

## New ambulatory clinic to open January 2015

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The University is partnering with Miami Children's Hospital, a previous clinical affiliate, to construct a state-of-the-art Ambulatory Care Center right on campus.

According to Yolangel Hernandez Suarez, associate dean for Graduate Medical Education at FIU's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and chief medical officer for FIU Health, the clinic will cover about 36,000-square-feet and will consist of two floors dedicated to providing patients with primary

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Increasing access to services and community outreach is very important for both students and patients. I think this is a great, innovative solution to increase health majors' involvement in community healthcare settings.

Christian Alfaro  
Senior  
Nursing Major

The center is expected to be completed by this month, but won't be open for patients until spring 2015.

care, as well as clinical services. "I think the value is really for the learners in the academic health center," she said. "There

## FSU shooter leaves the campus somber, searching

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The gunman who opened fire in a Florida State University library has been identified as Myron May, a 2005 FSU graduate who moved back into the area after studying at Texas Tech University.

The Stroz Library was filled with over 300 students studying for exams when May entered after midnight, brandishing a 380 semi-automatic handgun. Only three students were injured.

Authorities claim that May, 31, reloaded his gun at least once before being killed by police through an exchange of gunfire outside the library, near the center of campus.

"He refused to surrender and, as a result, he was shot and killed by officers," said Michael DeLeo, the

Tallahassee police chief. In the aftermath of the shooting, students, faculty and police are still trying to piece together shooter's motive. A handwritten journal and a series of videos suggest May suffered from delusions and was in a "state of crisis," according to DeLeo.

Dylon Faragure, a senior criminal justice major at FSU, says that, to his knowledge and that of his peers, May wasn't a well-known figure on campus. Following the shooting, Faragure described the University as "somber."

"Usually, you see people come together for things like football games; we have a strong community here," Faragure said. "It's sad that we have to come together for a tragedy like this."

The people closest to May say he was a hard-working and a successful

student. After graduating from FSU in 2005, May went on to study law at Texas Tech, which he hoped would lead to a six-figure career.

Police are still investigating the shooter and his motive — and whether May fired shots at the police who responded to scene. In a memorandum sent by the State University System, Chancellor Marshall Criser III commended the Tallahassee police and their response.

"We are proud of our students and Florida State University staff who responded quickly and appropriately to a frightening and dangerous situation," Criser III said. "We also commend the officers whose prompt response secured the safety of the campus and prevented the incident from escalating further."

## SHEDDING LIGHT, NOT TEARS



DIEGO SALDAÑA-ROJAS/THE BEACON

Julio Cesar Carpio, a senior studying English Literature, places a candle on a mantle to commemorate transgender who have died at the Transgender Day of Remembrance vigil on Thursday, Nov. 20.

will be students rotating through the ambulatory surgical clinic to get experience. Normally, they have to go all over the county for this and now they'll be able to get it right here on campus."

The second floor of the clinic will consist of an ambulatory surgical center for children, run by Miami Children's Hospital.

According to Hernandez, it is the first stand-alone surgical center in the county and will focus mainly on outpatient surgery for kids up to the age of 21.

"It's so important because it shows the significant advancement of the academic health center," said Hernandez. "The students who are interested

in health care are getting access to innovative and complex care right on campus. This is tremendously beneficial to them and to FIU."

The first floor of the center will be an extension of FIU Health. For everyone over the

**SEE CLINIC, PAGE 2**

## Center for Leadership becomes U-wide resource

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The FIU Center for Leadership, which has been tied into the College of Business, is now a University-wide center.

The center will join other interdisciplinary, strategic center and programs, including the [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics] Transformation Institute and the Extreme Events Institute," said Provost Kenneth Furton in a Nov. 20 memorandum.

The center was founded in 2006 by President Emeritus Modesto Maidique, who served as the University's fourth president, from 1986 to 2009. The center was designated a State of Florida Center by the Florida Board of Governors in 2009.

The center has serviced more than 500 alumni and 125 organizations. The center has five main programs: the Senior Executive Leadership Program, the High Potential Leader Program, the Women Leaders Program, the Physicians Leaders Program and the Principals Leadership Development Program.

The center's transition into a university-wide center includes a change in the administration.

"The Center for Leadership will fall under the purview of both Dr. Andres Gil, Vice President for Research, and me," said Furton in his memorandum.

Furton will appoint an Academic

Advisory Council to work with the center's existing Board of Advisors. The council will be made up of deans and senior administrators from multiple University units.

"The Center will serve as a resource for all administrative and academic units university-wide, forging collaborations and providing leadership development opportunities," Furton said.

Mayra Beers, one of the center's founding members who served as the director of operations since 2006, will not be the director for strategy and implementation.

Beers also served as chief of staff for Modesto Maidique, former president and founding associate corporate secretary for the FIU Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2009. Before, she was research associate for Maidique and then-provost, President Mark B. Rosenberg.

Additionally, Nathan Hiller, associate professor and Knight Ridder Research Fellow in the College of Business. He has worked with the center since 2007, and serves as faculty director for the center's program for high impact executives, The High Potential Leader.

"Together they will lead the next phase of growth and development for the Center for Leadership," Furton said. "I look forward to working with them to enhance leadership capacity across the university and beyond."



## NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

### Obama praises educators' efforts to end digital divide

President Barack Obama recognized school superintendents from across the country on Wednesday whose efforts to expand classroom technology means it no longer takes 20 minutes for a student in rural Alaska to log onto the Internet and that one in a poor district in California can get Wi-Fi near home.

About 110 school leaders attended the National Connected Superintendents Summit on digital learning. The event was part of the administration's five-year plan, ConnectED, to have 99 percent of the nation's students connected to high-speed broadband Internet in their schools and libraries.

Less than 40 percent of public schools have high-speed Internet.

"There is no greater gap right now than the digital gap, and if we close that gap then we have the potential to level the playing field for students like nothing we've seen before," Alberto Carvalho, superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, said in remarks to introduce the president. "This is a game changer."

School leaders need to be innovative in how they work to eliminate "digital deserts" that are most evident in counties with low-income schools, Carvalho said. In Miami-Dade, 74 percent of students live at or below the poverty line.

The school district sought partners such as Microsoft and raised \$7 million to outfit 350 schools with Wi-Fi access and bump the number of digital devices in the district to more than 150,000.

### Drones fighting Islamic State change the meaning of warfare

In America's war against the Islamic State, many of those fighting sit in a dark, cold room and stare at computer screens for 12 hours at a stretch.

There are dozens of them, men and women, each wearing camouflage, looking for suspected Iraqi and Syrian jihadists scurrying across the screen. If something changes on the screen — a group of dark figures crossing a street, a string of vehicles racing down a road — they pass the information to another pilot, who might decide to open fire with a Hellfire missile or an electronically guided bomb.

With the Obama administration's strategy of "degrading and ultimately destroying" the Islamic State without putting American combat troops — "boots on the ground" — at risk, much of the war against the group depends on remotely piloted aircraft with names such as Predator and Reaper that are guided from rooms like this one, at a base three hours south of Washington. How the administration now talks about war is changing the nature of war itself.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

# University to open care center on campus

CLINIC, PAGE 1

age of 18, it would offer primary care, gynecology, behavioral health services and more.

Students, faculty, staff and community members wishing to access the services provided by the center would need to have medical insurance for treatment — this includes government programs like Medicaid and Medicare. But, for primary care, students can use the health care given to them by the University, which is paid by the health fee required per semester.

Christian Alfaro, senior nursing major, is excited for the center to open and thinks it's great that FIU is increasing access to medical procedures and outpatient surgeries

for both pediatric and adult populations.

"Increasing access to services and community outreach is very important for both students and patients," said Alfaro. "I think this is a great, innovative solution to increase health majors' involvement in community healthcare settings."

Melissa Buzzi, another nursing major in her sophomore year, hopes to be a pediatric nurse. She believes this center is a great opportunity to get experience on patient care.

"I live around campus, so it's great to have this opportunity right by where I live and where I study," she said. "There are a lot of students in this University that are majoring in some kind of medical field. I think it's one of the most popular majors,

and we can all benefit profoundly from this center."

The center will also have new staff and new doctors and will be directed by Chad Perlyn, a surgeon at Miami Children's Hospital who is also chief at the medical school in the department of surgery.

The center will be located just north of Parking Garage 5 on Southwest Eighth Street and will be connected to the garage so patients could easily find parking.

"We're so excited about this because it shows how the academic health center is growing," said Hernandez. "This will be a real opportunity for everyone who wants to have a career in health care to be able to train right on campus."

# Scientist reminds South Florida about eminent sea level rise

SEA LEVEL, PAGE 8

for every degree of temperature raised due to climate change.

The IPCC already shows that the Earth has gained 0.8 degrees of rising temperature in climate change. If fossil fuels are used continuously for energy, the Earth can end up with an addition of four degrees by the year 2100 and 28 feet of sea level.

"For every degree that we warm up the planet, we get 2.3 meters of sea level rise," Harlem said.

The effects and changes that sea level rise can cause in South Florida, according to Harlem, are all interconnected. The real estate market can crash once homes are faced with flooding and insurance companies can raise the price of water protection.

Also, banks would be stricter in issuing loans to future

homeowners, causing a headache to Florida's economic state.

"People are going around saying somebody will fix it and there will be a magic fix to everything," said Harlem.

What residents can do, Harlem said, is start taking advantage and get educated about the issue. Students interested in the topic can take classes that are geared towards sea level rise and the change that it will bring in South Florida.

Those who are interested in real estate and have knowledge on the issue can be one step forward than those who don't. Engineers can start finding ways to deal with water infrastructure and architectures can design water resistant houses.

For sophomore engineering major Carlos Smith, sea level rise has been a bypassing topic.

"It's always been a topic in the back of everyone's mind," said Smith. "I think more people should be worried about it."

# Florida polo magnate sentenced to 16 years in 2010 DUI manslaughter

TNS STAFF

Palm Beach County Chief Circuit Judge Jeffrey Colbath on Friday sentenced Wellington, Fla., polo club founder John Goodman to 16 years in prison for the death of 23-year-old Scott Patrick Wilson on Feb. 12, 2010.

Found guilty by a jury last month, Goodman, 51, will not be permitted to post a cash bond to leave jail while appealing his latest DUI manslaughter, failure to render aid conviction, Colbath ruled. The defense vowed an immediate appeal.

