

THE BARRY BUCCANEER

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Barry Faces Challenges to House More Students

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Barry University was not Shakevia Campbell's first choice. A Miami native, Campbell wanted to leave town and experience college life, but she couldn't. Campbell has sickle cell anemia and her mother wanted her close to home. As a compromise, she was given the option to live on Barry's campus, which she gladly accepted.

Three days before school started, Campbell found out she would not be living on campus-all the rooms were already assigned. Her options: stay in a hotel or stay home. She stayed home. "I was very disappointed" Cambell said.

Barry is has room on-campus to house 1,060 students this semester. A combination of the school's largest firstyear class, and returning students who failed to participate in room lotteries have forced Residential Life and Student Affairs to seek alternative housing for the overflow of students.

According to Barry University's Institutional Research Fall 2006 accounted for 610 freshman, Fall 2007. 620 freshman and Fall 2008 numbers have not been released. It important to note that regardless of class size, Barry has used Best Western hotels for each of the years mentioned above.

"We were very up-front with stu-



Jasmine Fluker and Chioma Nkachuwu text while waiting for the shuttle service. Both freshmen students live at the Best Western hotel and rely on the transportation provided by Barry.

dents in the hotel now are very late applicants," said Matt Cameron, director of residential life. The Office of Residential Life was aware of the anticipated overflow since June, roughly two months before the first day of school. According to Cameron, students were notified by enrollment that they would be placed on a waiting list for alternative housing.

LIVING IN A HOTEL

Kelly Campbell, an incoming freshdents this year. The majority of the stu- man, found out she didn't have a room

assignment via Facebook. After chatting with her friends, she realized they all had room assignments. But she didn't. "I had to call Barry, and that's when they told me I might have to stay in a hotel for the whole semester," said Campbell.

Campbell described her room at the Best Western Hotel as "decent," but said other students complained about leaky air conditioning and late or missing transportation. Campbell secured a room Friday, Aug. 29, almost a week after the first day of school."I applied early and paid early," she said. "They said my paper-

work must have gotten lost, but I was put high on the list to get a room on campus."

Currently, there are about 25 firstyear students living in the hotel. Janai Davis, the resident adviser housed at the Best Western Hotel, said most of the students are fine with their accommodations. She mentioned, "There are some perks; we have maid service."

A third-year resident adviser, Davis said of the Residential Life staff, "We go the extra mile to make sure they don't miss out on anything." If there's a latenight campus event, the Office of Residential Life provides an activities van to transport hotel residents after shuttle services have stopped running.

This is not the first year Barry has housed students at a hotel. Over the years, Barry has continually secured contracts to house students at local hotels. "Some schools believe in waiting lists; Barry has chosen not to do waiting lists," said Cameron. "We would rather incur the cost and put students up in alternative housing."

CHALLENGES

Students with meal plans can only use them at Barry, so it's not very convenient for hotel residents who want late-night dining.

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Foods Prices Around Campus Soar with National Costs

BRIGID COTTER

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A few extra quarters weigh down the pockets of residential students, thanks to free laundry that is now being offered on-campus. Most of these students will soon find that these additional quarters are just what they need to afford food on campus.

If you haven't noticed the increase in prices at the Bucstop you might need to take a second glance at your receipts. Returning students are definitely noticing the increase. Allison, 19, a sophomore studying management in the School of Business said, "The prices at the BucStop have always been ridiculous, and now they are even higher. The BucStop is usually a great alternative to eating at the dining hall every day, but now all its doing is draining our wallets."

While the high price of gas seems to fluctuate, the price of food continues to

around the country. When returning home for the summer, you may have noticed that the cost of food at your Zimmer said, "As food and gasoline favorite sub shop or cafe, increased anywhere from an additional 25 cents to an entire dollar or more.

There are multiple variables to this spike in food prices. According to Naomi Spencer, a writer for the World Socialist Web Site, these factors include the relation of oil to grain prices. Spencer wrote, "Record oil prices drive up transportation and processing costs for food productions. Rises in the old market also affect rises in other commodities markets, including grains and natural gas, from which the main component of agricultural fertilizer is extracted."

Prices of food are increasing globally, and we are experiencing it full-throttle at the various dining spots on campus. The BucStop, International Cafe, and the Grille 155 in Landon have all seen price

rise. Not only on college campuses, but increases. As Barry's major food supplier some delicious additions to the menu, Sodexo, has been affected. The public relations coordinator at Sodexo, Monica prices continue to rise, Sodexo remains committed to providing nutritious food and excellent service to our clients and customers throughout the country. We are actively seeking ways to enhance efficiencies related to deliveries, food preparation and consumption, waste management and other areas in concern with our suppliers and vendors."

BucStop supervisor, Lashawn Williamston, said that students reacted to the price increases better than expected. Student comments were "here and there but the majority end up just going with the flow."

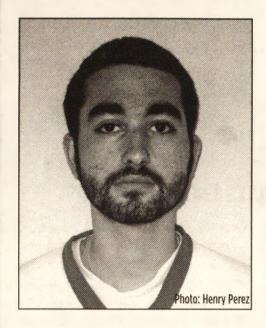
An area of notable price increase at the BucStop is the "Smart Market" items. Sushi, packaged salads, and sandwiches are priced between \$6.29 and \$7.29. Although Einstein's Bagels has

the sandwiches and bagels rose 20 cents to \$1 compared to last year.

Even if the cafeteria food in Landon doesn't entice your every taste-bud, it is undeniably the cheapest way to eat on campus. The Dining Hall operates as an all-you-can-eat buffet. As a resident purchasing a meal plan is mandatory. The meal plan is paid for in advance, so it is not an everyday expense.

If you just can't stand to eat cafeteria food every day, which is completely understandable, there are a few ways to get snacks and drinks more cheaply than always turning to the BucStop or International Café. Vending machines are a great alternative for quick snacks or a soda, so keep those extra quarters handy. The bookstore also carries snacks at lower prices. If you're a commuter, your most money-efficient option would be to pack a lunch from home.

Letter From the Editor



What a historic time to be an American, and a voter at that. In just a few weeks, we will have either our first African-American president or our first female vice-president. Who will be the historic winner of the 2008 election?

It seems as though politics has finally reached a unified status of celebration in our country, hence the pictures of Obama's family vacation to Hawaii in People magazine. Noticeably increased attention toward politics among youngsters is a promising indicator of the future. Whether students are for McCain or for Obama, the dedication toward their causes and beliefs is admirable. I was driving home one day over the summer, and I saw a young man on the corner. He was holding a sign asking drivers to donate money so that he could attend a political party's national convention. While I didn't share in his political views, I was impressed by his commitment. Regardless of his views, I decided to donate some money as a sign of respect. While we each have our own views of how the government should run, that should not detract from the fact that people are thinking deeply about our country and how to improve it.

In election's past MTV has had those "Vote or Die" campaigns, enticing the youth to register and vote. While these efforts were for a good cause, were youngsters that uninterested in politics that we needed Paris Hilton to tell us to vote? Aren't the issues and the future enough to get young adults to vote? Maybe the celebrity-inspired campaign worked; there has been a dramatic increase of political attention from youngsters. Perhaps the youth have realized that when you are unhappy with the current state of things, you can voice your dissatisfactions in many ways.

While it may not seem so glamorous now, we are living in very exciting times: high gas prices, historic elections, the Beijing Olympics, the war in Iraq. All this culminates into a period of time worthy of historical significance. I always wonder how history will portray these times. How will historians characterize President Bush and his administration? Will the expensive gas prices of

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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, or e-mail. 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.

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Contributed material does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of the Buccaneer editorial staff or those of Barry University.

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EDITORIAL

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our time be newsworthy 50 years from now? Previous history professors have taught me that history changes, depending on the person's point of view. But what will become the standard images when discussing the early 21st century? In my opinion, our times will be characterized as a period of both political and economical turmoil, amid the continual rise, surge and integration of technology into our daily lives.

Yet, all this could change with the next president. Who will triumph and take the glory (and burden) of becoming this country's next president? With the Bush administration out of office, it will take serious effort and commitment to restore the people's trust in the government.

In this issue, *The Buccaneer* has several articles pertaining to current issues, both local and nationwide. In terms of campus news, we take a look into

Residential Life and those living in the hotels. On a larger scale, we have a point/counterpoint on the notion of lowering the federal drinking age to 18.

It is always important to stay informed and keep up with the times. While many may agree that pop culture is the politics of the 21st century, it shouldn't deter the importance of true politics and newsworthy issues.

CAMPUS NEWS

Mixed Reactions to Changes on Campus

DANIELLE MARTINEAU

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Change sometimes means improvement. Yet, the change can be neutral. Returning Barry students noticed several changes on campus upon their arrival, yet not all students are happy about these so-called improvements.

As promised last semester by Housing and Residence Life, laundry services are now free of cost to residents. Those days of searching jeans pockets and car crevices or banging on a friend's door for that one more quarter needed are gone. Unfortunately, some students believe that the removal of the laundry fee has encouraged irresponsible behavior in the laundry rooms. Beyza Kutlu describes Kolasa Hall's laundry room as a mess. "It's always full," said Kutlu. "People throw other people's clothes all over the place. I don't like it!"

One solution offered by Browne Hall resident Nicole Crawford is to increase the number of washers and dryers in the laundry rooms. "I am grateful for the fact that laundry is free," said Crawford. "The only inconvenience with this new situation is that the machines are always in use, and 10 washers and eight dryers are not enough for one hall to share. Res Life should provide more washers and dryers."

