

Bright Futures raises standards for students

CHRISTIAN PORTILLA
Contributing Writer

Although the total amount of University students affected won't be determined until fall, when all freshmen students have been accounted for, changes in the Bright Futures Scholarship Program requirements will leave less students receiving aid.

Bright Futures, funded through the Florida Lottery, has been helping students receive a more affordable education since its inception in 1997. Oddly enough, the same minorities who play the Florida Lottery will be the ones to reap less of its benefits.

The decrease in awards being disbursed to students was so alarming that it prompted an investigation by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, as explained by The Miami Herald.

Most of the students being affected by the increase in test scores are Hispanic and black, many of who attend FIU and make up for most of the South Florida

demographic.

"We are predicting a 50 percent reduction in Bright Futures eligible incoming freshman from last year at this point due to the increased test score requirements," said Francisco Valines, director of the office of Financial Aid in an e-mail to Student Media.

These changes came about because Bright Futures has raised the academic standard in terms of eligibility for students.

While the minimum high school GPA requirement will remain 3.0 for the Florida Medallion Scholars, it is now at 3.5 for the Florida Academic Scholars.

An increase in test scores asserts that students must attain in reading and math 1170 on the SAT and 26 on the ACT in order to qualify for the FMS award and 1290 / 29 for the FAS award for the 2014-2015 school year.

These numbers will remain the same for the upcoming academic year.

Scores have significantly increased

SEE BRIGHT FUTURES, PAGE 2



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Andrea Pena, a business management major (left), and Andrea Piccardo, an international business major (right), both incoming freshmen, get a tour of the campus during orientation. The changes to Bright Futures will affect incoming freshmen like Piccardo and Pena, although the extent will not be known until all freshmen are accounted for.

FIU's very own gets his shot in pro boxing

JAMES PROFETTO
Contributing Writer

Cue the up-tempo background music filled with acoustics, a piano and a Latin vocalist soothing each customer in a small Starbucks location.

Amongst all of noise, a certain gentleman of average height walked through the doors wearing a black and gold Puma T-shirt with eye-grabbing red sneakers.

Meet 23-year-old Ahmed Elbiali, a Miami native with Egyptian roots and a lot to prove.

"I was born in Cairo, Egypt. I came to

[Florida] when I was five years old," Elbiali said.

The clichés of a boxer's childhood are redefined for Elbiali.

As a child, he grew up in a family where love was constantly felt and his parents never made him feel "starved."

His parents taught him values that he keeps even to this day.

"I never sold drugs, I never got into real trouble as a kid...I don't have that kind of story. But, as a child, when my friends did something bad, I wanted to do something worse," Elbiali said.

old, I had a job.

I was never deprived, but my parents taught me to work for what I wanted," Elbiali said.

After getting his first job, his mother took him to a Gold's Gym.

Before the last signature was printed, Elbiali begged his mother to take him to the boxing gym across the street instead.

"She took me to the boxing gym. After training for a decent amount of time, I asked, 'Where's the amateur team?' I didn't want to fight the professionals, but they told me I can't fight amateurs because I hit too hard," Elbiali said.

Fast forward to the present day. Ahmed Elbiali's track record is off to a nice start, with flashy titles included.

He is a two-time Florida Golden Gloves winner, he beat Robert Brant in the World Series of Boxing, beat Pernell Mitchell, a highly favored boxer at the time, and is 5-0 with five knockouts.

To top it all off, he signed with Al Haymon.

For the full story, visit fiusm.com

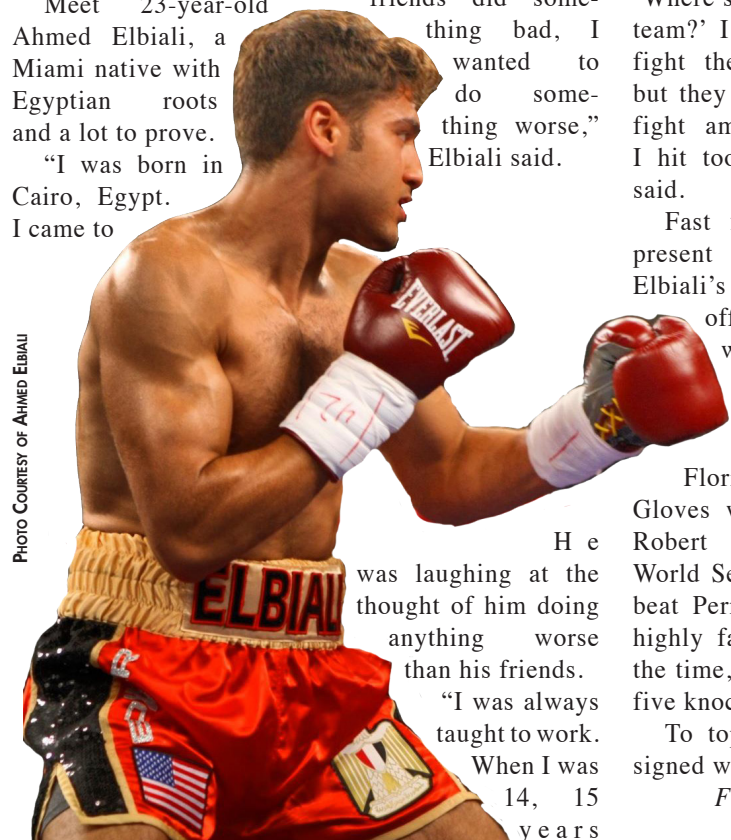


PHOTO COURTESY OF AHMED ELBIALI

University hosts African fellows over summer

ALYSSA ELSO
Staff Writer

In the middle of June, 25 African fellows excitedly bought their FIU gear as they would be part of the University community for the remainder of summer.

Since June 14, the University has been hosting these fellows, who are participating in a six-week public management program as part of The Washington Fellowship for Young Leaders.

This is an exchange program sponsored by President Barack Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative, which brings over 500 young leaders each year, since the beginning of 2014, for leadership training, academic coursework and mentoring.

The goal is to create unique opportunities in Africa to put new skills to practical use in propelling economic growth and prosperity and strengthening democratic institutions.

Chosen by the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs through a competitive process, FIU was one of 20 selected host institutions to represent higher education in the U.S.

"We had heard about the program through a variety of avenues and then we had to submit a grant application," said Susan Webster, director of Student and International Research Initiatives.

The universities would initially apply to the state department, but according to Webster, because so many universities were interested, the state department decided to go through firms to sort through candidates and then contact the State Department with a list of interested universities.

