



# The Spectrum

"The Student Voice of The College of The Bahamas"

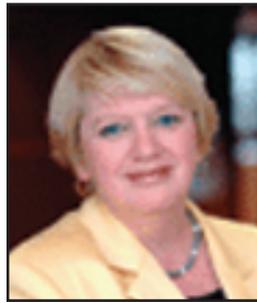
Email: spectrum@cob.edu.bs    Volume 1 - Issue 1 - September 2010

## COB Presidential Candidates visit campus

by Lamech Johnson and Reva Devi  
Staff Writers

Though Dr. Earla Carey-Baines has taken up her position at the helm, the search for COB's next President continues. This past week, the three finalists for the position visited The College, and students, faculty, staff, and alumni were given the opportunity to meet the candidates.

Dr. Betsy Vogel Boze had the privilege of being first, having her community forums on September 14-15 at the Performing Arts Center. With 20 years experience in multi-campus university environments, Dr. Vogel Boze was most recently Campus Dean and CEO at Kent State University at Stark in Ohio.



COB Presidential Candidates from l to r: , Dr. Betsy Vogel Boze, Dr. Susan Coultrap-McQuinn and Dr. Kathryn Bindon.

Photos courtesy of Wikipedia.org, google.com and Incie.org.

### CAMPUS WEIGHS IN...

After a lengthy introduction, Dr. Vogel Boze emphasized her understanding of the major impact the global economic crisis is having on the Bahamas, especially in regards to funding for education. With this in mind, she underlined her interest in "planning, accountability and coming up with new ways to make revenue without burdening students' pockets".

Quoting famous developmental psychologist Jean Piaget, Dr. Vogel Boze said, "Only education is capable of saving a country from collapse, be it a violent or gradual one." She claims her ultimate goal at The College would be to "help students become active citizens who will help lead and develop this country to its true potential and wants to raise the college's prestige".

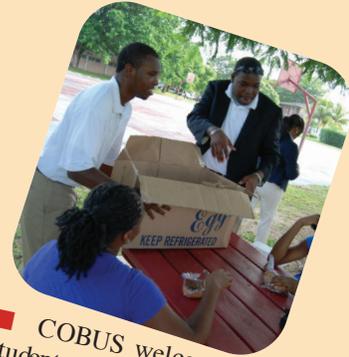
In addition, Dr. Vogel Boze has a strong stance on student relations, expressing her interest in getting to know the students

On September 16, Dr. Kathryn Bindon met the college community as the second presidential candidate. Dr. Bindon comes to COB with Presidential experience from Bahrain's Royal University for Women and Okanagan University College in British Columbia.

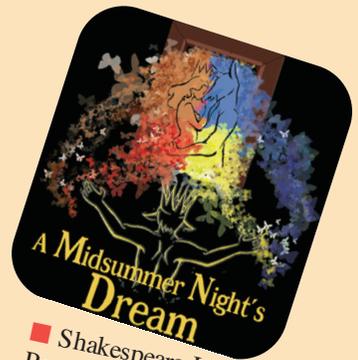
Dr. Bindon began with a presentation, detailing her

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## INSIDE



COBUS welcomes new students to campus pg. 3



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## UTEB ready for new contract

### Strike still a possibility if new contract does not meet union standards

by Reva Devi and Erin Knowles  
Staff Writers

Threats of COB lecturers going on strike as soon as the semester began have fizzled and died away. In truth, the Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas and The College administration are very close to signing an industrial agreement.

According to union member Mark Humes, only two areas of the agreement remain to be agreed upon, the salary package and the appendices, containing various forms that faculty members would have to fill out in their regular workings on campus.

Despite the slight progress, Mr. Humes asserts "we came off of the strike but we still have the option of going back on strike".

Although it is not the desire of the union to strike,

as union members have to agree to strike, it is confirmed that "the primary strike vote had never been suspended" so if the need arises Mr. Humes acclaims "we will".

As the Student union endeavors to provide social and academic events for the COB student body, UTEB has organized social and economic events to motivate faculty, primarily focused on getting the industrial agreement signed.

He also noted that symposium forums are held to highlight the talent and expertise of the faculty around the college and how this can be used to drive national development.

Mr. Humes concluded by emphasizing how impor-

tant it is for students to take note of ways they can ensure the College is accountable.

He further encouraged students to stand up to administration and say "give us what it is we are paying for".





### CAMPUS CARTOONS by S.A. Hanna

# THE OFFICIAL COB HIERARCHY

#### 1. COLLEGE PRESIDENT

An amorphous, ubiquitous being. No one is quite sure what it looks like, or if it even exist. Rumor has it, the College President has more incarnations than Dr. Who



#### 2. SPECTRUM CARTOONIST (Self explanatory)

#### 3. SPECTRUM STAFF WRITERS

(Also the geekiest kid from your High School and all Family Island Students.)



#### 4. FEMALE ART MAJORS (Specifically Keva and Marissa, CALL ME!!!)

#### 5. MALE ENGLISH MAJORS

(Because what is hotter than a guy who can write a proper sentence. They also do work in Tyler Perry Movies)



#### 6. 1st Year BIO/CHEM MAJORS (Soon to be MASS COMM Majors, and then EDU MAJORS)



#### 7. THE GUY

(He has been here for the past 8 years and is only here to hit on Freshman, no actual Major)



#### 8. TEACHERS (Because they will always get the short end of the stick, hence they are portrayed as stick figures, a poorly constructed metaphor)

# Freshman 101: A crash course in everything COB

by Reva Devi and Erin Knowles  
Staff Writers

So, you find yourself wandering the campus of COB, making friends and having a good time. So, you don't have the benefit of experience to know what to look out for while you're here. So, *The Spectrum* has gathered some valuable advice to impart.

- This is probably going to be your easiest semester, so don't make it hard on yourself by slacking off.

- Be nice to the lecturer, it will work in your favour.

- Develop time management skills (Balance is an essential part of life)

- Try to meet assignment deadlines because the extra 1 or 2 % actually helps.

- COB has maps if you don't know where things are, but it's much easier to just ask someone.

- The Language Resource Centre, located in F8 provides assistance with all essays.

- The Foreign Language Lab is F6 not the door before it or after it... just F6.

- Find an activity, preferably on campus. There are many clubs to choose from.



- Join the gym and take care of your body - it is free!

- Given the choice between a \$100 textbook or a pair of \$100 shoes, choose the textbook! (We'll consult Amazon later, but keep your priorities in order.)

- Make friends with sophomores, juniors and seniors, if you're lucky you can get free textbooks or at least get them cheap.

- Sometimes quick lunches aren't always healthiest. Try bringing a snack, it's much cheaper and possibly healthier.

