

**ELECTIONS**

## Court rules for Elections Board

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Following the filling of a writ of certiorari by the Coalition of Students for Reform, the FIU Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus Elections Board and their restrictions on campaigning material.

William-Jose Velez Gonzalez, president of the CSR, petitioning for legal review of a decision by the board to limit the content of promotional material, filed a writ of certiorari.

In an email sent to the MMC election candidates, the Board stated that, "As a board we have decided that each promotional material can only represent one seat per person. The only time two people can be advertised on a promotional

tions Board, where the court ruled that "that by restricting a candidate's endorsement of any other candidates... the board's supplemental guidelines prohibits a student's innate ability to voice his/her opinions as granted by the first amendment," deeming the current restriction in violation of the precedent set in this case.

The Elections Board countered these arguments stating that they do not prohibit candidates from verbally endorsing other candidates.

The Board also added that they did not create new regulation but are enforcing existing statutes, citing SGC-MMC Elections Code section 6.06 that deals with Campaign Finance, and added that this separation "makes it easier to track donations."

The respondent also argued that having multiple candidates on the same promotional material could confuse voters.

"We do not want to confuse the public," Toscano said. "We don't want to mislead the public. We are not misleading the public to think they have to vote for the two or three people on a flyer. It's very misleading."

The respondent further mentioned that as a political party, candidates can endorse each other in promotional material, but explained that candidates must be registered with the Council.

On March 9, Chief Justice Mella delivered the opinion of the Court, which sided with the Elections Board and their restrictions.

The opinion cited *Rosenberger v. Rector & Visitors of Univ. of Virginia* and stated that the restrictions on speech are content neutral, narrowly tailored, serve a significant governmental interest, leave open

**SEE WRIT, PAGE 2**

“We don't want to confuse the public. We are not misleading the public to think they have to vote for the two or three people on a flyer. It's very misleading.”

Jose Toscano,  
Advisor  
SGC-MMC

material is for the president and vice president seat.”

The Court heard the case on March 9, with Velez representing CSR and Barbara Ruiz and Alex Favela, along with SGC-MMC Advisor Jose Toscano representing the Elections Board.

According to the writ of certiorari submitted by Velez, this violates individual rights to freedom of expression and ability to endorse other candidates.

Velez cited the 2010 case *Mujica v Elec-*

## TRAFFICKING



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Kimberly Carrasco, a sophomore nursing major observes the walk-in brothel set up outside of GC by the campus organization called FIU Wesley, which intended to raise awareness regarding human trafficking.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

## Campus deliberations allocate funds to MMC organizations

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After University-wide allocations of the Activity & Service fee, campus-specific deliberations focused on funds for the 18 organizations at the Modesto Maidique Campus. The council was left with \$96,555 in extra funds, which was then given back to the University-wide council.

The March 8 allocations, which involved the five members of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus, disseminated \$2,830,357 to around 18 campus organizations.

While a number of organizations received less than they requested, several were allocated their entire request. According to Patrick O'Keefe, SGC-MMC president, this was due to the fact that the council received additional funds from the recent 3.5 percent increase in the A&S fee.

The organizations that were fully funded included the Model United Nations, Activity & Service Business

Office, Council for Student Organizations, International Student Services, Student Government Association main office and Student Programming Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

“[The Student Programming Council] is an item that students going to see value in.”

Patrick O'Keefe,  
President  
SGC-MMC

O'Keefe emphasized that SPC was one of his priorities.

"[The Student Programming Council] is an item that students going to see value in," said O'Keefe. "Students ask why other universities

have big names [at their events] and we don't."

When it came to their own request, SGA cut from their original \$588,525 and allocated \$529,083.

They focused on eliminating the \$60,000 line item that went towards professional lectures.

"It's time that we tighten our belts a bit," said Sanjeev Udhani, SGC-MMC vice president. Organizations like the Student Bar Association were debated by the council over their requests.

"I don't support full funding because many of their programs look like they aren't just for students," said O'Keefe.

They settled on giving the Student Bar Association \$60,000 of their requested \$89,513. Like the Honors College in University-wide deliberations, many on the council felt that the organization did not benefit all students.

Cristina Loreto, SGC-MMC comptroller, mentioned that they have spent a large amount of funds on its events.

"Their cram jam was very fancy for

**SEE DELIBERATIONS, PAGE 2**

**COMING UP | News**

Check out Friday's issue for a story on the University registration date changes for the summer and fall.

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## NEWS FLASH

## LOCAL

**High school grad rate in Fla. improving**

A new report on graduation rates finds Florida making improvements, though the overall rate still lags behind the nationwide average.

The report released Monday concludes the state's high school graduation rate climbed 5.5 points between 2002 and 2009, one of the largest increases observed. The overall graduation rate was 68.9 percent, lower than the 75.5 nationwide average.

The number of Florida high schools where 60 percent of students or less graduate has declined, from 162 in 2002 to 100 in 2010.

## NATIONAL

**Occupy protest anniversary ends with police sweep**

Dozens of police officers cleared the park where the Occupy movement was born six months ago and made several arrests after hundreds of protesters returned late Saturday night in an anniversary observance and defiantly resisted calls to clear out.

Some demonstrators locked arms and sat down in the middle of Zuccotti Park near Wall Street after police announced on a bullhorn at around 11:30 p.m. that the park was closed. Officers then poured into the park, forcing most of the crowd out and surrounding a small group that stayed behind. Police formed a human ring around the park to keep protesters out.

