

Police address faculty concerns about safety on campus

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For the University Faculty Senate, campus safety is a major concern.

To address the Faculty's concerns, University Police Chief Alexander Casas delivered a campus safety update to the members during the Tuesday, Nov. 18, meeting.

Osama Mohammed, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, said he rarely sees police officers in the Engineering Center, a concern reiterated by Elisabeth Beristain-Moreiras, a marketing instructor who teaches at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Casas said that at least two officers are always on duty at

BBC. However, he admitted that guards are present at EC during afternoon and evening shifts, patrolling the parking lots and responding to calls when they are made.

The issue is funding for payroll.

Casas said that if he had more money for officers, he would have three of them in the EC every day. However, in the present situation, the Police Department deploys officers depending on the demands of its available services.

Whitney Bauman, associate professor in the Department of Religious Studies, asked if there was any possibility to make use of body cameras for police officers.

While Chief Casas admitted that he was in favor of acquiring body cameras, given news of

CHILLIN'



DIEGO SALDAÑA-ROJAS/THE BEACON

Georgia Talaria, a senior studying English and Japanese, and Sylvanna Loo, a junior in East Asian studies, walk from SIPA after class wearing warmer clothes to combat the cold weather. Wednesday's cold front and rain caused a notable change in fashion around campus.

decreases in filed complaints and use of force by officers, he acknowledged he would prefer more research to be conducted on how the cameras work before purchasing them for his officers.

Casas said he has faith in the

safety on campus — so much that he'd move in himself.

"If you saw fit to build me a residence [in the University], not quite as big as the president's, but where I can bring my [family,] I would live on this campus,

happily," said Casas. "That's how safe I think this campus is."

Another main concern: police possession of weapons on campus, along with other

SEE FACULTY, PAGE 2

FIU alumnus finds strength through handcycling



NICOLAS OLIVERA/THE BEACON

FIU Alum Holvin Baltodano decorates his table with photos and a display board of him representing the University at competitions.

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For FIU alumnus Holvin Baltodano, being an athlete while handicapped is no obstacle.

An avid soccer player, Baltodano was forced to put his athletic dreams on hold at a young age, after a severe car accident left him paralyzed from the waist down.

Despite his frustrations, Baltodano was not going to put an end to his passion for sports. Instead, he opted to find a sport that catered to those bound to wheelchairs.

"I started playing basketball," Holvin said. "But forget it. I sucked."

Holvin eventually found his sport — handcycling. Rather than having to use his legs for support, the sport allowed him to use the force of his arms to power his

handcycle.

The vehicle shares the concept of a bicycle; the only difference between the two is that a handcycle requires hand pedaling.

Handcycling has proven to be a sport where Holvin could prosper for the last 14 years. He has competed in events like the Miami Half Marathon, a 13.1-mile race, and

"My handcycle now is about 14 years old," said Baltodano. "It's a bicycle that normally goes for about four-thousand, five-thousand grand."

He said that this is due to the carbon fiber used in his bike.

"The frame has a better aerodynamic style, plus the colors are very bright and the component makes

“ My handcycle now is about 14 years old. It's a bicycle that normally goes for about four-thousand, five-thousand grand. ”

Holvin Baltodano
Alumnus
FIU

the Miami Marathon, a 26.2-mile race.

He has also participated in the Homestead Speedway Freedom Ride, which is hosted by the Everglades Bicycle Club.

Unfortunately, handcycling is a costly sport.

it very expensive," he said. Costs also include gloves, helmet, sunglasses and a suit.

His bike also needed some repairs and a different set of wheels composed of the pricey

SEE ALUMNUS, PAGE 2

Students assaulted after name-calling

RAUL HERRERA
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Two FIU students were attacked near the dorms by campus visitors in early October.

The incident, which occurred near the University Park Towers on Oct. 2, resulted in three battery charges.

According to an FIU Police Department report, the students were making their way to the Towers building when a group of three females taunted them by saying, "You ugly."

One of the victims confronted the taunters by asking what she had said.

The three suspects all dropped their belongings and began to fight one of the students. The other student attempted to pull them away from her friend, but she, too, was caught in the fight.

The victims both reported injuries in their heads, with one being found with scratches on her right cheek and abdomen. They provided their testimony to campus police, but refused to seek medical attention.

Later that day, one of the victims reported seeing Twitter posts made by the suspects. On Tuesday, Oct. 4, they reported to police one of the suspects' full name. During the incident, she had been referred to as "Quisha."

On Sunday, Oct. 8, the victims both agreed to press charges, and provided written statements. The three suspects, who allegedly have no affiliation to the University, were identified.

Campus police detectives contacted the first suspect, who agreed to come to the station. She was read her rights and then confessed to attacking the students. She was arrested and charged with simple battery.

The two other alleged perpetrators arrived at the police station on Friday, Oct. 14, and both confessed to being part of the fight. They were charged with simple battery, and were given trespassing warnings to prevent them from returning to campus.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Miss Honduras Maria Jose Alvarado and sister found dead

A top criminal law enforcement official in Honduras on Wednesday confirmed the discovery of the bodies of Miss Honduras 2014 and her sister near the spa where they disappeared six days ago.

Leandro Osorio, who heads the National Directorate of Criminal Investigation, told the media in Honduras that officials could “confirm 100 percent” that two bodies found buried were those of beauty queen Maria Jose Alvarado, 19, and her sister, Sofia Trinidad, 23. Osorio also said investigators had found both the murder weapon and vehicle allegedly used in the slayings.