The judge imposed the same prison term as he had in May 2012, after Goodman was convicted the first time and before juror misconduct forced a retrial. However, Colbath refused Goodman's request to allow him to return to house arrest, even with restrictions such as around-the-clock police guards.

Prosecutors had argued Goodman is an even greater flight risk after his second conviction, while Goodman's attorneys said he wouldn't go on the lam while asking the 4th District

Court of Appeal for a new trial. The defense says it has a strong, non-frivolous challenge.

At a hearing Wednesday, Goodman's attorneys sought a \$4 million bond, arguing their high-profile client "is no longer the wealthy polo mogul." While they offered tax returns and insisted Goodman has more debts than assets, the prosecutors said the felon's family wealth is "unlimited."

Assistant State Attorneys Alan Johnson and Sherri Collins say they are confident the verdict and sentence will be upheld on appeal, because the evidence against Goodman is so strong.

During the retrial, the prosecutors said Goodman was speeding in his Bentley Continental GTC convertible at 63 mph, blew a stop sign and slammed into Wilson's Hyundai Sonata in Wellington.

Wilson, a University of Central Florida engineering graduate, drowned after his car was flipped upside down into a canal.

Goodman spent several hours before the 1 a.m. crash drinking at

three Wellington bars that serve the polo community, the prosecutors said. Goodman had a 0.177 blood-alcohol content, more than twice the 0.08 legal limit to drive, as well as trace amounts of hydrocodone, according to a blood sample taken three hours after the crash.

But the defense argued Goodman was not intoxicated when he was driving. The attorneys said his high blood-alcohol level was caused by drinking he did after the crash in a so-called "man cave" — a liquor-stocked bar in a polo player's barn office — to soothe the pain of a broken wrist and head trauma.

Goodman testified that had he known Wilson's car was in the canal he "would have gone in to help."

Jurors reached by reporters after the trial said they didn't find the defense credible; deliberations lasted only about four hours.

Goodman attorneys Douglas Duncan, Scott Richardson, Elizabeth Parker and Tama Kudman requested a third trial, but Colbath said no.

## THE BEACON

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## Electricity: fuel for the future

TNS STAFF

Long thought a thing of the future, electric cars are becoming mainstream. Sales in the United States of plug-in, electric vehicles nearly doubled last year. Credible forecasts see the number rising within a decade to half a million vehicles per year, which would easily exceed sales of the Toyota Camry today.

Although the technology for electric cars is improving quickly, the industry still depends heavily on public policy — such as the \$7,500 subsidy that the federal government gives everyone who buys one. The rationale for such aggressive policy support is, in part, rooted in the idea that these cars cause less pollution. Indeed, conspicuously “green” consumers dominate sales of electric vehicles, just as they did initially for hybrid vehicles such as the Toyota Prius.

But whether electric cars are actually greener depends on where the electricity comes from. Our research, along with other studies, finds that electric cars are not necessarily the environmentally friendly choice when it comes to the emissions of carbon dioxide — the pollutant of greatest concern for climate change.

Figuring out whether the electricity is more environmentally friendly than just burning gasoline directly in cars depends on statistical sleuthing to estimate changes in emissions within the overall electricity grid in response to the additional electricity needed to charge an electric car. We’ve done this using data on every hour of every day for recent years across the nation, and the results are striking.

Where and when electric cars are charging affects how their emissions compare with the alternatives of a conventional or hybrid car. In some places and at some times, electric cars generate more emissions. We find, for example, that charging an electric car at night in the upper

Midwest will generate more carbon dioxide per mile driven than the average conventional car that burns gasoline. In contrast, electric cars in the western United States and Texas always generate lower emissions than even a hybrid, and this arises because natural gas rather than coal tends to be used for generating the additional electricity in these regions.

Our findings are based on how electricity is actually generated and current technologies that determine the efficiency of vehicles. But how might things change in the future to affect whether electric cars will reduce emissions and therefore help address climate change? We know the fuel economy of non-electric cars will increase in the coming years. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has nearly doubled the average fuel efficiency goal for cars by 2025. Meanwhile, the manufacturers of electric cars are seeking to significantly increase the distance that one can drive on a charge.

But the critical driver of electric-car emissions is how the electricity is generated. And this is where the future of electric cars as a means for addressing climate change is related to the future of power plant regulations. The EPA is in the process of developing its “Clean-Power Plan” to reduce emissions from power plants. This, along with other rules, will make the electricity sector cleaner and help ensure that electric vehicles are the green choice down the road.

More than 100 years ago electric vehicles were the dominant and most promising technology for powering personal automobiles. But oil won that battle and reigned over the 20th century. Now electricity is poised to make a comeback, and might yet power the transportation sector this century. The push is due in large part to concerns about climate change, so it is important to have policies that ensure electric cars are part of the solution rather than the problem.

## Netflix takes over

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“Just one more episode. I can stop whenever I want.”

This is the lie I tell myself as I consider the various outcomes that a cliffhanger could lead to. The option to stream, pause and skip episodes allows me to control all of the information I crave at once. I could also pick the most convenient time and at what rate of consumption to binge, in my overwrought day of classes.