- If overwhelmed, the counseling department is located 3rd floor Portia Smith building, along with tutoring and mentoring services.

- Dress responsibly. If it's raining, don't come in new white clothes or flip flops.

- If your friends cause you to skip class, not study, and miss assignment deadlines, perhaps you need new friends.



Students participate in activities around COB's Oakes Field to work. Campus.

Photos by S.A.Hanna

# COBUS Speaks: Welcome to COB

*COBUS: the voice, the difference and the movement*

by Dauran McNeil  
COBUS

COBUS would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new and returning students. Firstly, we would like to thank all students who have participated in the last COBUS general elections.

You have made it possible for the very hard working and excited executive members as well as your senators to serve in this administration. We also take this time to encourage each student to make it your mission to meet with your various school senators, to share any pressing issue or concerns you may have as it relates to your college experience.

Senators are your voice and your representative, so we implore you to take advantage of these willing and hard working individuals.

The COBUS administration has already begun working towards our platform and goals to serve students better and advocate for the well being of each student that attends the college. During this term, we will seek to improve our image among the student body and dispel all negative stereotypes and stigmas that may have been affiliated with COBUS. In addition, we also want to improve communication as well as our accessibility to you, the student body.

In our pursuit to serve you, we have revised, completed, tabled and passed the amendments to the COBUS constitution on August 27, 2010. The COBUS budget and Club Allocation form was also passed. In addition to these great accomplishments is also the revitalized COBUS tuck shop conveniently located on the ground floor of the Student Union Building (SUB); fully loaded with eats and treats to serve you. It also provides employment for hardworking students.



Members of COBUS greet returning students to campus.  
Photo courtesy of COBUS

In addition to these important strides, COBUS has also formed various committees to foster change and transformation on the college campus.

Take for example, the Student Union Building (SUB) Relocation committee. This committee has taken on a mandate for change, by presenting a proposal for relocation of the SUB, to the soon-to-be old library. Although it may seem impossible, it is endeavors like these we are seeking to advocate for students.

To find out more information and news on these projects and others of the like, be sure to look forward to the launch of our COBUS website, bimonthly COBUS newsletter and the COBUS notice boards (already in effect) to serve you better. Through initiatives like these we are seeking to inform and support.

We indeed anticipate a bright future with this COBUS administration and we look forward to your assistance in making this COBUS term a successful one that cannot be reckoned with.

## English Professor Launches Book

by Erin Knowles and S.A. Hanna  
Staff Writers

Assistant Professor of English at The College of the Bahamas, Ivy Higgins released her first novel, *To Market, To Market*, at ChapterOne Bookstore on September 23. The event marked the end of a process that spanned over half a decade, the total amount of time it took to write and publish the book.

Higgins spoke for some length on writing the novel and how, for most of the writing process she was apprehensive about calling the work "a book". Instead, she reflected on her choice of referring to it simply as a project.

She exposed feelings of uncertainty and doubt in the completion of the novel and did not want to disappoint if it didn't turn out the way she planned. To her own family members it was as if she was working on an assignment for school. Her youngest son inquisitively discovered what it was that she was doing and immediately told her husband.

The professor of eight years concluded the book in 2008. Although completed, she allowed no more than her husband and another colleague, Associate Professor Marjorie Downie, the opportunity to read the book. Despite the initial criticism and finally the approval, Mrs. Higgins remained hesitant about revealing her "project". She did discuss it with a few of her colleagues. As more and more became aware of her novel, the encouragement and support helped her to move forward, and as such, she attempted to thank as many of them as she could.

Dr. Marjorie Brooks-Jones, Chair in The School of English Studies, insisted she travel to an Academic conference in Kentucky, despite the reluctance she went and there she met with numerous individuals in the literary/publishing community. The printing and publishing of the book began to take shape; she credited that process to Dr. Brooks-Jones.

Mrs. Higgins then divulged that, once ■ Continued on page 5

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## Faculty Editorial: Becoming a University and the Production of New Knowledge

by Nicolette Bethel

Assistant Professor of Sociology

There's a lot of talk about COB and something we call "university status". Much of this talk centres around whether "we" are "ready" for that status; whether our government is ready, whether our students are ready, whether the faculty or the administration are ready, yadda yadda yippee ki-yi-yo.

It's all misdirection, and frightening misdirection at that. The very idea that any entity that calls itself a nation has to think about whether it is "ready" for a university calls into question the soundness of that entity. After all, African Americans in the USA had no doubt that they were "ready" to found universities as soon as they got their freedom; Clark Atlanta was established in 1865, Fisk in 1866, Howard in 1867 (you can find the whole list on Wikipedia). Forty-three years have passed since majority rule was attained here. I think we are probably ready.

But I digress, and my editor told me I have a 500 word limit. To the point, then. There is only one true thing that distinguishes a university from a college. Colleges transmit knowledge; universities produce it. And nations are built on new knowledge; you can't build a country if you don't know anything about it. The question isn't whether we're ready to be a university; the point is we have no choice. The nation needs its own knowledge, and this institution must produce it.

Because Bahamian students coming out of high school don't know some very fundamental things about the nation they

inhabit. (Yes, freshmen, I'm talking about you. No, freshmen, it's not mostly your fault.) Here are some of the things that my students have told me they don't know: what and where "Over the Hill" is; where Nassau's landmarks are, or how to get around downtown; what the significance of Majority Rule is and how their lives are still affected by our past; the role of Great Britain in shaping the modern Bahamas and our connections with the southern USA and the Caribbean; important milestones in colonial and postcolonial history, such as slavery and emancipation, the Haitian Revolution, the partition of Africa, apartheid and the struggle to end it, and what any of this has to do with the way they think about themselves in the world.

They don't know it because we don't teach it. And we don't teach it because we don't see the production of new knowledge, our own knowledge, as being important to who we are. No; we bleat about university status and invest in textbooks that are mass-produced Stateside and teach from those, instead of writing our own. And we are surprised that our young people don't know anything about Lynden Pindling or Cecil Wallace-Whitfield or Stafford Sands.

Here's a thought. Let's begin to behave as a university does: by doing research, publishing the results, and giving new Bahamians a corpus of work that is theirs and relevant and on which they can build their futures. And maybe we'll create both a university and a nation.

## Avoiding student contract woes: A lesson for Education Majors

by Erin Knowles

Staff Writers

Students pursuing a degree in education whether primary or secondary have been faced with the reality of such a choice: Follow thy contract. You may laugh and feel as though such a statement is not relevant to you, but before you know it you are requested to drop a class.

