

ISIAH FIRED



BEACON FILE PHOTO

In his career at FIU, Thomas' record in the regular season was 26-65. He was 1-3 in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament, with his only win coming in 2011.

Isiah Thomas removed as head basketball coach

IGOR MELLO
Sports Director
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Isiah Thomas has been relieved of his duties as coach of FIU. Athletic Director Pete

Garcia announced on April 6 that Thomas was no longer part of their future in men's basketball.

An emotional Thomas sat outside the FIU basketball facility handing hugs to

his former players. Thomas informed his players and staff that he would no longer be part of the program.

"We want to thank [Isiah] Thomas for his three years here at FIU," Garcia said.

"However, we have decided to take the program in a different direction."

Thomas had Chicago prospect Milton Doyle, as well as other recruits visiting the campus when he was informed

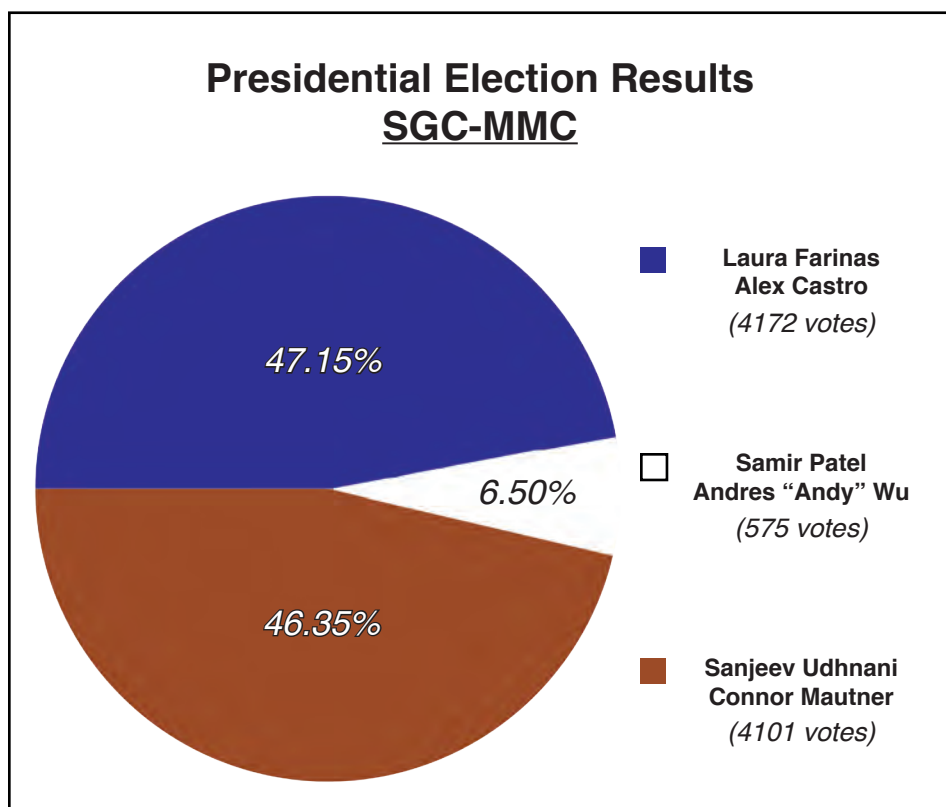
of his firing.

"This isn't what we were expecting today," Thomas said. "We had a nice group of kids working in our gym today and

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ELECTIONS

Farinas ticket wins presidency by 0.8 percent



MELISSA CACERES
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It was close. The Student Government Association presidential election was decided by a margin of only 71 votes.

Presidential candidate Laura Farinas and her running mate Alex Castro won the student government presidency at the Modesto Maidique campus in an election that brought out almost the second largest student voter turnout in the State University System.

"We all saw it was going to be a tight race, and honestly I wouldn't have it any other way

because it made the experience all the more gratifying in the end," Farinas said in an interview with Student Media. "We won by 71 votes, and I rather win by 71 than by 3,000 because it shows all the work that was put into this election. We want the same numbers to transcend to next year."

The announcement on April 5 brought campaign supporters to the Graham Center pit, most from the Farinas/Castro ticket and Udhvani/Mautner ticket.

In his opening speech, Jose Toscano, assistant director of Campus Life, stated that voter turnout increased about 44 percent since the previous year.

"We haven't had this

much energy in my eight years as an advisor," he said to the crowd.

Farinas was proclaimed the winner of the election by 0.8 percent difference from the Udhvani ticket.

"It was a toe-to-toe battle," said Toscano. "If both tickets came to me now, I would not be able to advise them on what to do better."

Donovan Dawson, Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus Senate speaker, is hoping for the same energy from the candidates in the transition process into their positions.

"A lot of the results

SEE RESULTS, PAGE 2

COMING UP | News

Check out Wednesday's issue for a story by Bruna Bejarano on the Catholic movement on the University campus.