Video streaming services, such as Netflix, make it very easy for students to watch television at their leisure. If we stop to observe what some of the students at FIU are doing, we might find that many of them are catching up with their favorite shows from their laptops and tablets. Taking a walk by The Hub @ Green Library may prove that college students appropriated the binge-watching culture — we are hooked.

Netflix reports over 50 million adult subscribers. Due to the contemporary selection of shows and the generational appeal of video streaming, it would be easy to presume that a majority of subscribers are of college age. This statistic does not take into consideration the household members of the account holders, nor the “free-loaders” benefitting from their friends’ accounts. The media-provider’s bright red logo can be spotted anywhere, from the computer monitors in GL to the glowing cell phone screens in auditorium classrooms. Students frantically make the time to feed their Netflix addiction.

People like me, who binge watch TV shows on Netflix, adhere

religiously to one show at a time and finish entire seasons in short periods of time.

Once they absorb the fictional realm in its entirety and recommend it to all of their friends and family, they find solace via online blogs. Essentially, they become part of a community of dotting and slightly nutty fans. This following is what we might call the “fandom” phenomenon. Serial binge-watchers transcend this phenomenon

shows like “Once Upon a Time,” it does suggest the rising entertainment demands of an educated viewership.

Separately, the likelihood of a viewer leaping across incompatible genres, suggests the practicality of Netflix in its attempt to monopolize television.

I had previously asked whether or not our generation is living in the era of good TV. While I personally believe that we are, I do at times feel

“  
People like me, who binge watch TV shows on Netflix, adhere religiously to one show at a time and finish entire seasons in short periods of time.”

because they belong to a larger umbrella community of people who have watched multiple Netflix-recommended shows. What I find interesting about this overlapping of followings is that a majority of the programs are not, by any means, of the same genre.

I now wonder: have we entered a new era of consistently good television?

Perhaps one explanation to the shared domain of fandoms is that TV plots are increasingly smarter. Shows such as Breaking Bad and House of Cards have appealed to a large demographic that typically eschews the illogical elements of a plot development.

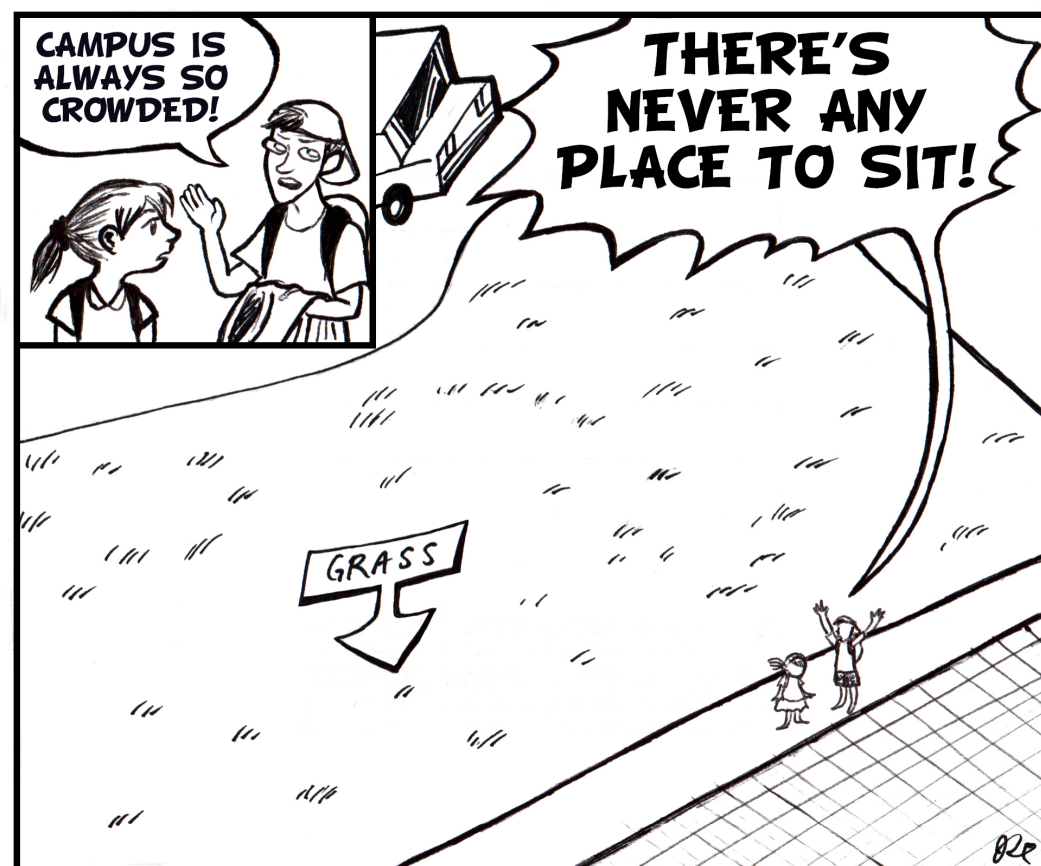
After all, who hasn’t learned a thing or two about chemistry with Walter White? Although this does not explain the rise in popularity of fantasy

overwhelmed by the amount of programs that are available to stream. This is because several major broadcasting channels like ABC and The CW are feature facilitators to Netflix. As the provider, Netflix uses personalized suggestions and lists that self-modify to grant a show its ideal viewer — and not the other way around.