Several people were arrested, police said. An unused public transit bus was brought in to cart away about a dozen demonstrators in plastic handcuffs.

## WORLD

**Death of consul's daughter spurs Venezuela outcry**

The killing of a Chilean diplomat's teenage daughter by police is reigniting concerns among Venezuelans about excessive force by officers and their alleged involvement in rampant violent crime.

Nineteen-year-old Karen Berendique was riding in a vehicle with her older brother and another young man when police at a checkpoint opened fire early Saturday in the western city of Maracaibo, said her father Fernando Berendique, Chile's honorary consul in the city.

He said they ignored a police command to stop, fearing the officers might be robbers.

– Compiled by Melhor Leonor

## 2012-2013 MMC ELECTION CANDIDATES

**President/VP**

Laura Farinas/Alex Castro  
Samir Patel/Andres Wu  
Sanjeev Udhnani/Connor Mautner

**Honors College**

Anthony Maneiro  
Daniel Rodriguez  
Joshua Sixon  
Raul Alvarez  
Sabrina Petrosky

**Education**

Katerina Cortina  
Kristen Robillard

**Engineering**

Bryand Acosta  
Emmanuel Okwor  
Khalid Chaar  
Kristopher S. Rosado  
Laura Gutierrez

**Nursing and Health Sciences**

Russhelle Flowers  
Stephanie Guzman

**At-Large**

Boris Dan Aparicio Jr.  
Eduardo Staton  
Giovanni Castro  
Juan "Johnny Bravo" Canton  
Liane Sippin  
Nicole Buchely  
Steven M. Gonzalez

**Housing**

Christopher Lebran  
Clement "Mario" Winter  
Daniel Diaz  
Henry J. Noonan II  
Michele "Mish" Feldman

**Business**

Celia Valle  
Gabriel Freitas  
James Alexander Harden  
Jocelyn Cardenas

**Graduate**

Anas Salah Eddin  
Sidney Drake  
Svetlana V. Tyutina

**Lower Division**

Benjamin "Ben" Rosa  
Christopher Garrido  
Javier Morales  
Kimberly Maria Karlson  
Nicholas "Nick" Alvarez  
Vanessa Martinez

**Architecture and the Arts**

Michael Katzmayr

**Arts and Sciences**

Andreina Espina  
Andrew Garcia  
Andrew Withers  
Carlos M. Chueca  
Giancarlo Simpson  
Jeffrey Hernandez  
Juanita Louis  
Kristen Barros  
Sandra Ramirez  
Sebastian Larrazabal  
Stephanie C. Ortega  
Stephanie Wietrzychowski

**Public Health and Social**

Nicole Hosken

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## CSR to register as a political party

## WRIT, PAGE 1

ample alternative channels for communication, as per the United States Supreme Court's time, place and

manner analysis.

In a press release, the CSR stated their opposition to the ruling.

"We find the decision of the Elections Board to be of a restrictive nature, that stifles the democratic nature of the elections, devised on ill informed advising that does not

contribute towards a free, more open and transparent student government," said Velez.

According to Velez, the only way around the ruling would be to amend the Elections Code.

He also added the CSR is seeking to be recognized as a political party

but are still waiting to hear from the SGC on the set process.

Among the candidates to be endorsed by the CSR are Samir Patel and Andres Wu running for the president and vice president seats, and Boris Aparicio running for Senator At-Large.

## Council kicks back extra funds to U-wide budget

## DELIBERATIONS, PAGE 1

just 30 people," said Loreto. "They need to tone it down a notch."

In their proviso language, the council added that they strongly encourages that the organization's "Barrister's Ball" not exceed \$16,000 in cost.

Yet the Model United Nations, which according to O'Keefe is not a "student affairs item, like the Honors College," received full funding.

"[MUN] has become reknown and is developing them into leaders," said Udhnani. "It's one of those things that I really want to fund because we always talk about programs that are at the top of their level."

Giovanni Correale, SGC-MMC finance committee chair, mentioned that he would like to see the organization more integrated in campus life.

The Residential Hall Association requested \$39,375 and was given \$32,655.

"We should encourage them in moving forward," said Udhnani. "I support funding them in full."

Though O'Keefe was more reluctant in full funding because there were items in their request that needed to be looked at with greater detail. The council discussed that in the past, RHA ceased to mention in their promotional flyers that an event was funded by SGA.

O'Keefe motioned to add proviso language to their allocation that RHA "will follow all governing council regulations and include SGA in marketing materials."

The budget allocations will be going to the SGA senates at MMC and the Biscayne Bay Campus for approval. Once passed, the budget must be seen by Rosa Jones, the vice president of Student Affairs and University President Mark Rosenberg.

## THE BEACON

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## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Panthers bounced by Bulls in the second round of WNIT

BRANDON WISE

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And just as fast as it came, it vanished. The first trip to the post-season for the Panthers since 2005 started out with the huge victory over Stetson and ended on March 17 when FIU could not get anything going against in-state foe, South Florida. The Bulls proved to be just too much, ending FIU's season with a 77-61 loss at USF.

In the first half, the Panthers did not shoot the ball well, going 7-27 and scoring 22 points. But the Bulls were just that much better, scoring 36 points on 12-35 shooting from the field.

