

PRESIDENT SPEAKS

University president on expansion, funding and campus safety

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President Mark B. Rosenberg sat down with Student Media before the Thanksgiving holiday to provide updates on important issues and projects going on this year and in the future.

There are a lot of changes coming up at the University: expansion, the health services merger, construction, new buildings and changes in state funding.

Here are the latest updates:

Fairgrounds

The Nov. 4 election brought a big win for the University — the fairgrounds.

“We won in almost every voting precinct in Miami-Dade County,” said Rosenberg.

Now with the county and the voters’ support, the University can move forward with finding an alternative site for the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition, Inc. The deadline is set for March 2015.

Another matter to settle is what the cost of the relocation will be: Rosenberg has said in the past that he’d spend up to \$50 million, but Youth Fair CEO Robert Hohenstein has said that the fair relocation would cost \$250 million.

The price differences, according

to Rosenberg, are based on what the Fair thinks it would cost to acquire a new site and make improvements to suit the Fair’s needs.

“It’s a number that’s out there, but it would not make this workable,” Rosenberg said. “We hope to have an alternative site and an agreed upon amount by early March.”

The University is counting on the Florida Legislature to provide most of the funds needed to relocate the site.

This last summer, the state legislature gave the University \$10 million for this specific project.

“This down payment was so important,” Rosenberg said. “It got the county commission to move.”

He added that the state has supported FIU growth since it was given the smallest space to build their main campus out of all the schools in the State University System.

“The state helped build this campus. The legislature gets FIU,” said Rosenberg.

Once the University selects a suitable site and raises the money for the relocation, it must give the fair three years’ notice to move.

Ideally, the University would break ground on its expansion projects in the next three years, Rosenberg said, and if things don’t move quickly, then it would take up to six years to start building on the 64 acres adjacent to the Modesto A.

BLACK LIVES MATTER



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Moses McGahee, a senior studying sociology, marches and chants with other students at the FIU Ferguson protest on Tuesday, Nov. 25. For more, see Ferguson.

SEE FERGUSON, PAGE 4-5

Maidique Campus.

The University plans to expand their programming and space in the science and technology fields by adding more labs, academic

health center buildings, expand the College of Engineering and Computing and add more student housing and parking structures.

Performance Funding

Going in to the second year of

SEE PRESIDENT, PAGE 2

University ranks for graduates with least student debt

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Graduating with steep debt has been a national concern, but U.S. News & World Report’s 2015 edition of Best Colleges has ranked the University as number 13 in least amount of debt for graduates. The average amount of debt carried by the University’s class of 2013 was \$17,893, while the national average student debt for public university graduates is \$25,550. FIU is the top Florida school in this category.

According to President Mark B. Rosenberg, 70 percent of FIU students have financial aid and less than half accumulate student loans.

“Graduating from FIU without debt is not just an option - it’s the norm,” said Rosenberg to FIU News. “We are pleased to be recognized for the work that has gone into keeping tuition affordable and higher education accessible in South Florida.”

According to Gabriela Mendez, default

prevention coordinator for the office of financial aid, there are three main factors that contribute to University students graduating with less debt

“Most of our student population is local, meaning we have a high percentage of students living at home and requiring lower costs of living which ultimately drives down the borrowing levels.”

Gabriela Mendez
Default Prevention Coordinator
Office of Financial Aid

- low tuition costs, local students opting to live with their parents, and high levels of financial aid.

“Most of our student population is local, meaning we have a high percentage of students living at home and requiring lower costs of

living, which ultimately drives down the borrowing levels,” Mendez said.

FIU provides grants and scholarships that total more than \$170 million a year from institutional, state and federal sources.

Also, programs such as dual enrollment, which allows high school students to take college courses at no cost to them, save local students \$3.8 million, and the University’s Graduate Success Initiative contribute to savings by guiding students to a timely graduation.

“We are able to offer a substantial amount of gifted aids for students with low-income households,” Mendez said. Gifted aids include State programs and institutional funds, such as Bright Futures scholarships, Florida Student Assistance Grant and University Grants.

“It is essential for [undergraduate] students and first-time borrowers to avoid student loans as much as possible.”

Students like Samantha, a freshman business major, is a local commuter who said she has not had to borrow student loans.

“I think my scholarships, such as Bright [Futures], are sufficient enough so I won’t have to take out student loans,” Barroso said.

Barroso said many of her commuter friends also have scholarships, so a low student debt at FIU is not a surprise to her.

On the other hand, there are students who have a difficult time escaping student loans, especially out-of-state students. Shekinah Harper, a senior broadcast media major, said she works two jobs while being a full-time student. She has also been active in student organizations.

“I feel it makes things a lot more difficult when you have to balance being a full-time student...and then work full-time as well,” she said.

“It’s very hard being out-of-state because it’s more expensive,” Harper said. She said that the University should work harder and put more initiative towards out-of-state students.

Any type of debt such, as student loans, will have a high impact on student financial health, said Mendez.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Coast Guard plane brings 193 rare sea turtles to Florida

A Coast Guard plane touched down in Orlando at dusk Tuesday, hauling a cargo of the world's rarest sea turtles, rescued by volunteers from the lethally chilly waters and beaches of Cape Cod Bay.

Weighing only 2 to 10 pounds, the young Kemp's Ridley sea turtles are among the first of an astounding wave of the reptiles to succumb to hypothermia in the "bucket" of the Massachusetts bay.

"They're so small," said Alyssa Hancock, a SeaWorld Orlando aquarium worker, peering into one of 101 banana boxes holding 193 turtles.

