



SPRING BREAK RESPONSIBLY 2010

Friday, March 12, 2010

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SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

The SACS accreditation team had nothing but positive remarks for BBC's sense of community and service.

LIFE! PAGE 4



Alternative Breaks gives students a tremendous opportunity to donate their time to the causes that they believe in most.

LIFE! PAGE 4

The Harvest of Hope festival brings big indie names to Florida in the spirit of charity.

OPINION PAGE 6



Cabralitics: Chris Cabral proposes trading Marco Rubio for Charlie Crist as Rubio's pole numbers rise in the Senate race.

OPINION PAGE 6

Letter to the Editor: Andrew "Don't Taze Me, Bro" Meyer gives his take on the American media.

SPORTS PAGE 8

FIU baseball splits home series with Boston College. Jabari Henry hits a grand slam to steal victory over Boston College.

SPORTS PAGE 7

FIU pitcher Kasey Barrett earns third straight Sun Belt Conference Pitcher of the Week award.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Cherry Orchard, March 12, 8 p.m.
Come and enjoy this classic play presented by FIU Theatre. \$10 for students/faculty/staff and \$12 for general admission. The play will be performed at WPAC.

FIU Take Over's the Miami Heat, March 14, 5:30 - 10 p.m. Meet players, get gear and watch a Heat game, all for a discounted price. Visit groups.heatexperience.com/fiutakeover

St. Patrick's Day Street Fair, March 17, 5 p.m. Free at John Martin's Irish Pub.

—More events can be found in our Monday and Friday issues of Life!

WEATHER

FRIDAY
T-Storms
LOW: 67 HIGH: 83

SATURDAY
Scattered Showers
LOW: 53 HIGH: 78

SUNDAY
Mostly Sunny
LOW: 54 HIGH: 78

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SUNNY SIDE UP



LINDA LEE/THE BEACON

Senior Juan Chu (left) and senior Jesse Peterson (right) cook couscous in their solar oven on March 4 outside the Frost Art Museum. As a class project for ART 3681C, Time Art, the oven was made with a \$8.27 budget using household materials and can reach a maximum temperature of 283.5 degrees in one hour and 30 minutes.

SGC-MMC

Proposal addressed at GSA meeting

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Senior Staff Writer

Instead of a general meeting, the Graduate Student Association held a town hall meeting March 1 to address disagreements that they and graduate students had with a proposal to restructure GSA.

Anthony Rionda, Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus president, and Jose Toscano, SGC-MMC advisor, presented the proposal.

The proposal includes not only plans to add two additional graduate senators and increase the conference funding, which Rionda said has already happened, but also rescinding the Council for Student Organizations' point system and creating a GSA advisory council.

"We're not doing this for any other reason than to increase efficiency and effectiveness," Rionda said.

The CSO point system was cited as one of the reasons the restructuring is necessary. In his presentation that was meant to provide historical context, Toscano said GSA was asked to follow a point system that was "administered by undergraduate students who had little or no understanding of a graduate student's schedule."

CSO uses a point system to determine how money for clubs is allocated. Clubs and their members must attend events, host meetings or be involved in the community to earn points.

GSA, page 2

Walk for cystic fibrosis premieres on campus

ALEXANDER MILLER
Staff Writer

The FIU Wertheim College of Medicine is sponsoring the first walk for cystic fibrosis to occur at the University to create awareness about the illness and get people involved as a whole.

Through the national Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, there are

a series of walks (called Great Strides) for cystic fibrosis that take place around the U.S., but this is the first time there will be a walk taking place at FIU.

"It's pretty exciting to be planning the walk and it's the first time we're having a walk for cystic fibrosis at FIU," said Rebekah Kharrazi, FIU Cystic Fibrosis Foundation chairperson.

According to the organization's Web site, cystic fibrosis is an inherited chronic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system of about 30,000 children and adults in the U.S. and 70,000 worldwide.

A defective gene and its protein product cause the body to produce unusually thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs and leads to life-threatening

lung infections and obstructs the pancreas and stops natural enzymes from helping the body break down and absorb food.

In the 1950s, few children with cystic fibrosis lived to attend elementary school. Today, advances in research and medical treatments have further enhanced and extended life for children and adults with

cystic fibrosis.

Many people with the disease can now expect to live into their 30s, 40s and beyond.

Kharrazi works on research directly related to cystic fibrosis in the College of Medicine's Department of Molecular Microbiology and Infectious Diseases.

WALK, page 2

Program prepares freshmen for writing exams

MARIELLA ROQUE
Contributing Writer

The Common Reading Program for freshmen finished its first University-wide implementation this semester and will continue into this Summer and next Fall.

The freshmen-oriented program has first-year students read a book chosen by the Common Reading Committee.

The program, which was initiated by Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies Glenda Belote and University Ombudsman Larry Lunsford, is a requirement for incoming freshmen.

It began as a pilot program in the Summer semester of 2008 at Biscayne Bay Campus, and has received high student approval ratings since.

The program is tied to the First Year Experience course, a University Core

Curriculum prerequisite, in which professors assign the students a two-page essay based on the book as well as a quiz.

The program aims to prepare students for college reading and get them used to writing and taking tests on a book.

"We basically want to enhance [the students'] reading skills," Lunsford said.

Originally, the late Jeffrey Knapp, director of the Academy for the Art of Teaching, was placed in charge of the project. But it was handed down to Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Studies Valerie Morgan after Knapp's passing.

A committee of 10 faculty and staff and two student representatives leads

READING, page 2

NEWS FLASH

NATIONAL

American charged with terrorist conspiracy

A Pennsylvania woman has been charged with plotting to kill a Swedish man and trying to recruit fighters via the Internet to commit violent attacks overseas, the U.S. Justice Department said on Tuesday.