FIU tried to make a late run on the back of sophomore Jerica Coley, but it was too little too late. Coley, the reigning Sun Belt Player of the Year, tried to make one last effort to state her case for being an All-American, scoring 30 of FIU's 62 points in the game on 8-21 shooting from the field, pulling down 14 rebounds, dishing

out five assists and blocking four shots for the Panthers.

Coley currently stands as the sixth leading scorer in the nation, finishing the year averaging 23.4 points per game. With the decision upcoming in the next week or so, it is safe to say that Coley is well on her way to being one of the best players in FIU's history.

Also kicking in big efforts for the Panthers was Fanni Hutlassa and Kamika Idom. Hutlassa, playing in her final game in a Panther uniform, made it a special night, scoring points and pulling down 10 rebounds, her third double-double of the year and fifth of her career.

Idom also kicked in 13 points and six rebounds for the Panthers. What really kept FIU alive in this game was their free throw shooting, where they went 23-32 in the game.

### WRAPPING UP THE YEAR

For all the ups and downs that this season saw, it could be considered a fairly successful one for the Panthers. As head coach Cindy Russo

mentioned throughout the year, it was the first time in a long time that her team was able to stay reasonably healthy all year long.

That gave her the opportunity to develop young talent like Coley, Idom and Zsafia Labady, who are all underclassmen.

This team will head into next season likely second again to Middle Tennessee, who will bring back their entire team next season, including Ebony Rowe, a sophomore, and Icelyn Elie, a junior, respectfully.

The Panthers will have to find a way to fill in the shoes of Hutlassa, who is graduating after five spectacular years at FIU. That guard position will likely be filled in by Idom, who saw her minutes grow throughout the season.

It will also be interesting to see what Russo decides to do with the forward position as she began to develop a second weapon late in the year in Diamond Ashmore. The senior to be will be battling Finda Mansare for the starting position entering into next season's training camp.



KRISTI CAMARA/THE BEACON

Jerica Coley scored 30 points and 14 rebounds in a losing effort against USF.

## BASEBALL

# FIU ends long home stand with four-game losing skid

EDUARDO ALMAGUER

Staff Writer  
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The results are in for the FIU baseball's first and longest homestand of the season.

After 12 home games in just over two weeks, the Panthers sport a 7-5 record when taking the field in Miami. That record, however, is a bit deceiving.

Following wins in seven of the first eight games in the homestand, FIU (8-10, 0-3 SBC) could not keep the momentum going, dropping the final game against University of North Florida on March 14 and getting swept in their conference-opening series against Florida Atlantic University.

Despite matching FAU (14-7, 3-0 SBC) with 29 hits in the series, the Panthers could not string any of them together, scoring only nine runs in the series. The Owls, the team with the best winning percentage in the



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Mike Martinez broke the school's all-time RBI record on March 18 with a home run against the Owls.

Sun Belt Conference, scored 23 runs. Though the Panther starters have progressively improved with their control, something that plagued them in the first few series of the

year, the pitching was lackluster against FAU.

FIU starting pitchers had a 4.23 ERA in the series compared with the Owls' 2.70 starting staff ERA.

The Panthers' bullpen was the weakness in the series, allowing 10 earned runs in the same amount of innings, along with eight walks. FAU was the complete oppo-

site, allowing only two runs in seven innings with one walk.

### PANTHER POWER

Despite the recent four-

game losing streak, there are reasons to celebrate.

On March 18 against FAU, corner infielder Mike Martinez slugged his first home run of the season. Except it was not just a regular solo shot. That RBI crowned him as FIU's all-time RBI leader with 163.

Former FIU outfielder Tyler Townsend, now in the Baltimore Orioles' organization, held the previous record.

Though his power numbers are not where he wants them to be, Martinez is the only player in the conference with a batting average over .400 with a .408 mark. His .508 on-base percentage is good for third overall in the conference and his slugging percentage, .510, is eighth. Another Panther that has recently improved his numbers after a slow start has been freshman catcher Aramis Garcia.

Coming into March 10

**SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 4**

BASEBALL  
UPCOMING GAMES



MARCH 21  
TENN  
7 p.m.  
WED



MARCH 23  
WKU  
7 p.m.  
FRI



MARCH 24  
WKU  
4 p.m.  
SAT



MARCH 25  
WKU  
1 p.m.  
SUN

## ROUNDUP

# Former hoops player reaches deal with NFL team

**FIUSM SPORTS STAFF**  
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Nick Taylor, former FIU point guard for the basketball team, has signed a three-year to play in the National Football League for the Minnesota Vikings. Taylor, who originally walked-on to FIU in 2007 and played for three seasons where he accumulated 141 assists in his career.

Now, Taylor will turn in his gym clothes for full pads in Minneapolis.

At the FIU pro day on March 9, Taylor reportedly ran a 4.27 40-yard dash, which would have been the fastest time at the NFL Combine if he had participated.

Taylor will now join veteran cornerback Antoine Winfield and Cedric Griffin, where the Vikings pass defense ranked 26th in the league, allowing 251.2 yards per game to opposing quarterbacks.

The Vikings, who went 3-13 last season, had only one returning player to their secondary from last season and were hoping to add depth in Taylor.

The former Panther will head to Minnesota for the offseason program and will have a shot at making the

53-man roster. With the addition of Taylor to the Vikings, there are currently three former FIU players active in the NFL.

