

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

## Wall of fans recreates hurricane winds

**MELHOR LEONOR**  
*News Director*

From a 'light ocean breeze' to 157 mph winds, all in about 20 minutes.

That is what spectators and members of the media experienced during the unveiling of the University's Wall of Wind, a 12-fan wall capable of recreating the storm conditions of a Category Five hurricane.

The WoW, located inside a hangar at the University's Engineering Center at the corner of 107 Ave. and West Flagler Street, is the most powerful University research facility of its kind.

According to the Laboratory for Wind and Engineering Research, each of the 12 fans that stacked compose the wall weigh approximately 15,000 pounds, about the same as eight Smart Cars.

The wall also mimics wind-drive rain and can generate winds of up to 157mph.

The power of the \$8 million contraption was demonstrated last Tuesday during its unveiling where those present got to experience the

simulated storm from the safety of a viewing room.

During the simulation, two side-by-side house models featuring roofing from pre and post hurricane Andrew were tested against the WoW to demonstrate the type of research to be conducted at the facility.

"The two big goals are to develop and test products that will help reduce damages and to enhance the building codes and better probations that will make them safer," said Arindam Chowdhury, the director of the Laboratory for Wind Engineering Research at the International Hurricane Research Center.

While the pre-Andrew model, with the roofing requirements of Andrew's time, started disintegrating at tropical storm winds, the post-Andrew model showed similar damage when the winds reached Category Two and at about 100mph.

According to Chowdhury, this type of simulation shows damage that can't be predicted through other types of testing.

"It shows us that holistic testing



PHOTOS BY MELHOR LEONOR/THE BEACON

Amir Mirmiran, dean of the College of Engineering speaks at the unveiling of the Wall of Wind, followed by a simulation.



is always better than small component testing to give you the whole picture, and how you can learn to have a better designed roof."

Chowdhury further explained

the difference between holistic and component level testing.

"In component level testing, you can only test one component at a certain wind speed but here you

can see the whole system and it shows the amount of damage and how the damage progresses which

SEE WoW, PAGE 2

## University prepares for Isaac

**MARIELLA ROQUE**  
*Staff Writer*

Tropical Storm Isaac is expected to hit the southeast coast of Florida by Monday morning. The system made its way through the Caribbean Wednesday with 46 mph winds and it is forecasted to become a hurricane as it reaches Florida, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center.

"We are keeping a close eye on this storm," said Amy Aiken, director of the University's Department of Emergency Management.

Aiken states that the student will be encouraged to seek a place of safe refuge.

"We will encourage students that live in the tri-county area to go home."

Regarding class cancellation, "we will get that information out as soon as it is feasible," Aiken said.

"It is difficult to predict the outcome and we don't want to cause a panic."

In a University-wide email, External Relations encouraged the University community to have all necessary supplies ready and to stay up-to-date with news from the University regarding developments of the storm. The email stated that DEM is currently monitoring the storm.

"With hurricanes, we have the luxury of time, so we will keep students informed mainly through email and through the FIU home page," Aiken said.

The DEM website, dem.fiu.edu, also provides members of the University with information on how to prepare for emergencies like hurricanes, tornadoes and pandemics.

The FIU Alerts and the FIU Ready program are initiatives by DEM that aid in maintaining "normal

University operations in the face of disruptive events."

"Our website has good information on what to do [before and after] an emergency. We want to encourage students to share it with family and to become familiar with FIU emergency communication," Aiken said. "Our main goal is to keep students safe and prepared."

The website has links to resources and emergency training opportunities. There is also a list of emergency communication methods, such as text message alerts, social media, the FIU Helpline or the University website.

"We are monitoring [the storm] and each day we get better and better information," Aiken said.

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## Eighth street to get upgrade

**MIRIAM ARIAS**  
*Staff Writer*

Changes are being implemented along southwest Eighth street between the Palmetto Expressway and the Florida Turnpike. Public Information Specialist Cynthia Vazquez stated, "The project is to enhance public safety."

These include the repaving of the roads in that area and changes to improve traffic lights and lanes. Additional bicycle lanes will also be added.

Traffic light upgrades will be implemented on southwest 82nd avenue., southwest 87th avenue, southwest 92nd avenue, southwest 94th avenue, southwest 97th avenue, southwest 102nd avenue, southwest 107th avenue, southwest 109th avenue, southwest 112th avenue and southwest 117th avenue.

Changes include the shutting down of the westbound traffic separator at southwest

Eighth street, a U-turn signal will be added at southwest 82nd avenue and there will also be a turbo lane incorporated along the intersection of southwest Eighth street and 102nd avenue.

The start date for the contract was June 18 and it is expected to last until April 2013. The contractor for the project is H & J Paving. Vazquez stated that the entire project is estimated to cost \$6.8 million which will be paid through federal and state funds.

According to Vazquez, the project is meant to enrich safety in the area. In an interview with Student Media, she stated, "At the end of the project, the entire project corridor will be repaved and restriped, making for a smoother and safer driving experience. The construction of a turbo lane on southwest 102nd avenue will lessen traffic backups by letting traffic flow for a longer, uninterrupted distance."

Students appear to be concerned with how these changes will affect traffic around the University. Junior and journalism major, Jacqueline Rosado, expressed her concerns with the repaving. She stated, "I think the upgrades will be good in the long run, but I am a bit concerned with how this will affect traffic around the University."

In accordance with Rosado, Christy Querol, hospitality management and junior, stated, "Construction by any street or highway always causes traffic. The good thing is that the cops are controlling it."

In regard to student, faculty and staff concerns on traffic issues due to the construction, Vazquez said, "There should be minimal effect to the University during the repaving process."

Vazquez said that most of the construction will be done during the late evening.

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# Writing fellows cultivate writing skills in tutors

**JOLIETTE RE**  
*Contributing Writer*

University students spend a relatively small amount of time writing at the college level— at least that is what a recent survey at the University suggests, according to Paula Gillespie, the director of the Center for Excellence in Writing.

In an effort to cultivate better writing skills among students, the Writing Fellows Program was initiated in the spring of 2012.

Charles Donate, Title V director of online tutoring for the Center for Excellence in Writing and the Writing Fellows Program, said the program is “an outreach center.”