According to Reuters, Colleen LaRose, who also went by the pseudonym of “Fatima LaRose” and “Jihad Jane,” was charged with conspiracy to commit murder overseas, conspiracy to provide support to terrorists, making false statements and attempted identity theft.

‘Lost Boys’ star found dead in his apartment

Corey Haim, former 1980s teen movie actor, was pronounced dead early Wednesday.

According to CNN, Haim, 38, was taken to Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, Calif., where he was pronounced dead at 2:15 a.m. PT.

Corey Feldman, Haim’s longtime friend and frequent co-star, told CNN that Haim was “a wonderful, beautiful, tormented soul.”

Cause of death is still unknown.

Second Prius acceleration incident reported

A 56-year-old driver sustained nonlife-threatening injuries on Tuesday when her 2005 Prius began experiencing uncontrolled acceleration, eventually crashing into a stone wall.

According to Reuters, it was the second straight day in which Toyota has attracted media attention, adding to product safety woes that have damaged the automaker’s reputation and led to the recall of more than 8 million vehicles.

Federal regulators are currently looking into the situation.

– Compiled by Gabriel Arrarás

Proposal includes a new council

GSA, page 1

Because of this system, graduate students who are members of graduate student organizations, which are within CSO, have to do this to earn conference funding.

All of the graduate students in attendance approved of getting rid of the point system.

The GSA advisory council will be made up of the four graduate senators, two paid graduate student positions, a Graduate Student Organization coordinator within CSO and other members appointed by GSA, SGA and other University-wide colleges and presidents.

In the proposal it will be the council’s responsibility to make executive decisions, such as managing graduate student open forums and GradsKellars. However, only graduate senators are able to allocate money.

The conference funding will be

increased from \$45,000 to \$100,000 based on a stipend of \$250 for 400 students. This model is similar to one the University of Florida currently uses, according to Rionda, and it was also one of major contention.

All graduate students at the town hall brought up the argument that \$250 could barely cover the airfare for their conferences. Rionda said that number could increase, but then fewer students would be covered.

Several graduate students brought up the issue of GSA’s functionality during the town hall. Muhammad Saleem, one of the graduate senators, asked what the yardstick was to measure functionality.

Rionda responded by saying that \$70,000 of conference funding was not spent, he asked how many people in the room have attended GSA meetings and only a handful replied and he asked who voted in the GSA elections or for their graduate senator.

Several graduate students said where their conference funding came from was not very important, what was important to them is how they found out GSA was being restructured and graduate student advocacy.

As for the advocacy, Saleem suggested that instead of an immediate restructuring, SGA should monitor GSA for six months to one year after warning them that they are not meeting certain criteria.

Rionda did not specifically address Saleem’s idea but admitted that graduate students were not properly informed of what was happening.

Additional reasons for the restructuring were a lack of travel and conference funding during the summer, the GSA office not being accommodating to the schedule of graduate students and the limited or no access students at the Biscayne Bay Campus had to the resources of the GSA office.

FIU promoted through fundraiser

WALK, page 1

“This is a place for education and it’s an opportunity to raise awareness and it makes it a great thing,” Kharrazi said.

Kharrazi added that the goal is to get as many people to participate in the inaugural walk, and that the event is a fundraiser.

“Whatever people feel like they can raise would be great,” Kharrazi said.

The planning committee for the walk is composed of students and professors, including College of Medicine students.

Other organizations have been instrumental in the planning and promotion of the walk, such as Beta Beta Beta, an honor society for

This is a place for education and it’s an opportunity to raise awareness and it makes it a great thing.

Rebekah Kharrazi, FIU cystic fibrosis chairperson
College of Medicine

the students of the Biological Sciences Department at FIU and for those interested in biology and related fields.

“It’s nice to be a part of the walk because the people involved are so passionate,” said Maria Donayre, member of Beta Beta Beta.

Donayre also said that they are urging all professional students to get involved with the walk as well. They have reached out to the Council for Student Organizations as well

to help advertise to students on campus about the walk and get them involved.

“This event will put FIU’s name on the map and we are very excited,” said Dr. Kalai Mathee, faculty advisor for the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the College of Medicine.

Mathee added that the event will introduce people to FIU and knowledge of cystic fibrosis as a whole. Mathee has

formed a team with her lab that has participated in this walk in past years, and like Kharrazi, her research deals directly with cystic fibrosis.

The walk, held on April 3, will begin at the College of Medicine (between buildings HLS I and II at the Modesto Maidique Campus) and will go around the campus.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the opening ceremonies will begin at 9 a.m.

Anyone is permitted to participate and it is free to register for the walk as an individual or a team.

For more information and to register for the walk visit <http://www.cff.org/AboutCF/> and http://cff.org/great_strides/find_a_walk_site/index.cfm.

CORRECTIONS

In the March 10 issue of *The Beacon*, the photo caption for picture 4 of page 6 incorrectly accredits a fundraiser to Delta Lambda Phi. The fundraiser was hosted by Sigma Sigma Sigma.

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

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Books to meet QEP criteria

READING, page 1

Common Reading. Morgan and the board select a number of books for the students to read and narrow down the choices.

“We really want to continue to give the book to students for free, we don’t want them to feel like they have to spend money on another textbook,” Morgan said.

The books chosen must meet the Quality Enhancement Plan criteria – the book should be student-friendly, flexible and “must show the students different perspectives.”

The book for the next three semesters will be chosen by the end of this month. The sponsors of the program are BBC, Modesto Maidique Campus, School of International and Public Affairs and the QEP team.

“The program has been very successful,” Lunsford said, explaining that the students interact well with the selections and respond positively at the end of the term.