Recently a violation of contracts has been brought to the attention of the School of Education's Chair Dr. Beulah Farquharson. In an effort to ensure students are in sync, Dr. Farquharson has embarked on a task to solidify the importance of enrolling in classes as outlined on the four year agreement.

Although this task involves withdrawing students from classes, it is most beneficial. Working closely with Dr. Farquharson, Dr. Janice Munnings advocates to all students in all classes the benefits of abiding by the School's admonitions. The School of Education is devoted to students achieving success and the only way success can be gained is by adhering to the procedures. It is easy to assume, as many claim, Dr. Farquharson is unreasonable and irrational, but how can one argue with directions pertinent to success?

Despite what many believe, classes are not randomly selected. Courses are strategically allocated to provide necessary theory as well as practice, through the seminars. It may take awhile to realize the benefits of the courses, but it becomes quite clear when in EDU 325, EDU 005 and EDU 301. Having the ability to practice the foundations and fundamentals in Education as well as integrating technology into a lesson testifies to the coherence of the contract.

The contract also allocates the total number of credits expected to be earned in every semester. If, as an Education major, one decides to add or subtract classes without necessary authorization, an individual risks losing valuable information, practice and experience. On that note, students feeling capable of taking more than the allotted classes also known as 'overload', requires permission from not only your advisor but also the Chair, which would be Dr. Farquharson.

Students ought to be aware of the prerequisites for courses. If an individual is not registered for college level classes, i.e. 100-400 level classes, this individual should not be enrolled in any EDU Seminar Sessions. It is a disgrace to the student, the School of Education as well as the College of the Bahamas when one is out in the field and unable to understand what is being taught in a primary or secondary school setting. When a student has the foundations, whether College Prep or BGCSE's, they are equipped for a smooth transition from the seminars to the field as well as a successful college career.

With all that said, it is of utmost importance for all Education Majors to take a copy of both contracts and transcripts to respective advisors to ensure that you are enrolled in all the correct Seminar Sessions and other classes. Dr. Farquharson has arranged for class level meetings to address questions, concerns and updates. The dates for such meetings will be announced and posted in the Michael Eldon Complex.

If unsure of your class level, please speak with your advisor. At the end of your college career the benefits of the School of Education's initiatives will be had, and requirements for graduation will be the least of your worries.

## CHMI Toastmasters install new officers for 2010-2011

by Chavette Black

CHMI Toastmasters

This was the challenge given by our

President, Toastmaster Shavonne Sherman at CHMI's Installation ceremony, held Thursday, 26th August. Sherman stated that her message was clear as she rallied those present in the audience to help CHMI succeed, help members succeed, help the club succeed for this was the only way the year would be one that was meaningful.

Similarly, Guest Speaker: Toastmaster Patrice Williams-Gordon, President of the Action for Achievement Toastmasters Club 1095 and President of the Company, Deliberate Living, gave the entire audience a challenge: a challenge to realize that your gifts and talents are valu-

able and will be valued only if used on the right individuals, in the right time and in the right setting. She called for a self-evaluation for those who disagreed with her previous sentiments. She encouraged the incoming executives and audience members alike to give back into their communities.

Likewise, the Area 80 Governor, Toastmaster Lavell Watson, challenged the club to expand, branch out and reach higher heights and to go beyond the bar set by previous administrations. He told the club that this would in turn assist the area, the division and by greater extension the district. He congratulated the club, having attained five points already and encouraged them to go beyond the

requirements for President's Distinguished and reach for the stars.

A sense of pride and accomplishment could be felt as the new officers were inducted and the audience beamed and rallied around the officers, giving them a sense of encouragement and a helping hand if in need. Smiles could be seen from ear to ear as the President gleamed, "by the powers invested in me, this meeting is now adjourned." No one knows what to expect but by the looks of it, the CHMI bird as already begun to soar. Congrats TEAM, I wish you all the best for the incoming year!!

## COB Presidential Search

■ from page 1

thoughts on national development in The Bahamas, as well as The College's attainment of university status and capacity to drive national development. She closed her presentation with a quote from American educator Derek Bok: "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance."

Given the importance of accessibility of The College once it becomes a university, Dr. Bindon stated, "I believe the government has a responsibility to help students who want to succeed in life and go to university regardless of the [state of] economy."

When asked what attracted her to the position, Dr. Bindon mentioned having "the experience to help transition The College of the Bahamas to taking the remarkable opportunity of becoming a national university which in turn will help the country's development."

Dr. Bindon was certainly well-received and seemed a strong candidate.

The third and final candidate, Dr. Susan Coultrap-McQuinn, met with the college community on September 20. Dr. Coultrap-McQuinn comes to COB from the State University of New York, with over 30 years of academic experience at four institutions.

When asked why she chose the College of the Bahamas at this period in its development, Dr. Coultrap-McQuinn said, "I believe that this college, which isn't a community college in my opinion, has strong academic programs and can become a fully recognized international institution. It has impressive graduates throughout the world, 11 of whom are currently in government right now. Our values are basically the same. National development is important and that's why I chose The College of the Bahamas at this time."

Dr. Coultrap-McQuinn was also given the opportunity to discuss issues of course availability, COB's cultural identity, faculty/staff/student unions and College funding. COBUS Vice President Nevar Smith queried her stance on meeting with the student body on a regular basis, to which she responded positively.

It's interesting to note that all three candidates are women from North America, who've not previously had the opportunity to live and work in The Bahamas. Though some may not be satisfied with this, it is simply a demonstration of globalization at work, something The Bahamas can't argue with anymore.

■ from page 3

people had recovered from the initial surprise that she had spent years working in secret on *To Market, To Market*, the question often posed to her, was "what is the book about?" She borrowed a phrase from the famous poet, Derek Walcott and exclaimed, "It is about a lot of things". The book deals with migration, infidelity, endurance, race and many other timely subjects. It tells the story of four characters from different

Caribbean countries.

She dedicated the novel to her mother, who died in summer of this year. Her heartfelt regret that her mother was unable to read the novel moved her to tears. She reminisced on what it would be like to bask in the glory and praise of her mother. She imagined her mother in the streets proclaiming, "Look at my daughter, my daughter write book". She read excerpts from the novel and wowed the audience each time.

Among the eager attendees of the event was, of course, her husband, Dr. Earla Carey-Baines, President of The College of the Bahamas, The Hon. Desmond Bannister, Minister of Education, and numerous friends of Dr. Higgins as well as students.

Dr. Higgins' novel is for sale at the Chapter One Bookstore, investing in such a timely piece will prove entertaining and informative.