Turtle rescues happen every year in late fall in the Northeast, but for reasons not yet known what's happening this year is "epic," said one of the nearly two dozen volunteers passing boxes of turtles like a bucket brigade.

Key provincial capital in Iraq may be about to fall to Islamic State

Islamic State fighters on Tuesday penetrated to the core of Ramadi, the provincial capital of Iraq's largest province, prompting local security officials to warn that the city was on the verge of falling to the extremists. Such a gain would be the Islamic State's most significant victory in months.

"The governorate building has been nearly cut off," said a Baghdad security official in direct contact with the operations command for Anbar, the province where Ramadi lies. The official said that Islamic State forces had cut roads to the Iraqi Army's 8th Division base to the west and the road to Habaniyya airbase to the east. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters.

Islamic State fighters launched their push to capture the long-contested town on Friday and have been battling government-aligned troops for control since. Ramadi is one of the last pockets of government control in Anbar, the province that abuts Baghdad on the west and the scene of some of the bloodiest battles waged by American troops during the U.S. occupation of Iraq from 2003 to 2011.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 26, Issue 44, in the article "Center for Leadership becomes U-wide resource" there was a typo that said that Mayra Beers "will not be the director for strategy and implementation, when it should have been that Mayra Beers "will now be the director..."

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

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President on University matters

PRESIDENT, PAGE 1

the Board of Governors' Performance Funding Model, the University is facing tougher competition.

Last year, the University tied in third place. It scored 34 points out of the 50-point metrics, restoring its \$5,464,558 share and granting it \$1,491,676 in additional funding.

With a 0.16 percent net increase in base funds, the University earned \$7.2 million in funding for the 2014 to 2015 academic year.

However, universities that scored 25 points or less risked losing a portion of their base funding, which would be reallocated for the use of the higher-scoring, thus higher-performing, universities.

The model includes eight measures common to all Florida state universities: employment rates, wages, the cost of degrees, graduation rates, grade point averages, the number of Pell-grant recipients, the number of bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering and math and the number of graduate degrees in STEM.

Two additional measures unique to each university make up the 10-metric system. For FIU, these measures are the percent of bachelor's degrees without excess hours and the number of bachelor's degrees awarded to minorities.

Although the University has stayed in the top threshold so far, schools that were at the bottom have applied aggressive tactics to work their way up, which could bring the University further down in the rankings this year. The final scores will be announced by June.

The biggest areas of improvement are graduation rates and second-year retention rates, Rosenberg said.

"There could be some surprises," he said. "We need to continue to show significant progress."

Student Academic Support Center

For students wondering what's taking the place of the parking spaces that were next to the bookstore, this is it.

The 74,000-square foot Student Academic Support Center, scheduled to open in the spring of 2016, will be the one-stop building for all students' financial and academic needs — the first building that incoming students will see and use most throughout their academic career.

It will hold the front office of all enrollment

services, including the registrar, financial aid and advising. The building will also house the offices for Honors College, University Graduate School, Career Services, International Student and Scholar Services and the Study Abroad Program.

It is also scheduled to have classrooms and become the main location for orientation and academic seminars, as well as the University's largest auditorium.

"It gives us the ability to have more serious orientations and recruitment," Rosenberg said. "I want to give the best experience for students

a lot of things have not been defined yet, he said.

Campus Safety

Every year, the police department and student leaders go on a campus safety walk to identify areas that might be risky on campus.

This year, the areas on campus that needed lighting improvements are the Recreation Field, the corridor near the Graham Center fountain, the parking lot next to the GC Ballrooms, Parking Lot 9D behind the new Management and New Growth Opportunities Building and the back of the

roads are so flooded, that people get stranded. This equipment would also help other police departments that have interlocal agreements with FIUPD.

"I want the equipment to help as many people as possible," he said.

Rosenberg said a significant amount of police officers have been hired under his presidency and that he is confident in Chief of Police Alexander Casas and his training to keep the campus safe.

"We are in an urban area. Anyone can enter campus," he said. "My wife and I live on campus and my son and daughter both lived on campus."

"Marty's Cube" – "You don't make up for a lost tradition."

This summer, the University lost a popular student tradition as the 15-foot cube sculpture, "Marty's Cube," was taken back to the collector due to safety concerns.

"The decision was made by me," Rosenberg said. "I could not afford a student getting injured or maimed."

These safety concerns prompted the University to return the piece back to its original donor, Martin Margulies.

The Margulies Collection curator, Katherine Hinds, said in May that over a period of time outdoor sculptures tend to have maintenance needs. The cube will be donated to another educational institution in Florida, one that will have the funds to maintain the sculpture, she said.

"Universities make budgetary decisions," said Hinds, who was glad that the University gave her the opportunity to take back the sculpture to renovate it and bring it back to top-notch conditions.

Spinning the cube had become a part of the freshmen orientation tour, midterms week, finals week and the Student Government Association's Cram Jam events. The cube had been at the University for about 16 years.

"You don't make up for a lost tradition," Rosenberg said. "We have other student traditions embedded in our campus life. Hopefully that can fill the void across time."

Another of Margulies' sculpture on campus, "Argosy," which is displayed on the traffic circle at the 16th Street entrance, will be repainted.

"I want the equipment to help as many people as possible.

Mark B. Rosenberg
President
FIU

at FIU even before they are students."

This building has been talked about since the late 1990s, Rosenberg said, but there were other priorities at the time, like building more classrooms and labs.

When making this building became one of the top priorities, it was planned to wrap around the FIU Stadium, similar to what other schools, like Florida State University, did.

