Relations in 2007, which is the same position he holds now.

To start off with three members and finish with 57 is quite an accomplishment. But they were also involved with the beautification of the campus, putting lights in the parking

lot, having safety patrol from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., remodeling the amphitheatre, establishing a Ft. Lauderdale Aids walk, representing the Kids in Distress program as well as other programs. Rose Ortega, Student Life Director, said "it was a pleasure" working with Blackmon and Fraticelli and as for the changes that have been made, in regards to Ordaz and Gonzalez, it's a "transition phase."

Change is on going and needs to be confronted and applied to in a positive manner to daily life, settling with the notion that it can be done. Alterations can be made by students who want to be heard, and with the help of Student Government, these alterations will be confronted and applied to within BCC, wherein

lies bittersweet changes that can be surpassed.

Ordaz and Gonzalez have goals for their student body. They want to be recognized and heard. "Recognize who we are and we're here for you." They are both looking forward to making changes and creating a pleasing, positive atmosphere for their student body. The five of them are working together, helping each other out, to make this process of change as smooth and worthwhile as possible.

To be part of SGA requires dedication and commitment, but implies, getting voices heard, networking, having experiences that will last a lifetime, being in a positive atmosphere, getting connections and receiving scholarships.

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# Security officer caught on hidden camera

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

before he left the previous evening and it was securely locked when he arrived for work. Khan played back the video and sure enough, the thief was caught on tape, stealing the test paper and answer sheet.

Much to his surprise, the thief was wearing a uniform. He immediately recognized the uniform as that of a BCC Security Guard. He said he was shocked and immediately recognized the uniform as that of a BCC Security Guard. He said he was shocked and could not believe what he was seeing. "I e-mailed Eileen Garcia and asked her what I should do next," he said. In a return e-mail, a copy of which has been obtained by the Observer, Garcia wrote, "Give it to me. I will take care of it ASAP!" According to Khan, it turned out that the guard, Davidson Jean-Baptiste, is married to the student whose grades improved so dramatically in such a short period of time.

Khan went on to say the next day Garcia asked him again to give a copy of the tape to her. "At that time I wasn't sure if this was a valid activity or not so I refused," he said. "I called my union (UFF) president and asked her if I had done anything wrong. Debbie Nycz spoke with the union lawyers and they confirmed that it was all legal," he said. "There was nothing wrong with my behavior. In fact, Provost Barbara Bryan called me that afternoon and confirmed that I did not do anything wrong, but I sensed from her tone of voice that she was not happy with the circumstances."

Khan said that in the days that followed he began to feel as though he was being persecuted for uncovering the crime. "Garcia called me and said that Dr. George Stalliard (Dean of Business Affairs) wanted to view the tape, if possible. So, Dr. Stalliard and I met in Garcia's office and we all viewed the tape," he said. "I caught (on tape) the thief in the act but they were making me feel like the criminal," he lamented.

Apparently there was no concrete policy in place regarding video surveillance so, within three days of the incident a Suspicious Activities Protocol was issued from Stalliard's office. Khan said that after playing the video he had hoped that the guard would immediately have the master keys taken away at the very least, be placed on administrative leave until it could all be sorted out. "It is my understanding that the guard still had the keys for a few days afterward," he said.

Khan felt that the administration was remiss in that it did not pursue a criminal action against the guard. "Property was stolen and the thief should be prosecuted," he exclaimed. Khan said he continued to follow the chain of events that ensued, trying to get answers. "A police report was filed but nothing came of it," he said. This information added to Khan's frustration thus aggravating him even more.

On Nov. 29 Lt. Douglas Barclay e-mailed Khan informing him that North Campus Provost Barbara Bryan advised his office that the incident is a college matter and no further police involvement was required. This infuriated Khan whereupon he insisted to Barclay that he was the victim, not the college, and he wished to prosecute. Barclay told him that based on his experience a case like this would never be accepted for prosecution. According to Barclay, the standard used by the state attorney deciding to accept a case is, "likelihood of conviction".

According to Khan, the guard was eventually terminated but it took more than a month for it to happen. Khan said that Denese Edsall, AVP, Employee Relations, informed him on Dec. 12 that the guard had indeed been fired. In a telephone interview with the Observer, Dr. Bryan said that the guard in fact had resigned. "There

are a lot of incorrect statements being made about this whole thing," she said. "I wish we could speak out about this, but all parties have their rights and we cannot violate those rights." Khan then turned his anguish toward the student threatening expulsion from the college. The student then filed a campus safety incident report and was subsequently transferred out of his class.



President Armstrong

PHOTO BY BUZZ LAMB

"I wanted to see some action taken based on the code of conduct. That student was just as guilty as the security guard," he said.

Khan's zeal has gotten him into trouble. It is a matter of record that he interfered with the investigation by directly confronting the student making accusations, raising his voice and

threatening expulsion from the college. The student then filed a campus safety incident report and was subsequently transferred out of his class.

In January he received a written reprimand from Dr. Monica Ramirez, Academic Dean, North Campus, for insubordination and unprofessional activity contending that when the student was re-assigned from his class his involvement ended. "Instead of taking any action against the student, this is what I get in response," he said. "This is a nightmare. I thought I was doing something right for the college and it has tuned into something really, really ugly," he said.

A call to Dr. Stalliard emanated the comment that the college has issued a statement through the Public Relations Department and as far as they are concerned no further discussion will be had regarding this matter. "The in-

struction we have received is that is the final word," he said.

While attending the grand opening of the Holcombe Institute on Central Campus, BCC President J. David Armstrong was interviewed by WPLG Channel 10 news at which time he told the reporter he did not wish to say anything until the college had all of the information associated with the incident.

A phone call by the Observer to BCC Special Assistant to the President for Public Relations, Jillian Printz, produced similar results. Printz said that she could not comment on the matter because there is still an on-going investigation concerning the situation. According to Printz, the BCC legal department, Human Resources Department and the Student Affairs department are involved. "As soon as it is completed, our information about the incident will be public. That is protected by statute," she said.



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# FAU Republican debate

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES IN DEBATE MEDIATED BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

JESSICA BEANS  
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

Hundreds of media personnel from all over the nation turned out for the Republican debate at Florida Atlantic University on Jan. 24. The debate was a tremendous event for the university and for students and faculty members. Presidential candidates were able to present their issues and answer questions and concerns facing the United States and beyond.

The most popular issue was, without a doubt, the economy. Specific economic issues included, but were not limited to, high property taxes and sky-rocketing gas prices. Each nominee answered individually how they could ease the struggles that millions of Americans are suffering from. It was evident that each candidate agreed on one thing, to cut-taxes.

Tim Russert and Brian Williams from NBC would be the mediators for the televised event. Russert presented each question and made sure that the question was answered.

The question that would be the hardest to answer was arguably the war in Iraq. The multifaceted problems stemming from the war has not necessarily been answered in previous debates,

from both parties. What has been categorized as the "unpopular" war has made many believe its mission has become redundant and unwarranted.

There were many ways to present the wars concerns. Russert chose to ask a bold and to-the-point question as to whether the war was worth it. Every candidate agreed that the war was necessary that was except for Ron Paul. Paul, who was a surprising stand-out favorite to the FAU student body, plainly said, "It wasn't worth it, and it's a sad story because we started this war and we should never, never be a country that starts wars needlessly..." The bold defiance struck a round of applause throughout the auditorium. This would not be the last of Paul's stern detachment from his own party throughout the night.

As a whole, the presidential candidates agreed on how they would reform taxes and came to an unusual conformity. There was a conscious effort in which every candidate complimented each other. This wouldn't have anything to do with the highly publicized in-fighting between Clinton and Obama. In fact, the only dirt-kicking you would hear that night was Mitt Romney referring to nemesis Hillary

Clinton.

Clinton was a very popular punching bag for Romney. "She is Washington to the core," he said. "... The last thing America needs is sending the Clintons back to Washington."

The feeling of the debate was one of excitement and revelry for republican supporters. The rumor of democratic candidates not participating in their own debate in Florida, to the students, was an advantage for republicans. "I didn't know who I wanted to support; you know I was on the fence. But I think when they come out hear and speak to us you get a better idea and almost get to know them better." said Rachel Collins, a graduate student at FAU.