In response to this request, Associate Director of Housing and Residence Life Patrick Devine explained. "Unfortunately, our contract for the

washers and dryers began in July, and happy to contribute to the new look for therefore we cannot alter the contract mid-year. Additionally, an increase in the number of washers would be an additional cost not allocated for in our budget. Our yearly budget is based on the room-and-board rates which have already been published and cannot be modified." Devine, who is getting more help with such matters from Damien Martells as the new assistant director for ResLife, added, "We will, however, take this suggestion amd others into consideration for the future." Part of the solution however does reside with the resident student themselves when and how they use the laundry facilities.

Besides the free-of-charge laundry service, also mentioned that the community baths in Dunspaugh had been renovated, and that Dalton, Sage, Browne and Mottram-Doss have all received new mattresses.

Besides the dormitories, other locations around campus have gone through a beautification. Thompson Hall, a popular place for group meetings and a cherished study spot for students who work into the wee hours, has been refurbished with sleek new black sofa furniture, tables and large square ottomans. During spring break, the Quality Improvement Program enlisted the help of faculty and employees in repainting and redecorating the first floor of Thompson Hall.

Christina Hinson, an administrative assistant in the Learning Center, was students. "I scrubbed the metal panels around the windows and the metal bars of the staircase," said Hinson. "It was fun, and the outcome was good. It provided the students with a better place to study and come together."

When school was back in session the following week, students noticed the dramatic difference. Even the BucStop Café has been remodeled. The counter and stool seats were knocked down to make room for displaying chilled food. Outside in the patio area, umbrellas have been added to each picnic table, offering relief from the harsh Miami sun during the midday hours.

These aesthetic adjustments and improvements were not enough, however, to distract students from the obvious price increases within the establishment. Matt Berkshire, a triple-major senior, stated, "The prices in the BucStop are exorbitant, especially prices on drinks. I feel that the BucStop is taking advantage of Barry's most valuable students -- the residents who do not have cars. I feel that it is Barry's tradition to look out for and take care of everybody, and the BucStop is a direct contradiction of this. These students can barely afford to attend the school." (For a more in-depth look into the price adjustments, check out Brigid Cotter's story starting on the front page.)

While residents were once limited in their choice of food spots, especially in the evenings, a new food vendor has

emerged on campus. Located among the pool tables and flat-screen TVs in the Weber game room, Chicks has emerged as the place to partake in a late-night snack. Interestingly, Chicks, owned by master plumber James Leverock, has received very little promotion around campus; no information is available on the Student Web, nor is there even a sign outside of Weber indicating that it exists. According to the staff, it is open from 9:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. everyday. Serving mostly pizza and other snack food, it is an inexpensive alternative when students are in the mood for a light meal.

Maria Beslac, a senior business management major, was satisfied after her first visit. "The prices at Chicks are reasonable and affordable," said Beslac. The BucStop prices are not within a student's budget, and so Chicks should be open all day. It's great!"

Students can look forward to more changes on campus. After the Fall Holiday break, new mattresses will be installed in Flood Hall, and during the winter break the showers on the second floor of Dunspaugh will be renovated. Res Life is encouraging students to send their ideas and suggestions. Devine said, "We appreciate all feedback and encourage students to inform us of ways to make their experience better."

Students can contact ResLife by email at reslife@mail.barry.edu.

International and Domestic Students Face Culture Shock

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Ashley Davis comes from a small beach town in Delaware. Her town can be characterized by the acronym WASP: White Anglo Saxon Protestant. So when Davis packed her bags and came to Miami, she was taken aback by the cultural diversity. She had never seen so many different types of people; students speaking in foreign languages and representing different nationalities were very overwhelming for her.

The funny thing is that Delaware and Florida are in the same country. If someone from the same country has culture shock in Miami, how about international students coming to America for ates events that promote international their first time? Coming to Miami from a foreign country can be frightening; fortunately, Barry University is aware and accommodating to the international student population. As of September 2008, Barry boasts 383 International students. And to help these students, programs are available for them to make the transition into America easier.

An international student's biggest resource on campus is the Intercultural Center in Landon. Directed by Damaris M. Vasquez, the center reaches out to international students in order to assist them with any sort of transitional issue they may have, such as filling out the appropriate paperwork to start working. The center features the International Assistant Program, in which a domestic student is responsible for mentoring an international student. This partnership helps make the international students' transition smoother because they are receiving help with their schoolwork as well as making connections to another student on campus.

The Intercultural Center also creawareness, so that all students can become culturally aware of others on campus. Vasquez stresses that these events are open to the whole student body, not just international students.

"College is a very new experience for a lot of people, foreign or domestic, because we are away from our comfort zone," said Vasquez.

Vazquez deals with culture shock among international student frequently; besides being far away from their families in a foreign country, these students have to adapt to a different language and lifestyle.

Domestic students also can have difficulty dealing with coming to college and sometimes interacting with international students. This can be partly attributed to the lack of exposure to diversity in some students' hometowns. Vasquez points out that in some cases, a domestic student might be one of few domestic students in a classroom. This is a new experience for them altogether, and it can sometimes be intimidating.

The Intercultural Center makes an effort to increase cultural understanding and tolerance. Its programs include a cultural exchange, a consulate reception, a celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, International Education Week, and a Thanksgiving dinner for those who cannot be with their families over the Thanksgiving break.

Stephanie Hernandez, a freshman studying broadcast communication, provides a first-hand perspective of life as an international student. Hernandez says that she would not want to be anywhere else in the world besides Barry. She enjoys attending a school in a foreign country, and because she attended a bilingual school in her native Dominican Republic, language was not an issue.

Upon arrival, Hernandez became involved with different clubs and groups on campus and started building her social network quickly. She loved meeting people from different backgrounds; it was an eye-opening experience. Also, through her social activity, she met a lot of people from her own culture as well. Hernandez advises anyone who is scared or feels overwhelmed to just be openminded and make an effort to find things you like to do.

"You begin to feel a lot comfortable when you're with people who make you happy instead of just staying in your room," said Hernandez.

The Intercultural Center's next event is International Education Week, beginning Monday, Nov. 17 - 21. The Intercultural Center is located in Landon Student Union, Room 304.

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

On Friday, Aug. 29, the "Choose Your Ride" program was presented by law enforcement agencies across South Florida. Over 100 law enforcement officers from 18 agencies were at Barry University to raise awareness on the issue of drinking and driving. The event was sponsored by the Barry University Public Safety Department to highlight the prevalence of this critical issue. To make students aware of

the choices they have before they drink and drive, a taxi, a patrol car, a medical vehicle and hearse were present to represent choices someone has to make when they choose to drink.

In addition to the law enforcement agencies, representatives from MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) were present to speak about young people dying due to drunk drivers. Janet Mondshein is the execu-

tive director for MADD in Miami. She stated, "I want to stop meeting young people once they are dead," a strong message for anyone who drinks and drive. A message that not only Barry University Public Safety would like to get out to our Barry community, but to reinforce how important to choose their ride wisely when out drinking, but for all Law Enforcement agencies conducted DUI checkpoints during

the Labor Day weekend though out Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. It was the largest DUI checkpoint in Florida's history.

To learn more about alcohol-related incidents on a college campus, please stop by our Crime Prevention Office located at Thompson Hall 111.

Voting on the Issues, Not Race or Gender

CHANNEL ANDREWS

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In only my second presidential election as a voter, I am honored to participate in an election that will make history. On Jan. 20, 2009, either the first black president or the first female vice president will be in office. As a black female, I may have the toughest decision among voters. Do I pick Barack Obama because he is black or do I pick John McCain because he has a woman, Sarah Palin, as his running mate? As a politically and culturally educated individual, I know better than to base my vote on those factors alone.

I cannot act as if I will not reap some sort of validation from having either presidential candidate in office. How many women besides me will walk into job interviews with a sense of confidence courtesy of Sarah Palin if she wins? How many blacks in America besides me will envision Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., finally resting in peace? These are not the thoughts I should have in my head on Nov. 4, right? I should be thinking about who is going to help me gain affordable health care or who is going to help continue or end the war in Iraq. I should be contemplating whose track record adds up with their convention speeches. And that is exactly what I am going to do.

Looking back on the 2004 election when I was a first-time voter, there was no question as to whom to vote for. Like millions of Americans, I was tired of George W. Bush and his administration. I voted for Senator John Kerry, who seemed to be the savior for America at that time. How that man did not win I may never know.

When Hurricane Katrina passed,

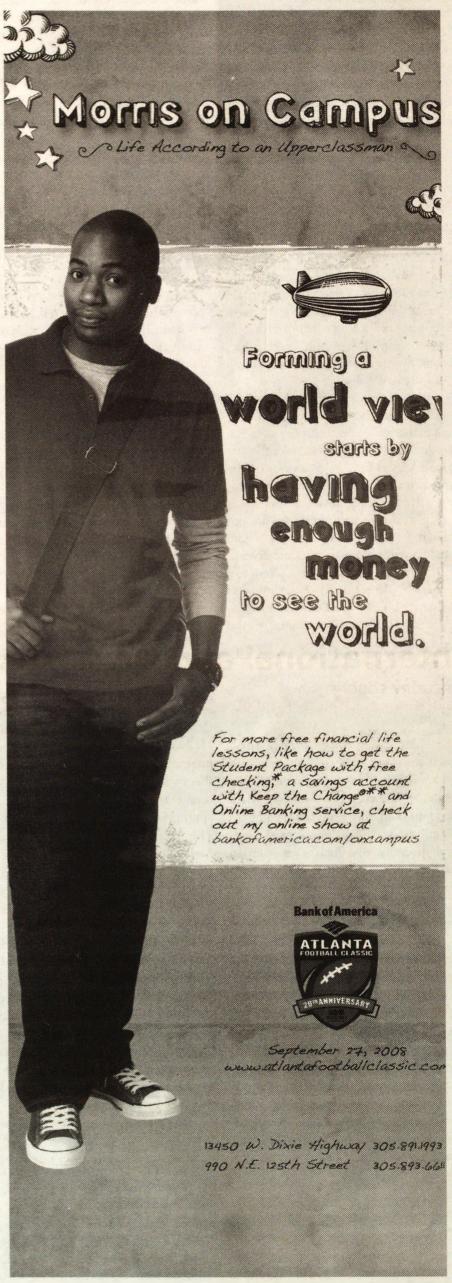
images of helpless victims whom our government had failed were stuck in my mind. I wondered about the man who ran to the aid of people millions of miles away in Iraq but could not offer adequate assistance to his own citizens.