“If students don’t read [the book], what good is it?” Morgan said, clarifying her and the committee’s reason for selecting the novels.

Last semester, the program brought *Funny in Farsi*’s author Firoozeh Dumas who spoke to 700 freshmen at MMC, where she conducted a book signing and met with students from SIPA.

She also had a meet-and-greet session with

student leaders and staff in MMC and BBC.

Lunsford considered this a “sign of success,” commenting that the book was “short, reliable, educational, entertaining and enjoyable.”

Funny in Farsi was chosen from a list of six books and was narrowed down to two by student input.

The first book chosen by the committee was *Breath, Eyes, Memory* by Haiti-native Edwidge Danticat, *Funny in Farsi* being the second.

“*Funny in Farsi* was very interesting and it taught me about others’ diversity,” said freshman Susann Vernon.

Some students, however, were not as enthusiastic about the book, finding it to be below standards.

“It didn’t feel like a college book, I guess I didn’t get into it as much as the other students,” said freshman Kirenia Riesgo.

The program is modeled after a similar program in universities all over the United States such as the University of Florida. Morgan explained that although they have received positive feedback, “the program is still a work in progress.”

“It is important for students to have a common experience before entering college life. With [Common Reading] the students have something to talk about,” Morgan said.

“I was so impressed with how many students had gotten into the book,” Lunsford said.

Team gives BBC a positive evaluation

MIKIALA C. TENNIE
Staff Writer

FIU is being pushed to make the most of the "I" in the middle of its name by a team from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Visits by this association generally strike fear into the hearts of schools, as SACS is responsible for the accreditation and evaluation of colleges and schools in the Southeastern U.S.

Edwin Rugg from Kennesaw State University and Terry McConathy from Louisiana Tech University are volunteer members of the SACS team that visit schools based on a federal government requirement.

This visit in particular was to discuss the new initiative FIU is planning on launching in the Fall called the Quality Enhancement Plan. The University's QEP is Global Learning for Global Citizenship.

"We'd like this to be an open conversation," McConathy said. "SACS visits are not supposed to be 'gotcha!' visits."

Members of student support personnel from Student Affairs and the library met with the team to discuss the Biscayne Bay Campus and the QEP.

"It used to be that anything less than 30 miles off of the main

campus was a part of the campus, but your campus here is considered an off-campus operation," Rugg said. "What makes this place special?"

The consensus was that BBC had an intimate community feel and that its environment made it a beautiful campus.

After getting a feel for why BBC is important to the University, the team focused on an aspect of the QEP that will bring more interdisciplinary courses to the school, with classes being taught by multiple professors from different areas of expertise.

According to Rugg, the school was supposed to have more than one of these types of classes up and running by this point. At press time, only one exists.

"What ways can the campus improve?" Rugg said.

One of the answers given was having additional courses on this campus and having more start-to-finish programs offered so students don't have to travel between MMC and BBC as much.

The SACS team was guided through a brief tour of the campus, ending with a three-course lunch hosted by students from the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. The lunch split the SACS team up between two tables, where they interviewed an array of BBC students from

ON THE RECORD



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

Dan Rather, host of CBS Evening News from 1981 until 2004, talked about his past in journalism and the current and future state of the field to a crowded auditorium at his lecture "Dan Rather: Journalism in Crisis" in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater on March 9.

different programs at the undergraduate and graduate level.

In the next meeting of the day, the SACS team utilized the information they received from the students in a discussion with the deans from the campus.

"You should know your students are very happy with your faculty," Rugg said. "Keep up the good work as you grow bigger and better. Keep to your roots of success as best you can."

The final meeting consisted of

faculty from all over the campus discussing how the University can go global with the QEP by being intentional about putting global aspects into courses, by linking academics with extracurricular activities and by focusing on end-of-program results rather than end-of-course results.

"We don't just want it to be 'Here's a class, and here's an extracurricular activity,'" said Elena Cruz, director of Upward Bound and meeting attendee.

"We want to integrate the two and SACS challenged us to go beyond just activities and class."

The QEP is a five-year initiative to make the University live up to its name and be internationally minded with its approach to learning.

"We do think you're on to something, especially with the "I" in the middle of your name," Rugg said. "You're doing tough work, but you're doing good work. Make the QEP show that."

SPRING BREAK AT THE BAY

MONDAY, MARCH 15

MIAMI MIC MONDAYS



Open mic night for hip-hop hopefuls and spoken word poets

WHEN: 9:00 PM - 12:00 AM
WHERE: Miami Pipeline
14837 NW 7th Ave
Miami, FL 33168
HOW MUCH: \$5
CONTACT: (786) 586-8197

YOGA IN THE PARK

WHEN: 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM
WHERE: Tina Hills Pavillion
Bayfront Park
301 N Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33132
HOW MUCH: FREE
CONTACT: (305) 358-7550

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

IMPROV COMEDY JAM

WHEN: 8:00 PM & 10:30 PM
WHERE: Miami Improv
Comedy Club, 3390 Mary St,
STE #182 Coconut Grove, FL
33133
HOW MUCH: \$12
CONTACT: (305) 441-8200

WICKED: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE WITCHES OF OZ



The Broadway hit play has finally followed the yellow-brick road to South Florida.

WHEN: 08:00 PM
WHERE: Ziff Ballet Opera
House, The Arshtr Center
1300 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33132
HOW MUCH: \$38-\$150
CONTACT: (305) 949-6722

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CRUISE



Celebrate Ireland's most popular holiday with a touch of Miami flair.