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NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Group formed to push Fla. religion amendment

A ballot proposal that would repeal Florida's ban on public funding of churches and other religious organizations is getting organized support.

Amendment 8 would do the opposite of the current ban by prohibiting the state and local governments from denying funding based on religious identity or belief.

Former state Rep. Juan Zapata on Thursday announced the "Yes on 8 Campaign" would work for passage of the proposed state constitutional amendment. It will need 60 percent voter approval to pass on Nov. 6.

NATIONAL

Ohio school to let gay student wear T-shirt 1 day

A gay student who sued his public high school for prohibiting him from wearing a T-shirt designed to urge tolerance of gays will be allowed to wear the shirt for at least one day.

The southwest Ohio school district agreed in a conference between attorneys and the judge to let 16-year-old Maverick Couch wear the shirt bearing the message "Jesus Is Not A Homophobe" on April 20, according to federal court records. But Couch's lawsuit charging that Waynesville High School and the Wayne Local School District are violating his freedom of expression rights is proceeding.

WORLD

Spain becomes focus as euro debt fears return

Rising concerns over Spain's economy and its ability to handle its debts sent its cost of borrowing higher Thursday, sparking fears that Europe's debt crisis is flaring up again after a brief respite.

Spain has become the focus of investors concerns with many worried about the ability of the government to push through a big austerity program at a time when its economy is heading for a return to recession and unemployment stands at around 23 percent.

A disappointing set of Spanish bond auctions on Wednesday — where it managed to raise €2.6 billion (\$3.5 billion), at the bottom end of the €2.5 billion to €3.5 billion target — has heightened investor fears that Spain could soon join the ranks of Greece, Portugal and Ireland in asking for a bailout.

— Compiled by Melhor Leonor

2012-2013 SGC-MMC SENATE WINNERS

President/VP

Laura Farinas/Alex Castro

Honors College

Raul Alvarez

Education

Katerina Cortina
Kristen Robillard

Engineering

Bryand Acosta
Laura Gutierrez

Nursing and Health Sciences

Rushele Flowers
Stephanie Guzman

At-Large

Giovanni Castro
Liane Sippin
Steven M. Gonzalez

Housing

Clement "Mario" Winter
Michele "Mish" Feldman

Business

Celia Valle
Gabriel Freitas
Jocelyn Cardenas

Graduate

Anas Salah Eddin
Sidney Drake
Svetlana V. Tyutina

Lower Division

Vanessa Martinez

Architecture and the Arts

Michael Katzmayr

Arts and Sciences

Andreina Espina
Jeffrey Hernandez
Kristen Barros
Sebastian Larrazabal
Stephanie C. Ortega

Public Health and Social

Nicole Hosken

FIU is second in state voter turnout

RESULTS, PAGE 1

were a surprise to us but candidates had really good campaigns," said Dawson. "I'm glad that there was such a great [voter] turnout."

Dawson will be assisting the senators transition into their positions while Patrick O'Keefe, SGC-MMC president, will be aiding the president and vice president-elect.

"The whole process pretty much involves sitting down with them and seeing what is realistic in their initiatives and also introducing them to [University administrators]," said O'Keefe.

The Samir-Wu ticket lagged behind with 575 votes, 6.5 percent of the votes.

"Every single one of my votes were from people who liked my ideas and I'm very proud of that," said Samir Patel, former presidential candidate.

Toscano found this election year to be different from the others, not only because of the multiple tickets but because of the campaigning methods.

"They really went out there, outside of GC, to find the students," Toscano said. "Many times our

student groups neglect to see that the other 40,000 FIU students are out there and not here at the GC."

According to Toscano, last year was the birth of the use of cell phones, laptops and iPads for voting.

He added that "the three tickets really understood the use of these mediums and from that birth, there was an evolution."

The Udhmani-Mautner ticket took advantage of the technology and felt that despite their loss, they still made an impact on the student body.

"We showed students that there is a different SGA out there," said Conner Mautner, former vice presidential candidate. "If anything came out of this, it was the dramatic increase in awareness."

Farinas and Castro have begun the transition period and said they were ready to get to work.

"Laura and I are more than prepared to start working," Castro said. "Campaigning was the beginning, now is when we get to work."

Additional reporting by Melhor Leonor.

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BEACON FILE PHOTO/THE BEACON

Prior to his firing, Thomas claimed that he had four of the top 50 recruits in the state of Florida coming to the school in the Fall, as well as Milton Doyle, a top recruit from Chicago.

END OF AN ERA

Time for the program to start fresh

Thomas will take coaching break

There is one thing that the basketball program needed: A fresh start.

There should not be a surprise that comes from the sudden release of Isiah Thomas. A coach who has had a losing record in all three seasons at the University. A coach who had one eye on his duties at FIU while having a wandering eye on the NBA.

No, the firing is not surprising. Yet whatever direction Pete Garcia, Executive Director of Sports and Entertainment, decides to go with in the hiring of his next head coach could be telling of what to expect for years to come.

Thomas is a likable figure. He is fun to talk to. He can grab anyone's attention when he walks into a room.