It's interesting to have seen these last couple of elections come so close, yet today, Bush's popularity ratings show he should have lost by a landslide. But that's another issue in itself. This election I cannot wait to press that button that says 'Barack Obama, 'and I am not going to do it because he is black but because he is the candidate that shares my values.

As a woman, I could never fathom voting for a woman who is anti-abortion even in the case of rape or incest. I have never been pregnant, and I cannot honestly say what I would do if it happened, however the right to an abortion is a right I cherish. I'll cast my vote on behalf of the unfortunate woman who will have to make the decision between saving her life or giving birth to her baby.

I have made my decision based on the utilitarian aspect that has been forgotten in society. We have to consider what is best for the majority and not just for ourselves. As an African-American who is proud of the civil rights leaders of the past and present, I cannot vote for a man like John McCain who voted against making Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a legally recognized holiday.

In a society in which one can often feel like just a number, we have to take advantage of the one opportunity we have to make a difference. It is up to us to choose our leaders. We have to fight for our rights. On Aug. 26, 1920, women were granted the right to vote. On Aug. 6, 1965, blacks were granted the right to vote. On Nov. 4, 2008, I will exercise my right to vote. Support your cause.



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BARRY STUDENTS FOR BARACK OBAMA

CALLING ALL COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

The 35 president of the United States of America, John F Kennedy said during his inaugural address, "My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Well, it is time for our generation to act. We have the tremendous opportunity to be a part of this historic presidential election. This nearly two-year-long presidential campaign will culminate on Nov. 4.

Come join your fellow students and be a part of this amazing time in our lives. This is a call to all of you who want to see change in Washington. This is a call to all of you who feel that the American political system is broken. This is a call to all of you who are sick of paying nearly \$4 a gallon for gas. This is a call to those of us who feel that every American is entitled to healthcare. This is call for all of you who realize that Barack Obama has what it takes to accomplish all of these tasks.

Come join the Barry University chapter of the Young Democrats Association. For the time being, we will be carrying the party platform by functioning as a support chapter for Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

Transfer Students and Barry: Not a Strong Bond

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"We're like the bastard children of Barry University."

One transfer student, who wished to remain anonymous, made her feelings clear regarding her transfer experience to Barry. She is not alone in her sentiments. Many other transfer students, including myself, shared similar feelings of isolation and disconnection from the rest of the campus community upon arrival. I transferred to Barry this semester as a junior from Oklahoma State University, and although the school seems to go out of its way to make incoming freshmen feel welcome, it appears that transfer students have been somewhat overlooked.

For many transfer students, these negative feelings were spawned at the weekend-long orientation program that Barry's Center for Leadership and Transition Services, or CLEATS, organizes each year for incoming students. Despite the fact that all new students. including transfers, are told attendance is mandatory, it is clear that the weekend's events revolve around and are targeted toward freshmen. None of the planned programs, talks, or activities seem to reach-out to transfer students.

There are currently 1,008 undergraduate students enrolled at Barry University. This year 376 of these students, or 37 percent, are transfer stu-

dents. Also, of the incoming students for the fall 2008 semester, the number of transfer students represents an 80 percent increase from last year. It seems to me that, with such a large population of transfer students, it would make sense to organize programs and activities specifically for them. Unfortunately, this is not the case.

"I went to the initial events [at orientation], but once I realized it was geared toward freshmen ... I stopped going," said Channel Hilton, a junior who transferred from Delaware County Community College. What we encounter at orientation is a sea of 18year-olds, fresh out of high school with whom we have very little in common; orientation leaders who are painfully unorganized and younger than most of us; and a slew of "how to cope with college" talks and activities.

Instead of being met with encouragement about our futures and reassurance that this will be the best place to earn our degrees, we are confronted with redundant talks like "Why the health center is your friend." Transfer students generally have at least one year of college under their belt - they know how to survive college life and are as familiar as they want to be with the terms "freshman fifteen," "condom" and "STD."

In addition to the repetitive - dare I say, boring - lectures, informational sessions and elementary-style activities, the age gap between incoming freshmen and transfer students also contributed to sour feelings.

"I would have connected with more of my peers directly if there was an opportunity to connect with transfer students like myself," Hilton said. Instead of meeting in separate activities designed to bring together students in our same situation with whom we can bond, we were surrounded by 17- and 18year-olds who were still discussing the top 10 reasons why their high school "owns" (since, of course, no one says "rocks" or "rules" anymore).

"The orientation had mainly freshmen students who weren't in my age group, and therefore were harder to relate to," said Darnell Davis, a junior transfer from The College of the Bahamas. These sentiments seemed to be the common thread among new transfer students.

Negative attitudes toward the nature of the orientation program aren't limited solely to new transfer students, though. One orientation leader, who transferred into Barry previously and wished to remain anonymous, shares the opinion of many new transfer students: "Transfer students should have their own sessions. We [the StART and orientation team] should treat them differently than 17- and 18-year-olds."

I completely agree. For starters, I would have at least preferred orientation leaders who were seniors, rather than a group of mostly 19-year-old sophomores who spoke to us as if we were children. Also, I would have preferred to hear specifics about Barry University, rather than college life in general.

Learning about how and why Barry is different from my previous school and what it can offer that other schools may not would have been much more valuand relevant information. Furthermore, being provided with an opportunity to more easily meet other transfer students would have helped create a sense of belonging and community rather than feelings of isolation and disconnection.

So, why are transfer students told it is mandatory to attend and participate in these lectures and activities aimed at freshmen? Why are transfer students not offered programs specifically designed for them to learn about Barry itself, and to meet and bond with other students in their same situation?

"What we find with orientation is that transfers don't really want to attend," said Gina Joseph, assistant director of the Center for Leadership and Transition Services. "Once they choose their classes, meet with their academic advisor and get registered, we don't see them until Monday. Our idea of an orientation for transfers is during StART III. Other than that, we don't really have anything for transfers."

I will agree with her on both points:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Family and Personal Life Are Fair Game in Political Campaign

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Should teenage pregnancy be a topic discussed in this political election? Should the way that Sarah Palin, the Republican vice presidential candidate and Alaska governor, raises her family, and the actions of her family, reflect on Palin as a leader? Should her 17-year-old pregnant and unwed daughter, Bristol Palin, be fair game for political discussion? Yes.

Gov. Palin has been called a fighter for conservative values and policies such as abstinence education. It seems, however, that her ideological views on sex have failed within her own family. America, the most powerful nation in the world, is the leader not in democracy (that spot is held

among developed nations. Over the past years, America has seen a 35 percent drop in teenage pregnancies, but this problem persists, as highlighted by Palin's daughter. The issue here is not just pregnancies, but virtues taught in the home.

The Huffington Post reported on Sept. 1that the father of Bristol's baby is Levi Johnston, an 18-year-old who describes himself on MySpace as a "redneck." How delightful. It was just a month ago that Johnston was irrelevant in the eyes of the American public, but with his tie to Palin's daughter, he has affected something much larger than his redneck self.

We are not voting for Palin to become the mayor of Wasilla, Alaska (population 9,000); we're voting on whether Palin should become VP of the United States of by Sweden), but in teen pregnancies America (population 300 million).

Therefore, it is completely justifiable to ask some simple personal questions.

If Palin has such good judgment, such high moral standards, then why did her child end up in a premarital sexual relationship with a young man whose MySpace page hardly paints him as a desirable son-in-law for a first daughter.

I'm not calling Palin a bad mother; quite the contrary, I believe such behavior by a 17-year-old girl is not abnormal. Teen pregnancy is a real problem. Palin is suffering, as many parents do, from normal family issues -- issues we all face.

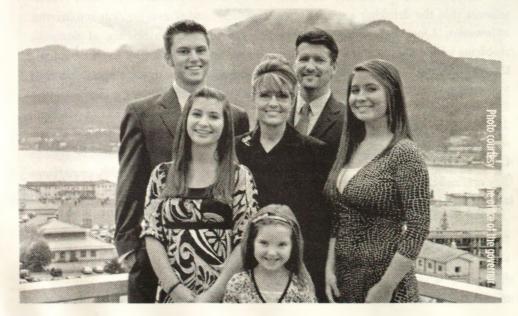
But for those who say her family issues make her more electable, I beg to differ. We are not electing America's No. 1 mom; we are electing the President of the Senate, the No. 2 spot for the presidency of the United States, the second most powerful office in the land. Should Palin receive great praise for raising five children (the youngest one with Down syndrome) in the midst of such turmoil and politics? Of course! Yet praise is one thing, electability is another.

Palin's family problems point out an important issue that most Democrats, for fear of political retribution, are scared to address. The days of families like June and Ward Cleaver's are no more. We live in a time when teen sex is real, teen pregnancy is real, teen drug abuse is real, teen alcoholism is real, and teen anxiety is real. We must turn off the 1950s version of the conservative American family and tune into the real problems of today.

While in an editorial meeting the other day, one of my editors brought up a valid point: Would the Republican Party be so forgiving if this happened to Chelsea Clinton? Of course not! They would ridicule Bill Clinton once again as a leader devoid of family values and moral standards. The fact that Barack Obama and the rest of the Democrats have been so tight-lipped about this issue is honorable, but I disagree.

