

## ON A ROLL



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Junior public relations major does an ollie with his skateboard near Deuxieme Maison. Under the new restriction FIU-115, this practice is now prohibited on University property.

## Regulation restricts use of skateboards, similar devices

**MARIELLA ROQUE**  
*Staff Writer*

A common sight on campus – the use of skateboards, similar devices and other high-risk activities – will now be regulated by University administration, effective immediately.

As per FIU-115, the University will “designate the areas and purpose for which skateboards... and other similar devices may be used... on University property.”

The regulation was initiated by Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell, and was passed by the board of trustees and the board of governors last month.

“We were seeing a much greater use of skateboards on campus and usage in areas that really were not safe,” Jessell said. “We were [also] seeing a lot of intentional damage done by skateboarders.”

Although not practiced by many, damage to University property caused by sliding down railings or scratching wooden benches “is criminal,” Jessell said.

According to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, if an individual is caught damaging University property or using a skateboard or a similar device inappropriately, sanctions may be imposed on the individual, including a written reprimand, fees

and potential expulsion.

“I have noticed ‘No skating’ signs posted in areas such as [Deuxieme Maison]... but no individual reinforcement,” said liberal studies senior Andres Wu. “I can use my board all over FIU-MMC... but do so knowing the limitations and lack of enforcement of University laws.”

The regulation limits the use of skateboards to “a means of transportation on sidewalks and while crossing the street at crosswalks.” Section C. (2) of the regulation explicitly bans the use of skateboards in garages and parking lots.

“The garages gave my friends

and me a few scrapes, but nothing to give FIU a liability panic attack,” said senior in international relations Nick Van Halen. “The cops would tell us to leave at night in the garages and occasionally claim we were ‘banned’ from coming back.”

FIU-115 also prohibits parkour and similar acrobatics “on or about University property.”

“Normally you’re supposed to respect your training area and take care of it,” said international relations major Juan Navarro. “I don’t think [parkour] should be banned, just regulated.”

Limited exceptions will be made to the current regulation and must

be pre-approved by the president or a designee.

“Skateboarding on campus has a certain allure due to the fact that most of Miami is flat and Modesto Maidique Campus has a variety of little hills,” Van Halen said. “I don’t see why there have to be so many restrictions.”

“This is no attempt whatsoever to discourage the use of skateboards; I think it’s fantastic. I wish I could do it,” Jessell said. “We just want people to be respectful of others and the property of the institution.”

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### ENVIRONMENT

## Agroecology department earns federal designation

**JENNIFER MARTIN**  
*Contributing Writer*

One of 71 in the nation and one of only three in the state, the University’s agroecology program is among those to receive the United States Department of Agriculture’s Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities designation.

“We are the largest graduating university out of all the Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities,” said Dr. Krish Jayachandran, co-director of agroecology in the Department of Earth and Environment, on why the University

was selected.

Being among the institutions with this designation increases the University’s chances of receiving USDA grants. The grant money is then disbursed based on how many courses and degrees the University offers in agriculture and how many Hispanic students are enrolled in the programs. Formula-based funding is also available based on enrollment.

“This program will allow us to impact agricultural industry, both at the farm and at the production level,” said Dr. Mahadev Bhat, associate professor of environmental studies in the Department of Earth

and Environment.

Currently, the University does not offer a degree in agroecology. Through the Certificate of Agroecology program, however, students are able to obtain a professional certificate in the field.

With the funds received under the new designation, the program is looking to expand to a four-year degree, Jayachandran said.

The University also offers a master’s degree in environmental studies with students specializing in agroecology. According to Jayachandran, the University hopes to expand its graduate studies and

produce more Hispanic Ph.D. graduates.

“Getting that recognition from the USDA... puts us on the national map in terms of programs that train students in food, agriculture and natural resources management,” Bhat said.

The University has yet to receive funding under the HSACU designation, but after the 2012 Farm Bill is passed, which allocates the funds for the designation, Jayachandran said it will only be a matter of time before these programs can get under way.

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# Dr. Beach ranks top sandy spots

MIRIAM ARIAS  
Staff Writer

He swam in a volcano. Famous for his top 10 beaches in America list, Professor and Director of the Laboratory for Coastal Research, Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, is also known as Dr. Beach.



DR. BEACH

Leatherman has rated and evaluated over a thousand beaches all over the world. Leatherman began his career as an undergraduate doing surveys for storm damage. In 1991, he gave his first top 10 beaches list and has been doing it ever since.

He later received his Ph.D in Environmental Coastal Sciences from the University of Virginia. Leatherman has written several books, shared his expertise with Congress and was the co-producer of the award winning film, "Vanishing Lands."

"I never thought to be a beach professor, but it turns out beaches are very important; there's great economic value in beaches. The number one source of income in Florida is beaches," Dr. Leatherman said.

While he finds beaches to be of great economic and recreational value, he also emphasizes the importance of maintaining beaches and being informed of coastal hazards.

"We need to learn the impact of hurricanes and how to combat beach erosion problems," Dr. Beach stated.

This fall, he will be teaching a course called Coastal Hazards, GLY 4881, Tuesday nights. The class provides a better understanding of beach erosions, tsunamis, earthquakes and global warming.

"I really enjoy teaching this course. I use a lot of power-points and have thousands of color slides of beaches, actually 60,000," Dr. Beach said.

Dr. Beach shared a brief summary of his beach rating recipe with Student Media. Clean water and sand should always be number one; look for a beach with fine sand, warm water and safety. It should also be a good recreational spot with the right mix of nature and development.

His all time favorite beach is Cape Florida, which came in 8th place on his Top 10 beach list. He contrasts it to the more lively South Beach and explains how it depends on what you're looking for.

"I do enjoy South Beach though," Dr. Beach said. He calls South Beach the "hottest" beach in the country, yet reprimands its overdevelopment.

At the top of his unique beach experiences is the Green Sand Beach (Papakolea) in Hawaii, where the sand is green because of eruptions from a volcano. When swimming there, you are actually swimming in what was once a volcano.

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## LOOP DETOUR



MELHOR LEONOR/THE BEACON

Construction worker directs traffic Friday, July 6 near the main east entrance of the Modesto Maidique campus due to undergoing renovations at the traffic circle to "enhance safety."