The program is designed to cross disciplines— meaning that a tutor could be a journalism major and tutor a student in architecture.

“Actually, most of the students we work with are outside of the English Department,” Jennifer Gonzalez, a writing fellow and a tutor at the Center for Excellence in Writing said about her experience working with her group, which consisted of architecture students.

The tutors are assigned a group of 10 to 12 students; they will tutor a group of students in one-on-one sessions twice during the span of the semester. The tutor and students coordinate a meeting day and time via email.

In the beginning of a semester, a fellow works on

a project with each member of the group and helps them with a second, more detailed assignment at the end of the semester.

However, fellows are not usually assigned with people of the same major because “that defeats the purpose” of the program, Donate stated.

A fellow must meet with each student twice a semester outside of the Writing Center because of the tutoring already going on and the amount of students passing through the Writing Center.

Although the writing fellows are tutors, Gillespie explained the difference between a fellow and a tutor at the Writing Center.

“There is a huge difference in that the writing fellows already know the assignments, they know the requirements of the assignments and they know the professor. In the writing center, a student walks in the door and everyone works on different assignments.”

The application process for the Writing Fellows Program is similar to the application process for the Center for Excellence in Writing.

The applicants for each must enroll in a course that is designed to train aspiring tutors to the appropriate program: ENC 3491 is for the students who would like to tutor at the Writing Center and ENC 3492 is for the students who want to be a tutor for the Writing Fellows Program.

However, to apply as

## TELL IT TO ME



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

First year student Tacara Turner chats with her best friend and translator, Waleska Samuel, who is not an FIU student but helps her Turner pursue a higher education.

a writing fellow, applicants must submit a piece of academic or journalistic writing— not a creative writing piece. Applicants must also submit a recommendation letter from a professor to be emailed to Gillespie from a University email account.

Jennifer Gonzalez, a writing fellow and a tutor at the Center for Excellence in Writing shared her experi-

ence when she worked with her group of architecture students.

“I like the opportunity to work with students who are outside the English Department and working on assignments that were a different subject matter I was not familiar with...It was interesting getting to work with them and getting their take on things.”

According to Donate, the

writing fellows who have completed the course and wish to return again do not need to retake the writing fellows course.

“Nevertheless, you’ll be assigned another 10-12 students...so we have, I think, 11 fellows that are returning this semester who won’t have to take the course again,” Donate said.

The tutors receive a stipend of \$1200 a

semester.

The Writing Center for Excellence in Writing is funded by the United States Government, under the Title V Grant.

Gillespie and Donate wish to see the growth of the program for online classes, but additional funding will be required for the program’s expansion.

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# Wall of Wind ‘legacy’ of Andrew

## WoW, PAGE 1

can only be seen through this type of testing.”

Video of the simulation can be found at [go.fiu.edu/wow](http://go.fiu.edu/wow).

During the event, Chowdhury added that the WoW is also used to conduct other types of testing.

“We have done a lot of testing. We have done testing on different variables. We have done testing on underlayment and how water can get inside the buildings,” Chowdhury said.

The results of the research conducted at the facility has already had an impact on building codes and mitigation technologies; the results have already yielded a pending patent on a new kind of roofing material.

“This project is going to help communities that are susceptible to hurricanes to be more resilient to wind damage and wind-driven rain damage caused by hurricanes. What we are trying to do is find products and building techniques that will strengthen homes and

ultimately reduce the insured losses,” Erwin said.

Among these losses are the \$27 billion caused by Hurricane Andrew in 1992. A few days before the 20 anniversary of Andrew’s passing through South Florida, the WoW stands as a “legacy” of that event.

“This facility, in many ways, is part of the Andrew legacy,” Chowdhury said. “Here we come very close to recreating Andrew in a controlled environment so that we can help mitigate damage in our community and in all those communities in the path of hurricanes in the U.S. and around the world.”

In light of the anniversary, the University, along with local municipalities and government agencies, will host the 20 anniversary of Hurricane Andrew Commemoration today at 10 a.m. at the University’s Engineering Center.

One of the costliest natural disasters in United States history, Hurricane Andrew slammed into South Florida early morning hours of August 24,

1992.

The event will take place adjacent to the FIU Wall of Wind located at the FIU engineering center. Special speakers and guests include U.S. Congressmen Mario Diaz-Balart and David Rivera; Rick Knabb, director of the National Hurricane Center; and Kate Hale, director of Miami-Dade County Emergency Management at the time of Hurricane Andrew.

More special speakers and guests include Robert M. Atlas, director of NOAA’s Atlantic Oceanographic & Meteorological Laboratory; Elizabeth A. Zimmerman, deputy associate administrator for Response and Recovery with the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and Mark B. Rosenberg, University president.

Representatives from the National Weather Service Miami Office, Miami-Dade County Emergency Management and the City of Homestead will also be in attendance.

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## PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

# Problems with decals begin, where others end

LOURDES GINART  
Staff Writer

And summer is over.

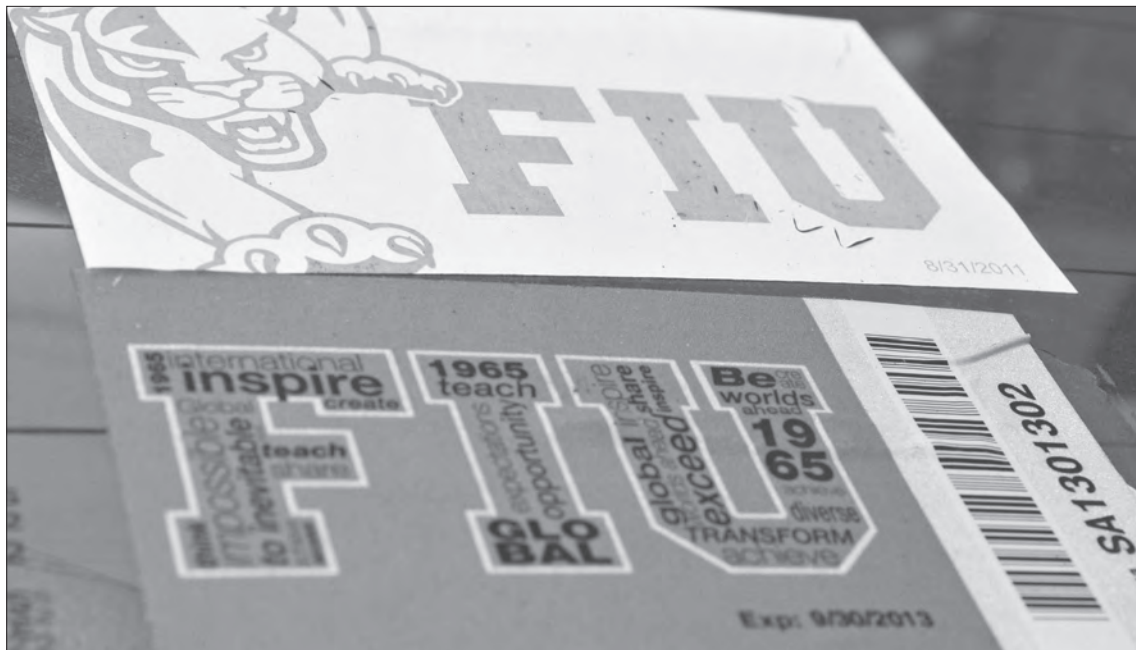
Our months of freedom from homework, exams, and Moodle – or at least for those of us who avoided summer courses – are over.