The Republicans would have a field day if the Democratic VP had an unwed, pregnant teenage daughter. I know this to be true because such tactics been a major part of the Republican playbook during the past 20 years (I won't go into details, but if you're interested, just Google the words 'Kenneth Starr' or 'Lee Atwater.')

Bristol Palin is fair game. She, albeit because of her mother, has been thrust into the political spotlight. There is no turning back. We must now ask the uncomfortable questions. These questions are necessary. We aren't hiring a sales manager, or the mayor of a small town; we're hiring the vice president of the most powerful nation on earth. That means we want to know everything about the candidates: What are their beliefs? How do they plan to lead? What are their long-term strategies? What type of experience have they had? And yes, how do they raise their family? Bristol is merely a part of this political job interview, whether she likes it or not.



Fight, Drink and Be Merry at 18

JOSALINE CUESTA

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Destroying your lungs with nicotine is acceptable for an 18-year-old in the United States, but disintegrating your liver with alcohol isn't. At 18, you can do just about anything: die for your country, vote for the next commander-in-chief, marry your high school sweetheart, raise a child, spend long hours in jury duty deciding someone's fate, gamble your life savings away, and bury yourself in credit card debt.

Americans are legal adults at the age of 18, so why do we give them all the responsibilities of adulthood, minus the alcohol? If the government trusts 18 year-olds to make life-altering decisions, they should also trust 18 year-olds to drink responsibly. Honestly, if you think someone is too irresponsible to drink at 18, then they should not have any of the other responsibilities granted to them. Why not make the legal adult age 21? The United States is the only country in the world that prohibits alcohol consumption until 21.

I remember turning 18; I was ecstatic. I was legally an adult, and so I applied for my first credit card, purchased my first piece of property, even did a little gambling (which I found ridiculously boring). When I turned 21, I was even more enthralled; I could legally purchase alcohol. But I didn't. Purchasing alcohol didn't have the same allure it had when I was 19 or 20 years old.

The "forbidden fruit" theory was in full swing when I was underage, but not so much now that I am 21. The more we

prohibit things in this country, the greater the desire to have it. National Prohibition in the 1920s caused underground drinking and the development of the mafia in America; in the 21st century, binge drinking is the consequence of the age limit. Have things improved? How is 18 any different from 21? If irresponsible consumption happens at any age, why penalize the majority?

My mother is a true believer in the "stepping stone" hypothesis that suggests drinking leads to smoking, which leads to marijuana, which leads to cocaine, which leads to crack, which leads to disgrace and illness, which leads to death. This is extremely farfetched -- having a drink does not dictate that you will die from an awful death. I am 23; my friends and I have never smoked a cigarette a day in our lives, nor have I ever smoked, rolled, snorted or

needled my body with a drug. This sort of mindset is crazy; if you are going to smoke or do drugs, you are going to do it regardless of the amount of liquor you consume. Alcohol is only as dangerous as you make it; if it wasn't so difficult to attain, then Americans wouldn't want it so much. We only want what we can't have.

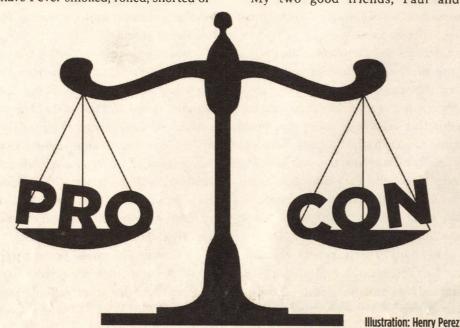
I was 18 during the 2004 elections; my friends and I got to vote for the presidential elections. I voted for John Kerry, one of my friends voted for George Bush, and despite popular belief, she wasn't high when she voted for Bush. She was legally allowed to make a decision for herself, a decision that changed and shaped her life. My point is that if we can vote for a bad president, than why can't we decide what is in our best interest when it comes to alcohol consumption?

My two good friends, Paul and

Maria, got married at 19 (she was not pregnant); the marriage was supported by both families. Paul and Maria were high school sweethearts, and they made an adult decision to marry. Four years later, they have two beautiful kids, their own home and a very strong, healthy marriage. Unfortunately, they could not purchase so much as a bottle of wine for the first two years of their marriage, but they could work full-time jobs, pay bills, and raise two kids.

I am married to a U.S. Marine. A couple of months ago, we were invited to a barbecue hosted by a fellow Marine and his wife from Texas. Among the delicious barbecue, blaring music, and loads of Corona, the women starting cooing over each other's children. Somehow, we began exchanging stories about the high school prom. The couple decided to show me their prom pictures from 2006. I was drinking beer with 18 and 19-yearolds. And it dawned on me. When it comes to alcohol, they are minors. Yet, these supposed minors had gotten married, served our country, taken jobs, and are raising children.

Does this couple sound like minors to you? If they can balance work and family life, they can handle a little alcohol. By all means, they are adults. Maturity shouldn't be determined by age...I have to conclude that part of life is making good decisions and major mistakes, so if 18 is legally the adult age, then why not leave the adult decisions and mistakes with alcohol to the adults?



How Low Can We Go? 21 Is Young Enough to Drink

STEFANE HURTAULT

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I recently read an article from the August 21 issue of the Miami Herald that grabbed my attention. The topic? The movement towards lowering the legal drinking age from 21 to 18. It stated that more than 100 college presidents from fine institutions such as Duke University, Tufts University, and Dartmouth College, have actually signed a statement opening up a debate about whether 18 should become the federal drinking age.

Upon reading this, I got slightly disturbed. Why would college presidents want to lower the drinking age to 18, when these same students (who will be attending their schools), will be putting their health at such great risks by drinking alcohol?

I come from the U.S. Virgin Islands, where the legal drinking age is 18. With the drinking age so low, teenagers under 18 get fake IDs in order to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages. Why is it that they get away with this act so easily? It's because it is easier for a 16-year-old to pass for an 18-year-old rather than trying to pass for 21.

I asked two students from the Virgin Islands how they feel about the drinking age and both agreed it should stay at the age of 21. "If the drinking age lowered younger kids would be more tempted to drink, just like how 17-18-

year-olds are tempter to drink with the drinking age set at 21"

One student stated, "Do we really want to put younger kids at risk for temptations?"

Another student observed that, "people cannot control their actions at the age of 21 much less the age of 18."

I personally believe that 18-yearolds are too young to be given the legal option of drinking.

In a bid to search for reasoning on both sides of the argument, I decided to go around campus. I was particularly interested to speak with students who have lived in a place where the legal drinking age is 21, not like 18 back home. Some students agreed that the government shouldn't lower the drinking age, while I found others that didn't agree.

A 22-year-old student stated, "21year-olds can barely control their alcohol intake especially in the college setting. Why should I let 18-year-olds?" He makes a completely valid point. After graduating high school, 18 year olds are just getting out of their parents houses, away from their supervision. If you give them the option to drink legally they will not be able to handle the responsibility and consequences, even less so than underage drinkers who may realize the complications of getting caught drinking. One student that brought up a very interesting point with the answer that she gave me. If the government allows people at the age of 18 to buy nicotine, then they should

drinking at that same age. She believes that the effects from smoking are much more severe than from drinking. "They should make nicotine along with alcohol illegal the same way they make other illicit drugs illegal," she said.

Another student agreed with her but added, "Either they lower the drinking age or they make the legal age to enlist in the army 21 as well."

Now these are all valid points. If at the age of 18 you can serve your country at the risk of losing your life, then why not be allowed to drink as well? But that just brings up other important issues.

After getting input from various students, I decided to ask a college graduate her thoughts about this situation. Shirley Gil is an English professor and tutor at the Barry University Reading Lab; she believes that the drinking age shouldn't be lowered. "I feel that there are enough problems with drinking and driving with 21-year-olds, and I believe that it will just worsen the situation with 18-year-olds if they are allowed to drink as well," said Gil. "At 18, they are still at a point where you can succumb under peer pressure. They are still trying to figure out who they are, and they'll make a lot more mistakes then 21-year-olds will."

Still, all these arguments overlooked the health effects that drinking causes as well. I read an article from www.cnn.com that said, "People who begin drinking at an early age are at higher risk of alcohol dependence or abuse." While individuals may argue that lowering the drinking age is a complex issue, in the end, it means that younger people will be exposed to the dangerous affects of alcohol. We already have the problem of adults becoming alcoholics; do we want to make it much easier forour younger generation to develop this problem as well?

This article outlined a number of severe health effects, such as liver disorders, cardiovascular problems, birth defects, gastrointestinal problems, diabetes complications, neurological complications, bone loss and increased risk of cancer. Not only does alcohol do this, but it also tends to result in poor performance at work and school. Alcohol increases the likelihood of motor vehicle fatalities and arrests for drunken driving. It increases the incidence of domestic abuse and divorce, and even of suicide and murder. Too much alcohol can hurt the vital center of your brain.

With all this said, would you still want to let our youngsters drink at an earlier age? Do you think it would be wise to let them destroy their health, or perform at a lower level in academics? Do you really want the younger generation to kill their much-needed brain cells?

The debate goes on and on, but my message remains the same: Stop the drinking age from being lowered.

Transfer Students and Barry: Not a Strong Bond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

transfer students do not want to attend orientation, and CLEATS does not offer anything specifically for them. StART III, unlike the earlier StART programs that span more than three days and include fun activities, lasts one day and consists of receiving our housing assignment and room key, turning in our health information, and registering for our classes. The only people I met were orientation leaders who kept telling me that attendance at the weekend's activities was mandatory. If StART III is sup-

posed to serve as a welcoming transition program, allowing transfer students to meet other students and familiarize themselves with Barry, then it has failed.