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

# University granted highest tuition in state

MARIELLA ROQUE  
Staff Writer

Representatives from the 11 Florida public universities within the State University System attended the Florida board of governors meeting in Orlando, where the University was approved a tuition increase that places it first in the state in tuition cost.

Out of the eight universities that originally requested a full 15 percent increase in differential tuition, only four were approved. Among these was FIU with a vote of 10-6, the highest votes in favor of the four.

"Now that the primary source of income of public universities is student tuition and fees, the student now squarely bears the burden that the state legislature and the people of Florida in general should bear," said Vice President of the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique campus Alex Castro in a press release.

The increase amounts to

\$608.70 for a student taking 30 credit hours a year.

According to the University's Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell, with this increase, the University will be able to admit an additional 1,700 undergraduates and provide \$6 million in need-based aid.

Differential tuition only applies to undergraduate students and 30 percent of it is used for financial aid. Unlike base tuition that is set by the Florida Legislature and approved by the governor, differential tuition can be pursued by the board of trustees of a university and then approved by the board of governors.

The board approved the Capital Improvement Trust Fund fee increases; FIU and nine other universities requested \$2 increases, UNF an increase of \$1.38 and FSU abstaining.

The board made an emphasis on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, encouraging students to fill out the form

"The student now squarely bears the burden that the state legislature and the people of Florida in general should bear."  
Alex Castro,  
MMC-SGC Vice President

early in order to receive the maximum amount of aid.

"It is to the student's benefit to complete a FAFSA as soon as possible since some aid is generally on a 'first come, first serve' basis, especially with limited federal dollars available for disbursement," said Kelly Layman, board spokeswoman.

While the three-day proceedings primarily focused on requests for tuition and fee increases, each university also presented a 3-Year Work Plan before the board.

Although this is the third year that universities are required to present a plan, this is the first in which they must follow a board template report for

consistency.

The template is divided into three sections: strategy, which includes the university's mission, strengths, key initiatives and investments; key performance indicators such as the university's goals and operations; and the university's fiscal information, including the tuition differential request and enrollment planning.

FIU presented its plan and received positive feedback, according to SGC-MMC President Laura Farinas.

"Our focus was on FIU's success and growth moving forward," Farinas said.

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# Former FIU athlete charged with battery

BRANDON WISE  
Sports Director

Pembroke Pines police arrested a former FIU women's basketball player on July 3 and charged her with three counts of sexual battery.

Marquita Adley, an interim women's basketball coach at West Broward High School, was accused of sexual battery on a sixteen-year-old member of her travel team. She was

held on a \$15,000 bond and released on July 4. Trial is pending in this "ongoing investigation," according to Detective Alkie Ximinies of the Broward County Sheriff's Office.

Former teammate Fanni Hutlassa was shocked to hear the news. "I know Marquita [Adley] well.



ADLEY

She was my teammate and friend for five years," Hutlassa said. "In my opinion, she is a really good coach, a correct person and has a professional coaching attitude, therefore, she would not touch a younger girl [in] any aggressive or offensive way. So no, I do not believe she did any of the things that she was charged with."

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## STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

# It's not always cheaper by the dozen

LOURDES GINART  
Contributing Writer

Home to 11 public universities, Florida will now open its arms and empty its pockets to welcome a 12th, Florida Polytechnic University.

Originally known as the University of South Florida Polytechnic in Lakeland, Florida, Governor Rick Scott and the Board of Governors decided that the USF Lakeland campus should become a stand-alone university. Senator J.D. Alexander, chairman of the Florida Budget Committee, who is in his last year in office, brought the idea forward. Senator Alexander has pushed for the independence of USF Polytechnic, a move Pam Iorio, former Tampa mayor, calls a “legacy project.”

FPU has drawn some negative attention for several reasons, but most criticism is directed toward FPU's expenses, which are now \$14 million over budget, according to the Miami Herald. The extra expenses come from taking the accreditation and enrollment process off of its original five-year plan and pushing for a 2013 deadline.

Aside from rushing the accreditation of FPU, the decision to give one man, Senator Alexander, enough power to push for and create a university in a matter of months seems to be a poor choice on the state's behalf.

USF, the very institution that has to pay FPU's bills for an indefinite amount of time, will be losing 58 percent of its financing during the 2012-2013 school year. FPU will also be undergoing a teach-out program through USF in order to properly transition students and faculty throughout the next year.

Furthermore, FPU will be under the guidance of the University of Florida as it tries to get its own accreditation, according to an article in USF's newspaper, The Oracle.

However, it's the air of hypocrisy that has left many students, professors and officials



COURTESY OF SANTIAGO CALATRAVA, LLC.

Architectural rendering of Florida Polytechnic University by Santiago Calatrava, LLC.

upset and confused.

Scott has supported and signed off on the separation of USF Polytechnic in order to increase the amount of students enrolled in science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs. However, UF's Department of Computer and Information Science and Engineering was nearly eliminated, if not for the students and field professionals who protested against its elimination. Now, UF faces the possibility of closing several libraries, laying off non-tenure faculty and cutting back on the engineering department in order to deal with a \$38 million budget cut, after already dipping into reserves the previous year.

All 11 universities are due for a total of \$300 million in cuts for the 2012-13 budget plan, including money set aside for FPU's growth. Although UF, USF and Florida State University may be taking the largest cuts, the University does not go unaffected.

In a town hall meeting, President Mark Rosenberg addressed the University's \$24 million budget cut, the largest cut in the University's history. Despite the considerable budget cuts, Rosenberg seemed confident about the University's future. Although

the University's “World's Ahead” program may face some difficulties, Rosenberg boasted about the University's new classrooms, residence halls and the 110 new faculty hires.

In order to cope with the budget cut while managing campus growth, the University will dip into its reserve funds and possibly hike up tuition, if allowed by state legislature.

Amusingly enough, Scott does not believe in tuition hikes. Instead of raising tuition costs for schools to balance a budget, Scott would rather have the schools face department closures, loss of faculty and halt their growth.

Tuition hikes are never a fan favorite, but speaking as a student, I would prefer an increase in tuition than losing a college that houses my major. Though tuition hikes are not something to anticipate, I would much rather pay up.