Plutarco Ruiz, Trinidad’s boyfriend, and an alleged accomplice, Aris Maldonado, have been arrested in connection with the case.

The two sisters disappeared after attending a birthday party for Ruiz on Thursday.

Maria Jose Alvarado had been scheduled to leave for London on Sunday to compete in the Miss World 2014 pageant.

Japan plans to resume whaling next year

Japan informed the International Whaling Commission on Tuesday that it intended to resume hunting whales for scientific research next year, a move that conservationists called a defiance of the International Court of Justice ruling that Japan’s whale kills are illegal.

Since the commission invoked a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1986, Japan had been claiming an exception to the ban that allows whaling for scientific purposes and had set quotas of 1,035 kills in each of the last few years.

The International Court of Justice ruled in March that Japan’s failure to publish results from its purported research demonstrated that its claim of science-related whaling was a cover for banned commercial hunting and ordered a halt.

In the revised program submitted to the commission on Tuesday, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries cut its catch quota to 333 minke whales and said it would no longer hunt the more limited pods of fin and humpback whales.

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Chief of police addresses Faculty Senate safety concerns

FACULTY, PAGE 1

military-grade equipment.

As part of his faculty senate report, Chief Casas informed those in attendance about the weapons in their possession, including 50 M16 rifles, a command bus and a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle — equipment obtained from the Law Enforcement Support Office Program following the Department of Defense 1033 program.

Whereas the department previously owned about 12 rifles to be used by a staff of over 60 officers, the recent 50 additions allow the police officers at the University to be better prepared to handle risky situations.

The benefit of having more rifles doesn’t end there, Casas said.

Rifles work safest when they are personalized for the needs of the officer using it, Casas said. For example, for officers that are right- or left-eye dominant. Having more rifles made it easier for each officer to own a customized weapon they can operate efficiently.

The added rifles in the possession of FIUPD were customized to a semi-automatic setting, which was better suited for the environment at the University, Casas said.

“I’m not here to change your minds. You have opinions on this, and

I get that,” said Casas in regards to the concerns of the Faculty Senate of the weapons on campus. “All I want to do is have an opportunity to make you a little more comfortable with why we got this [equipment.]”

But officers can’t simply use the equipment without prior training.

All officers must complete over 40 hours of police training, focusing not just on tactics, but also high-stress scenarios and incidents involving individuals with mental issues. A two-day training session must also be completed before officers can use the rifles, all to ensure that they are proficient in handling the weapons correctly.

To be better prepared to handle a situation at the University, the officers train in the dorms as a means of familiarizing themselves with the environment they will have to protect.

Addressing the general concern over the rifles, Casas referenced past shootings in Columbine High School

“I’m not here to change your minds. You have opinions on this, and I get that. All I want to do is have an opportunity to make you a little more comfortable with why we got this [equipment.]”

Alexander Casas
Chief

University Police Department

and in the Century movie theater in Aurora, Colorado, stating that these incidents are some of the reasons why the University has the M16s.

“It’s my job to prepare for that extraordinary incident that is extraordinarily rare in occurrence and highly [improbable], but extremely catastrophic,” said Casas.

MEETING INFO

The Faculty Senate will have a special meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 1 p.m. in the Graham Center, Room 140.

The next regular meeting is on Tuesday, Dec. 2, at 1 p.m. in the Wertheim Conservatory, Room 130 at MMC.

For more information, students can go to facultysenate.fiu.edu.

Alumnus seeking dream an inspiration to students

ALUMNUS, PAGE 1

carbon fiber material.

To help cover costs that reached more than \$2,000, Holvin said he knew he could count on his fellow Panthers when he decided to ask for donations at the Graham Center in October.

“I asked the FIU Community, because I was and I am still part of FIU, representing the staff and the students in bike events,” said Baltodano.

With a donation bucket on his lap, he said he would ask passersby if they had any change. His display table was decorated with trophies he earned from marathons, as well as pictures of him in action.

Baltodano’s efforts earned him a level of respect from the students who were willing to chip in a dollar or two for his cause. However, he said others would also give him a timid “no, thank you,” or

no response at all.

“I don’t pay attention to [a negative] kind of attitude,” he said. “Otherwise, I would be frustrated all the time.”

Philip Koenig, a senior international relations major, admires the commitment Holvin has for the sport.

“I’ve been seeing him for a while and I appreciate the time he commits to it,” Koenig said. “I don’t usually give away money,

but I can appreciate what it is that he’s doing,” he said.

Baltodano said that he is grateful for the admiration and willingness of those who have donated to his cause. He said that he recognizes the good in those who can’t give as well.

“The good thing is that the FIU community, as well as the staff, is helping me very well,” said Baltodano. “I’m very happy about it.”

University labs, groups highlighted in first Bay Appreciation Day

DAY, PAGE 8

This is the first official “Bay Day,” though the Everglades Foundation has already hosted several events educating the community about the bay.

Miller said this is thanks to Dan Burkhardt, a Missouri man who brought his work in environmental awareness to the bay.

Burkhardt said he first visited the Keys 20 years ago and wanted to know what he could do to help preserve it.

He worked with water conservation in Missouri and wanted to bring what he learned there to the Everglades.

“Water problems are a commonality wherever they are,” said Burkhardt.

He edited a book titled “Florida Bay Forever,” which illustrates the Everglades Foundation’s efforts in

preserving waterways.