WHEN: 9:00 PM
WHERE: Bayside Marketplace
401 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33132
HOW MUCH: \$59
CONTACT: (305)379-5119 ext.
201

FLORIDA JEWS IN THE MILITARY

WHEN: 10 AM- 5PM
WHERE: Jewish Museum of
Florida, 301 Washington Ave
Miami Beach FL 33139
HOW MUCH: \$5 Student
CONTACT: (305) 672-5044

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

CRIME IN MIAMI

WHEN: 10 AM-5 PM
WHERE: Historical Museum of
Southern Florida
101 West Flagler Street
Miami, FL 33130
HOW MUCH: \$7 Student
CONTACT: (305) 375-1492

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL FASHION WEEK MIAMI STYLE SHOWCASE



The world's upcoming fashion designers arrive to show off their latest work.

WHEN: 9 PM
WHERE: Shops at Midtown
Miami, 3401 North Miami
Ave. Miami, FL 33127
HOW MUCH: \$25 General
CONTACT: (954) 476-5761

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

12 AT 12



This high-end pizza parlor offers a gourmet meal at a low price.

WHEN: 12 AM-2 AM
WHERE: Fratelli la Bufala
437 Washington Ave
Miami, FL 33139
HOW MUCH: \$12
CONTACT: (305) 532-0700

LAUGHING GAS COMEDY IMPROV SHOW

WHEN: 11:00 PM
WHERE: Main Street
Playhouse, 6766 Main St Miami
Lakes, FL 33014
HOW MUCH: \$10
CONTACT: (305) 461-1161

-Compiled by Jasmyn Elliott

SPRING BREAK

Music fest incorporates charity to aid, support farm workers

HECTOR MOJENA
Staff Writer

Every summer, voracious music fans converge upon the grounds of music festivals across the country to whet their appetites.

From Bonaroo to Lollapalooza and everything in between, there is always that palpable sense of excitement and the ringing ears that come with days of unchecked music consumption. If you live in Florida, then you've come to the conclusion that all the great festivals are more than a few days drive or a plane trip away, and that \$10 bottles of water are the best way to put a hole in your wallet.

Well, fret no more: Harvest of Hope exists to bring good music and good charity to Florida.

This year's festival will take place from March 12-14 on the St. Johns County Fairgrounds in St. Augustine, Fla.

Started in 2009, Harvest of Hope has become one of the most talked about music festivals in the country, with heavyweights like Broken Social Scene and Rogue Wave bringing their own transcendent form of indie rock down south.

The aforementioned charity is what ties everything together: the proceeds from this event go directly to The Harvest of Hope Foundation, whose goal is to raise money for the continued support of migrant farm workers across the U.S.

The plight of these workers, many of whom lack proper health care, housing and educational opportunities, is truly disheartening and has fostered the goodwill of many of the bands that are playing this year. As of this year, the foundation has raised \$788,000 for migrant/seasonal farm workers. The organization provides

scholarships and grants, financial aid, clothing and more for those workers in whole-hearted fashion.

This year's lineup features a varied group of more than 100 bands, with artists still being added. The last two weeks saw arguably the biggest independent rock band in the world right now, Broken Social Scene, get on board to perform.

In addition, Billy Bragg, The Mountain Goats, James Husband (Of Montreal), Matt Pond PA and many others are set to play over the course of this three-day fest.

It doesn't just end with the music though: this year's event will also feature carnival rides, a mechanical bull (huh?), and even a kids' zone just in case the kids aren't too partial to Man Man.

The festival itself has adjusted to be more eco-friendly as well. A solar powered stage will reside within the Not for Profit World, and free shuttle rides will ensure that gas bills stay relatively manageable.

Ultimately, Harvest of Hope represents the culmination of one not-for-profit's truly essential work in the assistance of migrant workers.

Last year's event sent a clear message and managed to raise funds for the fledgling organization's righteous cause. Coupled with the great selection of bands, one can clearly see a more productive way to spend their festival-going experience.

Their unending fight to better the lives of these individuals has birthed what is arguably one of the best festivals around.

For more info about the festival and for tickets, check out <http://www.harvestofhopefest.com/>.

LEND A HAND ON YOUR TIME OFF

MARIA MURRELL
Staff Writer

Everyone who graduated high school in Miami-Dade County had to donate at least three hours of his or her time to the greater good of the metropolis in the form of community service or "service learning."

Service learning is required of aspiring high school graduates and recommended for prospective recipients of a number of scholarships, fellowships, internships and countless other awards and programs.

The question is, being that they are required to participate in service learning, how many of those kids can say they truly enjoyed, looked forward to and actually learned from their services?

Enter AlternativeBreaks, the largest on-campus service learning organization at the University. Here, students feverishly compete with one another for one of 10-12 spots on a trip to an undisclosed destination to work

during their break.

AlternativeBreaks is a branch of the Break Away Foundation, a nationwide service learning group advocating "active citizenship" among college students by taking them on week-long trips around the world and exposing them to social issues of their choice. Unlike other abroad programs, aB is refreshingly affordable, running between \$100 and \$300 in total.

Participants work within a broad range of public concerns from environmental concerns, animal rights and immigration to poverty, homelessness and HIV/AIDS.

Recently, an aB group visited Washington, D.C. to work with the homeless in shelters and push their representatives in Congress for political action regarding the matter. Another group visited New York City's Farm Sanctuary to work for animal rights.

Interested students fill out an application and go through a competitive selection process.

Angel Garcia, assistant director of the Center for Leadership and Service, explained that although students are required to submit an application and

supporting materials, the interview with the alternativeBreaks advisors carries the most weight when it comes to selecting participants.

"There's no other way to really know [the students'] interests," Garcia said. "On paper, you can't really tell what someone is passionate about and whether they are going to be really into it."