What I mean to say is that there is no one ideal show for a person, but there are certain people more likely to watch a show upon recommendation. This penchant for marketing and its immense variety of options guarantee it a continued increase of subscribers. Regardless of the quality of television provided, the odds seem to be in favor of Netflix.

There is no other way to satisfy the binge-watching addiction, than the continual expanding of video streaming commodities.

## TOO CROWDED



JASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

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## *Caribou rocks stage with intense electronic performance, sets standard*

COLUMNIST



MARIANA DIAS

Caribou graced us with his latest album this year, "Your Love." Released on Merge and the successor of "Swim," his breakthrough electronic album, and "Andorra," a Polaris Prize-winning album.

The single "Our Love" is melodic and dance-driven, but maintains characteristics of his original sound: organic touches of violin and flute and his soothing voice. These elements, however, were looped and manipulated to produce an emotional electronic narrative on the complexity of love.

This Wednesday, Grand Central was the stop on the Our Love Tour and his second performance in Miami. Supporting the show, was R&B-inspired electronica performer



JUNETTE REYES/THE BEACON



JUNETTE REYES/THE BEACON

Caribou, the Canadian composer and musician, played at downtown Miami's Grand Central on Wednesday, Nov. 19 while on traveling under his Our Love Tour, his second performance in the city. Caribou's live act is comprised of Dan Smith and three other members playing drums, a guitar, and synths.

Jessie Lanza, who collaborated with Caribou on the track "Second Chance."

Jessie Lanza's soft, high-pitched voice and beefy bass lines created the perfect counterpart to Caribou's melodic and intensity-driven set.

Caribou's live act is comprised of Dan Smith and three other members playing drums, a guitar, and synths.

With the backdrop the

blown-up pattern of the album's cover, Caribou opened with "Our Love." The engaged crowd cheered the beginning of each new song. Caribou then took us back to "Swim," for a while, followed it with Jessie Lanza on "Second Chance."

"Odessa," one of Caribou's most iconic productions was up next, and when the crowd asked for an encore, they delivered with "Sun."

The live element of the performance is what made the night special. Every track built to its own cathartic bridge, accompanied by flashing white lights.

In a time when electronic acts are usually DJ sets, it was inspiring to see an act that sets the standard for contemporary electronic performance.

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## Panthers concerned with GMO in campus foods

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More than 60 countries across the globe have officially banned genetically modified organisms from their diets, except for right here in the United States. GMO's are an unnatural part of nature, an experimental combination of genes deriving from various species. DNA from bacteria, viruses, plants and animals are

introduced into other organisms in order to manipulate the genome through means of biotechnology. In the U.S. it is noted that GMOs are contained in 80 percent of all processed foods, a huge part of what people eat on a daily basis.

GMO products are not considered safe to consume by most advanced countries around the globe, believed to have health risks along with causing the emergence of super weeds and bugs which can only be killed off by toxic poisons of greater

strengths. Long-term impacts are not known, which calls for immeasurable amounts of questions regarding the safety in such highly processed foods. If the disadvantages seems to have greater weight than the benefits, why is the U.S. still partaking in it? For starters, the U.S. government approved to continue on with GMOs after studies were orchestrated by the same corporations that benefit from their sales and are creating them to begin with.

Recently, Vermont became the first state in the U.S. making GMO labeling a mandatory requirement. In Washington this law failed to pass, Grocery Manufacturers Association argued that GMOs are safe and shouldn't be feared, when referring to the findings of the federal government. On one hand, GMOs affects farmers greatly due to bigger companies utilizing their power to sue farmers whose fields become

SEE GMO, PAGE 5



# Concern over food ingredients gains student support

GMO, PAGE 4

contaminated with GMOs from fields in close proximity. On the other hand, Anti-GMO activists are also in the game of suing, as they did in Vermont recently with the company Starbucks.

Here at FIU students have described their concerns and opinions involving GMO containing foods around Campus. “My schedule is hectic, so I often resort to buying food in GC and feel its only fair to know exactly what it is I’m consuming”, said sophomore student Janel Rizzo. Modesto A. Maidique Campus offers a variety of fast food, including the new Management and New Growth Opportunities building here at FIU serving Taco Bell, Panda Express and Starbucks, all of which have at least one GMO containing food in their menus. Another student felt that “GMO labelling is unnecessary,” stating that “this is not one of the concerns we should be focusing on when greater issues are at hand,” said first year student Jose Santos.

With so many contradicting views and studies on health risks/benefits of GMO’s it is hard to pinpoint exactly what is best for the students here at FIU. One thing that’s certain is the voice of student population matters, and they can influence a change on whether or not they wish to see GMO labelling in the long-run.

## GETTING GRAPHIC



NAHUE REYES / THE BEACON



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO / THE BEACON

## COMIC-CON, PAGE 8



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO / THE BEACON

Pictured right is Allison Doro, a senior in hospitality, dressed up as Gamora from “Guardians of the Galaxy.” In the top left, Ursalina Aguilar, a graphic designer and painter, shows her work to Jonathan Hulse, the owner of Anime and Gaming Experience. Attendees could purchase original artwork from different artists. Vendors sold action figures, posters, accessories and other comic related items to attendees, shown in the bottom left.

