

COLLEGE OF LAW

Undocumented youth apply for deferment

NATALIE BAEZ
Contributing Writer

Undocumented students eligible for deferred action were officially able to apply on Aug. 15. A few days later, the University's College of Law was there to help.

On Saturday, Aug. 25, the University hosted a free workshop for undocumented youth who meet the requirements to apply for temporary residency through the Deferred Action for Child Arrivals policy, announced by President Barack Obama on June 15.

The workshop, held at the College of Law, was organized in conjunction with People Improving Communities through Organizing, Americans for Immigrant Justice, Students Working for Equal Rights and the Florida Immigrant Coalition.

Local attorneys working pro bono joined the effort, ensuring that the young adults applying knew the requirements for eligibility and, for those who met the requirements, helped them accurately fill out the forms necessary to be granted deferred action.

DACA grants eligible individuals two years of legal stay in the U.S. During this time, these young adults may get a driver's license and acquire employment authorization.

George Duman, SWER volunteer, aspiring cinematographer and DREAMer, said, "I'm a student. I pay three times as much as a citizen would. It was an amazing feeling to hear about DACA on the news. Finally something for us."

Duman explained one of his fears.

SEE DREAMERS, PAGE 2

CALL ME MAYBE



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Rosa Jones, outgoing vice president of Student Affairs, and Mark Rosenberg, University president celebrate Jones' 40 years of service to University.

Isaac skirts University



CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Tropical Storm Isaac grazed South Florida last Sunday and residents bunkered down to wait it out. The University was not an exception.

According to Susan Vernon, a senior in computer science who spent the weekend in her University Park Towers dorm on the Modesto Maidique Campus, "everything was pretty normal," despite being "on lockdown."

"I could leave the building as I pleased, although I was heavily advised not to," Vernon explained.

Vernon shared that, although she did not see emergency personnel, she never felt that she was in danger.

"The power never went out," Vernon said. "Overall, the weekend was relaxing. I met many of my neighbors and drank a lot of hot chocolate."

Janiel Vargas, a graduate student in higher education administration, weathered the

storm in Bay Vista Housing on the Biscayne Bay Campus.

"At no point throughout the... duration of the storm did [I] ever feel unsafe riding it out in my dorm," Vargas said. "[The University] kept us constantly abreast as to the status of the storm."

Being a tropical storm at the time, Isaac's winds did not exceed 65 miles per hour as it skirted Florida, according to the National Hurricane Center.

SEE STORM, PAGE 2

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Freshmen get early start on their majors

MARIELLA ROQUE
Staff Writer

Incoming freshmen will now be more likely to graduate on time.

The Graduation Success Initiative is a University-wide resource aimed to help students graduate in a timely manner. The initiative began last fall when Dean Douglas Robertson of Undergraduate Education found that Arizona State University has a student population similar to that of FIU; the difference between the two universities is that ASU has a higher graduation rate.

Following this finding, a team of FIU faculty and administrators flew to Arizona and spent a week studying ASU's system to determine what parts could be integrated into FIU.

"The provost mandated that this was something we needed to do," said Director of the Office of Retention and Graduation Success, Consuelo Boronat.

The GSI is composed of Major Maps and My_eAdvisor.

According to the GSI website, gsi.fiu.edu, Major Maps are "semester by semester paths to on-time graduation" both for freshmen and 2-year transfer students.

The plan provides students with information on what classes they should take during specific semesters.

"We are trying to encourage people to graduate in four years because there's data showing that the sooner someone graduates, the more money they end up making," Boronat said. "Students who start and graduate in four years make two million dollars on average more than students who never graduate—that's retirement, a comfortable retirement."

Maps for part-time students will also be made available next spring, according to Boronat.

In order to account for students taking fewer classes a semester, maps for part-time students will map graduation to five years, instead of four.

Boronat shared that students who begin their first year part-time have a 10 percent graduation rate during their first year.

"I find it heart-breaking," Boronat said. "That's very, very low... I think people get discouraged because it takes too long."

Maps for students who have not chosen a major are called exploratory maps. These

SEE MAPPING, PAGE 2



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ryan: Romney won't 'duck tough issues' on economy

DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

Seizing the Republican National Convention spotlight, vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan promised Wednesday night that Mitt Romney "will not duck the tough issues" if he wins the White House this fall and their party will move forcefully to solve the nation's economic woes.

"After four years of getting the runaround, America needs a turnaround, and the man for the job is Governor Mitt Romney," the

Wisconsin lawmaker said in remarks prepared for delivery to a convention dogged by Tropical Storm Isaac.

The storm, downgraded from a hurricane, was still inflicting misery on millions along the nearby northern Gulf Coast.

Ryan's vice presidential acceptance speech marked not only his turn to address convention delegates and but also a prime-time national debut by a 42-year-old lawmaker lauded by fellow Republicans for his understanding of the complexities of the nation's budget.

In a secondary role if only for a moment, Romney accused Democratic President Barack Obama of backing "reckless defense cuts" amounting to \$1 trillion.

Romney delivers his own nationally televised acceptance speech Thursday night in the final act of his own convention.

The political attention then shifts to the Democrats, who open their own convention on Tuesday to nominate Obama and Vice President Joseph Biden for a second term.

Rain leads to leaks

STORM, PAGE 1

"The main thing about Isaac was the heavy rain," said Hugh Willoughby, a research professor at the department of earth sciences. "[The University] was concerned about people being on the road."

Willoughby attributed the cancellation of operations on both campuses to the rain, which were closed from Saturday evening to early Monday.