Eduardo Padron, Miami Dade College, President said it best: “At a time when institutions are growing and trying to serve a lot of students...the state continues to disinvest in education. There should be no question that, at this point in America today, investment in higher education is paramount.”

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Going green, but where's the green going?

There is this Italian song, from the 60s...let me translate: “...the years went by, but eight is a lot... yet, that young fellow climbed up the hill...comes back and doesn't find the friends he once had... only houses on houses, bricks and concrete...there, where the grass was, now there is...a city...”

I'd always boast of my university to my friends in Italy: “you should see this, it's like Eden! There's lakes, there's so much green...you walk and feel this inner peace...you sit on the grass, little duckies going by... all of a sudden the anxiety for that test goes away...what is a grade, compared

to the opportunity to study, and to study in this wonderful place...”

Now I am about to graduate. As an Engineering major, I spend less time on main campus, and barely have the time to look around... somewhere – is it on one of the brand-new TV screens? – I read that FIU is “going green”... yes, the recycle bins, but... what about the fields of grass? In four years, I have seen them shrinking, and now it seems that we lost something more than a name, when we gave up the title of “University Park”...

They took away the beautiful field in front of Deuxieme

Maison and the Ryder building, ...then in front of Engineering and Computer Sciences... then in front of Chemistry and Physics... and then, this morning...

It was winter. I was walking fast, early morning, a bit chilly. I stop, amazed: that wonderful field by the bus stop, full of tiny little flowers...a hidden Spring...

It was summer. I was walking slow, sun going down, a bit windy...I look to my right... the orange light, the sun beams through the clouds, and the wind...over that little field... not too far away, I hear a bell... you know, they used to engrave

vox Dei on bells...”the voice of God”...and that field, and that sky, and nothing else, and forget being tired and that incoming final and the bus being late...

That field is gone. Why? Will it be a new frat house to distract freshmen from studying, or will it be a new parking, to give the illusion that there will finally be parking spots for all?

I don't know...and I wonder who will give me back my fields of gold...

Raul Carmine Camarca,  
Computer Engineering senior and  
Honors College student.

## THE BEACON | Editorial

# Panther Patrol, our last line in moral defense

Two of the regulations the University's Board of Trustees have put in place are in desperate need of enforcement.

The smoke and tobacco regulation, FIU-113, has been in place since Jan. 2011 and it designates the University as “tobacco free.” It uses the power of social enforcement, people asking others to stop smoking, to keep the University tobacco free.

The latest regulation, FIU-115, took effect in June 2012. It regulates how skateboards, scooters, ripsticks, and “other similar devices and high-risk activities” can be used on University property. The regulation says “violators are subject to an order to leave University property by the University Police Department or any University representative having responsibility for the area(s).” Meaning if you are caught using any of these forms of transportation on campus on anything but sidewalks you will get the boot.

If you walk around the University on any given day you'll see someone smoking a cigarette, a student riding their skateboard to class, or a non-student doing tricks off the Owa Ehan stairs.

That is why the University shouldn't, in good conscience, leave two regulations of so much importance and with so much universal support in the hands of empty words and social enforcers. The University needs to use real enforcement, not just any kind, but Panther Patrol enforcement.

It's for the safety of these people that the University use Panther Patrols.

Appointing the most physically daunting applicants from the school of criminal justice, the University could easily form a relatable law-enforcement team devoted solely to the enforcement of these newfound skating and smoking bans; a group with whom University students can reason and debate their rights, as both Americans and tuition-paying students, to smoke cigarettes while skating on campus and perhaps burning an American flag or, worse yet, one of our Worlds Ahead banners; and by whom, should they refuse compliance, they will be promptly beaten, or better yet, issued a ‘social citation.’

They would also be equipped with whistles, high-powered flashlights, fluorescent orange sashes with official Panther Patrol badges to distinguish troops from their fellow students, and of course panther paw handcuffs.

This contingency of students can then make up for the enforcement gap that has been created by said regulations.

Panther Patrols should emulate the functions of safety patrols, familiar to any students matriculated in the Miami-Dade County Public School System, whose main responsibilities are to ensure the safety of students on campus through social enforcement and the raw power of intimidation.

Although the concept of Panther Patrols seems like a silly idea, it is not any sillier than a regulation that has either no means of enforcement whatsoever, or the means of enforcement that will tax the manpower of UPD.

Who knows? Maybe the University can even entice some students to enlist in the Panther Patrol by offering graduation honor cords for distinguished service in the line of duty.

## SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

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SPOTLIGHT ON

## "Blue Girl" fearless Panther full of pride



VANESSA PAREDES/THE BEACON

Blue girl shows her pride by wearing head to toe blue and gold around FIU.

**VANESSA PAREDES**  
*Life! Editor*

It is not uncommon to see students walking around the University's campus with another college's name stamped all over their clothes. Panther pride is hard to come across around FIU, but there is still hope, and hope goes by the name of "Blue Girl."

Jessica Tessene is not afraid to show her immense amount of school spirit. Tessene walks around campus confidently in her FIU, navy blue Morphsuit, hand made gold and blue cheer skirt and a matching top. Her "hair" sparkles gold, with glistening ballerina flats to match. If one thing is for certain, everyone notices her.

"My mission as 'Blue Girl' is to spread FIU pride throughout the school because we are a commuter school. People don't really take pride in our athletics. With me being 'Blue Girl,' I show my panther pride at as many games as I can," Tessene said.

Her initial inspiration came from FIU's "Blue Man," commonly seen

at our football games. Just like "Blue Girl," "Blue Man" wears a full body Morphsuit and shows his FIU pride in an intense way.

"I know 'Blue Man' on a personal level. We have plans in the works, but nothing is concrete yet because he is a college student just like me, and he's busy too with his fraternity," said Tessene.

"Blue Girl" has big plans for her future here at FIU. She has already scheduled a meeting with President Mark Rosenberg to discuss ideas for coming events. Additionally, "Blue Girl" plans to debut a brand new outfit Thursday, July 12, at Homecoming Unleashed.

"There is going to be a change in my wardrobe come Thursday when I debut my new outfit for fall of this year. The only thing I can say about it is that I got the idea from last year's homecoming theme, which was 'If Roary Ran The Circus,'" said Tessene. Tessene expresses that she really wants student's, especially incoming freshmen, to understand her goal as "Blue Girl." "Take

pride in your school and enjoy your college experience. So many people that I've noticed here, they just come to school, that's it. They are not involved."