The actual presence of the candidates was crucial according to most students on campus. When it came to the outcome of the debate, it was unclear who actually came out on top.

Each republican candidate presented a carefully protected dialogue and that seemed to be a nice change for voters who are tired of the bellow-the-belt bickering that has been connected to the democrats. It will be interesting to see how long the brooding camaraderie between the republicans will last.

# Creative writing contest at Central

OLGA BUITRAGO  
STAFF WRITER

For the 12th year, English Professor Michael Cleary, from Central Campus, is conducting the annual Creative Writing Contest. This event is open to all students from any campus that have attended BCC for the last year.

The deadline to submit entries is March 17, and this year the prize has increased from \$100 to \$250.

"The contest gives students an opportunity to practice their creative writing skills and shows them there are rewards for creative efforts" said Cleary.

Students are encouraged to submit any writing style in any subject. The guidelines are 3 pages maximum with no more than 1 poem per page for poetry and 3 pages maximum for fiction.

Writing material can be submitted by email or mailed to Dr. Cleary in Central Campus,

building 6, room 140. Submissions must include the students name, phone number, address, Social Security number and BCC campus attended last year.

According to Cleary, winning the contest is a significant accomplishment to put on a resume; it also encourages students to continue doing something they like to do and are good at.

The winner will be announced by mail and there will be a commemorative plaque on the English Department with the winner's name.

Adrienne Henry, last years winner said, "Winning the contest meant a lot to me, because my best friend won the year before. It was really nice to see both of our names on the plaque. One day I will show my kids the picture so they can be proud of us"

For more information about the contest, call (954) 201-6983 or email Dr. Cleary at [mcleary@broward.edu](mailto:mcleary@broward.edu).

# Holcombe named chancellor of Florida's community colleges

BUZZ LAMB  
STAFF WRITER

Former BCC President Willis Holcombe has been named Chancellor of Florida's Community College system. Holcombe became interim chancellor in October 2007 and was appointed as Chancellor on Jan. 24 by Education Commissioner, Eric J. Smith.

Ironically Dr. Holcombe, in effect, has traded places with current BCC President J. David Armstrong, Jr. who resigned the chancellor's position last July to take over as BCC President. Holcombe initially began his career at BCC as an English professor and in 1987 he became President, a position he held until 2004 when he "retired".

Upon the 2006 resignation of Dr. Larry Calderon, his replacement, Holcombe came out of retirement to once again take over the reins of running the college as interim president. Holcombe was instrumental in implementing an exhaustive nation-wide search which concluded with the selection of Armstrong by the BCC Board of Trustees.

"Once David was situated, I went back into retirement. I took the summer off but in October the then-interim education commissioner called me and asked if I would fill in as interim chancellor until they found a replacement for David," Holcombe explained.

Holcombe said Smith was appointed Commissioner of Education soon after he accepted the interim chancellor position, "around Christmastime he came to me and said he wanted me

to stay on as chancellor." Holcombe said he thought it over for a while and then agreed to stay on as chancellor through the next legislative session. "We'll see what happens after that," he said.

Holcombe went on to say that even though he is leaning toward retiring again, what he really wants to do is teach. He said that the chancellor's position will give him an "in" the university system in Florida. "As a matter of fact, I am teaching a class in Tallahassee this semester," he said with a grin. "My passion is teaching."

Holcombe said that the job as chancellor is not the same as

"AS A MATTER OF FACT, I AM TEACHING A CLASS IN TALLAHASSEE THIS SEMESTER. MY PASSION IS TEACHING." SAID WILLIS HOLCOMBE.

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[www.hopewomenscenters.org](http://www.hopewomenscenters.org)

# Egypt

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

museum and other places. meals, and entrance to parks, museum and other places. The price does not include course tuition, and passport/visa fees.

According to Cleveland, 12 people have signed up for the program and they still have eight spots available for students who wish to participate.

The Land of Israel is another addition for this year. The University of Haifa will conduct this program and it has a minimum of 25 participants. Students will earn three credits in Humanities and have the opportunity from June 15 to July 3 to have on-site lectures at the most important historical sites in Israel in combination with classroom seminars at the University.

Students will learn from this experience the connection between Judaism, Christianity and Islam. They will visit David's city, Mt. Zion, Mt. Olives, the Dead Sea, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Ghetto Fighters' Museum and many more.

As part of the effort to give students life changing experiences, the William E. Greene Scholarship (WEGS) will be awarded to students interested in attending a full semester at one of the following four international sites: International Center for Management and India Studies in Bangalore -India, Center for

American Education in Singapore, International College of Seville in Seville- Spain and Brookdale College of Ecuador in Guayaquil-Ecuador. The application deadline for the fall term of 2008 is March 15 and for spring 2009 is Oct. 1.

"WEGS is the most generous scholarship that BCC offers because it includes the cost of tuition, housing, airfare and visas," said David Moore, Associate Vice-President for International Education.

According to Moore, depending on the money available, three to four scholarships will be awarded. "The committee will pick, in April, the best students that will benefit from this experience," said Moore.

Students seeking to apply for WEGS must be 18 years or older at the time of departure, be a BCC degree-seeking student, include, with the application, two letters of recommendation from faculty and have earned a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Students have to indicate on the application their preference for one of the locations by identifying their first, second and third choices. The committee will try to place the student in one of their first two choices.

Moore said, "The scholarship is a tremendous opportunity for students that do not have the means to have a life changing experience."

For more information about the program or the WEGS go to the website at [www.broward.edu/internationalEducation/](http://www.broward.edu/internationalEducation/).

# Focus on the environment

LILIANA COLANTUONI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Focus the Nation consists of coordinating teams of faculty and students in the United States to collaboratively engage in interdisciplinary discussions about Global Warming Solutions. On Jan. 21 this program was held at BCC Central Campus, on the patio of Building 19, to give information to students and faculty about the planet.

"Global Warming poses a serious threat to people and natural systems across the planet," said a representative of Focus the Nation. "Public and private policy decisions about global warming this decade will have impacts lasting for generations."

Diana Honeyblue, a Student Life representative, was the person that brought Focus the Nation to Central Campus. "This is the first year that we doing this; it is very exiting," she said. They showed a movie called an Inconvenient Truth that explains the process of global warming.

After the movie, Vanessa Gallego, a BCC student, said that she was amazed and that she could not believe what was going on with the planet. "From now on I will do anything to help control the global warming." Another student, Juan Ortega, said, "I think global warming is happening, but people exaggerate about it; it is just a life cycle."

One of the stations at the event was Energy Star, which discussed how to convert mechanical energy into electrical energy. According to Energy Star, if the energy efficiency of commercial and industrial buildings is improved by 10 percent, Americans would save about \$20 billion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Another station focused on recycling. There are ways in which people can recycle to help the earth. Recycling just one aluminum can provides enough electricity to power a TV for three hours, according to Broward County Waste and Recycling Services.

To recycle effectively people only need to use two bins. In one bin they should include aluminum and steel cans, milk/juice cartons and drink boxes and green and clear glass containers. In the other bin they should include newspapers and inserts, such as: magazines, catalogs, computer paper, envelopes, junk mail and cereal boxes.

Recycling trucks will take those bins to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), which does the rest of the sorting. After it is all recycled MRF will ship materials to manufacturing plants that create recycled-content products.

According to Broward County Wastes and Recycling Services, "Every ton of paper that is recycled saves 17 trees and keeps

60 pounds of air pollution out of the atmosphere. The energy saved by recycling one glass bottle is enough to light a light bulb for four hours."

In order to help the environment there are several steps that people should follow before planting on their properties: plan and design, make a sketch of the landscape site, obtain a soil analysis, determine the soil composition from sandy to clay, test for the pH composition of the soil, choose proper plants; match each spot in your landscape with plants that thrive in the specific conditions of the spot, use turf wisely, consider more water-thrifty alternatives such as groundcovers or mulched walkways, irrigate efficiently, use mulch and perform proper maintenance.

There was also an important corporation exhibiting hybrid cars. Rick Case Honda brought a car to show students and faculty how to economize gasoline and to prevent air pollution.