This changed in 2009, when the administration decided that this building needed to be someplace very visible on campus — close to the center point of campus, and visible when entering.

"This is a destination building," said Rosenberg. "It is aligned with performance funding. Hopefully it'll help us improve."

FIU Health/Student Health Services Merger

When the Board of Trustees met in the summer, the Health Affairs Task Force committee asked for Student Affairs to work with the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and merge the Student Health Services to be part of FIU Health.

The merger is meant to make things easier for students, especially those with chronic diseases. The ultimate goal is that every student has health coverage.

Like any merger, there is always the possibility of new jobs as well as downsizing.

"I would expect jobs to be created, and some might be eliminated," Rosenberg said.

However, nothing is set in stone with this merger and

Ryder Business Building.

Rosenberg said that since he became president, he has worked to improve the overall luminosity at night, but there have been funding issues that have set them back at times. Making sure the parking garages are well-lit has been a priority for Rosenberg.

"There isn't enough lighting we can place for students at night," he said.

Soon, students will see more blinking lights around campus crosswalks and the University is working with the Florida Department of Transportation to improve the lighting at the crosswalk on 107th Avenue and 16th Street.

Another area the president is looking at is the new traffic circle at the main entrance on campus. He said that area between the education and architecture building needs lighting improvements.

Rosenberg wants to improve pedestrian safety and particularly worries about skateboarders on campus, that they might hit or hurt other pedestrians with their "high-speed comfort level."

Although there has been much scrutiny nationwide over police militarization, Rosenberg stands by the University Police Department's decision to purchase the M16 rifles and the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle.

"I don't want to under equip them," he said. "I'd like to think we would use that vehicle to save lives."

The armored vehicle would help in time of terrible flooding, when lakes and

Protesters are fighting the wrong way

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The grand jury that focused on the Michael Brown vs. Darren Wilson case has reached the decision that the officer will not be indicted and the case will not go any further in court. The jurors do not believe that, according to the evidence presented, there is reason for Darren Wilson to be charged and prosecuted in court.

Michael Brown's family, shortly after, released a statement that read, "While we understand that many others share our pain, we ask that you channel your frustration in ways that will make a positive change."

While the family pleaded for only peaceful protests as they mourn their son's life, the

protestors in Ferguson had other plans.

It was no surprise that the verdict was announced Monday as everyone geared up. Even with so much preparation, the city was not ready for what was to come once the verdict was presented. Regardless of what the outcome could have been, the city should have expected the unexpected and, sadly, the worst.

In the hours following the verdict, blocks in Ferguson, Missouri, were lit on fire, looted and vandalized. Although the National Guard and police force were there, they could not do much. These incidents and riots occurred because of police brutality; we clearly cannot expect police officers to feel they can use force to stop the riots in the streets without feeling they will be targeted next.

The riots that followed the announcement

that Darren Wilson would not be indicted could have been predicted. After all, schools were closed for the remainder of the week, the National Guard was sent in and the decision was not presented until much later at night.

The city thought of giving people enough time to leave work and arrive home safely; however, if this was done in order to keep the community safe, why wasn't there more done to prevent the riots?

The city should have created a curfew and rather than waiting until late at night for the group of protesters to grow—the streets would have been empty. If the community had been told that anyone found on the street after a certain time would be arrested, there would not have been the terror of government officials not being able to do their job against an angry mob. Those who would be found on

the streets would endure the consequences set beforehand.

Riots are exactly what took place and calling it anything other than that is mindless. Whether or not the people agreed with the decision, setting a community on fire will do absolutely nothing.

In fact, destroying the community in which you live, your children go to school and your family has employment is only making matters worse. Fighting violence with violence will never result in peace and looting a liquor store will not bring attention to the real problem at hand.

Lighting an innocent person's business into flames will not raise awareness for what occurred to Michael Brown. If the rioters want to create justice, they should find another way to do so.

Home is where the heart and turkey are

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In the fast-paced world we live in, it can be hard to take time out of our lives to spend time with family. Luckily, the holiday season here gives us time off to spend with the ones we love without having to worry about the stresses of our daily lives.

For some of us, the holidays are a drag because we have to deal with all of our annoying cousins and nitpicky aunts, but when you think back on those moments, they are going to be the memories that we will laugh about years down the road and will last a lifetime.

When we get older and move out of our parents' house we can easily get caught up in the freedom to do basically whatever we want. It feels like a relief to be able to go out

and stay out late without having to check in at home every hour. The reality is that, after a while of paying your own bills and surviving off of take-out food instead of a warm home-cooked meal, going home to see mom and dad is almost a relief instead of a hassle.

“ I have never looked forward to family dinners and holidays with the whole family around, but this year will be very different. ”

When I moved away from home, I couldn't be more relieved. All I wanted to do was get away from my hometown