Above all, "Blue Girl" is extremely proud of FIU's athletics. She explains how supportive she is of FIU's football team, claiming that a lot of people don't realize we are only a decade old. "With Mario Cristobal's help, and T.Y. Hilton's help even, we have come a long way. We went to our first bowl game and we won our first conference championship. FIU is going in the right direction," said Tessene.

It is certain that FIU needs to overcome the "commuter school" stigma and student's needs to learn how to be proud of where they study. They can learn a thing or two from "Blue Girl."

"Don't be scared to come up to me. I am a college student just like you," said "Blue Girl."

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THEATER BEAT

## Ambitious production to close of Theater Festival

**ALFREDO APARICIO**  
*Staff Writer*

The unseen connection between everyone, from humans to animals to plants, will be explored in the Department of Theatre's final play of the Alternative Theater Festival, "As The Globe Warms," written by award-winning stand up novelist Heather Woodbury and directed by Assistant Professor Michael Yawney. "As The Globe Warms" will run on July 6-7, 13-14 and 20-21 at 8 p.m. in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center. Admission is free, with a suggested donation of \$10.

Presented in a six two-hour installments over three weeks, the play tackles many issues, such as global warming and its ever-growing consequences by following the work of one scientist who attempts to save an endangered species of frog, leading to unexpected consequences for everyone in the town in which he lives.

"Not all the endangered species are animals though," explained Yawney. "This is a play about the World Wide Web, as well as the world wide web of life. So often the technological environment that unites us through the Internet and the ecological environment that unites us through the processes of the natural world are seen as separate. Heather's brilliance is in seeing how much these two environments mirror each other."

The idea for the play's plot came to Woodbury after picking up "The Weather Makers: The History and Future Impact of Climate Change" by Tim Flannery. While reading, Woodbury saw a photo of the Platypus frog that had given birth to another frog in its mouth; the accompanying text revealed that this species, native to Australia, was now extinct because of global warming.

"It moved me and, at the same time, I could see a lot of people having trouble economically, as well as the changes in the economic

climate and the political climate and our relationship to the natural world and our relationship to animals," said Woodbury. "I wanted to make a story that was entertaining, as cable television that tackled these issues."

“

**I look forward to helping people feel the connection to their lives and immediate concerns and how that connects to each other and the world wide web of life and to all the beautiful life sustained on it and how their lives are not separate from nature, but a part of it.**

Heather Woodbury,  
*Novelist*  
*Play Writer*

”

Woodbury, whose trademark has become "Performance Novels," first with "What Ever" in 1994 and "A Tale of Two Cities" in 2006, will act out at least 200 characters as well as a large number of animals. "It's like an adult game of pretend. This format enables me to play scores and scores of characters and tell lavish, ambitious stories in a minimalist scale. Otherwise, I'd have to have a big, high cost production with a cast of thousands," said Yawney.

"The biggest surprise is that even though Heather's performances look so spontaneous and even improvised, she is incredibly disciplined in crafting the production; she leaves nothing to chance. Her performance is filled with hilarious details that are well worth looking for. The thrill of watching her on stage is that she does everything, even the sound effects come out of her mouth."

For Yawney, directing an episodic play is nothing new; however, the sheer ambition of Woodbury's production has been "exciting."

"I did a lot of serialized plays back in New York. We wanted to make going to the theater fun, in the same way that tuning into television shows or going to see the latest Star Wars film was fun. Episodic theater tends to do that," said

Yawney.

Having known Woodbury for a long time, Yawney has been exposed to her creativity before, while directing Woodbury's "Antagonism" play and watching her performances in "What Ever." "When she decided to develop "As the Globe Warms," I think she wanted someone who could embrace the insanity of such an ambitious work. I think she knew I would not say no to this," said Yawney.

While preparing herself for the various roles, Woodbury's biggest challenge has been memorizing the material. "I make recordings of the dialogue and constantly play them while reading along with it, like you would memorize a song by playing constantly," said Woodbury.

To keep her voice fresh, Woodbury also uses vocal warm ups and downs as well as the occasional period of vocal rest after the performance, techniques she learned from jazz singers and vocal coaches. "In the final scene, I counted 45 voices that I had to mimic so I

had to make an audio glossary for myself and try to establish 45 different vocal timbres; it's something I've developed myself by walking around and imitating people or listening to people being interviewed on the radio," said Woodbury. "It strains the voice more to talk than to sing, so sometimes I go on vocal rest after a performance."

The ambitious production, which lasts 12 hours total, has also forced Yawney to stretch his imagination to its utmost limits. "It's like walking a tightrope. Throughout the play we have to tell an epic story using the simplest of means," said Yawney. "My job is to make the story thrilling in each and every moment; it is hard enough to do that for 90 minutes."

Woodbury has made sure, however, that those who watch the installments sparingly can enjoy the play as well. "What we have tried to do is craft each installment, so each evening has its own dramatic arc as well, repeating important elements of the plot in future installments, like a recap, so it makes it more satisfying as a writer and performer because it allows for more drama and comedy in each episode," said Woodbury.

Once one installment is seen, though, Yawney is sure that the play will captivate audiences, and most people will come back because they want to see what happens next.

"I hope people have a good time. There are lots of laughs and shocking plot turns along the way, but I also hope people will think about the world we all live in and maybe think about how to insure it has a long future," said Yawney.

"I look forward to helping people feel the connection to their lives and immediate concerns and how that connects to each other and the world wide web of life and to all the beautiful life sustained on it and how their lives are not separate from nature, but a part of it," added Woodbury.

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## REEL TO REEL

# “Moonrise Kingdom” captures the essence of childhood romance

Wes Anderson's films have always walked the thin line between realism and fantasy.

## COLUMNIST



JUAN BARQUIN

Some, like “The Royal Tenenbaums” and “The Darjeeling Limited,” feel grounded in the reality of life, taking its sweet time to focus on dysfunctional familial relationships through dark humor. Others, like the animated “Fantastic Mr. Fox,” seem straight out of a children’s pop-up book, immersed in fantastical situations that could never be real.