Burkhardt said the focus of the book, and now the event, is to help people who live in or visit Florida to understand how the Bay is dependent on the Everglades and the importance of keeping the waters clean.

Florida Bay Appreciation Day is a public educational event that Soto hopes will engage the community in these issues.

“I think bridging the gap between hard sciences and the community is really important,” said Soto.

Wendy Ng, a senior in biology, said she didn’t know about the bay or the waterways, but hopes this event will change that.

“It should be something the community is aware of,” said Ng.

The generation of validation

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Everybody on social media looks like they are having the time of their lives.

Generation Y is becoming notorious for those who are constantly attached to some sort of technological device, whether it is a smartphone, tablet or computer. There is a psychological need to be relentlessly updated on the lives of our family, friends and celebrities, as we are always refreshing Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

To make matters worse, we enter these social media sites with emotions in tow. The question is: are we actually interested in what is going on in their lives? Why does it matter that your classmate from elementary school is getting married and your friend from high school landed a new job?

The sad truth is that besides the

people who are sincerely happy for you, everyone lurking your page is either envious of your success or waiting for you to fail.

Of course, seldom does

minutes silently editing the picture and posting it online.

Because no one wants to post a mediocre shot, we must take images we see on social media

are not, and posting an image is this generation's own kind of self validation.

In fact, there is currently a new foundation called #100HappyDays where users of multiple social media sites post a daily picture of something that made them happy during the day. Of course this must be for a great cause to help people realize how fortunate they are in life— but are you really going to tell me you are happy for 100 days straight? In that case, you must be a robot.

The reality of this situation is that those who are truly happy are not the ones boasting about it on social media. There is no need to validate something if you are completely content with it. It is more than clear what people are really trying to do through writing a status about the fabulous single life or posting a selfie that belongs in a fashion magazine.

“ We have associated how many likes a post gets with how many people genuinely care about what you have to say.”

anyone post their failures on social networking because no one wants to be that person.

Therefore, social media pages are usually filled with happy moments— or at least moments that look happy. The newest trend is posting a “candid” picture where people look as if they are enjoying life to the fullest and not interrupting the moment by taking pictures, although the moment will be ruined when they spend 15

with a grain of salt and realize that there is no need to be envious of the perfectly planned and edited photo. Social media postings are overdone, whether the person consciously did so or not, to appear better than it actually is.

We have associated how many likes a post gets with how many people genuinely care about what you have to say. Obviously, we want our lives to appear perfect, even when they

We're in a climate change hole

TNS STAFF

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently released its Fifth Assessment Report, summarizing the state of climate science and solutions. The report reinforces previous findings that the earth is warming, humans are primarily responsible and rapid reductions in emissions are urgently needed. Our current emissions trend substantially increases the risk of costly, dangerous, irreversible and potentially catastrophic changes in the global life support systems we all depend upon.

We've dug ourselves into a deep climate hole. Despite ever more dire warnings, greenhouse gas emissions have grown 42 percent since the IPCC's first assessment report in 1990. Preserving a safe climate means turning global greenhouse gas emissions down this decade and reducing them rapidly in absolute terms during the next 40 years, even as GDP and population increase. It also means keeping three quarters of proven fossil fuel reserves in the ground or safely storing the emissions from burning those fuels.

The science summarized by

the IPCC gives clear guidance for what we should do next:

Stop new digging.

The more high-emissions infrastructure we build now, the more we'll have to scrap in coming decades, so let's stop building it as soon as we can. That means no new coal-fired power plants, no new shipping terminals to move coal overseas, no more pipelines or rail lines to unconventional oil supplies, and no drilling for oil in the soon-to-be ice-free Arctic. It will be difficult to stop these projects. But once built, they will be even harder to shut down. Better to not build

them in the first place.

Today's technology allows us to move past combustion now, in most applications. But scaling up new technology to meet the demands of a modern industrial society won't be easy. Not doing so will be harder still, because of the damage runaway climate change will inflict on the earth and on human society.

The new IPCC Synthesis Report shows how to climb out of this hole. But first we need to stop digging.

LET IT GO



SAMUEL PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

Miami lacks the winter holiday spirit

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Over the course of the next two months or so, we will all hopefully be spending quality

“ Growing up has definitely taken some of the fun out of the holidays. I guess I don't expect as much as I did when I was little.”

time with our friends and family, wearing the warmest sweater our grandmothers knit for us, making s'mores by the fireplace, drinking eggnog to warm up, singing carols and having a merry, good time.

If that is the case, then you must live somewhere at least above Orlando because, here in Miami, we don't have those cold winter pleasures.

I've spent Christmas up north before and, although it was exceedingly cold, it was so much more enjoyable than spending it in the humid, 80 degree weather of Miami. When it's cold and snowing and you're layered up with scarves and sweaters, you know it's the holiday season.

If you're sweating, wearing shorts and sandals while eating a turkey dinner, something's

not quite right.

I feel very strongly about this, probably more than most; holidays are better where the winters are cold, with hot chocolate and the crazy people you call your family.

It's disingenuous spending it in hot weather, unless you're purposely taking a trip to a warm destination for the holidays, of course.

Apart from the lack of cold I would like for the holidays, every year after Halloween, I get that Christmas-holiday-feeling inside me that used to be more potent when I was a little kid.

Growing up has definitely taken some of the fun out of the holidays. I guess I don't expect as much as I did when I was little.