■ Mrs. Ivy Higgins proudly debuts her novel. *photo by S.A. Hanna*

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## Shakespeare in Paradise returns

by S. A. Hanna  
Staff Writer

If you missed it last year, its back. Shakespeare in Paradise is on its 2nd year and this time it promises to be even more entertaining and culturally stimulating. The theatre festival, which spans from September 29 to October 11, will feature, 9 plays and various poetry and drama readings.

This year, under the directorship of Patti-Anne Ali, A Midsummer's Night Dream has been dramaturged by COB Students, and will be performed with a Bahamian twist.

This classic Shakespearean plot takes place in Cat Island 1910. The play still holds all of the traditional trappings of rhyming couplets and standard 16th Century English syntax.

Shakespeare is not the only playwright to be featured this year. Same as the last festival, there will be an eclectic mix of plays and performances, dealing with various social themes and issues.

Plays that will be performed during the festival are: Woman Take Two, God's Trombones, Dat Bahamian Ting, The

World is My Home - The Life of Paul Robeson, and One Flesh, two one act plays, Come Back to Me and Manikato

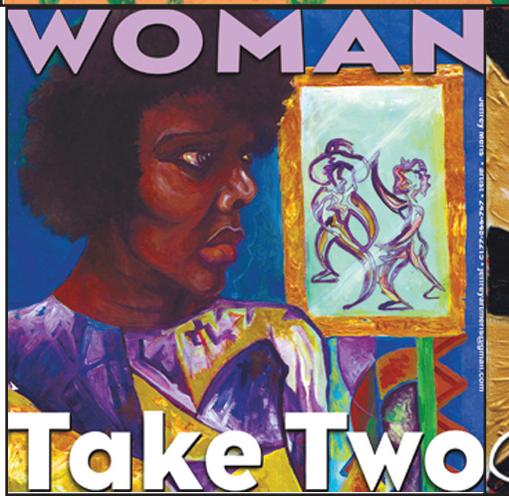
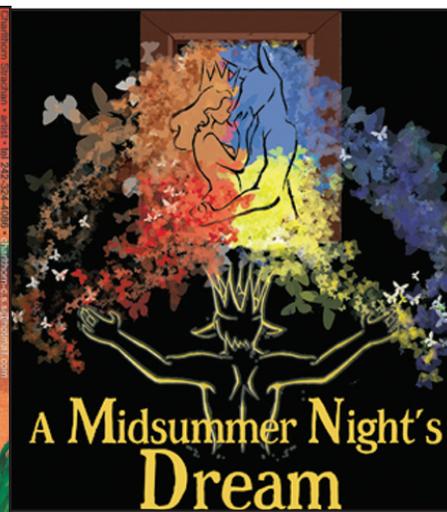
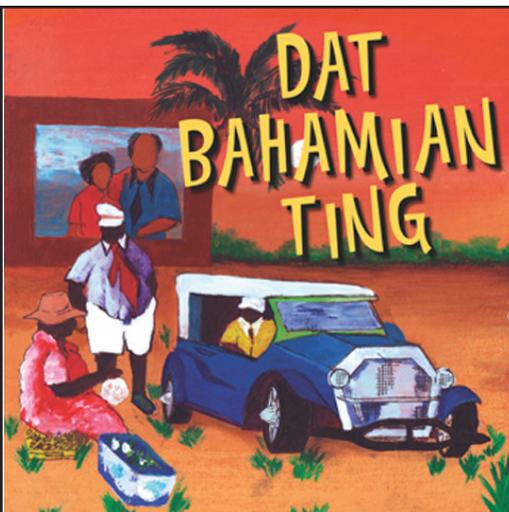
The festival also includes Storytelling by Derek Burrows and Horn of Plenty featuring Indio.

The festival is the brainchild of Ringplay Productions, with the hope of helping to further develop local theatre and to expose the Bahamian audiences to more theatre culture.

Part of the whole experience that they hope to build has to do with the unique venues many of the plays and poems will be performed at.

Visit [shakespeareinparadise.org](http://shakespeareinparadise.org) for a complete list of location dates and times of performances.

Tickets for plays are \$25.00, with the exceptions of Student Matinees, Student/Senior discount preview (September 30th at 8:00 pm with ID), and the opening night gala. A free Play Reading Series will also be held on September 2nd and 9th at ChapterOne Bookstore.



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# COB Students Reflect on Oil Spill

by Bradley Worrell

Staff Writer

So apparently some oil leaked out of a well in the Gulf of Mexico...under the sea...and killed the little mermaid; a beloved Disney figure, perhaps it explains why so many people are up in arms over the recent catastrophe. Or perhaps it was simply the seeming lack of urgency in addressing the issue, a sentiment shared by Senior Social-Work Major Kiesha Rolle:

"I think it's messed up, I think it took too long for action to be taken. I mean, I know that you don't dive in without knowing anything, but both the environment and people's lives were affected by this."

As it stands we all know, (or should know unless you've been living underneath a rock for the past 5-20 years) that oil is not the future of energy. Fossil fuels are finite in supply and the U.K. based website carboncounted.co.uk states: experts project that even with the shift toward alternative forms of energy, the world supply of fossil fuels may last only another 50 years at best. In fact, it has been theorized that Uncle Sam was so concerned over the potential loss of the vital fluid that he decided to make an unscheduled trip to the Middle East.

That however is a tale best left for another time. Let us return to the topic at hand, the emission of the highly toxic, viscous, life altering substance referred to as oil.

For those who may not have followed the story, according to the article compilations found on The New York Times interactive website nytimes.com: on April 20th 2010 an oil rig owned by the mega-corporation BP p.l.c. experienced a series of mechanical failures, exacerbated by the negligence of persons who were responsible for the maintenance of said rig. This resulted in an explosion on site which claimed the lives of 11 people and destroyed the machinery that prevented oil from flowing into the sea.

The spewing underwater geyser of crude matter was eventually stemmed on July 15th, almost 3 months later. It has been estimated that before the well could be capped a total of 4.9 million gallons of oil escaped into the ocean. Though BP attempted to stem the tide of darkness, most of their initial efforts failed, it was only with the help of the U.S. Coast Guard and other parties that cleanup and prevention efforts attained any measure of success.

Skimming the oil off of the surface of the water before burning it was one of the more practical methods used, though a plethora of various techniques were applied. Much of the criticism and hostility directed toward BP was seemingly a result of the length of time it took to resolve a disaster which has had an effect not only on the ecosystem but on person's livelihoods.

English/Education Major Valicia Rolle expressed similar views when she said: "My biggest concern about the oil spill epidemic was the focus. In the beginning marketeers were more concerned about the oil lost which of course interpreted into revenue lost. Many of my friends were more concerned about the possible increase of gas more than the millions of marine life destroyed. It was really repulsive to see how long it took before the focus shifted from the monies lost to the life lost."