Focus the Nation invited Captain Dan Kipnis who spoke about global warming and our changing oceans. Kipnis serves as a director for the Florida Wildlife Federation and has been appointed to the South Florida Climate Change Task Force. He is also among the first 1,000 disciples Al Gore plans to train to help spread his gospel of global climate.

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**MD CLINICAL**

# BCC professor writes about equality

**BUZZ LAMB**  
STAFF WRITER

As a practitioner of human resources in higher education, Dr. Edna Chun says she has been focusing her attention during the last few years on diversity and affirmative action. "In addition to being involved in human resources, I am very interested in equity and how it plays out in higher education. That is a very important principle for me," she said.

Apparently it was important enough to persuade Chun to write a book about it. As it turns out, the book she co-authored with Alvin Evans, Associate Vice-President for Human Resources at Kent State University received



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROWARD.EDU

**Dr. Edna Chun.**

an award from the premier U.S. association for human resources in higher education. Chun and Evans previously worked together at Kent State in 2000 - 2002.

On Nov. 29, 2007 Chun and Evans were honored by the College and University Professional Association (CUPA) with the presentation of the prestigious Kathryn G. Hansen Publication Award during a conference in Baltimore, Maryland. They have previously published several articles in the CUPA Journal and have presented sessions on the topics of diversity and inclusion.

"Are the Walls Really Down? Behavioral and Organizational Barriers to Faculty and Staff Diversity in Higher Education" is the title of the award-winning book. Which, written from a practitioner's standpoint, offers new insights to the formal and informal barriers which inhibit the hiring, promotion and retention of women and minorities.

Chun said the equity portion of the book was especially important to her because she fits both those categories. "First, of course, I am a woman and secondly because of my Asian heritage I am part of a minority as well," she said.

"The higher up you go in an organization, the more isolated you become. In the United States, Asian-Americans comprise only 1.4 percent of people in administration."

Chun said they wanted to write this book because they were looking for answers. "We were looking for a way to change culture, a way to accomplish diversity. People (college

administrators) know they need to get there but they don't know how to do it," she said. Chun said they wanted to do something like a road map...getting people from where they are to where they need to be.

Chun said the two of them developed a diversity score card in the book for institutions to determine what level they have achieved. "During a book-signing at the conference, people would open the book to the page containing the scorecard and say 'that's just what I needed, something to give me a jump-start, something to work with... a tool I can use to measure performance'," she said.

According to Chun, from a functional perspective the book discusses the current best practices in the field of diversity strategic-planning and assessment using examples drawn from public research universities. It also proposes a model for understanding the impact of subtle forms of discrimination, including emerging research on the physiological and psychological toll resulting from the effect of psycho-social stress on minorities and women.

"Understanding what needs to be attained is the antidote to all of this," she said. Chun said while doing their research for the book they found that most institutions of higher learning have a written plan of some kind, "but, when we called them up, as I did with everyone that is cited in the book, they would say 'I really don't know what came out of that plan. It looked good on paper, but it was not real'," Chun said. "When the people cannot tell you what the outcomes were, it means that they are not getting to actualize those plans."

"Empowerment is a two-way street and retention is a big factor," she said. According to

*"IN THE UNITED STATES,  
ASIAN-AMERICANS  
COMPRISE ONLY 1.4  
PERCENT OF PEOPLE IN  
ADMINISTRATION."*

Chun, the book is available in many colleges and public libraries throughout the country. It is part of a series published by CUPA directed toward human resource professionals. "There is still a lot of work to be done in this area," she said, indicating the pair might write another book.

Chun said she is experiencing new found fame since receiving the award. "I am now being highly sought after and being invited to participate (in interviews)," she said. "I feel honored to be here at BCC and I want to share this award with the college. It is my way of saying 'thank you'," she said. "It is not all about me, it's about the environment at BCC that supports me and I am very grateful for that."

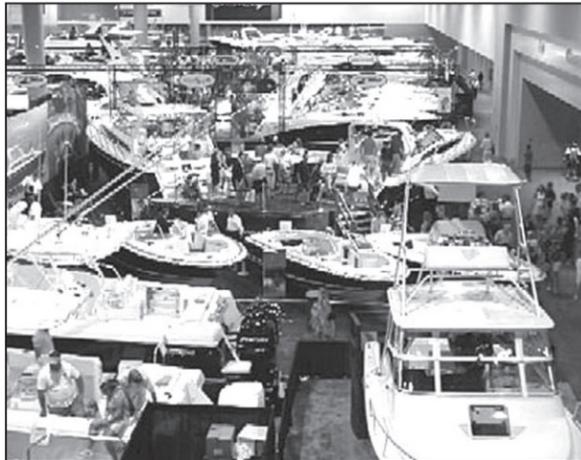
# Miami Boat Show features the Discover Boating Center

**BUZZ LAMB**  
STAFF WRITER

More than 2,200 exhibitors will be showcasing powerboats, sailboats, engines, marine electronics and accessories for the 2008 boating season at the Miami Boat Show. According to Cathy Rick-Joule, vice-president of southern shows with the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), consumers from all across the U.S. and as far away as Japan travel to Miami where the best buys of the season can be found.

This spectacular show kicks off its 67th five-day run right in our own back yard on Feb. 14 (Valentine's Day) at the Convention Center in Miami Beach. This year the show will again feature the Discover Boating Center, a resource hub located in Lobby C, which provides visitors with unbiased, brand-neutral advice about selecting, buying and maintaining a boat.

If you are good with a camera, the Miami Herald is sponsoring a Discover Boating Contest. First prize is an Adirondack Boat Pack valued at \$2,500 and a \$500 boat show shopping spree. Photo entries can be submitted online at [www.miamiboatshow.com](http://www.miamiboatshow.com) and the winners will be announced after 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16.



The previous Miami Boat Show.

PHOTOS BY BUZZ LAMB.

David Letterman has his Top 10 list and Discover Boating has a list of 10 great reasons to get involved in boating, as well:

- Spend quality time with family and friends-boating helps leave stress behind.
- Enjoy an affordable leisure activity-entry-level models sell for around \$10,000.
- Participate in fun activities-fishing, wake boarding, waterskiing or sightseeing.
- Closer than you think-most folks live within an hour drive of navigable water.
- Unlock a life-long passion-introduce children to an enjoyable lifelong activity.
- Go high tech on the high seas-gadgets galore to create the ultimate boating fun.
- Consider the tax break-a large boat can be classified as a second home.
- Create a home away from home-most boats abound with "creature comforts."
- Learn the ropes-take a boater's education course with the entire family.
- Make new friends- the best days in a boater's life are Saturday and Sunday.

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# MARDI GRAS



HEATHER DULMAN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## Concert Line up

February 2- April 19

Sara Evans	2/16
Third Eye Blind	2/23
Gretchen Wilson	3/1
Smokey Robinson	3/8
Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons	3/15
Kool & the Gang	3/22
Heart	3/29
TBA	4/5
LL Cool J	4/12
Earth Wind and Fire	4/19

Let the music move you with Mardi Gras at Universal Studios every Saturday night from Feb.2- April 19. This festive celebration started 12 years ago from the idea of the original parade in New Orleans. People are dressed in costumes and on stilts. The floats are guided by music. Over a million colored beads are thrown into the air. Parade goes scramble to get a beaded necklace originally made from New Orleans.

The idea started when Universal wanted to find a way to increase attendance at the park. They wanted to have music for the spring festival like the real Mardi Gras that started in 1932 outside of New Orleans. They gave it a try and now it became a life of its own.

"That's how it started with Halloween Horror Nights and now it is the biggest Halloween event in the country," said Jim Timon, Senior VP of Entertainment for Universal Orlando Resort. According to Timon, there is always a challenge in the industry. "There are 412 million people out there during the summer, during spring break and the Christmas holidays and that is great. Generally, most theme parks and organizations look for ways to boost their attendance, called the shoulder period during spring and fall to raise attendance levels. It started off as a business purpose and now Mardi Gras is universal, fun, edgy and great for families."

After the Katrina disaster, musicians that normally play in New Orleans were out of work. Jim Stout, Director of Talent and Booking, worked for a group called The Musicians for Disaster Relief. In 2006 Universal partnered up with Tipitina's Foundation and funded some money on top of what Universal and NBC already had given. There is a built mini replica of a French Quarter close to the concert facility. Universal brought down acts from Louisiana to entertain for a pre- show for people to enjoy the New Orleans life style.