"We had about 10 people contact us so I put together 10 different applications to those firms and then the firms applied to the State Department," said Webster.

Of the 20 universities participating in three tracks — Business and Entrepreneurship, Civic Leadership and Public Manage-

ment — the University chose to apply for the public management program.

For this program, the University created a special curriculum for the fellows.

"We created a public management institute for them, where they get an overview of public management, primarily urban management," said Webster.

As far as academic coursework, fellows will learn about human resources as well as how to manage buildings and grounds.

"In addition to that, we have a week on ethnic and gender diversity and then in addition to that we have different weeks where we highlight environmental issues; for instance, environmental waste, how to deal with that and hydrology, just a variety of things," Webster said.

Aside from the academic coursework, the fellows, who are staying on campus at the University Towers, are also required to complete specific leadership training and community service once a week in addition to visiting cultural areas like the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Everglades.

At the completion of the six-week program on July 26, the fellows will attend a summit with President Obama in Washington D.C. before returning home to put their experiences into action.

The goal of the program, according to Webster, is for the young leaders to have a better understanding of public management as well as a better understanding in learning to deal with their constituents, either people they work for or people who may work for them, in a diverse manner.

"In terms of being affiliated with FIU, they already have an affinity to FIU," Webster said. "They are proudly wearing their T-shirts and so I think that part we have achieved somewhat and I am very happy they are here and hopefully we will be able to do this again."

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WORLD NEWS

6 arrested in burning death of Arab teenager in Israel

Israeli authorities said Sunday that they arrested six Jewish suspects in the abduction and killing of a Palestinian teenager from East Jerusalem whose death has set off a wave of unrest there and in Israeli Arab towns. A statement from the Shin Bet security service said the suspects were being questioned by the agency, but that further details of the investigation remained under a gag order. The suspects have been denied access to lawyers while under initial interrogation. Law-enforcement officials believe they acted to avenge the slaying of three Israeli teenagers kidnapped and killed in the West Bank last month, Israeli media reported. The charred corpse of 16-year-old Muhammad Abu Khdeir was found in a wooded area near a Jewish neighborhood in Jerusalem on Wednesday, the morning after the funeral for the slain Israeli teenagers, who disappeared June 12. Their bodies were found June 30.

Powerful quake jolts Mexico and Central America; at least 4 killed

A powerful earthquake jolted a wide section of southern Mexico and Central America early Monday, killing at least four people and damaging dozens of buildings in Guatemala. The 6.9 quake was felt as far north as Mexico City, through central Guatemala and as far south as El Salvador. Its epicenter was on the Pacific Coast of the southern Mexican state of Chiapas, near a border town called Puerto Madero, about 40 miles below the surface, the U.S. Geological Survey said on its website. It hit at 6:23 a.m. local time. Most damage was reported in the Guatemalan state of San Marcos, where walls collapsed and electrical power was temporarily cut. Numerous landslides were also reported. Two people were crushed to death in San Marcos and at least 21 injured, the Guatemalan newspaper Prensa Libre reported.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 26, Issue 2, in the article “FIU hosts inaugural celebrity softball game,” we attributed the photo to Maria Lorenzino when it should have been Rhys Williams.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

University summer treatment program helps preschoolers

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
Asst. News Director

Throughout the summer, University psychology students and faculty help change the lives of preschoolers with behavioral problems.

It is a therapeutic and summer readiness treatment program for pre-kindergarteners lead by the Center for Children and Families of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The camp runs from July 16 to August 8 during the weekdays, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with activities that include social-emotional skill building, sport games and standard school subjects such as reading and math.

Families come in seeking clinical attention because their child is being expelled from preschool, according to Katie Hart, co-director of the Summer Treatment Program for Pre-Kindergarteners.

She said the program sets out to help these children have a smoother transition from preschool to kindergarten.

“Our motivation comes from a real desire to help these families make that transition— one that’s positive,” said Hart. “Because we know that learning and going to school is so important for future success.”

The program is intended for preschoolers between four and five years old identified as being at “High-Risk for Behavioral Disorders.” It is based at John W. Bell Middle School in a summer day camp setting where students from FIU and out-of-state universities are trained to be clinical staff members.

Throughout the summer, participants are evaluated for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), disruptive behaviors and learning problems.

According to Hart, these students are interested in school psychology, speech pathology, nursing, public health and education, for example.

They are supervised by _____ Co-director of the

they actually get out of time out, you see that something changed.”

According to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, about one in 20 children across the country have ADHD symptoms. Many of them will continue to show these symptoms into adulthood, such as lack of attention.

ceutical treatment at a very early age.

“Parents are the child’s first teacher,” Hart said. “We want to give [them] all the skills that they need to be successful so that after the camp is over, [the children] can continue everything that they learned here in camp and bring it to school and home.”

Graziano said the program receives hundreds of applicants, but because of lack of resource in funds, there is a very limited space for admission.

This summer, the program reviewed more than 200 applicants, but only 60 slots were available.

He said the amount of slots available for children vary on how much money they are able to receive from the Children’s Trust and other grants.

Nevertheless, Graziano said that FIU’s location is significant for the program because it can provide a more extensive aid to Latino families who, according to him, are notoriously understudied.

“That allows an even better experience for parents that are getting feedback every day on their child’s performance— to be able to communicate in whatever language.”

Hart said they continue monitoring their progress over time as they enter kindergarten and first grade.

“Once in a while, they’ll call us three years later to say, ‘Oh, we’re doing great; Student of the Month Award!’” said Graziano.

“It keeps us going on our 12-hour days,” he said.

For a related video, check out fiusm.com-camila.fernandez@fiusm.com

“Intervening early is really our passion because that’s when you can make the most difference.”

Paulo Graziano
Co-director

Summer Treatment Program for Pre-Kindergarteners

licensed professionals for feedback on their performance— how they’re working with the children and how to be able to build a relationship.

“I know we’re helping the families in the long-run, and [the children] with school,” said Diana Madruga, a senior psychology major.

“It’s so much more that we’re helping than besides just their behavioral problems.”

FIU alumna Lina Garces said she also knows that the children experience different situations in their lives and that it is difficult for them to adapt and to meet with their daily goals and requirements.

“I have this thing for kids, but as I said, it’s really motivating to see them change,” said Garces.

“In that moment when you say something, or when

Summer Treatment Program for Pre-Kindergarteners Paulo Graziano, said that the children are already not looking forward to school and cannot get out of their comfort zone.