The Gulf of Mexico was an important source of revenue for many fishing and tourism industries which will be forced to acquire seafood from elsewhere for an undetermined length of time for fear of poisoning consumers. Thus far BP has spent at least 1.25 billion dollars in clean-up and compensation costs.

Contrary to the thoughts of other students of C.O.B First year Architecture Major Lauren Williams' had this to say: "I believe it's a simple mistake, everybody makes them. I mean it took a little longer than we expected to take to clean it up.... but all in all I wouldn't say stop buying from them because they made an oil spill. That's just selfish, I see people getting angry and saying they're not buying from them anymore."

Drilling for oil in the ocean is a moronic idea at best considering the potentially disastrous consequences. Non-the-less, BP was allowed to do it and many persons enjoyed the benefits reaped. After all, oil is used in the production of coal and different types of fuels that help make our lives so wonderful; from the gas that goes into your car to the jet fuel in our aeroplanes, and the closer the source the cheaper it is; everybody's happy.

Everybody's happy, until something goes terribly wrong; at which point almost everyone seems to forget how much they benefited from the idiocy they condoned, and see fit to point fingers and slap wrists.



The recent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico spread thousands of miles causing a devastating effect on the economies of several countries and American States including Louisiana. While clean up efforts are ongoing, the actual fiscal ramifications is still undetermined.

Photos courtesy of www.google.com

## COB's Art Department gets Dissed?

by Alicia Cartwright

Staff Writer

Due to recent events, one must wonder if The College of the Bahamas is trying to slowly eliminate its Art and Design program. Beginning this current Fall semester, one of the art students' work spaces has been relocated from room T24 to room T20.

According to part-time art-lecturer, Katrina Cartwright the reason for the room switch was that "technology needed somewhere to put the tech equipment and T24 had a large enough door to fit them."

Room T20, unlike T24 (claimed to be on loan from technology department'-art student), does not have running water and is considerably smaller making it difficult for art students to comfortably work on their assignments. Also, there is a lack of proper ventilation, air conditioning and adequate work tables. This brings art students to wonder what is being done with the \$150 to \$200 they spend on lab fees.

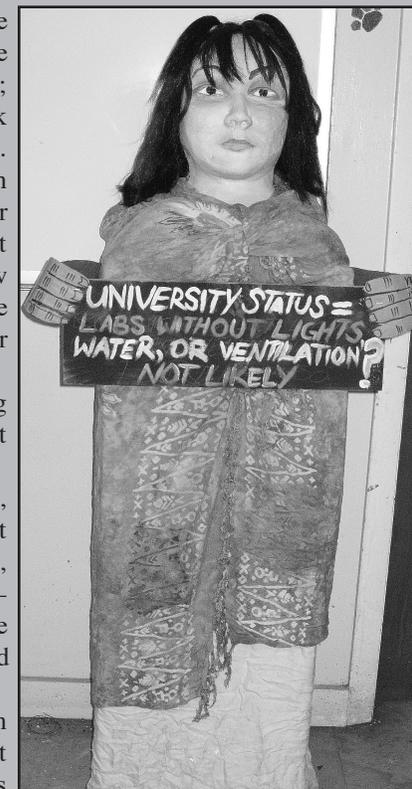
Aside from T20, the art students have use of S1 which too is considerably small and only has one working faucet. With the relocation from room T24 to room T20 the students lost the use of the lockers for which they used to store items such as plaster, paint, unfinished work, etc; this privilege was only just given back this week after much complaint and an article in The Tribune.

Nacoya Ingraham (art student) feels as though the college is "not checking for artists", she further claims the C.O.B administration "treat art as if it is nothing". These accusations are fuelled by how "the staff that deals with the technical part of the classrooms has not maintained the equipment (air conditioning, fans, etc)".

In both S1 and T20 neither the air conditioning nor fans work; recently, a ceiling fan fell almost hitting an Art student.

Besides the room relocation, art students, approximately forty, are quite upset with the fact that after five weeks of classes C.O.B's bookstore, Chapter One, has yet to bring in the clay necessary for certain classes. As a result students are forced to seek clay elsewhere; some have resorted to importing clay from the United States.

Art students continue to express their concern about the negativity and lack of interest in the Art program. They note that although the program is so disrespected, the C.O.B administration further upsets them by naming the new library after a known lover of the Arts, Mr. Harry C. Moore, isn't that adding insult to injury?



Art Students craftily create a depiction of their protest Friday.

Photo by Kara Cartwright

# Movie Review

BY ALICIA CARTWRIGHT

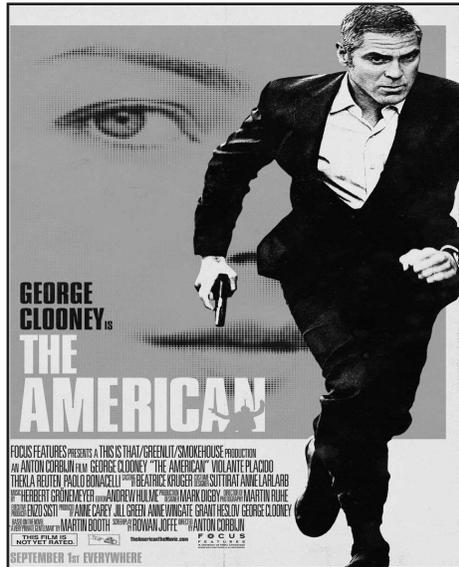
## THE AMERICAN

The American starring George Clooney as Jack/Edward aka Mr Butterfly is a drama/thriller about the last assignment of an assassin. This movie is set almost entirely in Italy and seemingly portrays everything in a very artful way from landscape to erotic scenes to the angles in which each scene is shot.

Unlike most 'last assignment' movies the focus is not on action and graphics but instead on emotion and the actual skill of an assassin making it much more realistic.

The actual plot of the movie begins with a job in Sweden going bad leaving Jack to hide out in Italy. There he befriends a priest, Father Benedetto (Paolo Bonacelli), who can be considered to not have lived a not very priestly life, and ends up falling for a prostitute named Clara (Violante Placid).

Due to Jack's way of life he is unable to trust anyone and always wakes up as if traumatised and ready to kill anyone or anything. These actions are not necessarily unneeded considering that while he does his last assignment (gun craftsmanship) the Swiss is after him and later his employer puts out a hit for him.



■ Courtesy of Focus Films Ltd.

The American does not have much of a soundtrack however considering the portrayal of the movie it does not matter. Overall I would say this is a good movie and is an excellent portrayal of how an assassin's life probably really is like-to always be scared for your life and lonely. Favourite meaningful quote-"You cannot deny the existence of hell. You live in it. It is a place without love." Father Benedetto.