In comes “Moonrise Kingdom” - arguably Anderson’s best film to date - which kicks the sand right over that line, blending reality and fantasy beautifully in this engaging tale of childhood romance.

“Moonrise Kingdom” is set on the island of New Penzance during the summer of 1965. Here we are introduced to the love story between Sam (Jared Gilman) and Suzy (Kara Hayward). Sam, an orphaned member of the Khaki Scouts, and Suzy, the “troubled daughter” of two unhappy lawyers, decide to run away together after meeting at a church production of “Noye’s Fludde.”

This decision leads to a rousing of everyone on the island to find the kids, from a large group of Khaki Scouts to the island police.

As per usual, the film is filled with Anderson’s signature style. Each scene is meticulously crafted, utilizing symmetry and bright color palettes more often than not. A few tracking shots establish certain important locations, whether it’s



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

“Moonrise Kingdom” takes place on the island of New Penzance, where Suzy and Sam, two 12-year olds, fall in love and run

in the form of showcasing Suzy’s house during the opening credits, or watching Jason Schwartzman walking with a bunch of kids through a camp site.

Its costuming and set design remains consistent with the stylistic approach Anderson’s films usually take, and both work well within the sixties period that the film is set. It might seem like an unconventional period piece, but it is a damn fine one that pays close attention to detail, regardless of it being in the non-existent island of New Penzance.

There are some that may complain that “Moonrise Kingdom” features style over substance, a frankly outrageous claim. While the idea of childhood romance may not seem appealing to many, Anderson and Roman Coppola’s writing works hard at mixing humor and drama to provide a genuinely interesting adventure, full of tension that some of his older films lack.

Certain moments between the children seem straight out of a fantasy - running through a light-

ning field, dancing together on a beach no one knows about and even telling stories to new friends like Wendy might have done for Peter Pan and the Lost Boys - and yet, Anderson does not shy away from placing them in adult situations.

Both writers seem to know better than most just how much children long to engage in the adult world, be that sexual exploration or simply mindless violence, regardless of how unhappy those adults around them might seem.

While capturing the essence of childhood, “Moonrise Kingdom” features one of the best ensemble casts in ages. Every child in this movie knows exactly what they’re doing, which is rare for a movie that features a cast with this many young actors.

Both Hayward and Gilman perform excellently, never allowing any of the adults in the film to take the spotlight off them.

An all-star collection of actors, including Bill Murray, Frances McDormand, Edward Norton, Bruce Willis, Tilda Swinton, Jason Schwartzman, Bob Balaban and

even Harvey Keitel, comprise the adults of “Moonrise Kingdom.” While some might complain that their characters don’t get the development they deserve, it is something that fits further into the childhood world that Anderson has created. Children can see glimpses of the issues that adults face, but they can never truly understand just what it is that makes them so unhappy.

Regardless of this, all of the adults dish out solid performances, especially Murray and Norton, who know just how to twist your heart with just a few words and facial expressions. Schwartzman’s “Cousin Ben” brings some much needed humor to the older bunch, engaging with the children and delivering some of the funniest lines of the film.

Anyone who has seen one of Anderson’s previous films will know just how impressive his soundtrack selection tends to be, but “Moonrise Kingdom” hits it out of the park with a stunning collection of Benjamin Britten’s work. In addition to pieces of music like “Simple Symphony’s Playful Pizzicato” and the introduction to “The Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra,” Alexandre Desplat provides a simple but enchanting score that enhances the child-like nature of the film.

Some will complain about it being too “Wes Anderson-y,” but “Moonrise Kingdom” does an excellent job at capturing the spontaneity and magic of childhood romance.

*Reel to Reel is a weekly movie review column, email at juan.barquin@fiusm.com*

## TOP PICKS

## Top 5 Beaches

### 1 SOUTH BEACH, MIAMI



South Beach takes the number one spot for its versatile beaches that are both relaxing and fun.

### LAS OLAS, FT. LAUDERDALE

2



Las Olas is a close second. This beach offers an array of bars and restaurants right on the shore.

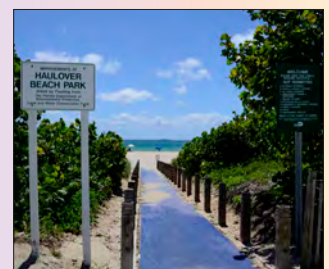
### 3 DANIA BEACH, FL.



Dania beach is popular for its signature Pier and the tranquil white sand beaches.

### HAULOVER BEACH, MIAMI

4



With a close proximity to the BBC campus, this beach is ideal for after class getaways.

### 5 SUNNY ISLES BEACH, FL.



Sunny Isles is known for its recreational activities on the shore and off shore too.

*Be a part if the next picks and vote by liking Life's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fiusmlife.*

PHOTOS BY VANESSA PAREDES AND ANDRES BEDOYA

## COVER TO COVER

## Novel brings to life blue-haired heroine

Closing portals, demon made wishes and a blue-haired girl prowling the streets of Prague to fulfill

## COLUMNIST



MARCY DIAZ

unworldly deeds are only beginning glimpses of Laini Taylor’s “The Daughter of Smoke and Bone.” This novel will definitely send readers into a whirlwind of imagination and fast paced action; however, Taylor frequently

falls into common character and plot cliches that often time distract from her creative qualities.

Karou, the story’s protagonist, is a tough, karate-kicking 17 year-old who has been living a mysterious life among monsters, more specifically named chimaera. Student by day and down world teeth collector by night, the blue-haired heroine is then abruptly separated from the strange world she grew up in and left with no indication of how to get back.

Her prayers to how she can find her family, ironically, are answered by an angel, though not the expected glittery winged being with warm salutations from above.

No, Karou’s only hope is to rely on the angel of death, Akiva, who first enters her life in a

fit of fire and swords ablaze. After two battles ensue and major injuries were sustained, an unexplained instant connection occurs and the two find themselves in, admittedly, overdone, “forbidden love-type” romance.

Still, Taylor attempts to keep the mystery and action alive with many touch-and-go battle scenes and internal conflict, so that independent Karou does not lose her signature edge to gooey romance.

Today’s readers are fairly well-versed on the subject that angels and demons cannot seem to get along. It’s safe to say that a majority of readers will find parts of the novel’s background and plot a little predictable.