Universal changes the theme every year to keep the Mardi Gras tradition true to its roots. The theme this year is The Lost Civilizations.

The opening acts start at 8:30 p.m. To start off the Mardi Gras season, Bret Michaels, lead singer from Poison and VH1 Rock of Love., he played some old songs from Poison and some old school songs by various artists.

"The best part of making Mardi Gras is hearing 10 minutes before show time. Once they are on they are on and there is nothing you can change," said Stout.

The cost is \$46.95 and it is included with the park admission before 5 p.m. Mardi Gras starts at 8 p.m. For more information, on Universal Mardi Gras go to [universalorlando.com/mardigras](http://universalorlando.com/mardigras).

How are you going to earn your beads?

PHOTOS BY BRUNO NICCOLI

# Game Breakers redefines the meaning of arcade

IGOR MELLO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It seems as if the Video Game Arcade is a thing of the past. You can barely find any around Broward County, and practically everyone has a video game console at their house. So why would a daily gamer leave the house to go play elsewhere?

Game Breakers is a local online video game entertainment center across the street from BCC Central Campus, that allows students to take some time off from their schoolwork to experience a brand new style on an endless list of multi-player games, including top-sellers such as Halo 3, Call of Duty 4, Gears of War, Madden 2008 and the Guitar Hero collection.

"The best way to put it, it's an advanced arcade," said Derek Olivier, General Manager of Game Breakers. "We use the Xbox 360, PS3, the Wii system as well as computer games to allow people to play interactively in groups of up to 20. We have all the games here, all online. We have our own accounts, so you can come here and play any game

you want."

The center has been open since the summer of 2007 and has held weekly events, and group meetings for the "Xbox 360 Madden Group" and "The Meet-up-Gang". These weekly events include a karaoke night every Wednesdays for the Guitar Hero/Rock Band games; this unique place also has plans on opening up their own Bowling league for the Nintendo Wii.

"I found out about Game Breakers through one of my good friends, he told me about a Madden tournament coming up at the end of the month for the Xbox 360," said Malcolm Burney, a sophomore who is an avid Madden gamer.

Game Breakers also hold monthly tournaments and lock-ins for games such as Halo 3, Call of Duty 4, and Madden 2008. The Champion of each of these tournaments is rewarded with at least \$100 cash, or sometimes their own video game console.

"Some people just don't have enough money to buy a video game system, so this [Game Breakers] really helps," said Freshman George Richardson,

whose favorite games are Guitar Hero and Halo.

Olivier's goal is to provide a place in the community where people can hang out and stay away from trouble. Although Game Breakers has so much to offer, they do charge the local gamer an hourly fee. With this fee they normally include specials, which provide free beverages and wings with their admission. But some gamers don't wish to pay that fee because they would rather play at home.

"The best example I like to use is the gym. You might have a weight set at home, I'm sure it's fun, but you miss a social aspect that we provide. It's a lot of fun to play with all your boys right next to you and playing against some of the top gamers that come out here," said Olivier.

This place has a lot to offer, especially for those who can't afford to purchase a video game console and it's walking distance from BCC Central Campus. Game Breakers is located on 3700 SW. Davie Rd. inside the Varsity Square Shopping Center. For more information visit [www.thegamebreaker.com](http://www.thegamebreaker.com)



Outside view of Game Breakers.

PHOTO BY HEATHER COOPER

# Rambo 4 bombs in theaters

JESSICA BEANS  
CENTRAL BUREAU CHIEF

It's hard to believe that it has really been 20 years since Sly Stallone graced the movie screen in "Rambo 3". Despite rumors of a straight-to-DVD release, Stallone defied the critics, and has returned to play the ex-military vigilante John Rambo.

"Rambo 4" follows Rambo sequel clichés: enough artillery to blow up a small country, a fairly weak plot, and lukewarm acting. It is safe to say that for the exception of Stallone, you might not see any of the other actors from this film; and for good reason. One could say that isn't entirely their fault; the plot of the movie was typical and easy to figure out.

The story takes place in Burma, and Stallone

who is somewhat not the Rambo you will remember, is still full of angst and bitterness. Rambo who seems to be taking on a more peaceful life will eventually have to save the lives of a misguided missionary bible group.

If you are looking to see carnage at an all-time high, look no further. Luckily for Stallone, the one thing the movie had going for it, which previous Rambo's didn't have, were the high-tech special effects that

he took full advantage of in this version. Any which way someone could be blown away, stabbed, shanked, was highly exaggerated. However, the violent footage and the depth that was taken to add to shock-value were just a little over the edge and, personally, were in bad taste. An important tip to all parents that intend on bringing your child, please don't. Despite the usual "blowing the bad guys away", there is also some pretty explicit scenes that are not child-appropriate even under adult supervision.

This obviously was not the Oscar-worthy kind of movie, but if you're into the cheesy all-American heroes who takes care of business, you won't be let down. Stallone is clearly not the Rambo of 1988, but he still has the hero quality that draws applause.



A violent scene from "Rambo 4."

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIONSGATE.COM

# Upcoming Events

## CONCERTS:

- 02/20 Van Halen at the BankAtlantic Center.
- 02/23 Casting Crowns perform at the Crusan Amphitheatre.
- 03/07 Jonas Brothers at the BankAtlantic Center.
- 04/26 Bon Jovi at the BankAtlantic Center.
- 04/30 Santana at the Hard Rock Live.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ABC.NET

## DVDS:

- 02/12 "Becoming Jane" starring Anne Hathaway as Jane Austen is released in stores.
- 02/19 "Michael Clayton" with George Clooney hits the stands.
- 02/26 The due release of "Beowulf," starring Ray Winstone and Angelina Jolie.

## MOVIES:



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMPAWARDS.COM

- 02/14 "Spiderwick Chronicles" is released in theaters and the IMAX.
- 02/22 "Be Kind Rewind" will be in theaters and stars Jack Black.
- 02/29 "The Other Boleyn Girl" with Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Eric Bana

## CDS:

- 02/12 Michael Jackson's "Thriller: 25th Anniversary Edition" hits stores.
- 02/26 "The Orchard" by Lizz Wright is released.

## BOOKS:

- 02/18 "Strangers in Death" by J.D. Robb is released.
- 02/26 Due date for "Remember Me?" by Sophie Kinsella.
- 03/10 "Killer Heat" by Lina Faustin is available.

## THEATER:

- 02/28 Carlos Mencia "Live" at the Hard Rock Live.
- 02/17 Last Day "Absinthe" at Spiegelworld in Collins Park.
- 03/06 "Monty Python's Spamalot" at the Kravis Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPIEGELWORLD.COM

# A book from the heart

ALEXA SANDOVAL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"If you had one hour to live and could make just one phone call, who would you call? What would you say? And why are you waiting?" This is what Richard Carlson, Ph. D. (1961-2006) wrote in a letter to his wife, Kristine Carlson.

After one year of losing her husband, Kristine Carlson, now, has published that love letter as an inspirational book *An Hour to Live, an Hour to Love*.

The book condenses the meaning of what is important in the everyday living. With simple words, Richard Carlson tells, in the first part of the book, what he would do in the last hour of his life, while Kristine Carlson, in the second part, answers to her husband's letter.

*An Hour to Live, an Hour to Love* encourages telling the people who surround you, how

much you care and how much you love them. Therefore, if you still do not know what to give for Valentine's Day, *An Hour to Live, an Hour to Love* would be a good idea.

Richard Carlson is the author of the *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff* series.

For more information about the book and the authors go to: [www.dontsweat.com](http://www.dontsweat.com)

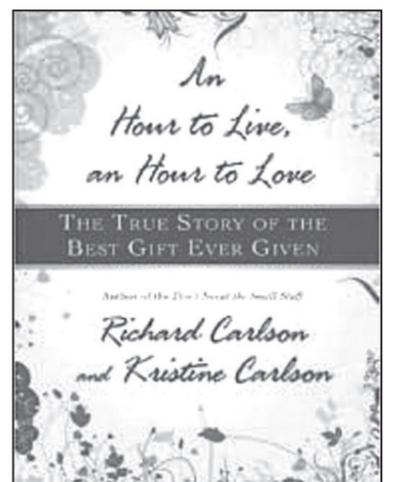


PHOTO COURTESY OF TANTOR.COM

Cover of *An Hour to Live, an Hour to Love*.