When you're really young, your family makes the most out of your innocence. They go out of their way for you to have the best time— setting up the Christmas tree, shopping, hiding presents and waking up in the middle of the night to eat the cookies you left for Santa while quietly setting up the presents then, finally, seeing your reaction in the morning.

Honestly, knowing Santa Claus doesn't exist was my first heartbreak as a little kid. I used to be so excited Christmas morning when my family and I opened presents. Now, as an adult, I miss that.

I miss the thrill of being a little kid during the holidays.

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GLOBAL DOMINATION



Alex Venz/The Beacon

Above: Phillip Church (far right), associate professor in the Department of Theatre, informs students about the exchange program in London based on Shakespearean theatre. Students were given information on different study abroad programs the university offers at the Study Abroad Fair on Tuesday, Nov. 18, in the Graham Center.

Left: Kittiya Harris, a senior studying geography, tells students about a study abroad program to China she attended last year.

Anberlin brings farewell tour to Revolution Live

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Twelve years ago, in our own backyard, magic was made when a group of talented men got together to form a brotherhood that would bring powerful and inspiring music to their fans' ears.

Anberlin was formed in central Florida and currently includes Stephen Christian (vocals), Joseph Milligan (lead guitar), Deon Rexroth (bass), Nathan Young (drums) and Christian Mahoney (rhythm guitar).

In their career, Anberlin has put out seven albums with their latest, "Lowborn," released in July. Throughout the years, the band have brought us such hits as "Godspeed," "Stranger Ways," "Paperthin Rhythm," "Impossible" and countless more.

It's a bittersweet time for fans since earlier this year, the band put out a video explaining that this would be their last year touring, ending their illustrious career.

That's not to say that the members don't have a future in music, but it's time for the band to go out with a bang.

Anberlin had their debut album come out on Tooth & Nail Records, produced by Aaron Sprinkle. Fast-forward 11 years, and the band is releasing their final record on the same label.

Like with any death, it's important to celebrate the life and not dwell on

the loss. To say the band will be "dead" after this year simply doesn't feel right, because when any artist has been around

“It's a bittersweet time for fans since, earlier this year, the band put out a video explaining that this would be their last year touring, ending their illustrious career.”

as long and has touched as many hearts as they have, the music will never truly die.

Luckily for the fans, Anberlin gave the world a year notice about their breakup.

With the thousands of bands that grace our ears, breakups and reunions are usually the type of deals that hit followers right in the face. To get any type of notice is rather kind of a band, but Anberlin went above and beyond to make sure fans had enough time to save some cash to see them the last time they tour the world.

Another fresh of breath air is the lack of drama in this breakup. In the music business, what starts off as lifelong friendship can end in bitter splits. Such is not the case here, nor feuds over money,

other members, or any third parties, but rather duties pulling them away from music.

Some are getting married or having children, so juggling a full-time touring schedule does seem painfully time consuming.

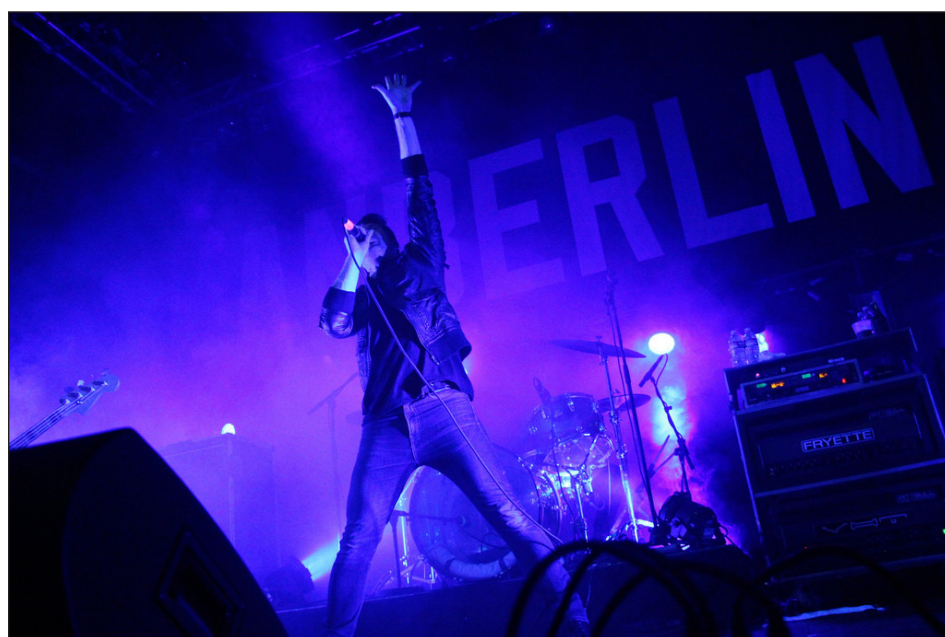
But they know it's better to end something when everyone is at their happiest, instead of at each other's throats.

If there's one thing we can take away from Anberlin's final days, it's that they are some of the classiest musicians out

there that don't give up without warning because of conflicting circumstances.

Monday, Nov. 24, will be the last time they play Ft. Lauderdale as Anberlin and at Revolution Live. They will have support from '68.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$19.50 in advance and \$21 the day of the show. The last album, "Lowborn," is out now, so be sure to pick up the culmination of 12 years touring.



COURTESY OF NEON TOMMY/CREATIVE COMMONS

Vocalist Stephen Christian performs for the House of Blues Sunset Strip, Hollywood, Calif., crowd on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2014.