His players have the utmost respect for him as a person and a mentor. With that said, I was a strong advocate that Thomas' stint here at the University was not working. Whether it was at the hands of Garcia or by his own will, Thomas' days were numbered.

Thomas mentioned he was "fully committed to building the program here." The problem with that statement is that it is false. In August

2010, Thomas accepted a consultant role for the New York Knicks while still being the coach at the University. The only reason he could not continue was because it violated NBA bylaws.

That's not a full commitment. That's a cliché that a person says to ears who want to be deceived. Thomas loved the NBA. He wanted back in any way possible. He saw an opportunity and took it. That does not make him a bad guy. He strives for excellence. But striving for something doesn't make you good at it.

Even before Thomas arrived at FIU, he led an Indiana Pacers team from being a title contender to a talented-yet-middle-of-the-pack ball club. Although an aging squad may not have been his fault, Larry Bird, the president of basketball operations for the Pacers, let him go.

Then the New York Knicks came calling.

When he became coach, Thomas posted an overall winning percentage of .341 as head coach, fifth lowest in Knicks history. Just add the three seasons at FIU and the numbers equal one thing; Thomas is not a good coach.

There is no doubt that Thomas is captivating. In any room that he stands in, the focus immediately goes to him. His smile is infectious.

There is passion that burns inside of him. Even standing amongst superstars such as LeBron James and Dwyane Wade during the star-filled "South Florida Classic" basketball charity game held at U.S. Century Bank Arena, Thomas had everyone's attention whenever he spoke.

With such a hold that he can have over people, there are not many people who can be better at the recruiting game for FIU. That does not mean he could get the X's and O's down.

This is the chance for the athletics department to get it right. The basketball program at the University has suffered enough. Garcia must look for someone who is qualified and competent. It should not matter whether he brings media attention or name-prestige. What should matter is what happens on the court and finding someone who can dictate the game from the bench.

So now it is in Garcia's hands. Seek out quality over a big name. Hard work over the spotlight. Someone who is devoted to finding ways to win games in the film room over someone who just basks in the glory of their own name.

If Garcia looks for the right coach, the wins will come. Wins will bring in the crowd and the media attention.

In a positive way.

ISIAH, PAGE 1

our coaches were pretty excited about the foundation we had laid here," Thomas said. "Four out of the top 50 players in the state of Florida had already given us verbal commitments, so I'm not sure [what the decision was]. We're all kind of stunned."

Thomas, a hall of fame point guard, signed a five-year deal worth \$1.4 million in 2009 in which he donated his first year's salary. He was 26-65 during his three seasons at FIU, including 7-25 in his first season as head coach.

"I was fully committed to building the program here. I came here with every intention of building the program. They gave me five years to do it. The first year they said it didn't count. I even gave back my salary for the first year. So really I've been here two years. I've had two recruiting classes and this would've been my third year coming up and we were poised to do good things," Thomas said.

Rumors continually circulated about his future in the NBA while at FIU. Despite accepting a job as a consultant for the New York Knicks in 2010, which violated NBA by-laws, Thomas reneged and stayed at FIU at the time. But now with the free time, Thomas has decided to take a break from any coaching duties.

"I'm going to take some time off and kind of digest what has just happened here," Thomas said.

THE AFTERMATH

With Thomas out as head coach, so may a few of his former and current players at FIU. Sophomore Dominique Ferguson, who was recruited by Thomas as early as 2009, used his social media account to vent his frustration.

"[I] Came here to play for one of the most genuine people I've ever met and now these people let him go. I hope I can get my release now," said Ferguson on his Twitter account. "As much stuff as he's done for this school for FIU to do him like this, he's done much more things that have changed our lives us as men."

ISIAH THOMAS THROUGH THE YEARS

APRIL 15, 2009: HIRED (5-YEAR, \$1.4 MILLION DEAL)



AUG 6, 2010: ACCEPTS KNICKS CONSULTING JOB



2010-11: RECORD: 11-19 (SECOND SEASON)



APRIL 6, 2012: FIRED



2009-10: RECORD: 7-26 (FIRST SEASON)

AUG 12, 2010: THOMAS RESCINDS KNICKS JOB TO STAY AT FIU

2011-12: RECORD: 8-19 (THIRD SEASON)

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heat teammates still believe James is the MVP

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Staff

Whenever LeBron James gets asked about the NBA MVP award, he seems to answer carefully, as if to avoid any suggestion that he's campaigning for his third trophy.

In fairness, James doesn't have to do much lobbying.

Everyone else in the Miami Heat locker room takes care of that. And they say the James-for-MVP movement should be going strong.

Not only did the Heat win a marquee game on Wednesday night — they beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 98-93 — but James won a head-to-head matchup against the player who is generally considered to be his top competition in the MVP race. He finished with 34 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds, while Kevin Durant had his 30-point night also marked by a career-worst nine turnovers.