BRANDON WISE

## TENNIS STRUGGLES

Home court advantage was not kind for FIU as the Panthers dropped their second home game of the season when they failed to beat the Columbia University Lions, 5-2 on March 18. The Panthers dropped another game to the loss column, bringing their record to 4-12 and 2-3 at home.

Team leader Lisa Johnson offered the only spark for FIU as she clinched her singles match, defeating Bianca Sanon, a South Florida native, 7-6 (2), 6-4. Johnson also served up an 8-4 victory in the doubles portion alongside Christine Seredni against Columbia's duo Katarina Kovacevic and freshman Crystal Lueng. Gioletta Boha tallied up another singles victory with a 6-2, 7-6(9) victory against Katarina Kovacevic.

For a team that has only lost one game at home last season, FIU has already amassed the home loss total by three matches in



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Nick Taylor, a former FIU basketball player, ran an unofficial 4.27 in the 40-yard dash at FIU pro day.

the first four home matches. The Panthers also surrendered home losses to No. 25 ranked Ole Miss and the No. 21 ranked Yale.

FIU is in the last leg of a 2012 season that consisted of missed opportunities to defeat top tier compe-

dition in the start of the 2012 campaign and have remained stuck in a rut versus teams out of their conference, which has led them to one of the worst regular seasons in school history.

Coming off a 2011 Sun

Belt title, the Panthers are in dyer need of a break through in order to return to playing championship caliber tennis, as the 2012 Sun Belt Tournament is little less than a month away, kicking off April 19 in Denton, Texas.

The Panthers will take a trip North on turnpike to Boca Raton to battle against Sun Belt rival, Florida Atlantic University on March 21. Match time is slated for 1 p.m.

JONATHAN JACOBSSKIND

# FIU will try to snap four-game skid versus Volunteers

## BASEBALL, PAGE 3

against Fordham, Garcia had a .208 batting average. But over the course of the past seven games, he has notched 13 hits in 28 at-bats, good for a whopping .464 average in that span.

The recent outburst, which has raised his

season average to .346, included two home runs and 11 RBIs.

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

FIU will travel to Knoxville, Tenn. to face the University of Tennessee (11-8) on March 21 at 7 p.m. The Volunteers recently snapped a five-game losing streak, winning their most

recent game against Georgia.

The Panthers then head north to Kentucky to face off against Western Kentucky University for FIU's second conference series of the year. The Hilltoppers (8-11, 1-2 SBC) sport only two batters that have averages over .300.

The Panthers expect to face some combi-

nation of Justin Hageman (1-2, 6.63 ERA), Tim Bado (1-3, 3.63 ERA) and Tanner Perkins (1-0, 3.22 ERA) for the weekend series.

The Panthers will most likely counter with Mason McVay (1-2, 3.08 ERA), R.J. Fondon (3-2, 3.18 ERA) and Michael Ellis (1-2, 3.76 ERA).



## RIVALRY TIME



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Since starting their homestand on March 9, the Panthers have gone 2-3, losing their past two matches to Columbia and Yale. They will now head to Boca Raton for a matchup with rival FAU. The Owls are 9-4 on the year and 0-1 in the Sun Belt Conference.

## CAMPUS EVENTS

# SPC schedules an eventful week for UPRoar

**ASHLEY LAPADULA**  
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Over 3,000 students are expected to attend and have already grabbed tickets to this year's UPRoar concert. The annual spring concert will be featuring the MTV Music Video Awards' Best New Artist of 2007, "Gym Class Heroes" and Sean Michael Anderson, also known by his stage name, "Big Sean."

The Student Programming Council has put together a week of activities that will be followed by the concert. UPRoar, which stands for University Park Roar (MMC's former name), is the week-long series of events containing a comedy show, pit event, concert and movie in which students and alumni are invited to take part in giveaways and other activities.

With the concert only a few weeks away, Lukas Calafell, the president of SPC, shared some insight on this year's event. Putting together an event like this one requires much work from staff members and the students.

"Vice presidents, advisors and the Campus Life publication staff have held crucial roles in planning for UPRoar," said Calafell.

"The first thing that was done was a survey that was sent to students back in the fall semester, giving them an opportunity to give feedback regarding important aspects, from what genre of music they'd like to hear to what they want the overall concert experience to be like," said Calafell.

In November 2011, SPC met several times to discuss artist selection. After reviewing the survey responses, the council began to review their options by talking

to the artists' agents and taking into account their fees for the performance.

"One of the most challenging tasks would be choosing the artists. There are many factors that play into choosing the artists, some which students may not know affect our options," said Calafell.

He continued by saying, "Students will be able to express their feedback and preferences the way that it has been done this year, through the survey that's made public via our social media outlets."

During UPRoar week, SPC will hold a contest where two winners will receive backstage passes to the concert and meet the artists.

Ticket distribution started on March 8 and tickets will continue to be distributed until they run out. Students who are interested in attending should stop by the Campus Life office, located in GC 2240, during office hours to pick up a ticket with their FIU One Card. Students must present their ID cards with their ticket upon arrival at the concert which will be at the soccer field at MMC.

Both of the artists performing have songs that students have probably heard while driving around town or at local clubs and bars. Historically, artists aim to please by playing their best known songs. Some of the songs to look out for during the concert will be Big Sean's hits, such as "Marvin Gaye and Chardonnay" from his latest album "Finally Famous" and "My Last," featuring Chris Brown.

During the Gym Class Heroes' set, students will probably expect to hear ridiculously popular songs, like "Stereo Hearts" and "Cupid's Chokehold."