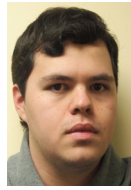
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Characters biggest win in ‘Big Hero 6’

MOVIE REVIEW



RAFAEL ABREU

Walt Disney Animation’s newest film, “Big Hero 6,” is an action-packed, funny and

heartwarming film.

It’s about a boy, Hiro, and his robot, Baymax, as they go after a mysterious man who’s up to no good. Hiro enlists the help of his four science-oriented friends, who together make up the titular six.

“Big Hero 6” really hit me emotionally, and, considering the film has plenty of tear-worthy moments, Disney is doing its job.

The film is very much about the relationship between family and friends. Though the story is not very complicated, it’s fueled by the characters’ passion.

The characters are the best part of “Big Hero 6.” From Baymax to Hiro, to his brother, Tadashi, what makes these characters so likeable, is their individuality. The



COURTESY OF RYAN C./CREATIVE COMMONS

This giant display of Baymax from “Big Hero 6” was part of Stan Lee’s Comikaze in Los Angeles from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2.

film’s genuine nature and warmth even prevents the usual obnoxiousness

characterizing these types of films. Teammates Go Go,

Wasabi, Honey Lemon and Fred are all so enjoyable and unique that they become instantly memorable.

The visuals for the film are very impressive, holding up the whole time, easy on the eyes and teeming with creativity. The setting, “San Fransokyo,” is a unique one, offering a variety of great sights, such as the city skyline, the clouds that hover over the film’s

have easily been San Francisco and the story would barely change. I hope that, if a sequel is made, filmmakers better explore the location.

The film’s use of music is noteworthy because I feared it was going to use licensed music the whole time.

Using licensed music for the sake of using it, especially in a family film, is almost always superfluous and can

plays often and is used to great effect.

“Big Hero 6” is a much better film than I was expecting, and I’m very glad it exceeded my expectations.

It manages to hit all the right comedic and emotional strings, while maintaining my interest. It has a well-established premise that has a very good payoff, featuring fantastic visuals and memorable characters.

“

“Big Hero 6” really hit me emotionally, and, considering the film has plenty of tear-worthy moments, Disney is doing its job. The film is very much about the relationship between family and friends. Though the story is not very complicated, it’s fueled by the characters’ passion.

”

version of the Golden Gate Bridge, and even Hiro’s house (which doubles as his aunt’s cafe).

However, I felt as if the location was underutilized. This could

sometimes take the audience out of the film. The trailers did use licensed music, and it was awfully distracting, so I was pleasantly surprised by the original score that

The film also has an awesome end credits scene that you simply cannot miss!

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BASKETBALL

Panthers look to extend winning streak

PATRICK CHALVIRE

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For the first time since the 2010-2011 season, the men's basketball team is 2-0 and will be looking to extend their record on Friday Nov. 21, when they face the Florida Memorial University Lions.

The Lions are 0-1 after losing their season opener to Saint Leo University, 89-48. In their matchup, Florida Memorial committed 21 turnovers, while only shooting 35 percent from the floor. Four Saint Leo University starters reached double figures as well.

Rebounding could also be an advantage for the Panthers on Friday evening, as the Lions were outrebounded 45-28 in their matchup against Saint Leo.

Florida Memorial's Samuel Dorismond came off the bench to score 23 points, most of it coming off a 9-of-19 shooting performance from the field.

It was not easy, but the Panthers found a way to come away on top Tuesday, Nov. 18. Despite struggling throughout the game, senior guard Dennis Mavin was able to get the game-winning layup to extend the Panthers' record.

The basketball gods were not kind to the visitors, as they trailed for the most part of the game, only leading for 33 seconds against the Stetson University Hatters.

Despite going 3-of-12 from the field, Mavin finished with a game-high 15

points, nine of which came from the charity strike. Junior center Adrian Diaz scored all of his nine points in the second half. The Miami native also tied his career-

Rodriguez helped to lead FIU past Stetson 17-16 with just less than seven minutes to play in the first half.

A 3-pointer by Rodriguez extended

his own.

Both teams would enter the locker room with the Hatters leading 32-25.

The Panthers allowed the Hatters to shoot 50 percent from the floor, on 13-of-26 shooting, while shooting 34.62 percent from the floor themselves (9-of-26).

The defense found its rhythm in the second half for the Panthers, holding the Hatters to no more than 10 points and holding them to just 31.8 percent shooting from the floor.

With 3:10 left to play and Stetson leading by seven, the Panthers went on an 8-0 run to close the deficit. Down by six, senior Marco Porcher Jimenez hit a crucial three from the corner to inch closer with 2:09 left to play.

A pair of free throws by Mavin with less than a minute left cut the lead to one.

The Panthers were able to force a Hatters turnover and Mavin and the offense took over, leading to a tough layup by the senior with just over five seconds to play. With the inbounds pass at half court, Stetson had less than two seconds to get off a shot but the attempted layup by B.J Glasford was blocked by Diaz as time expired, preserving the victory.

The Panthers will face the Florida Memorial Lions at the University Arena at 7:30 p.m., Friday evening.



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Senior guard Dennis Mavin dribbles down court at the Panther's home opener. The Panthers won 64-42.

high in blocks, five.

The Hatters started the contest on a 5-0 run and led by as much as 15-6 early on. After consecutive scoring drives from sophomore Dominique Williams, the Panthers went on a 9-0 run. Scoring from Williams and redshirt sophomore Ray

the Panthers record to 178-straight games converting at least one 3-pointer, dating back to 2008.