"Every night I go out on the court, I try to play like the MVP for our team," James told the reporters surrounding his locker after the game. "I've always said that. ... It doesn't matter to me. For us, we got better tonight as a team. And I was the MVP for our team and

just trying to lead those guys, lead us to a victory. That's what it's all about."

James might have been considered a lock for the MVP award a month ago, when he and the Heat were both rolling along.

But just about everything after the All-Star break has been a grind for Miami, which gets Thursday off — James said he would be looking for the city's best massage — and plays host to Memphis on Friday.

Scoring is down by nearly nine points a game. The Heat aren't shooting as well, teams are shooting a better percentage against them, and that's all happened while James has dealt with injury woes like a dislocated left ring finger, an achy elbow and the aftereffects of banging his head on the court in a hard fall against Phoenix last month.

On Wednesday, James twisted his ankle falling over a videographer, winced and grabbed his back after some inadvertent contact with a referee, took what he thought was excessive contact twice while attempting dunks — getting pulled down by Russell Westbrook from behind on one of those, a play James later described as "scary" and

"dangerous" — and gritted his teeth after his finger started bothering him again down the stretch.

And even shooting 37 percent, Miami still won.

"I think he's the best two-way player in this league," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "He does it in a night-in, night-out basis and he does it in a way where most teams would not ask a player to shoulder that type of responsibility. But the fact remains: He must play at an MVP level at both ends of the court for us. We've talked about him playing like a defensive player of the year, to defend all five positions, while at the same time playing four positions offensively."

James' two biggest plays against the Thunder may be ones that don't show up in the box score.

Oklahoma City had two possessions in the final 4 minutes where it had shots for a one-point lead. James snuffed out both. He ran Westbrook down and blocked a layup with 3:49 left — ironically, it was at the same spot on the court where Westbrook grabbed him around the left shoulder and right side of his waist and sent him sprawling to the floor two quarters earlier — to preserve a

92-91 Heat edge.

Then with 1:30 remaining, the score then 94-93, Durant backed James down on the low post and tried a turnaround. James contested it well, so well that not only did Durant miss, but his shot bounced off the top of the backboard.

Oklahoma City didn't score again, and James and the Heat were soon enjoying their payback win. On March 25, James was held to 17 and the Heat lost at Oklahoma City 103-87.

"A great player," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said of James after Wednesday's game. "You're not going to hold down a great player often. He missed some shots the first time we played them and we made him take some tough ones. He was feeling good. His jump shot was falling and he was getting some buckets in transition."

It's not a stretch to say that James wants his third MVP in four seasons, and in what probably is no surprise either, Durant acknowledged before the game that he would like to win the award.

Durant thinks it's too early to have the conversation — and when it is time, he indicated he'd be like James, saying he'd rather not tout his own merits.



DAVID SANTIAGO/AP IMAGES

Lebron James (right) is averaging 26.9 points per game.

"I can't worry about that," Durant said when asked about his own MVP candidacy. "If you worry about that type of stuff, that's when you take your focus off the game, start doing stuff that you don't want to do on the floor. I can't worry about that. It's not in my control. All I can control is how hard I work, how hard I play, and whatever else falls in line after that, we'll

see." The Heat say they saw plenty on Wednesday.

"Two MVP candidates, you have to want that matchup," Heat forward Udonis Haslem said. "LeBron accepted the challenge and that's what we expect him to do as our leader and our MVP candidate. You have to step up to the plate and that's what he did."

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY - BBC CELEBRATES

RELEASE AND LGBT PRIDE

week

APRIL 16 - 20, 2012

MONDAY 16

**RELEASE/PRIDE
WEEK KICK-OFF**
12 PM - 1:30 PM
Panther Square
Presented by
Campus Life & MPAS

YOGA
3 PM - 4:30 PM
REC Center
Presented by Recreation
& the Wellness Center

**AN EVENING WITH
CHAZ BONO**
Doors Open 5:30 PM
Event Starts 6:30 PM
WUC Ballrooms

TUESDAY 17

SPA DAY
11 AM - 2 PM
Panther Square
Presented by
Campus Life

**SAFE ZONE
TRAINING**
12 PM - 3 PM
WUC 159
Presented by MPAS

YOGA
5:30 PM - 7 PM
REC Center
Presented by Recreation
& the Wellness Center

**TEST TAKING
STRATEGIES**
7 PM - 8 PM
ACI 160
Presented by the Center
for Academic Success

WEDNESDAY 18

YOGA
10 AM - 11:30 AM
REC Center
Presented by Recreation
& the Wellness Center

**COMMITMENT
CEREMONY**
1 PM - 3 PM
Panther Square
Presented by MPAS

**MEMORIZATION
WORKSHOP**
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
ACI 160
Presented by the Center
for Academic Success

THURSDAY 19

GAME DAY
12 PM - 3 PM
Panther Square
Presented by Campus Life

**SPC MOVIE
SERIES**
3 PM, WUC Theatre
7 PM, Bay Vista Housing
Presented by SPC

FRIDAY 20

YOGA
10 AM - 11:30 AM
REC Center
Presented by Recreation
& the Wellness Center

**NATIONAL DAY
OF SILENCE**
11 AM - 2 PM
Panther Square

**SILENCE
INTRODUCTION**
11 AM

SILENCE BEGINS
11:15 AM

**BREAKING THE
SILENCE**
1:30 PM
Presented by MPAS



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ON CAMPUS

"Breakdown" raises \$2,842

LESLIE BLANCO
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

Every year, the gentlemen of Beta Theta Pi host an event called Beta Breakdown, an annual dance competition among all the fraternities, sororities and other student organizations on campus to help raise money for a specific charity event. This year, the proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society.