# A local time machine: The Renaissance Festival

**ANTHONY SEDLEY**  
STAFF WRITER

Hip! Hip! Huzzah! The caravan of battling knights, dirty wenches, and mischievous fairies is making its way back to South Florida for the 16th annual Florida Renaissance Festival. For years, thousands of 21st century townspeople flock to the festival that takes them back in time more than 500 years to 16th century England, where they can enjoy live musical acts and eat giant turkey legs while visiting the numerous makeshift pubs that have been set up around the Quiet Water Parks fairgrounds.

Upon entering the drawbridge gates the general public will no longer hear their usual languages

slang. Instead they will be overpowered by hearing the timely dialect and lingo peasants and royalty once used, such as "Aye" and "Nay" rather than "Yes" and "No." And if the way these time travelers speak is the only thing different to someone, tell them to open their eyes. It

*THOUSANDS OF 21ST CENTURY TOWNSPEOPLE FLOCK TO THE FESTIVAL THAT TAKES THEM BACK IN TIME MORE THAN 500 YEARS TO 16TH CENTURY ENGLAND.*

is impossible to miss the lady's and lords in colorful garb, the knights in their leather and chain mail armour, and the village idiot sitting in the mud with torn and tattered clothes, hitting himself

over the head with a pot.

And as for the entertainment performances, you can check out one of the six stages that are set up. One of the festival's main attraction, and crowd favorite, is the dirtiest show the Florida Renaissance Festival has to offer, the Mud Show. The hilarious actor's in the Mud Show are great, but the star in this show is the mud pit, in which the actors slosh around and belly flop in.

The Florida Renaissance Festival opens on Feb. 9 and runs for 5 weekends until it packs up and leaves town on March 9. It's located in Quiet Waters Park in Deerfield Beach, and is open from 10 a.m. until sunset. Visit [www.ren-fest.com](http://www.ren-fest.com) for more information.

Going to mingle with the masses of the 16th century? Better learn how to communicate properly with them. Here is a guide from [www.sirclisot.com](http://www.sirclisot.com) to help you out of the stocks.

- Instead of "Hello," try these: "Good morrow," "Good day," "Good eve," "How now," and "Well met."
- Instead of "Your," say: "Thy"
- Instead of "Listen," try: "Hark!" or "Hark now!"
- Instead of "Here," use: "Hither"
- Instead of saying "Damn!" try using these at the festival: "Alack!" "Out upon it!", and "Alas!"
- As you will - Okay, or whatever.
- Betimes- Very early in the morning
- By your leave - Excuse me or please
- Carouse- Party!
- Chide - Scold or nag
- Fie - A curse, as in "Fie on thee, poxy harlot!"
- Forswear- To lie or cheat
- Grammercy - Thank you
- Maid or Maiden - A young woman of upstanding virtue
- Marry! - An exclamation of shock
- Mayhap - Perhaps. This is often mispronounced "mayhaps", which is incorrect.
- N'er - Never, pronounced "nair".
- Nonpariel- A beauty
- Perchance - Maybe or Possibly. "Perchance we shall see the Queen on the morrow!"
- Prating - Babbling, talking too much.
- Prithee - Please, literally "I pray thee"
- Privy - Bathroom, or more literally, outhouse
- S'wounds! - An exclamation, like wow. A shortened from "gods wounds".
- Tosspot- Drunkard
- Wench - A young woman
- Yonder - Over there. "Yonder merchant sells most wonderous baubles!"



A jousting knight in the festival.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UTK.EDU

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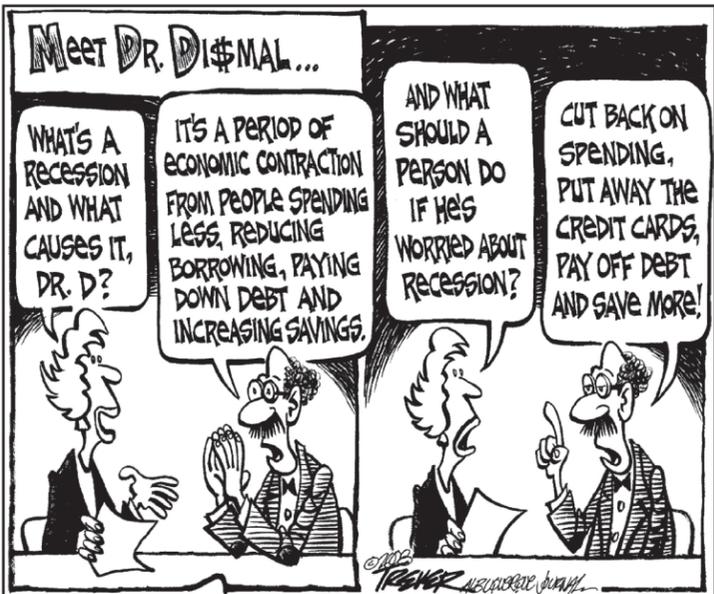
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 I G F D E S T E S T C O O H S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- |           |         |           |          |
|-----------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Afraid to | Fire    | Sacrifice | Trout    |
| Black     | Fruit   | Sand      | Tsetse   |
| Caddis    | Horse   | Shoo      | When pig |
| Dragon    | I won't | Sparks    |          |

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# Start caring about your education

**NATALIE BOBB**  
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever been in class and noticed that some of your classmates were sleeping, texting or just staring blankly into space?

What about the student who never comes to class but argues with the professor about his grades?

Maybe you know someone like this or maybe that someone is you.

Since attending college is voluntary, one may say, "I can sleep in class or not even bother to show up if I want to. It's my money."

But I say: why waste an opportunity that people in some parts of the world only dream about?

Students from around the world leave the countries they were born in to attend college in the United States. The opportunities for those who want a higher education and are willing to work hard are endless.

That is why it perplexes me that some students are content to receive a C when they are capable of getting an A. Why cheat yourself out of the reward that determination brings?

Equally as baffling are the students who do not come to class regularly, but want to borrow your notes all the time. On top of that, they never have a pen or any paper, and if there happens to be a test the one day they come to class you can see the panic in their eyes from a mile away.

That brings me to another point. Why do students just sit around and complain about their professors and crack jokes about their hair and clothing. Don't get me wrong, I am not opposed to a good laugh, but try to see your professors as more than a walking

punch-line. If you truly want to learn, these people are your most precious resource. Believe it or not, they know more about the subjects they teach and life in general than you. If you have questions about class or just need career advice, speak to the people who have been there and done that. That is why they are here.

Also, have you ever attended a campus function and wondered why more people did not show up? Or are you that person that just ignores the flyers and posters that advertise campus activities and organizations? If so, you are not the only one.

Many students do not take advantage of the many extra-curricular activities that are available to them. Of course, students who work full-time and/or have families to support may not have the time to participate, but those who simply choose not to get involved are missing out on an important experience.

Partaking in college activities allows students to get the most out of their college tuition. There are lessons that cannot be learned in the classroom. Being a part of a club or organization on campus allows students to gain valuable leadership and interpersonal skills that are important to prospective employers. In addition, participating on campus teaches students how to give back to their community.

The best education is a well-rounded one. The college experience is much more than Algebra and English. Whether you are here to get an associate's degree and get a job or you plan to move on to a 4-year university, replace laziness and apathy with diligence and perseverance. Only then will you truly obtain what many people can only dream about—a college education.

# Going Green, so chic!

**ANGELA OSBORNE**  
OPINION EDITOR

It seems that no matter where you go, you are bombarded with people, places, or things that are green. And in case you have been living under a rock, going green has nothing to do with fungus growing on a rock, or an infectious disease. It's about preserving the environment. It's really a great thing that it has become so popular.

No matter what your stance is on global warming or to be politically correct, climate change how could the public not be for a better environment? Cars, light bulbs and even the plates that we eat our lunches on all can have negative effects on the environment. And by making the community more aware of how it effects the environment can only be to the benefit of the community.