The week's events leading up to



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM

**Top:** the quartet that makes up the pop music group Gym Class Heroes are expected to play popular hits at the concert. **Right:** Big Sean will accompany Gym Class Heroes this year at UPRoar.

the concert will start on Monday, April 9 with a pit event in GC from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., followed by a comedy show featuring Anthony Jeselnik at 6 p.m. in the GC Ballrooms. Jeselnik was a writer for "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" and other TV shows and was named one of Comedy Central's breakout comedians of 2009. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for the comedy show. Finishing the week off on Friday, April 13, SPC will feature a movie in GC 140 at two show times: 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The UPRoar concert will take place on Wednesday, April 11 at 7 p.m. There will be no bags, re-



entry, outside food or drinks allowed inside the event. To stay connected and follow the event closely, SPC recommends students follow them on Twitter, @FIUSPC, and Face-

book, FIU SPC.

SPC hopes that students are excited for the event that marks the beginning of the end of the spring semester.

## RADIATE REVIEWS

# Andrew Bird breaks through with 'Break it Yourself'

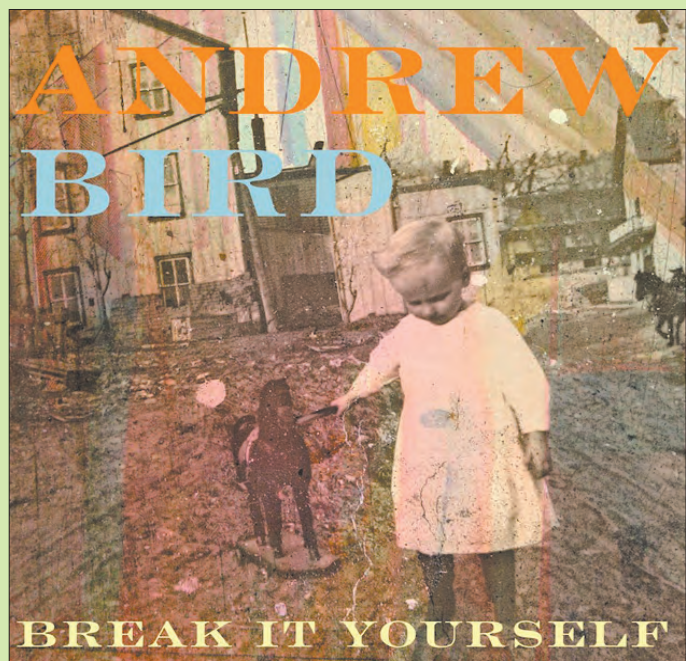


PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM

"Break it Yourself" is Indie artist, Andrew Bird's newest studio album.

You can say Andrew Bird is an idiosyncratic artist in that homogeneous pool of Indie musicians and that he goes through an eccentric and docile ebb and flow, but the meticulous craftsmanship that goes into each album cannot be mistaken.

Bird has always had a penchant for juxtaposing rhythmic Indie pop with his virtuosic violin and whistling incantation that loop into a giant ethereal swoon. These principles remain in "Break It Your-

self." Bird's macabre storytelling deals with more introspective lyrical matter and sonics that soundly seep in as opposed to blasting with full, immediate effects.

The structure is off-balance and sprightly, but Bird has never been one to have a stern way of approaching music; his approach has always come from an organic and expressive format.

This is what makes "Break It Yourself" worth a listen, even if you sometimes forget that it's

playing.

The album starts off with some baroque plucking on "Desperation Breeds," a tale of the delicate balance of the ecosystem in relation to the dying bee population and its impending future implications.

It is all interspersed with gliding guitar sounds and glockenspiel that all come into fruition after its chamber pop intro.

The folk roots shine through on standout "Danse Carribe," a jaunty track that careens the line of pleasant balladry to that of a calypso steel-drum in the middle that ends up being a fiddle fest

with a stirring violin solo as it all washes and rides along seamlessly.

It's nothing that one would expect from a folk type artist and almost certainly feels in line with the aforementioned sensibilities of someone as inspired as Bird.

He sees the world as he does his music, in the lush, colorful kaleidoscope that twists and turns in unpredictable and imaginative ways.

He can describe ideas of autonomy and is near self-delusion when he says "here we go mistaking clouds for mountains

SEE BIRD, PAGE 6

### COLUMNIST



MICHAEL HERNANDEZ

## HAUTE TOPIC

# Spring cleaning: Say goodbye to winter wardrobe

It's almost April, which means it's time to pack away your sweaters, leggings and boots for next year and prep your wardrobe for the summer. It's also high time for a little bit of spring cleaning and wardrobe revising. Or if you're anything like me, a lot of cleaning and wardrobe revising.

## COLUMNIST



ESRA ERDOGAN

I've been picking up items in anticipation of summer, but I hadn't taken the time to organize anything so my new shorts and tank tops were tucked under a pile of jeans and sweaters. Luckily, over the break I took advantage of some free time and cleaned out my closet. Here are some tips on how to approach the daunting task yourself.

## THE CLEANING STAGE

The first step in building your summer closet is cleaning. This part can be tedious, so set aside a few hours to make sure you complete your task. I like to start by taking all of my winter clothes out and deciding whether to toss them or store them.