"[The University] was a bit conservative, but it's a lot of people to be responsible for," Willoughby said. "This storm had the potential to be much worse than it was."

Willoughby also mentioned the University having suffered "only superficial damage,"

such as scattered debris, and speculated that, due to the rain, "things may start leaking that no one thought could leak."

The main aftereffects of the storm on Miami were power outages and almost 3.5 inches of rain running from Key West to Orlando, according to the Miami Herald.

"The University has had a lot more experience since 2004 and 2005," Willoughby said. He explained that the buildings at the University were designed to be "disaster-resistant" and "hurricane-resistant."

"People's decision-making has become more realistic," Willoughby said. "Miami as a city responded well."

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More clinics planned to help with application

DREAMERS, PAGE 1

"One of my fears was always, 'What am I going to do after I graduate college?' I don't want to go back to my native country—there's no future for me there. What am I going to do there? I know this country better than my country of birth. I came here when I was seven; I'll be 21 next month."

DACA, however, is not a congressional legislation, meaning the policy can be changed or reversed in the future. DACA is a directive from Obama to the Department of Homeland Security, an agency within the executive branch.

The executive branch cannot enact a law that creates a path for citizenship or permanent residency because only Congress, by legislative authority, has that power. Therefore, proponents of the DREAM Act continue to push the proposal since a grant of deferred action isn't a step in the direction of lawful permanent residency or citizenship; it is only a temporary fix which, according to the DHS, is granted to "ensure that enforcement resources are not expended on low priority cases, such as individuals who came to the United States as children and meet other key guidelines."

The guidelines for consideration are as follows: a person must have come to the United States before their 16th birthday, be under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012, have resided in the U.S. continuously from June 15, 2007 until the present time and be present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012.

They must also be enrolled in high school, have graduated high school, have obtained a GED or be an honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard or U.S. Army. They must have not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor offense, or "otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety," according to the DHS.

If upon meeting these requirements an individual is denied deferred action, the individual

will not be placed in deportation proceedings unless the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services refers them to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

According to USCIS policy, they cannot refer cases to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement unless the individual has a criminal conviction or committed fraud in his or her application. This is where the attorneys and volunteers at the University's workshop help DREAMers determine whether requesting deferred action is a smart, feasible option.

Cynthia Vescardo, University student and SWER volunteer explained why she joined SWER.

"It's just the right thing to do; our immigration system is messed up."

According to Vescardo, 1.4 to 1.7 million people qualify for DACA in the United States.

"In Miami and Broward, it's 60,000 or more. That's a lot of people whose lives are going to change because of that little paper. There are people being deported that shouldn't be deported, who are low priority, with no criminal record, that want to make a valuable contribution to the economy but they can't," Vescardo said.

Juan Carlos Gomez, visiting clinical assistant professor of law, said, "In the absence of reason and justice, DACA is the best that could be done. Politicians who oppose the DREAM Act use all kinds of excuses. They should meet the great students who will contribute to our country and to the world. Law is meant to facilitate life, not to obstruct it. Petty politics, ignorance and fear are obstructing the passage of the DREAM Act."

Additional workshops are being held in Florida, including one in Homestead on Saturday, Sept. 8, to help as many DREAMers as possible. There are also weekday clinics, Tuesday through Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the College of Law. The College of Law will continue hosting these clinics as long as there is a demand.

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CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 24, Issue 7 of The Beacon on page 1 the headline that read "University fills VP vancancy" should read "University fills VP vacancy."

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

Initiative to increase graduation rate

MAPPING, PAGE 1

maps are divided into six general tracks: physical sciences and engineering; biological and environmental sciences; nursing and health sciences; global and social sciences; humanities and arts; and administration and management.

These maps are intended to allow students to take general classes that apply to all majors within that track for a year and, if the students choose a major within the same area, they will still be able to graduate on time once they declare a major.

To aid students with deciding on a major, the University has opened a class called Discover Your Major, SLS 1402. According to Boronat, the course involves self-exploration and career-exploration, which allows students to consider the majors tied to certain careers.

Freshman in Asian studies, Stephanie Montes de Oca, said she likes the major maps.

"They give me an idea of what classes I should take and when."

The major maps lay out the

classes they should take every semester, enabling students to take classes when they need to take them.

"If we're putting the classes on the map, the departments have to offer them," Boronat said. "So what we're moving toward is using these schedules to do course planning."

Enrollment planning allows the University to foresee how many sections each college will need to provide based on the amount of students that are projected to register for a specific course.

According to Boronat, the departments will be able to have enough sections available to ensure that students will be able to register for every course they need, as long as the students follow the department's map.

The second part of the GSI is called My_eAdvisor, an electronic advisor embedded in PantherSoft that allows in PantherSoft that allows both the student and the advisor to remain up-to-date as to how far along the student is in regards to their target graduation.

Through My_eAdvisor, students will be assigned an advisor and will have the

opportunity to send direct messages to the advisor via the system.

"It will be as helpful as the major maps because I'll be able to graduate on time," said freshman in computer engineering, Isabella Zengotita. "If I didn't have it, I might overlook some requirements."

Students will also be able to view advisor notes online from a past session of advising and will be able to schedule an appointment with the advisor. My_eAdvisor enables students to select their classes for their upcoming semester directly, instead of searching for them through lists.

"It's going to help people from falling through the cracks. The resources are out there, but somehow students manage to overlook things," said Assistant Director of the Office of Retention and Graduation Success Arlene Garcia. With critical indicators, "there isn't going to be any forgetting," Garcia said.