Nonetheless the long-anticipated dilemmas with FIU have begun.

Last fall, students waited weeks past the disbursement date to receive their Florida Prepaid and/or Florida Bright Futures payments. This year the University changed its course of action from delaying our financial aid to “improving” our beloved parking system.

I will give the University the benefit of the doubt in its handling of last fall’s disbursement delay, considering the parties responsible were not directly affiliated with FIU. However, when it comes to this year’s parking and decal situation, they are to be held entirely accountable.

This year, the University somehow came to the conclusion that, in order for students to receive parking decals, it would be a good idea to insist that they pay the parking fee – which is included in tuition –



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

ahead of the tuition’s due-date.

Not only is this an inconvenience for every student, it also further complicates matters for students on financial aid – which is half of the undergraduate student body.

Since students on financial aid are dependent on grants, loans, and scholarships to pay for their tuition, their textbooks, housing and myriad fees, to have these students pay the

fee ahead of time, and out of pocket, is ridiculous.

As a result, commuters would have had to pre-order a decal. Students would have been allowed to place an order for a decal as long as they were enrolled, but would not receive it until the parking fee was paid.

As fair as that may sound, pre-ordering decals would have been

disastrous for two reasons: financial aid and FIU Police.

Had a rendition of last year’s delayed disbursement occurred this fall, students would go weeks past the tuition due date without a decal.

Which brings FIU Police into the picture.

Campus security would have no way of knowing which cars belong to owners waiting on financial aid

and which cars belonged to students procrastinating on payments.

Citations and parking boots would have decorated each car on campus.

Finally, after much given thought and hundreds of phone calls relaying the same problem, the University decided it would give its best attempt to fix a problem that was never really an issue.

Students may now order a decal and will receive it three to five days after the order has been placed – this is the very efficient method the University has been using throughout the past years.

However, there is now a catch. Students must be enrolled and registered in classes in order to receive the decal. As well, students whose parking fee has not been paid after the disbursement dates are subject to paying the fee out of pocket.

After decreasing parking space due to construction, prohibiting cars from backing in to parking spaces, and creating an unnecessary problem for students to receive decals, it makes me anxious to see what the next hassle will be.

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# Sex, drugs, drinking: advice for freshmen residents

ALEX SORONDO  
Asst. Opinion Editor

Dearest Freshmen,

So you’re living on campus now. Setting your own hours, having your friends over whenever you want, stocking the fridge and pantry as you please. The perks are high.

There are three things that most campus-life newcomers are concerned with above all else, synonymous with the mythical college experience, and while you sidestep them in your previous letter, speaking as though school is your highest concern, we all know what you’re really

thinking.

Without condoning sex, drug use, or underage drinking, it would nonetheless be senseless to pretend that you won’t be confront all three in your stint as a campus resident, and unfair of me to offer no advice.

Let’s start with drugs and alcohol.

People will smoke pot in their dorms. It’s going to happen. They might not realize how far the smell has traveled, but you’ll probably notice it from down the hall. So will the Resident Assistant.

One thing to keep in mind about RAs: they don’t want to get you thrown out.

They’ll turn their heads from quite a lot if there’s no real harm being done and nobody’s being offended or inconvenienced. They’re college students, too; they know what goes on.

Still, in my three years on campus, I’ve seen about five people booted from housing and arrested for smoking marijuana in the dorms, one of whom was as bright, disciplined, and devoted as any I’ve met so far.

If your RA catches on, and other residents start noticing, you’ll be confronted. If your RA is exceptionally nice, you might get a warning. Most likely, though, you’ll have the cops at your door, and

– being one of the few who gets caught – you’ll be made an example of.

RAs are pretty forward about drinking: “If you’re a minor, don’t do it.” They also know that you’ll probably do it anyway. For this, I can only offer generic advice: if you’re going to drink, be careful. Date rape and alcohol poisoning will soon rise from the fuzzy, didactic melodrama of ABC Family to the grim plane of reality, with its nexus of accusations and shame and he-said/she-said.

The value of an evening, or a semester for that matter, isn’t measured in bottles. Remember that booze has all the capacity to humiliate

you, lower your defenses, and ruin the morning as it does to enhance an evening. Just ask Bill Clinton.

Speaking of which: we come, finally, to sex, for which attention should be paid to matters of consent, and how alcohol invariably nullifies it; about respecting your partner’s boundaries and using protection – all that. Free contraceptives are available from health services, and those who dispense them will be happy to answer any questions about safety and sickness and things of the like.

But let us speak of etiquette. Precious, neglected dorm room sex etiquette.

While you might feel like The Most Interesting Man in the World for bringing somebody home and rocking the Casbah into the wee hours, it should be known that – as the roommate of a Casanova – there’s nothing more aggravating than being woken at 2AM by the spine-scraping squeak of the mattress next door. Particularly when it’s supplemented by the moans and groans of the sex you’re not having. Just ask Hillary.


So mind your manners, know your limits, and respect your RAs; and stay cautious, my friends.

