

## Obama addresses equal pay for women

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA  
Staff Writer

Despite working diligently to acquire her degree, Tatiana Cardona fears the gender pay gap that she may be subject to in her field of study.

“Men working in physical therapy normally earn a higher starting salary than women, and this is for doing the same amount of work that a woman is doing,” said Cardona, a senior physical therapy major.

This is a fear faced by not only FIU students, but many women entering the workforce.

On April 8, President Barack Obama signed two executive actions designed

to address the pay inequality issue that has been plaguing the country even after 50 years since the signing of the Equal Pay Act.

Of the executive actions, one blocks federal contractors from punishing employees who openly discuss their salaries, and the other seeks to produce regulations that motivate federal contractors to release voluntarily to the government employee payment data based on race and gender.

The executive actions preceded attempts to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, which aims to obstruct not just government employers, but all employers, from going after employees who discuss information about their salaries.

The act was struck down by Senate Republicans on Wednesday.

The president’s executive actions were interestingly signed on National Equal Pay Day, a date that draws attention to the general idea of how far into the year a woman in the U.S. must work in order to receive the same amount of money that the average American male earned the year before.

While Obama declared in a press conference that women make 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man, the Pew Research Center estimates that the correct figure is 84 cents.

“Secrecy was an issue in the past, so forcing employers to let workers know what they’re making will actually improve women’s salaries.”

Jaclyn O’Connor  
President  
Women’s Law Society

## HEATED DEBATE



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Andy Fernandez, (left) majoring in religious studies, argued against Open Outreach speaker Brother Jesse’s denunciations on acts such as premarital sex and drinking as students gathered around chiming in on the discussion.

The 84-cent figure suggests that progress has been made, as in 1980 women earned only 64 cents for every dollar earned by a male counterpart, according to the Pew Research Center.

“Although the legislation may not solve all the problems we have right now, I think it’s good that it’s allowing the country to have a discussion on the issue that women do make less for the same amount

of work being done by a man,” said Sheri-Gaye Powell, a third-year student at the College of Law and vice president of the Women’s Law Society.

Jaclyn O’Connor, president of the Women’s Law Society, also agreed that progress is being made.

“I think it’s a great move that’s going to help women and increase their pay overall,” she said. “Secrecy was an issue in the past, so forcing

employers to let workers know what they’re making will actually improve women’s salaries.”

Powell and O’Connor drew attention to a symposium hosted last year by the College of Law, which addressed the challenges that women have faced in order to ensure equal pay rights, the first symposium of its kind in FIU’s legal community.

SEE PAY, PAGE 2

## University promotes healthy study habits for finals

KIERON WILLIAMS  
Staff Writer

Students feel the pressure rising with finals week just around the corner. With grade point averages and scholarships on the line, some students may resort to taking study drugs like Adderall, which can be abused to enhance studying and retaining information.

“I’ve got some friends that take Adderall,” said Morgan Smart, junior communication arts major. “They say it helps them stay up and study better, and it must work for them because they’ve used it multiple times.”

The University is no stranger to Adderall use and abuse. Last semester, FIU’s Pi Kappa Alpha chapter was suspended from campus for distributing drugs in what was called the on-campus

“I know people claim that they can stay more alert, but if that’s all you want just drink a Redbull. Don’t use something that’s gonna kill your body.”

Alphonse Ianniello  
Assistant Chief of Police  
Florida International University

“Pike Pharmacy.” According to screenshots of their secret Facebook group, one of the Pike Pharmacy’s most requested drugs was “addy,” or Adderall. One of the comments on a status concerning

Adderall said, “Save me one!! I have a final tomorrow!!”

Assistant Chief of Police Alphonse Ianniello said students shouldn’t believe the hype, however.

“It’s just party stuff. I know people claim that they can stay more alert, but if that’s all you want just drink a Redbull. Don’t use something that’s gonna kill your body,” Ianniello said. “This is what I tell my own kids: tell me something positive that’s ever happened while abusing illegal drugs. I don’t know of anything. You either end up dead or you end up in jail. There are no positives.”

Despite information like this, students still find themselves in the library cramming for a final they may have in a few hours and in need of something they think will assure their success. These

SEE DRUGS, PAGE 2

## Symposium talks about decline in Cuban health

JEFFREY PIERRE &  
RAUL HERRERA  
FIUSM Staff

In the summer of 2012, the Pan American Health Organization and Cuban health authorities reported more than 700 cases of cholera, an infection of the small intestine caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.

The outbreak was traced to two food distribution centres, where since then, corrective measures were taken to combat the disease. Since then, public health in Cuba — both in infrastructure and medical practice — has become a common topic of discussion.

This ongoing discussion lead Dr. Jorge Duany, Director of the Cuban Research Institute and professor of anthropology in the Department of Global and Sociocultural

Studies in the School of International and Public Affairs, to host an event titled “The Public Health of Cubans and Cuban Americans: A Symposium.”

Duany says cholera outbreak showed health providers — both abroad and Cuban — that the public health system was deficient in areas.

“How was it possible for Cuba to go back to an early period of time,” said Duany in reference to an infection thought to be manageable since the late 19th century. “Cholera is something directly related to the infrastructure and the drinking water. That clearly reflects the fact that those two areas have deteriorated over time.”

“We just want to survey the needs of Cubans — Cuban Americans,” Duany said, pointing out that the forum will discuss

“basic issues such as healthcare delivery, mental health, HIV prevention,” but that the issues of discussion will largely be up to the participating medical experts.

“One of the issues that will be discussed at length will be aging,” Duany said. “The issue of aging I think is something that characterizes both the Cuban population here in Miami, and the Cuban population in Cuba, and that brings some kind of new challenges for health providers.”

“The Cuban population has actually been decreasing over the last 10 years or so. For the first time, the Census registered fewer people living in Cuba than before,” said Duany, attributing this to the high life expectancy of the Cuban population and the high percentage of individuals who are over 65 years old.

“Cuba has one of the largest percentage of people, senior citizens, in the hemisphere,” he said, clarifying that the proportion is similar to that of the US. “When you have a very significant population that is over 65, then you have to consider, you know, how best to deliver medical services.”

Other issues Duany cited included economic issues and what he calls the “export of medical services” to Venezuela.

According to its flyer, the symposium will “bring together leading FIU experts in health-related fields.” Some participants include Dr. Pedro Greer from the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and Dr. Lourdes Martin from the Robert Stempel

SEE HEALTH, PAGE 2



## WORLD NEWS

### Iran official concerned for nuclear power plant

Iran's nuclear chief has raised concerns for the fate of the country's only running atomic power plant amid talks with the West about a final deal to curb Tehran's controversial nuclear program, a newspaper reported on Monday. The government-run daily "Iran" quoted Ali Akbar Salehi, the Iranian negotiator in talks with six world powers, as saying that Iran needs 30,000 more centrifuges to enrich uranium and produce enough nuclear fuel to run its Bushehr power plant for a year. World powers negotiating a final nuclear deal with Iran want a reduction - not an increase - in the number of centrifuges Tehran is operating to remove concerns that the Islamic Republic may use its enrichment capabilities to build a nuclear weapon.

