Patriotic Surveillance
FBI could be watching what you read

By David Maccar

Through a recent meeting of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and the significant impact of the Patriot Act on the lives of students and anyone doing research in specific areas was brought to the forefront.

Students, faculty members or administrators could have their library records examined if there is something in their FBI file that implies the possibility of terrorist ties. For example, if a pre-med student with a Middle-Eastern background checks out a book that criticizes the Bush administration or details biological diseases, they could be seen as a potential terrorist, according to experts and library staff members.

There is a provision in section 215, Title II of the United States Patriot Act that states the FBI could be watching what you read. Librarians say several books from Moore Library, which could be used for legitimate research, may attract unwanted attention from the FBI because of Section 215 of the U.S. Patriot Act.

"It’s really that idea pushed farther in the U.S. Patriot Act. I don’t believe that you or I or anyone should be investigated simply because we are doing some work on the Middle East or terrorism or taking a position on a philosophy paper defending violence against corporations."

Duffel-bagged duck causes night-class chaos

By Stephanie Mostaccio

Professor Kelly Griffin’s Public Relations night class experienced a frightening episode on Thursday, Nov. 18, when a black duffel-bag was thrown through the classroom window.

At 8:15 p.m. Professor Griffin and the students were startled by the sound of rustling outside the classroom window. Dalisa Abreu, one of the students in the class, also said that she saw someone who was dressed in black by the window, but she did not think anything of it.

However, what followed really “shook their nerves” as Melissa Riley, another student in the class stated. A few moments later, someone pushed a large, black duffel-bag through the window and violently shook it. The bag was then dropped on the floor of the classroom, and the bandits shouted the words “hit the floor” which resonated through the room.

“I definitely thought it was a bomb,” Riley said. “I’m pretty sure everyone else did as well.”

Immediately after the bag was thrown into the room, chaos broke out. Students were screaming, desks were knocked over and everyone was tripping over each other.

“It was really scary because we didn’t know what was in the bag,” Abreu said.

The class soon scattered, some ducking down under desks and others fleeing the classroom for the hallway. Abreu was one of the students who left the classroom. However, she did not leave the building. She was too scared to go outside because it was still unknown if the individuals who threw the bag were still outside or if they were...