Your Affectionate Uncle,  
Screwmate



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## STUDENT THOUGHTS

# Students consider if Greek life is really worth the green

For many college students, being "Greek" is more than just letters and going to parties. It is the opportunity to be part of an organization that helps make lasting friendships, builds character, and defines your individuality. It is a support system created to ease the transition from adolescence to young adulthood.

During rush week, fraternity and sorority members line the walls of the Graham Center to promote their individual organization.

Members encourage students to join based on the experience and contacts made along the way. However, one crucial detail many students initially fail to realize, is the cost associated with membership.

Not only will you have to put

the majority of your social life into "Greek" life, you will have to put in a good amount of money to become "Greek". In today's economy, spending hundreds of dollars for a spot in "Greek" life is a gamble.

Membership does not guarantee that dream job after graduation, nor finding that Thelma-and-Louise relationship you've longed for. This is why students must decide if joining is really worth the experience alone.

At the University, all fraternities and sororities are accompanied with a membership known as dues. These dues help pay for insurance, national/international dues, operating expenses and programming in addition to initiation fees that can run as much as \$700. Also, each person is responsible for purchasing gear, such as T-shirts, date dashes, formals, and other incidents that may arise.

Social pressures to main-

tain the organizations image also become part of the "Greek" life and add to your expenses. Some chapters may run fines if you miss a mandatory meeting or do not maintain a certain grade point average. Though each chapter varies, first-year members face well over \$1000 every year.

According to students and alumni, building friendships seemed to be the primary goal for most. Some alumni had the opportunity to stay in Florida and maintain the friendships they made. Still, those who moved away were no longer in contact with most of their brothers or sisters.

According to some students, they did not have time to work due to their busy schedules. Parents seem to have taken on the responsibility to pay for their costs.

The expenses that come with "Greek" life may not be so different than what students would pay as a non-Greek student partic-



ALEXANDRA SARDI/THE BEACON

Students consider whether it's worth it to become Greek in this years economy.

icipating in any other extracurricular activities, such as sports, clubs, University-wide events and social gatherings.

Expenses do vary significantly by chapter, so students may want

to steer clear of "Greek" life and focus on investing it in something else that might give them a more concrete result.

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## SPC EVENTS

# SPC movies to catch or pass this fall semester

If there are two things college students are short of, it is time and money.

Every Friday night of this fall semester, Student Programming Council offers a free movie at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. in room 140 in the Graham Center room 140, the only thing students need is a valid Panther ID.

Every University student is allowed one guest, free of charge. The films being shown are varied in both genre and quality so there is something for everyone.

**The Hunger Games (8/31)**  
142 Min  
Metascore: 67/100  
Rotten tomatoes: Fresh 85%

This movie is based on Suzan Collins' novel of the same name. However, chances are that if you knew that, you already saw this movie. Although this movie is very much aimed at a younger crowd, as long you enjoy sci-fi and adventure, you'll walk away satisfied. With a solid story and strong acting, "The Hunger Games" should not be missed.

**Marvel's The Avengers (9/07)**  
143 Min  
Metascore: 69/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 92%

If you have any interest in superheroes at all, this is the movie for you. The Hulk, Captain America, Iron Man and Thor are all here, ready to make your nerdiest dream come true. The story and characters are pretty simple, so if you're looking for a movie that will get you thinking, look elsewhere.

On the other hand, if you want a fun movie to let loose and feel like a kid again, there is none better than "The Avengers".

**Think Like a Man (9/14)**  
122 Min  
Metascore: 51/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Rotten 54%

If you're not a fan of romantic comedies

"Think Like a Man" will do nothing to change that. The predictable plot doesn't really let any of the actors do much and takes away any sort of suspense the audience may have had. Unless you are a hardcore rom-com fan, don't waste your time on this one; use the time to think like an adult and get some of those class papers done.

**Brave (9/21)**  
93 Min  
Metascore: 69/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 78%

Everybody knows that Pixar is king when it comes to animated films. While "Brave" doesn't reach the ridiculous heights of the studio's previous films, it is still an excellent movie in its own right. Go in with an open mind, and let "Brave" and its enchanting world make you forget that you're a busy college student.

**Princesses (9/28)**  
109 Min  
Metascore: 64/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 74%

The only non-mainstream movie being shown by SPC does not disappoint, however its independent status means it is definitely not for everyone. This drama revolves around two prostitutes who practice their trade in Madrid, and it is these two actresses who move the film forward.

If you don't enjoy deliberate and measured story telling, then you're better off skipping this one. However, if you're looking for something with less explosions and more heart, Princesses is surely fulfilling.

**Safe (10/05)**  
94 Min  
Metascore: 55/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Rotten 57%

If you've seen one of Jason Statham's movies, then you've seen them all. With plenty of bone breaking and one-liners, "Safe" is a safe bet for action junkies. Unfortunately, this leaves little else for the rest of us. It is definitely not a bad movie, just one that you could prob-

ably live without seeing.

**That's My Boy (10/19)**  
116 Min  
Metascore: 30/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Rotten 22%

Adam Sandler is getting desperate. It seems he put together every previously rejected idea, mixed it with some jokes he got after watching "Then Hangover", edited it together with his eyes closed and released it. If you want to lose some brain cells on a Friday night, there are some much better ways of doing it.

**The Strangers (10/26)**  
86 Min  
Metascore: 47/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Rotten 45%

"The Strangers" is one of the smarter horror films out there. It probably will not go down as one of the all-time classics, but nevertheless it does exactly what it sets out to do. Full of moody atmosphere and legitimately creepy moments, your pulse will speed up as you root for the protagonists. Whatever this movie lacks in lasting appeal, it makes up for in enthusiasm. All in all, not a bad movie to watch for free.

**The Dark Knight Rises (11/02)**  
165 Min  
Metascore: 78/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 87%

This is not your little brother's superhero movie. With a meaty story, complex characters, and some really solid acting you don't even need to know who Batman is to enjoy this one. It can feel a bit long and it can get a bit convoluted, but be sure to check this one out if you're one of the few who hasn't already.

**The Expendables 2 (11/09)**  
102 Min  
Metascore: 53/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 65%

This movie is dripping with testosterone.

Just about every famous 1980s action star is here and while for some that is reason to be excited, for a lot of others it is reason to run away. It is full of unintentional humor, shoddy writing, even shoddier acting and a paper-thin plot.