Stow away the things you're keeping in a bin under your bed or in the garage so you have extra room in your closet. I promise you that you won't need your chunky knits until next year. The

suggested items to put away are jackets, thick sweaters, tights, boots and anything with fur.

This process also makes it easier to pick out what you will wear again when you are ready to reintroduce your winter stuff back into your closet next year. Next,

**“I promise you that you won't need your chunky knits until next year. The suggested items to put away are jackets, thick sweaters, tights, boots and anything with fur.”**

look at what's leftover in your closet. Take out all the things you decided are for summer and try them on. Do they look good? Are they still your style? Make sure you look and feel good in the things you're keeping. Otherwise, donate them.

## THE ORGANIZING STAGE

Now that you have decided what you're keeping, it's time to put them back in your closet. The number one tip I have for organizing a closet is to hang things up. I need to see the things I own so I can imagine them with other things.

This also helps to remind me that I own it in the first place. It works in stores and it will work at home, too. The only things I like to store in drawers are my jeans, shorts and basic tees.

Once you're done hanging things up, organize things by type. Dresses, long

type, color or functionality as well.

## THE VISUALIZING STAGE

Now that the hard part is over, you can start pairing things together and try to see what's missing. Make a list of the essentials you think you need and pieces you've been admiring.

Keep this list handy so that when you go shopping, you will have an idea of what you want. Some essentials you may be missing are: short skirts, denim shorts, tank tops in basic colors, a white button-down shirt, light colored denim, flat sandals, a long dress, a summer hat, etc.

Make sure those things will go well with the other things you own so you have a cohesive wardrobe. Since you don't want to spoil your hard work, go for quality over quantity when shopping. A \$20 maxi dress may seem like a steal now, but if you're going to toss it at the end of the season it's probably not worth it.

Because of how lackadaisical I get about maintaining my wardrobe by the middle of the summer, I usually have to somewhat repeat this effort once or twice a season. It can be tough, but I promise it will be worth it.

*Haute Topic is a weekly fashion column. Email her at [esra.erdogan@fiusm.com](mailto:esra.erdogan@fiusm.com)*

# Locals celebrate with bands on St. Patrick's day

## SANPATRICIO, PAGE 8

We left the venue to get some fresh air and returned to a complete cultural mood change.

Conjunto Progreso came on at 1:30 a.m. and had about half of the crowd dancing in couples to the sounds of salsa.

The horns were blowing hard

and bright to the rhythm of the congas and the upright bass, and the singer's soulful flow kept the music alive. Conjunto Progreso covered the song "No le Pege a la Negra," and most people started singing along to the popular salsa classic by Joe Arroyo.

By 2:10 a.m. the mood was

more relaxed even if some people refuse to take a break from dancing. In order to get the audience a second wind the band invited a girl to the stage to do the "Sugar Dance." This consisted of left and right hand extensions followed by fingers pointing to the eyes and up to the

sky. The final step was placing the arms in front and thrust the hips forward, repeat it fifteen or twenty times and the dance is done.

We left The Stage at 2:30 a.m., satisfied and with good reviews from other local artists like Sean Wouters from The Deaf Poets.

"It was really impressive," Wouters said. "I was surprised so many people came here not really expecting anything and it ended up being amazing. Ketchy Shuby was awesome and Conjunto Progreso was ridiculous, I haven't seen a salsa band this tight."

# Multi-Instrumentalist artist creates cohesive album

## BIRD, PAGE 5

now," he recounts historical war accounts about a sinking ship (implied metaphor about sinking relationship) on "Lusitania" that features St. Vincent's Annie

Clark. It also mentions the BP oil spill in the sprawling eight minute "Hole In the Ocean Floor," which begins with muted plucking that suddenly breaks into wobbly whistling and subtle strums of guitar layered with violin

and atmospheric harmonies. "Belles" features (spoiler alert) bells, chimes and crickets that synchronize together that, dependent on the listener, emotes a feeling amid the cacophony or is just a track you can add to

your ambient sleepy time mix.

It's interesting how Bird's music parlays into the overall music landscape and can serve different purposes to each listener, allowing it to be appreciated in its diversity.

In "Break It Yourself," Bird has foregone the intricate solo production of past albums to go with a more instinctual setup of performing with a full live

band and recording through a Tascam 8-track.

Long-time collaborator Martin Dosh brushes on his drum kit with clear precision, the whole ensemble comes through on the desolate "Give It Away" and also in the more straightforward Indie pulse of "Eyeoneye."

Here, he exclaims "Made yourself invulnerable, No one can break your heart, So you break it yourself" but the sounds that accompany

those heart-laden lyrics come off as cathartic more than they do resentful.

"Break It Yourself" doesn't have the sudden impact of previous efforts, but Bird can still make music that doesn't need to sound grandiose for it to have a long-lasting effect.

*Radiate Reviews is a weekly music review column. Email him at [michael.hernandez@fiusm.com](mailto:michael.hernandez@fiusm.com)*



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**21 WEDNESDAY**

**NEW MUSIC MIAMI FESTIVAL:  
GUEST CLARINETIST ESTHER  
LAMNECK AT MIAMI BEACH  
BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free  
WHERE: Miami Beach Botanical  
Gardens

**22 THURSDAY**

**SPC COMEDY SHOW FEATURING  
JESSI CAMPBELL**  
WHEN: 6-8 p.m.  
HOW MUCH: Free to students  
WHERE: MMC GC Ballrooms

TO HAVE YOUR EVENT FEATURED EMAIL: [CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM](mailto:CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM)

## CLASS DISMISSED

### Budget cuts affecting public testing

As our nation's education institution tightens its purse strings, the financial strain is starting to hit high school students and their parents in their own wallets.