## Literary Expressions COMBUSTION

Terror! Panic! The fearful scent of adrenaline induced sweat; fast, harsh breaths and burning lungs, flared nostrils, senses reeling, his stocky frame wracked by sobs, yet hazel eyes wide, watching, picking up on the most miniscule of movements...but everything lay still.

Where was it? The thing that hunted him, a thing of impossible proportions, limitless stamina, a being comprised of little more than shadow, a living nightmare. This was no child's fantasy monster that lay in wait under your bed or lurked in your closet; there were no red glowing eyes, no long forked tongue, no slaving jaws filled with honey-coated words and poisoned fangs.

There would be no luring, no enticement; the thing would find him...and when it did the screams it would bring forth from him would be capable of snapping bones like dead-wood; he'd seen it happen to his colleagues only moments ago.

A short, sudden howl ripped through the stifled silence, shredding bark, leaves and trees like paper. Cursing himself a fool he forced himself to his feet and started moving again. His strength was almost spent and now he could hear his swiftly approaching pursuer and the oaks it left crashing in its wake. He knew then with a certainty that chilled

## Humor Column

by S.A. Hanna

### If it's not funny, that's because it's true

The Junior High teacher walks into the room with her laptop, prepared to teach the children in her homeroom more than just how to count to 20; she's going to teach them about life, which you assume that if they hadn't learned by now, why bother?

Perhaps she has delusions of changing the world. Perhaps she desires her own "To Sir, With Love" moment unaware that although the part was played by a Bahamian it was based on the life of a Guyanese, and the sequel "To Sir With Love 2: The Book's on the Other Foot" didn't do quite as well because some

things don't work so good out of context. Whatever the reason, she pulls up The Tribune web-site and goes to the story

that she feels the children would best relate to: "The failure of the Bahamian education system". She reads a quote from the Minister of Education about "pupils unable to join the workforce". She looks up. What luck, now these children would see the state of affairs they are in, what the wide world has prepared and what they must do to prepare to become viable members of society once they matriculate out of the system.

"What do you think it means? 'Pupils unable to join the work force?' What

could that mean?"

Proudly, one of the brighter students in her grade 9 class raises her hand excited, bursting to answer.

"Bad eyes." Of course, the humor is in the fact that she is right in one of those hilariously ironic ways, but not really because soon we'll all feel the wrath and destruction of our ignorance rain down on us. Pupils unable to join the work force means "bad-eyes" because apparently no one sees it as a real problem that needs real attention, except the teachers.

So to all the teachers who are out there and you think that it is a conspiracy for

children to not learn, you're wrong. It's not a conspiracy, its public policy. What else do you call it when every-

one is not only aware that so many of our students are failing, but they actually expect it?

What can I say, teachers are saints. Heaven belongs to you, for truly you are all martyrs for the cause.

I know what you're saying, "Alright, Stephen, you discussed what you feel is a major issue in society, now what are you going to do about it?" I'll do exactly what every other able-bodied, self-righteous, Bahamian, pseudo-intellectual would do, not a fireball thing.

him to the core that he was doomed; but he'd not die like a coward, head bowed and tail between his legs, he'd face the thing in the glade.

Stumbling forward, branches whipping him unmercifully, leaving him marked and bleeding, knotting his dark, close-cropped hair; he fervently wished he had the moon or even the stars to see by; but no natural light would shine in the presence of this monstrosity. Another howl tore through the foliage with a frenzy that pulled the very air from his lungs; and he almost went down then, gagging on the fetid stench of rotting flesh and curdled blood that assaulted him.

Catching himself he pushed his already tortured muscles and sprinted the final few meters to the glade. The thing could not be more than two or three miles behind him; he had only a few minutes to prepare his defense before it would be upon him.

He would do his best, he was no Reulal...and certainly no magus, but others who had sought to bring him down had found him a powerful spell caster; his will allowing him to dominate sigils of which he had no real under-

■ Continued on page 10

# The Spectrum Team

S-3 Art Block  
The College/University of The Bahamas  
Oakes Field Campus  
Tel: (242) 302-4483 Fax (242) 302-4539  
Email *The Spectrum* at:  
spectrum@cob.edu.bs

## EDITORIAL TEAM

**Editor In Chief** . . . . Reva Devi, *PUBA*  
**Production Manager** .Travis Cartwright-Carroll, *ENG*

## WRITERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

### Staff Writers.....

Lamech Johnson, *MASS COM*

R. Machel Major, *PSY*

Bradley Worrell, *ENG*

**Sports Editor**..... Imran Rahiem, *CIS*

**Copy Editor**..... Erin Knowles, *EDU*

**Cartoonist**. . . . . S.A. Hanna, *ENG*

**Photographers**.....Alicia Cartwright, *ENGR*

S.A. Hanna, *ENG*

### FACULTY ADVISOR

*Vanessa L. Clarke*

The Spectrum is published monthly during the fall and spring semesters.

The views expressed in the Opinions section are not those of the Spectrum Newspaper or The College of The Bahamas.

*Letters to the Editor are encouraged. Please drop off at S-3, Art Block, Oakes Field Campus, or email spectrum@cob.edu.bs. Length should not exceed 350 words. All letters must be signed and include contact information for verification. The Spectrum has the right to withhold any submission from publication and will not consider more than two letters from the same individual on one topic. The Spectrum reserves the right to edit all letters and submissions for content, clarity and length.*

# Adapting to Change

by R. Machel Major  
Staff Writer

Recently I suffered a huge blow to my perfectly planned out life – you know that one with the dates attached to the goals, both long and short term ones? Yes...those plans. They were violently overturned and as is my custom, I freaked out!

I cried, I complained, I wallowed in self pity – poor me! Of course because no temper tantrum is complete without a bout of depression, I was depressed.

This unexpected change in my well laid out plans through me for a huge loop and much like the prima-donna diva Christian common to the western hemisphere in this twenty-first century I immediately began to shut down.

And the saddest part of the whole thing was that in my selfish, self-centered...okay, okay my narcissistic tunnel vision is that I began to scream as did the disciples on the storm tossed lake – “Master, carest thou not that we perish?”

I began to question the faithfulness and sovereignty of a God who to date had never

failed or faltered at His word.

I was disappointed because my plans were “ruined” but interestingly enough, never once did I seek His face and inquire of His plan. I mean shouldn’t that have been my first response considering that I end every prayer with a line given in the model prayer, also known as the Lord’s prayer – “Thy will be done on earth as it is done in Heaven.”