"Last year we made around \$3,000. This year, [we had] a silent auction and a raffle," said Diego Foronda, philanthropy chairman of Beta Theta Pi and the director of Beta Breakdown.

"The attendance to the event is usually around 400 students full of energy and excitement while they cheer their friends on stage. We [hope that we have garnered] as much support from the community as possible, [making] this Beta Breakdown the best to date."

The sponsors for this event were 5-hour Energy, Muscle Milk, Crocs, Students for Environmental Action, Lids and Music Saves Lives. The prizes for the raffle included a free haircut and blow-dry at Paul Mitchell, a \$25 Crocs gift card, two Heat game tickets, a \$25 iTunes gift card and a \$25 Lids gift card.

Hosted in the GC Ballrooms this past Monday, April 2, Beta Breakdown was a hit. Beta Theta Pi was able to triumphantly raise \$2,842.66 for the American Cancer Society.

The event was extremely entertaining; the audience was captivated by the creative and innovative performances by the six dance teams.

The dance teams that competed against each other were Sigma Sigma Sigma, Sigma Chi, Delta



ALEXIA ESCALANTE/THE BEACON

Beta Breakdown took place on April 2. This year, all of the proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

Phi Epsilon, Delta Sigma Theta, Pi Kappa Phi, Tokyo Love Bots (the only non-Greek dance team), Alpha Omicron and Sigma Alpha Mu.

The six dance teams gave stellar performances. The dance teams were competitive to the core and resembled America's Best Dance Crew, a competitive dance reality TV series.

Unavoidably, the competition came down to the Tokyo Love Bots and the girls of Delta Phi Epsilon. The Tokyo Love Bots gave a vivacious and charismatic Matrix-themed performance; they channeled their energies and had no trouble mesmerizing the crowd.

Delta Phi Epsilon donned white masks and glowing neon shirts. Their creative choreography added to the magnetism of the performance.

An honorable mention was Static Noise; their theme was based

on the character of Mario from the classic video games. Static Noise's performance earned them the vote as Viewer's Choice and they came in third place. Although the Tokyo Love Bots and last year's winners, Delta Phi Epsilon, were tied, the judges determined the winner by calculating the highest ranked team by each judge. The results named Delta Phi Epsilon as the champions once again.

When asking one of the supporters of the event about his take on Beta Breakdown, senior Kenneth San Juan said, "[The student body] is very cohesive. Every organization or fraternity or sorority has a different vibe, but [the organizations, fraternities and sororities] just make everything flow and make everything very interesting."

The candidates who ran for the

SEE BETA, PAGE 6

ARTS BEAT

Italian architecture at The Frost

MARCY DIAZ
Staff Writer
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Italy is recognized as the birthplace of world-renowned art, such as the Mona Lisa and the statue of David. However, many of Italy's most famous works can't be found on the walls of any museum.

The majesty of Italian architecture was the highlight of The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum's Meet & Mingle event last Wednesday night. Tied to the Meet & Mingle event is the Metropole/Colony: Africa and Italy exhibition on the second floor of the Frost museum, where guest speaker Guido Montanari discussed the history and urbanization of Italian architecture during the Fascist Era.

Built during the rise of Mussolini's fascist Italy, these structures were a symbol of unity and Italian pride. Simplistic, symmetrical and with hints of inspiration from ancient Rome, buildings like Roma Palazzo della Civiltà Italiana were built. During the

event, Montanari said that the latest Italian architecture is heavily influenced by major architects of this time. Nonetheless, Italy continues to build while carrying the traditions of its past as it continues to be a nation of poets, artists, heroes, saints, thinkers, scientists, sailors and transmigrants.

Metropole/Colony: Africa and Italy
In the Wolfsonian Teaching Gallery at the Frost Art Museum

January 17, 2012 - April 15, 2012

HAUTE TOPIC

Thrift without stress

I feel a little protective of my thrifting haunts. It gives me a little bit of anxiety to know that someone else may be uncovering a

vintage Escada jacket that could be hanging in my closet.

But since this is one of my last columns, I figured it's about time to share my wisdom. Good thrifting in

saying that you should wash everything thoroughly before wearing, even before you introduce thrifted stuff to your closet.