That being said, as long as you have the proper mindset, it can be a lot of fun. Be warned, your voice will drop a couple of octaves after seeing this one.

**Magic Mike (11/16)**  
110 Min  
Metascore: 72/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 79%

On the surface it would appear that the only people that would enjoy "Magic Mike" are those anxious to see some hunky men strut their stuff on stage. However, the truth is that this isn't 100 percent true.

With some enjoyable performances, both clothed and not, and a solid story; "Magic Mike" elevates itself to be more than just the movie where Channing Tatum gets naked.

It would be a lie to say there's something here for everyone, but if you don't mind looking at some oiled up Hollywood A-listers, there is a quality story to be found.

**Ted (11/30)**  
106 Min  
Metascore: 62/100  
Rotten Tomatoes: Fresh 70%

Ever wonder what a live action "Family Guy" movie would be like? Well, "Ted" is about as close as Director Seth McFarlane is going to get.

There are some great laughs throughout this movie, just as long as you don't mind some whacky humor and the occasional fart joke. If for whatever reason you missed this one while it was in theaters, this is a great opportunity to see one of the more inventive comedies of 2012.

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## CAMPUS LIFE!

# Minutes to midnight craze

**RENE GONZALEZ**  
Contributing Writer

Sometimes the best part of the night is found in the preparation, but the GameStop in the Graham Center aims to change that. Midnight releases exemplify everything we love about entertainment: the anticipation, the companionship and the conquest of being among the first to see that new movie or play that new game.

This fall is packed with highly anticipated titles, and our very own campus GameStop will have several midnight releases this semester to add to the excitement.

As a casual gamer, most of my attention goes to sports games. No other title is as coveted as the yearly release of Madden. Aug. 28 marks the release date of Madden 13. This game will be available on PlayStation 3, XBOX 360, the new PSVITA and even the Nintendo Wii.

The good folks at EA have finally revamped the game a bit. With no real competitor in the market, it can get difficult to stay cutting edge, and so the franchise lulled.

The last decent version was Madden 10 and before that maybe Madden 08. NCAA Football has actually turned into a better franchise with more intuitive controls and faster gameplay, making it a lot more fun. EA took notes from NCAA Football and moved some of the characteristics to the newest addition of



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Students go to on campus Gamestop

Madden.

Defense has been overhauled, the controls seem to be smoother and now you can disguise your coverage. Calling motion on offense to see if the defense is in man or zone won't help you anymore. The offense received some favorable upgrades as well.

The passing trajectories have been improved. Using the left joystick, you can place passes in spots only your receiver can catch, push him to the sidelines while running the two-minute drill, or pass it over his inside shoulder if the coverage is tight.

The overall improvements to the controls come coupled with more realistic audio commentary and additional cut scenes to add to the drama.

Madden 13 is not the only major title that will see a big release on our campus this semester. This past Aug. 19 was the scheduled issue date of the New Super Mario Bros game for Nintendo 3DS. September will be an exhilarating month with three striking midnight releases. Battlefield 3 for PlayStation 3

comes out Sept. 11 and Borderlands 2 will be available across three platforms on Sept. 18 — PlayStation 3, XBOX 360 and PC. The same can be said about another desirable sports title that unveils Sept. 25. FIFA Soccer 13 will also be seen on those three consoles.

Midnight releases not only drive sales for big titles, they also assure awaiting fans a copy of the game if they pre-order. There are quite a few perks for attending these events, some stores offer exclusive packaging or collectors edition versions. Students here appreciate the campus store's ability to host these releases.

"They offer a nice early grab for gamers to get their hands on those games they are just itching to play. It also saves time from picking it up during the day the next day. It's especially nice when they offer little prizes to win like T-shirts.

All in all, it's just a nice event that can be fun, just like the midnight viewing of a new movie," said senior Jonathan Jeff Mejia, biology major.

So grab your buddies and a few containers of heavily sugared soda, because this fall our GameStop will be host to various midnight releases of some sensational titles. Call Of Duty Black Ops 2 is out in November, but stop by the store in the Graham Center and ask about any game, they'll be happy to help you.

-life@fiusm.com

## WEEK OF WELCOME FALL 2012 WOW EVENTS



KEEP UP WITH THE CALENDAR FOR A FRESH UPDATE OF EVENTS HAPPENING AROUND FIU.

### FRIDAY, AUG. 24

#### AQUATHON

WHEN: 1-2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: BBC REC Pool Center

#### HOT DOGS AND SNOW CONES

WHEN: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

WHERE: BBC WUC (OUTSIDE)

#### FIU MEN'S SOCCER VS. BRYANT UNIVERSITY

WHEN: 7 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: MMC FIU SOCCER FIELD

### SATURDAY, AUG. 25

#### AQUATHON

WHEN: 1-2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: BBC REC Pool Center

#### HOT DOGS AND SNOW CONES

WHEN: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

WHERE: BBC WUC (OUTSIDE)

#### FIU MEN'S SOCCER VS. BRYANT UNIVERSITY

WHEN: 7 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: MMC FIU SOCCER STADIUM

### SUNDAY, AUG. 26

#### BACK-TO-SCHOOL RACE

WHEN: 7 a.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: BBC (EMAIL

FIUTRICLUB@FIU.EDU FOR MORE INFO)

#### FIU WOMEN'S SOCCER VERSUS MOREHEAD STATE

WHEN: 12-2 p.m.

WHERE: MMC WUC FIU SOCCER STADIUM

#### ONCE UPON A TIME IN LITHUANIA AND THE FLORIDA COLLECTION

WHEN: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHERE: Jewish Museum of Florida - FIU @ 301 Washington Avenue • Miami Beach • Florida 33139FIELD

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## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

# Panthers hope to take advantage of new size

**JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND**  
*Staff Writer*

The metal poles are raised and the nets are tied down, it's time for volleyball season.

The 2012 squad is set to play under the guidance of newly-appointed Head Coach Trevor Theroulde. FIU returns eight-letter winners, including three starters from the 2011 campaign.

FIU posted a 20-10 overall record in 2011, capped by an early exit in the Sun Belt Conference semifinals to the hands of conference rival — Western Kentucky University.