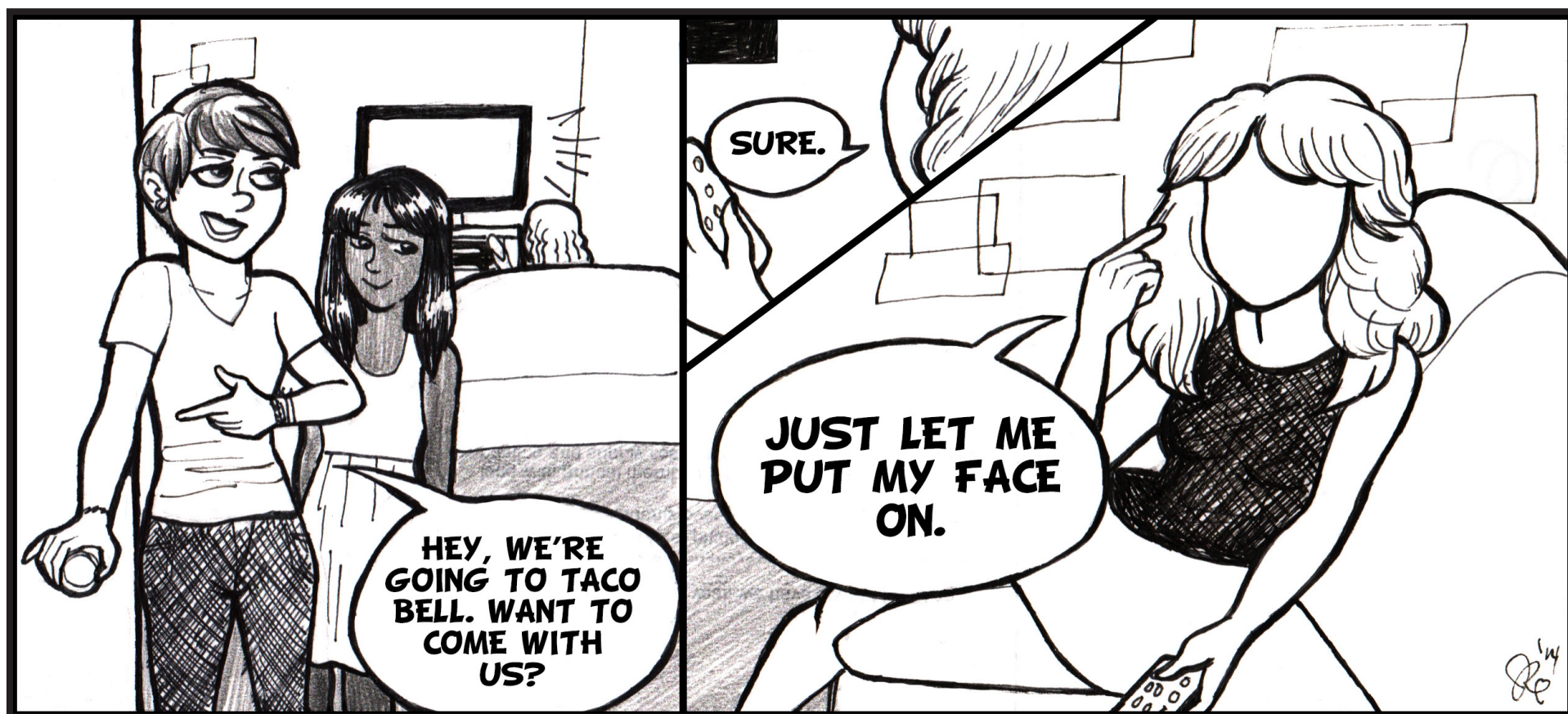
and start over. All of my friends told me how much I would miss home and want to come back, but I never believed them.

After being away for almost six months, I finally realize how much I miss not only the town I grew up in, but also my family who lives there. I have never looked forward to family dinners and holidays with the whole family around, but this year will be very different.

We easily take for granted the little things we have been given. Family, friends and a home-cooked meal from your mom are all easily overlooked when you have it in front of you everyday. Friends will come and go from your life, but your family is a group of people who will always be there no matter how much they irritate you at times.

This holiday season, while you are enjoying a break from the hustle of life, don't forget to appreciate the little things that life has given you because it can so easily be taken away without a moment's notice.

JUST SAYIN'



JASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

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Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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FERGUSON, PAGE 1

UNITY IN THE FACE OF TRAY



ALL PHOTOS BY MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Above: Students march chanting, “Hands up! Don’t shoot!” at the FIU Ferguson protest on Tuesday, Nov. 25.

Center: Nicholas Augustin, a freshman studying mechanical engineering, wears a sign that reads “I could be next. #RIPMikeBrown” at the FIU Ferguson Protest.

Top Right: Tatyana Brown, a freshman studying public relations, marches and chants with other students at the FIU Ferguson protest.

Center Right: Denzel Burnside III, an alumni and former student leader on campus, gives a speech at the protest urging students to get involved in social movements.

Bottom Right: Camry Moore, a sophomore studying psychology, marches with students at the FIU Ferguson protest. The protest was organized by the NAACP and the FIU Dreamers Defenders



Defenders, an organization that focuses on systemic inequality.

“I just want to make sure that we go on business for black people, not just for white people.”

—Diego Saldano Rojas, a student leader, contributed to this report.

JEFFREY PIERRE
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The decision whether to indict officer Darren Wilson, the Ferguson police officer who shot and killed Michael Brown on Aug. 9, was released and presented Monday night by the Saint Louis County prosecutor Robert P. McCulloch.

After months of hearing testimony and hours of deliberation, the grand jury — composed nine whites and three blacks — concluded that there wasn’t enough substantial evidence to indict Wilson on the charges. A rarity, officials say. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 2010, U.S. attorneys prosecuted 162,000 federal cases — grand jurors declined to return an indictment in 11 of them.

The details of the hearing — alongside McCulloch’s direct role and rationale for the decision — escalated tensions in Ferguson even further. In some areas, the city is still boiling over the shooting of Brown. Wilson’s testimony, describing Brown as a “Hulk Hogan” figure

and himself as a helpless “5-year-old,” have also been the source of backlash.

“The only way I can describe it, it looked like a demon,” Wilson said, recounting the events of Aug. 9 to the grand jury. “That’s how angry he looked.”

The failure to bring charges against Wilson was expected by many, but led to series of protest and demonstrations held across the United States.