### Police: Blast in Nigerian capital kills 71

Police say an explosion that ripped through a busy bus station in Nigeria's capital has killed at least 71 people and wounded 124. Police spokesman Frank Mba says Monday's blast destroyed 16 luxury coaches and 24 minibuses. There was only believed to be one blast with secondary explosions as vehicle fuel tanks ignited and burned. There was no immediate claim for the rush-hour blast, though the Boko Haram terrorist network has been threatening to attack the capital. The Islamic extremists, based in northeast Nigeria, carried out a 2011 suicide car bombing at the United Nations office building in Abuja that killed at least 21 people and wounded 60.

### Cost of fighting warming 'modest, says UN panel

The cost of keeping global warming in check is "relatively modest," but only if the world acts quickly to reverse the buildup of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere, the head of the U.N.'s expert panel on climate change said Sunday. Such gases, mainly CO2 from the burning of fossil fuels, rose on average by 2.2 percent a year in 2000-2010, driven by the use of coal in the power sector, officials said as they launched the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change's report on measures to fight global warming. Without additional measures to contain emissions, global temperatures will rise about 3 degrees to 4 degrees Celsius (5 degrees to 7 degrees Fahrenheit) by 2100 compared to current levels, the panel said.

# Female grads face unequal pay in U.S. workforce

TUITION, PAGE 1

Students have also drawn attention to the lack of representation of women in upper-level legal divisions.

"I believe that even at FIU, the majority of students are women, but as much as attorneys are starting to have equal amounts of men and women in the field, there still aren't many women who are partners," Powell said. "Even in the legal field we still have a while to go."

In a recent FIU Faculty Senate meeting, Provost Douglas Wartzok alluded to the University being second in

the state with regards to gender pay equity.

Government officials in the state have also taken steps to address the pay gap.

Rep. Janet Cruz and Sen. Arthenia Joyner urged the state's government to restore bills aimed at providing women the right to equal pay on April 8.

If passed, SB206, sponsored by Senator Joyner, would compel the Department of Economic Opportunity to assemble data on men and women's earnings in the state in order to push efforts for equal pay.

Despite continual efforts

“Although the legislation may not solve all the problems we have right now... it's allowing the country to have a discussion on the issue that women do make less for the same amount of work being done by a man.

Sheri-Gaye Powell  
Vice President  
Women's Law Society

to advocate for the legislation, neither Joyner nor Cruz have currently succeeded in getting the state's government to push forward the bills during the 60-day government session, according to the Florida Current.

According to Cruz, women

in Florida make around 84 cents for each dollar earned by a man, with the average being 58 and 62 cents for Hispanic and black women, respectively.

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# Departments speak out against study drug usage

DRUGS, PAGE 1

are the students most likely to resort to study drugs like Adderall.

Ebonie Parris, wellness coordinator at Student Health Services, said the key to avoiding study drugs is building healthy study habits to better avoid situations like this.

"One way to avoid cramming is by creating to-do lists and prioritizing subjects you haven't studied as much," Parris said. "And it's really, really important to remember to eat food. You don't want to eat once in the morning, study all day, and then eat again at night. You should be eating throughout the day because that actually helps fuel your studying."

Sofia Pablos-Aguirre, senior English major and wellness assistant, had a list of brain foods that can aid in mental function.

"Blueberries are really good for memory function, flaxseed and salmon are really good sources of Omega-3 fatty acids, and even dark chocolate in moderation has its benefits," Pablos-Aguirre recommended.

But the study habit that is most important, and ironically the most overlooked, is sleep.

"Set a time to sleep and stick to it as best as you can. It's crucial that your brain has the space to refuel and the time to rest. I would say that rest is just as important as actually studying," Pablos-Aguirre said.

Ebonie Parris' office is packed full of goodie bags ready to be given away at Student Health's upcoming event during Student Government Association's Recharge for Finals week.

"We try to promote healthier behaviors when it comes to studying," Parris said. "We try to provide tea instead of coffee, since it's a lot healthier for you, and we also provide snacks, since there are a lot of people who come to school without planning their food options and end up eating whatever's available instead of food that may help with studying."

Recharge for Finals will be held from April 21 to 25.

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## RECHARGE FOR FINALS

**Mon., April 21**, Midnight Breakfast @ Fresh Foods Company  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Tues., April 22** A Bite to Eat @ GC Lawn  
**7 p.m.** Evening Supper @ Engineering Campus

**Wed. April 23** Yoga On The Lawn @ GC Lawn  
**10-11:15 a.m.** Smoothie Time at 7 PM, GC Pit

## THE BEACON

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# Vibrio cholerae returns to Cuba

HEALTH, PAGE 1

College of Public Health and Social Work.

Duany referred to the CRI event as an "attempt to bring together different experts to bring a conversa-

tion" on Cuban health issues, research, and solutions.

The first panel, according to Duany, will be about Cubans. Afterwards, a second panel will be held to discuss health issues of Cuban Americans.

Both the Wertheim College of Medicine and the Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work were cosponsors of the event, along with the Latin American and Caribbean Center, and the Center for Research

on U.S. Latino HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse.

The symposium will be held on April 17 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

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# Students consider BBC parking garage

PARKING, PAGE 8

Whether or not a parking garage would be an eyesore to BBC was also discussed among students and faculty members.

Lissette Hernandez, director of the department of parking and transportation, says that the structure of a garage should not compromise the scenery on campus. "A garage structure will always be beneficial," says Hernandez. "There are many

beautiful parking garage structures out there that can be integrated to the beautiful Biscayne Bay Campus."

Eddie Seigle, senior advertising major, agrees with Hernandez and adds that solving parking availability is more important than the structural look of the campus.

Seigle said that parking space is limited at BBC and a parking garage is essential. He also disagrees with some people's idea

of it being an eyesore, and refutes their concerns by describing the building as "just a garage."

According to Martinez, the department of parking and transportation checks enrollment on campus annually and "assesses parking needs" accordingly.

"If enrollment at BBC continues to grow, and land continues to be developed, there would likely be sufficient need to build a garage in the future."

## Protesting is not an efficient way to share information or reach Panthers

**KIERON WILLIAMS**  
*Staff Writer*

I've never understood protests. The idea of holding up a large picket sign that displays your opinion, maybe even getting together in a group and yelling said opinion at random passersby, makes no sense to me.