There are a lot of efforts that are taking place to make the everyday person aware of their effect on the environment. There are special segments on the news to show you how going green will save you money. Celebrities are posing nude for PETA ads, and giving up their fancy sports cars and SUVs for teeny tiny hybrids. Hey, if the thought of saving a few hundred dollars a month, making googly eyes at Alicia Silverstone's naked body and driving a Hybrid because Leonardo DiCaprio does, go for it. Seriously, whatever it takes at this point.

Peer pressure works. If it didn't the world wouldn't have as many problems as it does. So why not use peer pressure for the correct reason, for once? Everyone else is turning off the lights when they leave the house, why don't you?

Bribery works just as well. It seems to work for South Campus, during their second annual environmental week. They offered scholarships to students who won contests. If they won contests, the students had to learn something right? It was a wonderful idea to simply make students more aware of the world around them.

Plant a tree, turn off a light, ride with a friend to a club instead of taking separate cars. It's just that easy to do something good for the environment. Just in case you think that small things like that don't make a difference, if everyone did a few small things it would equal a positive colossal effect.

Its like studying, you might have to have silence, or music or have a group of people with you, but you have to find out what works for you. If being more informed will help you to go green, research it. If it's a desire to be in style, there is no better time than now to be concerned with what's hot.

# Politicians packing up their circus

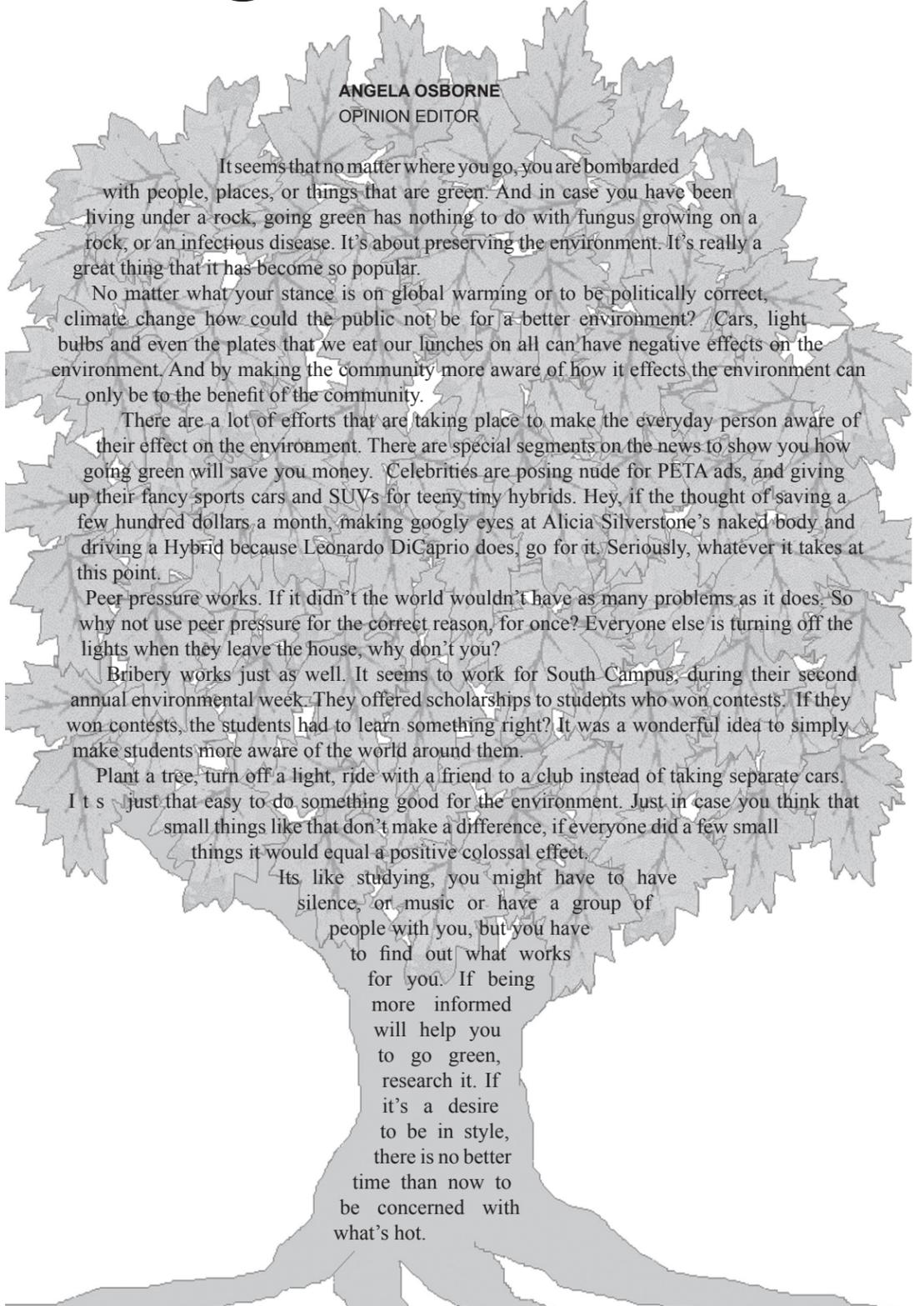
**QUINTON JACKSON**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Now that the polls are closed and the votes have been counted, Florida has voiced its opinion: With Clinton winning for the Democrats and McCain for the Republicans. With one more primary completed, the candidates quickly exited the state and were off to the next primary. With one of the biggest primaries coming up, all focus from each candidate's campaign is focused on California.

However, not all candidates will continue on the election trail after Florida. John Edwards and Rudy Guilliani have dropped out of the race. The former mayor of New York City has already said that

he will be backing John McCain. Edwards has issued no statement at this time. Even though the politicians have recently vacated our state, the issues were spoken on and the signs can still be seen on the side of busy roads. This is not completely done yet, with the actual election being in November. Stay focused on the views of the candidates that are still involved in the race to the White House.

More people are paying needed attention to this issue of the political race now, with South Florida boasting the largest increase in voter turnout in all of history. Even if your candidate doesn't win, we should all be proud that we did show up to the polls and let our voices be heard.



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# A couple speaks out on Valentine's Day

## WHAT THE GIRLFRIEND HAS TO SAY

LILIANA COLANTUONI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Valentine's Day is a very special day for me, as a woman. It is a day to spend it with the love of my life; to do something wonderful.

The Feb. 14 is the national day of Love/Friendship, even though for me it seems like every day of the year.

The present that I receive that day from my boyfriend is not important, what I care about the most is the time we spend together. What I would like the most is that he gives me time to spend together, alone, like a romantic dinner out, a walk on the beach or just my favorite flower. I will appreciate these things more than an expensive present.

The perfect evening would be to wear a nice red dress, to go to our restaurant by the beach, have some wine and do some thing special, like a walk under the stars.

I would do anything for my boyfriend, he is very important in my life. I love him very much and I hope that day we spend a good time together.

For every woman Valentine's Day is important and special, and men should think about this!

## WHAT THE BOYFRIEND HAS TO SAY

JONATHAN IGLESIAS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For me Valentine's Day is just another day. I do not think that there should be a National Love Day because it should be that way every day of the year.

Men are not as women wanted us to be, but I try my best in making my girlfriend happy.

As a man, I do not expect to receive a gift that day because, like I said before, it is just another day.

I always want to surprise my girl, but with expensive presents.

That is how I am.

I do not want to just give her flowers.

For this coming Valentine's Day I am going to be working. I would rather

make more money so that, in the future, we can

take a trip together. Women should

know by now that men are not as romantic as women are.