On Tuesday, Nov. 25, students at the University marched in solidarity with Ferguson. At the rally, members of the FIU chapter of the Dream Defenders and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People led the demonstration that started in front of the Graham Center ballrooms.

Laura Hernández, the vice president of the National Organization for Women at FIU, says the protest was peaceful and under campus police supervision, but says she was uneasy regarding a University employee response.

“A student had chalked ‘RIP Mike Brown’ in front of the demonstration and around 10-20 minutes later, FIU employees mopped off the chalking,” Hernández

said. “A lot of the students demonstrating found this disrespectful seeing as how random companies chalk all over FIU seeking students to fill in jobs and are never erased.”

Hernandez adds that she noted more non-participants recording the demonstration rather than actually participating, another thing she found troubling.

Later in the day, University students joined other protesters in the downtown area. The march was peaceful demonstrations; however, Hernandez said a car nearly struck a demonstrator and police made one arrest.

“Earlier, the police monitoring the demonstration had tackled and arrested two participants who had crossed a ‘police line’ which was on public property,” she said. “One of those arrested included the brother of Trayvon Martin’s [family] lawyer.”

Jeremy Shaw, the brother of Martin’s lawyer, and Phillip Brian Agnew were charged with failure to obey a lawful order and arrested on the steps of the Richard E. Gerstein Justice Building in downtown Miami.

Shaneequa Castle, a second year African diaspora studies major, fell into a leadership role with the Dream

Orange Your Neighborhood: 16 days of domestic violence awareness

MARIA PEREZ SERRANO
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On Tuesday, Nov. 25, the University chapter of the United States National Committee for United Nations Women hosted an event to kick off the UN “Orange Your Neighborhood” campaign. USNC for UN Women is the entity of the United Nations responsible for promoting women’s empowerment and gender equality. USNC supports the global work of UN Women.

This year, under a new president, TruLe’sia Newberry, the University chapter became the second chapter recognized nationally.

The event titled OrangeUrHood is a 16-day national campaign to fight against domestic violence worldwide. Daniela Velasco, the first of four vice president of special events, says orange is the international color that represents domestic violence.

The event, hosted on campus next to the Green Library, conducted surveys for students regarding different facts about domestic violence. “A lot of people, once they were done, were mind blown,” Velasco said, adding that most people are unaware of how many women and men are affected by domestic violence.

According to USNC, one out of three American women experience domestic

violence at least once in their lifetime. An estimated 1.3 million women are in an abusive relationship with a partner. Only 25 percent of the women seek help.

The statistics surrounding domestic violence are staggering because, according to Velasco, many women feel embarrassment; the same applies to men.

Velasco says with so many people unaware of it, information and awareness is key. “We try, not to be aggressive

VESTY



...ion directed by black and brown youth, who confront
 ...ure people understand it is not ok for stuff like that to happen
 ...ness as usual because it impacts so many of us — not just
 ...own people but everyone in America," Castle said.

...as, a staff writer for FIUSM and contributor for WLRN,
 ...

...ence awareness

...lifetime. Worldwide, the numbers fall to one out of four
 ...ion women are victims of physical assault by an intimate
 ...ese cases are reported to the police.
 ... domestic violence are sometime hard to account for
 ... men who can be victims rarely report the crime out of
 ...ies to women in a relationship with their abuser.
 ...affected by domestic violence, an overwhelming subject
 ...ness is key.
 ...ve, but to lay out the facts," Velasco said.



FOOTBALL

Panthers lose at North Texas; finish season 4-8

JORGE CORRALES
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The Panthers could not pull out a win in their final game of the year, falling 17-14 to the North Texas University Mean Green. The Panthers entered as winners of five straight games against North Texas before the loss.

The Mean Green got things going with a 54-yard touchdown run by running back Reggie Pegram on the second play from scrimmage. After a punt by the Panthers, the Mean Green marched right back down the field for another score. This one, a 4-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Andrew McNulty to tight end Marcus Smith.

Down 14-0, the Panthers

needed a spark. They got it in the form of a 74-yard touchdown return by cornerback Richard Leonard. It was Leonard's fourth touchdown of the year and his first score on a return.

The teams traded punts until late in the second quarter. After quarterback Alex McGough threw an interception to give the Mean Green the ball deep in Panther territory, cornerback Jeremiah McKinnon snatched it back with a 71-yard interception return for a touchdown. The score evened the game 14-14 headed into halftime.

The third quarter was uneventful. After back-and-forth punting for most of the period, Mean Green kicker Trevor Moore nailed a 36-yard field goal to give his team a 17-14 lead, a score that held up through the

STOP THAT SHOT



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Freshman forward Larry Dennis blocks a shot by a Florida Memorial player on Friday, Nov. 21. FIU plays Kennesaw State on Tuesday, Dec. 2.

final whistle.

The story of the afternoon was the lack of offense for the Panthers. They only managed 147 yards of total offense. McGough had one of his worst games in his

freshman campaign. He was 11 of 25 through the air for 56-yards and three interceptions.

The run game was slightly more effective. Running back Anthon Samuel rushed for

89-yards on 14 carries.

The Panthers finished the 2014 season 4-8 overall and 3-5 in conference play. That's a three game improvement from a disappointing 1-11 2013 season.

BASKETBALL

Warriors' finishing kick too much for Heat

TNS STAFF

For 43 minutes of game time, it was as much fun as you could have on an NBA Tuesday in November.

On one end, Steph Curry was doing his Golden State Warriors happy dance, seemingly surprising even himself with his 3-point sizzle.