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## CROSS COUNTRY

# Team looking forward to improve

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The men's and women's cross country teams concluded their seasons at the Conference USA Championships at Denton, Texas on Saturday Nov. 1. The Panthers improved their personal records throughout the year, but their progress earned the men only a rank of eleven out of twelve teams and the women a rank of thirteen out of fifteen teams at the event.

All the women recorded their best times of the season at the Conference USA Championships. They had an average time of 20:16.77. Senior Catherine Ventura has the best 5,000 meter time for the girls on the entire season with 19:43.2 at the championships. Even though this was a personal record for her, it was only the 73rd best time for all women at the event. Sophomores Adrienne Gerzeny, Brittany Wasserbeck and Isolda Montiel had personal records of 20:31.37, 22:06.5, and 19:50.9, respectively. Junior Katarina Rodriguez recorded a time of 22:53.29.

From event to event, the women consistently ran the 5,000 meter faster. Almost everyone who ran in at least one event improved their personal records by a minute

or more by the end of the season. Wasserbeck made the greatest improvement this year, cutting down her personal record from 24:30.6 at the University of South Florida Invitational to 22:06.5.

Unlike the women, none of the men posted personal records at the Conference USA Championships. The team recorded an average time of 27:48.5 in the 8,000 meter at the event.

The men ended up setting their personal records at various events throughout the season. Freshman Ronny Greenup had the best time at each of the team's five events, including the 5,000 meter race at the Florida Runners Invitational. His personal record for the season was 25:11.7 at the University of Central Florida Invitational.

Junior Eli Monzon's personal record this season was his 27:06.1 at the University of Central Florida Invitational, followed up by 27:57.5 at the Mountain Dew Invitational. Freshman Leonel Pozo's time of 26:24.38 at the University of Central Florida Invitational was his personal record, with his 26:51.18 at the championships in a close second. Junior Daniel Puentes posted a personal record of 26:42.9 at the Mountain Dew Invitational, a vast improvement over his time of 29:01.37 at the University

of South Florida Invitational to start the season.

Freshman Andres Magliano set a personal record at the University of Central Florida Invitational with 27:09.61, although his time at the Conference USA Cross Country Championships was only a second slower.

Some of the athletes who participated in cross country will go on to compete in the indoor track and field season. Track and field athletes who participated in cross country short term will return to their natural sports, such as junior sprinter Brandon Ballard, who ran a 19:21.7 at the Florida Runners Invitational. Other natural cross country athletes will likely branch out to the longer distance events in track and field.

Both the men and women made solid improvements this season, but more will be needed in order to truly compete in Conference USA next year. The men's teams of University of North Texas, University of Texas at El Paso, Middle Tennessee State University and Rice University all averaged times of under 25 minutes in the 8,000 meter at the Conference USA Championships – a time that none of the Panthers managed once this season. The University's young overall team will seek to continue to improve in the future as they push to compete in a conference loaded with cross country talent.

## BASKETBALL

# NBA presses ahead with China expansion — and looks to India

### MCT STAFF

It's Friday night in the biggest city in the world's most populous country, and thousands of Shanghai fans are streaming into an arena that resembles a giant flying saucer, ready for a fan-appreciation night hosted by the National Basketball Association.

As the players take the court, the Chinese fans whoop, wave jerseys, scramble for autographs and pose for selfies. Who is in town? LeBron James? Kobe Bryant? No, it's a warmup for an exhibition match Sunday between the Brooklyn Nets and the Sacramento Kings, two teams with global aspirations.

"I've been following the Kings since I was 12," said Cai Yijiang, 22, who sat near the court with two friends waving their favorite Kings jerseys. Cai said he started following the Kings when Chris Webber was a star forward, and now watches the team's games by streaming them on his computers and mobile devices.

In the past decade, the NBA has made lucrative inroads into dozens of countries, including China, where 78 million people follow the league on social media. The league's leading ambassador is former Houston Rockets star Yao Ming, whose success further popularized the in China while turning the NBA into a household name.

The NBA now wants to go further, not only in China, but also in India, the world's second-largest consumer market. Yet in both countries, the league faces challenges, and not just the usual ones of

red tape, language barriers and pirating of merchandise. In China's case, the government has a monopoly over sports franchises and television, limiting potential revenues from broadcasting games.

Possibly the bigger challenge is finding homegrown talent. India has yet to produce a true marquee player, and China hasn't produced one since Yao, a 7-foot-6-inch center born in Shanghai. Without such a star, say some analysts, the NBA may not be able fully capitalize on the Chinese obsession with pro sports.

"Yao Ming is so important to the Chinese people. When he stepped off the playing court, there was a big vacuum affect. It was like, wow, what is next?" said Terry Rhoads, who runs a Shanghai-based sports marketing agency and has worked in China for 20 years, including nine with Nike.

Rhoads says that overall, the NBA "has set the pace for an international sports league." He says it's possible the NBA could eventually have its own branded league in China. He also notes there are several promising players coming up for China, some playing in American universities.

But there also have been disappointments. One was 7-foot Yi Jianlian, who played for the Milwaukee Bucks and three other NBA teams from 2007 to 2012, but never had a breakout season. He's now a center for the Guangdong Southern Tigers in the Chinese Basketball Association.

Rhoads acknowledged that "filling Yao's shoes is an impossible task."