Garcia placed great emphasis on knowing a student's passion. He described the service trips as priceless, unforgettable experiences. Because they are comprised of days of volunteer work for a greater cause, an applicant's enthusiasm has to be genuine.

What's really interesting about the application and selection process is that the applicants have no idea where they will go. On their applications, they rank social issues from one to five according to level of interest and specify whether they are willing to go abroad.

From then on, the destination is a guessing game and is only revealed at the end of the meet-and-greets the club holds throughout the semester.

"At the meet-and-greets, there's this moment of great intensity when

we tell them where they're going, because no one had a clue up to that point," Garcia said.

Incidentally, the students aren't the only ones who don't know about exact locations all the time. The organizers, while they keep some of their host sites on the list year after year, also like to look for promising new service adventures.

The purpose of alternativeBreaks is to foment social knowledge and active citizenship. In order to do so, they must try to expose college students to as many service learning experiences as they can find.

Garcia mentioned that, in a nutshell, they spread a world map across a table and look to countries with pressing social issues for host sites, whether in urbanized or very rural settings.

"However, we value quality over quantity. We look at the map with the intent of having a well-recommended host site."

Each year, aB directors compile a list of 24 sites that they narrow down to 10-15. They aim to have a varied selection from which students can choose, but veteran sites like Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic have been on the roster continually because of their success.

What they call "volunteer housing" is provided to students by hostels, hotels or church groups. Donations like these, along with the rigorous fundraising aB does, allows the program to boil down a positively cheap total sum that includes airfare or ground transportation.

One of the program's priorities is to incorporate learning into the service experience. Living in the midst of heart-wrenching poverty or suffocating injustice awakens students to the realities that exist beyond the sphere of FIU and their homes.

As Garcia explained it, "alternativeBreaks is a privilege because we do so much great work. All those who are a part of it are what we call 'active citizens.'"

EXPLODING HEAD

Each spring break has a song mix to it

Catchy music to highlight your vacation

It seems like Spring Break really starts a week or two before the actual vacation commences. We're already mentally prepping our schedules and agendas for the lapse in fun, sun and trips around Florida.

Though, it seems with every Spring Break, I always retrospectively make a mix of songs I was really into during that week-long vacation.

Last year, I was knee-deep into punk and garage rock from the likes of Minor Threat and The Seeds, with a borderline obsession with Yo La Tengo's "I Can Hear The Heart Beating As One."

But it was always assembled after the fact.

This year I've been given the privilege of making a Spring Break mix and, yes, it might not be the songs I'll be blasting in my car or my home stereo, but it's a compilation of music that essentially sounds "springy" and should probably get the proper airplay that others might be more inclined to get.

1. HAPPY BIRTHDAY - GIRLS FM

This song is really the highlight of Happy Birthday's self-titled debut off of Sub Pop, set to come out March 16. It's a perfectly crafted tune with equal parts garage, grunge, 90s alternative and bubble-gum pop. It's got sing-a-long potential and has a great chorus.

2. SMITH WESTERNS - DREAMS

This Chicago all-boy band can do wonders to the soul if played during a period of downers. Channeling early Beatles songwriting and lo-fi garage panache, Smith Westerns provide a perfect wave of beachy pop for the break.

3. WAVVES - SO BORED

After various fistfights and nervous breakdowns, Nathan from Wavves kinda kept a low profile these past couple of months. He hooked up with Hella's Zach Hill to invert the already-loud Wavves sound to epic heights of monster no-fi with powerhouse percussion. So Bored is a pretty honest portrayal of slacker conduct, the kind of behavior one would show during Spring Break. It also sounds amazing when the sun is hitting your face from outside of your house.

4. DUM DUM GIRLS - JAIL LA LA

I've written about them before and I still don't feel they've become redundant. Jail La La is just all kinds of fun.

5. PAVEMENT - SHADY LANE

Classic indie/alternative rock band actually just reunited to play a huge tour and fan favorite Shady Lane is just the ultimate definition of indie rock. I'm a bit biased because I first heard this song

two years ago during Spring Break and just fell head over heels for Pavement.

6. GALAXIE 500 - SNOWSTORM

You kind of need a slow jam if you're providing a soundtrack for someone's Spring Break. This song is filled with intense reverb and all types of nostalgia tones. Make sure to fall in love with someone to this song during your break.

7. JAVELIN - LINDSAY BROHAN

This group of producers pretty much cut and paste samples and drum beats to make some of the best electronic/hip-hop work around. Aside from the fact that the song title is awesome and silly, the song is just very chill and ringing of disco.

8. TORO Y MOI - CAUSERS OF THIS

Reminds me of what Zach Morris would be playing in his convertible during Spring Break.

9. MEMORY TAPES - STOP TALKING

This whole album is actually just really infatuating. It's a mix of the "chill wave" genre, which really never gets old to me, and shoegaze elements from the likes of Cocteau Twins and Slowdive. This one is good to listen to because it fits right in with a lot of the stuff coming down for Winter Music Conference, which is soon.