COLUMNIST



JASMYN ELLIOTT

Public education is becoming more of an abstract concept as funding is being cut.

At the rate we are going, even a basic education will become less of a right and more of a luxury.

According to a report in *The New York Times*, budget cuts toward advance placement classes is now resulting in students having to pay their own way through AP testing. This is a burden, especially for students

who come from low-income families.

According to the report, students "will have to pay \$15 for each of the first three exams they take, and \$53 per exam for any beyond that," thus causing students to sacrifice a full AP class load. This will further affect their college costs, as these students will pass fewer AP tests that would have given them college credit.

Instead of absolving them from having to take certain classes, which would have ultimately reduced their college costs, low-income AP students will have to face the strain of college costs with little to no relief.

This may seem like a so-called "first world problem," but these budget cuts affect 29,000 low-income AP students who may miss out on the opportunity to acquire college credits.

This inevitably leads to a rise in their college costs, which are already difficult to manage with nationwide cuts to financial aid.

Furthermore, while some districts are willing and able to eat the rising costs, others are unable to do so, once again leaving low-income students at a disadvantage in accessing AP classes and college credit.

This trend of cutting education funds further disenfranchises otherwise qualified students from their fair shot at a college education, thus perpetu-

“  
**Instead of absolving them from having to take certain classes, which would have ultimately reduced their college costs, low-income AP students will have to face the strain of college costs with little to no relief.**  
”

ating institutional discrimination against the poor.

I find it difficult to visualize equal access to education when even high school students have to come out of pocket to make strides in their education.

This is normally the point when I propose some solution that would help these students and their parents come out on top, but I don't have one.

Unfortunately, these students will have to make some early sacrifices until funding for public education increases, or at least becomes enough so these tests are subsidized once again.

Our public education is supposed to set us apart from developing nations, particularly sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, who must pay out of pocket to give their children a basic education, much to the chagrin of their underprivileged citizens.

We may have to join the ranks of these ones if we continue to foot students and their parents with the bill.

*"Class Dismissed" is a weekly column critiquing education in America. Email jasmyn.elliott@fiusm.com*

## THE BEACON | Editorial Decision highlights inefficiency

As usual, the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Council has proven to students that their system is inefficient.

On March 13, FIU Student Media reported that the SGC-BBC Elections Board unanimously voted in favor of allowing Oluwatobi Adekoya to switch his candidacy from SGC-BBC vice president to president with Odimayo Oluwatamilore as his running-mate.

According to the SGC-BBC Elections Code 703.06 Subsection VII, "A candidate must file all registration documents with the Elections Board Commissioner on or before the deadline date and time designated by the Student Elections Board."

Application deadlines were on Feb. 29. By making a unanimous decision to allow Adekoya to switch his candidacy, the members of the Elections Board are undermining the very principle of having an elections code.

Students, especially potential student leaders, should be expected to abide by the rules that governing bodies have put in place—an expectation that should seem obvious amongst student government members.

Adekoya should have known better than to make a request for the Elections Board to rule on an issue that was clearly in violation of its own election codes. But the Elections Board should have acted in accordance with what their own code states.

What would happen if Adekoya were elected to office and he brought forth the same understanding of the SGC-BBC Statutes into his presidency? How would that reflect on the BBC governing council which has already been suffering from questionable leadership?

Now, the legitimacy of the decision to allow Adekoya to switch his candidacy is in the hands of the SGC-BBC Supreme Court after potential presidential candidate and current SGC-BBC Speaker Pablo Haspel filed a writ of certiorari on March 14.

To make matters worse, Adekoya has also neglected proper procedure in the filing of a supposed writ with the SGC-BBC Supreme Court in which he contests the eligibility of Pablo Haspel to run for SGC-BBC president in an emailed message to the SGC-BBC Court and not submitting the proper paperwork to have a writ heard.

If the court rules in favor of Adekoya, in Haspel's writ, it is ruling against the the validity of SGC-BBC's governing documents; and just by granting Adekoya's writ certiorari, the SGC-BBC Supreme Court itself has already furthered SGC-BBC's lack of care for proper procedure as a whole which protects the public from dirty politics.

The only legal solution, according to the SGC-BBC Statutes, would be for the SGC-BBC Senate to vote and agree upon a special election with a reapplication process for candidates in the sake of regaining the credibility of the BBC Council as a whole.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Alma mater contest disrespects honored tradition

I write to you today to express concern with the FIU alma mater contest currently being run by the FIU School of Music.

The concern comes from the ties that bind us, the students, the alumni, staff and faculty of Florida International University together.

From the Latin [language] alma mater means "nourishing mother," and I like to propose that the current lyrics respond to that definition in the best ways possible.

When singing it the many years of FIU graduates are brought together through our common bond of singing the praise of this great institution.

The current song calls for us to come together and pledge ourselves with "humble faith and loyalty," with

"all our love and devotion."

Since 1978 members of this community have said those words in many different settings but all in service of this university. What greater message could we wish for in our lives that the call to "strive for understanding and for peace and unity."

Let this be our message to future generations of Panthers and those around us, not that we are in a semi-tropical climate zone with large financial ties to the Americas. Let our calling card be our "search for truth and wisdom," not some advertising campaign.