"When the NBA sits around and contemplates business plans for next 10

## SERVED FRESH



JAHREL FRANCIS/THE BEACON

Business management junior, Olivia Mendez, helped her Delta Phi Epsilon sisters serving the ball in the intramural volleyball championship game winning two out of three sets.

years, they are absolutely grinding their teeth over the lack of Chinese players having the right skills," he said.

Give it some time, NBA officials and  
**SEE NBA, PAGE 7**



# The NBA's challenge of international expansion

NBA, PAGE 6

owners say. Vivek Ranadive, an India-born Silicon Valley tycoon who led the purchase of the Sacramento Kings last year for \$535 million, says that in a country as big as China, new stars are out there. He added that the NBA and China are partners on several initiatives to tap into the top talent, including basketball camps led by Yao Ming.

Vlade Divac, a former star center for the Kings who's accompanying Ranadive in China, pointed to another concern: many foreign players can't make the transition to the NBA. But he also questioned if people's expectations were too high.

"It is hard to produce another Michael Jordan," said Divac, who was born in Serbia. "Every country has its own system, and you never know where the next great talent is coming up from."

In China, the system is mainly in the hands of the Chinese Basketball Association, which was formed in 1994 and now has 20 teams. There is also the second-tier National Basketball League, for men, and a Women's Chinese Basketball Association.

According to the Chinese Basketball Association, 300 million people in China play basketball regularly, slightly less than the entire population of the United States. But high schools and sports leagues don't identify talent early enough and give them the team skills essential for

basketball, Rhoads said.

"The biggest shortfall for China is player development," he said. "This country has amazing talent, but its potential isn't being realized."

Lack of venues is another obstacle for the NBA's expansion

“It is hard to produce another Michael Jordan. Every country has its own system, and you never know where the next great talent is coming up from.”

Vlade Divac  
Former Star Center  
Kings

plans. Shanghai and Beijing have NBA-quality arenas, but other major cities don't have the means, or the year-round demand, to build modern entertainment palaces. Some have found such projects to be losing propositions, according to Francois Duchastel, managing partner of Voodoo Associates, a real estate planning company in Shanghai.

Chris Granger, who worked for the NBA for 14 years before becoming the King's' president last year, believes the problem is not insurmountable. "Think of all the cities in China with more than 5 million people," he said. "You have to think there will be

## UP, UP AND IN



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Junior forward Adrian Diaz goes under the basket for a layup for a quick two points against Florida College on Friday, Nov. 14. The Panthers play their next home game against Wright State on Friday, Nov. 28 at 3:30 p.m.

an increased sophistication of the venues."

In some ways, China's ossified sports system benefits the NBA. Unlike Amazon.com facing Chinese upstarts such as Alibaba, the NBA doesn't have domestic competition in a country where young people are increasingly digitally savvy.

During the regular season in 2013, the NBA's Chinese website registered 4.5 billion page views, 34 percent over the previous year.

When the Kings play the Nets Sunday, it will be the 17th time NBA teams have played in China, nearly all of them complete sellouts. The first came in 2004, when Houston Rockets (with Yao Ming) beat the Kings 88-86.

At home and abroad, each NBA team likes to flout its persona. When the Brooklyn Nets entered Shanghai's Mercedes-Benz Arena Friday, the team did it with a hip-hop swagger, with music and lighting to match. The purple-clad Kings were more folksy, with the team mascot, a lion named "Slamson," ducking into the crowd to mug with fans such as Lisa Liu, age 10.

Liu's face

lit up when she got the sweaty lion to sign an autograph. "I am so excited," she said, speaking in English to a reporter trying to interview her in Chinese.

Like other NBA owners, Ranadive wants to develop a Chinese-language app for China to broaden his team's fan base. Ranadive is a leading proponent of what he calls "NBA 3.0" — using technology to network fans and the team. His perfect app, he says would let fans see instant replays, crowdsource suggestions for the team and even deliver food and beverages to ticket holders at the press of a button.

Ranadive, who made part of his fortune from TIBCO Software, a company he started in 1997, says India holds unlimited potential. He and NBA Commissioner Adam Silver are leading a league mission there next month. Ranadive said he recently met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in advance of the mission.

Asked whether India is ready for basketball, with its cramped cities, grinding poverty and near-devotion to cricket, Ranadive noted that India is rising faster than many realize. Makeshift courts are popping up across the country.

"Basketball is a game that can be played anywhere, by anyone

— rich, poor, boys and girls," he said. "You don't need a lot of space to play basketball, as you do with cricket. So I really think basketball is poised to take off."

After the fan appreciation night, the Kings on Saturday visited a primary school for children from poorer regions outside of Shanghai. Dressed in uniforms, the school kids played harmonica for the NBA players and officials. Silver, the NBA commissioner, stood on a stage under China's five-star, red-and-gold flag and dedicated a new play and learning center at the school.

The Kings players then practiced some basketball drills with the students. One tutor was Ben McLemore, who is making his second trip to China, after visiting in August to promote the exhibition games.

The 21-year-old guard, a native of St. Louis, said he enjoyed connecting with Chinese fans, both in the digital world and in person. "That is what helps them love the game so much," he said of the interactions.

And could there be a future Chinese basketball star here? "You never know," he replied. "That's the cool thing."