I'm sure it comes from a good place though, and it makes sense to think that if a person is shown the right way to think about something, they'll consider things they never have before – possibly start to think that way. I'm sure protesting has worked in this way maybe once or twice before.

Overall, I think this method of persuasion is utterly effortless for a wide variety of reasons, especially for one very recent and very ironic

reason: the fact that protests activate the natural ad filter we've built to survive the Internet age.

Everyone knows about the Israel-Palestine protests that were happening on campus recently, but can any of us really say that we have become fully informed on the issue because of those protests?

I don't think anyone could say they have, and I think it's because we have trained ourselves not to pay attention when somebody puts their opinion on a sign or a banner.

That's because online ad campaigns and news stories have taught us that those people are either crazy or they're trying to sell you something.

Following this line of thinking, there is really no definite difference between the Israel-Palestine protests that occurred on campus a few

weeks ago and the angry preacher who spends half his day on campus spewing hatred at the students passing him by.

When you boil all the details down, both people are simply yelling, "think like me!"

We are living in the most media-saturated age of all time. All the information in the world is literally at our fingertips, but at the cost of getting every advertisement just as close.

In order to make it through this culture without losing our minds or our bank accounts, we have had to develop a thick skin that advertisements can rarely break through. This filter that we have built has taught us to immediately close any pop-up ad without reading it, to not glance at any of the bright pictures on the sides of web pages, or to not

“

Everyone knows about the Israel-Palestine protests that were happening on campus recently, but can any of us really say that we have become fully informed on the issue because of those protests?

”

input any kind of personal information in the flashing boxes that tell us how much money we just won for clicking a web page.

Both the Israel-Palestine protests and the angry preacher are attempting to gain compliance from their target audience; because of the identical effort, they are deflected by the same ad filter we have been

developing since the start of the Internet age. Maybe if they talked a little more about the issue and not their opinion on it, people wouldn't raise their defenses so quickly. Meanwhile, no such luck.

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## Relationships: Do they break the bank or save money

**ARIEL WEINSTEIN**  
*Staff Writer*

Having a boyfriend or girlfriend is always exciting. Taking them out on dates, spending time together, showing them off to friends, and just being around them.

Having a special someone in your life however, also means having to have money to be able to go on dates and do all of the activities that boyfriends and girlfriends do with each other.

My question is then, is it more or less expensive to have a boyfriend or girlfriend in college?

In my opinion, it all depends on the type of people in the relationship, and also the way the relationship works.

Obviously when you're in a relationship, there are going to be more activities and dates to pay for. This doesn't necessarily mean that it has to be more expensive for one person though. If the guy or girl is always the one paying for dates,

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There's no need to keep track of who pays for what, but if turns are taken in spending money, it shouldn't be that much more expensive to have a girlfriend or boyfriend.

”

of course it will be more expensive.

However, if they alternate who pays for the date or dinner, it would not be so expensive or such a burden for each person.

The other idea on this is that sometimes, maybe when you're going out with friends to a casual restaurant, or maybe buying popcorn at a movie, you will share one plate or one bag of popcorn, each paying for some of it, therefore saving money.

There's no need to keep track of who pays for

what, but if turns are taken in spending money, it shouldn't be that much more expensive to have a girlfriend or boyfriend.

Jonathan Guerra, a freshman majoring in political science, stated that "relationships are expensive in general." Guerra explains no matter how you look at it, there are automatically more things to be paid for, making the situation expensive. Maria Alemno, a sophomore majoring in public relations, also had a comment on the idea.

"For me to have a boyfriend is definitely cheaper because he pays for everything, especially since we have been together for the past six years," Alemno said.

Alemno explained that the background her boyfriend comes from is very generous, so she never has to worry about paying for anything.

Both Guerra and Alemno have very good points on the matter. It is normal in this society for the guy to pay for the girl, which in Alemno's relationship, is very cheap for Alemno, yet

seems very expensive for her boyfriend.

Guerra also makes a point that in any way the situation is looked at, because there is a relationship, there is going to be money spent, whether if it is for a date, birthday, Valentine's present, gas money to go visit the other, or anything really.

In conclusion, I think it all depends on the type of girl or guy in the relationship. Girls don't necessarily need materialistic things like diamonds, shoes and jewelry to be made happy, and guys don't always need the latest video game or whatever other expensive new item that just came out.

If you are in a relationship that has a financial balance between the two involved, yes it will probably cost more money than being single, but at the same time, you will be able to be happy with that special person while having the luxury of going out on dates and little things to do with each other.

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## ECO-FRIENDLY LUNCH



NICOLE GRADY/THE BEACON

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## Pi Kappa Phi continues to raise awareness on carbon monoxide

**GISELLE CANCIO**  
*Staff Writer*

José Manuel Ballester's "Concealed Spaces" is a truly innovative collection showcasing the deconstruction of famous paintings throughout history.

Through digital manipulation, Ballester managed to remove all traces of life from every painting, allowing the original artist's intended setting to be the sole and main focus. The narrative is, therefore, not showcased and instead, the setting and background are able to become the center focus.

Francine Birbragher, the exhibit's curator, praises this by saying, "Ballester's series 'Concealed Spaces' presents a unique interpretation of western art history.

By removing all references to action from iconic works by Bosch, Botticelli, Da Vinci, Géricault, Goya

and Velázquez, among others, he rediscovers their magnificent landscapes and architectural backgrounds."

The exact artistic process is a bit complex and meticulous, but in short, Ballester photographs the images, digitally removes all life, and then proceeds to use Photoshop to fill in the voids brought upon by the elimination of portions of the paintings.

He then prints them in their original size.

The Photoshop process of restoring the painting's background after the removal of all life is an art form in itself. Ballester shows his immense talent by recreating the brush strokes, coloring and textures and filling in the blank spots using just a computer.

By doing this, he creates a new work of art of his own through the works of other famous artists.

"For an art histo-

rian, 'José Manuel Ballester: Concealed Spaces' is a 'dream exhibit'", said Birbragher, "Not only does it introduce to the public the works of one of the most important Spanish contemporary artists but it also presents the works of art history's masters in an interactive way through the use of QR codes."

"The dialogue between the old and the new is particularly enriching from an educational perspective."

The inspiration behind this concept came about with the loss of Ballester's close friend. In order to honor her memory, he removed all signs of life from her favorite work of art, Fra Angélico's "La Anunciación".

He has also manipulated and deconstructed other famous works such as Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper", Diego Velázquez's "Las Meninas", and Sandro

## STUDY BUDDY



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Richard Bradford, a junior pre-med student, uses a special tool to help him while having a study session; his lizard Kiwi.

Botticelli's "The Birth of Venus".

In a video interview conducted by the University, Ballester explains that his collection "spans history and, in some ways, is a reflection on art and how it's understood in each

historical period."

"And with this technique of altering temporal sequences and eliminating the narrative aspect we create a series of interpretations newly appreciated, a new way to see what we understand as art."