Exploding Head is a weekly column covering all things music. Look for it every Monday.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

Presented by FIU Theatre.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students/faculty/staff; \$12 general
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Main Stage

FIU BASEBALL

The Golden Panthers take on Rutgers. Fans receive a free rally towel.
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Baseball Stadium

GALLERY ART WALK

Enjoy a free night of gallery trotting.
WHEN: 7 - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Miami Design District, Wynwood

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

Presented by FIU Theatre.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 students/faculty/staff; \$12 general
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Main Stage

NEW MUSIC MIAMI - NODUS

Presented by FIU Music. Featuring guest composer Flores Chaviano from Spain.
WHEN: 7 p.m. (meet the artist) 8 p.m. (concert starts)
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Spanish Cultural Center 800 Douglas Road

FIU BASEBALL

The Golden Panthers take on Rutgers.
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Baseball Stadium

COCONUT GROVE ART CRAWL

Explore the art galleries of Coconut Grove.
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Coconut Grove, 3015 Grand Ave.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

FIU TAKE-OVER THE MIAMI HEAT

Wear your FIU gear as the Miami Heat take on the Philadelphia 76ers. FIU students get discounted tickets, plus a chance to meet the players, among other perks.
WHEN: 5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Tickets start at \$15. To purchase tickets, go to: <http://groups.heatexperience.com/fiutakeover>.
WHERE: Flamingo Park, 999 11th St., Miami Beach

MONDAY, MARCH 15

HIT THE BEACH!

Start Spring Break the right way - by going to the beach.
WHEN: All day
HOW MUCH: Free - just pay for parking
WHERE: Miami beaches

SWIMMING UNDER THE STARS

Outdoor pool swimming.
WHEN: Sunset - 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for Miami Beach residents; \$6 general
WHERE: Flamingo Park, 999 11th St., Miami Beach

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

SHARK VALLEY BIKE TOUR

Shark Valley's 15-mile bike loop. Will take you 2-3 hours to complete.
WHEN: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 park entrance/\$7.25 bike rental per hour
WHERE: Shark Valley 36000 SW 8th St. 305 221-8455

STONE GROOVE AT THE VAGABOND

Jazz. Blues. Soul.
WHEN: 10 p.m. - 5 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for 21+ \$5 general
WHERE: The Vagabond 30 NE 14th St.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

ST. PATRICK'S DAY STREET FAIR

Live music from UV - U2 Tribute Show. Traditional St. Patrick's Day menu.
WHEN: 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: John Martin's Restaurant and Irish Pub 253 Miracle Mile. Street fair is between Salzedo St. and Aragon Ave.

St. Patrick's Day at Flanigan's

Traditional Irish fare.
WHEN: 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.
WHERE: All locations

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

Live bands, plus a special happy hour.
WHEN: All day (10 a.m.-5 a.m.)
WHERE: Murphy's Law Irish Pub at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino 954-791-4782

DUFFY'S TAVERN FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Green beer, giveaways, and Irish food. Bring cash.
WHEN: 11 a.m. - 3 a.m.
WHERE: Duffy's Tavern 2108 SW 57th Ave.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

BLASTED

Play by Sarah Kane. Must be over 17.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$37.50
WHERE: GableStage 1200 Anastasia Ave. 305-445-1119

PASTA THURSDAYS AT PERRICONS'S

Enjoy \$10 pasta dishes all day at this delicious Italian restaurant.
WHEN: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10
WHERE: 15 SE 10th St.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

DECO AND DESIGN TOUR

Explore the Art Deco District and The Wolfsonian's collections.
WHEN: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 for members; \$20 general
WHERE: The Wolfsonian-FIU 1001 Washington Ave. RSVP at 305-535-2644

FRIDAYS AT THE VAGABOND

Indie. Rock. Electro. Classics.
WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free before 11
WHERE: 30 NE 14th St.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

FIU BASEBALL

The Golden Panthers take on Troy. Second game of the weekend series.
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Baseball Stadium

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Golden Panthers take on Mississippi State.
WHEN: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Tennis Courts

SPRING BREAK BASH

Over 25 live bands.
WHEN: 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. (all ages) 9 p.m. (21+)
HOW MUCH: \$5
WHERE: Tobacco Road 626 South Miami Ave.

THE FLYING TRAPEZE SCHOOL

Learn how to trapeze!
WHEN: 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$10 one turn; \$40 one 2-hour class
WHERE: Bayfront Park www.flyingtrapeze.net

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

FIU BASEBALL

The Golden Panthers take on Troy.
WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Baseball Stadium

COLLECTOR'S TALK WITH WOLFSONIAN FOUNDER

Mitchell Wolfson Jr. talks about his life-long pursuit of rare objects.
WHEN: 1 - 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free for members; \$10 general
WHERE: The Wolfsonian, 1001 Washington Ave. RSVP: 305.535.2631

CABRALITICS

FIU should trade Rubio for Crist, first round draft pick

Let's face it. Marco Rubio isn't going to be here much longer.

The state legislator, who is currently running for the Republican nomination in the race for one of Florida's U.S. Senate seats, is looking increasingly likely to handily defeat his GOP opponent, Governor Charlie Crist.

Marco Rubio currently leads Charlie Crist by 32 percent according to Public Policy Polling.

Rubio, of course, has also taught a class part time at FIU since 2008.

His hiring attracted some criticism, since as speaker of the Florida House, he led the State Legislature in cutting billions of dollars from Florida's education budget. Plus, some worried that this job was just something he'd be doing to kill time until he moved on to the next political office.

Now, as he prepares to do exactly that, and move up to the political big leagues, where he can finally cut education at the federal level, it's time FIU took action.

It's time to make a trade.

FIU should promptly swap Rubio for Charlie Crist.

I know, it doesn't really seem like that fair a deal. Rubio's value is quite high right now, and Crist, a longtime veteran of Florida politics, appears to be on the downside of his career.

But see, Rubio is probably going to leave our school no matter what. We might as well get what we can for him. If we act now, maybe we can also get a couple minor league state legislators in the deal.

Crist would probably be a better fit at FIU

than in the GOP primary. He's been criticized by many Republicans for not being conservative enough, and for embracing the stimulus, which infused billions into Florida's education budget.



CHRIS CABRAL

Plus, the recent revelation that Rubio used the Florida Republican Party credit card to buy important things related to his work as a state legislator, like repairs to his family's van and purchasing alcoholic beverages, probably makes some administrators uncomfortable.