These critical indicators, alerts that will appear on the dashboard of a student's PantherSoft account, are aimed to keep students informed at all times. They are triggered

by a number of indicators, including a low GPA, a failing or low grade in an important class for that major or a course a student should be enrolled in, but isn't.

"What we found was that there are some courses that are more important than others—that predict when students are going to graduate," Boronat said.

"It's going to limit the aspect of surprise," Garcia said. "If there's a sequence of classes that are all prerequisites to each other, then we're going through them so that [the students] don't miss the sequence."

My_eAdvisor is set to go live in September, as per Miguel Sahagun, assistant director of academic advising technology, one of the teams that has been building the site.

"We update the major maps on an ongoing basis," Boronat said. "We are going to be building major maps into eternity because every year we're going to build a new set of major maps that will reflect changes in requirements."

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Getting by with a little help from a stranger

JENNA KEFAUVER
Staff Writer

If you've ever gone to the Green Library at the Modesto Maidique Campus then it's probable you've seen the giant booths between Starbucks and the escalators.

And unless you've gotten to the library at 5 a.m., it's very probable you've never sat in one.

Every day I walk in there I see an empty booth, that is until I see one person sitting in a booth made for at least six. And most of the time, that one person is asleep. Which makes me both very sad and somewhat irrationally angry.

Especially when I go on a day when the library has been open for about 20 minutes, in a tropical storm, and I still can't sit down.

So here's my idea everyone, let's share. Haven't you heard that sharing is caring? Make friends, share a table. Have an engaging conversation over coffee and a bagel.

Or do what I do and sit at the booth with the guy asleep on his side of the



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

booth; he's not conscious so he has no clue what's happening anyway. And if he wakes up, chances are he'll look at you confused for about two seconds, realize

he doesn't care and pass out again.

One request about sharing though. Please don't use them as your marital bed. I already see enough post-coital couples outside my place of work daily, I don't want to see more while attempting to study and realizing I have to go attempt to fight for a place upstairs because couples can't wait until they get home to cuddle and whatever else they happen to be doing.

But seriously guys, who knows what could happen if you just share a booth one day? You could meet your future wife, future husband, maybe even your future best man or maid of honor for your wedding.

So pull up a spot on a bench and possibly make some new, lifelong friends. Or feel really awkward for 10 minutes before you can attempt to nonchalantly walk away.

Que sera, sera. Just share. Make the world a better place. One library booth at a time.

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Department strides don't go unnoticed

JUNETTE REYES
Staff Writer

The University has gained recognition by being classified as a top-tier research university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, putting it in the ranks of the nation's leading research universities. The University's Department of Psychology alone has been a significant factor in developing its standing in research.

Areas of interest, such as industrial/organizational, legal, behavioral analysis, clinical and developmental psychology are all explored by the Department's faculty in various labs. These studies range from improving the accuracy of eyewitness reports to improving the workplace and the performance of employees for the advancement of an organization's success.

Student involvement in the research studies conducted by the various labs is one of the ingenious factors of the studies by the Department, for it works in its favor in two ways.

The labs have ease of access to both participants for their research as well as possible candidates for research assistants all from the University's student population.

In terms of participants, it really all

depends on whether the professor of a course is allowing his or her students to receive extra credit in this manner through FIU Sona Systems, a website in which students can sign up for studies listed and view their progress as they earn credits. More likely than not, the professors allowing their students to get

“According to the final fall 2011 headcount, the undergraduate enrollment of psychology majors represented a mere 3,006 students of the full 47,966.”

extra credit through Sona tend to teach psychology courses.

This presents a slight issue, considering that although it is a decent sized population, there could be research done

if Sona was advertised to the whole student body.

According to the final fall 2011 headcount, the undergraduate enrollment of psychology majors represented a mere 3,006 students of the full 47,966. There is pride shown in the University being a force in the research community but it cannot reach its full capacity if the pool from which they receive their participants is not expanded.

Although it does make sense that psychology students are the only ones technically capable of participating, it should not be limited to just them.

A larger population could quite possibly improve the way the studies are conducted, which could enhance the way these studies help in real-life situations.

Of course, involving more students would present the issue of providing them with incentives to participate. This can be as simple as professors cooperating with the Department to allow their students to earn extra credit by participating, as some psychology professors do.

If not this, the Department would have to encourage the additional students to participate with offerings such as meal vouchers or \$5 checks.

As previously mentioned, research assistants can also be acquired through the student population. While some

studies might have specific requirements, students can, for the most part, apply without having much experience.

So those that have not taken Research Methods (SYA 3300) yet should not be discouraged from volunteering. In fact, those that have taken the course tend to be closer to graduating, meaning they would have less time available to help out in studies that go on for a longer period of time.

Psychology students in their early years are more preferable, seeing as they have more time ahead of them to volunteer.

Besides being beneficial to the study, students can also gain much-needed experience, which can help them get into other labs as well as work in their favor beyond their undergraduate studies.

The Department has certainly shown its effort in striving for excellence through research but this does not mean there is not room for improvement.

In this case, it applies more to the student involvement. An increase in both participant numbers and volunteer numbers should be encouraged, for it could only mean good things for the Department and, in the case of volunteering, the students as well.

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2012 ELECTION

Some students consider voting, others "too busy"

DANIEL URIA
Contributing Writer

This fall semester, students will be faced with decisions like whether or not to take that extra class, or change their major, and come November many will be faced with even one more big decision.