So if it is that I want the will of God to be done in my life, and if it is that I trust Him the way I say I do because He’s been faithful the way He promised to be then maybe my disappointing situation is not a disappointing situation at all, maybe, just maybe it is a divine appointment set up by God to ensure I fulfill my purpose.

So here’s some words of advice to all of us who boldly declare that we are Christians, especially as we begin a new school year – when unexpected changes occur remember it is our response that will determine whether we are disappointed or we “diss” a divine appointment.



## Literary Expressions

Continued from page 9

standing; sigils that would have melted the marrow of others his rank. He was of the earth, his eyes slid closed in concentration and as he connected to it he felt the sigils on his palms come alive. Calling to the others, they swam lazily around his hands, lighting on his fingertips before moving on as others quickly took their place.

Wonderful searing heat welled up in him, driving away the chill as magma ran through the sluices embedded in his fore-arms; giving his pale faintly luminous skin a ruddy complexion. Grasping at the sigils he needed, he had just begun casting the spell when he felt its presence.

“No! It’s here already! I didn’t even hear it approach, how! How!” Eyes snapping open he rushed the spell as the thing launched itself at him with frightening speed, long sinewy limbs thrusting out eager for first blood.

As one clawed hand found his cheek the

earth exploded, roots pushing out, vines growing at insane speed, wrapping around the creature, pushing it back, strangling it!

For one giddy moment he thought he might triumph, but then the monster regained it’s footing and came at him again, ripping through the growth in a maddened bloodlust.

Too slow, he brought his hands up. “Too slow, too slow!” His mind shouted. The glade rocked from the resulting miscast spell, turning the once tranquil glade into a hell, alight with a sinister red glow. Strength spent, he lay on his back, watching as the thing advanced through the flames, even as they consumed it, licking the blackened husk and searing it’s body.

Howling in pain and insane fury, the thing reached for his head, and as he finally saw the creatures face mirrored only in it’s eyes, he let loose a scream that shattered his own eardrums.

# SPORTS

After The Game.  
Redemption 7:

## Michael Vick's Return

by Imran Rahiem  
Sports Editor

In 2007, number seven for the Atlanta Falcons, Michael Vick was accused of and plead guilty to Federal dog fighting charges in the United States. However in 2008, after paying his debt to society, he was cut by the Atlanta Falcons and most NFL teams refused to sign him for fear of losing their fan base's respect and revenue. Many general managers and journalists said no NFL franchise needed the attention the number seven wearing Michael Vick would bring or his perceived bad decisions. Only one team, the City of Brotherly Love's Philadelphia Eagles gave him a contract and a chance. Philadelphia at the time, had two very talented quarterbacks.

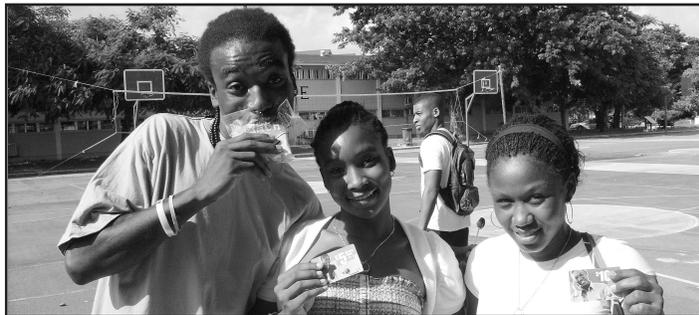
The starter at the time Michael Vick was signed was Donovan McNabb. McNabb a six-time, probowler who led the Eagles to five NFC Championship and one Superbowl appearance. The second string quarterback at the time was Kevin Kolb who was the second round draft pick in 2006. One of the questions surrounding the signing was where would Michael Vick fit in?

When the 2010 NFL season opened for the Philadelphia Eagles on September 12th, the Eagles faced the Green Bay Packers at home and Donovan McNabb was slated to play for the Eagles archrival Washington Redskins and Kevin Kolb had been named the starter after Donovan was traded to Washington in the off season. Michael Vick began the 2010 season as Kevin Kolb's backup and one play away from playing full time as the Eagles quarterback.

In the second quarter of the opening game of the Eagles' season, in front of 62,000 fans, Kevin Kolb was pulverized by number 52 Clay Mathews of the Green Bay Packers and sent to the sidelines where his health was evaluated.

Continued on page 12

## Welcome to the Fall 2010 Semester



Winners of the first Hopscotch Tournament.

Photos by Imran Rahiem

The Athletics Department welcomes all new and returning students! There are many ways for you to become involved in campus activities outside of the classroom, and we want you to take advantage of them. This Fall, there will be friendly competition (intramurals) between teams in basketball, volleyball, softball and

## COB Women's Soccer Loses Scrimmage

by Alisha Bethel  
Staff Writer

A newly laid out soccer pitch was christened as the College of the Bahamas women's soccer team hosted a scrimmage match against the Trevecca Nazarene University. The Trevecca Nazarene University woman's soccer team is a part National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and had originally come to the Bahamas on a mission trip. They arrived Saturday August 14, 2010 to conduct a soccer camp at the H.O Nash Jr. high school. The camp lasted from Monday to Thursday and hosted children from elementary school and up.

The team 22 girls and their coach Brett Armstrong were invited to play against COB on Thursday August 19, 2010 by head coach Vandyke Bethel. The game took place on COB own soccer field located on campus behind the wellness center.

As the girls from both teams warmed up, students, other college athletes, and parents gathered to spectate. Interim College President, Dr. Earla Carey-Baines, and vice president of student affairs, Mr. Colyn Major showed their support by attending the game alongside COB's Athletic Director, Kimberly Rolle.

When the game got under way the team from Trevecca began their very aggressive attack on the COB team immediately pressuring their defense while putting the COB goal keeper, Charmika Bullard, to the test.

The ball mostly remained on COB's end of the field and within the first seven or eight minutes Trevecca player Aubree Thomas scored the first goal on the game. Minutes after, Thomas' fellow player Heather Hatstead scored the second.

For the rest of the first half the COB girls tried to answer back

flag football. No team? No problem! We'll find a team for you.

There's also recreational swimming, a bowling league and the ultimate board game challenge where you get to test your skills in backgammon, checkers, connect four, and dominoes.

We also want you to take advantage of the Wellness Centre, which is free with your ID. We have professionals to assist you with weight loss, diets, stress, weight training and more. We also want you to support your fellow students who play on our sports teams. While teams travel to compete, there will be opportunities for you to cheer on your classmates when they play locally.