This is the first time Ballester's "Concealed Spaces" will be on display in the United States. It will be open to the public at the Frost Museum until June 23.

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## Sunghosts speak with student media on Miami

**GISELLE CANCIO**  
*Staff Writer*

In collaboration with WRGP Radiate FM's program Local Radiation, FIUSM has had the chance to interview several up-and-coming, as well as, established acts on the Miami scene. Some of these artists include Panic Bomber, Smurphio from the local electronic funk band known as Afrobeta, Jean Jacket, The Cornerstoners, Flight Williams from the collective rap group known as Outta This World, Juan Turros and Michelle Forman of ¡Suénalo!, DJ and producer Jesse Perez, The Halfways, Millionyoung, Eagle Chief, vocalist Juan Rozas from Tremends, Lavola, The Vilifiers, Hunters of the Alps, and Plastic Pinks.

This time around, FIUSM got to sit down and interview lead vocalist and guitarist Nikolas Balseiro, bassist Jared Steingold, guitarist Arminio Rivero and drummer Luis Estopinan.

*You're always really excited both on stage and off. Where do you get this energy from?*

**Arminio:** It's life man.

**Jared:** I think it's a good blend of life and music and friendship.

**Nikolas:** We're doing what we want to do and we're all friends and we all happen to be guys who like laughter and dancing and

just being goofy.

**Luis:** Just playing this music is a non-stop high energy that we will always have.

**Nikolas:** The music is the drug.

*What are your musical influences?*

**Nikolas:** Me personally, I have a Red Hot Chili Peppers on my right wrist and the Red Hot Chili Peppers got me into playing music. Watching their videos and reading the "Scar Tissue" book. I'm a big fan, I'm like a fanboy. So just the energy that they have in life and the music they play, dude that's what got me into wanting to be in a band in the first place. I feel like that same energy now with this group, that's why we're always hyper and energetic. That's why I do it. It's beautiful.

**Arminio:** I really like The Strokes, The Arctic Monkeys, The Hives, The Whitest Boy Alive. Bands like that.

**Luis:** I freaking love every kind of genre out there up into whatever.

**Jared:** I'm like the odd man out. I like a lot of old school metal like all the old school Metallica and Pantera. But shoot, these guys showed me the tunes and everything and it was easy to get into because they were all just so cool and the vibes were so right on. I think it didn't really matter where the influences came from,

the influences came from us just getting along. That's really what it is, the friendship band.

*Tell us a bit about your current project.*

**Nikolas:** Our first and only release so far is an EP called "Phosphenes," which is a scientific name for that phenomenon that happens when you stare at the sun or a light and when you look away, you still see the shadow of the sun. So it's kind of like a cool reference to the whole Sunghosts idea. So it's just three of the first original songs we wrote: "Till the City Goes Under," "Teazr," and a song called "Indecision Incision." We just self recorded them using a program on my MacBook Pro and got it out to iTunes and Spotify and it's all over the place now. It's really cool to hear our friends say "Oh I was listening to it at work the other day." People are listening to it and saying "Oh what band is this?" And it's just really cool to hear that type of stuff, the impact we're already having.

**Arminio:** It somehow made it to the U.K. Some blog in the U.K. called "Killing Moon" put us up as the track of the day one or two days after.

**Nikolas:** They called it the "sun-drenched" track of the day.

**Arminio:** So now we're using that, we're calling our music sun-drenched garage rock.

*In terms of garage rock, are you inspired by a specific era of garage rock?*

**Arminio:** I'd say more modern but I really like the 60s stuff too.

**Nikolas:** But all the modern bands are influenced by the 60s, so you get indirect influence.

*How do you feel the garage rock scene is doing here in Miami?*

**Arminio:** I think it is doing better. I see more bands of that style coming out, emerging.

**SEE BAND, PAGE 5**



NATALIE BOJORQUEZ/THE BEACON

Sunghosts is comprised of lead vocalist and guitarist Nikolas Balseiro, bassist Jared Steingold, guitarist Arminio Rivero and drummer Luis Estopinan.



# The Undertaker for the first time has been taken under in “WrestleMania”

## COLUMNIST



CHRIS SANTIAGO

“WrestleMania 30” has officially come and gone as of this past Sunday.

Many great matches were seen and memories were created. Some great, some not so great.

Some fans might remember this “WrestleMania” as the ‘Mania where Daniel Bryan finally overcame “The Authority” and defied all odds by becoming the new World Wrestling Entertainment World Heavyweight Champion, some might remember this ‘Mania where Undertaker’s undefeated streak at ‘Mania was finally broken by none other than Brock Lesnar and some might remember this ‘Mania as Ultimate Warrior’s big comeback

before his untimely death last Tuesday. Either way, fans were affected in some form of matter by the events that took place during the company’s version of the Super Bowl.

For Daniel Bryan, this was his ‘Mania to shine and display why he claims to be more than just a “B+ Player.” He faced Paul Lesvesque, Triple H in a single’s match where the winner would be placed in the main event against then-champion Randy Orton and challenger for the world title Batista and picked up the win via pinfall against Lesvesque to move on up to the main event.

That same night, Bryan would defeat both Orton and Batista by forcing Batista to tap out to the “Yes-Lock” and finally accomplish his goal to prove that any average guy can achieve his dreams by winning the

world title to close the show.

For Undertaker, it was a night of shock and disbelief. The Undertaker had gone 21-0 at WrestleMania and was believed to retire undefeated at the prestigious event. That belief was ultimately dismantled by Brock Lesnar when he executed his

Jaws dropped, eyes were bugging, nobody spoke a word until the titantron displayed the dreaded numbers 21-1 and Brock Lesnar’s music hit the arena roughly two to three minutes after he picked up the victory and further cemented his already memo-

night. Later on, Undertaker had stood up and received a huge standing ovation by every attendant in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome along with the commentary crew, who were at ringside that evening.

Finally, this year’s ‘Mania was advertised immensely with the return of the iconic superstar of the late-1980s and early 1990s, Jim Hellwig, better known as The Ultimate Warrior. Warrior was finally being inducted into the World Wrestling Entertainment Hall of Fame and the wrestling world was buzzing with anticipation as to what would happen that night.

That night, Warrior came out in a full suit-and-tie and delivered an hour long speech that would go down in history as one of the greatest speeches of all time. He even made his first appearance on

“Monday Night RAW” for the first time in almost 20 years and entered the ring in-character as The Ultimate Warrior and delivered one more emotional speech before his sudden death the following afternoon by collapsing outside of his hotel in Arizona and was pronounced dead that same evening.