For some students, this election year will be the first time they will have the opportunity to vote in a presidential election. Voters have the choice between democratic incumbent Barack Obama, and republican candidate Mitt Romney.

Most Golden Panthers were too young to vote in the last presidential election in 2008 in which Obama beat republican candidate John McCain for the presidency.

With his first term as president coming to a close, new voters will get the chance to decide if he deserves a second term or not.

Some students are excited by the opportunity to flex their democratic muscle and decide who the next president will be. When asked why he chose to vote in this election junior journalism major, Randy Van said, "It's the first time I get to vote." Van expressed that he would likely cast a vote for Obama come election time.

A certain sense of maturity also accompanies the excitement of being a first-time voter. This is the case for Paola Franceschi, a junior and journalism major. When asked about the prospect of voting for the first time Franceschi replied, "I feel old." Despite

this feeling, Franceschi said she would make it to the polls to vote for Obama.

Although exciting, the prospect of voting for the first time isn't enough to drive everyone to the polls. For example, juniors, Noel Buranday and Kiara Amador have chosen not to vote in the upcoming election. Buranday, health service administration major, believed he wouldn't have the time to get out and vote. "I'm too busy with schoolwork and my job," he explained.

Amador, on the other hand, expressed no interest in voting at all. The public relations major expressed skepticism in her vote's value saying, "I don't really think it makes a difference."

Voting isn't for everyone. But, those students who do decide to vote are then faced

with the task of deciding what to do with their vote. There are many different factors that go into choosing which candidate to vote for. When asked why she would vote for Barack Obama this November junior journalism major, RaShondra Jackson explained, "I go by party."

Freshman biology major, Jacob Salzman also expressed party loyalty as the reason he would vote for Romney although he said that he didn't feel that "any candidate is exceptionally better than the other."

Despite his republican leanings Salzman also expressed disappointment in Obama's first term. "I believe he could have done a better job."

No matter what candidate prevails, students should make sure that they are registered to

vote under their current address.

One way students can register to vote or change their registration address is by speaking with the various campaign representatives stationed around campus like Janet Occidental.

Occidental found her way to the University campus through an exchange program from her school in Los Angeles that allowed her to work for the Obama campaign.

She explained that since Florida is a swing state, a student's individual vote could drastically change their bank account.

"One vote can make a difference between a student loan having a high interest rate, or a low interest rate," she said.

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Q&A

FIUSM sits down with actress from "Rock of Ages"

JUNETTE REYES
Staff Writer

University alumna Maria Ines Serritella has danced her way into an acting career.

She strayed quite a bit from the Bachelor of Arts she received from the College of Education in 1997 when she pursued her passion for dancing that began years before her time at the University.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIA INES SERRITELLA
Serritella is a dancer and actress.

With an extensive background in the art of dance, she quickly found her way onto the set of the film adaptation of the Broadway musical "Rock of Ages," with only three years of acting under her belt.

She also found herself back on stage, after six years without performing, to dance in "Soulé," a dance and live-music show that explores the crossroads of Flamenco, American roots music and contemporary dance with a cast of 15 dancers and musicians.

Student Media got to sit down with Serritella to delve deeper into her artistic side.

You recently worked in "Rock of Ages." How did the auditioning process for the film go?

They were looking for "dancing moms." I learned the choreography, I danced my butt off, and I just pretty much convinced myself, 'I am going to book this thing. I am a dancing, protesting mother.'

I was just so excited and very proud and just really staying extremely focused because I just really wanted to nail this audition. I'm very grateful and blessed that

I did. And I'm definitely appreciative of the opportunity to have worked with such a great choreographer and on such a great project.

What other acting roles have you had before "Rock of Ages"?

I had a few acting roles leading up to this, but not many. My four professional credits are listed on my IMDB page. Aside from "Rock of Ages," one was for an episode of "Real Vice: Miami," a show on the Discovery Channel, another was for a French film titled, "R.T.T," and the fourth was for an episode on a TV series titled, "Ángel Rebelde."

How was the atmosphere while working on the film?

The atmosphere was very surreal. You know, given that I'm an artist in Florida, we don't have that many opportunities down here for these types of projects. So when they come through, each one is very exciting. Sitting right next to renowned rock stars from the 80s and then working with makeup artists and hairdressers that just came off working on shows like "30 Rock" and "Saturday Night Live," it was just a very cool experience.

Then to go on set and be an elbow away from Catherine Zeta Jones and an arm's length away from Tom Cruise and just across from Russell Brand, it was just very cool. The entire experience, from start to finish, was just pretty amazing.

It has been six years since you danced professionally on stage. How did you end up getting involved in the "Soulé" performance with the Aire Dance Company?

I actually got involved in that project through my good friend Ana Bolt, who is also an amazing and beautiful dancer. She was already involved in working with

Artistic Director Ana Miranda and when Ana Miranda needed an additional dancer, Ana Bolt recommended me.

How long have you been teaching dance?

I have been an instructor of dance for about 20 years now. I teach everything according to my history of training. That is everything from classical ballet to modern, jazz, flamenco, belly dance, and tap and hip-hop when needed. I instruct dancers from ages six through adult. I currently freelance between two different studios; one is Dancer's Gallery in Miramar and the other is Evolution Dance in Hialeah Gardens.

When did you begin dancing?

I started dancing when I was four, but I guess my intense training came into play when I auditioned and was accepted into Norland-North Center for the Arts when I was in middle school. Then from there, I went on to work with New World School of the Arts in Downtown Miami for high school.