WHERE TO GO

Goodwill
6842 Bird Rd
Miami, FL 33155

Although there are many locations in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, not all Goodwills are created equal. The location on Bird Rd. is probably the best maintained store which is why it's my number one go to spot. They have a huge selection of garments that are pretty organized.

The store is clean and new inventory is put in frequently. My suggestion is to go during the weekdays. It's more likely that the store will be well stocked towards the end of the week because it can get crowded over the weekend.

This particular Goodwill has a lot of interesting jewelry and accessories to pick through, as well as a huge selection of dresses. One tip for the girls: look through the juniors and women's section because the Forever 21 club wear gets confused with the nicer things. I've purchased a tweed Moschino jacket here for \$15.

Red White and Blue Thrift
901 E 10th Ave
Flamingo Plaza
Ste 12
Hialeah, FL 33010

This place is a goldmine for vintage lovers. If you're looking for really old stuff, this is the place to go. Come here with the entire afternoon off because the place is huge and there is a lot to sort through.

The pricing is a little arbitrary here, so come with a lot of cash on you because the it is cash only. They also don't have dressing rooms so prepare accordingly. This place has an awesome selection of accessories, so definitely look through the handbags, shoes and belts.

Salvation Army
1801 W Broward Blvd
Ft Lauderdale

This is my number one spot. They don't have the biggest selection, but the area is old enough to find some really interesting pieces. I found an Hermes belt here for \$3. I felt like I had robbed someone.

Costume jewelry and handbags are also plentiful, so definitely check that out. My absolute favorite part of this store is their book selection, though. They have coffee table books galore for mere dollars. Sometimes thrifting isn't always about fashion.

With enough practice and frequency, I can promise you that you will find some unbelievable things.

COLUMNIST



ESRA ERDOGAN

Miami does exist.

When I mean thrifting, I mean thrifting. Not a fancy vintage store that is well curated with amazing vintage pieces with high prices to match. I'm talking about the places that smell a little old, make you crave hand sanitizer, and are probably filled with crap 80% of the time.

Thrifting is difficult, but once you get the hang of it and pick the spots that you like the best, you can uncover some really original things.

TIPS

1) *Bring cash.* If you haven't been to a store before, take cash. Some of these stores are older and haven't updated their systems in forever. Cash is quick and easy, and usually guarantees the stores' prices are lower.

2) *Wear something form fitting.* Some thrift stores don't have dressing rooms so you want to be able to throw on a button down or skirt over your clothes and still get a good idea of what it would look like without the extra insulation.

It also helps to know your measurements in vintage clothing so you have an idea of what will fit you today versus what size you would be wearing if you lived in the 1970s. Sizes have changed a lot over the years. Do some research on Google about vintage clothing sizes before you leave your home.

3) *Go hands free.* Use a cross body purse or use your pockets. You will probably have to use your arms to go through the racks and after a while a big, heavy purse or backpack can become a huge burden.

4) *Have patience.* Things aren't going to jump out at you. Often-times the best stuff is buried in a long forgotten corner. Look in unexpected places. Sometimes I look through the boy's section, which usually gets me a few looks, but I've found some nice fitting oxfords and a blazer there.

5) *Do research.* See something you like but don't recognize the label? Do a quick Google search on your phone. You may have hit the jackpot with a vintage piece of a now defunct French fashion label from the 80s. You never know.

6) *Be committed.* These places do not have return policies, so make sure you love something before you take it home.

7) *Sanitize.* It goes without

FIT FOR LIFE!

Green Market Breads offers natural breads to FIU

Every Wednesday afternoon, there is nothing I look forward to more than a fresh and flavorful loaf of bread from the FIU Organic Farmers Market Consortium. But as I

COLUMNIST



RATASHA
IRIBARREN

went to pick up my favorite flavor of bread, zucchini, the saleswoman intercepted my weekly ritual with bad news. The zucchini bread had sold out.

This led me to wonder, who is the great creator behind these magnificent masterpieces and what is it that makes these products so “green?” To find some answers, I conducted an interview via email with their baker Andrea Frederique.

Born in Germany, Frederique spent time cooking and baking in the kitchen with her mother and grandmother from a very young age. When she arrived in Miami 11 years ago, she claims that she “was not very satisfied for myself with the bakery products here... The

taste is just different and for my opinion way too sweet.”

Also dissatisfied with the grain and sourdough bread in U.S. markets, she started to create her own loafs and soon caught the attention of friends and mothers from her children’s school. “My friends basically convinced me that I have a talent and should offer my bread to more people. So I started to sell my bread to the Farmers Markets about three years ago.”

How long have you been baking bread for FIU and what made you want to participate in the Green Market?

At the end of last year a very nice young woman asked me at the Organic Market in Coconut Grove, where I sell my bread on Saturdays, if I would be interested in offering them to the FIU Market.

Describe the purpose behind using your all natural ingredients.

I like to feed myself and others with the purest food, without any preservatives or additives. The fruits and vegetables I use are from

local organic places like the Glaeser Farm. I like to buy fruits when they are in season to get the most flavor, for example mango for my mango bread.