After all, other FIU employees were fired for doing similar things with an FIU credit card, and Rubio's van might be due for more repairs soon.

Plus, bringing in Crist would be very beneficial to the Florida governor. It would allow him to have a nice little job for a while until the next election cycle comes around.

No doubt such an option would be appealing to him; just look at how well that worked out for his opponent.

He would also likely enjoy using the tanning bed at the salon in the Graham Center to refine his trademark orange hue.

Crist also fits the same profile as Rubio did when he took the job as a Republican with no actual training as an educator. That's apparently exactly what is needed to teach that course.

Of course, there might be other options on the block. Maybe Kendrick Meek (FL-17) would be interested in having the job for a while.

Sure, he's also seeking his party's nomination for the same U.S. Senate seat as Rubio, and some might object to having a candidate running



Mainstream media failing us

ANDREW MEYER
Special to *The Beacon*

Tiger Woods set a record, and it wasn't for golfing. Woods was the cover story of *The New York Post* for 20 straight days, beating the record held by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. As Dan Rather said during his visit on March 9, journalism in America is in serious trouble when sex scandals score more headlines and in-depth analysis than trillion-dollar pieces of legislation.

What are we to do? When the news media is owned by a handful of corporations all profiting from the corruption in Washington, there is no motivation to tell the truth. Instead, news reporters are made to focus on frivolous stories and false indignities. Palin said this, Biden said that – outrageous!

Meanwhile, Congress hands trillions to the very people causing the collapse of the American economy, Wall Street "banksters", i.e. white-collar "gangsters."

Because the "mainstream" news media chooses to ignore the stories that reveal this reality between honest and corrupt politicians, we must turn to new sources of information.

ProjectCensored.org, run by university professors and students, releases an annual list of the Top 25 Censored stories of the year.

No. 1 for 2009-2010 is "U.S. Congress Sells Out to Wall Street." Other headlines that didn't make the news include "U.S. Schools are More Segregated Today than in the 1950s," and "Nuclear Waste Pools in North Carolina."

Every American has a responsibility to be an informed and active citizen. Constant vigilance is a prerequisite for freedom, not an elective. Everyone, especially people in the media, must learn what laws our local, state and federal governments are passing.

How are they spending our money? Are they making the world a better place, or are they lining their own pockets? Poverty and war exist only because we allow it. Our government spends trillions of dollars on bombs and jails, when it could be buying food and shelter. When We the People take responsibility for our government and ourselves, the world will know peace.

Andrew Meyer is a first-year law student and founder of TheAndrewMeyer.com.

for office teaching students about politics, since they obviously have a strong political agenda to promote.

But, FIU administration seems to notice no problem with that whatsoever when it comes to Rubio, so why not bring in someone like Meek?

Oh, wait a minute. FIU would never go for that. He's a Democrat.

Maybe Crist might not be interested in such a deal. Maybe another school offers a better deal. That would completely ruin this whole plan.

Then again, that might not be such a bad thing. FIU's administration has changed somewhat since Rubio was hired under previous President Modesto "Da Campus" Maidique.

Maybe FIU could ignore the temptation to curry favor with Florida's political establishment and grab headlines with a gimmicky hiring. Maybe they could do something really novel, and have an actual professor, a trained educator, teach the course.

That's so crazy it just might work.

Pepsi deal an investment to University's future goals

On Feb. 1, *The Beacon* published an opinion column, written by myself, entitled, "Rosenberg's Salary Comes Well Deserved." Toward the conclusion, I affirm that:

"...the University brilliantly executing a recent \$8 million deal with beverage giant Pepsi..." is a plausible means through which the University bridges the budget gap, and here's why.

A recent presentation to the University's Board of Trustees held on June 1, 2009 discussed the University's financial crisis, forecasting that for fiscal year 2011-2012, state cuts will equal roughly \$51.7 million.

The presentation discussed solutions, citing a plan spanning three years primarily consisting of academic restructuring and incre-

mental revenues to conserve \$35.7 million, while \$13.7 million can be salvaged through an incremental, three-year process of relying upon other funding and revenue sources and lowering operational costs.

In layman's terms, the University can achieve a balanced budget through a combination of raising tuition and fees, reducing administrative functions and departmental consolidations, and most importantly, through corporate and private sources of funding.

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine is a prime example of how donations have positively impacted the growth of the University. The medical school's mission is "to lead the next generation of medical education and continually improve the quality of health

care available to the South Florida Community..."

A \$20 million donation from Herbert Wertheim made this a reality, with an inaugural class set to graduate in 2013. The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine's impact on the economy is exponential, to the tune of \$1 billion and the creation of 8,300 jobs.

The aforementioned presentation asserted that the Medical College was 100 percent funded, with \$10.9 million in recurring funds, \$53 million in donations to date and \$14 million in donations estimated during fiscal year 2009-2010.

The "Soap Box," published in the opinion section of *The Beacon* on March 5 highlighted a fellow student's concerns: "...it seems that the deal with Pepsi included not just new drinks, but propaganda, to which my interpretation perceives

as 'Drink Pepsi,' or 'Drink Pepsi at FIU,' not 'pursue knowledge' or 'be better citizens.'"

Some may agree, asking: Does corporate advertising really belong in the same place as education? What the students, faculty and staff at FIU and other public universities need to realize is that America will never become a socialist republic and will retain its identity as a meritocratic, capitalistic society.

The reality of education in America is simply that it is a growing expense, with many university budgets struggling to maintain balance.