What makes the reading worthwhile though, especially for the younger crowd, are the refreshing twists of humorous characters and beings within Taylor’s universe. Even Brimstone, brute monster and father-figure to Karou, manages to pry an unexpected smile on readers as he solemnly tries to comprehend his adopted daughter’s antics. With extremely short chapters and a speeding storyline, it’s a fast read for new coming and experienced readers alike.

If you are looking for a one-stop read, I’m afraid that this novel is not it. Just as it started

with questions that needed to be answered, that is exactly how it ends. As Taylor gave readers answers to burning questions within the final chapters, she simultaneously tacked on more mystery to Karou’s extravagant tale.

So if you are interested, be prepared for book two and even suspected book three, because the novel ends in a big cliffhanger.

*Cover to Cover is a bi-weekly book review column. Email at marcy.diaz@fiusm.com*

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## FOOTBALL

# Coaches weigh in on new playoff system

**LUIS D. GUTIERREZ**  
*Contributing Writer*

Division I college football finally has a playoff.

Proposed by Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick alongside all eleven conference commissioners, the playoff system was approved by a presidential oversight committee on June 27.

Set to embark in 2014, the new four-team playoff system will help to determine college football's national champion on a yearly basis through 2025. Head coach Mario Cristobal believes that this is a step in the right direction.

"The initiative to create a system that allows for a championship to be settled on the field is a very positive one for college football," Cristobal said in an interview with student media.

However, Cristobal did express uncertainty with how the system would function upon arrival.

"Without us having all the details of how it's going to work out and not having one season of having a playoff, it certainly leaves some question marks," Cristobal said.

The playoff would consist of four teams chosen by a distinct selection committee, which has yet to be determined. Assembling

a proper selection core with the correct personnel would be considered essential in the development of a playoff.

University of Texas-San Antonio, which will be moving into Conference USA with FIU in 2013, will also start to feel the effects of this format. Head coach Larry Coker emphasized in a local radio interview last week that those added to the process must be "involved" with the game itself.

A well-rounded committee has the potential to diminish "glitches" that the current Bowl Championship Series (BCS) ranking system may bring up. The BCS uses a combination of polls and computer selection methods, which places the two best teams in a matchup for the national championship.

However, a school such as Boise State, which has the highest winning percentage of the last decade, has yet to make a national championship appearance and has placed no higher than third in BCS polls.

The Broncos have beaten the likes of such top-caliber programs like Oklahoma, Oregon, Virginia Tech, and Georgia, yet have seen themselves at the headline of a BCS controversy year after year.

Officials are confident that an organized playoff system would

level the playing field in determining college football's best.

"Everybody gets a chance to compete," said BCS executive director Bill Hancock in a radio interview with ESPN's Mike and Mike in the Morning. "Now there are four (teams) instead of two."

However, Cristobal states that controversy in the playoff system would be inevitable, regardless of the new additions.

"Whether it's a four-team playoff or a 16-team playoff in the future, someone is going to be left out," Cristobal said. "Any time that is the case, there is going to be a point of discussion or an argument."

Coker also pointed out a similar kink in the playoff process that could leave some programs disgruntled.

"If you have four teams, number five won't be happy," Coker said. "If you have eight teams, number nine won't be happy."

Regardless of a potential logjam, Cristobal is enticed by the flexibility that a playoff system would bring to the sport.

"[The playoff] grants a few more slots of opportunity for all programs around the country, including [FIU]... it certainly provides more opportunities, and that is what every



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Mario Cristobal (above): "Whether it's a four-team or a 16-team playoff in the future, someone is going to be left out."

**SEE BOWL SYSTEM, PAGE 7**

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Pitino expects up-tempo style this year

**JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND**  
*Staff Writer*

A new era is set to launch for the men's basketball squad with newly appointed head coach Richard Pitino at the helm. The former Louisville assistant coach has bold aspirations of revamping the philosophy of the program.

"Basketball wise, we're going to bring a new brand, we're going to play up and down and press a lot," Pitino commented. "We're really going to try and push the pace up offensively as well as defensively...I want to have three great months."

Coach Pitino inherits an FIU program that ended the 2011-12 campaign in turmoil with a doleful record of 8-21 and capped an early exit in the Sun Belt Tournament after falling to eventual winners Western Kentucky, 67-64. Following the abysmal season, former head coach Isiah Thomas was relieved of his duties on April 6, leaving members of the team sad and distraught.

In his first chance to work with his players during summer workouts, Pitino stressed getting into basketball shape and focusing

primarily on the fundamentals of the game. According to Pitino, he also gradually began to transition the team into the more up-tempo brand of basketball he and his staff are instilling on the team.

## FRESH FACES

This offseason, Pitino has been busy trying to put together his roster for the upcoming year. Among the new recruits are Jerome Frink and Diamante Lewis, two standout incoming freshmen.

Frink, the eighth-best player in the state of New Jersey according to ESPN, tallied 10 points and 5.8 rebounds per game earning him several accolades including a spot Star-Ledger First Team All-State.

What impressed Pitino about the 6-foot-7-inch power forward was his championship background where he led the highly coveted St. Anthony High School to consecutive New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Tournament of Champions titles and one national championship, posting a remarkable 65-0 in the past two seasons.

**SEE PITINO, PAGE 7**

## MLB DRAFT

# Maturity key to McVay's success

**STEVEN ROWELL**  
*Contributing Writer*

A little more than a month ago, Mason McVay's dream became a reality. On June 6, the San Francisco Giants selected the left-hander from FIU in the 26th round of the MLB First-Year Player draft.

The moment McVay realized he had gotten drafted he was with his girlfriend. He got a call from his father that he had been drafted and that the phone was blowing up with calls and text messages about the news.

While McVay has now made it to the professional level, it took hard work and maturity to get to this point. One person that McVay credits for his upbringing in his baseball career is his father, Michael McVay.

"Without him, it wouldn't have happened. He made it fun. He helped me remember it is just a game. He would throw in a couple jokes here and there when I'm struggling or frustrated," McVay said.

From being his coach in the Little Leagues to

his pitching coach when he was a starter at Miami Killian Senior High School, McVay's dad was always at his side.

McVay earned Miami Herald First Team All-Miami Dade Honors in 2007 when he posted an 8-5 record with a 1.89 ERA during his junior season at Killian.