Moral of this story: Many memories were made one way or another by this year’s “WrestleMania.” With the rise of new-comers such as the Wyatt Family and Antonio Cesaro making their first appearances at “The Grandest Stage of Them All” and Daniel Bryan winning the WWE World Heavyweight Championship, this gives WWE the ability to finally usher in the new era of professional wrestling.

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“With the rise of new-comers such as the Wyatt Family and Antonio Cesaro making their first appearances at The Grandest Stage of Them All and Daniel Bryan winning the WWE World Heavyweight Championship, this gives WWE the ability to finally usher in the new era of professional wrestling.”

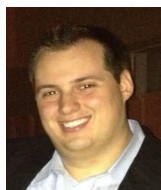
finishing maneuver, the F-5, for a third time and pinned Undertaker for a three-count. Once that bell rang, there was a sudden hush that just fell over the crowd in New Orleans.

rable legacy.

Then did the crowd realize that this was certainly no mistake and were booing and spewing profanities at Lesnar as he walked out of the arena that

## Easter weekend ‘brings out the big guns’ in shoes

### SNEAK PEEK



FRANCISCO RIVERO

As the semester begins to reach its final weeks the shoe world approaches on one of its biggest weekends.

Easter Sunday is one if not the biggest weekend for shoes because of not only the different styles of shoes that come out, but the amount of brands that release shoes. Just this weekend you will see shoes from Lebron, Durant, Kobe, Reebok and Jordan all with the easter green color theme.

### Big three all must buys this weekend

Normally, when Lebron, Durant and Kobe shoes come

out we can rank them from best to worst but not this weekend. For this weekend all three brands are a must buy because of their limited edition status

a paisley pattern inspired by the tropical palm trees of Miami.

Next comes the KD 6 “Easter” edition that will also be a low-top model. The KD 6

“Easter Sunday is one if not the biggest weekend for shoes because of not only the different styles of shoes that come out, but the amount of brands that release shoes.”

and popularity.

To begin the Lebron 11 “Easter” will be a low top model and will be selling for the retail price of \$170. This special Easter edition takes inspiration from wearing your Sunday’s best, in a clean white upper with

Easters will be sold for a retail price of \$130. The traditional Easter egg hunt influenced the custom camouflage pattern mixed with Easter iconography featured on this special edition KD 6.

Finally comes the Kobe 9

and the neverending battle of high-top vs low-top. For me I’ve always preferred the low-top model and thankfully the Easter edition is going to be just that a low-top. Selling at a retail price of \$160, the Kobe 9 “Easter” is inspired by the Easter tradition of dying colorful eggs, the Kobe 9’s upper portion makes a splash with its green and blue dyed aesthetic.

All three models of shoes will be released on Friday, April 18 and should be available throughout the weekend.

### Not to be outdone, Jordan brings out the big guns

As the big three begin to release their models it was up to the Jordan brand to come out with a shoe that could compete with the fire sale of the big

three, and that is exactly what Jordan did. We all know that when Jordan pulls out a retro model it’s a must buy however, the king of the Jordan retro models has to be the 11’s and what better way to surpass the big three than with a Jordan retro 11 Easter edition.

Continuing with the low-top theme, the Jordan retro 11 “Easters” will be a low-top model and will see a clean white and aqua colorway. Inlaid in the aqua is a faint safari print that adds depth and design to the overall appearance of the shoe.

The Jordan retro 11 Easters will be sold this Saturday April 19 and will be available at a retail price of \$115 making this shoe the deal of the week.

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## The candid thoughts of Miami entertainment

### BAND, PAGE 4

People seem to be leaning towards that style of music rather than before you would see a lot of post-harcore. Now there’s more garage rock.

### Would you say there’s an audience for it here?

**Arminio:** There’s an audience, there’s definitely an audience.

**Nikolas:** There are so many people out here who love indie-rock in general. The Arctic Monkeys, that place got packed at that concert. There are not that many bands that play that down here so you know there’s an audience when you go to The Fillmore and it’s completely sold out and there are girls that are crying

because of Alex Turner. So there is the audience. They live here. It’s pretty much like a strange secluded sector of the U.S. because it’s like another country but it’s in the country. But we all grew up with the same American media, we grew up watching the same movies and T.V. and listen to the same music but we don’t get that same reception. We don’t have the same types of scenes or the same events going on because Miami is so different and kind of governed by different people. The music scene is something that is slowly building up and it’s always been a tough journey, but I feel it.

### What do you think about the music scene in Miami as a whole?

**Arminio:** It needs improvement but

there are some good bands.

**Nikolas:** There is a lot of good talent down here, a lot of kids that like good music.

**Arminio:** There’s talent but not enough people that appreciate it.

**Nikolas:** The venues gotta step their stuff up. The way I see it, Seattle had it’s breaking out, and LA and New York and all these places had their scenes. At one point there wasn’t a scene but then there was a little big bang and then there was a scene. But it hasn’t happened in Miami yet. I know plenty of people that are like “I need to leave Miami,” and they go because they want to succeed artistically somewhere else. But if you don’t try hard here, when is that big bang going to happen in Miami? That’s actually what

are song “Till the City Goes Under” is about. Miami youth have a lot of potential and the whole song in metaphors talks about us having magic in us but how we’re detained by evil warlocks, a lot of conservative parents that are stuck in their ways and don’t want their kids become their own person and do what they want. It’s very stifling creatively for a lot of the kids that are here. So that song is about that and I just felt like that message needed to be out there so people can understand the current state of Miami so we can help it break out.

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## SOFTBALL

# FIU increases C-USA standing with series victory

**YOSVANY RODRIGUEZ**  
*Staff Writer*

The FIU softball team (27-16, 9-5 C-USA) continues their Conference USA success, with another series win against the University of Texas at San Antonio (20-23, 7-8 C-USA).

The panther have been on a roll of late winning seven of their last 10 conference games. FIU was able to win their third consecutive C-USA series by defeating UTSA in the first two games of the series, before coming up short in the final game.

Sophomore Corinne Jenkins (14-7) would get the nod in game one of the series. Jenkins would be on her game, pitching a complete game shutout, giving up just five hits, and striking out seven Roadrunners. Her fourth shutout of the season gave Jenkins win number 14 on the season, a new career high.

The Panther bats would give Jenkins all the run support she needed in the bottom half of the first inning.

UTSA freshman pitcher Nicole Merrill, who has allowed the third most walks in C-USA, walked three Panthers to load the bases with two outs. Sophomore Aleima Lopez was able to knock two run in with a single, to give FIU a 2-0 lead.

FIU would score three more runs throughout the game, giving them a commanding 5-0 victory over the Roadrunners.

Game two of the double-header saw junior Shelby Graves (12-6) take to the pitcher circle. Graves would allow two earned runs, on six hits, while striking out six, in five innings of work.

Jenkins would close out the final two innings, allowing one unearned run, on one hit. Jenkins would pick up her team leading and career high fourth save of the season.