If StART III is not intended to provide transfer students with opportunities to meet other students in similar situations, and CLEATS assumes these students will attend orientation if they want to make friends, then that should be taken into account during their planning. It is completely understandable that transfer students would not want to attend an orientation program designed for freshmen.

If Barry designed activities specifically for transfer students to learn about how Barry can help them graduate, and to meet other transfer students through social programs and events, however, Joseph and the CLEATS team might not find that "transfers don't really want to attend." Perhaps the only reasons that we do not express a desire to attend is because we feel out of place and unwelcome, and that we would not benefit at all from the programs.

Transfer students, myself included, come to a new school to find something better. We come because we feel that some aspect about this new school would enhance our college career and offer more extensive opportunities once we graduate.

Why is this search for something better not welcomed and nurtured by Barry? Transfer students shouldn't have to arrive here and find that Barry thinks so little about us that they don't even bother arranging activities to integrate us into the Barry community and help us to meet our fellow transfer classmates.

We shouldn't be made to feel like the school's unwanted and unplanned offspring upon our arrival.

Remembering Krystal Birdsong

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Elaborate leopard spots adorned her left arm; more than 10 silver hoops decorated one ear lobe, thick brown-and-gold dreadlocks cascaded down her back, and no matter where she went, she would greet everyone with "peace."

Krystal Birdsong is not a forgettable person.

While most of us were worried about saving our grades or our precious social circles, Krystal showed more interest in saving the world. And she was well on her way. A self-proclaimed activist, animallover and daughter of the universe, Krystal was anything but apathetic. As president of Pax Christi, she spearheaded many social justice events on Barry's campus, including the first human rights fair. Krystal's commitment to social justice led her to protest for fair wages for farm workers in Chicago, for affordable housing in Miami and against the School of the Assassins in Georgia. She pushed against the status quo and challenged inequality fervently; her passion was contagious.

Krystal passed away on Sept. 19; she was 25. A recent graduate of the School of Social Work in May 2008, she was enrolled in the master's program. One of her favorite quotes was by the Polish-German revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg: "Those who do not move, do not notice their chains," It was a call to action. For many who knew her, it was impossible not to move and be moved.

When Krystal was not out saving the

world, she was quirky, laid-back and always late. Though she was not very passionate about timeliness, when she showed up, she'd liven up any affair. Whether we were cruising along Wynwood's Saturday Art Walks and sipping free champagne-another favorite saying of Krystal's was "If it's free, it's for me"-or hanging out at a poetry venue, if Krystal was left alone for five minutes, she would make a new friend.

She had an allure that would draw people in. She did everything we've been conditioned not to do: talk to strangers, smile at people (even when they were smiling back) and judge people not on superficial levels, but by their spirit. I remember when we went to visit Umoja village, a shantytown in Liberty City, an old, tattered, grumpy looking-homeless man was sitting on a couch barefoot with a book in his hand. Krystal plopped down on the sofa next to him and asked, "Hey man, what are you reading?" And from there she made a new friend who gave us a tour of the shantytown and talked to us candidly about homelessness.

A very modest person, Krystal devoted most of her time to activism, but she still managed to make the dean's list every semester, volunteer with various organizations and occasionally write articles for different publications, including this one.

I once saw a quote that read, "Everyone dies, but not everyone lives."

Krystal lived. She was everything she sought to be: a positive role model, revolutionary and superwoman.

Peace.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COLUMN

Welcome to the Student Affairs Column. You can check this column in each edition of The Buccaneer for news you can use about services and events brought to you by the Division of Student Affairs.

Barry's Division of Student Affairs is comprised of the Barry Bookstore, Campus Ministry, Career Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, the Dean of Students Office, Dining Services, Disability Services, Housing and Residence Life, the Intercultural Center, Leadership and Transition Services, Public Safety, Student Activities and Commuter Affairs, the Student Health Center and the Student Union. All of these offices, with the exception of Campus Ministry and the Division's Executive Offices, are located in the Landon Student Union building. Student Affairs staff members are always available to offer assistance and support to all students.

As usual, summertime was a period of change for the Division of Student Affairs. One academic year ended and another began, bringing with it new opportunities and challenges. Perhaps the biggest change during the summer was the addition of Barry's Campus Ministry to the Student Affairs family.

Formerly housed within the Executive Division, Campus Ministry is now operating under the auspices of the Division of Student Affairs. As members of the Division, the staff within Campus Ministry will be working closely with all the departments in Student Affairs to promote and promulgate the four core commitments of Barry's Mission:

- Knowledge and Truth
- Inclusive Community
- Social Justice
- Collaborative Service

Addressing the significance of these core commitments for campus life and the larger university community, the staff of Campus Ministry will provide for the liturgical and spiritual needs of the Barry community through prayer, community-building projects and service learning. Campus Ministers will develop and implement social justice activities, opportunities for theological reflection, and regularly scheduled gatherings for fellowship including Second Sunday Night Suppers and Tasty Treat Tuesdays. Additionally, Campus Ministry will continue to foster Barry traditions such as the Mass of the Holy Spirit, observance of Dominican Saints' Days, the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Service, an annual Passover Seder and Baccalaureate Masses for all graduating classes.

Campus Ministry celebrates and honors all religious traditions represented on campus. Recognizing what draws us together as people of faith, staff members are eager to assist members of the Barry community from other religious traditions in facilitating programs and services that will enable students to practice their chosen faiths and learn about the faiths of others.

All are welcome to visit Campus Ministry in the Chapel House attached to Cor Jesu Chapel, located in the middle of campus. Students are encouraged to stop by and see what Campus Ministry can do for them, and what students themselves can do for the community!

For more information on these events, please call Campus Ministry at 305-899-3650.

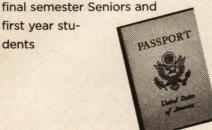
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D&D Study Lounge: Past, Present and Future

MICHAEL WORLEY

WORLEYM & BUCMAIL BARRY EDU

Built in 1962, the Dalton & Dunspaugh (D&D) dormitory complex is one of the oldest buildings on campus. A photo from Prudy Taylor Broad's Barry University: Dedicated to Love, Learning and Leadership shows a photo circa 1962 of D&D in its hay-day. It was a beautiful building with unique architectural designs that welcomed the girls who called it home. Its centerpiece was a lounge area raised several feet above the ground by a sweeping staircase decked out with two flower beds. The lounge was large, extending the width of Dalton. Yet just like the lives of those who inhabited its confines, change occurred over time; unfortunately it seems this dormitory's lounge has aged not like wine, but like vinegar.

The current D&D lounge is separated into two parts: a computer lab (which was dismantled over the summer) and a study lounge. Currently, the study lounge has a variety of lovely couches, chairs, tables and even fake shrubbery. Unfortunately the aforementioned décor isn't arranged; it's stacked and stored—everywhere. The D&D lounge is nothing more than a storage facility for the current time, with little or no space usable (or safe) to study in.



Dalton-Dunspaugh lobby circa 1962

"It really aggravates me." said Dunspaugh freshman Sam Khan, "The dorm rooms can be way too constricted and small. Sometimes a cool place to study, where there is little noise and lots of room, is really useful." When Khan used the word "cool," he was referring to the dormitory's air conditioning (or lack thereof). Dunspaugh, as well as Dalton, share a central air-conditioning system

with Lavoie Hall, causing the far ends of these dormitories to receive less cool air. Because the study lounge is centralized, it is the coldest place in the complex.

"When will our friends in D&D finally get their study lounge back?" Originally, we planned to knock down the wall [separating the computer lab and the lounge] during the summer break," said Patrick Devine, the assistant director

of Residential Life. "We plan to renovate the study lounge over the Christmas break, but we can't guarantee it." According to Devine, the reason for the delay because D&D has been refurbished specifically,new floors, bathrooms and the regular upkeep of the rooms. "It took longer than expected," said Devine, "but we're working on it as much as possible with the budget we have." Devine; who graduated from Barry in 1999 understands the concerns. "Until the renovations take place, any students in the complex are free to use the Dalton lounges.." Devine also mentioned plans for the new lounge include televisions and wireless internet capabilities.

According to Devine, this is the first time D&D has been closed over the summer for renovations in years. We need students to take a bigger role in informing of us of issues," says Devine. "If your RA's don't know about the problem, we don't either."

Ask any RA who has stayed in D&D, and they will surely regale you about how much better it has become. Until the renovations are finished, ResLife suggests using newly decorated Thompson Hall for studying; the area is air conditioned, wireless internet ready and open 24 hours.

Barry Faces Challenges to House More Students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For hotel residents who rely on the transportation provided by Barry, there have been several incidents with the shuttle service that buses student to and from Barry. Drivers have been confused about the official drop-off and pick-up spot, spurring confusion among riders, and in some instances, making students late for class. The bus is supposed to run in one-hour intervals

At least one parent has complained to Residential Life about the condition of her child's room.

RETURNING STUDENTS ALSO FACE ROOM SHORTAGE

Returning on-campus residents do not receive housing unless they participate in a lottery before the semester ends. All 688 returning students who participated in the lottery were housed. However, some students say the lottery system is flawed.

Erin Forbes, an out-of-state student and a returning sophomore, found out

three days before school started she would not be living on campus. "I had three days to find a place to live; it was very frustrating," said Forbes.

According to Forbes, she had the last number in the lottery. When she attempted to redeem her number, she was told to come back later with no specific date. When she did return a few days later, the lottery had closed.

Residential Life admits they did close the lottery, but later extended the date and sent out emails announcing the extension. Forbes said she found out about the extension too late and was put on a waiting list. "I called in July, and they said I would be staying in the hotel," said Forbes.

However, when she returned to school, there was no hotel room available for her, and she had three days to find off-campus housing. Forbes' grandmother Barbara Clarke was with her while they searched for housing near campus. "As parents, it was very stressful," said Clarke. "We're all the way from Georgia." Clarke said she was told that due to the number of first-year students, there was simply no more room.