After high school, it was time for McVay to make a decision on where he would be playing collegiate baseball. With interest in UF, USF, UM, FSU, Tennessee and Vanderbilt, McVay decided that FIU was the best fit.

"I wanted to play somewhere close to home, so I could be close to my family. I grew up a UM fan, but coach [Turtle] Thomas is a good recruiter, and at FIU it just felt right," McVay said.

Once McVay became a Panther, head coach Thomas helped McVay become a more mature player.

"The coaching staff helped me a lot with the mental side. The strength coach would push us until we couldn't take it anymore. Coach Thomas taught me

how to get through the pressure barrier. He kept reminding me that it's just a game," McVay said.

After McVay's freshman year where he appeared in 22 games and had an 0-2 record with an 8.06 ERA in 22.1 innings, things went south for the left hander. McVay found out that he would have to undergo Tommy John Surgery. It would be the second surgery on his arm, the first procedure done during his senior year in high school. The news devastated him.

"I was distraught, I cried when I found out. I had an amazing recovery. The most painful part was missing all season. It was the season of [Garrett Wittel's] hitting streak, and we had a good run in the Sun Belt tournament, and it was painful that I couldn't be a part of it," McVay said.

After missing the entire 2010 season McVay was ready to get back into action with a new mentality.

"I was really pumped. Don't take a game for granted, you never know when your last game is," McVay said.

McVay bounced back from the surgery with a record of 1-1 and a 3.56 ERA in 27 games, pitching 30.1 innings.

Going into his final season, McVay changed from a relief pitcher to a starting pitcher. The southpaw accepted the challenge.

"I wanted to start. [Thomas] told me he wanted me to start, and I started in high school," he said.

He finished his final season with a record of 2-3 and an ERA of 3.36.

With college in the books, McVay now has his sights set on making it in the big leagues. He is approaching it in a calm and professional way.

"I'm looking forward to the competition, and it's a business now. Don't worry too much, and don't get too high or too low, and just work hard," the left hander said.

As of July 9, in rookie ball for the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes, McVay has a 1.23 ERA with nine strikeouts in 7.1 innings of work.

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## SWIMMING

# Horner dives into recruits, schedule

**STEVEN ROWELL**  
*Contributing Writer*

Head coach Randy Horner has his sights set on one thing: winning the Sun Belt conference.

Coming off a 9-4 season and a fourth-place finish in the Sun Belt Tournament, Horner revamped his team with a strong recruiting class.

"Last season, we did very well individually. We are looking to be a contender and make a run at the title," Horner said. "I feel like we have a great group and a lot more depth with the recruiting class we brought in."

The recruiting class is led by junior transfer Sarah D'Antoni from Indian River College. She brings plenty of experience and was a part of two National Junior College Athletic Association Championships.

"[D'Antoni] being a multiple event junior college champion, she's going to bring to a lot of experience and depth and will help the team immediately," Horner said.

Horner also has high expectations for Tennessee transfer Marina Ribí.

"She's going to be one of our top athletes in multiple events. I definitely think she has the talent and caliber to be an NCAA qualifier," Horner said. "She didn't make it last year in Tennessee but I feel like she's got that ability."

Horner also believes that Rebecca Wilde, a native of England, can make an immediate impact as a freshman this upcoming season. Horner cited her ability to perform in the mid-distance freestyle.

Out of the remaining recruits, three other notable incoming

freshmen include Danielle Albright, Ashley Isaacson and a diving prospect, Madalyn Golightly.

## STRONG SCHEDULE

This season's schedule, announced on June 28, is characterized by the strong caliber of opponents that the Panthers will face.

The season opens on October 12 at home against Houston during homecoming weekend where Horner hopes to gauge his team's skill.

FIU will have a stretch from November 10 to January 5 where the Panthers will not see their home in the Biscayne Bay campus.

During that stretch, the Panthers will compete in the Mizzou Invitational, Nova Southeastern, and the Orange Bowl Classic.

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# 16-team playoff unlikely

## BOWL SYSTEM, PAGE 6

college team is looking for," Cristobal said. "We are always looking for opportunities and we want to play against the best for the very best prize."

However, Coker believes that a four-team playoff is just right.

"Limited travel is essential. 16 teams is too many. Four teams would be good enough. I think the fans will follow, and

the TV revenue will be high."

In his interview, Hancock shot down the possibility of an eight or 16-team playoff in the future by stating that "it was never an option" while discussing the formation of the new playoff.

Whether the playoff does expand in the near future or remain in place, it seems to be as much approved by coaches, players, and fans as it was by the presidential oversight

committee.

All in all, the playoff shines a bright light towards the future of college football and it has definitely caught Cristobal's attention.

"It is certainly a step in the right direction," Cristobal said. "Any time you move towards deciding champions on the field, I think it's positive for college football."

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# FIU-UL start series this year

## PITINO, PAGE 6

Diamante "Dee" Lewis, a high-scoring combo guard out of Ocala, Fla., relished in his senior year exploding for 28.4 points per game, 6.1 assists per game, 7.2 rebounds per game and 2.9 steals per game in his final year with the Lake Weir Hurricanes.

"Both guys come from winning programs and they have a very high ceiling," Pitino said. "When you bring in a freshman, you want guys that are going to improve throughout the course of four years and I think with both [of] those two guys they'll definitely be able to do that."

With the addition of Lewis

and Frink, as well as seven transfers, Pitino has had success on the recruitment trail as he and his staff have hosted nine official visits from recruits that resulted in all nine signing with the Panthers.

## CARDINAL CLASH

If the pressure of resurrecting a basketball program was not enough, Pitino will be pinned up against his former team, and father, over the next three seasons.

The series begins on December 19 as FIU travels to Louisville to battle the Cardinals this upcoming season.

Despite the heralded matchup between father and son, FIU's Richard Pitino is

downplaying the game and instead looks at it as a larger benefit for the program and not just himself.

"We're going to take it as a normal game, it would not be fair to our players and our program if I took it any differently," Pitino said. "I mean it'll be fun, it's something that's exciting for me, but more importantly not me versus my dad, but the fact that we can go and play an opponent like Louisville and be able to bring them back down here. It's something that is great for our program, great for our fans and great for Miami."