The Hatters then went on a 10-0 to take over the lead, 26-17, with just over four minutes to go. Junior guard Tashawn Desir came into the mix and hit a three of

Eagles continue to control the courts

REBECCA CHARUR

Staff Writer

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On Tuesday, Nov. 18, FIU fell to Florida Gulf Coast University 49-97 in Fort Myers, Fl. This is the second consecutive game that the Panthers have lost by more than 15 points, with the first loss coming against a fast-paced Tennessee Technological University team.

The Panthers had been hoping to bounce back

with a win against FGCU's Eagles after their 56-73 loss against the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles. Unfortunately, both Eagle teams rose to the occasion on their respective game nights, dropping FIU to 0-2 on the year.

Despite another solid performance from junior Taylor Shade; who recorded 12 points and a career high of five rebounds, and senior Tynia McKinzie, the Panthers could not muster the necessary momentum to get back into the game,

especially after falling behind early.

In the early minutes of the game, FGCU had already pulled ahead with a 12-4 lead. And just when the Panthers seemed to have found some kind of offensive rhythm in the first half, the Eagles responded almost immediately by drilling a 3-pointer, forcing a turnover, and then converting on the transition layup.

When halftime came around, FGCU had extended their lead to 24 with the scoreboard reading 44-20. Of these 44 points, 15 of them came off 11 Panther turnovers.

FIU also struggled shooting the ball from the field, only converting on 32 percent of their shots, which would unfortunately prove to be an issue throughout the entirety of the game.

FIU picked up their on-court struggles right where they had left off coming out of halftime, shooting only 30 percent (15-of-50) from the field. FGCU took advantage of

this and went on a 10-0 run to open the second half and extend their lead to 32.

One of the issues with the Panthers' lack of offensive presence has been their high rate of turnovers over the last two games. They had 22 total turnovers in Tuesday night's loss, while FGCU only committed four. Moreover, the Eagles

scored 35 points off those turnovers. Flashback to last Friday's game against Tennessee Tech, where FIU had committed 26 turnovers which led to 29 Golden Eagle points.

When asked where the team needed to improve for the next games Head Coach Cindy Russo simply responded, "Everywhere."

The Panthers will

look to make such improvements and earn their first win of the season this Sunday Nov. 23 against the Cleveland State Vikings, who have an undefeated record of 1-0 thus far. The Viking's first win of the season came against Toledo at home, where they defeated them 81-71.



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Sophomore guard Nikolina Todorovic drives past Tennessee Tech guard Samaria Howard during the game against Tennessee Tech on Nov. 14. The Panthers lost 56-73.



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Junior guard Destini Feagin dribbles past the defense. The Panthers will play Cleveland State University on Sunday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m.

FOOTBALL

The strive to end season on a high note

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The Panthers will travel to Denton, Texas on Saturday, Nov. 22, to close out their season against the Mean Green of University of North Texas. Kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. and the game will be broadcasted on the American Sports Network.

This will be the Panthers' first trip to Denton since 2010 when both teams were in the Sun Belt Conference. These teams tied the record for the longest game in college football history in 2006. The game went into seven overtimes before the Mean Green won by a score of 25-22.

The Panthers sent off their seniors with an impressive 38-28 comeback victory in their final home game on Saturday, Nov. 15. After being down 21-3 in the second quarter, the Panthers rallied for 28-straight points and never looked back.

They got a lot of help from sophomore tight end Jonnu Smith,

who had a career day. Smith had eight catches for 140 yards and three touchdowns. Smith now leads all tight ends in receptions (57), receiving yards (695) and touchdowns (8). Despite these impressive numbers, Smith is not one of the eight finalists to the John Mackey Award, an honor given every year to the most outstanding tight end in college football.

Freshman quarterback Alex McGough also had a good afternoon. He threw for a career high 231 yards and three touchdowns— all of those to Smith. The Panthers also got some scoring from junior linebacker Davison Colimon, who returned an interception 79 yards to the house, and Anthon Samuel, who scored the game's final touchdown on a two-yard run.

The Mean Green enter the game with a record of 3-7, coming off a 35-17 loss at University of Texas at El Paso. They have been running a "quarterback by committee" system for most

of the year, but they seem to have landed on junior Andrew McNulty. He has four touchdown passes and five interceptions in eight games played.

The man catching most of those passes is junior Carlos Harris. Harris has 57 receptions on the year. Behind him is senior Darius Terrell with 19. Junior cornerback Richard Leonard will have his hands full while chasing Harris around most of the day.

On the ground, the Mean Green rely on a two running back system. Junior Antoine Jimmerson leads the way with 556 yards and five touchdowns, while senior Reggie Pegram has added 400 yards and four. Both backs have over 100 rushing attempts in 2014. The Panthers enter Saturday leading the nation in takeaways (31) and ranked No. 44 in total defense.

The Mean Green defense gives up over 380 yards and 31 points per game. About 167 of those yards come on the ground; so expect running backs Anthon Samuel and Napoleon Maxwell

to get a lot of touches. Freshman running back Alex Gardner is expected to miss his fourth straight game with a shoulder injury.

Neither the Panthers (4-7) nor the Mean Green (3-7) will be

eligible for a bowl game, even with a victory. Saturday's contest will be a chance for both teams to show what they have before the close of the 2014.