The Panther's offense was led by freshman Gabby Spallone, who went 2-3 with two doubles and three RBI.

FIU was once again able to draw first blood in this game, scoring three runs in the home half of the first, two of which came off a Spallone double. The Panthers are nearly unbeatable when they score first, 20-3 to be exact.

This game would be no different as FIU was able to hold on to a 4-3 victory.

The Roadrunners, who came in to the series leading the conference and eighth in the nation in home runs, were held to just three runs and one homerun in their first two games.

However, they would erupt

for three home runs and eight runs in the final game of the series.

"We just didn't hit our spots," Head Coach Jake Schumann said. "They made their adjustment and we left some balls really fat and when you're a team that leads the nation in home runs that's what happens. We're still happy to get the series win, even though we felt we should get a sweep out of this. Twelve hits today that encouraging for our offense and well just get back to work on Tuesday and get up to Marshall and try to take the road series."

Jenkins would once again get the start in game three. She would only pitch one inning, giving up four runs, on three hits.

Graves would finish the game going six innings, giving up four runs, on six hits.

This game got ugly quick for FIU. In the first inning Jenkins gave up two doubles and a homerun in the first inning to put the Panthers down 3-0.

FIU does not fare well when they're down in a ball game, they're 7-13 when the opponent scores first.

UTSA would extend the lead to 8-1, but FIU would rally back to make it a three run game going into the bottom of

the seventh inning.

"I was really happy with our effort today," Schumann said. "When we were down 8-1, 8-2, and we make it 8-5 and we load the bases up in the seventh inning and we get a leadoff double in the sixth I thought that's showing some guts, that's showing a team that's not going to give up. Our hitters can't really control whether the ball goes over the fence, all they can control is their approach at the plate."

Junior Krystal Garcia got the seventh inning started with a bunt single. Lopez would then fly out. Senior Rachel Slowik singled to give FIU runners on the corners.

Next up was freshman Marissa McGregor who reached on an error to load the bases with just one out.

Up to bat was senior Bre Kaye who struck out swinging. With two outs and the tying run at first came junior Rebekah Sanchez, but she too would strike out swinging.

The Panthers are back in action this Friday as they take on conference opponent, Marshall University (17-26, 6-9 C-USA) for a three game series in West Virginia.

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JAHREL FRANCIS/THE BEACON

Sophomore pitcher Corinne Jenkins had a complete game while only giving up five hits in game one of the series against the University of Texas at San Antonio.

## BASEBALL

# Panthers back on track; win series at La Tech

**ALEJANDRO SOLANA**  
*Staff Writer*

The FIU Baseball team finished their four game road trip in the state of Louisiana with two wins and two losses, pushing their overall record to 26-10 and their Conference-USA record to 10-8.

After falling 12-6 to former Sun Belt Conference opponent University of Louisiana-Monroe in a midweek contest on Wednesday, April 9, the Panthers continued on over to face conference foe Louisiana Tech University for a three-game weekend series. For the first time since their sweep of the Marshall University Thundering Herd back in March, FIU was able to win the series taking two of three from the Bulldogs.

Friday's first game against La Tech was a no-brainer as junior right-handed

pitcher Mike Franco threw complete game number 11 for FIU this season en route to a 7-2 Panther win. Franco retired 18 of the last 19 batters he faced, striking out six earning him his fifth win this season, lowering his era to 1.03.

Junior catcher Aramis Garcia hit his sixth home run of the season in the top of the fifth inning, number 19 of his career at FIU. Junior third baseman Josh Anderson, who has been struggling as of late, also had a nice game with three total RBI's. The seven runs FIU posted are the most they have scored since bringing in eight against Bethune-Cookman University over two weeks ago.

In the second game of the series against La Tech, it was another shutout for the Panther's pitching staff as they took down the Bulldogs 3-0. The 11th shutout of the season is a Conference-USA single-season

record and was led by freshman right-handed pitcher Cody Crouse. Coming into the weekend, the Panther pitching staff was ranked third in the nation behind a team era of 1.89.

The Panthers scored early on in the top of the first from a Garcia RBI bringing in Tyler Hibbert who walked to start the game. Junior shortstop Julius Gaines, who had two hits on the night, scored in the third on a wild pitch pushing FIU's score to 2-0.

After senior Zack Sweetey's RBI triple in the ninth giving FIU a 3-0 lead, it was time for senior Mike Gomez to come in and do what he does best, closing the game out for the Panthers. The save for Gomez was number 22 of his career, tying him for the second most saves in FIU history. Gomez is now only two saves away from breaking the all time record at FIU.

The final game of the series saw La Tech end a nine game losing streak that dated back to March 25, topping the Panthers 4-2. It was a tough loss for freshman right-handed pitcher Chris Mourelle, who coming into the game had a 6-0 record and a team low 0.59 ERA.

The Bulldogs managed to score three runs in the fifth inning ending a scoreless streak of 25 innings held by Mourelle. The three run deficit would prove to be too much as the Panthers only managed to score two runs the rest of the game.

FIU will be back at it this weekend when they host conference rival Florida Atlantic University in a three game weekend series. The first game will be Friday, April 18 with the first pitch set for 6 p.m.

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## COLUMN

# End of Spring Football leaves bittersweet taste

## COLUMNIST



RHYS WILLIAMS

That's it. It is over and done with. Spring football for FIU, that is. Football is over for the Panthers until fall practice resumes in the Summer B semester. This is a semi-bittersweet moment because now there are indeed no college football games until August.

This was the start of a season of change for the Panthers.

## Quarterback truly anyone's game

The definition of quarterback battle was seen in the four weeks of Spring football practice for the Panthers.

Going into his first season as head coach, Ron Turner had a player on the roster who started for the majority of a season with Jake Medlock. Granted those Panthers, in the final year under Mario Cristobal, went 3-9, Medlock had the

most Division-IA football experience.

Fastforward a year ahead and you see that Medlock has transferred to Valdosta State University. There is a quarterback on the roster who does have experience, having filled in as both an in-game and starter replacement for Medlock in E.J. Hilliard.

Hilliard practiced for the Spring with the first team offense, and started the spring game. He had a decent outing but failed to lead the whole first team into the endzone.

"It's weird not having him [Medlock] here," Hilliard previously said to FIU Student Media. "I have to work like it is my job to lose though."

The second team was led in majority by early-enrollee freshman Alex McGough. McGough had a very successful day and threw the first touchdown of the day to wide receiver T.J. Lowder from 18 yards out.

McGough also had the first "explosive" play of the day. A play that went for more than 20

yards was considered "explosive" and got the offense an extra point in the scoring system for the spring game. This came on a 23 yard pass to tight end Ya'Keem Griner. They had two explosive plays together on the day.