Not all students are unhappy with Residential Life. Sam Gabriel, a pre-med junior, was asked to give up his room to move into St. Catherine's, a nearby facility now used for housing students and storage. "I have my own room and a nice bathroom." According to Gabriel, St. Catherine's has more amenities than the standard dorm room.

Yet Forbes, who now lives off-campus, is not happy about the outcome. "Living off-campus has affected my financial aid."

BRIDGING THE GAP

In an effort to bridge the gap between enrollment figure and residential housing, the Offices of Enrollment and Residential Life now meet once a week. "Understanding what's going on in enrollment helps us," Cameron said.

"I'm very big on transparency; I know some of the challenges students have had," said Cameron.

Cameron also noted that Residential Life secured additional housing to house as many students as possible. In addition to the hotel, there are seven other locations where first year students are being accommodated; eight at St. Johns; nine at St. Thomas Aquinas; 12 at St. Catherine's; 11 at Barry Villas; seven at St. Dominic; six at Weber East and two at Flood.

In an email from Dr. Maria Alvarez, the associate vice president of student affairs and dean of students, faculty members were also asked to house students for this semester.

"There are kinks along the way," said Cameron "but you have to get creative."

There is no concrete plan to build more on-campus housing, but Cameron maintained, "It's always in the talks."

In an effort to improve the current system, Residential Life is planning several additional measures, including new software to expedite room lotteries and room selection online and revamping the website to be more user-friendly for student and parents.

Cameron said, "There is nothing we do that isn't for the student, and I truly and honestly believe that."

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION COLUMN

We, the Student Government Association (SGA), have spent countless hours tirelessly working for you, the student body. There is an array of wonderful activities that we hope you will find interesting and engaging. First off, there will be a huge campaign this semester to get every eligible voter to register. If you

are not a Florida resident, SGA will provide the tools you need to cast your absentee ballot. Clearly, our student body is made up of people from all over the country, and we want to provide each one of you easy access to perform your civic duty of voting. Keeping on track with our push to have all eligible students registered,

SGA will be providing various forums for you to become informed on the candidates and their views.

As an elected body of the students, we want to hear directly from you. I strongly encourage all of you to come to our open meetings, which will be advertised all over campus.

We look forward to working with each and every one of you. President Dwight D. Eisenhower once said,

"We, the people, elect leaders not to rule, but to serve." The Student Government Association fully intends to carry this out.

Adventures in Psychoanalysis, Part 1.a: Itsy Bitsy Spider

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Itsy Bitsy Spider is one of the all-time classic stories ever told. Actually, Itsy Bitsy Spider tells the story of the entire known universe, in just four short lines. Throughout the ages, humans have looked up at the stars wondering, "Why the hell is this all happening?" - that is, why is the universe happening? The answer to that question is: Itsy Bitsy Spider.

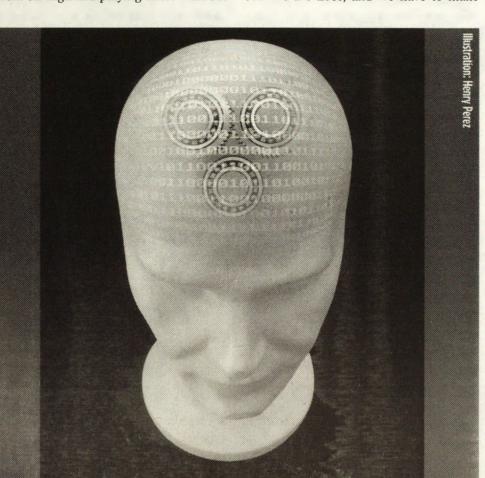
If you think I'm out of my mind, then you are not informed of a new philosophy by the name of, integral post-metaphysics. Integral post-metaphysics holds that an active, metaphysical force actually advances what we typically term as "evolution by natural selection." A socalled "active force" or an "active nature" presses on into newer, more structured territory. Whitehead called this driving force "the creative advance into novelty."

Another thinker termed it: that which "metabolizes experience into structure." This philosophy considers the entire course of evolution from the Big Bang up to now, and according to these thinkers and this philosophy, the universe has always been creatively advancing into newer, more complex, more structured territory. According to integral post-metaphysics, "the creative advance into novelty" is the only preexisting metaphysical entity—everything else, even a force like gravity, has been

habituated into existence via evolution.

This driving force, this creative advance into novelty-which, by the way, has been dubbed Eros- is not a strictly sexual connotation, and is not to be conceptualized like the hand of an almighty God, guiding everything along from on-high and playing chess with our

individual destinies. To quote one of my favorite movie series, The Terminator series, "The future is not set: No fate but what we make." Within the framework of post-metaphysics, nothing except the drive to create newer, more structured realities is set in stone. Our future is not set. We are Eros, and we have to make



the future. But, we do not exactly have free will either. And I quote a philosopher and sage, Sri Ramana Maharishi, "There is neither destiny nor free will. This is the final truth." The point of Maharishi's statement is that the concepts of free will and destiny do not adequately describe what is really going on in the universe; it is neither destiny nor free will. So, that said, a father-like God is not planning our destiny out, nor are we totally free to make happen whatever we want. Nor is a deistic God waiting in the wings and watching us toil in his clockwork. Rather, Eros, the creative advance into novelty, which we all share in, every single thing on this planet and in this universe, living and breathing together, striving together as Eros, plays this game I like to call Itsy Bitsy Spider.

Gravity is an example of the creativity of Eros. Gravity had not yet existed a few milliseconds after the Big Bang. Pure chaos was ensuing. But some force or nature-which we called Eros-pulled itself together and created something we now take for granted and call gravity. We take it for granted, thinking it always existed. Most of the time, we merely assume gravity is just built into how the universe works, not wondering how the hell it came to be. This brings up a key point about post-metaphysics: the more an event is repeated, the harder it

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Adventures in Psychoanalysis, Part 1.b: The Dark Knight

ADVENTURES IN PSYCHOANALYSIS

JOE BOYER

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Terrorism. An unidentifiable enemy. A ghost. To quote the summer movie blockbuster The Dark Knight, "Some men can't be bought, bullied, reasoned or negotiated with."

Terrorists'designs are not for monetary profit, nor for self-expansion; they're trying to change the face of the world. To quote the late Heath Ledger's Joker character in The Dark Knight: "It's not about money; it's about sending a message."

Heath Ledger's Joker was a far cry from Jack Nicholson's iteration of the al stir, but that stir is fear. We like to be famous comic book character. Everything scared, but fear is fear after all. We feel that made the character of the Joker great over the 65-odd-year history of the character - humor, charisma, savagery, disregard for human life (including his own) and an infatuation with Batman - was integrated into the 2008 cinematic installation of Heath Ledger's Joker.

With a respect for realism and depth, director Christopher Nolan elected to take the Batman franchise in a direction of realworld possibility, and in doing so, abandoned the otherworldly fantasy realm akin to previous cinematic ventures of the Batman franchise. Nolan's Batman is a man-in our world-fighting for the future, a better future. And the Joker is a man-in opposition to that better future. He wants chaos, doubt and fear to prevail.

Two opposing warriors, control and

chaos, have been embedded in the universe since the Big Bang. Milliseconds after the Big Bang, gravity hadn't yet existed. Complete and utter chaos was first mitigated by the evolution of gravity. New expressions of chaos-beyond cosmic dirt flying about—have arisen alongside the evolution of humans. We have our own words for chaos: fear, doubt, loss of control.

Fiction is not dramatic, inspiring, nor moving without some measure of fear, uncertainty—chaos. doubt, and Sometimes, in the more horrific dramas, chaos wins—and we like this; yet, we don't. We like it because it provides an emotionchaos happening. And it is disturbing to see chaos prevail. Yet we applaud movies that effectively show that chaos can winas long as it provides that emotional stir, which is basically an empirical evidence that something interiorally truthful just happened on-screen; it speaks to something universal in us. It is unsettling to see chaos win, and we applaud-not so much because it gives us an emotional stir, but because it speaks of something truthful, and it does it well.

A new philosophy, integral post-metaphysics, defines what we are fundamentally-in a new way, a way that includes theory of evolution with metaphysics, hence the name post-metaphysics. Classically, metaphysics has dealt with universals: states, levels, or categories of being that are on the interior of known existence. Plato's world of the forms seemed pre-existing, as if they were handed down from heaven. The problem with universals is: classically, they seem like they can never change, yet we must keep reminding ourselves that they do. For example, the category of loving attraction seems like a universal, that is, all cultures experience something they call love or attraction. But ask atoms if love exists in them. It does. Attraction exists in atoms. This is gravity, what we may call the most base level of love. Even universals like goodness and love continue to evolve in the human mind.

Some developmental researchers have provided empirical evidence for stages or levels of consciousness in the human mind. Even in such developmental areas as spirituality, there is evidence for even higher and higher stages of consciousness that are only now just developing. Very few people are up there at such levels.

We're the only animal who draws pictures of those we love. We are the animals with the most expressive faces on the planet, and this shows an empirically higher degree of interior consciousness—and love felt.

The thing about universals, according to post-metaphysics, is they're always evolving. Universals change; there is a movement there. Chaos is a universal. It is no longer a smattering of atoms smashing into and drifting away from each other. It is fear and doubt in the human mind: loss of individual control and personal struc-

ture. In fact, according to integral postmetaphysics, nothing is pre-given, except one thing: Eros. It is what Whitehead called "the creative advance into novelty." Eros has another name—Batman, the eternal drive into newer, greater expanses. Eros is a tendency. It is movement into higher evolutionary territories. Eros is both the unstoppable force and the immovable object of the universe. Eros is the immovable object, the only pre-given entity in the universe that does not ever change nor has never not existed. And it is also the unstoppable force. By definition, Eros—the creative advance into novelty, that which takes alternatively small side projects and makes them mainstream-is the unstoppable force, which will not stop advancing into new territory, creating more and more highly structured, more inclusive forms of being and knowing. We started with dirt at the Big Bang, and through evolution, now have the human brain. To quote a philosopher, Ken Wilber, the human brain has more neural connections than there are stars in the universe.