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Freshman quarterback Alex McGough smiles toward the sideline after throwing a touchdown pass on Saturday, Nov. 15, against Middle Tennessee State University.

A glance at the epic comeback: predictions of next year's key players

COLUMNIST



DAVID DRUCKER

The seniors might have been honored before Saturday's game, but after kickoff, it was the younger Panthers who shone brightest. Even though there wasn't a large crowd to appreciate their efforts, the College Football Performance Awards sure took notice.

The Panthers showed signs of life only after a mediocre first half of a football game.

After not converting once on third down in the first quarter against Middle Tennessee University, the team picked up a first down with the clock winding down.

Quarterback Alex McGough received the snap as the final seconds evaporated. He rolled to his right and flung a player to the back of the endzone.

A mess of players stretched for the ball, but it sailed over them all, except for sophomore tight end Jonnu Smith. He cradled the ball as it sank into his arms, tip-toed out of the endzone and celebrated like he was the best football had to offer.

According to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, Smith actually is the best tight end college football has to offer. His hail mary miracle, recover-and-go "reception" and catch-and-run scores put him at eight touchdowns on the season—the most among tight ends in college



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Sophomore tight end Jonnu Smith picks up yards after a reception from freshman quarterback Alex McGough. Smith broke personal career and FIU records Saturday Nov. 15 against Middle Tennessee State University. Smith leads the nation's collegiate tight ends.

football.

Smith also leads all tight ends in receiving yards with 695. His 140-yard, eight-catch performance earned him the title of College Football Performance Awards' Tight End Performer of the Week. His three receiving touchdowns Saturday set a new school record, and he was also recognized earlier in the season when he was named to the second squad of the mid season College Football All-America team.

Also receiving recognition was junior linebacker Davison

Colimon. The College Football Performance Awards deemed him worthy of an honorable mention for Linebacker of the Week. He was also named Conference USA's Defensive Player of the Week.

Against Middle Tennessee, Colimon had a vital interception return for a touchdown in the third quarter that helped to prevent a Raiders comeback and expanded the Panthers' lead to 31-21. The pick-six was Colimon's first career interception. The junior went on

to fill out his stat line with five solo tackles and two sacks.

Colimon has been part of a defense that is keen on forcing turnovers. The Panthers lead the nation in takeaways with 31. Five of those turnovers happened during Saturday's game.

Smith and Colimon gained the recognition they deserved, but their team still sits at 4-7 with one game left to go. Individual accomplishments are nice, but the team needs to confirm that they are worthy of watching against the University of North

Texas Mean Green.

Freshman quarterback Alex McGough threw for three touchdowns, a personal record for him.

Junior cornerback Jeremiah McKinnon intercepted a ball late in the fourth quarter to help seal the win.

As the Panthers take on the North Texas University Mean Green this weekend, the next batch of leaders needs to be ready to step up. If the team can pull out comeback wins like their 38-28 victory over Middle Tennessee regularly in the future, the crowds will come. Hope for this program will return from its long hiatus.

A new era of Panther offense will be built upon this freshman-to-sophomore connection. It looks like it will be a pretty good one.

And as for Colimon and the defense?

"He played some great, great football. I teased him— he looked like [Richard Leonard] out there," Head Coach Ron Turner said.

It's just the right time for Colimon to start looking like a playmaker. He has already been named a team captain multiple times this season. After the Panthers play the Mean Green this weekend, it will be his defense to lead.

Next season's table is set, and the young 'uns are hungry.

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Local news anchor talks reporting, Haiti, racism

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Calvin Hughes, a news anchor for WPLG Local 10, climbed his way up the journalistic ladder from small-town Missouri street reporter to Emmy Award-winning news anchor.

Hughes was born in Cleveland and lived in East St. Louis, Illinois, for several years—humble beginnings, according to Hughes, that he calls a mixture of Allapattah, Overtown and Liberty City.

At 25 years old, after studying at the University of Missouri Columbia, Hughes was the first to break the Michael Irvin arrest news story. In March 1996, Irvin, who was a star wide-receiver for the Dallas Cowboys, was arrested on charges of cocaine possession at a hotel party celebrating his 30th birthday.

Hughes shared these stories with journalism students on Monday, Nov. 17, an event hosted by the Association of Black Journalists. “I don’t normally come to these things with a canned speech,” Hughes said, opening the floor for discussion. ABJ brought Hughes to the University not only for his success as a journalist, but his success as a black reporter turned news anchor. “It’s nothing more than overcoming self-doubt and fear,” he said.

Jasmine Sias Richardson, a senior broadcasting major and president of ABJ says, today, newsrooms lack diversity, which directly affects the stories reported.

“Since he’s been here, he’s been pretty invested in reporting in multi-cultural communities,” she said.



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Local 10 news anchor Calvin Hughes shows students an old script at a lecture hosted by the Association of Black Journalists on Nov. 19.

After working at KYW-TV, the CBS station in Philadelphia, where he worked since November 2003, Hughes moved to Miami and Channel 10 three years later. Previously, Hughes worked in Atlanta, Georgia; Dallas, Texas; Lexington, Kentucky and Evansville, Indiana.

In 2011, Hughes received praise for his reporting on the earthquake in Haiti. The Miami New Times awarded him Best TV News Anchor, saying, “Reporters’ platitudes and smiling sign-offs often hide the intransigence of poverty and blight. [Hughes’] reporting reveals those problems without dismissing them.”

Looking back, Hughes calls his experience in Haiti “the worst story I

ever had to cover.”