On the other, the Miami Heat were mixing a blend of kids and veterans so intoxicating it practically made you forget that Dwyane Wade was missing his seventh consecutive game with a strained left hamstring.

It was 3-pointers raining, dunks rattling, intensity reigning.

Ultimately, it was Warriors 114, Heat 97 at AmericanAirlines Arena.

The only exhale came in the waning minutes, the Warriors simply too good.

And when it was over, Warriors coach Steve Kerr called it, "probably the biggest challenge we've faced all year."

Of course it helped having Curry on his side.

"He's unreal," Kerr said, with Curry closing with 40 points, shooting 12 of 19 from the field, 8 of 11 on 3-pointers.

No, this was not a repeat

of last week's hapless blowout loss to another high-octane Western Conference power, when the Heat fell to the Los Angeles Clippers, even if the score indicated otherwise.

This was Warriors up nine early, then Heat up 16, then Warriors by seven in the third quarter and then tied midway through the fourth quarter.

This was Kerr cycling through his trove of riches he inherited this offseason in his debut as an NBA coach, going from the inside passing of Andrew Bogut to the scoring of Klay Thompson to the shooting of Curry.

And it was Heat coach Erik Spoelstra injecting the youthful energy of James Ennis and Shabazz Napier, while also feeding the offense of Chris Bosh.

"We just couldn't sustain it," Spoelstra said. "We got caught on some tough positions."

"Ultimately, we've got to find a way to sustain."

In the end, it careened out of control, the Heat closing at a season-worst .388 from the field, with the Warriors' .573 the best shooting night by a Heat opponent.

For Bosh, that's what was so disappointing. There was a huge statement to be made. Ultimately, though, there was the failure of an 11-point fourth quarter by the Heat.

"For some reason, we just forget everything," Bosh said of playing so well for so long, and then

“We just couldn't sustain it. We got caught on some tough positions. Ultimately, we've got to find a way to sustain.”

Erik Spoelstra
Head Coach
Miami HEAT

not nearly well enough at the finish. "For some reason, we just forget our offense."

"I don't know why. I think we took ourselves out of everything."

Bosh led the Heat with 26 points and nine rebounds.

"We had the formula," he said. "We knew what was going right. It's crazy."

Then Curry stepped up. And then it was over.

"I don't know how you lose the best shooter

in the world," Bosh said. "We lost him on numerous occasions."

"It's disappointing to be in the game and then take yourself out of it."

Luol Deng added 16 points for the Heat and Mario Chalmers 14. Thomson added 24 points for the Warriors.

Even with Wade and center Chris Andersen sidelined, and even with Norris Cole limited to a 1-of-8 shooting night in his return while wearing a splint on his dislocated left middle finger, the Heat continually counterpunched — until the Warriors took the fight out of them with their 3-point efficiency, closing 13 of 28 from beyond the arc.

At times it was Udonis Haslem rebounding or Josh

McRoberts facilitating or Shawne Williams matching Curry's 3-pointers, with the Heat 10 of 23 on 3-pointers.

And midway through the fourth quarter it was tied 95-95.

But that's when the Warriors' 3-point shooting proved too much, conversions by Thompson and Curry staking them to a 104-95 lead with 3:29 to play.

Curry revealed after the game he put up 100 3-pointers at the arena a day earlier as part of a Christmas commercial shoot.

The Heat went into the fourth quarter down 91-86, with Curry stepping up with 12 points in the third period.

A wild first half that saw the Warriors initially jump to their nine-point lead and then the Heat move to their 16-point advantage ended with the Heat up 62-61.

The Heat led 36-30 at the end of the opening period, their highest-scoring quarter of the season, with Golden State just 1 of 6 from the foul line over the opening 12 minutes.

The Heat got Cole back after he missed two games,

but were without Andersen after he severely sprained his ankle in Sunday's home victory over the Charlotte Hornets.

The Warriors initially thought they would be without Bogut, after he suffered a facial bruise during Sunday's road victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder, but, despite fluid buildup that limited his overnight sleep, he was able to start.

With guard Shannon Brown released to make room for Monday's addition of shot-blocking center Hassan Whiteside, and with Wade still out, Ennis played as the Heat's first shooting guard off the bench Tuesday.

With Andersen out, Haslem played as the Heat's first center off the bench.

The Heat now have a four-day Thanksgiving break before resuming play Sunday against the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden.

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SWIMMING

Swimmer Silvia Scalia looks to break more records

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The swim team has jumped into an impressive start (4-0) and are only looking better as the season goes on, thanks in part to Italian freshman swimmer, Silvia Scalia.

When asked why Scalia chose to attend FIU, she said, "I chose FIU because of its reputation as a high-level balance of studies and sports. FIU will allow me to reach my highest swimming and academic goals."

Such goals are already coming to fruition. According to FIUsports.com, "Scalia comes

to FIU as a multiple Junior Representative for Italy, including participation in the European Junior Championships, the Milan Trophy and the Multination Games. At the 2013 Summer National Youth Championships, she won the gold medal in the 50 backstroke, clocking a personal best long course time of 29.11."

All season, Scalia has been clocking impressive times on backstroke. On Thursday, Nov. 20, at the Mizzou Invite hosted by the University of Missouri in Columbia, she broke the school record when leading off the 100 backstroke in the 400 medley relay. Look for Scalia to continue performing in the Mizzou Invite Friday, Nov. 21 and Saturday,

Nov. 22.

Against Illinois State University, she recorded an NCAA B qualifying time of 1:58.77 to win the 200 backstroke. This broke her previous record when she swam against Florida Atlantic University on Oct. 4. This time is the best in C-USA, and ranks 29th in the NCAA.