He said that is a negative trajectory down the line and so intervening at an early age is most effective for change.

“Intervening early is really our passion because that’s when you can make the most difference,” said Graziano.

According to Hart, most of the parents come ready to get help as a way to gain successful strategies to help their child. Through daily reports and parent meetings, the program has been able to build confidence with parents.

Also, no medications are used on the children. This is because the program does not want to use pharma-

Higher test scores needed for Bright Futures awards

BRIGHT FUTURES, PAGE 1

since the 2012-2013 academic year, however.

Students applying for the FAS award are required to have 10 more points for the SAT and one point higher for the ACT.

This translates to 150 more points for the SAT and four more points for the ACT for students applying for the FMS award.

Currently, students who achieve the FMS award, the basic-level Bright Futures scholarship, are awarded \$77 per credit hour, while students who earn the more difficult

“We are predicting a 50 percent reduction in Bright Futures eligible incoming freshman from last year at this point due to the increased test score requirements.”

Francisco Valines
Director
Office of Financial Aid

FAS award receive \$103 per credit hour, which has remained the same since last year.

This amount has increased since the 2012-2013 school year when the FMS was at \$75 per credit hour and \$100 for the FAS recipients.

Updates in the program no longer require students to submit Free Application for Federal Student Aid, however; students are encouraged to submit the FAFSA to learn of potential eligibility for additional state and federal aid.

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Stand up to fight today's epidemic

SOFIA GALIANO
Staff Writer

In today's world, we are either hunched over a bright computer screen, slouched in a classroom, commuting in our cars or, frankly, on the toilet for prolonged periods of time. We are preparing for our funerals much sooner than necessary.

Sitting down for hours on end is the inevitable epidemic of our culture.

Research shows that remaining stationary day in and day out can damage our health and shorten our life spans; some even compare its effects to smoking -- I thought it was an exaggeration.

Even for someone who is in shape and remains active, the negative effects of sitting down are still noticeable.

I participated in track and field, volleyball and tennis in high school; finished first in my

wave for FIU's Night Color 5K in under 20 minutes and now bike about 15 miles daily -- yet the negative effects of sitting down are still noticeable.

From the time I wake at 7 a.m. until the time I get ready for bed at 9 p.m., my eyes, neck, shoulders and back ache from computer vision syndrome and from being hunched over in a chair all day long.

That means that for most of the day my body is immobile. Doing this for nearly a week "increases plasma triglycerides (fatty molecules), LDL cholesterol (aka bad cholesterol), and insulin resistance," according to an article on Lifehacker.com. This can't be healthy.

Just think back to our caveman days when we would hunt and gather our food, run from predators and do other things to flaunt our bipedalism, unlike we do today.

Now, our butts rest on a barstool as greasy burgers and fries are served to us. We

sit on park benches watching children run by, wondering from where they get all their energy. Some of us maybe even envy those in wheelchairs because at least they don't have the burden of standing.

Stop the madness.

Remind yourself to urinate at least once an hour while binge watching your favorite show on Netflix and get at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise each day.

I know the struggles of having a workspace that also serves as an entertainment hub, but next time you are sitting down remember the wise words of Dwight Schrute from "The Office."

"Standing is proven to be healthier, increases productivity and just looks cooler," he said. "Picture someone doing something heroic. Now, was he sitting or standing?"

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THE BEACON | Editorial

Bright Futures: where everything is made up and your education doesn't matter

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, funded through the Florida Lottery, has given financial support to college students by offering of the Florida Medallion Scholars and the Florida Academic Scholars awards that are earned based on academic merit and achievement at the high school level.

The standards of eligibility for both of these awards have now changed, making it more difficult to obtain these awards. These raised standards are casting a cloud of uncertainty over the now not-so-bright futures of applicants.

In order to qualify for the FMS scholarship with the new requirements in place, high school students must now obtain a combined minimum score in reading and math of 26 on the ACT or 1170 on the SAT in addition to having a 3.0 weighted GPA.

This is in comparison to a minimum score of 970 on the SAT, as required of students three years ago.

As for high school students hoping to earn the FAS scholarship, a combined minimum score in reading and math of 29 on the ACT or 1290 on the SAT must be achieved in addition to what is now a 3.5 weighted GPA.

Nothing can be determined number-wise yet, but we can anticipate that these changes won't do much good for potential students and the University as a whole.

As previously reported, it is expected that most of the students that will be affected by the increase of the standards of eligibility for both awards are minorities. Unsurprisingly, it is minorities that heavily populate the University.

The concern now is how the changes to the standards of eligibility will affect incoming freshmen.

Ineligibility for either of the awards as a result of these changes creates another barrier for potential students. If unable to finance their education, students might be forced to either attend part-time, which would elongate their stay, go to another college, or simply not go to school at all.

The last scenario is the most concerning of all, as an opportunity to get a higher education would basically be taken away from these students.

It is difficult to make any suggestions in this situation, as it isn't something that can be easily changed just by expressing our concerns to the University.

The University is equally as helpless as we are as students, since this is the handiwork of the State.

Instead, we can only bring attention to the issue at hand and expose how our education system is one that unashamedly makes it difficult for students who already have several obstacles to get through in order to get the education that is constantly emphasized as the key to their success.

No shame in my debit card game

ADRIANNE RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

Whenever I heard the words "credit card" I always associated it with my parents and other adults who own homes, have children and pay bills. I never thought of someone in my age group having a credit card because of the level of responsibility it takes to handle one.

Of course, I was much younger when I thought this way, but, when I entered my freshman year of college, I noticed that people in my age group owned credit cards -- not singular, but plural. Some had multiple in high school and that was crazy to me.

What is the need for one if you aren't paying bills or providing for someone other than yourself? And if you don't have a job, then I am really lost as to why there is a need for one.

Miriam Caldwell, a freelance writer with

a specialization in personal finance and experience in banking, said you can actually get by without a credit card.

In Caldwell's "Five Myths About Credit Cards," she mentions three myths about why people, usually in their 20s, think that they need a credit card: "I need a credit card to shop online and rent a car;" "I need a credit card to save money on my purchases" and "I need a credit card to earn rewards."

The first myth is quickly debunked: you can shop online and rent cars with debit cards.

As for applying for store credit cards or other cards with reward systems to save on purchases, that can be tricky. Most companies realize that their customers are not going to pay their bills in full each month.

Aside from a rewards program, you also have to check if your credit card has an annual fee and, if so, how much it costs. Consider those factors when applying.