How do you determine when you have the perfect tasting bread?

When I try out new recipes, my friends are my guinea pigs. When I have a flavor in mind, I try as long as it takes to get the right taste and texture. Also, my kids are good judges.

What exactly is a “Cottage Food Operation?”

A “Cottage Food Operation” is basically a production from a home based kitchen. Since July 1, 2011 the Llaw in Florida changed and the state allows the production of non-potentially hazardous foods (i.e. cakes, cookies, bread, etc.) prepared in a personal residence using home kitchen appliances. But I do have to observe the same regulations of proper food handling that any bakery would.

What sets your bread apart from other “green” and “natural” type market bread?

Even though my breads are considered “sweet breads,” they do not contain a lot of sugar. Instead I substitute with fruits or coconut milk or other natural organic ingredients like raisins or nuts etc. I only use fresh products, no additives or preservatives.

Which flavors are the best-selling?

It is very interesting that each market I go to has its own favorites. My customers in North Miami like the banana nut breads. But in Coconut Grove, I am selling more vegan pumpkin or blueberry banana breads.

What are the health benefits associated with consuming your products?

They have less sugar and more fruits or vegetables. I also offer vegan and gluten free products.

While last week wrapped up Green Market sales for the semester, you can be on the lookout for Frederique’s delicious and healthy breads fall semester for four dollars.

Ratasha Iribarren is a fitness instructor at the Recreation Center.

Beta Breakdown garners competition for good cause

BETA, PAGE 5

presidential and vice presidential seats for MMC’s Student Government Council elections of 2012 were also at the Beta Breakdown event.

“Beta Breakdown is one of

the most pivotal events at FIU. The whole student body coming together for a good cause makes it even more meaningful,” said senior Andres Wu, who was a candidate for the vice presidency position in SGA and majoring in liberal studies.

“It’s a great event and it’s for a good cause. If you have a late class, [the event] gives you something to do at night and it’s a great way to spend time with friends,” said Alexandra Hernandez, junior and criminal justice major.

Roly Gutierrez, president of

Beta Theta Pi, said, “I would like to thank everyone for coming out tonight to benefit our philanthropy for the American Cancer Society. Relay for life was able to raise \$90,000. For the American Cancer Society, we are trying to help them reach their goal of \$100,000.”

Betty Bruno, a staff member of the American Cancer Society and one of the five judges of the event gave a speech about their cause.

“In regard to the \$100,000 goal, the goal is to save lives. Helping people in need is our main concern,” said Bruno.

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BORDERLESS WITH BROOKLYN

Barbaric phenomenon prevalent in United States

In Morocco, conservative social norms pressuring victims of rape to marry their abusers resulted in the death of 16-year-old Amina Filali, who committed suicide by swallowing rat poison.

COLUMNIST



BROOKLYN
MIDDLETON

The reasoning behind the law pressuring victims to marry their rapists is two-fold.

The stigmatization of rape in Moroccan culture ultimately contributes to a culture of shame for the female.

Their own families, such as the case with Filali, pressure victims to marry their rapists.

Secondly, the Moroccan justice system, a system under a great deal of scrutiny because of this recent death, also pressures victims to marry so that their accusers do not have to be held accountable.

Despite the fact that Filali was raped at knife point, there was a peculiar confusion as to who should be blamed.

A week after Filali's suicide, her mother in an interview with the *Associated Press* said, "I had to marry her to him, because I couldn't allow my daughter to have no future and stay unmarried."

These statements illustrate the culture of shame surrounding being raped.

Filali's mother heartbreakingly admits that the alternative of her daughter not marrying her attacker was a bleak

“But while it seems easy for the West to imagine this phenomenon as barbaric and antiquated, the current reproductive health legislation, initiatives that seek to rescind abortion rights, is also quite barbaric and has serious potential to emotionally and physically harm women.”

future.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, Fatima El Machrafi, a prominent employee of a non-profit organization that aims to provide resources to women who have been abused, said, "The aim of the law is to restore the lost honor of the victim and her family. What it does is legitimize the crime. The rapist can marry to dodge punishment. If the family doesn't want it, the judge can impose it. The victim isn't taken into account."

It is because of stigmatization and a legal system that does not put the victim's well being at the forefront of their consideration of the crime that this type of atrocity has occurred.

But while it seems easy for the West to imagine this phenomenon as particularly barbaric and antiquated, it is

worth noting that current reproductive health legislation, initiatives that seek to rescind abortion rights, is also quite barbaric and has serious potential to emotionally and physically harm women.

It's important when we criticize the international community's injustices towards women that we also look at our own system of injustice.

Be it Filali, who killed herself because she was pressured into marrying the man who raped her at knife point or American women who are being forced to look at ultrasounds of fetuses that were conceived by rape - women's bodies have to stop being a battlefield for political motives and inflections of conservative ideals - the results are just too catastrophic.

Email at brooklyn.middleton@fiusm.com.

VERBATIM

"I had a terrible education. I attended a school for emotionally disturbed teachers."