Her strong performance against Illinois State would reward her. On Nov. 11, Scalia was named the Conference USA swimmer of the week. This is her second time receiving this award.

If the Panthers feed off this hot start, they will have their paws on the C-USA

Championships Feb. 18 - Feb. 21. Scalia will be an undoubtable force if she is able to lead her team that far.

Not far from that, the NCAA Championship takes place Mar. 19 - Mar. 21. This will test Scalia if she were to make it, swimming against the best-of-the-best in her successful style.

Scalia has proved to be an asset for the Panther swim team since day one. Already breaking records in her first year of swimming in the NCAA, Scalia will only continue doing so throughout her career.

FISHING

University launches study of bonefish in Florida Keys

TNS STAFF

Captain Tim Carlile poled his skiff against the early outgoing tide in a wide shallow cove on the ocean side of the Lower Florida Keys, scanning the flats for "nervous" water, tails, or wakes.

"I've seen a lot of bonefish on this flat," the 65-year-old Sugarloaf Key guide said.

It wasn't long before Carlile's observation was borne out, as a school of about 100 of the silver speedsters muddied the shallows, then swam calmly toward the boat.

I cast a silver/pink minnow-patterned fly toward the lead fish, saw it tip down to take it but felt neither bump nor tug.

Puzzled, I began to strip in the line when it suddenly went taut, then zeeeeee-ed out with a shriek of drag, peeling off all the fly line and going well into

the backing.

"He's on! He's on!" I yelled happily.

Ten minutes later, Carlile seized the estimated 5-pound bonefish, unhooked it, and put it back into the water.

I released three more that afternoon, including one slightly heavier than the others. It was a glorious day of fly fishing.

That experience earlier this month was very different from what many guides and anglers are finding some 60-plus miles to the north in the Upper Keys — particularly in Florida Bay.

The grass and mud flats in the bay back country that once teemed with bonefish both large and small now are so depleted that many guides in the Islamorada area have stopped targeting them — unless charter customers are willing to make long

runs north to Biscayne Bay or south to the Lower Keys. Even in Biscayne Bay, bonefish numbers are way down — as much as 90 percent since the 1950s, according to octogenarian captain Bill Curtis.

Carlile, a Keys native who has guided light-tackle anglers full-time since 1976, said he noticed a big drop in bonefish numbers in the lower and middle Keys following the prolonged statewide cold blast in early 2010 that sent water temperatures plummeting into the 40s in the back country shallows.

"It wasn't any good for two to three years after that front," Carlile said. "Bonefish have come back a lot in the last year."

As evidence, he pointed to results of the Marathon International Bonefish Tournament, held annually in September for 55 years. In the 2010

edition following the deep freeze, the fleet released only a couple dozen bones compared to 100-plus in past tournaments, Carlile said. But this past September, numbers were way up, with captain Albert Ponzoa guiding client Gene Ford to the release of a record 33 fish in a single day.

Like his fellow guides, Carlile is concerned about the overall health of the bonefish stock and hopes Florida Bay's woes don't spread south.

"Fish move," he noted.

Prominent South Florida fisheries scientists are taking the complaints of guides and anglers very seriously. At the fifth Bonefish Tarpon Symposium held Nov. 7-8 in Dania Beach, Jennifer Rehage, associate professor at the Southeast Environmental Research Center at Florida

International University, announced the launch of a comprehensive, three-year study to examine in fine detail what's going on with the Keys bonefish population, particularly in Florida Bay. The study is being funded by the non-profit Bonefish & Tarpon Trust.

"Catches reported by guides have decreased by half since 1980," Rehage said.

"We're going to link what we know about bonefish with things that have happened in the bay."

Rehage said her FIU team will examine reams of research conducted since the 1960s by the U.S. Geological Survey, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Audubon Florida, Everglades National Park and other institutions on pollutants, sea grass cover, fresh water delivery,

prey, climate and rainfall patterns, fishing pressure and other factors. Scientists will interview anglers and guides, examine their log books and photos, and overlay their accounts with the scientific information to see if "there is a match in time and space," Rehage said.

"There are probably 20 studies that go back to 1962," she said. "We know the bay is changing. It is not in good health. We want to make the best of the data and put it together."

A lot is riding on restoring bonefish populations in the Keys. A recent economic study shows the fishery pumps about \$427 million annually into the local economy.

Rehage said that when the study is completed, "we'll know what happened and how it happened to bonefish in the bay."

FOOTBALL

Aaron Hernandez double-murder trial delayed

TNS STAFF

A judge Tuesday granted a motion to indefinitely delay a double-murder trial for Aaron Hernandez scheduled for next May, although the former Patriots star still faces trial on another charge of murder early next year.

Jake Wark, a spokesman for Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel F. Conley, said the judge granted a motion by Hernandez's attorney to continue the trial Tuesday, but did not set a date for a new trial. Hernandez was scheduled to begin trial for allegedly killing Daniel Abreu and Safiro Furtado on May 28.

Prosecutors say Hernandez "stalked and ambushed" the

victims after one of them bumped into Hernandez at a nightclub causing him to spill his drink on the night of July 16, 2012.

Hernandez has been held without bail in Massachusetts since June of 2013 for the murder of Odin Lloyd, a friend of Hernandez who was dating the sister of the former player's fiancée.

Lloyd's bullet-riddled body was found in an industrial park blocks from Hernandez's home in North Attleboro, Mass. Two other Bristol men, Ernest Wallace and Carlos Ortiz, also face murder charges in the shooting. Jury selection in the Lloyd trial is scheduled to begin Jan. 9.