We are just neurons and more than neurons at the same time. We are immovable pieces of matter—the neurons—and also the unstoppable connections between them. We are Eros. We are what happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object.

Infinite is already here, and it is always changing.

Soccer Teams Aim to Triumph Over Last Season

ROLANDO VAZQUEZ

VAZQUEZR BUCMAIL BARRY.EDU

Without a football team (American football, that is), the Barry community is left to cheer on a different sport. Soccer's presence in America has increased in recent years with the addition of professional soccer teams in major cities. Barry's international student body makes it no surprise that soccer has become Barry's most popular sport. Fans can expect a fresh start from both the men's and women's soccer teams as they go through an assortment of changes this fall semester.

In May, nine members of the men's soccer team graduated, leaving plenty of spots open for rookie players. Twelve new players were added to the roster, bringing the prospect of a better season from last year's dismal performance.

Head coach Steve McCrath has made numerous changes to the soccer program in hopes of altering the direction in which the team was headed, one of which involves the addition of a new assistant coach, Henry Apaloo. The newly hired coach played on Barry's team just a few months ago, and now aims to share his expertise and experience with the new team.

Last season, the Buc's were 0-6-2 in conference, and 5-9-2 overall. The team was tested early when they traveled to Morrow, Ga., to face Clayton State University, a national title contender year after year. But the Bucs prevailed and won the match 3-0. Although last year was an unfortunate losing season, the new team has a winning tradition to live up to. Since the arrival of Coach McCrath in 1998, the Buc's have made a National Final appearance, along with a National Semi-final appearance, in addi-

The duty to lead the team back to their winning habits will not only be the responsibility for Coach McCrath or Assistant Coaches Apaloo, Andres Lopez, Chris Rich but that of the experienced returning players such as Samuel Fesshazion, Stephen Hume and Ryan Alexander. The 2008 team is said to have the best recruiting class in 10 years, which is fitting - out of eight matches, they have only lost one game.

tion to having had nine winning seasons. the Buccaneers are moving in a positive direction. With 14 players returning from last season, the team has the ingredients for success.

In the past, the women's soccer team has been a powerhouse in the SSC, with three national titles to prove it. Head coach Fred Jungemann and staff are on a mission to lead the Lady Buccaneers back to the top. Since the SSC is one of the most competitive conferences in NCAA Division II woman's coaches. Rich, a four-year starting goalkeeper for the Barry men's soccer team, works closely with both the men's and women's goalkeepers; Brolly and Sener invest their time with the field players. Brolly, a native of Coatbridge, Scotland, played for three years at Florida Atlantic University, where she set numerous records, and has played professionally with the Cocoa Expos in Cocoa, Florida, and the Orlando Krush. In addition, Brolly has represented the national team of Scotland on several occasions.

Sener, who played at Johnson County Community College before transferring to Barry, was named First Team All-Conference, First Team All-Region and Honorable Mention All-American in the NJCAA. These honors do not do the crafty former midfielder enough justice, because if you were to have seen him in action, you might have confused him with a matador. The question now is if the three can convert their individual abilities into coaching abilities. Moreover, can the trio bring cohesion between the players themselves, so that the players can carry the same ideology in terms of soccer?

The Lady Bucs have played in 11 matches, winning 6, losing 4, and tying one match. With seven games left, the coaches are confident of a fruitful ending.

"We have a very young team, so yeah, we're very optimistic, but we've got to be very realistic at the same time," said Brolly. "We have a very young team; like 50 percent are freshman and sophomore. It's going to take some time but we are going to definitely improve on last year's statistics."

And the way things are unfolding for the Lady Bucs, it seems as if this year's team is holding nothing back and ready to face all odds.



As the men's team slowly return to the glory they once experienced, the women's soccer team is trying to surpass the challenges that have been set before them, in hopes of reaching success.

The Lady Buccaneers have struggled the past two seasons, partly stemming from the departure of one head coach and arrival of another one. This past season, the team amassed an 8-9 record, a three-win improvement from the 2006 season. Though finishing 8th place in their conference last season. soccer, the task will not be easily accomplished, but that's why Jungemann's staff is as vital as the players he puts on the field. The head coach will have a hard time working one-on-one with every player, stemming from the limitation of practice time allowed by the NCAA, so coaches Denise Brolly, Chris Rich and Serkan Sener play a vital role.

The trio has impressive soccer resumes and extremely high soccer IQs, which made it an easy decision for Jungemann to hire them as his assistant

21 Questions with Serbian Soccer Star Vuk Kojic

SHYVONNE WILLIAMS

WILLIAMSSS OBUCMAIL.BARRY.EDU

The Buccaneer introduces a new series spotlighting personalities around campus by asking them 21 questions. In this issue, we introduce you to Vuk Kojic, an international student from Belgrade, Serbia. Vuk, who wears the number nine, is a forward on men's soccer team. The season kicked off in August, and Vuk scored the first goal of the season, assisting the Bucs to defeat Georgia Southwestern. He has since scored two more goals. I sat with Vuk for a few minutes and discovered that he is a really simple, down to earth guy.

1. Do you have any nicknames?

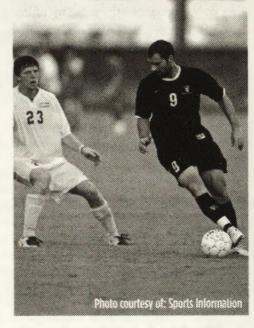
My friends call me Vukie or Kume [Siberian slang for friend].

2. How long have you been playing soccer? Since I was seven. I started off in track. Then one day my dad took me to try out for a club and I made the team.

3. Why'd you come to Barry?

I liked the soccer program.

4. What do you like most about Miami? The diversity, because it is very easy to fit in as an international student, and the weather.



5. What are your future plans?

To graduate with my degree in business management.

6. What is your dream profession?

One day I would like to be a scout for a huge team like Barcelona and just travel the world looking for players. That would be fun.

7. What's the craziest thing you've ever

Jumping out of an airplane with a parachute [Mom wasn't pleased].

8. What has given you the greatest joy? Spending time with my family who I haven't seen in about a year and seven months.

9. Your most embarrassing moment? When I first came to the United States, I took a speech class and although I spoke English very well, speaking in my accent in front of the entire class made me embarrassed.

10. Any secret fears? Not really.

11. What's the best advice you have ever received and from whom?

I've received a lot of advice. My dad told me, be who you are no matter what and stand your ground.

12. What's the best book you ever read? Alexander the Great, and The Sicilian by Mario Puzo

13. What's your favorite movie? Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels

14. What annoys you the most? When we [the Bucs] lose games.

15. Do you have a favorite dish? Seafood - because it's healthy; I don't like junk food.

16. Do you have a favorite musician/music? I like all types of music except anything

commercial. My mom was a producer and marketing director of a national radio station, so I grew up listening to all types of music.

17. What is your favorite color?

Black. Black or white goes with everything.

18. Who is the woman you most admire?

My mom. She raised my brother and I very well, despite all the struggles that were going on in Serbia when we were growing up.

19. What's your irresistible temptation? Women and ice cream [laughs].

20. Is there any place you would like to visit before you die?

India to see the Taj Mahal. My friend Sam and I hope to visit there next summer.

21. What's your most elusive goal?

Stay normal, because it seems as though everyone is going crazy [laughs]. But I prefer to take life one day at a time and set short-term attainable goals, rather than high, long-term goals.

Perseverance and Practice Drive Lauren Evans to Net Gains

D' JOUMBAREY MOREAU

MOREAUD @ BUCMAIL BARRY EDU

As Barry University celebrates 25 years of athletic excellence in the academic arena, the pressure to keep that winning tradition alive is more palpable than ever before. In starting position for this anniversary season, the women's volleyball team is poised for success.

In the past, the volleyball team has claimed three national championships (their latest in 2004), a conference record of 198 wins, an all-time record of 402 wins and one Olympic gold medalist, the women's volleyball team is a major force in the competitive collegiate athletic area. This 20-year-old program is filled with rich tradition and prestige, and though last year was not up to par with the previous season, this year offers glimpses of honor and prestige that could compare to those of the 2004 National Championship team.

Among the stars of the 2008-2009 women's volleyball team is a master of practice, hard work and dedication. Her name is Lauren Evans, and this season, she is ready to lead and determined to win. Evans studies the game and lives it as well. She has excelled on the court and shown that she is a true player countless times. Although she had to walk on initially at Barry, she is now one of the volleyball team's captains. On the court, she plays one of the hardest positions, known as the defensive specialist, or more simply as the Libero.

While Barry students were starting classes this fall, Evans was named Defensive Player of the Week by the Sunshine State Conference. She is also leading the conference in digs per game; her 439 digs last year was a new singleseason record. Entering her senior year, she was 17 digs shy of Barry University's career record set by three-time Sunshine State Conference Player of the Year and three-time All-American Cindy Yuan. On Aug. 29, she finished a five-set match with 25 digs, which gave her more than enough to take the Buccaneer record.

Coach Frederico Santos describes Lauren Evans as "fearless, very confident and possessing strong leadership qualities." Many players have walked into the Health and Sports Center, but few are as skilled and talented as Lauren. "She leads on the court very well; she is very determined, an extremely hard worker. Lauren is a product of the team pushing each other. Lauren wants to advance in any kind of competition and to come out successful," says Coach Santos.