The next quarterback up was also an early-enrollee freshman in Bud Martin. Martin's first spring game in college started out rough. There were two penalties in a row in a false start by offensive guard Chris Flaig and an illegal shift by pretty much the entire offense on a busted screen play.

He did have a decent touchdown pass to tight end Jonathan Pavlov. That was accompanied by a Sergio Sroka point-after-touchdown which helped the offense win the day.

The final guy up was Akil Dan-Fodio, a 6-foot-4 230 pound junior quarterback from Stone Mountain, Georgia. He has a cannon for an arm as shown by the longest play of the day, a 49 yard ball to wide receiver Juwan Caesar.

In my opinion, now, with the two freshmen on the roster there is what the NFL would consider a franchise quarterback in the locker room. My depth chart for these quarterbacks would be McGough with the first string - whom he got playing time with during the spring game - followed by Martin, Dan-Fodio and Hilliard, in that order.

## Most reliable position on the field

I am going to call that for the 2014-2015 season, the most productive position for the Panthers is going to be tight end.

This position, in my opinion, is the deepest on the roster for Turner and the rest of the Panthers program.

Besides Pavlov and Griner, two guys who I think will have monster years on their own, names like Cory White, Jonnu Smith, and Ricky Fernandez are going to become more and more

common, and synonymous with FIU football.

These young men are led by Tight Ends/Offensive Tackles Coach Kort Shankweiler, who is the son of the offensive coordinator Steve Shankweiler.

The younger Shankweiler is definitely in the best position on the coaching staff with his group of athletes.

Pavlov, as previously mentioned, has a touchdown from Martin, and I do not think that is the last time we will hear about him grabbing one for six points.

I would also not be surprised if Smith, who is the leanest and probably most athletic in the group, lined up on the outside more often than not, leaving the trench work for guys like White and Pavlov, who are the better blockers.

## Overall

The offense had a decent game, except for the running backs, who only had a single play of more than 20 yards - a run by junior DeAndre Jasper - and were disappointing in general. There were some fumbles by the running backs, most notable by junior Lamarq Caldwell.

The defense, showed some promise, with guys like Treyvon Williams, a sophomore line-backer, who laid out some guys on the field. Newly converted defensive lineman, sophomore Josh Glanton who had a sack - got to the quarterback before he threw the ball - ended the third quarter with a sack.

The spring game left a taste in the mouth of this football fan that can't be satisfied until the first game in August. It will be August 30 the next time the Panthers put on their game uniforms as they play the Wildcats of Bethune-Cookman University in Miami.

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BEACON FILE PHOTO

Junior tight end Ya'Keem Griner (holding ball) is one of a group of five active tight ends for the Panthers this season that will fight to help improve from the 1-11 record from 2013.

## PROFILE

## From Europe to America, players make the transition

## COLUMNIST



GIANCARLO NAVAS

Around 6,000 miles separate senior Maryna Samoday and junior Martyna Gluchowicz from their homes in Europe. Samoday is from Sumy, Ukraine and Gluchowicz is from Krzyzowice, Poland.

These FIU sand volleyball players have had to overcome an entire new country, not just opponents on the other side of the net.

"Americans are so positive, they are so different," Gluchowicz said. "Everyone here smiles a lot. Even smiling here is different. In Poland they would think I am a lesbian if I smile at girls a lot."

As Americans living in an American bubble we don't truly understand how different the world is. How even the way you smile at someone is taken differently. Imagine being a young girl being pushed into a society that all the rules change.

"Girls are different here too. Back home women shouldn't

speak so much," Gluchowicz said. "Back home, women are old school."

When asked, Gluchowicz spoke on how the outspokenness of women make her feel, she answered efficiently "girls here are crazy," and she said so with a giant laugh.

Across from Gluchowicz was Samoday, which is too similar a name when trying to address them.

As Gluchowicz told stories how America is different than Europe, Samoday kept nodding, laughing and said "yes yes!" Even though Samoday is from Ukraine and Gluchowicz is from Poland they both understand how different our American culture is.

"I wanted to be like an American girl, how they talk, how they act. I tried to be more American," Samoday said. "Even the way volleyball is played here is different"

As soon as Samoday said that, Gluchowicz sat upright, nodded and added a "yes yes!" which inevitably would be a theme for them. Agreeing with each other and both sharing moments of understanding each other and how much has

changed since they left home.

"In Poland, volleyball is more about technique and tactics while here coaches care a lot about fitness and conditioning," Gluchowicz said.

"I never lifted weights before," Samoday said.

"Oh my God! Me too," Gluchowicz added in response.

They both laughed and exchanged stories how awkward lifting weights was for them at first.

"It was really terrible. It was a new part for me," Samoday said. "I was afraid to fail. I have never felt this way in volleyball before."

There is something to be said about an athlete leaving home, nearly 6,000 miles away, and through all the difference in her new home that volleyball would be something to give her trouble.

Usually athletes would find refuge in their sport and while Samoday and Gluchowicz did, there were still elements that were difficult.

"The hardest thing when moving here was the English," Gluchowicz said.

"When I would say something wrong, my teammates would say 'oh she's foreign so

it's okay," Samoday said.

Supportive as her teammates have been - seven of her teammates are from a different country - there is still a struggle to fit in.

"I do get lonely sometimes, because there is no one from Poland," Gluchowicz said.

No one around you to speak your language, no one around you to talk about your country, no one around you that even understands the way you smile. The sport you play is coached and practiced different.

"I changed a lot when I back home. It helped me grow up," Samoday said.

"I changed a lot too, I even picked up American habits. My friends back home said I was too honest," Gluchowicz added.

Again the girls shared a laugh because Samoday knew exactly what Gluchowicz meant. These women have shared an experience. They each had different paths to that interview room, but both faced many of the same struggles.

Samoday didn't even want to come to America.

"My parents made me. I

hated it at first, then I understood why they sent me," Samoday said.

Gluchowicz on the other hand wanted to go of her own volition.

"I really wanted to go. My parents didn't even believe me at first when I told them that I wanted to go to America," Gluchowicz added. "There is more opportunity here."

The journey to America always provides a story. Living in Miami we see all the time people escaping communism, cold weather, poor countries and war. Trying to find their American dream.

Gluchowicz and Samoday could not believe how much her teachers cared about them here. It's something never experienced for them before.

There are so many things about American culture that they have yet to see and live, but it's a transition that embodies the American dream.

To find yourself, to have a journey of uplift and success when people like Samoday were scared to even come.

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SAMODAY



GLUCHOWICZ



## Students consider possibility of BBC parking garage

PAOLA MOLINI  
Staff Writer

Arriving late to class, lack of parking spaces and walking long distances from the parking lot into school facilities is an ongoing issue for students at the University, leading students and faculty members to discuss the idea of building a parking garage on Biscayne Bay Campus.