GET IT, GIRL



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Sophomore forward Kiandre'a Pound defends a pass to a Cleveland state player on Sunday, Nov. 23. FIU plays UCF on Saturday, Dec. 6

SGC talks student leadership summit, Teens for Jeans, appoints new members

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Next year, University student leaders will have the opportunity to network with professionals, build communication skills, and workshop social responsibility and event management with faculty and staff.

On Monday, Nov. 24, Larissa Adames, advisor of the Biscayne Bay Student Government Council, discussed the annual FIU Student Leadership Summit.

“I highly encourage all members to attend,” Adames said. “It’s a great opportunity to work on your leadership skills.”

The event is on Saturday, Feb. 5, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with registration opening next week.

Vice President of SGC-BBC, Camille Williams, and Arts & Sciences Senator, Faedrah Mahotiere, asked students to help inspire and motivate children in pediatric wards suffering from cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

“Some of these kids are always in the hospital and don’t get to leave very often,” said Mahotiere.

Mahotiere and Williams asked members to donate toys, candy, clothes, as well as any old denim for a “Teens for Jeans” initiative. Volunteers are also needed to help make gift baskets for the kids.

SGC-BBC also appointed three new members.

Paola Bayron, a broadcast senior with a minor in communication arts and criminal justice, was selected as a new justice.

“I realized I needed to become more active in school,” said Bayron, who wanted to join a prestigious community and

new career in crime reporting,” Bayron said.

Peiwen Jiang and Shaonan Dong, who have experience in marketing and event planning, were appointed as the new Marketing and Public Relations Planners.

“[SGC-BBC] is a good way to get involved with campus activities,” said Jiang.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, the Mary Ann Wolfe Theatre in WUC theatre will show “Where Did I Go Wrong,” a production that chronicles love, obedience, wisdom and faith.

Mahotiere, a cast member, encouraged students at the council meeting to attend the play.

The theatre hopes to raise at least \$2500 from the show for the New Hope International Ministry Church.

The play was directed and written by Wisland Letang (also known as Wes Lotus), a junior broadcast journalism and author of “Bare,” a compilation of inspirational love poems

that can be found on FIU’s own bookshelves, and online at Amazon and Barnes and Nobles.

“You’re going to laugh and you’re going to cry,” Mahotiere said.

All proceeds of the play are being donated to the NHIM church.

FIU student tickets are \$10, non-FIU tickets are \$20, and there are VIP tickets for \$25, which include reserved seating, goodie bags, drinks, appetizers and photos with cast members after the performance.

“It’s a great event to come out to and it’s going to be really interesting, and it’s for a great cause,” she said. “These people worked really hard to put this together.”

In celebration of Thanksgiving, SGC-BBC held a members’ potluck on Wednesday, Nov. 26, instead of their monthly General Meeting.

Student members are encouraged to bring something unique, and to celebrate and relax for a change.

“Some of these kids are always in the hospital and don’t get to leave very often.”
Faedrah Mahotiere
Arts and Sciences Senator
SGC-BBC

“We’re trying to get these kids motivated to keep fighting,” Mahotiere said. “Anything you can give helps them.”
understand laws in a practical way.
“It’s a great opportunity to get more experience on my

Hospitality class partners with non-profit in Haiti

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This year, University students will be cruising to Haiti right from the Biscayne Bay Campus. Rather than a paid vacation, the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management will be hosting a Cruise to Haiti themed charity event for the less fortunate children of Haiti.

Professor Bill Hansen and his catering management class have partnered with the Timoun Lakay Foundation, a non-profit organization that serves the cause. The event will consist of an all-you-can-eat buffet and a open bar with a price of \$20 to help fundraise.

He said the purpose of the event is to teach his students how to plan and execute an event. However, he said catering is not the most important part of the project.

The success of the event will rely on the collaboration of not only the students, but the entire University student body.

“It’s going to be a great party,” Hansen said. “It’s so important that we give back.”

For the past 20 years, Hansen has planned charity events with different foundations - some include the Bnai Zion Foundation and His House Children’s Home. This year, he chose Timoun Lakay because Rachelle Sylvain-Spence, a board member of the foundation, reached out to him two years ago.

According to Hansen, the money will go to health screenings, healthy meals and even scholarships for the children.

He said the foundation is fairly new and that there is no administrative overhead. This is beneficial because it allows Sylvain-Spence to personally take the money to Haiti. “Whatever we make actually ends up in front of these children,” Hansen said.

He wasn’t able to partner with the organization when he was contacted, but he had always kept them in mind. “I became enamored with what [Sylvain-Spence] was doing and that she was giving it straight to the kids,” he said.

“It’s going to be a great party. It’s so important that we give back.”
Bill Hansen
Professor
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

To help spread the word about the fundraiser, students are in charge of managing the event and were the ones who had chosen the theme of “Cruise to Haiti.”
Michael Robla, a junior hospitality

major, is the marketing manager for the fundraiser. He said that the hospitality students will even be in costume and uniform to help guests feel like they’ve stepped off a cruise ship in Haiti.

Someone will be dressed as captain of the ship, while others will wear Haitian garments, said Robla. Also, the foundation will have a silent auction.

According to Hansen, each student should have sold a minimum of 10 tickets and at least one contribution to the silent auction. He said he has been reaching out to 500 of his colleagues for donations.

Students from the school’s cooking courses will help with catering the event while some food items will be provided by different restaurants.

The event will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Dec. 3, in the new Wine Spectator Management Lab.

“It is definitely going to be a unique event,” Robla said.

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