The Panthers welcome seven new members to the program and after months of offseason practices, Theroulde expects the incoming players to vie for plenty of playing time, including the freshman.

"Everyone has a chance to play. The preseason is for players to come in, demonstrate their skill and earn their position," Theroulde said. "I told the freshman, 'When you enter a university, your job is not to wait until a senior graduates to try and earn playing time, but it is your job to come in and play like if you're going to take their spot.'"

FIU will look to its returning seniors to set an example for the incoming freshman, including

Siberian native, Jovana Bjelica, who some believe will become the team leader in 2012.

Bjelica embraces the role as a leader, as well as the pressure that comes with the title. Her numbers do all the talking as she led the entire Sun Belt Conference with a whopping 4.52 kills per set — a mark that ranked 13th in the nation. Bjelica also led her team with 1138 total assists and notched a leading 533 total points.

After spending the previous four years under the direction of Danijela Tomic, Theroulde inherits an FIU program that is not only transitioning into the new coaching regime, but is also poised for an excellent run in the upcoming season.

"[Theroulde] is definitely a lot more patient with us in terms of allowing players to develop and learn from their mistakes," redshirt senior Renele Forde said. "Now with the new coaching staff, we hope to win the Sun Belt Conference, go to the NCAA Tournament and finally become a top 25 team this year."

All throughout the offseason, Theroulde raved about shaping a new team dynamic for the 2012 campaign with a different athlete prototype, unlike any other that FIU fans have seen before. A team dynamic that will feature bigger, faster and better-condi-

tioned athletes.

"I used to be the tallest player on the team," Forde recalled. "But now we have more than a few 6'3", 6'4" girls on the team."

FIU will get their first opportunity to showcase their new team dynamic when they open up the season in the Campus USA Credit Union Invite, hosted by University of Florida in Gainesville, Fla.

FIU will take on in-state rival and host, University of Florida on Aug. 24 where Theroulde will make his head coaching debut. FIU closes out the invite with matchups against in-state competition versus Florida Gulf Coast on Aug. 25, followed by Florida A&M later on that day.

The 2012 campaign presents itself with matchups against some of the fiercest competition collegiate volleyball has to offer. The Panthers will play against nine 2011 NCAA Tournament participants including the heralded bout against in-state counterpart and 2011 Final Four qualifier, Florida State University.

After a stretch of 12 back-to-back road matches, FIU will not play in the friendly confines of the US Century Bank Arena until Sept. 21, when it will battle Sun Belt rival, University of Arkansas

**SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 7**



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Marija Prsa (above) and the Panthers hope that the new season will lead to an NCAA tournament berth.

## MEN'S SOCCER

# Arena holding on to history heading into new year

**FRANCISCO RIVERO**  
*Contributing Writer*

The men's soccer team looks to change the mindset of how people view FIU soccer in 2012.

Head Coach Kenny Arena has made it clear that the goal for his team is to compete for a national championship.

Along with his European playing style,

Arena also brings in new playmakers like midfielder, Daniel Gonzalez, while still having senior leadership from players like defender Anthony Hobbs.

"I'm here to improve one of the best teams in the country. History has shown that FIU can compete at the highest level," Arena said.

It will be an uphill battle for the Panthers, as they finished near the bottom of the standings in several categories in Conference USA.

FIU was last in goals, 7, and assists, 6, in a 5-8-4 season.

FIU strives to reach these goals with the addition of some talented players like Gonzalez, who was named All-Miami Dade and team MVP in his junior and senior seasons at Miami Killian Senior High School.

"He's already developed great leadership qualities," Arena said. "I can see him making an impact right away."

Some of the other talents that have come to FIU are defender Kevin Barber, from Lipscomb University in Nashville, defender Kwesi Alleyne from New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) and midfielder Icaro Marcos Cesar De Oliveria, from Tyler College in Tyler, Texas.

However, according to Arena, FIU does not plan to rely only on its incoming talent. The Panthers are also looking at their veteran leaders to provide leadership to these young players. Senior defender Anthony Hobbs is one of those being counted on to lead. He was recently in practices with the New Zealand team for the Olympics.

Even though Arena and the team hope to change students' outlook of men's soccer, he realizes that the program has gone through recent struggles.

"Even though the last five years have been tough, it doesn't take away from what FIU is capable of," said Arena.

If the Panthers look to truly change how

people view FIU soccer, then they are going to have to start off the season strong and take advantage of the few home games they will have.

Only seven of the 18 games in 2012 will be held at FIU. Arena, however, sees nothing but positivity coming from their 2012 schedule.

"Every year for me it's about the experience and the challenge of playing so many road games is exciting," Arena said.

Though FIU will be looking to get off to a strong start, the team has their eye at the tail-end of the schedule where they begin a tough series of 10 games in which eight of the teams were ranked higher than FIU in the Conference USA standings last year.

"The rankings from last year don't mean anything. It's who wins at the end of the day. I'm excited that we are playing teams that did great last year but I feel this year everything is going to be different," Arena said.

New players, new playbook and even a new head coach. All signs point toward a great year, but Arena and his team have expectations for a national championship. FIU believes they have the players with the right talent, the coaches with the right game plan, and a schedule that will encourage strong players through grinding challenges. The quest for a tournament berth begins at FIU on Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. against Bryant University.



JASEN DELGADO/THE BEACON

With a new coach, the Panthers look to improve on last season's 5-8-4 record.

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## ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Jones-Drew unhappy with owner's comments

MARK LONG  
AP Staff

Maurice Jones-Drew's holdout appears far from over.

His agent, Adisa Bakari, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the Jacksonville Jaguars running back is upset with owner Shad Khan's recent public comments about his client's 27-day holdout.

"Maurice wants to play for an organization that wants him and for an owner who respects him and values what he brings to a team — on the field, in the locker room and in the community," Bakari said.

ESPN reported that Jones-Drew is open to being traded.

When asked Tuesday whether he would trade Jones-Drew, Khan said he is "not going to get into all the theses and hypotheses." Khan added that Jones-Drew is "a great player, and we would love for him to be back."

Last week, however, Khan said MJD's absence "doesn't even move the needle" in terms of stress. Khan reiterated his stance Tuesday by saying, "This is not a team about one person."

His message to Jones-Drew?

"Train's leaving the station. Run, get on it," Khan said.