Keep an eye out for these game schedules posted on campus bulletin boards, email notices from the Office of Communications, information in the next edition of the Spectrum or you may follow us on [www.twitter.com/cobathletics](http://www.twitter.com/cobathletics) and [www.facebook.com/TheCollegeofTheBahamasAthleticsDepartment](http://www.facebook.com/TheCollegeofTheBahamasAthleticsDepartment); email us at [athletics@cob.edu.bs](mailto:athletics@cob.edu.bs) or visit us in the Wellness Centre. Make it a great year!



COB's Women's Soccer Team hard at practice.

Photo by Alisha Bethel

by pushing the ball into Trevecca's half of the field, making a few scoring attempts, but the combination of Trevecca goal keeper Rebeccah Headrick and mistakes of the COB players hindered their chances. Minutes before the second half ended Trevecca goalie, Headrick, took a dangerous dive for a ball and collided with COB player Tara Ambrister. Tara left the game with a knee injury. The second half ended 2-0 with Trevecca leading.

When the second half began COB immediately tried playing more aggressively as Coach Bethel screamed "test the keeper!" and "stay switched on!" from the sidelines in order to keep his girls focused and make a comeback.

Bullard played excellently from start to finish making good saves and commanding her team during her time on the soccer pitch. She was replaced during the

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# SPORTS

## After The Game.

■ Continued from page 11

After that it was decided Kevin Kolb had sustained a concussion and under NFL rules was not allowed to participate in football games until an independent evaluator had cleared him.

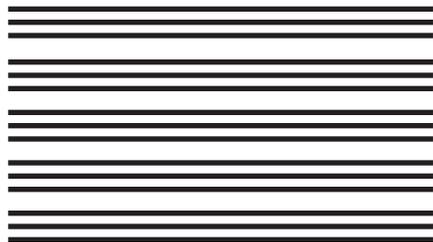
When the third quarter started, Michael Vick took the field as the full time Eagles quarterback for the rest of the game, the score was 13-3.

Michael Vick went on to complete 16 of 24 passes thrown for 175 yards and rushed the ball 11 times for 103 yards. Beyond the statistics however, Michael Vick's decisions as a quarterback kept the Eagles' chances of coming from behind to win the game alive.

He did this with a limited playbook and a small number of practice sessions the week before. Despite entering the game midway in the second quarter, Michael Vick gained 278 of the 320 total yards of offense the Eagles had on that day.

In fact, Michael Vick almost brought the Eagles back to win the game. The Eagles lost by seven to the Green Bay Packers, 27-20.

At the end of the game, as time expired, the crowd cheered Michael Vick. He wore the same number he wore for the Atlanta Falcons, the team who exiled him. For the fans in Philadelphia, number seven was what they needed.



## Sports Poll

### The Pulse of COB SportsFans

Which two teams will play in the NBA 2011 Finals? (16 polled)

Lakers and Heat	12
Lakers and Bulls	2
Mavericks and Heat	1
Thunder and Heat	1
Lakers and Celtics	2
Lakers and Magic	1

## COB Women's Soccer Team Loses Scrimmage

■ Continued from page 11

second half for a well deserved rest. As the second half pressed on COB Fiona Tucker and Gissell Outtins of the home team played excellently, fighting back against the Trevecca players. However the COB team couldn't hold back Trevecca and were scored by Trevecca players Justine Forth and Audury Robinson, respectively. Trevecca won 4-0.

Trevecca Coach Brett Armstrong said that he thought his girls had an advantage since they had played a game earlier that week which was why they were able to start off quickly in the first few

minutes of the game. He also expressed being happy with the way the Trevecca soccer girls soccer team played and their ball movement which he felt won the game. Coach Armstrong also thought that the COB girls played an excellent game and he commended their goalie for great game play and consistency. He felt that his team just had more depth in players than the home team.

Coach Bethel was not all too satisfied with the way the COB girls soccer team played and said, "The game wasn't to the expectation or level that I would like to see the girls play." He went on to say, that they need to "just play the game and maybe they'll surprise themselves."

## Hopscotch Tournament September, 2010

COB's first ever Hopscotch Tournament was held on September 8th, 2010. It featured three very athletic participants, Marcia Tucker, Kia and Kevin and many fans.

The tournament began with Kia going first, followed by Marcia and then Kevin. All participants were asked to use their own markers to place their mark on their hopscotch board.

The board was placed at the request of COB Athletics, between two basketball courts and in front of the bleachers for maximum visibility. The strategic location worked well and by 4pm, many fans were seated on the bleachers preparing for the tournament.

After a brief overview of the rules for the players, the tournament began at 4:15pm.

The rules for hopscotch were:

1. The first player to reach the end of the board wins first place.
2. If a player touches any of the borders of the board, he or she loses a turn.
3. If a players' marker does not fall



into the space of their current place in the game then that player loses a turn.

First place awarded to Marcia Tucker, second to Kia and third to Kevin. First place is a \$10 phone card, second a \$5 phone card and third a honey bun.

So far,

Women	1
Men	0

## Spectrum Sports Upcoming Contests

Pick the winners in these games and win a \$20 phone card. Every one who picks all these games correctly wins.

**October 3-Baltimore Ravens at Pittsburgh Steelers**

**October 10-Minnesota Vikings at New York Jets**

**October 17-Seattle Seahawks at Chicago Bears**

**October 24-New England Patriots at San Diego Chargers**

**October 3-Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts.**

**October, 2010-Cincinnati Bengals at Atlanta Falcons  
New York Giants at Houston Texans**

Email your picks by October 1st to and you can win a \$5 phone card if you get all correct to us at [spectrum@cob.edu.bs](mailto:spectrum@cob.edu.bs)

All players have to be cob students, include your student number and full name, no nicknames. If you win stop by the office on November 1st for your phonecard.

Spectrum fantasy basketball will begin in Thursday October 28 at 2:15pm. The winner of COB fantasy basketball wins a \$20 phone card. Sign up by emailing the spectrum sports desk at [spectrum@cob.edu.bs](mailto:spectrum@cob.edu.bs)

## Flag Football Kickoff 2010

The College of The Bahamas (COB) Flag Football League, COBFFL, kicked off on Thursday August 24th, 2010 with a huge cast of athletes. The game featured professional football players, pickup game stars and new comers.

The first game of the season featured 10 players, all COB Students, all of whom had prepared during the summer for the COB flag football season. Julio Roberts informed the Spectrum that he had spent the entire summer playing football at Cabbage Beach to prepare for the flag football season.

The two professional football players showed exceptional discipline and ball skills. Chris Nixon made several tough catches while keeping his team's hope of winning alive. Roberts also made several great catches to move the ball downfield for his team. The game ended in a tie.

The College of The Bahamas developmental league plays flag football every Thursday at 2pm on the soccer field on COB's campus.