According to an article on the Daily-

Finance site, our generation is labeled the "millennials," which groups everyone between the ages of 19 to 29; our average debt is \$23,332 and our balance per card is about \$2,800, which is luckily below the national average.

Some ways that the article gives for avoiding debt is by paying bills on time, keeping a low balance on your credit card(s) and by not opening new lines of credit at one time.

If you feel you can handle your credit cards and are responsible enough to do so, go for it. However, from my own observations, I see a lack of maturity and responsibility in our generation which are two very important characteristics you would need to handle a credit card.

Honestly, using a credit card is more "grown-up" than being in debt.

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Get a grip: Don't buy Pennyboards

DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS
Opinion Director

The value of Penny Skateboards is right in their names -- a penny.

For those who don't know, Penny Skateboards is a company that manufactures retro-styled skateboards. They are shaped to resemble 1970s skateboards that were made of plastic.

While the small size of the skateboards make them easy to store and carry, it also makes them dangerous. There's barely any room to properly place your feet on the surface, making learning to turn all the more difficult. Penny does sell a larger Nickel series of boards which are about 27 inches in length; that's still not as long as a regular street skateboard, but it's a far cry from the micro boards most students seem to purchase.

The largest safety hazard these boards possess is that they are sold assembled without grip tape.

Grip tape is the sandpaper-like paper that goes on top of most skateboards like on long boards. It's purpose is very simple: to grip you.

Go to any Wal-Mart or Kmart and look at the section where the pre-built skateboards are; despite being of an absolutely terrible quality, they all come with grip tape.

To the individual who has just started skateboarding or simply wants to look trendier than an Urban Outfitters summer catalog, a penny board seems like a good idea. They retail for approximately \$100 with even cheaper imitations online and are sold both in stores and online pre-built. The average student who purchases one will assume they are good to go and while they will indeed be able to roll around, it will by no means be safe.

Penny boards are small fun boards for those who like a challenge, but I do not recommend them for beginner and recreational skateboarders or just about anyone who doesn't want a challenging experience riding.

Without grip tape they are unstable. Even

with grip tape, the grooves on the upper part of the board make tearing through the tape much easier. If the tape stays on and doesn't begin to peel or tear, the actual board itself is not as responsive as a traditional wooden board or deck.

The trucks, the aluminum turning mechanism under the board, are engineered off technology that predates the very era the whole skateboard seeks to imitate. They are narrow and don't provide for much stability, best suited for straight lines or slalom-style skating.

If you want to properly get into skateboarding around campus effectively, look into long boards or for a more compact option look into cruiser skateboards. A Penny may cost around \$100 and comes in a variety of attractive colors, but for performance and safety, an extra \$50 to \$100 towards a cruiser or long board will get you wider trucks, a wooden deck and, most importantly, some grip.

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FIU LIFE: AS WITNESSED THROUGHOUT CAMPUS



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Caroline Lorenzo, a junior in management informational systems, and Michael Dibono, a junior in mechanical engineering, get snow cones at SPC Wish You Were Here event in the GC Pit.



MARGARITA RENTIS/THE BEACON

Roberto Lopez-Trigo, a sophomore in vocal performance, plays Papageno in Mozart's "The Magic Flute" during The Miami Summer Music Festival. The festival was hosted and sponsored by FIU from June 9th to July 6th. Pre-professional musicians and singers got together to perform in many different shows.

Coldplay's 'Ghost Stories': an album of reflections

DIRECTOR



JEFFREY PIERRE

After the instant commercial success of "Parachutes," Coldplay's debut album adorned with the classic song "Yellow," the band was placed on a pedestal of high expectations. For the band's next two albums, "A Rush of Blood to the Head" and "X&Y," Coldplay would then distinguish itself as great songwriters and composers known for melodic acoustic rhythms and soul-piercing melancholic lyrics that create a dream-like mood.

"I wanna live life, always be true, I wanna live life, and be good to you; I wanna fly, and never come down," sang frontman Chris Martin in the song "We Never Change;" and never came down they did.

In 2008 on the verge of overreaching, with the help of producer and Jon Hopkins, the release of "Viva la Vida or Death" and "All His Friends" showed that Coldplay could and would endure the hump where most bands falter and fail in the recreating their sound. Three years later, album "Mylo Xyloto" followed the same frame-

work of vivid and exuberantly colorful tales backed by a little electronica, synth and ambient sounds that carried both albums from start to finish.

Stepping back from roaring energy of their last two records, Coldplay's sixth studio album "Ghost Stories" is a meditative and reflective take on love, loss and life itself. Some would argue that "Ghost Stories" is nothing more than an attempt to recreate "Parachutes" with the ambient mood of "Mylo Xyloto," but on the contrary, it's much more than that.

On the creation of "Ghost Stories," Martin said in an interview with BBC Radio, "How do you let the things that happen to you in your past— your ghosts; how do you let them affect your future?"

The album opens with a Bon Iver-esque disposition—the sounds of morose reflection. "I think of you, I haven't slept; I think I do, but I don't forget; My body moves, Goes where I will; But though I try my heart stays still; It never moves, Just won't be led," says Martin in the opening verse.

The album is filled with this anguish; some would

even call it a breakup album — especially in light of the news of Martin's separation with his wife of 11 years, Gwyneth Paltrow. Regardless, the band's gift of dark yet lighthearted melodies is evident throughout the album. It's minimal and almost basic, but the simplicity allows Martin's falsetto fill the air and captivate the ear. The tempo takes a brief change in the EDM-infused song "Sky Full of Stars;" the works of Hopkins undoubtedly.

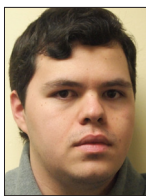
As the final track "O" fades out, a distant and washed out hymn follows as Martin bellows his final words, "So fly on, ride through; maybe one day I'll fly next to you."

"Ghost Stories" follows Parachutes in its level of intimacy. The album takes the band's — more-so, Martin's — private moments and displays them for the world to see. Martin makes himself vulnerable publically meditating on the trials and lessons of his life. "I don't really care what anyone says about this album," said Martin in an interview with BBC Radio. "It's as true as my nose. It's a realization about trying to grow up basically."

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On the edge of 'Groundhog Day' and 'War of the Worlds'

REEL TO REEL



RAFAEL ABREU

Doug Liman's "Edge of Tomorrow" has been in cinemas for about a month now, and its word of mouth seems to have been making the rounds. When I saw it opening weekend I greatly encouraged others to see it, for it was not at all your conventional summer blockbuster.