After the 2010 earthquake, the country took major hits in infrastructure. Support from law enforcement and healthcare providers was non-existent and evident on the streets.

“There’s nothing that prepares you for seeing dead bodies everywhere,” he said.

After his stories detailing his triumphs as a reporter, he took questions. One student asked if racism played a role during his career.

Hughes stated that it did, though added that he chose not to focus on it.

“The best way to fight racism is through excellence,” he said, quoting something Oprah Winfrey told him once in a conversation.

University environmentalist to partake in first appreciation day

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This weekend, an event to encourage community members to preserve the Florida Bay will present research conducted by University environmentalists.

The School of Environment, Arts and Sciences is taking part in Florida Bay Appreciation Day this Saturday, Nov. 22, at Founder’s Park at Islamorada.

Hosted by the Everglades Foundation, the event will run from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Aileen Soto, education and outreach coordinator for SEAS, said students will showcase their research projects on behalf of groups within the school.

“I’m basically corraling different research labs,” said Soto.

University presentations will feature the Medina Aquarius Program, Wetland Ecosystems Research Lab, the Acoustics and Fisheries Ecology Lab, Dr. Jennifer Rehege’s Lab and Seagrass Ecosystems Lab.

The Florida Bay is at the north end of the Keys and, from Islamorada, the edge of the Everglades is visible, making the subhead for the event “Everglades in your backyard.”

“

I think bridging the gap between hard sciences and the community is really important.

Aileen Soto
Education and Outreach Coordinator
School of Environment, Arts and Sciences

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The event is meant to raise awareness about protecting the Bay and its importance in terms of being a water source for the community.

Vivian Miller, director of Everglades Education and Outreach for Everglades Foundation, said they hope to encourage the community to keep the bay on their minds.

“It’s free and family-friendly, but it is educational,” said Miller.

The event will include live music, food trucks and a key lime pie-eating contest.

SEE DAY, PAGE 2

Florida poised to let hunters use silencers

TNS STAFF

As he tiptoed through the woods in pursuit of a rabbit, Elmer J. Fudd was cautious to be “vevy, vevy quiet.”

The Looney Tunes sportsman might like what Florida hunting officials might do this week.

When the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission meets Thursday in Key Largo, the state’s rule-makers for hunters and anglers are expected to lift a 57-year-old ban on silencers, noise-suppressing devices that can be attached to the barrel of a rifle or pistol to muffle the “bang.”

Advocates for the rule change, including hunters, silencer manufacturers and the National Rifle Association, say a suppressor can protect a hunter’s hearing and allow sportsmen to shoot near residential areas without disturbing people.

Opponents think silencing guns near homes is a bad idea and will endanger lives.

“This is not a hunting issue, and this is not a gun-rights issue. This is a safety issue,” said Patricia Brigham, who heads the gun-safety committee for the League of Women Voters in Florida. “If neighbors don’t hear gunshots in the area, how are they going to know to stay out of the way?”

At an FWC hearing on the issue in Kissimmee in September, Katherine McGill, a gun owner and a founding member of the National Urban Wildlife Coalition, urged the state commission to explore the issue more thoroughly, saying she had not yet heard “good enough reasons for changing the rule.”

“If somebody’s target shooting near my property, I’d be glad they were using them,” she said of silencers. “But I don’t want to be riding my horse in the woods and not hear that hunter out there.”

Florida rules currently allow hunters to use silencers — which usually screw on to the barrel of a gun — when hunting armadillos, feral hogs and other varmints on private lands.

The change would permit hunters to use “silencer-equipped rifles and pistols” to hunt more valuable game animals such as deer, wild turkey and quail.

Banned by California, Illinois, New York and 15 other states, suppressors are allowed for all hunting in 32 states.

Diane Eggeman, director of FWC’s division of hunting and game management, recommended Florida lift its ban as neighboring Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana recently did. Georgia’s new law went into effect July 1. Louisiana, until this year, restricted silencers to hunters taking coyotes and other “outlaw quadrupeds.”

Eggeman said states that permit silencers haven’t reported an increase in poaching or hunting accidents.

“There’s a common misconception that suppressors make the gun completely silent, and that’s really far from the truth,” she said.

Eggeman said a deer-hunting rifle with a suppressor is still louder when fired than a jackhammer, a garbage disposal or live rock music.

In a letter to the wildlife commissioners, NRA lobbyist Marion Hammer said Florida enacted its suppressor restrictions in August 1957 “with no legitimate justification, except that, at the time, Hollywood movies made suppressors ... synonymous with machine guns, assassins and alcohol prohibition days.”

She called the devices “an appropriate use of technology” to protect hunters’ ear health.

“Increased use of suppressors will help to eliminate noise complaints, which have been used more frequently as an excuse to close shooting ranges, informal shooting areas and hunting lands throughout the country,” she also wrote.

Silencers, like machine guns, are strictly regulated under the federal National Firearms Act, passed by Congress in 1934 in the wake of Prohibition-era gangland crimes, including the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre in Chicago in 1929.

The law requires a buyer to pass a federal background check, pay a \$200 fee and register the device with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Ownership cannot be transferred as easily as ownership of a firearm.

Suppressors are not common among Florida hunters because of the state’s restrictions and because each costs \$500 to \$2,000. About 40,000 are owned by Floridians, said Knox Williams, president of the American Suppressor Association, a trade group for manufacturers. He said they are primarily a hearing safety device.