"I did a lot of sports when I was little," says Evans, who grew up in Plano, Texas, just north of Dallas. She remembers thinking, "Hey, why not volleyball as well?" She began playing volleyball in third grade, but started playing competitively in eighth grade and continued throughout high school and now in college.

Evans trains rigorously throughout the year and does not take any breaks. Before practice, one can find her in the training room or warming up in the gym. An advocate of hard work, Evans trains for the next season by working one-onone with her coach in Plano, former Olympian Ruth Nelson, in the summer. Coach Santos declares that "players like Lauren are eager to get better."

Lauren is also a very dedicated student. The epitome of a scholar-athlete, she enjoys school very much and last year not only did she have above a 3.5 grade point average, she also made the dean's list.

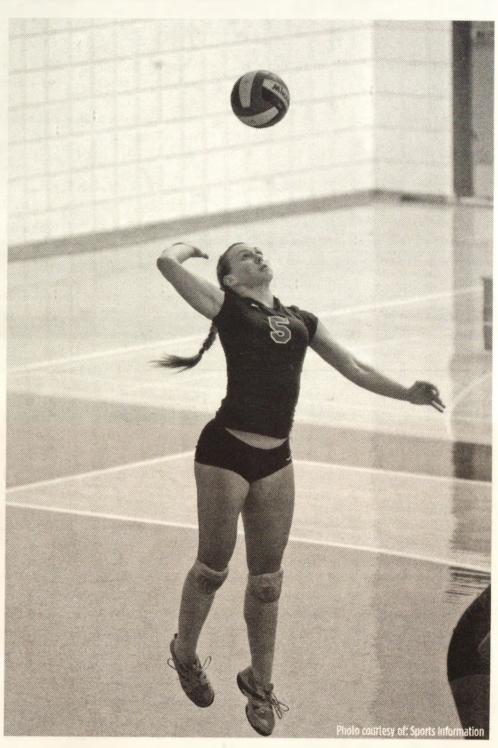
"When I'm in season, I make the best grades," says Evans."I guess it's because I'm more focused than anything. I think being a student is amazing." Evans is in the cardiovascular perfusion program at Barry, and her plan after college is to work as a specialized medical technician who operates the devices that monitor and support a patient's critical organs during openheart surgery.

Upon being asked whom would she like to play with in her future volleyball career, she is unable to pick out a specific and recognition are not a priority for person. "There isn't just one person who I could pick to bring to the next level," says Evans."If I could take something from everybody and just make a new person, I would. I mean, we are a team and everyone does something different."

That is a genuine answer from a person who understands and appreciates the team concept. Individual accolades

her; she maintains an unselfish, 'team first' attitude. Santos says, "She would be just as happy stepping away from the limelight and having the team succeed, rather than stepping into the limelight and having the team fail."

That is the indication of a true athlete, but better yet, an authentic person.



Adventures in Psychoanalysis, Part 1.a: Itsy Bitsy Spider

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

becomes to not repeat. The more gravity had been repeated, the more it solidified itself as a universal habit. It became so habitual for so long that now, gravity is pretty much impossible to escape and appears more and more like it had always existed. But there had been a time when it had not existed and a time when it was looser, not as cemented.

The philosopher who has proposed an integral post-metaphysics is named Ken Wilber. He offers a fine example of how the universe might be working (at least, quite possibly the finest description we have—at this time.) Wilber says he does NOT like the conceptualization of the universe by proponents of Intelligent Design, complete with its Intelligent Designer, a God as supreme Engineer. He says, if such were so, "that Engineer is an idiot." Rather, Wilber's

conceptualization is that of painting on Big Bang. Eros is having fun with all of less accurate words for Chaos and Eros. canvas. Eros paints a picture, not every are serious mistakes to correct, but in the end, the picture comes out, and many times, not even as originally intended.

See, we might know exactly what existed before the Big Bang. (Some of us may have experienced it, but let us save this topic for dessert, i.e., an upcoming edition of The Buccaneer.)

The seemingly most accurate reason we can think of as to why the Big Bang happened is-for fun (Think of the Itsy Bitsy Spider). The story of Itsy Bitsy Spider would be nothing without the rain. It would be so boring without the rain. Imagine it: "The itsy bitsy spider went up the water spout. The end." Not very interesting. Drama is no fun without complications. The spider is the underdog, trying to get up the water spout, trying to get back to what was before the

this. It wants to see how much it can lose why underdogs are so much fun to cheer for in sports and in drama, because we like to see someone get beaten down, and still win. It is the story of our existence. It is what we fundamentally are. And this is why Eros blew itself half to hell, forgetting itself, devolving into chaos. It let itself get beaten down, only to watch itself traverse the path to reassembling itself. Eros began the path to greater complexity, to remembering itself.

A key point about the game of the universe is the establishment of Chaos as adversary to Eros. For more on this topic, see "Adventures in Psychoanalysis Part I.b," which is also in this issue.

Also, stay tuned to The Buccaneer for more "Adventures in Psychoanalysis," because we're not children. We're not ids, egos and superegos. They are just the

We're not blank cognitive slates. You stroke is perfect, and sometimes there and still win. And we are Eros. This is cannot teach a human baby not to crawl; he is going to do it, unless you tie his legs together for the rest of his short life. We're not only subject to location and environment. We have built ourselves over time as well, not just due to place. We have not destiny, nor free will. We are something more than the both of them combined, and thus, all can never be lost.

> For more info on integral post-metaphysics topics, such as: what existed before the Big Bang, human consciousness, applications of this philosophy in the real world, a more in-depth look at evolution and natural selection, and femininity, see upcoming issues of The Barry Buccaneer. Also, if you are female and you disliked this article, it may be because you are the magnificent sun in the story, and all we've yet discussed is the spider.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Women's Volleyball vs. Palm Beach Atlantic

International Day of **Older Persons**

Eid-al-Fitr (Islamic)

Let's Do Lunch sponsored by Cleats

Rape Aggression Defense 3PM **Landon Events**

3

Room

Women's soccer vs. Tampa (Home)

4 Women's volleyball vs. Valdosta State

Women's soccer vs.

Men's soccer vs. **Eckerd**

Newberry

5 World Teachers'

Day

Sunday Liturgy **11AM** Cor Jesu Chapel

Sunday Liturgy 11AM

6

Child Health Day

World Habitat Day

Women's volleyball

Women's soccer vs. North Georgia

vs. Lynn (Home)

Men's soccer vs. Nova Southeastern

National Children's Day

Women's volleyball

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

Jewish Yom Kippur

Democratic Rally 5:30PM - 8:30PM Landon Events Room

10 Fall Holiday

Women's soccer vs. Palm Beach Atlantic (Home)

11

Women's volleyball vs. Florida Southern (Home)

Men's soccer vs. Tampa (Home)

12

Miami Dolphins vs. **Houston Texans**

Cor Jesu Chapel

13

Women's soccer vs. Eckerd

Columbus Day

14

Jewish Sukkot / Feast of Tabernacles

"Psych Your Body Image" Workshop 11AM - 12PM Landon Events Room 15

vs. Rio Piedras (Home) Men's soccer vs. St. Thomas (Home)

16

5PM

Landon 301

National Boss Day **Project OSA** Informational Meeting

17

Women's volleyball vs. Flagler (Home)

Women's soccer vs. Lynn (Home)

18

Women's volleyball vs. Saint Leo (Home)

Men's soccer vs. Saint Leo

Sweetest Day

25

19

Miami Dolphins vs. **Baltimore Ravens** (Home)

Sunday Liturgy Cor Jesu Chapel

Sunday Liturgy 11AM Cor Jesu Chapel

Student Liturgy Cor Jesu Chapel 20

Blood Drive Begins 9:30AM - 9:30PM **Andreas Breezeway**

Flu Shot Clinic 11:30AM - 1PM Landon Atrium

Women's soccer vs. (Home)

21

Women's volleyball vs. Nova Southeastern

Women's soccer vs. West Florida

29

Men's soccer vs. Florida Tech

Blood Drive Ends

Flu Shot Clinic

11:30AM - 1PM

Landon Atrium

30

Women's soccer vs. Palm Beach Atlantic 24

Women's volleyball vs. Rollins

Women's soccer vs. Nova Southeastern

Men's soccer vs. Flagler

vs. Florida Tech

Women's volleyball

United Nations Day

26

Mother-in-Law Day Florida Southern

28

Global Warming Conference (see below for schedule)

Women's volleyball vs. Lynn

31

Halloween

Women's volleyball against Tampa (Home)

Men's soccer against Rollins (Home)

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

GLOBAL WARMING CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

EVENT

9:30AM - 10:30AM

Prospects for Compliance with CO2 Reductions and Climate Change Treaty Obligations The Presidential Climate Action Project and You

10:45AM - 12:00PM

Beyond Dominion and Stewardship: The Environment through the Lenses of Christian Theology Removing Chemical Wastes from the Environment

Peak Oil

12:00PM - 1:30PM Lunch / Keynote Session

Operating Green Leaves - Haiti's Environmental Tragedy

Natural Disasters: Inevitable or Preventable?

1:45PM - 2:45PM

Market Culture, Insatiable Consumerism, and Global Warming Ecocentric Perspectives on Global Warming: Considering The Earth Jurisprudence Diminishing Green Space in Miami / Florida and climate change

PRESENTER(S)

Cvejanovich, Montague **CEJ Staff** Mendez, Caravelis

Schaab Boulos, Zajickova, Aloya Wenisch

Nadine Patrice

Esposito, Perez Tolan Marcia Anderson, Virginia Key State Beach ROOM

Andreas 111 Kostka TH 230

Kostka Andreas 111

TH 230

Andreas III

Andreas 111 Kostka TH 230