While by this point many have now seen it, I think it's interesting and important to point out what makes "Edge of Tomorrow" such an important film of note during this time of reboots and sequels.

And if you still have yet to see it, hopefully this piece will convince you, in case one of your

friends has not already done so.

"Edge of Tomorrow" is an original and fresh Hollywood production, despite being based on a Japanese light novel by Hiroshi Sakurazaka, All You Need Is Kill. The reason behind this probably has much to do with its concept: a man must relive the same hellish day over and over, as well figure out how he got into such a predicament, fix it and save the world.

The time loop scenario isn't too new of an idea, but the way this film utilizes it certainly is: an action film with a time loop scenario is what is uncommon, and that alone might entice people to see it. The scenario manages to not be stale throughout, especially since it becomes clear before we're half-way through what's going on and why.

However, perhaps one of the

biggest reasons why the film makes the premise work is its

“

Essentially, the film keeps its premise fresh throughout by changing up the situations within the time loop and not having it be that the protagonist constantly dies and continues to be confused.

”

star, Tom Cruise. Once the time loop starts, Cruise is aware something isn't right and eventually figures out exactly what's going on. Not soon after, he becomes fully aware of what's going on and must now find a way to stop

it from happening--as well as stop that terrible alien invasion.

What further makes this premise work is that, once it's understood what's going on, the time loop is still happening, so our protagonist must still endure the same day over and over again. That's something I expected, but I was surprised by how well the film handles it.

Essentially, the film keeps its premise fresh throughout by changing up the situations within the time loop and not having it be that the protagonist constantly dies and continues to be confused. Additionally, this allows the plot to actually go on, instead of stagnating on endless situations of the protagonist confused and not being able to convince anyone else of what's happening.

In the story department of keeping things fresh, the writers

--Christopher McQuarrie, Jez Butterworth, John-Henry Butterworth-- and director --Doug Liman-- are to thank, although as mentioned, Cruise really sells it.

Another major component of "Edge of Tomorrow" is its comedic aspects. Much to my surprise, the film is incredibly funny and almost light hearted, something the marketing didn't really hint at (the marketing also made the film look generic).

The humor helps the cleverness of not only the film's script but of the protagonist, whom Cruise plays with excellent charisma. This also goes for Emily Blunt's character, who is much more serious and almost acts emotionally opposite from Cruise (he smiles so much more than she does, for example).

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Phantogram lights up the stage

DIRECTOR



DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS

Before June 27th I had only heard a few of New York duo Phantogram's tracks.

I knew a few friends were fans and promised me that night at Grand Central—they lied.

It was a mind-blowing show. The second the stage hands came on to prepare for Phantogram to come on stage, the crowds began to get restless. The tight spaces became even tighter and the smell of cigarettes began to fill the air.

Darkness fell and within minutes guitarist Josh Carter and vocalist Sarah Barthel emerged from stage right to a deafening roar of applause.

The decibels only went up after the New York natives started with "Nothing but Trouble." I swore I was going to have a seizure with the number of lights going off at once.

The crowd responded with energy that powered the entire performance. Carter and Barthel continued hammering out jams like "Don't Move," "Mouth full of Diamonds" and "The day you died."

A most memorable moment was when Barthel climbed atop

an equipment crate, wrapped herself in a glittering golden blanket and performed "Bill Murray"

She softly swayed from side to side with Carter strumming and singing directly in front of her.

The yellow stage light formed a pyramid cage around her. A definite change of pace from the intensity they demonstrated with earlier songs in the set.

They closed with their hit "When I'm small," to which afterwards Barthel and Carter were met with a roar of applause and praise. The crowd was so loud that Barthel jokingly

told them they couldn't play if everyone was that loud.

Her pleas did little to quell the overly-hyped crowd. They performed an encore of "Mouthful of Diamonds" and "Celebrating Nothing," her spent voice laughed and thanked the crowd once again.

Out of the 60 or so records I own only two or three are electronic music. My collection will now have "Voices" and "Eyelid Movement" as well as any EP of theirs I can get my hands on.

Because of shows like this, the indie music scene in Miami has been solidified once again.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9: BBC

World Cup Semi-Finals Showing WUC 221, 4 p.m.



FIFA WORLD CUP Brasil

July 10: MMC

UNLEASHED! 100 Days to Homecoming Betty Chapman Plaza, 12- 4 p.m.

July 10: BBC

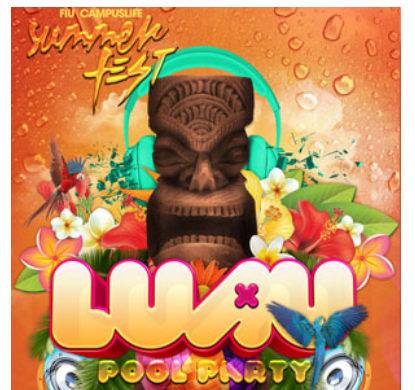
Summer Splash: Light Up The Night BBC Aquatic Center, 7-11 p.m.

July 15: BBC

Breakfast on the Go AC II, 9:30- 10:30 a.m.

July 17: MMC

Luau Pool Party Housing Quad, 1-5 p.m.



July 17: BBC

Kayak After Dark BBC Bay, 7-9 p.m.

July 22: BBC

Countdown to FIU Comic-Con Campus Life Hallway, 11- 1 p.m.

July 26: BBC

Kayak On The Bay BBC Bay, 10 a.m. 2 p.m.

July 30: MMC

Summerfest Color Party Between Blue and Gold Garage, 5-10 P.M



July 31: BBC

SPC Summer Picnic Bay Area by Aquatics, 12- 3 p.m.

NIGHT AT THE NEST



JUNETTE REYES/THE BEACON

Telescope Thieves was one of several local acts to perform before Daedalus at The Nest on Thursday, July 3. Other local acts included: Lautlos, Tyord and Telekinetic Walrus and The Pride of Ions alongside Buffalo Brown of Cog Nomen and The Galactic Effect.

An eerie release

COLUMNIST



LUIS SANTANA

When I encountered "L'Amour," it didn't look like much. It looked like a bland foreign release that wasn't bringing much to the table. I was wrong.

The Lewis' album is as minimalistic as its cover -- a black and white photo of who we presume is the man known only as Lewis, and yet is just as beautiful as any album filled with bells and whistles of complexity. This album succeeds in building an atmosphere of

peace and calm in the song "Cool Night in Paris" while simultaneously bringing along a sense of serenity alongside unsettling synthesizers in songs like "Summer's Moon." The songs build a sense of intimacy and dread that I've heard in few others.