In "Its youthfulness as an institution, its traditions still in the making, its willingness to adapt to the demands of the vibrant community it serves," FIU must

have ties to its origins.

The Alma Mater as it currently stands lays out a set of values from one generation to the next that we can all call our own.

Let our actions speak louder than our words, let us uphold the values set forth as it is plastered in the window as you walk into the Graham Center for all to see.

I therefore ask you to please stop this contest, for in proceeding we lose what is the real meaning of tradition, something that ties the past, present, and future together in shared values and shared voice.

FIU Alma Mater Hail! HAIL TO THEE!

-Max Mersinger, Senior, History



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Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (500 words maximum) to neda.ghomeshi@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year. *The Beacon* reserves the right to edit for space, content and clarity.

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## JUDICIAL REVIEW

# SGC-BBC Court agrees to hear both opponents' writs

**JONATHAN SZYDLO**  
BBC Managing Editor  
jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com

The Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus Supreme Court decided on March 19 to grant certiorari to writs filed by Pablo Haspel and Oluwatobi Adekoya, respectively.

Adekoya had filed a writ, as an emailed message and not as an official form, on March 19 at 1:41 a.m., contesting Haspel's eligibility to run

for SGC-BBC President, citing SGC-BBC Elections Code 703.06 Subsection III, which states that when a student is running for a SGC-BBC senate position they must obtain verification from the respective school they are trying to represent.

Haspel is not running for an SGC-BBC senate seat.

The SGC-BBC supreme court also decided to grant certiorari to a writ filed by Haspel on March 14, contesting the SGC-BBC Election Board's March 7

*"The Elections Board was completely against constitution and statutes."*

Martha Ochoa

SGC-BBC Supreme Court Chief Justice

"The Elections Board was completely against the [SGA] constitution and [the SGC-BBC] statutes," said SGC-BBC Supreme Court Chief Justice Martha Ochoa during the court's deliberations on whether or not to hear the writs. "They need to follow the statutes and constitution. In this case they didn't."

The SGC-BBC Supreme Court has set hearing dates for both cases on March 21, with the time still being up in the air.

decision to allow Adekoya to switch SGC-BBC vice president to SGC-BBC president instead.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

### ACTIVITY AND SERVICES FEE BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS\*

Organization	2011-2012 Budget	2012-2013 Requested Amount	2012-2013 Allocations
• Bay Vista Hall Council	• \$8,588	• \$11,765	• \$11,000
• Broward SGA	• \$3,5963	• \$69,120	• \$67,000
• Campus Life Main Office.	• \$172,000	• \$242,234.58	• \$200,500
• Campus Life Programming	• \$70,975	• \$122,325	• \$80,000
• Career Services	• \$11,000	• \$45,049.50	• \$24,284
• ISSS	• \$13,466	• \$64,857	• \$64,857
• Leadership Awards Banquet	• \$8,925	• \$15,225	• \$10,000
• Multicultural Programs & Services	• \$1,050	• \$4,725	• \$4,725
• Panther Power	• \$16,968	• \$16,968	• \$15,000
• SGC-BBC	• \$182,607	• \$235,104	• \$230,104
• SGC-BBC Emoluments	• \$82,275	• \$82,275	• \$82,275
• SOC	• \$41,703	• \$77,700	• \$48,000
• SPC	• \$124,000	• \$249,900	• \$190,000
• Undergraduate Education	• \$525	• \$630	• \$630

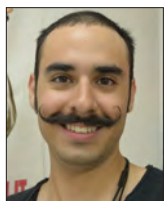
\* Budget is not finalized until passed by the SGC-BBC Senate and approved by the Vice President of Student Affairs.

## BEAT STREET

# The Stage goes green with a bit of spice on St. Patty's Day

Every year St. Patrick's Day is an excuse to go out, wear green, and have a drink, or five.

This phenomenon was no different at The Stage in Miami's design district.



ANDRES BEDOYA

As soon as we arrived to the bar, the Irish pride was running strong with friendly faces and Guinness beer.

On March 17, The Stage was host to the first annual Latin Funk O'delic Dia de San Patricio Music Festival.

The place was packed with an older crowd that Nacho from the band Arboles Libres described as a "crowd from Coral Gables."

The Stage is divided between the inside area which includes the stage, two bars parallel to each other, and the outside patio with its outside bar, nice chilling areas and the food truck.

Due to the rain, no one was outside making the place inside seem like a full house.

The show started at 12:15 a.m. with Ketchy Shuby taking the stage and starting out strong with fun crowd interactions and dance music.

Throughout most of the set the crowd was moving, and the music was on point.

The band has been together with the current lineup of seven members for three years, and it really showed in the chemistry they create on stage.

When the rain stopped, about half of the people moved outside but just as it seemed like they were about to mellow down, Ketchy Shuby played their last and most powerful song "Out of My Mind," leaving a rush of energy in the ears of the half-drunk audience that greeted them with satisfied cheers and applause's, a well appreciated response to redeem the last time they played the venue and had a unappreciative crowd.

SEE SAN PATRICIO, PAGE 6

On March 17 The Stage hosted the first Latin Funk O'delic Dia de San Patricio Music Festival. One of the first bands to perform was Ketchy Shuby with their main singer Jason Hernandez (right) on guitar and the rest of the seven piece belting out notes to a green infested crowd.



PHOTOS BY ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON