



THE BARRY BUCCANEER

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'Tis' the season! The winter holidays are now in full swing, from the observance

of religious "holy days," such as Christmas and the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah, to the secular celebration of culture, like the African-American Kwanzaa, from the memorial of historical events on Thanksgiving, to the marking of time as the New Year arrives.

All the while, Miami remains beautifully balmy as the rest of the country becomes a frozen tundra. Some Barry University students are (probably) studying hard in anticipation of facing the family after braving the cold in search of the fabled home-cooked meal. Children are hastily scrawling their never-ending wish lists in stain-free ink. Adults are addressing hundreds of greeting cards to distant family that they don't ever wish to see. Halls are being decked in artificial trees, fake cotton flakes, and countless boughs of holly – all in preparation for the biggest holiday of the year, the Christian Christmas.

Prior announcement of a holiday's respective faith seems normal, as in the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah and African-American Kwanzaa, but the phrase "Christian Christmas" sounds irregular and redundant. We do a double-take because Christmas is a giant. It needs no introduction stating its respective faith. Christmas has grown to be so massive that it tends to overshadow its Christianity.

Georgette Baeza, a student at Barry University, is a Christian and actively involved in bible study groups and the Campus Crusade for Christ organization. She believes that Christ's birth is inaccurate by our calendar. It's off by a few years, and there is dispute about whether Christ's birth actually took place in the month of December. For this, and the fact that many customs of the holiday originate from non-Christian traditions such as the winter solstice, some Christians don't even celebrate Christmas.



Illustration by Joe Boyer

Political correctness is also overshadowing the sacredness of the season with its extremist views on diversity. It has become politically correct to avoid referring to this time of year as the "Christmas season." We step around the religious connotations of Christmas in favor of not offending those of other faiths. The Bush Administration's annual holiday greeting cards take into account people of all faiths by avoiding individuality and adhering to generality.

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Barry Families that Study Together Stay Together

By George Alpizar

College, as we all know, is a time for growing up, and becoming independent- maybe responsible- adults.



Photo courtesy of Charles Southerland

The Southerlands, a Barry family. Clockwise: C. Christian, Suzanne Elizabeth, Tiffany Elisabeth, Charles, J. Gabriel, and Czonka the bulldog.

We do this by leaving home and attending an out-of-state university or by living on or near campus, even if our families raised us nearby. During the time away from parents, siblings, and home, we are engaged in a period of invaluable pondering and growth. But what if... *you went to college with your mom? Commuted with your brother? Or lived in the same dorm with your twin sister?* Within the intimate campus of Barry University, there are family members who actually go to school together, commute together, share the same classes, and sometimes even share the same dorm.

Meet the Southerlands. Matriarch Suzy Southerland is a junior, majoring in piano performance within the music department. Dr. Charles Southerland is a professor of podiatry within the School of Graduate Medical Sciences. Their daughter, Tiffany, is a freshman majoring in nursing. Every morning the three Southerlands hop into their car and drive just two miles to Barry University.

While Dr. Southerland is busy teaching, Suzy and Tiffany are attending their

classes. Suzy decided to go back to school "to fulfill a lifetime dream" She explains, "After raising five children, I wanted to go back to school and finish my degree."

Suzy decided to attend Barry University because her husband's position enables them to receive a voucher to cover tuition costs. With the campus only two miles away from her home, any of the Southerlands can get home without having to wait for the other two to finish class.

While Suzy and Tiffany have a loving relationship, they are careful to avoid sharing the same classes. But Suzy can provide some help to her daughter. "I can pass down my books and recommend professors," Suzy said. While most children would be hesitant, if not mortified, to attend the same college as their mother, Tiffany is taking the opportunity to learn from her mother. "I love having my mom around to give guidance and support in my darkest hour of distress," Tiffany said. Upon learning that she would be attending the same school as her mom, Tiffany was

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Letter from the Editor



Happy holidays, everyone!

I can't believe we only have two more weeks left in this semester. It's been difficult and a lot of hard work—not to mention that we still have finals left. But then it's sweet time off until January 8th.

This issue is a little different than the rest. As you can tell, it has a holiday theme. We have a couple of stories on the subject. We have an article on the three major holidays and the meanings behind them: Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. We also have a story on some of the families that study and work at Barry together.

If you're in the mood for giving, stop by the volunteer center to find out how you can help people in need through programs such as Toys for Tots, food drives, and others. I know we are busy, but we should count our blessings, and help those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

This issue is filled with pictures. They range from snapshots of students having fun around campus to photographs of events on campus, among other diversions. Enjoy! If you want to submit your pictures for publication in the newspaper, email them to the *Buccaneer's* layout editor, Joshua Tremper, at gecko960@yahoo.com.

I hope everyone has a safe holiday break and a wonderful new year. But first, good luck studying for finals.

See you next year!

Barbara M. Pelaez
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THE BARRY BUCCANEER



The Buccaneer welcomes all student, staff and faculty contributions. Letters to the editor, story ideas, news releases, photos and artwork can be submitted to the Barry Buccaneer office in the Landon Student Union, Suite 202-J, or through campus mail, e-mail or the suggestion boxes around school. All contributed material must include the signature and the mailbox or telephone number of the contributor.

The deadline for submissions is the 10th of every month.

The Barry Buccaneer reserves the right to edit letters and guest columns for style and length. Contributed material does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of the *Buccaneer* editorial staff or those of Barry University.

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Barry University



Parking on Campus: The Untold Story

By Shanel Solomon
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If you're a full-time student and spend a lot of your time on campus like I do, you might have noticed that the parking violation fees have increased significantly. Well, if you were wondering if you were imagining things, rest assured that you were completely right. The public safety department has raised the parking violations fees last semester and now we are feeling the changes.

Many students argue that since there is not enough parking on campus, they should be allowed to park in areas that are not designated for student parking. They also feel that they should not be fined. One student argued against having the parking meters in areas close to the school: "Having a fee to park closer to campus is ridiculous." The Public Safety Department disagrees, arguing that students have many opportunities to park for free all around the campus. During an interview with Lorrie M. Thomas, the security operations coordinator says that every time that a vehicle is registered in their system, her staff gives its owner maps and information about the proper places for stu-

dents to park. They provide information to new students, staff and faculty during orientations, and are also available to attend any organization meeting or other event to further educate the student population on the best parking available.

Before the increase in violation fees, people had complaints, but now it has only gotten worse. Many students don't realize that if you receive two checkmarks on your citation, those are two separate violations, and therefore, two separate fees. When you think about it, parking violations can become extremely expensive. The non-moving violations are \$30, tickets for vehicles without university decals are \$40, and meter violations are \$40 as well. So make sure that your car is registered and keep tabs on your parking meter, or you might be in some serious debt.

Students living on campus often complain about the

limited parking available by the dorms. Residents are getting tickets for parking illegally when there are very few parking spaces. Well, here is something you may not know: If you live on campus and cannot find parking, security will allow you to park your car in the faculty and staff parking areas. So to avoid the tickets, just call extension 333, and more parking spaces will be available to you.

Is the Public Safety Department just out to get student's money? Thomas assured me that, "This isn't a money maker for us. In most cases, we give them a chance to say, 'Oops, I goofed.' We write tickets to change behavior." Keep in mind that when you get your first ticket, you have a great chance of having that ticket thrown out.



Photo: David Nesselin

What You Should Know About the North Miami Ave. Crosswalk

By B.M. Pelaez
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According to the *American Heritage Dictionary*, a crosswalk is a path marked off on a street to indicate

where pedestrians should cross. In most places, this means that pedestrians have the right of way. Unfortunately for us in Miami, cars don't stop when pedestrians are in a crosswalk!

I have been asked by the Division of Student Affairs to inform you about the crosswalk we use everyday—multiple times a day. It is located on North Miami Avenue, and connects the main campus to the other side where

are going to stop. (Remember what happens when you assume?) We don't even give the driver the courtesy of a wave or a thank you for stopping—although they don't have to, because it is a green light.

Landon, Kolasa and Benincasa Residence Hall are located. The Division of Student Affairs cares about our safety and is worried that one of us will get in a serious accident.

And since I was given this assignment, I decided to watch us (students, faculty and staff) cross this busy Miami street. I noticed a few things, to say the least.

First of all, the drivers are impatient and rude. They honk their horns and scream out of their windows. We, on the other hand, walk in front of cars without even looking (often too busy talking on a cell phone), assuming they

Fortunately, we have the power to change the light from green to red—which does give us the right of way. When the light was installed, so was a button on each side of the crosswalk. Now I know it's out of the way, and then to press the button—a lot of time and energy is wasted by this simple procedure—but we can do it.

If you don't like this option, Student Affairs wants to hear your ideas for making the crosswalk safer. If you have any suggestions such as, making the light a blinking yellow at all times, and then when the button is pressed the light becomes red. Please email them to me at PelaezB@bucmail.barry.edu.

We should be patient, and try to cross with big groups. But most importantly, pay attention when you cross the street, and be courteous to others. Be safe!

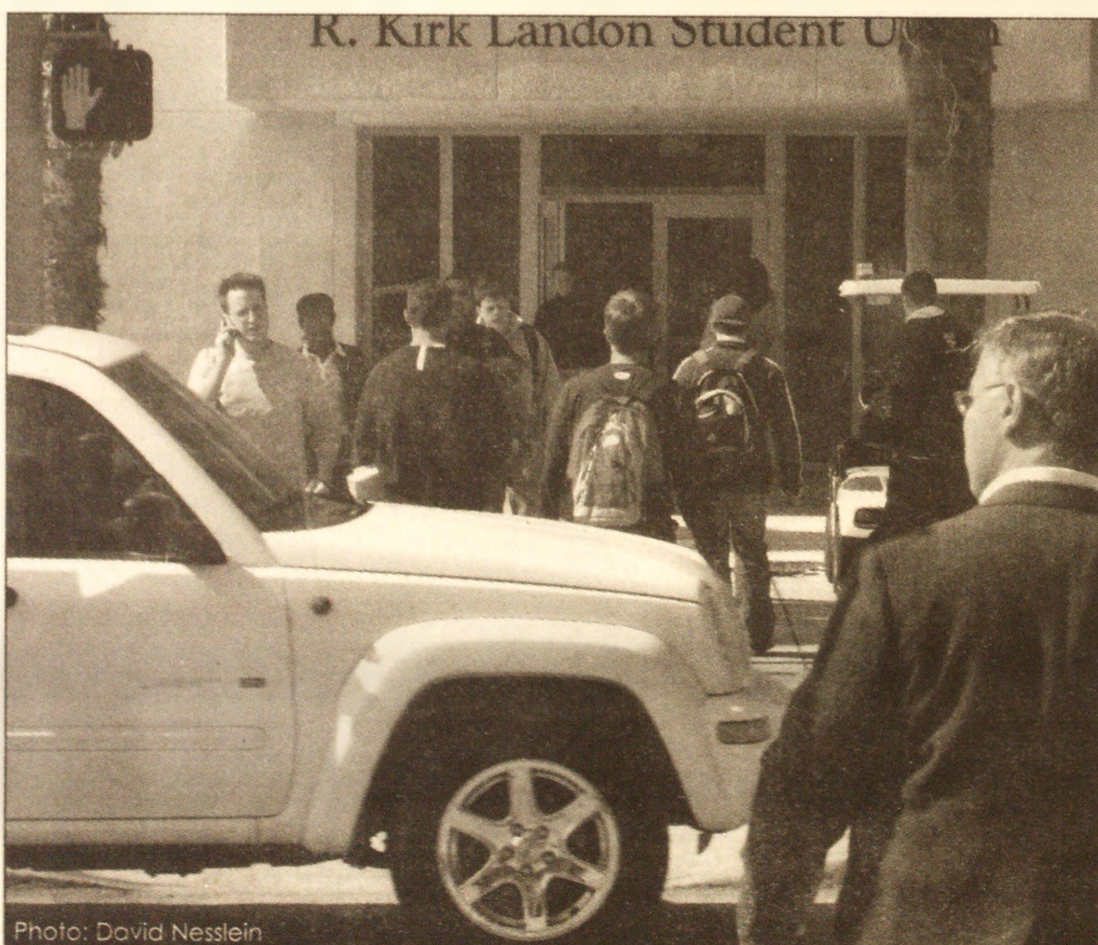


Photo: David Nesselin

U.S. Foreign Policy Exports Terror to Latin America

By Patrick Finn
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The School of the Americas (SOA), now renamed West Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSec), is a military training school in Georgia, where for decades the United States has been training Latin American soldiers in counter-insurgency tactics. The critical question U.S. citizens must ask themselves is: "Who are the insurgents that we are training soldiers to combat as enemies?" During the Cold War era, the designated enemies were Marxist rebel groups threatening democracy throughout Latin America. More recently, the U.S. has conducted our military operations under the umbrella of a "War on Drugs." Yet, although Latin American countries are not devoid of legitimate political and military concerns, U.S. military intervention against "insurgents" in Latin America is unabashedly a terrorizing war on the poor.

U. S. corporations with tremendous political influence benefit greatly from maintaining the status quo in Latin America, where an elite few control and exploit all of a nation's resources in coordination with U.S. corporations. U.S.-trained and -funded graduates of the SOA return to their countries to commit some of the worst human rights abuses in the Western Hemisphere, while carrying out the dirty work of U.S. foreign policy in Latin America.

Knowing that the American public would not tolerate sending U. S. troops throughout Latin America to discourage social uprising against unjust military regimes, U. S. corporations use their political clout to determine a foreign policy that trains foreign soldiers to fight their own people for us. Hence, the graduates of the SOA, under the auspices of the CIA, have massacred,

assassinated, raped, tortured, and terrorized Latin American peoples into submission, so as not to disturb the exploitative flow of labor and resources to U. S corporations.

Some of the most notable of the SOA's 60,000 graduates include Bolivia's ruthless dictator, Hugo Banzer, and Panama's Manuel Noriega (propped up, then overthrown, by U.S. military forces, much like the history of Saddam Hussein in Iraq). Chile's Augusto Pinochet, though not personally a graduate, sent a personal note of encouragement and a decorative saber to the school, which was prominently displayed in the school's hall of fame throughout his dictatorship until public notification shamed the school into dismantling its hall of fame. Less famous graduates of the SOA are found at each level of command and execution of almost every notorious assassination, massacre, and hundreds of thousands of "disappearances" throughout Latin America. It is no coincidence that the Western Hemispheric countries with the worst records of human rights abuses have also had the highest numbers of enrollment at the SOA. In each of these countries, the legitimate concerns about security and stability remain unresolved, while the poor are terrorized and exploited.

From Nov. 17 to 19, students from Barry University traveled to the gates of Ft. Benning to join thousands of mourning protesters in saying "No More!" to the unjustifiable atrocities committed by U. S.-trained soldiers, and to peacefully demand the closing of the SOA. Students from across the nation raised their voices on behalf of our neighbors who have no voice to influence U.S. foreign policy, following the mandate of St. Catherine of Sienna to, "Speak the truth in a million voices. It is silence that kills."

For more information, visit www.soaw.org



Photo: B.M. Pelaez

campus ministry schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	SUNDAY
Faith Sharing @ Thompson Dining Area, 5 PM	Meditation Study Break @ Cor Jesu Chapel, 9:15 PM	Pax Christi @ Powers 212, 5 PM (xanga.com/paxchristi) Spirit and Truth @ Cor Jesu Chapel, 7:30 PM	Student Mass @ Cor Jesu Chapel, 7 PM

daily mass @ cor jesu chapel, 12:05 pm

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One Man's Dramatization of His Torturous Ordeal Moves Audience

By Maribel Lora
Staff Writer
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"Wow!" was all I could say after Hector Aristizábal's dramatization and presentation on October 26 in Andreas 111. I had attended the event not knowing what to expect. All I knew was that Aristizábal had been a victim of torture, and he would be educating us through some sort of "one-man" act. Despite my intention to sneak out after his performance, I ended up staying throughout the entire hour-and-a-half, because I could not resist the curiosity about what else this man had up his sleeve. Aristizábal's "one-man" act is entitled *NightWind*. He has taken this presentation to different college campuses, venues against violence and human rights violations, and at prisons—where he works as a psychologist.

The night began with an introduction by Patrick Finn, a campus ministry coordinator, who had organized the event. Then the room went dark. Aristizábal stood in the center wrapped from head to toe in black. "Where does a terrorist come from?" he began. Jumping around the room and changing voices, he told his story of being arrested, interrogated, and tortured by the Colombian military.

But this was no ordinary dramatization. There were gunshots, paper airplanes, and even real spit! The performance retold the events of how Colombian soldiers raided his home, after a priest had suspected his brother of being a terrorist, and arrested Aristizábal and his brother for possession of "subversive" papers and a copy of a letter he had once written to the famous communist, Che Guevara. Aristizábal explicitly demonstrated the different forms of torture he had undergone: solitude, deprivation of food and water, continuous submersion in water to the point of almost drowning, and the most horrifying, electrocution through his genitals. He was imprisoned and tortured for about two weeks. Aristizábal left Columbia to the United States, where he married and had two children. It was in the United States he learned that his brother was killed by a paramilitary group—that was trained by the School of the Americas. He now works with juvenile detainees helping them get passed the anger they feel.

To enhance the already eventful night, Aristizábal turned the show over to us, making it the audience's turn to perform. He invited everyone to get up and find their "comfortable spot." He explained how he channels his anger

through meditation— not the type of meditation we think of, but an active, "fun" one. And this is when the real fun began, as it eventually turned into a room full of people, young and old, student and faculty, shouting, dancing, and meditating. I have never seen a group of people who were mostly strangers act so comfortable with one another. It was awesome. Aristizábal's charismatic and energetic spirit had enticed us all.

Aristizábal's primary objective was to inform us about the serious issues of torture and oppression that persist around the world today. But more importantly, he encouraged everyone to "find alternatives," in order to address these injustices. Aristizábal's alternative is theater. As he mentioned, an image is more powerful than words; therefore, he chose to use acting as a means to free himself from the wounds of torture, and at the same time educate others. But in the end, it is up to us to make something of his story and find our own medium to speak against these inhumane crimes.

Throughout his presentation, Aristizábal never denied his anger about the whole experience; he admitted that he remains angry today. Yet he channels that anger into something positive and productive,

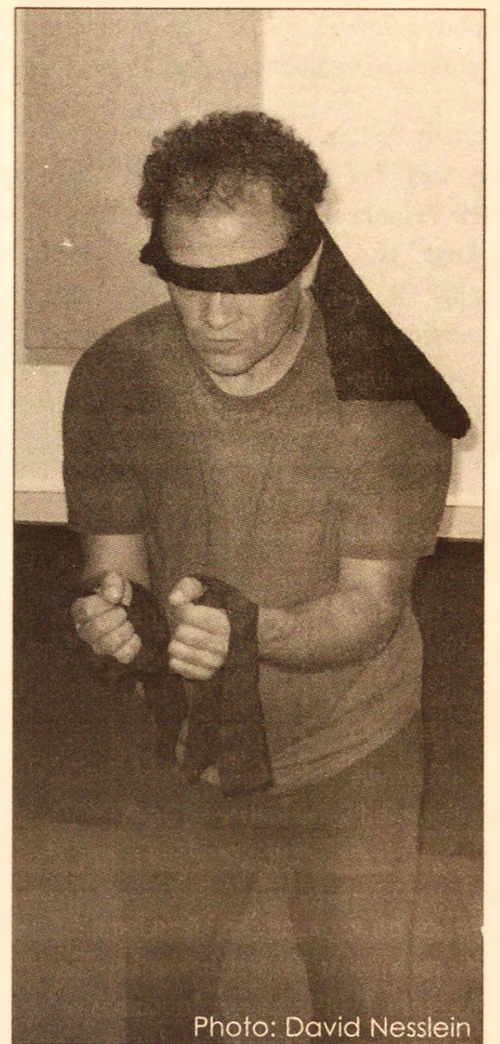


Photo: David Nesslein

which in turn helps others. "If you're not angry, you're not alive," he said. Aristizábal explained that anger is crucial for survival; it is not a negative emotion, but a way of preserving yourself. Still, in the end, you must "shake it off—it's not you." How liberating!

'Tis the Season for Giving Back

By Shanel Solomon
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Do you want to get involved? Do you want to make a difference in your community, but you're just not sure how to go about it? Barry University offers many opportunities for students to help people in need and gain some life experience. The Volunteer and Community Service Center offers a variety of options to students willing to spare some of their time and help out in the local community.

Student life is hectic. You have your studies, organization meetings, extracurricular activities, and so many more things on your plate that you just can't seem to find the time to do more. When asked why students should volunteer, Rafael Gondim, the Coordinator of the Volunteer and Community Service Center, responded, "People gain a lot of life lessons. I feel that people don't spend enough time stepping out to their world, and volunteering allows them to do so." By volunteering with the wide variety of available organizations, you are able to accomplish several of your goals in one activity. You can have fun while meeting and helping people, as well as gaining some work experience.

If you're interested in broadening your artistic horizons, you could volunteer at The Playground Theatre. For each event, four or five volunteers are needed to help operate the food and drink

next performances are on Dec. 9, 10, and 23. There are more performance dates beginning next year, starting on Jan. 27 and 28.

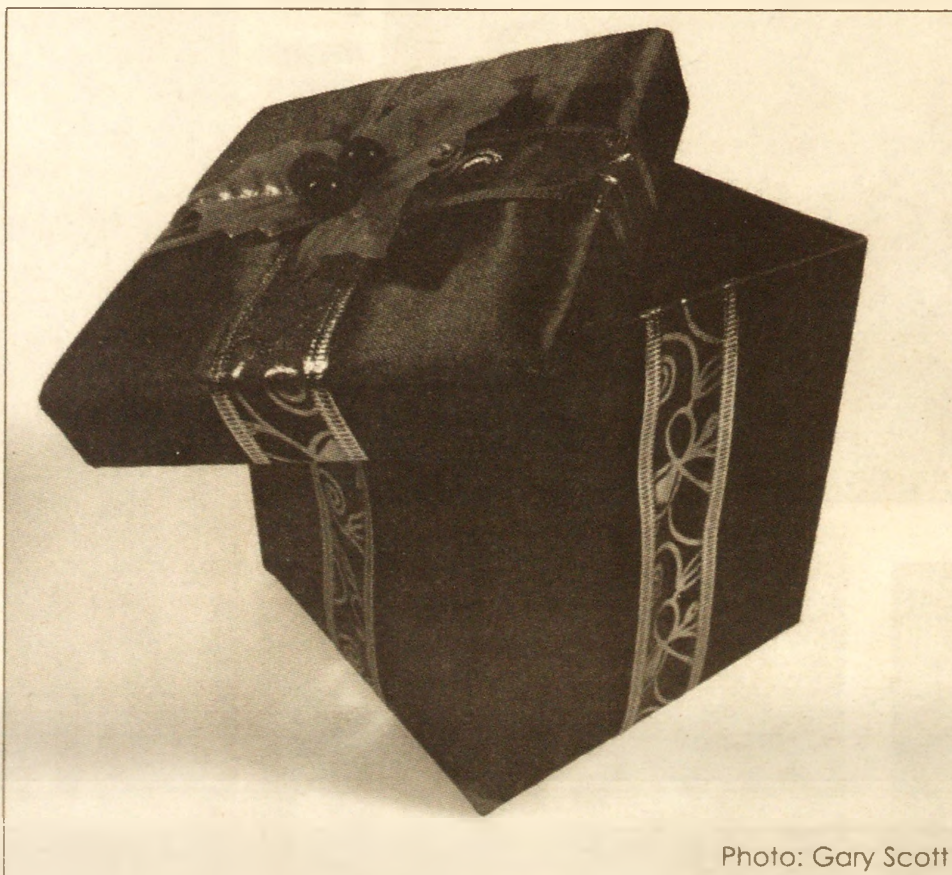


Photo: Gary Scott

stalls outside, distribute balloons, and hand out programs. Volunteers are also needed to usher people inside of the theatre, collect tickets, and guide audience members to reserved seating. The

Other volunteer opportunities include the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged on Dec. 7. With the holidays come a seemingly endless amount of treats that we are so grateful to have,

but what about those who are less fortunate? Working at a local soup kitchen is a great way to spend a few hours before your holiday break. The Camillus House needs volunteers on Dec. 5 from 5:15 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. There are also dates available in the new year, including Jan. 18, 22 and 30 during those early evening hours.

If you are interested in spending time with children, then the Art Alliance After School Program is for you. Volunteers are able to interact with youth between the ages of 7 and 12 while earning volunteer hours as well as gaining experience with teaching. The program began in August 2006 and runs until May 2007.

At the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Event on Jan. 15, volunteers are needed to help serve breakfast from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Then on Jan. 17, a volunteer fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the atrium of the Landon Student Union. Last year, over 40 agencies came to talk to the students about a variety of volunteer options.

If you are wondering whether we have any volunteer organizations on campus, we do. There is the Habitat for
(continued on page 8)

The Holiday Season Brings Out the Best in All Faiths

(Continued from page 1)

They grant the thousands of people receiving White House cards a happy, generic "holiday season". But why be uptight in honoring the traditions of others?

Brittany Pelletz, a Barry University junior, said that Hanukkah is quite laid back. Hanukkah, a less commercialized holiday, is known as the Festival of Lights. It is about the miracle that occurred when the great menorah in the holy temple of Jerusalem burned for eight days on only a day's worth of oil. Jewish people observe this occurrence as a time of dedication. For eight nights, they celebrate by kindling lights on the menorah in honor of the miracle of the great menorah in the holy temple. Children may play a game involving a spinning top called a "dreidel" to remind them of the miracle of the light. Jewish households traditionally place menorahs in their windows for all to remember the Eternal Light shining forth through the night.

The African-American cultural holiday Kwanzaa reminds us of the importance of integration. They honor the struggle of their culture and the continuing movement toward universal pluralism, an integration of all views and peoples. Kwanzaa lasts for seven days, one shy of matching Hanukkah, and involves the lighting of candles in a holder called a "kinara." Each day, the observant light a candle and reflect on a different principle. The seven principles are:

unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.

So, this time of year should not be about sticking to generality for fear of offending others, nor is it reserved for the pious. Of course, it's also about gifts! It's about a crackpot old-man's laughter that shakes his belly like a bowl full of jelly at the thought of playing servant to a bunch of greedy, toy-hungry miscreants.

Out of 91 college and high school students surveyed on Facebook.com, only seven made claim to never believing in Santa Claus. And of the 91 individuals

for Christmas. Imagine poor old Claus having to haul his sack around the world for not one, but eight consecutive nights. Surely, marketers would love to sink their teeth into that.

But commercialism has its champion, namely Christmas. Corporations the world over rely on making enormous profits every holiday season, thanks to consumers buying gifts for the Christmas holiday. Video-game console manufacturers, like Sony, Microsoft and Nintendo, are among the most blatant of companies that take full advantage of the holiday season. They aim to release their consoles in November to

Only once a year do cities become decorated with so many lights, colorful displays and trappings to attract business, and we, as consumers, enjoy frolicking in that atmosphere—especially since we are not *obligated* to purchase anything. But who *wouldn't* buy something in the spirit of the season? There is an undeniable charm involved in the nature of gift-giving, including material gifts. We feel personal warmth, despite the snowy season, in sacrificing something of ourselves to bring a little light and salvation into another's life.

Baeza elucidates the importance of the season from a Christian perspective: "God gave us a gift. Meditate on that gift of salvation that He gave through Jesus Christ." Whether or not you celebrate Christmas or believe in Christ, the season is still about remembering and honoring where you place *your salvation*, whether it lies in God, or in family, or even in money. It is a time for us to be accepting of one another. A Christian can go a-caroling with an atheist. A family man can light a Yule log with a material man. And if something politically incorrect happens to be spoken, it can be laughed away as a misunderstanding.

So the holidays really are about a shared 'Ho, ho, ho!' We recognize our individual and collective saviors as we anticipate longer days that will chip away at the darkness, and we can't help but honor this transformation with a universally hearty as well as healthy belly laugh.

This season is about remembering and honoring where you place your salvation, whether it lies in God, or in family, or even in money.

surveyed, four maintain to raise their own children without the myth of Santa. Greg Levy, a freshman at Barry University, gave an unexpected reply: "Well, being that I'm Jewish, I never had to worry about that." Sara Davis, a Barry junior who celebrates both Hanukkah and Christmas, affirmed Levy's sentiment by referring to the lack of commercialism in Hanukkah: "That's what I like about Hanukkah. It's simple." While some Jewish families exchange modest gifts on each of the eight nights, or a smaller number of presents on the first or second night only, that tradition developed more recently to compensate for the emphasis on increasingly extravagant gift-giving

satisfy the hardcore buyers and to give parents time to save up for Christmas shipments. During the holiday season, every direction we turn there is a billboard, commercial, or banner telling us that "it's the season to give." Commercialism seems to have taken over the true meaning of Christmas.

Not that commercialism is all bad. Marketing plays a role in setting the mood of the season. Of the 91 students surveyed on Facebook.com, 76 percent felt that they were spoiled on Christmas morning. And that number rises to 82 percent in favor of a bit of spoiling of their own children. After all, as one respondent said, "It's only once a year."



A Founder's Day tradition: the Bed Race.



Joe Boyer pauses with a friend.



The girls in Phi Sig meet with their founding sisters.

STUDENT photography

Cloister, St. Bernard's, a 12th century monastery in Miami.

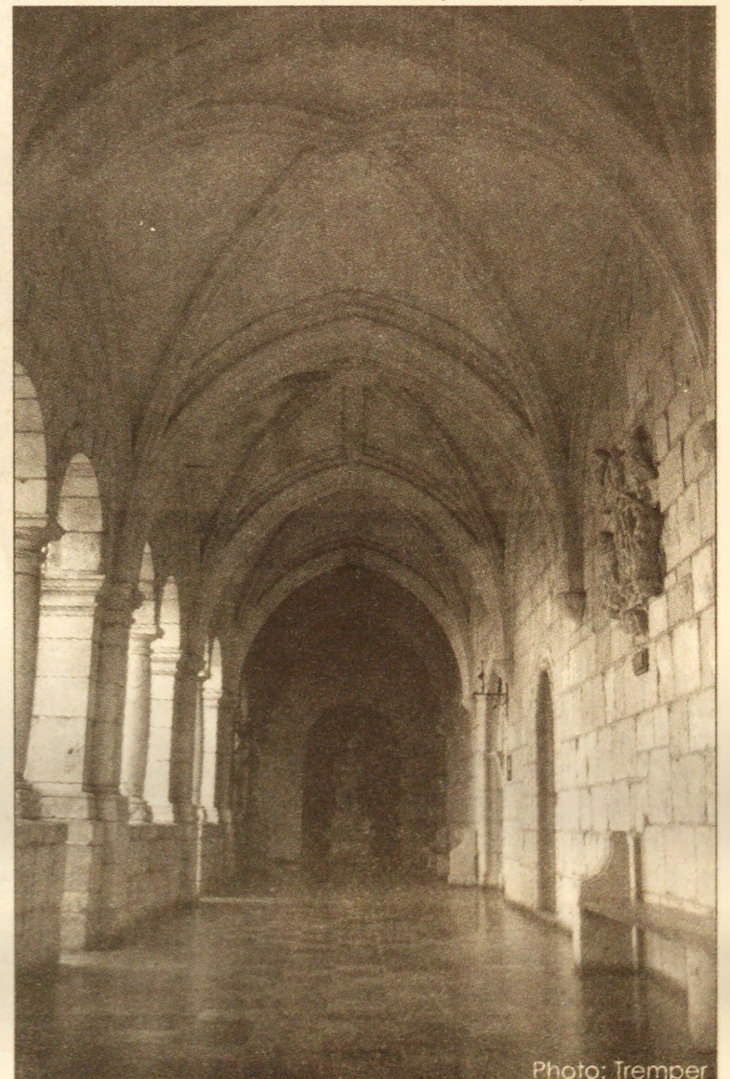


Photo: Tremper

Student Performances Shine in *The Miracle Worker*

By Meghan Walles
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All of you students here at Barry University who did not attend *The Miracle Worker* performance at the Broad Auditorium, oh did you miss out!

For everyone who is not familiar with this play, it is about the challenges that Helen Keller (Courtney Gillen) dealt with as a deaf, blind and mute child, and how a brave and patient teacher, Annie Sullivan (Rosanna Hurt), helped her learn to understand the world in a new way. It is based on the true story that transpired between Sullivan and Keller. With Sullivan's guidance, Keller was able to communicate with her family, live a somewhat normal life, and was even able to attend college. The honorable play shows the struggles that the Keller family went through in raising a disabled child, and the difficulties that a disabled person encounters. It is a very touching and motivating story that was performed by an outstanding cast of Barry students.

The Miracle Worker was the first stage performance I have attended at Barry,

and let me tell you, it took my breath away. The professionalism of the students, and their amazing, deep-hearted performances made the audience members feel as if we were actually there. The scene changes were flawless, and the actors maintained a high intensity throughout the entire play. Staci Smith was outstanding as Kate Keller, Helen's mother. She took on the role with such passion that the emotion of a mother's heart breaking upon leaving her child beamed throughout the auditorium. Sam Umoh did a fantastic job in showing the stern yet gentle hand a father could have toward his wife and disabled child. As for Rosanna Hurt's amazing performance, not only was she acting the majority of the play with someone who had no lines, but she had the job of verbally and physically fulfilling the part of Annie Sullivan. I attended the performance with people who have not gone to a lot of theatrical performances, and all were pleasantly surprised and thoroughly entertained.

Fortunately, I was able to get an exclusive interview backstage with the woman playing Helen Keller, Courtney Gillens.



Photo courtesy of: Meghan Walles

Fresh from only the second stage performance of her life, Gillens spared a moment to discuss her experience. Gillens commented on how anxious she was on opening night. I asked her what was the most challenging part of playing Helen Keller. "Since I had no lines, the most challenging part was remembering the number of times for the slapping," Gillens said. "Since I was supposed to be blind, I did not have to look at the audience. It was extremely physical, though, because of the tantrums. I got used to having bruises from it."

Buccaneers who missed out on this play definitely should not pass up the next chance to not only support your fellow students, but to also be entertained for free! Everyone is always looking for something to do that doesn't cost money, so why not attend Barry's next theatrical production? I look forward to all future performances on this campus, and give kudos to the cast and crew of *The Miracle Worker*.

Scorsese Focuses on Boston's Irish Gangsters in *The Departed*

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer
AlpizarG@bucmail.barry.edu

Who do you trust? We live in a world where trusting people is the key to life. We trust our friends to meet us for lunch. We trust our classmates to return our textbooks before class. We trust our parents to pay for our tuition. But imagine a world where you couldn't trust anybody. That is the world of the film *The Departed*.

Instead of making yet another gangster movie about the Italian mafia, director Martin Scorsese ventures to another group of alienated European immigrants: the Irish. And instead of filming in New York City, Scorsese changes it up a bit and sets the movie in Boston. Just like any major city, especially as represented on the big screen, Boston has its dark alleys, shady neighborhoods, and late-night bars. Still, Boston's Irish mafias are a virtually untouched subject in the movie industry. While the concept provides a fresh twist on an old genre, it's actually the minor changes that are most refreshing.

The plot is not easy to explain, but it's worth a try. Colin Sullivan (Matt Damon) is a young man who has been

mentored all his life by Frank Costello (Jack Nicholson), the boss of a major Irish organized crime syndicate in Boston. Costello has ordered Sullivan to join the Boston Police Department and work undercover for him. Sullivan graduates from the police academy and is actually promoted to work for the special task force that deals specifically with organized crime in Boston, including Costello's dirty business. At the same time, Police Commissioner Oliver

accents amid the strong Irish cultural presence in Boston. Damon is convincing as a cop who, after a long day's work, treasures intimate moments with his girlfriend. And DiCaprio is stellar as a street-smart boy with cruel intentions, complete with cuts on his face and a cigarette in his hand at a lonely bar.

In order to better fit the part of a crime-lord henchman, Costigan must now shed his past self and become a new

somebody else. With this change of identity, even Costigan himself doesn't know who he is.

Nicholson is mesmerizing as Costello. He seems to know everybody's fathers, uncles, brothers, and all the dirty business in which they were ever involved. And he uses this knowledge as a loaded gun to get what he wants: answers, money, anything. Costello isn't exactly the kindest-hearted person on the planet, but he is definitely someone you want on your side.

Scorsese achieves a sense of humanity in his film. Everybody is flawed. Costello, Sullivan, and Costigan all make mistakes with dire consequences, which won't be revealed here. But why is this movie entitled *The Departed*? As in any movie about the police and organized crime, a lot of deaths are involved. But it seems that those who have departed are the lucky ones; they don't have to deal with the world portrayed in Scorsese's dark lens anymore. Sullivan at one point asks to die, because he believes that in death, he won't have to deal with anything, at least not anything human.



Queenan (Martin Sheen) has secretly assigned Billy Costigan (Leonardo DiCaprio), another fresh graduate of the academy, to work undercover as a henchman for Costello's team.

Damon and DiCaprio fill their roles perfectly, adopting thick Boston

person, including a stint in jail in order to better blend in with Costello's group. The only two people who know Costigan's real identity are Commissioner Queenan and the ever-cocky Sergeant Dignam (Mark Wahlberg). To the rest of Boston and especially to Costello's group, he is

'Tis the Season for Giving Back

(Continued from page 5)

Humanity, which offers volunteers a chance to help build homes. Whether you're painting, working on a roof, or landscaping, it's an opportunity that you should not miss. Je'nette Alexander, a senior and new volunteer for the organization, said she joined "to get active, so I can lose weight."

The Pals-4-Paws organization is dedicated to ensuring the health of the cats on campus. Volunteers take the cats to a veterinary clinic, where they are given all the appropriate shots and tests, and spayed or neutered. The main goal is to find homes for these animals, and to control the population of stray cats.

The ways to get involved and give back are limitless. To sign up for any of the programs mentioned, please visit the Volunteer and Community Service Center in Landon Union, suite 101.

"People gain a lot of life lessons. I feel that people don't spend enough time stepping out to their world, and volunteering allows them to do so."

-Rafael Gondim

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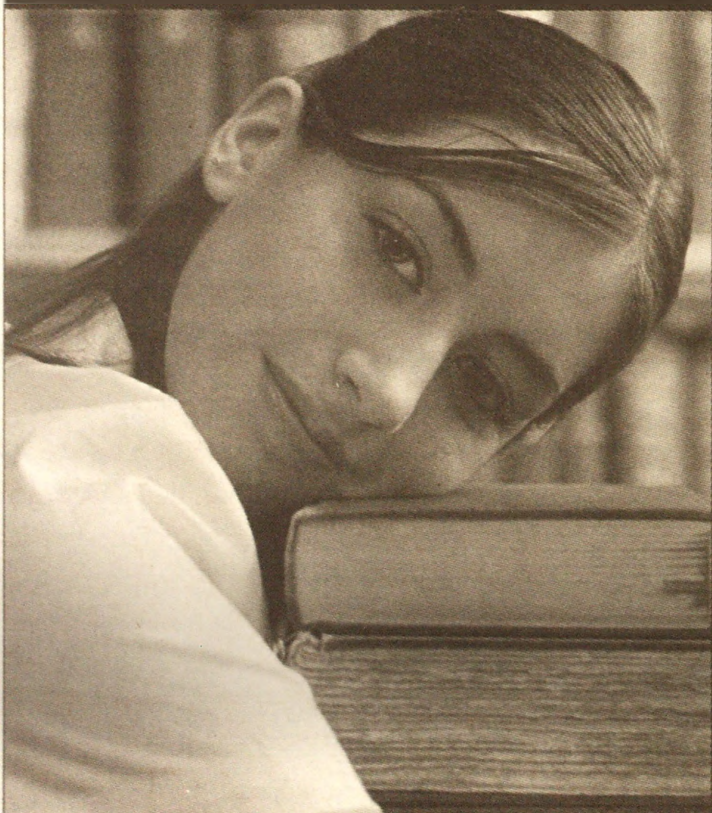
Necessary Items	Sleeping bags & blankets	Kids' toys & art supplies
	Food	Projector
	Volunteers to cook	Mulch & soil
	Toiletries	Large storage containers
	Construction materials: Wood pallets Plywood 3" nails Screws Cinder blocks Rebar Tools	Chairs Rope Tarps Disposable gloves
	Trash cans	Large jugs of drinking water
	Spray paint	Pampers



Photo: David Nesslein

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Borat Cleverly Mocks Political Incorrectness

By Brendan O'Connor
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Sacha Baron Cohen, also known as Ali G, takes viewers on a hilariously educational cross-country road trip, as Kazakhstan journalist Borat Sagdiyev in his new pseudo-documentary *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*.

The movie opens with a brief account of daily life for an average Kazakh, and a glimpse into Borat's family life. Borat and his highly obese sidekick, the documentary film-making Azamat, are devoted to examining American culture in order to advance the political, social, and economic conditions in their developing land. After a spontaneous dance party with the locals, Borat sets out for America with the blessings of his fellow villagers.

His journey begins in New York City, where he tries to introduce himself to strangers in Times Square in true Kazakh fashion with an accompanying double-cheeked kiss. He is supposed to stay in New York to "find" American Culture. However, the trip gets sidetracked when Borat discovers the allure of Pamela Anderson's *Baywatch* character, C.J., on his hotel TV. His obsession with her prompts a change of itinerary so that the duo can travel to

Los Angeles in hopes of finding and marrying Anderson.

Borat and Azamat decide to take their documentary on the road, and what they capture is nothing short of amazing. Traveling southward, the first major stop is in Washington, D.C., to meet with Congressmen, insult feminist groups, and attend the Gay Pride Parade. Continuing on through the Bible Belt red states, Borat makes a good impression at a Virginia rodeo by singing his country's national anthem. Additional cultural differences are exposed at an Alabama high society dinner.

Beyond Cohen's ability to improvise stunts with a straight face, it is Cohen's dedication to his character that makes this film truly fascinating. Since each group in society is mocked or dubbed by Cohen, his film has an equal opportunity to offend us all. Comedy is used to mask the serious content matter such as slavery and homosexuality that reveals ignorant and shocking responses from Americans. This masterful, impulsive comedy uses these political and social overtones to make viewers question what they are laughing at— but more importantly, why.



Courtesy of: Twentieth Century Fox

Haven Reveals Another Side of Paradise

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer
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A question to ask yourself: Can you leave one paradise for another and expect your problems to go away?

Haven, only the second movie from newcomer Frank Flowers, shows another view of island living. Flowers—whose debut, the 2003 film *Swallow*, dealt with a desperate high school student in Florida who uses his body to smuggle drugs—seems to understand the other, darker side of what should be happy lives. As *Haven* is only Flower's second feature-length film, it will be shown in limited theaters.

The movie starts off with rapid dialogue overshadowed by ever-quicker camera shots. It's all a blur. Who said that? Who was that?

Businessman Carl (Bill Paxton) has just received word that the FBI is coming to his Miami mansion. To escape jail time for committing fraud, he rushes to pack a few things, including his daughter's clothes. He rushes to school, picks her up, and jets off to the Cayman Islands.

When they arrive at their beautiful seaside condo, his daughter Pippa (Agnes Bruckner) runs off and meets a local boy. Much like the style of the 1999 film *Go* directed by Doug Liman, three separate story lines develop and, of course, somehow connect at the end.

While the movie is advertised as a story of two greedy businessmen escaping prosecution by heading off to the Cayman Islands, it is also very much about the youth culture there. The director himself grew up in the Cayman Islands, and takes time to show how the young islanders spend their time. Much

For the locals, there is a darker side to island living.

like in America and around the world, these youth like to party, including avid drug use. The power of drugs is enough to make one character proclaim, "Weed is like currency." The director makes a point to not really show the Cayman Islands from a tourist's perspective, but from the perspective of those who live there. For tourists, fun under the sun

can never get tiresome. But for the locals, there is a darker side to island living.

Portraying a childlike teenager, Orlando Bloom is surprisingly good. Though Bloom was 27 when making the film, he seems perfectly connected as a naïve young boy having fun on his beat-up old bike, yet oddly serious when discussing love with his girlfriend Andrea (Zoe Saldana). Although Bloom discusses love as though he was an experienced middle-aged man, he is able to convince Andrea the validity of their young love. But even Bloom's sincerity can't stop the inevitable from

happening. Orlando Bloom's character, Shy, experiences a wide range of emotions, from pleasure to heartbreak. He helps to capture the spirit of being an adolescent: confusion about self-identity, isolation from society, bewilderment with the world.

I've often wondered why twenty-somethings always portray high school kids

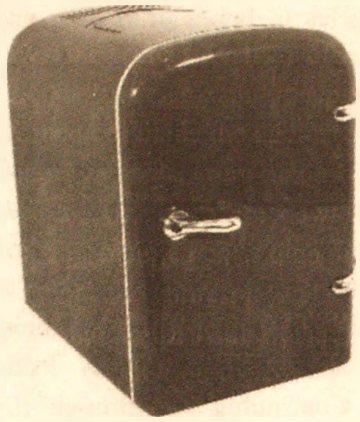
in movies. Take, for instance, Rachel McAdams: She was 28 while portraying a high school junior in *Mean Girls*. I like to believe that teenagers experience so much emotion, both good and bad, that older actors are needed because they have a greater ability to grasp these complex feelings and portray them on film.

The movie makes sense of multiple storylines, with the time shifting back and forth to explain the interweaving plot. Likewise, the movie touches on several themes, some more obvious than others, such as greed. While at the beginning of the movie, Carl may seem to be the exception to the power of greed, his broken family becomes yet another example of money taking over lives when he forces his daughter to leave her beloved Miami for the exotic Cayman Islands.

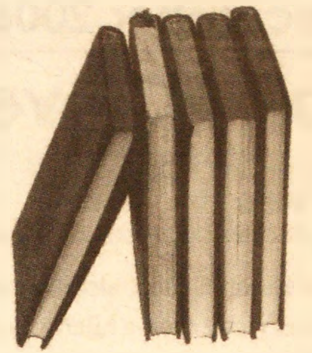
Yet the question that remains is summed up in *Haven's* tagline: "Can love survive the fall of paradise?" From the looks of the film, it certainly doesn't seem so. But for those who live on the island, maybe any sign of hope is enough reason to be optimistic.

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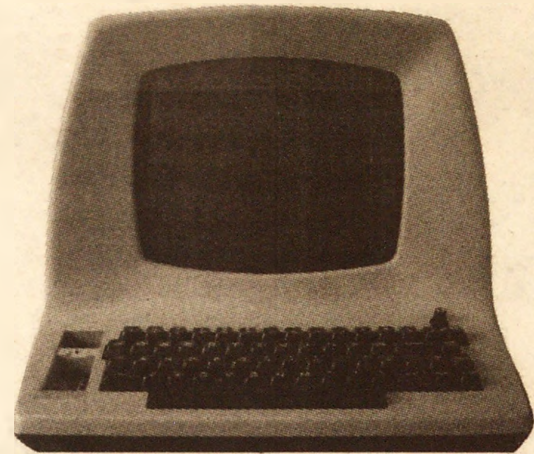
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER

					1 World AIDS Day	2
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S M W T F S S

3	4	5 Trip to Camillus House	6 CAB Game Night Men's Basketball vs. Nova Southern	7 CAB Local Lounge Cannibal Corpse @ The Culture Room	8 CLASSES END!!! Bancilo's Last Show @ Bank United Center Bouncing Souls @ Churchill's Barbara Pelaez's 21st Birthday!	9 Rasputina @ Studio A Copeland w/ The Applesed Cast @ Revolution The Nutcracker @ The Jackie Gleason Theatre
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10 George Carlin w/ Vance Gilbert @ Carnival Center for Arts The Nutcracker @ The Jackie Gleason Theatre	11 Midnight Breakfast Cram Jam	12	13	14	15 Men's Basketball vs. Puerto Rico Piedras	16 Fall Semester Ends Check out by 5 PM Trachtenburg Family Slideshow Players @ Studio A Sharam @ Space
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Finals Week

17 GRADUATION! Congratulations to our Seniors! Men's Basketball vs. Alabama-Huntsville Moshay w/ Soul-farm @ Revolution	18	19 Women's Basketball vs. TBA	20	21	22	23 Toys 4 Tots Fundraiser featuring Oscar G, Cedric Cervais, and QBA @ Space
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24 Christmas Eve	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27	28	29 Women's Basketball vs. Bryant	30 Men's Basketball vs. Fla. Memorial Armin Van Buren @ Space Sevendust w/ He Is Legend, Revelation Theory, and Hour-cast @ Revolution
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31 The Wailers w/ Deep Banana Blackout @ Revolution New Year's Eve!

**Know something that's going on?
We'd like to know too!
Submit local events to our calendar!**

P. 11

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY

<p>Miami Science Museum has their "Alien" exhibit open all this month and next</p>	<p>1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 New Resident Check-in, 9 - 5 PM</p>	<p>5 Spring Orientation</p>	<p>6 Women's Basketball vs. Tampa Men's Basketball vs. Tampa</p>
<p>S M T W T F S</p>						
<p>7 Returning Resident Check-in, 9 - 5 PM</p>	<p>8 First Day of Classes R.A. Applications Available</p>	<p>9 Trip to Camillus House</p>	<p>10 CAB Game Night Student Organization Presidential Lunch</p>	<p>11 CAB Local Lounge</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 MLK Day of Service Men's Basketball vs. Fla. Southern Women's Basketball vs. Fla. Southern</p>
<p>Monty Python's Spamalot @ Broward Center Au Rene </p>						
<p>14</p>	<p>15 MLK Day</p>	<p>Don't get along with your roommate? Room Change Period</p>			<p>19</p>	<p>20 Men's Basketball vs. Saint Leo Women's Basketball vs. Saint Leo</p>
<p>Monty Python's Spamalot @ Broward Center Au Rene </p>						
<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Commuter Affairs Snack Attack CAB Game Night</p>	<p>25 CAB Local Lounge</p>	<p>26 R.A. Applications Due</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>Barry Blood Drive </p>						
<p>28</p>	<p>29 Women's Basketball vs. Nova Southeastern</p>	<p>30 CAB Movie Night Annual Employer Appreciation Breakfast</p>	<p>31 Workshop Wednesday: Resume and Cover Letter Men's Basketball vs. Eckerd Women's Basketball vs. Eckerd</p>			

Know something that's going on?
We'd like to know too!
Submit local events to our calendar!

On Course: Freshman Golfer Aims High

By Alisha Sanford
Staff Writer
SanfordA@bucmail.barry.edu

Before I actually met Carlos Velez, I spotted a slender freshman, nicely dressed in khaki pants and a polo from down the hall in Landon, gripping an umbrella with a determined look in his eye, as if he was on the 18th hole making sure to accentuate his follow-through.

Velez is the newest addition to the Barry University Men's Golf team. He is a Sport Management major with a specialization in the golf industry. He has been playing golf for 10 years. Velez was introduced to the game by his father at a young age. "I found golf much more interesting because of the degree of concentration and difficulty," he said. So at age 13, he chose to pursue golf, dedicating most of his time to playing and getting better at the game.

His current aspirations are to be one of the top 50 college players and move on to a professional career after receiving his degree, were not always priorities for Velez. The trials he and his family faced while immigrating to this country definitely helped him become the person he is today.



Photo courtesy of: Sports Information

In 1999, at the age of 11, Velez immigrated to the United States from Barranquilla, Colombia, with his entire family, due to the political uprisings and increasing violence of the guerrilla warfare. Velez recalls, "Before my family and I left for America, we were traveling through Colombia. The sounds of gunshots filled the air, and I saw people in the middle of the street lying on the ground in their own blood asking for help, but no one wanted to stop because if they did, they knew they would die too."

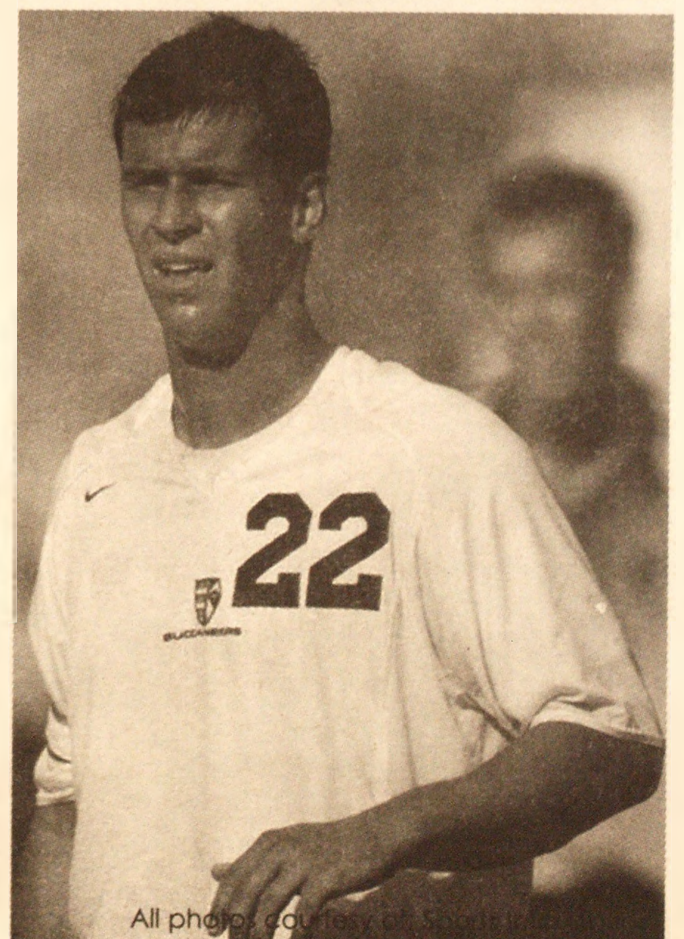
For the Velez family, living in Colombia had become too dangerous: Shootings, kidnappings and explosions had become a part of everyday life, making some areas of Colombia too dangerous to go to. Velez and his family had to leave everything they had known and come to America in order to be safe. Velez said, "Moving to America is a big opportunity; it's a place where I can really chase my dreams. I knew it was going to be hard, but things are getting better, especially because of my opportunity to play golf and get an education." He hopes that in the future his native country "will get better, so I can go there and play professional golf tournaments, but that will take a lot of time."

(continued on page 14)



Sadly, a precious member of the Barry community passed away during this Thanksgiving break. Michael E. Mikulin, a native of Geneva, Ohio, died on Nov. 23, 2006. He was only 20 years of age. Mikulin had been playing soccer for the Buccaneers for the past two years, and will be greatly missed by his teammates and friends. He is survived by his two parents, Patricia and Paul, and his older brother Matthew.

*Barry University Remembers
Michael E. Mikulin
July 16, 1986-Nov. 23, 2006*



All photos courtesy of...

Barry Families that Study Together Stay Together

(Continued from page 1)

"excited because she gave me a heads-up on all the uncertainties that freshmen struggle with," Tiffany said.

Another interesting aspect of the Southerland's story is that Tiffany's older brother also attended Barry with their mom Suzy. "When my son and I were going to school, he had no problem. I would even introduce him to girls I knew," Suzy said. This sense of casual acceptance is still evident within the Southerland clan at Barry. "Any effect [my mom] might have on my social life would be positive, because everyone loves my mom, and sometimes she is more social than I am," Tiffany said.

While Tiffany may not be able to attend college with her older brother, Laura Seubert has the pleasure of commuting with her younger brother Matt to school. Laura, a sophomore majoring

in acting, and her younger brother commute together every day from Davie. But unlike the Southerlands, the Seubert siblings even go so far as to share the same speech and acting classes. "I did influence my brother to take two classes with me," Laura said. "We've always been closely bonded; my brother is one of my best friends. College just reinforces the bond. I guide my brother throughout everything in his life, including college. That's why I wanted him to take classes with me."

While Laura and Matt are close, sacrifices have to be made, since they commute to Barry together. "Sometimes his classes start an hour earlier, so I have to leave earlier and lose extra sleep," Laura said.

While it seems pretty unusual for the Seubert siblings to attend classes together, the Kane twins take sharing to

"We've always been closely bonded; my brother is one of my best friends. College just reinforces the bond."

-sophomore Laura Seubert

another level. Meredith and Lauren Kane can be described as literally "sharing everything."

Meredith said that she and her sister "share a dorm and have shared one since freshman year. We pretty much do everything together: same classes, activities, same clothes, a car, and study together."

Lauren explained, "We live on campus and share a dorm because we've lived together our whole lives, share clothes, CDs, etc. It is more convenient to live with someone who you've known your entire life. There are uncertainties about living with someone new."

Both sisters are in their senior year and majoring in Sports Management on the five-year seamless master's degree track. They both expect to finish their master's program in May 2008.

When deciding what college to attend, the sisters took time to decide individually on the destination, but they did agree that "staying together was important," said Meredith. Hailing from California, they appreciate the security and reassurance of having a good friend here. "The best part is having an instant friend to hang out with, study together, etc. It's nice to have some security being far from home," Lauren said.

On a similar note, because the sisters are majoring within the same field, they

inevitably share the same classes, which is "convenient for studying and completing homework," said Meredith. Meredith went on to add, "In high school, we used to help each other with math problems, where one of us would understand the first half of a question, and the other one would be able to finish the second half of the problem."

While it seems the Kane twins are having an ideal college experience, some issues do arise. Lauren said they sometimes get in the way of each other and argue about inconsequential, sisterly things. A big issue, Meredith said, is not being identified as an individual—being considered 'one person,' even though they are two completely separate people.

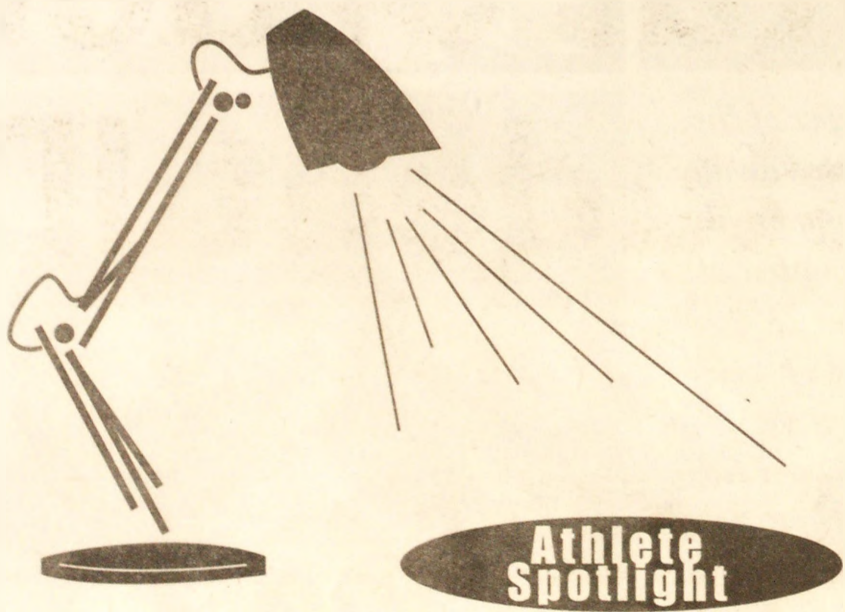
As most college students deal with the stress of midterms, sport activities, and job responsibilities, some people at Barry have to contend with more challenges. While problems will inevitably arise, it seems like these families can handle anything that comes their way. As Tiffany Southerland said, "Seeing my mom always puts a smile on my face, and warmth in my heart to know that she and I both have an earnest desire to grow in knowledge." The unique college experiences of Barry families will only make them stronger as a whole.



Photo courtesy of: Lauren Kane

The twin golfing duo. Lauren Kane (left) and Meredith Kane (right).

On Course: Freshman Golfer Aims High



(Continued from page 13)

Velez has already made his mark in the golfing community. Throughout his years at Braddock Senior High School, he worked at the pro shop of the Miccosukee Golf and Country Club in Kendall. There he was able to spark an interest in junior golfing, and even served as a mentor for young golfers.

This falls right in line with Velez's golfing achievements. As a junior and senior, he was named Player of the Year for Miami-Dade County.

Velez is currently ranked among the nation's Top 100 Junior Golfers, and most recently, received the honor of a sponsor's exemption, where players are exclusively invited to play in tournaments by sponsors, to the 2006 Nationwide Tour's Miccosukee Championship.

With Velez's impressive list of achievements, determination, and impeccable work ethic, a future in the pros doesn't seem too far away.

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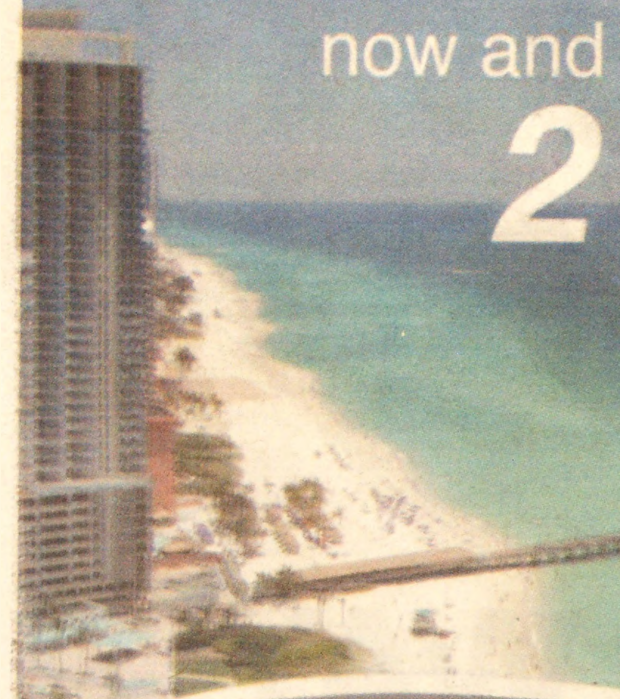
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