The opening track "I Thought the World of You" opens up with piano and synthesizer almost easing you into a state of relaxation. At 30 seconds we hear the first whispers of Lewis as he croons lyrics that you can't quite catch, but the lyrics aren't important here. It's simply the way his voice sounds that is enough to make you feel like he is talking straight to your heart, each word as round and soft as a lover's note.

"Even Rainbows Turn Blue" brings along a softly plucked acoustic guitar, this time without the accompaniment of Lewis' voice. The synthesizer in this song is reminiscent of the "Legend of Zelda: Majora's Mask's" synthesizer: eerie and haunting, mysterious and all encompassing.

The strange part about Lewis and his album: not much is known about Lewis or the album.

Looking the album up on Spotify shows it as being released in 2014 while other searches in the internet register it as a 1983 album release. The album was a private release that didn't sell well and so was condemned to being discontinued.

For the full review, visit fiusm.com.

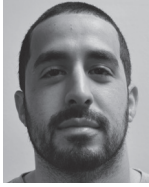
LOCAL RADIATION

Wed. FROM 6p.m.-8p.m. // 95.3FM ▲ 88.1FM ▲ 96.9FM

COLUMN

Basketball to softball; a power shift in the making

COLUMNIST



PATRICK CHALVIRE

The Coley reached accolades “Holy Coley” craze came and went and Panther fans may be wondering what’s next?

Take a walk down the street and keep a look out for the new ladies on the rise.

Women’s sports at FIU has undeniably been dominated by former standout Jerica Coley but no matter how much diehard fans pray, Coley ain’t walking through those doors.

But for those looking for salvation, your prayers may have been answered. I give you the softball team, led by a freshman and a sophomore. Excuse me, the Conference USA’s freshman of the year Stephanie Teixeira and All-Academic ace Corinne Jenkins.

Believe it or not, this dynamic duo may be able to do what Coley could only wish of achieving in a conference championship.

no other Panther has ever reached, and deservedly so, but athletes are always judged on championships and unfortunately for Coley, she never knocked through that barrier. She was also passed over in this years WNBA Draft, a shock for many Panther fans. She was then signed by the New York Liberty but was waived just a few days later.

In her four years at FIU, Coley never made it out of the conference tournament on top. Only twice did she make it as far as the Women’s National Invitation Tournament, falling to the University of South Florida in 2011-12 and the University of Florida the next year.

Yes, Coley is now the 5th leading scorer in NCAA women’s history but with time that could be passed, just as she passed her predecessors. A ring can not be taken away.

The softball team has the potential to be the best group of ladies to come out of FIU since they were once led by former star Ashley

McClain, the Panthers career leader in doubles and batting average.

Granted, they did come up short this season but it’s only going to add fuel to the fire and an experience this team never had. As the No. 3 seed in the C-USA tournament, their first-ever appearance, they were upset by the six seeded East Carolina Panthers, 5-1.

In their final appearances of the season, Jenkins struck out three and only allowed two runs on five hits. She finished with a 17-10 record as a sophomore. Teixeira finished the season with a .408 batting average, just one point behind McClain’s single season record set back in 2009.

The Panthers will also have a chance to finish at the top of the conference next season and in only their second year in the conference, will host the conference championship in May.

Coley needed support in the second season, or as many people call it, the conference tournament, but inconsistency was always the name of the

game. Rarely did the rest of the women’s team step up in the tournament until Coley’s senior year when they lifted the team past expectations before having the wheels fall off against Middle Tennessee, a team Coley was 2-8 against in her career.

The softball team is full of unknown talent. Aside from Teixeira and Jenkins, the Panthers also have infielder and catcher Krystal Garcia, outfielder Gabby Spallone and outfielder Rebekah Sanchez all returning next season. Each of the three starting 52 of the 53 games. Garcia and Spallone both hitting over .315 for the season.

Now softball isn’t the outgoing and enthusiastic sport that’ll bring in fans that can fill up a stadium. Neither was the basketball team but if history has anything to say for it, it’s a sport people would rather stay and watch for three hours, especially during the Spring and Summer time in Miami. Who wouldn’t say no to an air-conditioned arena over a sun-blazed stadium.



JASEN DELGADO/BEACON FILE

Sophomore infielder Stephanie Teixeira and other members of the softball team are going to be looked at the most powerful program at FIU now that Jerica Coley, of women’s basketball has graduated.

The world, or rather Miami based fans, are all about the now. The success of the Miami Heat has caused people to become impatient and in search for a quick fix. The Coley era never brought back a trophy for all to see but the softball team can be the next team to hoist next years conference trophy, barring any setbacks.

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CLUB FEATURE

Taekwondo becoming a club powerhouse at FIU

ALEJANDRO AGUIRRE
Contributing Writer

Taekwondo, established over 2000 years ago is a Korean ancient martial arts that has finally reached FIU thanks to Chris Alvarez, the head coach of the club here on campus. Alvarez was able to explain the overall concept of the sport as well as talk about the club’s achievements, goals and plans for the future.

“I started the club two years ago and I found inspiration in starting a taekwondo club because I wanted to bring and share something I love with other people,” Alvarez said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FIU TAEKWONDO CLUB

Sky Choi (left), Chris Alvarez (center) and Ray Alvarez (right), the three FIU Taekwondo club coaches, scored 2nd place in the team poomsae forms division at the national collegiate taekwondo competition in UC Berkeley, scoring a silver medal for FIU.

taekwondo is gaining more popularity since it became an official Olympic sport in 2000. In the Olympics taekwondo is competed in a sparring style with a point system to determine the winner of a match. Alvarez explained that the club practices at a very high level and the sparring part of taekwondo is what the club mainly focuses on.

Alvarez has practiced and competed in taekwondo since the age of nine and he talked about how as head coach he tries as much as possible to share all his knowledge and experience to the newer and younger members.

“Taekwondo is all about the journey and all the effort you have to put in to succeed,” Alvarez said. “I’ve been blessed so far that it has been a rewarding experience.”

What once started as a small club of six members two years ago has expanded to over 30 active participants and continues to grow. Beyond practices and sparring, the club also enters itself into various competitions and tournaments throughout the state of Florida. These events include several aspects of the sport that is also emphasized in the Olympics that include forms and point fighting.

Like most sports, there are levels of competition.