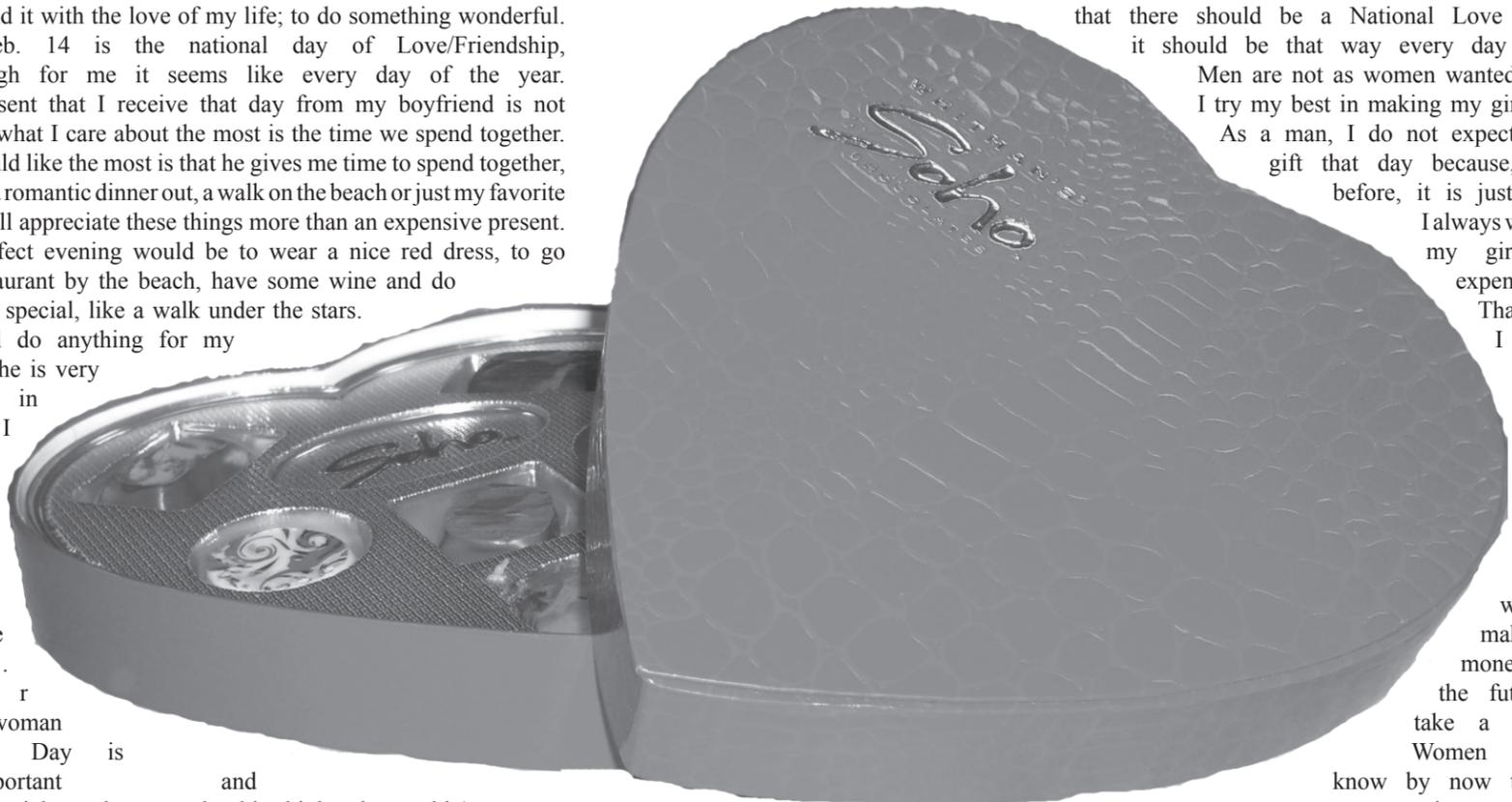


PHOTO BY ANGELA OSBORNE

FLIRT

CALL ME

KISS ME

I LOVE YOU!

TEXT ME

# Cupid sends some Valentine's Day perspective

BARBRA QUIJANO  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I guess love truly is a battlefield! So ladies and gentlemen, whether it's boxing, karate, jiu-jitsu, street fighting, or head rushing you do, be prepared! It's rough out there!

we tend to exaggerate and over-rate the meaning of Valentine's Day, an ordinary day, but with a twist and tint of spice on the side. And by that, I don't mean some glamorous escapade, or an evening of high prices, rather a spontaneous, spur of the moment exchanging of words (and they don't have to necessarily consist of the THREE

words you're thinking of), compliments, gestures, something simple and sweet that acts as an appreciation or consideration for that significant other.

"Is Valentine's Day over-rated?" "Are women asking for too much, and men not asking at all, or vice versa?" "Are the expectations higher than what they should be, or should there be any expectations at all for this once a year, emotion overflowing day of so called 'love'?"

Valentine's Day is the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. That's pretty amazing, and very believable these days of, "I love you but please give me my space," or "I love you, but let me do my thing and you

do yours." That's great! Love has been re-mastered in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Who would've thought that "love" would be ridiculed against, bullied and thought of as unworthy

Sometimes I think women ask for too much from the "other half." We can't be selfish ladies, we can't expect the dozen roses at our doorstep, or the chocolates behind his back accompanied by a rose as you greet him in the parking lot, or the note waiting for you on your windshield after school. We have to leave those brief fairy tale moments at the movies, and remember that they are only, "I wish that would happen in real-life" movies.

Expectations are automatic

and instinctive, I know, but just be reasonable with logic and use your judgment wisely, not selfishly. That's not cute. But a girl can dream, just as long as she knows that reality cannot be ignored.

And for my men out there, I just gave you some ideas, but if that doesn't jump out at you, its okay, because you are the way you are, and that's why she's with you, and same rule applies for the ladies.

It's just that I feel sometimes that Valentine's Day is so commercialized and bombarded to us with such superficiality that we get caught up in it not realizing the absurdity we ourselves are getting involved in. So just be

you, because that's how you made it this far in the relationship any ways, and don't let an ordinary day mislead you!

And that's my point. Valentine's Day, is a day to recognize the reason of why you're with each other and if there's anything you feel like doing or saying, then do it or say it, but because you want to, not because you have to.

And if you're riding solo and you feel like you deserve a dozen roses, then send yourself a dozen roses, or write yourself that little note and buy yourself some scrumptious chocolates! Go for it, nobody will ever know.

What happens between you and Valentine's Day stays between you and Valentine's Day!



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# Final stretch for basketball Softball 08 season

**IGOR MELLO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITWER

After winning their first 12 games in dominant fashion to start the regular season, the BCC Seahawks Men's Basketball Team has endured some obstacles. Since that first 12 game stretch the Seahawks have only won five out of its last 12 games.

"We've been up and down, kind of like a barometer, we started out really well, then during the break they came back and they just weren't there. They just need to keep up the intensity level," said Coach Bob Starkman, who is in his seventh season as the Seahawks Head Coach.

The Seahawks are now 17-7 overall and third in the NJCAA Southern

Conference with a 2-4 record with just six conference games left to play. After losing two consecutive home games, on Jan. 23 a 100-96 double-overtime heartbreaker against Indian River Community College and Jan. 26 a 81-80 to Miami Dade College, the team had an impressive 75-62 victory at home in the Omni Auditorium at North Campus Jan. 30 against Palm Beach Community College.

but we've been struggling, the intensity was back today, we got more team effort, we put it together and we put them away," said Coach Starkman Jan. 30 after the team's important win versus PBCC.

The Seahawks average just over 87 points per game and allow only 75 points per game. Though the Seahawks are in third place in their conference they still have a shot at making it to Nationals, but they can't afford to lose anymore, as their postseason hopes will only get slimmer

"Anytime I get a free gym and no one is there I take around one thousand shots and work on my handles for the next level," mentioned Dennison.

A reason for Dennison's high scoring average might have something to do with the outstanding rebounding of the sophomore Center, Miklos Szabo, who leads NJCAA in rebounding with 15 rebounds per game. Szabo, who is a native of Hungary, alongside with Dennison have verbally committed to Hofstra University, a Division I college

where they will be teammates for two additional years.

"Coach Starkman taught me how to play the American game a little bit better because I had a few problems last season with the style of play," said Szabo.

The Seahawks must now endure four straight road games versus all of their conferences foes including IRCC who are in first place in the Southern Conference with a 5-0 record. After the four game road stretch the Seahawks will cap off the regular season with two final home games starting Feb. 18 against Brevard Community College (7:30 p.m. at North Campus) and on Feb. 23 versus IRCC (4 p.m. at North Campus).

**IGOR MELLO**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After an abysmal 12-35 record in the 2007 season, the Lady Seahawks Softball team have been working hard during the off season and are looking forward to start a brand new chapter in the 2008 season.

"I think the team will have better chemistry this season, focusing on the drills we do during practice can really improve our play. If everyone makes the routine plays then we'll end up doing really well," said sophomore first baseman Brooke Slinger, who has been playing Softball since she was five years old.