“I think it’s the only thing that makes sense,” says journalism professor Neil Reisner. “As it is now, I’ve been late to class because I couldn’t find space to park—not because I’m late, because I can’t find a place to park.”

The idea of a parking garage is not new to the university.

The Modesto Maidique Campus is home to several parking garages due to its high volume of students. What MMC lacks but BBC has to its advantage, is surface parking space.

Aime Martinez, Associate Vice President of Business and Finance, says that a viable reason to build a parking garage would be a lack of surface parking, the most affordable method in relationship to maintenance and cost per space.

According to Martinez, at MMC, little land is available for surface parking and the university is “forced” to build parking garages – this is not the case with BBC just yet.

Sarady Amparo, a junior biology major says that a parking garage would be beneficial because it would provide students with more parking spaces, especially students with afternoon classes.

“I see there’s always a fight to get a parking spot,” says Amparo. “I get here early enough that I could find a spot, but for some kids, if they come after a certain time, there’s no parking.”

Prosper Surgon, a freshman

## SHAKING IT TO SUPPORT



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Students part of the fitness/dance team, Panthercize, (left to right) Griffin Dudley, French major; Armani Blake, hospitality major; and Emily Comora, digital media major, all showed off their moves in support of the LGBTQA pride week celebration held in Panther Square.

business administration major, already finds parking to be troublesome at BBC. He says the situation gets worse when there is bad weather.

Taking classes during the afternoon and on a rainy day, means having to walk into class soaking wet, said Surgon.

Whether or not a parking garage

would be an eyesore to BBC was also discussed among students and faculty members.

**SEE Parking, PAGE 2**

## Chaplin graduate student has a brewing passion

ALEX BLENOWE  
Staff Writer

Nicole “Kat” Stevens is the teaching assistant for Barry Gump’s beer class, a position she fell into after taking a beverage management class.

For Stevens, creating craft beer and discovering delicious alcohol is the best part of being a Hospitality Management graduate student at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

“Alcohol was this thing that you did at parties; it was normally really bad beer that was super cheap,” Stevens said. “I didn’t realize that alcohol could actually be tasty!”

Stevens said alcohol has been around for centuries of human history, and has been an

important icon of human civilization, from the ancient Egyptians’ system of beer and bread, to the origins of vodka—which is literally Russian for “water.”

“All these stories that I’ve researched on my own all have these ties to alcohol,” Stevens said. “Alcohol is huge in Rome, in Italy, in Egypt.”

Stevens visited craft breweries in Boca Raton to learn more about the history of craft beer-making and fell in love with it.

“All of a sudden, beer wasn’t just this amber, light liquid that tasted like nothing; it was this rich, in-depth drink,” Stevens said, describing her commitment to beer science when she started to take classes.

“I was getting [to class] early, I was staying late. I was helping everyone do their projects;

I was like a little bee hovering everywhere,” Stevens said.

After being offered a teaching assistant-ship, Stevens immediately accepted the challenge.

“I remember the first time I walked into Total Wine, it was like walking into Disney World,” Stevens said. “I really started going to different breweries and seeing what’s out there.”

Stevens said the industry of craft beer is one of the most interesting careers you can be a part of, especially since beer pubs are popping up everywhere.

In Stevens’ opinion, beer-making is more approachable than wine or alcohol, and she has noticed a growth in home-brewers in the industry.

“Beer is one of the more dynamic alcohols

that you can produce; there’s so much more you can do with it,” she said.

According to Stevens, working with people in the beer industry is much more laid back and there is a lot less pressure in the industry.

“It’s a little bit easier and the people are different. It’s not this snobby ‘I have to wear a blazer for a tasting’ atmosphere,” Stevens joked. “It’s all just your down-to-earth kind of people who just want to hang out and have a home-brew.”

The beer industry is great for people who don’t want to sit in a cubicle all day and don’t want the average nine to five experience.

“You’re not restricted by the same rules of other industries—it’s casual Friday every day,” Stevens said.

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## Faculty publishes research from turtle cameras

MARIA BRITOS  
Staff Writer

Two University science researchers, Michael Heithaus and Jordan Thompson, traveled to the waters of Shark Bay, Australia in 1997 as part of an extensive study on sea turtles and their behavior in the seagrass ecosystem.

Lasting over 10 years, the study focuses on the impact sea turtles have on the seagrass ecosystems and how the endangered species relate to the importance of having healthy ecosystems and its future.

“We endured two days of travel [to Australia] because it’s really about the last untouched seagrass ecosystem in the world, so it’s a place where we

can go and get an idea of how an ecosystem worked before people were heavily involved,” said Heithaus, executive director of the School of Environment, Arts and Society.

Heithaus said they wanted to find a balance between human use of the marine environment and maintaining a healthy marine ecosystem.

During the research, the team used all kinds of equipment and tactics to best capture the living style of the turtles. With special instruments, Heithaus and Thompson were able to see the turtles’ emotional and health status, whether happy, depressed or close to starvation.

Video cameras also played a major role in their

understanding of their behavior and environment. With GoPro cameras programed to be released on their own, the turtles traveled with them attached to their shells and after a 24 hour period, the camera removed itself from the turtles and floated back up to the surface.

With these procedures, Heithaus and Thompson were able to compare the behavior of the turtles right after they were released and a day after the capture.

Heithaus explained that the impact of the turtles’ behavior after being captured and then released is not as huge as expected. Instead, the animals tend to go back into their normal lifestyle in a matter of

minutes with no sudden state of shock or confusion.

“They will swim to a new spot and they will spend a little more time kind of resting in the bottom, probably just sitting there, and then less time feeding, but by the next day they spend a fairly more amount of time feeding,” said Heithaus.

In another study made years before where Heithaus was also involved, a comparison between the seagrass ecosystems in Florida Bay as well as Shark Bay showed the similarities in seagrasses, nutrients and other species.

However, Florida Bay has been greatly modified which lead to the decrease in sea turtle and shark population, hurting

one of the biggest seagrass ecosystems in the world.

Another problem that the study has been able to conclude is that in areas where the shark population is declining due to shark fishing, sea turtle population is beginning to increase greatly because of the lack of their main predator, the sharks.

“By removing the top predators in the ocean, we may be destabilizing the whole ecosystem, which is why it’s important for these studies of turtles in these ecosystems and how can we restore the balance,” said Heithaus.

With funding made possible initially by the University and now by the National Science Foundation as well as the

Professional Association of Dive Instructors, Heithaus and Thompson have been able to publish their latest sea turtle research in the Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology.

Inspired by the same research, a second year PhD student, Elizabeth Whitman, has also began efforts to continue the study on her own in Abaco Island, Bahamas. “I’ve always been really interested in what the sea turtles doing in different habitats, when they’re there and why,” said Whitman. “This is important because of the human-turtle interaction.”

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