Bakari made it clear that those statements don't sit well with Jacksonville's biggest star.

"Obviously, he's not happy that what started as a very cordial and private conversation is now public and contentious," Bakari said.

Now, with both sides seemingly digging their heels in as deeply as possible, it is unclear when or if Jones-Drew will show up in Jacksonville. The Jaguars open the season Sept. 9 at Minnesota.

Jones-Drew's holdout is fairly simple. He wants a new deal after leading the NFL with 1,606 yards rushing last season. He has two

years remaining on a five-year, front-loaded contract worth \$31 million. He is scheduled to make \$4.45 million this season and \$4.95 million in 2013.

Khan and general manager Gene Smith insist they have no plans to negotiate a new deal with MJD, not wanting to set a precedent of paying players with two years remaining on lucrative deals that included large signing bonuses.

Jones-Drew skipped the team's entire offseason workout program, including a mandatory, three-day minicamp last month. If new coach Mike Mularkey is fining Jones-Drew the maximum allowed under the collective bargaining agreement — \$20,000 for each day of minicamp and \$30,000 for each day since training camp opened — the total is up to \$870,000.

Mularkey said Tuesday he has had no recent contact with Jones-Drew or his agent.

Coming off a career year, Jones-Drew wants to be one of the NFL's highest-paid backs. His average salary per year ranks behind Minnesota's Adrian Peterson, Tennessee's Chris Johnson, Philadelphia's LeSean McCoy, Houston's Arian Foster, St. Louis' Steven Jackson, Carolina's DeAngelo Williams and Seattle's Marshawn Lynch.

Both sides have valid arguments.

Jones-Drew signed his deal in 2009, before rushing for at least 1,300 yards in three consecutive seasons. Not only has he seemingly outperformed his contract, MJD is the face of the franchise and probably the only player on the roster known outside small-market Jacksonville.

The Jaguars, meanwhile, paid him based on the expectation that he would flourish as a starter after spending the first three years of his career splitting carries with Fred Taylor. The team isn't enamored with paying a running back into his 30s, especially one who takes as many pounding hits as Jones-Drew does. Plus, the Jaguars have



TOM DIPACE/AP PHOTO

Maurice Jones-Drew has asked the Jaguars for a new contract that he has yet to receive.

missed the playoffs in each of his three seasons as the starter.

Jones-Drew is entering his seventh season. He has 6,854 yards rushing, 2,473 yards receiving

and 74 total touchdowns. He carried a career-high 343 times last season, averaging 4.7 yards even though defenses knew he was the focal point of Jacksonville's offense.

## Opposing schools unsure of how FIU will play this year

### VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 6

at Little Rock.

Other programs like Middle Tennessee State University are uncertain how the Panthers will respond to a coaching change as well as the addition with so many new players.

"FIU is a bit of a question

mark for us, we really do not know a whole [lot] about how they will react and play under a new coaching staff," MTSU's head coach Matt Peck chimed in. "Just like our program, [FIU] also brought out in a lot of high ranked recruits, so it's kind of hard to tell exactly if and who

out of the freshman they will decide to play."

As the Panthers await to embark on the toughest season in program history, Theroulde vows to have an altered approach to the 2012 season. "There are some bad habits that need adjustments. We are trying the change

the tempo and the speed of the game," Theroulde stated.

"We are hoping the players create a competitive atmosphere but also work together as a cohe-

sive team and push each other to be better."

-jonathan.jacobskind@fiusm.com

### MONTOYA SCORES



JONATHAN SEGAL/THE BEACON

Scarlett Montoya (above) scored two goals and had one assist in the Panthers 4-0 victory over Stetson in an exhibition on Aug. 17. The Panthers officially start their season on Aug. 26 when they take on the Morehead State Eagles at noon.

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## Dodging the Second Amendment's bullet—or not

**GENE YLLANES**  
*Contributing Writer*

The discussion has been fired up again; gun control is not a new topic in the American agenda, but recent events have reignited the flame.

The shooting attack during “The Dark Knight Rises” premiere in Aurora, Colo. on July 23 that killed 12 people and wounded 58 started the debate. It was followed by the attack on a Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wis., where 6 were killed and 3 were critically wounded by army veteran, Wade Michael Page.

The Second Amendment, which allows citizens the right to bear arms, has set precedent for over 200 years here in America - but now, as gun attacks are increasingly publicized, this constitutional right is being questioned.

Brad Owiye, president of the Campus Student Initiative, seems to be divided on his opinion.

“It is impossible to uphold a particular rule [or] regulation above human life,” Owiye said.

*“It is impossible to uphold a particular rule [or] regulation above human life. Yet I believe that we can have both protection for citizens and the Second Amendment. One doesn't necessarily contradict the other.”*

“Yet I believe that we can have both protection for citizens and the Second Amendment. One doesn't necessarily contradict the other.”

Owiye's opinion is reflective of much of the American public.

According to the Pew Research Center, from 1990 to 2012, public support for gun limitations dropped by nearly 20 percent. Each year, more and more Americans believe that the right to own a gun should be protected while gun control has continually lost

support.

Henry Block, senior in the College of Arts and Sciences seems to have a stronger view upon gun control.

“Before I moved to Florida, I owned three pistols and had two on me at most times, but my grandfather taught me how to shoot and responsibly keep guns when I was little,” said Block. “I see no problem with allowing the average citizen to have guns, but we do need restrictions and I don't think the Brady Act goes far

enough.”

The Brady Act which Block is referring to dates back to 1994 and requires all citizens to have a background check before purchasing a firearm.

John Morris, the Team Ropes Adventure Challenge program manager, believes that there need to be more restrictions.

“[Gun sellers] need to be more effective with their background checks, instead of just looking for a sale,” he said.

He brings to light the darker

side of human nature - one where people are motivated more by money than integrity. The fundamental problem with gun control has nothing to do with guns themselves; in fact, it is the people who possess them.

Sandra Woehlkens, a study abroad student from Germany majoring in hospitality, believes regulations should be more strict.

“Weapons are ridiculous for me because [no one] is allowed to have guns [in Germany] only police officers and hunters.”

However, she explains that even hunters need to have a license, and when they have it, the gun needs to be locked in the house away from any other person without a license.

Woehlkens acknowledges that violence exists independently of guns, yet she affirms regulations would be helpful.