## TIGHTEN UP



JAHREL FRANCIS/THE BEACON

Destiny Reina (left), a Herbalife wellness coach, trains the Glutes Group put together by Melissa Letellier (black tank top).

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## Sea level rise still a controversial topic

MARIA BRITOS  
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For some time now, the topic of sea level rise has become a pressing issue for South Florida.

To help better understand the size of the problem, Peter Harlem, coordinator of the library's Graphic Information System Center, has developed a series of maps that highlight the areas in South Florida that would be completely underwater within 100 years.

“For every degree that we warm up the planet, we get 2.3 meters of sea level rise.”

Peter Harlem  
Coordinator  
Graphic Information System Center

“The maps are really useful to help people get their mind around the problem,” Harlem said.

He said that after a while of analyzing the visual representations he realized how useful and important they are as well as

how impacting they can be to the public.

His images have been very popular in the media. Last year, a stir was caused when multiple articles featured his maps in newspapers like the Miami Herald and WLRN Public Radio and Television.

Besides featuring on the FIU School of Journalism and Mass Communications' documentary on sea level rise, “South Florida's Rising Seas,” not everyone believed in Harlem's work. Many scientists told him that he shouldn't show these maps to the public because it causes commotion.

According to Harlem, insurance companies could increase their pricing and eventually lose a lot of profit once the city is underwater.

Today, he believes his work could potentially help not just the public, but also political figures in making better decisions about the way the environment is treated.

“Your generation is going to be dealing with a lot of the political issues that have to be resolved for us to move forward,” said Harlem.

Although the maps predict the water level will rise and drown South Florida in about 100 years, Harlem believes that if residents work together, then the sea level rise can potentially be prevented.

He said he will be publishing other research, inspired by the results of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change where he shows the relationship of how much sea level South Florida gains

SEE SEA LEVEL, PAGE 2

## WONDER WOMEN



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Marian Gonzalez, a freshman in international relations dressed up as Selina Kyle from “Batman,” and Mariana DePaz, a freshman studying journalism dressed up as Starlord from “Guardians of the Galaxy,” pose with a Wonder Woman cutout at the 2014 FIU Comic-Con on Thursday, Nov.20.

SEE COMIC-CON, PAGE 5

## Porterhouse Bar & Grill: Smoker's paradise

### THE FOODIE



NICOLE ZUMMAR

Bearing a more bar-like image than that of a restaurant, The Porterhouse Bar & Grill sits on 17004 Collins Ave. in Sunny Isles Beach. Just one block from the beach, this restaurant constantly gets a light breeze, perfect for sitting on the front patio in the high tables with a cold beer in hand.

While this might not be possible for many of us that are underage, it is still a great atmosphere for an early dinner and a nice chat with friends. Inside, Porterhouse continues to transmit the same relaxed

atmosphere, but it hints a little more at the “bar” side of its name. With dim lighting and a wood interior, it holds the remembrance of a classic bar. Most of the restaurant consists of the bar that surrounds a large variety of bottles and drinks, with a few booths lining the outer wall.

The one thing that either makes it or breaks it with this restaurant is the fact that its customers are allowed to smoke inside. If you're a smoker, you'll love it; if you're not, then keep in mind you'll be secondhand smoking a lot. I'd suggest you try and find a seat outside, where the breeze will keep most of the smoke from your face.

Even though I've been a couple of

times to this restaurant, I've only been able to savor one plate: the wings. They have great Buffalo wings that you can order mild, medium or hot. I always go for mild and they're spicy enough for me. Their flavor is great and the Buffalo sauce topped with a little of the ranch sauce they provide makes for a perfect combination.

However, you should be aware that if you eat them for what they are—finger food—your hands will end up sticky enough that your napkin will have a tough time cleaning that off.

One great thing about this restaurant for all the beer fans is that everyday from about 5 p.m. to 9 p.m, Porterhouse offers 3-for-1 drinks. They cheat you a little

though; the beer glasses are smaller than your typical 12-ounce bottle. Porterhouse also offers another happy hour from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. with 2-for-1 drinks.

For all you heavyweights out there: Enjoy!

The bad thing about the restaurant being a bar though is its opening time is 5 p.m. everyday, which they try to compensate for by closing at 3 a.m. Apart from this, the restaurant is pretty good and I'm definitely planning on going back to try some more items from its menu.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MONDAY, NOV. 24

#### MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

WHEN: 12:30-2:30 p.m.  
WHERE: WUC 253

#### SPC DANCING WITH THE WOLFE: SALSA & BACHATA

WHEN: 1-3 p.m.  
WHERE: Rec. Center

### TUESDAY, NOV. 25

#### LGBTQA THANKSGIVING POTLUCK DINNER

WHEN: 4-6 p.m.  
WHERE: WUC 155

### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26

#### 27TH ANNUAL TURKEY TROT

WHEN: Runners Wave: 3 p.m.  
Walkers Wave: 3:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Panther Plaza

#### SGA GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: 3:30 p.m.  
WHERE: WUC 221

### THURSDAY, NOV. 27

&  
FRIDAY, NOV. 28

## THANKSGIVING BREAK UNIVERSITY WILL BE CLOSED!

To have your event featured, email us at [calendar@fiusm.com](mailto:calendar@fiusm.com).