From there, I received a full scholarship to attend the NWSA College Program, where I stayed for two years to acquire my Associates of Arts in Dance. I was then offered a full scholarship to attend the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program at NWSA, but I let that go in order to finish my Bachelor of Science in Education at FIU.

Did you ever do anything specifically with FIU, performance wise?

I did work with instructors and choreographers that were on staff with FIU because they were also working as adjunct staff with NWSA.

So, since I was at NWSA, I had the opportunity to work with those FIU instructors as well, but on the NWSA campus. But actual performances in the FIU theater, no I have not yet had the opportunity to perform.

But I would love to.

At what point did you know that this is what you wanted to pursue as a career?

That clicked when I was in my senior year of NWSA High School. I was like, "This is what I want to do." I want to dance with (at the time) Fredrick Bratcher and Company. It was the Miami-based jazz and contemporary modern dance company. I was just in awe of them and was completely struck when he invited me to join his company as a soloist. That, for me, was a real turning point.

What would you say to someone pursuing a performance career?

Be polite. Be appreciative. Be persistent. Fully commit. Be open to taking direction and constructive criticism. Don't shy away from what you know you can do. Say "please" and "thank you." These things really do go a long way.

Always approach things with a positive attitude. Smile when you meet somebody. Shake a hand, if that's appropriate. People really do enjoy working with others who come with that disciplined attitude versus someone who is going to be problematic or diva-ish.

Serritella will be in the short student film, "Out of Time" by Iris Saunders as a leading role known simply as Secretary. The film is in its pre-production stage and centers on the topic of modern day slavery in the U.S.

She will also be involved in a "Random Acts of Culture" exhibition, funded by the Knight Foundation. The exhibition is set to occur on Sept. 1 in a location that has yet to be disclosed. She is also going to perform with fellow "Soulé" dancer Pioneer Winter in the Art Live Fair 2012, which is set to occur Oct. 26-28, so keep a look out for this multi talented FIU grad.

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RADIATE REVIEWS

Swing Lo Magellan: an explosion of Indie sound

Dave Longstreth's constant search for new sounds often results in a quickly rotating lineup of Dirty Projector members.

COLUMNIST



CARLOS SUCRE-PARRÁ

This makes it a fairly stable lineup he's maintained for the last three releases — a departure from the norm. While experimentation and constant evolution are always expected from him, and while key members like Angel Deadorian departed from the group before the creation of this new LP, "Swing Lo Magellan;" there is a noticeable shift in the band's dynamics from a Longstreth-dominated ensemble to that of a more cohesive, collaborative unit.

Amber Coffman, Olga Bell and Haley Dekle take on as much of an important role as his guitar work, often becoming the main attraction of their new sound on this new record. They bring life, in conjunction with Longstreth's intricate chord progressions, to 12 new songs that present a much more focused, and accessible side of the band,

leading to one of their best releases to date.

Songs such as "About to Die," "Gun Has No Trigger" and "Just From Chervon" feature what has become part of the Dirty Projectors' signature sound.

The syncopation of rhythms and vocals creates an incredible scenario for these songs to take place, which has been an evolving style from the band's early days, yet has gained its heights after their Rise Above LP — the title track itself, being a great example of this — as well as their latest collaborative work with Bjork, Mount Wittenberg Orca.

Both live and on-record, these songs emanate an undeniable sense of fun, often creating the notion as if the entire album was recorded in one take. Listeners can notice Longstreth clearing his throat at the beginning of "Offspring Are Blank" as well as the chatter by Coffman, Dekle and Bell towards the end of Unto Caesar.

The production takes advantage of this dynamic, often separating the track and changing the origin of the vocals, accentuating the multitude of voices, which stays very

true to the live shows, and makes the record interesting to listen to on headphones. "Just from Chervon" for instance, collapses Coffman's vocals to the right channel along with Longstreth's guitar, while rhythmic clapping takes over the left, as the song builds up, the sounds unite, only to separate once more later in the track.

This draws a parallel to the reactions from the listener. If you've only heard about this band because of "Bitte Orca," this record might not necessarily feel as "fun" as the prior LP; there is no "Stillness is the Move" type of dance-along song, but in reality, the record doesn't need it.

It feels far a more rewarding listening experience when compared to BO and presents a far more earnest approach to songwriting — both musically and lyrically. "Dance For You," one of the stand out cuts from this album — and possibly the summer — presents a romantic serenade of devotion for a lover's happiness, and working a simple drumming pattern into a more ornate string arrangement that create a shimmering sense

of bliss in the song. "Maybe That Was It" also stands out in this album, despite its completely different mood. The dark, nostalgic guitar work, more akin to Longstreth's inspiration of West African music leads to a very emotionally-charged anthem of blame and regret. This plays well thematically with other tracks such as "Gun Has No Trigger," where constant buildup of an impending suicide is only thwarted by the mechanical malfunctioning of a weapon, leading to a release of both frustration and life as death is prevented, much to the chagrin of the perpetrator, reflected in the burst of vocal harmonies.

Dirty Projectors have always been a challenging listen, if not for the overtly structured to the point of chaotic music of albums past, then for the emotional nature of their songs. It's very refreshing to see this certain eagerness for challenge and innovation turn into a rewarding and highly entertaining experience as "Swing Lo Magellan" offers.