What Alvarez likes to do to help the newer members gain experience and confidence

SEE MARTIAL ARTS, PAGE 7

Paintball Club hopes for more competitive atmosphere in future

JORGE CORRALES
Contributing Writer

The FIU Paintball Club has quickly transformed from a couple of guys who got together on weekends to play into a full fledged organization.

FIU senior, Victor Borges, a psychology major that co-founded the club in the fall of 2012, but the paintball fever didn’t really catch on until summer of 2013.

One of the club’s captains and co-founders, Pedro Munoz, a senior advertising major, talked about the the club’s exodus from obscurity.

“The club started in 2012 but it wasn’t really anything people could follow up with,” Munoz said. “I got together with [Borges] last summer and started it up again. I wanted to make the club bigger and start an actual team.”

The club meets every

Saturday morning to practice and discuss club issues at Medley Paintball Park, one of the Splat Attack locations. Meetings usually last two hours and there is no fee to attend. Attendees are

“Ignoring your passion is slow suicide. Never ignore what your heart pumps for.”

Pedro Munoz,
Co-Founder and Captain
FIU Paintball Club

only responsible for paying their cost for entrance and equipment.

“Anyone and everyone can join the club,” Munoz said. “We are open to playing paintball with anyone that is interested; not just FIU

students.”

Along with the club, they have put together a team composed of University students and alumni.

“We made the team out of people that came out to our practices and showed interest,” Munoz said.

Munoz is one of the paintball team’s two captains, along with fellow student Junior Aragao, a senior in engineering.

Currently, the team only meets to practice, but they hope to be playing competitively by fall of this year.

The extra practice will pay off when the club starts playing competitively.

“Team chemistry is just as important in paintball as it is in any other sport,” Munoz said. “Some of these teams have been playing together for years. You can have good

SEE FUTURE, PAGE 7

COLUMN

Don't worry US fans, the team returns in 2016

COLUMNIST



MARIA LORENZINO

As an Argentinian and avid soccer fan, I've cheered, cried, sang, fought and even thrown up in the name of soccer.

On July 1, I watched U.S. soccer fans consumed by the same passion that consumes me every time Argentina's national team is playing. Even though the USA lost, they gained international respect and procured hundreds, if not thousands, of new fans.

So, I've decided to let everyone in on a little secret. If you became a fan of the United States' men's national team during the World Cup, there's good news for you: you won't have to wait 4 years to see the Yanks play again on the international stage.

In 2016, two of FIFA's six continental confederations, the South American Football Confederation, or CONMEBOL, and the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football will join forces to host a special tournament, the Copa America Centenario. The special tournament celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Copa America.

The Copa America is CONMEBOL's mini World Cup, where countries from South America compete to be named the region's best. Last Copa America in 2011 was held in Argentina and won by Uruguay.

Although the next official Copa America will be held in Chile in 2015, the 100th anniversary of the oldest international continental soccer competition would be the year after and could not be overlooked.

On May 1, the two continental confederations announced the special tournament during a press conference right here in Miami. The

tournament will be held from June 3 to June 26.

Here's another bit of good news. The United States made the cut because it is hosting the tournament. And one of the probable stadiums is Sun Life Stadium.

I'm excited that I may be able to see my national team play in my own backyard. I'm also hoping to see the stands filled with the American pride I saw this World Cup. I'd like to see if the fans will continue to support the team, or if it was just a World Cup phenomenon.



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

President Mark B. Rosenberg watched the US vs Belgium game with students in Graham Center on July 1. The US lost to Belgium and was eliminated from the World Cup, but gained a significant following from American fans.

So if you bought a U.S. jersey only to watch Belgium destroy your hopes and dreams, fear not; you'll get to wear it proudly in 2016, if you didn't already sell it on Craigslist.

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COLUMN

Despite loss, US fans make impression in Brazil

COLUMNIST



REBECCA CHARUR

In a World Cup filled with surprises, the United States managed to pull off what was considered by many to be the unthinkable: they survived what was coined "the group of death" and advanced to the knockout stages for the second consecutive World Cup.

One of the things that struck me in traveling throughout Brazil was the amount of

was not expected to play.

On both occasions, however, I received a surprising amount of "U-S-A" chants as my family and I walked past hundreds of fans making their way to their seats. Before the Argentina versus Switzerland match, my uncle and I were carrying a United States flag around the stadium and were even stopped by a couple of Japanese fans who asked to take a picture with us. Something drew them to the red, white and blue that had already impressed many of the people in attendance.

Despite a heart-breaking loss to Belgium in the knockout rounds, the US team further proved to the world that they too can compete against the world's elite.

Many in Brazil acknowledged it as one of the better games of the World Cup and even called Tim Howard the best goalkeeper in the tournament, ahead of Mexico's Francisco Ochoa Magana, Italy's Gianluigi Buffon and Brazil's own Julio Cesar in a recent article published in Rio de Janeiro's O Globo.

That day, and in the days before the ultimate test against Belgium, I did not encounter one Brazilian, or soccer fan in general, that was not cheering for a United States victory.

Between the United States' relentless style of play and the classic underdog story that has come to define them year after year, the team has built quite the international fan base that will continue to grow in tournaments to come.

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American support coming from the local and international fans. I wore my navy blue United States warm-up jersey to the matches in Belo Horizonte and Fortaleza, two places where the United States team

Taekwondo kicks off with University students

MARTIAL ARTS, PAGE 6

is to have them compete in local tournaments in South Florida against other taekwondo schools and work their way up. From there, they would have to qualify to move on to the national tournaments and then the college championships.

The college championship is very competitive and big name schools such as Berkeley and MIT, for example, bring their

own taekwondo club. In the college championships last year the club had five members go to the University of California at Berkeley which is a huge accomplishment. That marked the first time that FIU was represented in that tournament. In 2014 they tripled in size and showed up with 15 members to the tournament and came back with 16 medals.

Recently, Alvarez has named two members of the club as

co-captains. They are Daniel Cuyun and Alfonso Meneses.

They have both been there since the club was founded and they represent the team when they go to compete in tournaments. Alvarez did this to show the other club members that you will be rewarded for the hard work and sacrifice you put in.

"Everyone in the club is doing a great job and everyone is progressing," Alvarez said. "As

long as they put the effort in, they will see positive results and gaining competition experience goes a very long way."

This club is very open to new members with or without past experience in taekwondo. Getting in to the club is fairly straight forward. New members show up to the practice and speak to Alvarez about joining. During the summer they practice twice a week at the school's Rec center at 9 a.m.