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## FINANCIAL AID

# Running out of options

## Without financial aid, students find alternatives to pay for classes

**STEPHAN USECHE**  
*Staff Writer*

Loans, debts and even grandma's checks.

These are some of the consequences students are facing without summer pell grants.

Having congress cancel summer pell grants for 2012 hasn't been a reclusive alteration; this has come hand in hand with a full 15 percent increase in tuition, making the University raise \$608.70 a year for a student taking 30 credits.

It has also been stated by other reports that 1,110 students will lose eligibility to financial aid and 1,500 student awards will be reduced.

These changes have left students with no other option but to seek out different ways to pay for their classes. The Summer Pell Grant cancellation for 2012 has affected students' pockets

and academics.

"I wanted to take two classes this summer, but that would have been \$1000 and I can't afford that, so I'm going to have to take 17 credits next fall," said Emerald Nesbitt, psychology major.

"I'm paying, my mother is paying and my grandmother is paying," Nesbitt said. "I work here at the computer lab, my mother works, and my grandmother doesn't work, but she gets her check every month."

Nesbitt is not the only one struggling; many other students have had to rely on loans to pay for summer classes, creating debts to pay after graduation.

Students like Rachel Georges, sophomore majoring in psychology, says that she's going to have to "work real hard" to pay for the loan; however, she has a plan B.

"I'm planning on using

the refund checks that I get for fall and spring to pay back the loan," said Georges.

Although some students aren't obtaining any financial aid for the summer, others are. The grants don't cover full tuition, but they help pay for a portion of the amount.

Financial Aid Coordinator Jorge Leniv declined the request for the interview about new requirements and eligibility changes.

Students must be enrolled full-time during the summer in order to obtain the grant, but the award does not cover the entire cost. This jeopardizes their eligibility of acquiring full financial aid.

"For my summer classes right now I'm using the money financial aid granted me," said Junior Fiorella Lopez, business major. "It was originally about \$2200, but since I'm only taking three credits it covers about \$700. So, I'm paying the



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

In order to gain some extra money and pay for summer classes, Gellani Latorre, junior majoring in civil engineering, participates in work study at the BBC Recreation Center.

remaining amount out of my pocket."

According to Maureen Walter, instructor in the biology department, financial aid has become stricter.

"This summer I had to do something called academic plan," said Walter.

According to the Office of Academic Planning and Accountability, the goal of an academic plan is "to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of University operations and the quality of student learning."

This entails students having to meet with an academic adviser with an academic plan on which classes they will be taking and how they're going to be taking it.

Walter also explains how there used to only be one kind of F, but now there's something called "F zero."

"You assign that F to a student who never attended class," said Walter. "If they get an F zero, that goes back to financial aid and financial aid can demand the money,

because in their mind, if you didn't try to do the class and you fail, then in a sense it's fraud."

Junior Jimmy Pertil, biology major, had no choice but to take out a loan to pay for summer classes.

"I really don't know how I'm going to pay for these loans," said Pertil. "I have to pay for my car insurance, my cell phone bill and rent for my mother, so there are a lot of difficulties."

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## TRENDS

# Exhaustion: the academic energy epidemic

**SELIMA HUSSAIN**  
*Contributing Writer*

Energy drink cans and empty coffee cups litter the floor of junior finance major, Yuyang Hou's, dorm. Notebooks and highlighters lay scattered across the desk under the florescent glow of a laptop screen.

"The remnants of an all-nighter," Yuyang said with a tired voice. "Thank God for Rockstar."

Hou is one of the many college students who gravitate toward energy drinks like Rockstar and Red Bull in order to stay awake to study. Students will overlook the 8-hours-of-sleep-a-night regime and instead use the time to immerse themselves in human biology or modern American civilizations.

"I study best at night," said Sarah Mayhew, a junior psychology major. "I know energy drinks aren't the healthiest things in the world, but they are a really big help to me when I'm trying to stay awake. I catch up on my sleep later."

Mayhew isn't the only college student with this mindset. According to a study by Nutrition Journal, over 67% of University students use energy drinks as a substitute for inefficient sleep.

Those who don't use energy drinks prefer drinking strong cups of coffee.



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Red Bull, which contains about 76 mg of caffeine and 27g of sugar in a 8.3 FL OZ can, is one of the energy drinks that students rely on to stay awake and continue studying.

"I go through about five cups of coffee a day," said Farida Wazidali, alumnus finance student.

Other students, however, have different opinions on quick fixes. "I tried Red Bull once," said Caitlin Opitiz, a junior business major. "I got jittery and passed out. When I tried 5-hour ENERGY, I had hot flashes."

Richard Azimov, junior business major, also stays away from the liquid energy.

"I don't use the intense energy drinks because of the high sugar content," said Azimov. "I prefer drinking Boost, because it's packed with vitamins and doesn't have as much caffeine."

While some students, like Azimov, tend to search for alternatives to energy drinks, the fact remains that college students are likely to use them at some point.

According to Timothy Silky

James, a personal trainer and nutritional expert at the Recreational Center, energy drinks aren't always bad—when taken in moderation.

"There are some energy drinks that are better than others, but in general, they're not good for you because of the high calorie content," James said. "Energy drinks are a temporary solution to tiredness, but in order to sustain real energy throughout the day, a diet full of vitamins, nutrients, and lots of

fiber is important."

When it comes to coffee, James has a slightly different viewpoint.

"Coffee is a natural diuretic; it helps your body burn calories and jump-starts your metabolism. The danger in coffee is the cream, sugar, and caffeine. Caffeine is addictive, and people become dependent on it."

James suggests light snacks—like granola bars or bananas—and simple carbohydrates as alternatives to energy drinks. He also mentions that a multivitamin in the morning can help students feel more energized throughout the day.

"I don't think there's one vitamin that's more important than the rest," James said. "But the B-vitamin is used mainly for energy storage."

Earl Mendell, author of "Earl Mendell's Vitamin Bible," also claims that the potassium in bananas can help alleviate the fatigue students feel after drinking caffeinated beverages.

Even with this nutritional advice, some proponents of energy drinks are not swayed.

"If there was a legitimate healthy replacement, I would consider it," said Hou. "Something that would instantly energize me the same way Rockstar does. But for now, I'm going to keep on using them."

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