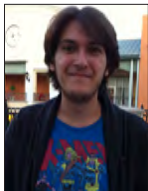
Radiate review is a weekly music review column. Email life@fiusm.com

REEL TO REEL

Looking back on Tony Scott's most memorable

The news of Tony Scott's death a couple of weeks ago came as a sad shock to film fans everywhere, especially those with fond memories of his '80s hit "Top Gun."

COLUMNIST



JUAN BARQUIN

Hundreds of tributes releasing now will focus on his most successful films, especially "Top Gun," as it is what launched Scott into an action-packed career. However, his best-known films are not quite as great as someone might expect.

After watching eleven of Scott's sixteen features over and over again, I've found that his uneven directorial career had more than a few hidden gems and it is those that should be celebrated when looking back. It was just after Ridley had released a hell of a three movie line-up with "The Duellists," "Alien," and "Blade Runner," that Tony Scott released his first feature, "The Hunger."

A vampire film with David Bowie in the lead role isn't quite what you might expect from the man, who'd later solidify himself as a pure action director, but this debut could easily be considered Scott's best-directed work. The piece is visually stunning, from the opening scenes, though some might say it's style

over substance. It is through the explicit sensuality and tension-filled scenes that Scott's true talent is showcased, especially those featuring the brilliant and gorgeous Catherine Deneuve.

Then came "Top Gun," the film that led Tony Scott down a career path drastically different from what he had created with his debut. Those who consider this a masterful action piece must be suffering from terrible nostalgia which blocks out how boring of a movie it is.

It's a perfect time capsule of the '80s that shows off nice sunsets, Val Kilmer's frosted tips, and quite a lot of homoerotic shower and volleyball scenes between Tom Cruise and other sweaty men, but I'd hesitate to call it a film that will take anyone's breath away.

"This is the '90s. You can't just walk up and slap a guy, you have to say something cool first," Bruce Willis says in Scott's early '90s feature, "The Last Boy Scout." This was his second film in the nineties, and it was the decade that really solidified Scott's career as an action filmmaker. It's an underrated buddy-cop style film that saved Willis' career, and Shane Black's "Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang" witty script full of one-liners, really brings out great performances from Willis and Damon Wayans.

Following "The Last Boy Scout" came yet another rela-

tively popular Scott flick that was penned by none other than Quentin Tarantino. The wild romantic crime movie known as "True Romance" may have been a box office failure, but

it won hearts of critics and audiences.

Strong performances all-around, especially from supporting cast members like Oldman, Hopper, and Walken

help the film plenty, but some messy writing, distinct similarities to "Badlands" and "Wild at Heart," and an out-of-place score by Hans Zimmer, make it a flawed but enjoyable movie.

Visit our web site for more reviews from Juan Barquin and other Life! content.

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CALENDAR

FALL 2012 EVENTS



FRIDAY, AUG. 31

MULTIFAITH-FESTIVAL OF FAITHS

WHEN: 12-2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BBC Panther Square

NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEER DAY

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC Nature Preserve

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1

ONCE UPON A TIME IN LITHUANIA AND THE FLORIDA COLLECTION

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Jewish Museum of Florida - FIU @ 301 Washington Avenue • Miami Beach • Florida 33139

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2

ONCE UPON A TIME IN LITHUANIA AND THE FLORIDA COLLECTION

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Jewish Museum of Florida - FIU @ 301 Washington Avenue • Miami Beach • Florida 33139

FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Pass defense the focus in first game of new season



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Kedrick Rhodes (above) returns this season after running for over 1,000 yards last year.

BRANDON WISE *Sports Director*

The secondary is often referred to as a security blanket. Heck, even one of the positions is called a "safety." When FIU played Duke last year, somebody took the safety off and let the Blue Devils run free.

Last season, the Blue Devils came into FIU and threw up and down the field on the Panthers' secondary, racking up for 300 passing yards and three touchdowns in route to a 31-27 victory.

This year, however, senior safety Jonathan Cyprien thinks that the group needs to execute much better this time around.

"I believe we need to execute things that we didn't do as well last year, some coverages, some mishaps, some things that we did wrong. Being discipline in our assignments," said Cyprien.

Quarterback Sean Renfree and wide receiver Conner Vernon connect eight times for 117 yards and a touchdown. Renfree ended up throwing for 335 yards and two touchdowns, completing 65 percent of his passes. Head coach, Mario Cristobal noted

that the Blue Devils connected for seven big plays, including the duo of Renfree and Vernon, now captains of the team, multiple times.

"They're timing is off the charts. They obviously spend a lot of time practicing together," said Cristobal. "You hear coach Cutcliffe talk about the 2.8 seconds in terms of getting rid of the football, that's accurate."

The secondary will have their hands full this week with the Duke Receiving Corps, and Cristobal knows that his squad has to remain disciplined throughout the game.

"If you're not discipline with your eyes, they'll catch you in what they do with their play-action," Cristobal said. "We certainly cannot play the same as we did last year. An extraordinary amount of attention was put to helping us prevent big plays following that game."

From the Duke perspective, the majority believe that FIU's speed is their biggest concern heading into Saturday's matchup, including head coach David Cutcliffe.

SEE PREVIEW, PAGE 7

Offense looks for identity heading into new year

LUIS D. GUTIEREZ *Staff Writer*

Four years ago, a slender receiver from Miami Springs Senior High signed a letter of intent to continue his football career at FIU with a desire to make a name for himself.

It didn't take long as he burst right onto the scene with a 74-yard punt return for a touchdown in his first collegiate game and after a few more of those games, the name T.Y. Hilton made its rounds across FIU and various other campuses.