The Lady Seahawks started off the season Jan. 25 with a double header against St. Petersburg College. Although the ladies lost their season opener 7-1, they bounced back and won the second game of the double header 4-3. The team will play eleven non-conference games before they begin their conference play Mar. 12 with a double header versus Brevard Community College. The Lady Seahawks have been impatiently waiting for the start of this season to prove critics that this team is different from previous seasons.

"I'm just looking forward to seeing how far we can go this season and how we compare to the teams who have a reputation as being strong," states Kirstin Beamsderfer, the Freshmen Outfield/Utility player from Piper High School in Sunrise. "I think we have a strong team this season and as long as we stay focused the entire game we'll definitely put up a fight and win games that really count."

The Seahawks will take a crack at each of the five schools in their

conference four times with the exception of Brevard Community College as they will play them five times. The most anticipated game will come April 9 when the Lady Seahawks will face Indian River Community College who were ranked seventh in the nation last season.

"I am really looking forward to playing our divisional games, especially against Indian River because their team is very strong," said Freshmen Pitcher Amanda Heyl, who only gave up three runs as she tossed a complete game with nine strikeouts to give the Lady Seahawks their first win of the season.

Coach Brian Staubly will enter his third season as the Lady Seahawks Softball coach with a 17-49 record. After having six of his players selected to the All Southern Conference Team in his first season, The Seahawks had none this past season. The players feel that if anybody can turn the program around its Staubly.

"Coach Staubly and his staff are more hands on with teaching us techniques compared to any of the coaches I've ever played with before," said Freshmen Catcher/Second Basemen Alicia Ademy, who has gained experience from father John Ademy, who once played for the New York Yankees.

Ademy is just one of the six talented freshmen who will begin their Junior Collegiate career as a Seahawk. On the other hand there are eight returning players not to mention two new sophomores this season who are in quest to bring BCC the Southern Conference Title and possibly a trip to Nationals.

All home games are free and the schedule is available at [www.broward.edu/athletics](http://www.broward.edu/athletics).



STOCK PHOTO

"Every win is important,

"Only thing we have to do is step up on our defense and continue to play together to make it to the postseason," said Sophomore Guard Tony Dennison, who played High School Ball in Queens, NY.

The 6-foot-3 -inch Dennison is third in the NJCAA in scoring with just over 25 points per game this season. Dennison leads the team in points per game, free throw (76) and field goal percentage (66).

## Last quiz answers

- 63 yards. Tom Dempsey and Jason Elam share the record.
- 158.3 is the highest rating for a Quarterback.
- The three point shoot was established in the NBA during the 1979-80 season.
- Richard Petty won 7 NASCAR titles.
- The UFL had three seasons from 1983 to 1985.
- Ben Roethlisberger is the youngest Quarterback to win a Super Bowl.
- The Chicago Cubs are the first team to appear in three consecutive World Series.
- Don Larsen
- Barry Bonds walked intentionally 120 times in 2004.
- Barry bonds had 15 consecutive RBIs
- Emmitt Smith.
- Tiger Woods won his first U.S. Open in 2000.
- LSU won the most BCS championships. 2004 and 2008.
- Sam the Seahawk
- Jackie Robinson is the first African American player in the MLB.
- Beijing will be hosting the next Olympics.
- O'neal measure 7 ft. 1 in. and wears shoes size 22.

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# The Upset of The Century

## THE NEW YORK GIANTS WIN SUPER BOWL XLII

**BRUNO NICCOLI**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The New York Giants are the Super Bowl winners. Contradicting all odds, the Giants beat the favorite New England Patriots, to become the champions of Super Bowl XLII.

The undefeated Patriots had their chances of writing a chapter in history by becoming the second team to win the Super Bowl undefeated, and the first with a 19 games season. But it was Eli Manning who raised the trophy at the end of the game, not Tom Brady, as expected.

The 17-14 score at the end of the game gave Eli and the giants their deserved place in football history.

Excuses and finger pointing will forever trace the patriots after the loss of what seemed to be the easiest Super Bowl contender they ever had to face. However, the fact is simple; the giants deserve full credit for their amazing upset.

They trained hard and did what no other team was able to accomplish during the entire season; they put pressure into Brady and prevented the Patriot's offense from moving down the field.

Laurence Maroney, the Patriots running back, had only one successful drive, during the first quarter when he scored the Patriots first Touchdown, after the entire running game was held to just a few gains of yards per attempt, as the Giants linebackers and defensive line blocked any running attempts.

With no running game and Brady underpressure every time he attempted a passing play. The Giants kept the game under control and even with the inexperience from some players, were still capable of establishing a solid game plan for the entire game.

Manning had to live his NFL career in the shadow of his older brother Peyton Manning. A shadow that

grew bigger as he piled more and more interceptions, and at times showed not to be able to handle pressure.

The Giants were questioned many times regarding their choice to draft Eli, and then was time for the coaching staff to receive the questioning from fans, as Manning remained the starting quarterback. Giants' fans expected a perfect copy of Peyton, but it took more time than expected for Eli's unique qualities to blossom.

Besides the Manning family, it was very hard to find someone else that supported Eli as a starting quarterback. The questioning got even bigger after the Giants terrible start in this season. But the Giants bounced back, Eli became more comfortable during moments of pressure and with that the victories started to piled-up.

By the time the Giants faced the Patriots at the end of the regular season, there were signs that the Giants should had been taken more seriously. They prevented the Patriots from having another big scoring game and had the lead until the final minutes of the fourth quarter.

The Patriots deed won the first encounter, but they might

have suffered from self sureness and thought that Michael Strahan and the rest of the Giants defense didn't create much of a threat.

Another factor that may have helped create more confidence inside the Patriots locker room was the fact that the Giants had two Tight ends and two running-backs in the injury list. With Tight end Jeremy Shockey sidelined

Super Bowl rings and now holds the record for most passing touchdowns in a season. Even without having the ultimate NFL record, he remains one of the greatest quarterbacks of all times and his legacy will forever determine how a leader should carry a team.

The pressure established by the Giants was the main reason

consecutive plays and when everything seemed to be going according to prediction, he miraculously escaped the Patriots blitz. Manning simply ran to the right side of the field and passed the ball forward. The Giants gain the first down and a few seconds later Manning passed for an open Plaxico Burres to score the final touchdown to guarantee the win.

Gisele Budchen didn't jinx Brady, the red sweater that Bill Belichick was wearing is not the reason for his questionable decision making, as he choose to go for a fourth down conversion instead of trying the field-goal. It had nothing to do with outside factors. It all goes back to one simple point: the best team at that moment won the game.

This is the reality of sports, there are no sure victories. From an underdog horse named Upset pulling a miraculous win, to Aaron Boone's home run at the bottom of the ninth inning to crash the Red Sox dreams, the impossible can always happen.

Eli Manning and the Giants will now forever be remembered as the team that pulled the impossible and prevented the Patriots from making NFL history. Their achievement has set a new standard for those who analyze games and establish odds for the favorite to win.

The lack of belief the nation had for the Giants is even more clear with their selection for the Pro Bowl players. Only one Giant

player was chosen to go to Hawaii, Osi Umenyiora a defensive end.

In a time where the entire sports media has specialists given their prediction to who is going to win the next game, the Giants will for now on have them thinking twice before associating their names with a prediction.

The sports analysts were not wrong to predict the Patriots as the favorite to win the Super Bowl, but more than ever they will have to remember that everything can change on any given Sunday.



Strahan sacks Brady

PHOTO COURTESY SPORTS.YAHOO.COM

because of a fractured left fibula, the Patriots defense had one less threat to worry.

It won't be hard to find people calling the Giants victory a payback for the Patriots cheating scandal against the Jets. Payback or not, the Giants deserve full credit for their accomplishment.

Tom Brady still has three

for their victory, but on play will forever be the key to the championship. Right after Brady passed to Randy Moss for the Patriots second touchdown, with just two minutes remaining, the Giants had their last chance of scoring.

Manning was then unable to gain the first down in two



Michael Strahan (left) and Eli Manning(right) at the New York parade

PHOTO COURTESY SPORTS.YAHOO.COM