During the regular academic year, they practice four times a week at a gym called Peak Performance. It just so happens that's the club's motto is "Achieving Peak Performance." Clearly this club is on the upward trend as they continue to gain more members and excel in the many competitions they attend.

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Panthers in Paintball Club looking for competition

FUTURE, PAGE 6

players, but if you haven't played like a team and don't know how to play each other's strengths, you won't last in the sport."

The team is also in the process of getting sponsors for both gear and apparel. Getting sponsored will immensely add to the team's legitimacy and help their chances of playing competitively.

There are five divisions of competitive paintball, with five

being the lowest and one being the highest. FIU Paintball Club will enter the circuit in Division Five.

The pinnacle of the sport is the Paintball World Cup which is held every October in Orlando. There, the top teams from all five divisions meet to see who has the best paintball team in the world.

FIU Paintball Club is still in its infant stage, but that doesn't stop team captain Munoz from dreaming big.

"If we work hard and get better, I could definitely see this team making a trip up to Orlando for the World Cup," Munoz

said.

Munoz is very ardent about his sport. While some may see the activity just as recreation or a waste of money, Munoz sees it as one of the biggest parts of who he is.

"I have always been into the sport, but it wasn't until last summer that I really fell in love with the competitive aspect of it," Munoz said. "It's my passion. Ignoring your passion is slow suicide. Never ignore what your heart pumps for."

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Panther Sports Talk Live

WRGP Radiate FM 88.1, 95.3, and 96.9

Monday/Wednesday 9 - 10 a.m.

Friday 8 - 9 a.m.



COMMUNITY SERVICE



FRANCESCA ANCHELLA/THE BEACON

Lauren Ramos (left), a marine biology senior, gets information about community service from Omotola Oladapo, an AmeriCorps VISTA representative at the Center for Leadership and Service.

Student Government Council at the Bay brings two new senators onboard

ALEXI CARDONA
Staff Writer

The Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus appointed two new senators at this week's senate meeting.

Ana Correa, a sophomore advertising major, was chosen as the new School of Journalism and Mass Communications senator.

"I want to make sure our students in [SJMC] are well-represented," Correa said.

Correa is an FIU Alternative Breaks site leader, a peer mentor and the president of Wine to Water at FIU, an organization that helps provide clean water to people in need around the world.

Eli Jean-Mary, a freshman majoring in music business, was appointed lower division senator. He applied for the position to work on his shyness and further develop his leadership skills.

"I've got big dreams and I don't want them to go to waste," Jean-Mary said.

Both new members were unanimously appointed.

The council voted to have the remaining summer senate meetings every two weeks instead of every week.

Last week's senate and general meetings did not reach quorum because of low attendance from some senators.

Allhan Mejia, the speaker of the senate, said he hoped to start updating the constitution by the end of summer, but that initiative has been pushed back.

The Student Government Association needs to form a constitution committee consisting of four members from each council — two executive branch members and two senators from both the Student Government Council at Modesto

A. Maidique Campus and SGC-BBC — to start discussing updates.

Mejia volunteered to be one of the senators in the constitution committee and asked for one more volunteer. The discussion was postponed for the next meeting.

The council at BBC is still recruiting members to fill seats in the senate. Representatives are needed for the College of Education, the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences

and the Broward Pines Center. The SGC-MMC senate did not meet on the first week of July because they meet on a biweekly basis over summer.

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Pool party at Biscayne Bay Campus includes kayaking this year

JEFFREY PIERRE
Entertainment Director

In South Florida, the water is a summertime rite; with that, the Office of Campus Life at the Biscayne Bay Campus is looking to nurture an FIU summer tradition.

Campus Life is hosting its annual Summer Splash event titled, "Light Up the Night," a pool party that will be held at the BBC Aquatic Center on Thursday, July 10.

"We wanted to bring a little life to BBC," said Alexander Barrientos, a graduate assistant at Campus Life on planning the pool party. "This event should show students new to BBC that, number one, it exists and, number two, that we have a beautiful campus."

Barrientos says the "Light Up

the Night" pool party will include kayaking, free food, a camera booth and a disc jockey. This year's collaboration with the BBC Recreation Center allowed the office of Campus Life to offer the kayaking service to students for free.

Kayaking by the bay is "one of the events people enjoy the most," according to Barrientos, and is expected to bring in more students to the event than last year.

"Last year, it was pretty much just a pool party," Barrientos said.

Campus Life's initiative to promote an annual University pool party is something the office has put a lot of thought into.

"It's not an event they should miss," said Barrientos.

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CAMPUS LIFE CALENDAR OF EVENTS BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS SUMMER 2014

JULY

AUGUST

SPC MOVIE: "FROZEN"
 WHEN: July 2, 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. showings
 WHERE: Wolfe University Center Ballrooms

PANTHER PADDLE BOARDING
 WHEN: July 5, 9:30 a.m.

FIFA WORLD CUP SEMIFINAL SHOWING
 WHEN: July 8, 4 p.m.
 WHERE: WUC 221

FIFA WORLD CUP SEMIFINAL SHOWING
 WHEN: July 9, 4 p.m.
 WHERE: WUC 221

BBC SUMMER SPLASH: "LIGHT UP THE NIGHT"
 WHEN: July 10, 7p.m.- 11 p.m.
 WHERE: BBC Aquatic Center

BREAKFAST ON THE GO
 WHEN: July 15, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
 WHERE: ACII

KAYAK AFTER DARK
 WHEN: July 17, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

COUNTDOWN TO FIU COMIC-CON 2014
 WHEN: July 22, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 WHERE: Campus Life Hallway

KAYAK ON THE BAY
 WHEN: July 26, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SGA GENERAL MEETING
 WHEN: July 30, 3:30 p.m.
 WHERE: WUC 221

SPC SUMMER PICNIC
 WHEN: July 31, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.
 WHERE: Bay Area by Aquatics

PANTHER PADDLE BOARDING
 WHEN: Aug. 2, 9:30 a.m.

NIGHT PANTHER PADDLE BOARDING
 WHEN: Aug. 7, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

SPLASH AND DASH
 WHEN: Aug. 2, 9:30 a.m.

KAYAK AFTER DARK
 WHEN: Aug. 14, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

KAYAK ON THE BAY
 WHEN: Aug. 23, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**INTERESTED IN WRITING, EDITING, DESIGNING OR TAKING PICTURES?
 JOIN THE BEACON!**

Pick up an application at MMC GC 210 or BBC WUC 124.