Soon enough, Hilton's knack for the home run hit made him an important factor on putting FIU football on the map. Hilton serves as a memory rather than an immediate contributor on Saturdays.

At the expense of Hilton's inevitable departure to the NFL, the time has come to find the next spark plug within the Panther's offense; one taking the field Saturday night at Duke under the direction of a new offensive coordinator, Tim Cramsey and a new quarterback, Jake Medlock.

However, if the roster in place serves as a precedent towards upcoming success, finding that spark plug could be a simple task. Head coach Mario Cristobal understands the hole heading into this season.

"We don't have a T.Y. Hilton, we have a lot of good football players capable of making a lot of big plays," Cristobal said. "But we don't have that this year."

While the receivers may



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Cristobal is expecting better execution against Duke this year.

be a question, it's difficult to find a running back in the Sun Belt as effective as Kendrick Rhodes, who returns as the conference's only 1,000 yard rusher from last season because the three top running backs from a year ago (Bobby Rainey, Lance Dunbar, and Alfred Morris) graduated.

Rhodes set individual school records for rushing yards (1,148) and carries (234) in a single season and the Panthers will need similar numbers from him once

again. In addition, FIU also returns a veteran core behind Rhodes with Jeremiah Harden, Shane Coleman and Darian Mallary, all being part of a backfield that came in seventh nationally in turnovers lost.

During the off-season, FIU also landed LSU transfer Jakhari Gore, a once highly-touted running back prospect from Christopher Columbus high school.

SEE OFFENSE, PAGE 7



Preseason Accolades

Kendrick Rhodes

- Doak Walker Watch List
- Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference
- First team All-Sun Belt in: Athlon's, Blue Ribbon, CBSSports.com, Lindy's and Phil Steele



Preseason Accolades

Winston Fraser

- Rotary Lombardi Award Watch List
- Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference
- First team All-Sun Belt in: Athlon's, Blue Ribbon, CBSSports.com, Lindy's and Phil Steele

Depth on offense shows where strength of team could be

OFFENSE, PAGE 6

Gore, known for his football bloodlines, was also known for his cut-back skills, speed and elusiveness during his time at Columbus.

He is expected to sit out the upcoming year under guidelines of the NCAA's transfer rules, but is a potential bright light for the Panthers going forward.

FIU also returns four of its five top receivers from last season, including Wayne Times who alongside Hilton was part of a special team unit that finished first nationally in punt returns

and twelfth nationally in kickoff returns. Last year, Hilton notched seven of the Panthers' 14 receiving touchdowns and sans Hilton, no other FIU receiver recorded 100 yards or more in at least one game.

That is expected to change this season with a healthy and athletic receiving core back for the Panthers. Jacob Younger, who has played in 34 contests for FIU since his redshirt year in 2008, and has seen his receptions and yards improve statistically each season, should be among the contributors. Willis Wright almost doubled his playing time from six appearances

in 2010 to eleven appearances in 2011, and also made headlines after solid outings during two of the three preseason scrimmages. Glenn Coleman, Dominique Rhymes, and Ohio State transfer James Louis round out the corps post-Hilton that can prove to be an effective unit.

At quarterback, Jake Medlock enters his first season at the helm replacing graduated senior Wes Carroll. Medlock made his way onto FIU's radar last season by completing 17 of 27 passes and throwing for 216 yards in a loss to Louisiana-Lafayette, the season's

first for the Panthers. He went on to make his first start against rival FAU where he notched a season-high 18 completions on 24 attempts and threw his first career touchdown to date.

To no surprise, the Panthers have now given Medlock the keys to Cramsey's offense heading into Saturday night's season opener at Duke. But rest assured there is no shortage of talent behind him.

Before redshirting and sitting last season out, Loranzo Hammonds came to FIU labeled by ESPN as South Carolina's best high school football player in

2010. He threw for 2,446 yards and 21 touchdowns, and rushed for 652 yards and 14 touchdowns in a breakout junior campaign for North Augusta high school. E.J. Hilliard arrives as a true freshman this year, and with a similar track record. As a senior at local powerhouse Miami Northwestern, he threw for 2,010 yards and 18 touchdowns on 21 attempts and notched nine touchdowns on the ground, thus earning First team All-Dade county honors.

Panther fans and coaches

will miss Hilton's fireworks. However, the extent of how much they long for his skills will depend on the offense in place. With a preseason all-conference pick in Rhodes and a flashy playmaker in Times, fireworks could still be present this batch of Saturdays at Alfonso Field. At one point, T.Y. Hilton was just that guy with a desire to make a name for himself. With his absence already in effect, it's time for another one to do the same.

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Red zone efficiency required this year

PREVIEW, PAGE 6

"They're as fast as anybody we'll play this year," Cutcliffe said. "They will likely be the most experienced offense we'll face."

On the offensive side of the ball, the Panthers were able to do anything they wanted and more, totaling nearly 600 yards of offense against Duke, their highest output of the season.

Wide receiver Wayne Times led all receivers on the FIU side with seven

catches for 54 yards and one touchdown. However, Cristobal knows that the penalties were a killer, as they were penalized eight times for 85 yards.

"We allowed ourselves to be penalized, we have to be a more disciplined football especially in the redzone. We got down there a couple of times and we didn't do what our offense is capable of doing," said Cristobal. "When you get too many threes instead of sevens against an opponent that can really rack up

some points, it can catch you."

The red zone was a weak point of the offense where the Panthers were only able to score touchdowns 48 percent of the time (22-46).