-Woody Allen,
Filmmaker, Comedian

"You will become way less concerned with what other people think of you when you realize how seldom they do."

-David Foster Wallace,
Author

"Any American who is prepared to run for president should automatically, by definition, be disqualified from ever doing so."

-Gore Vidal,
Historian

"Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself."

-Bill Gates,
Founder of Microsoft

Campaigners create nuisance on campus

ALEX SORONDO

Staff Writer

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Contrary to all sensations, it seems as though time was indeed moving forward during elections week, which - by the grace of voting - has finally ended.

In its wake we have shirts, flyers, posters, a whole lot of promises, and, at long last, a campus-encompassing nuisance to rival the University's parking situation.

But it wasn't the campaign itself that made the week so unbearable. Candidates will be pushy, debates will be loaded with more than just politics; these things are to be expected. What made it so horrible were the endorsements of supporters.

It was all bad, all of it, every encounter with a campaigner, every facebook status that prompted a 50-comment fight.

The arguments at social gatherings last weekend, the parasitic vote-pushers tossing flyers and borrowing a minute and asking you to vote, not just for them but oh, hey, their friend is running for At-Large Senator of the Presidential Green-Fee Housing Committee and you should really vote for that person too because YOLO - You Only Live Once.

And all of this was before last Wednesday, voting day, where the chaos began with a Greek mob rushing Green Library's check-out desk for the

"I see good cause for apathy, for not caring what happens so long as the furor ends, and all I want are politicians who smile, act courteous, do what they'll do and play by the rules and please, just leave me alone."

iPads and laptops with which they went on to harass people on campus for the rest of the day.

Groups of campaigners asked repeatedly if you had voted, if you would like to vote, if you could just take a second to vote; inviting you to use their laptops while they watched your selections from above, holding their computer just low enough to sport the candidate name on their shirt, just in case you didn't know who was running and needed a name.

It seems that this would work to any candidate's favor, that you should know nothing of them or their platforms and that, in catching you at the right moment and buying your vote for a smile, they might capitalize on the University's largest import: apathy.

The conviction and relentlessness with which campaigners filled every breeze and walkway on election day, like Greek mosquitoes in a swamp of bad intentions, suggested - and with greater transparency than the Student Government Association is accustomed to - that victory in the elections is more about manpower than politics.

The consequent sense of powerlessness, the poverty of whatever influence we might have in comparison to the Greeks, does little for the average student's incentive to get involved, to take part in a fight that's already won.

This is to be expected, of course, but it nonetheless takes me by surprise each year, and bums me out to no end so that, by the end of the day, I wanted to write in a vote for that guy who plays reggae on his Mac outside of the Graham Center atrium.

He's always so happy and sincere and really, after an onslaught of greedy attention like we get from campaigners,

I see good cause for apathy, for not caring what happens so long as the furor ends, and all I want any more are politicians who will smile, act courteous, do what they'll do and play by the rules and please, just leave me alone.

Regardless of who won, whether you got the president or senator you wanted, the elections are over, campaigners are all gone; there's cause enough to be content, if we're to feel anything at all.



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SCHOLARSHIP

Ceremony to honor international students' efforts

STEPHAN USECHE
Contributing Writer
bbc@fiusm.com

Taking advantage of great deals while helping others is an uncommon deed.

The Multicultural Programs and Services managed to do so by organizing the ninth annual silent auction, the Scholarship Awarding Global Excellence.

The fund raising reception will be taking place April 13 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Wolfe University Center ballroom at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

SAGE awards international and full-time transfer students who have shown to be hard workers, involved on campus and have a high grade point average.

The scholarship awards \$1,000, \$750 and \$500. SAGE also provides students with assistance in paying for their tuition,

textbooks and other academic expenses.

"Next year we want to reward more students," said Lisa Zuniga, graduate assistant of MPAS. "We want to improve each year and make it bigger and bigger."

This year MPAS will be obtaining their auctioned items from booming donors. Some of these items include Marlins tickets, a Miami Heat basketball autographed by the players, a Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort two night stay, Island Queen Cruises tickets, Fairchild Botanical Garden annual membership, P.F Chang's gift cards and Edible Arrangements gift certificates.

"This year we reached out to different donors we didn't reach in the past," Zuniga said.

A laid back ambiance will be transmitted by a live band, different snacks to nibble on and the silent auction.

HOLI COLOR WAR



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

As part of the Biscayne Bay Campus Student Programming Council's FIU LIVE week, SPC and the Indian Student Association teamed up to host the Festival of Colors on April 5. The festivities featured a barrage of colors, foam pit, with water balloons and colored dyes flying through the air.

"It's going to be more like a reception feel, very laid back," Zuniga said. "It's not going to be like a sit down and eat. It will be more like a chat, walk around and

bid on things."

MPAS is expecting the support of the faculty and students.

This event will be free for FIU students and \$5 for the

community.

"It's really hard to find these kind of scholarships, especially for international students," Zuniga said.

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