“Guns are not the only thing that hurt people, but with regulations you can minimize the problem.”

Brad Owiye  
President, Campus Student Initiative

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## Are scathing stereotypes driving you?

**SELIMA HUSSAIN**  
*Contributing Writer*

Dexter Quinn is driving on Biscayne Boulevard trying to get to his 11 a.m. physics lab class, while cars screech, halt, and honk around him.

He weaves in and out of lanes pressing the accelerator harder to speed up the journey, just to find himself stuck behind someone who is driving 25 mph in a street where 45 is the speed limit.

He swears and angrily pounds his car horn at the unknown driver. Immediately, thoughts begin to swim across his mind: “Old people shouldn't be allowed to drive,” “I bet she's texting,” “get off the phone,” “Out-of-towners don't know where they're going.”

In short, Quinn, a junior majoring in biology, is stereotyping the stranger who is driving in front of him.

For students like Jorge Diaz, junior computer science major, the stereotypes come almost immediately.

“Don't get me started on the amount of stereotypes I make while driving,” said Diaz. “There's the wannabe race-car driver—the people who feel the need to drive extremely fast just because they have a nice car—the people who drive slowly because they're too busy texting. I could go on and on.”

Others, like David Miller, junior political science major, have a different opinion.

“I don't think I necessarily [stereotype] while driving. I don't usually make any preconceived notions about someone who doesn't drive well, but I always assume that whoever is driving, whether they are driving badly or not, is a man. Don't ask me why, I just always assume they're a man.”

“Miller's viewpoint goes against one of the more common stereotypes heard

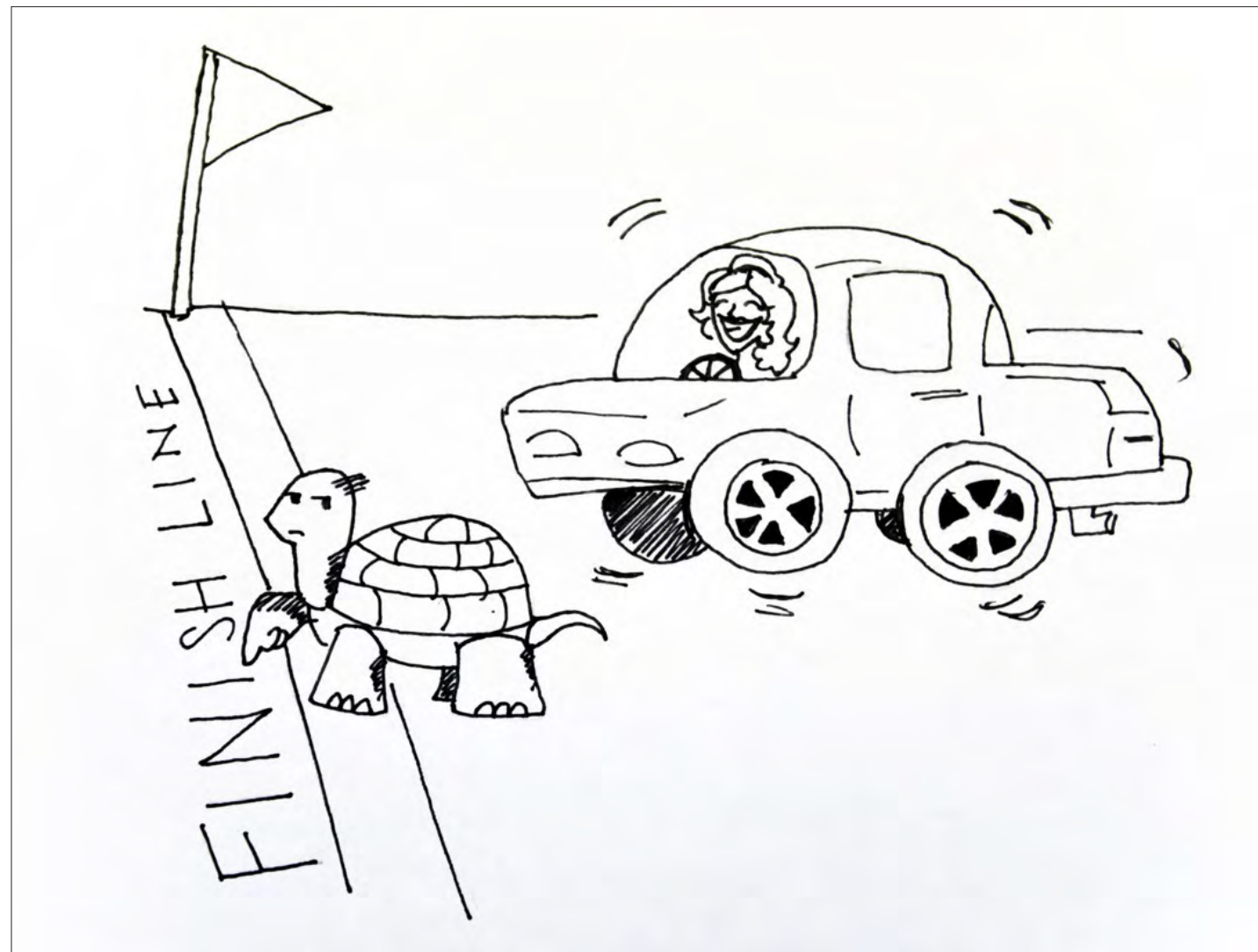


ILLUSTRATION BY SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

today which is ‘women can't drive.’”

Alteisha Taylor, sophomore criminal justice major, refutes this stereotype.

“I feel like girls are very careful drivers. Guys... I don't feel they follow road rules as much. [They] drive very fast, and I've been cut off so many times by guys who don't put on their signal,” she said.

According to research conducted by

David Gerard, a Carnegie Mellon University professor, men are 77 percent more likely to get in an automobile accident than women.

Melinda PointduJour, junior majoring in nursing, often thinks that bad driving is related to texting or making phone calls while driving.

“College students are always texting,” she said.

However, she believes stereotyping is always on the move, on the road.

“Everybody is going to stereotype at the end of the day,” she said. “Everybody will think there's a reason for a person to drive badly because the way they are raised or [because of] different backgrounds. We are all different.”

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