"An extraordinary amount of time was invested in red zone offense and defense as well as third down offense and defense, which showed up in that football game," Cristobal said. "We weren't as efficient as we could've been."

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SEASON PREDICTIONS



Igor Mello

7-5: The days of FIU reaching out for their magic bag of tricks (T.Y. Hilton) to escape of close games are long gone.



Eduardo Almaguer

8-4: No more T.Y. here at FIU. The simple answer to this season can be summed up in one word: run.



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PLEASE STAND UP

Biscayne Bay Campus introduces paddleboarding

SKYLAR SIEGEL
Contributing Writer

Students with problems balancing work and play can try to find it - on a paddleboard.

A new sport has been introduced to the Biscayne Bay Campus. Sept. 1 will be the first paddleboarding event to take place at BBC. Followed by two other events on Oct. 6 and Nov. 3.

“It is a new and upcoming sport here in Miami,” said Jonathan Torrey, departmental administrator recreation specialist for BBC. “It came to my attention to start the sport here on our campus since we already have kayaking and other aquatic

sports here.”

Paddleboarding is a water sport where a person stands, sits or kneels on a board and propels him or herself using a paddle. It’s a combination of surfing and kayaking.

The launch will take place behind the aquatic center where there is an entry point to the bay.

There will be three time slots for each event, trip one will launch off at 9:30 a.m., trip two at 11:15 a.m. and finally the third trip will launch at 1 p.m.

Torrey explained that paddleboarding is a healthy sport because a person has to use both upper and lower body strength.

“It’s definitely a real workout,

but the great thing about the sport is that it is actually enjoyable, which is why I think students will really find it exciting,” said Torrey, who is also host and instructor for the event.

A total of 15 students are expected to participate and all slots have been filled. Students can participate for free and guests can participate for a \$10 fee.

Participants should bring a swimsuit, hat, sunglasses, towel, sunscreen and any other items they would bring for a day of fun in the sun.

“For me, having a paddleboard is like having a boat. In fact, it’s even better than a boat because you can approach the wildlife

without scaring them away,” said Brenda Lowe, alumna with a bachelor’s in journalism. “I’ve seen countless types of animals on my paddleboard – manatees, dolphins, sharks, stingrays, alligators, even tiny seahorses.”

The recreation department has attained five paddleboards to utilize in the event and is hopeful for additional department funding so that they could be able to purchase more. That way, the campus can hold larger events for more participants.

“For now, the five boards are ideal for the event, which is why we have three launch times so the 15 participants can divide into three groups, allowing everyone the opportunity to get

in the action,” said Torrey.

Torrey feels that paddleboarding will be exciting for students.

“After all what other campus has the Biscayne Bay right in their backyard?”

-bbc@fiusm.com

To become involved with paddleboarding on campus, contact Jonathan Torrey at (305) 919-4701. Space is limited.

Dream Machine picking up steam

FILIP PANOVSKI
Staff Writer

Plastic bottles and aluminum cans don’t need to go to waste.

Near the beginning of the spring 2012 semester, the Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses saw a new addition to their landscape: the Pepsi Co. Dream Machine.

The Dream Machine is part of an initiative undertaken by Pepsi Co. in partnership with Waste Management, the country’s largest recycling company. The machine itself is fitted with an interactive display, allowing frequent recyclers to be rewarded with redeemable points.

So far, the Dream Machines have accumulated more than 31,053 plastic bottles and around 6,000 aluminum cans, corresponding to around 2,500 pounds of recycled material.

Carrie Kashar, assistant director of the Office of University Sustainability, believes that awareness is one of the most important factors in getting people to recycle.

Earth Day and Recyclemania have been some of the events associated with an increase in environmental awareness and recycling rate. The University is taking the top spot in the latter event this year with around 250,000 pounds of recycled material.

Kashar is enthusiastic to see the University working towards the state-mandated requirement of a



SANA ULAH/THE BEACON

The Dream machines that have been around BBC and MMC are part of an initiative undertaken by Pepsi Co. in partnership with Waste Management. The machines have accumulated more than 31,053 plastic bottles and around 6,000 aluminum cans, leading to around 2,500 pounds of recycled material.

75 percent recycling rate.

“It’s just a matter of awareness and we’re slowly getting there,” she said.

The University plans to implement a 30-50 percent recycling rate by 2015, and reach the state requirement by 2020.

Currently, students recycle only around 15 percent of their plastic bottles – a number that is foreseen to sharply increase

as more events and Dream Machines are added around the campuses.

Unfortunately, Kashar notes that more Dream Machines may not be as easy to come by.

“The machines were a donation by Pepsi Co., around \$30,000 in value, so we’re trying to contact them and get them to send a few more right now,” she said.

Some students had a

positive reaction towards the Dream Machines’ concept but feel more information is necessary.

“There needs to be more advertising on the machines and a little more information on how FIU is trying to go green, but it’s a good start,” said Brian De Paula, a junior majoring in biology.

De Paula would be more inclined to use it if a neat set of instructions was

put next to the machine informing people of its capabilities.

John Pisciotta, a freshman majoring in biology, never used the machines, but he thought that the addition of a recycling bin near every trash can is a good idea because it reminds people to recycle without having to walk much.

“I’m taking classes where a lot of the materials

are online, on Blackboard, and professors encourage us to print them out all the time – sometimes 20 pages at a time and bring them to class. It defeats the purpose of it being an online class.”

The machines still lack redeemable coupons for local vendors on campus, most of which are present on the national level.

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