Donations like that of Herbert Wertheim's to the College of Medicine and the multi-million dollar contract between FIU and Pepsi are examples of how officials put students first. By soliciting funding and donations instead of relying

on the dwindling state budget and taxpayer funds, University officials are ensuring that FIU remains a research university – an institution where a quality education can be sought.

The aforementioned budget presentation re-affirms that despite the financial crisis, FIU is investing in quality educational professionals, research and employees, to the tune of \$17.4 million.

Whether it is via a corporation, a family, or an individual funding the University's ventures, it is inevitable that advertising is brought into the realm of University life. Such advertising doesn't hamper the educational process.

If it weren't for private contributions, FIU, Miami's only public research university, would just be Primera Casa and a small library, or even worse, a landing strip and a concept in the minds of many.

COMMENTARY



DEAN WILLIAMS

DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 240 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.

WINNER/LOSER



Carlos Slim Helu, a Mexican telecommunications tycoon is now ranked as the richest man in the world according to Forbes Magazine. He takes the position from longtime holders Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Slim's fortune is estimated at \$35 billion.



Charlie Crist, Florida Governor and Senatorial candidate is in a political fight of his life. The most recent Rammunsen polls say Crist is trailing his opponent, Marco Rubio, by over 32 percent in the state. Both are fighting for the Republican Party nomination.

QUOTATIONATION

"I'm telling you I was wrong. My behavior was wrong. I should have never allowed myself to be as familiar with my staff as I was."

Former Rep. Eric Massa on his "tickling" of staffers, interpreted as harassment

SOFTBALL NOTEBOOK

Barret earns SBC award for third consecutive week

STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Asst. Sports Director

FIU Pitcher Kasey Barrett (7-2) has put up staggering numbers this season as the Golden Panthers have enjoyed their best start to a season since 2005.

The Sun Belt conference has noticed.

The senior, who boasts a 0.37 ERA, has recorded three straight Pitcher of the Week nods from the SBC.

Her efforts last week include two complete games, a shutout, and two saves. In 20.0 innings of work, Barrett struck out 31 batters and allowed just five hits and a single run.

"I really think that our offense and knowing that there's defense behind me to make all the plays has helped me out a lot," Barrett said on Mar. 3, after earning her second consecutive SBC award, "and then when I have run support that definitely allows me to relax."

Sophomore Jennifer Gniadek (6-1) has also been trying to improve in the circle. Although she currently has a 3.02 ERA over 44 innings, McClendon says that Gniadek has been working on some fundamentals to help improve her approach.

"The walks are coming down and I think she's going to get there," McClendon said on March 4. "We're just working on some

different pitching things like her legs, lower half, and trying to stay balanced; different focuses for her."

FRESHMAN PHENOM

Before the season even began, McClendon told student media that Brie Rojas would be "the crowd favorite".

She was right.

The freshman has shown outstanding ability early in the season and has turned heads with a team-high four home runs, while she also paces FIU with a .483 batting average. In FIU's most recent outing, a 3-1 loss to Bradley on Mar. 7, Rojas went 1-for-1 at the plate and recorded two walks.

"I can't tell you how glad I am that she picked FIU," McClendon said on Mar. 4, after Rojas knocked out a three-run shot to defeat Eastern Michigan 6-1. "Thank God she's on our team."

For Rojas, although the big hits come often, she says it's always about having a good at-bat.

"It's about quality at-bats every time," said Rojas, who has eight walks this season. "I go to the plate feeling confident and I just think, 'I have to help my team out.'"

UP NEXT

The Golden Panthers will host four games this weekend, beginning with a double header against Mich-

igan State (7-12) today at 4 and 6 p.m. FIU will look to continue their dominance at home, where they have a record of 9-2.

Leading the Spartans offensively is Lindsey Hansen with a .382 BA while Kelly Confer (2-5) leads the defense with a 2.06 ERA on the mound.

Meanwhile, George Washington University (2-6) will face the Golden Panthers on Sunday at noon and 2 p.m.

The Colonials showcase a weak pitching staff that includes two players, Heidi Penna and Kara Clauss, with an ERA over 5.00.

Both hurlers have just a win a piece on the season and have allowed a combined 46 runs to opponents. The Colonials' offense may become stagnant against FIU's defense, as they have not a single player batting over .300, with Julie Orlandi leading them with a .286 clip.

SOFTBALL FIU VS. MSU, GWU

- What: FIU vs. Michigan St., George Washington
- When: Mar. 12, Mar. 14
- Where: FIU
- Broadcast: None



RODRIGO ZAMITH/THE BEACON

Kasey Barrett [Above] has earned herself praise from the Sun Belt Conference with her 7-2 record and 0.37 ERA.

Turtle Thomas has proven to be Pete Garcia's best hire

TURTLE, page 7

WORKING

giate Baseball's Top 10 at Miami and LSU during his long tenure as an assistant coach. A streak like that is impossible to keep alive at FIU, but Thomas has done an admirable job in recruiting a pair of tremendous classes already.

And it is on pace to continue.

Thomas signed the best prep player in the country, Manny Machado, as part of his 2011 coup. Although Machado will probably be a high draft pick out of high school and never play in college, Thomas won't need him if he continues to recruit deep, stacked recruiting classes.

FIU shortstop Junior Arrojo enjoyed a breakout campaign in 2009 after slumping through his first few seasons as a Golden Panther, and credited Thomas for turning his career around, saying he would be "nothing" without Thomas. The veteran coach is an offensive expert, in a college game where the coach does more than fill out the lineup card and switch in defensive replacements. If Thomas doesn't get swayed away by a big program, potent offenses and a strong pipeline of recruits will continue to run through FIU.

Henry powers FIU in win

SERIES, page 8

more in the ninth.

FIU 18, BOSTON COLLEGE 14

Turtle Thomas has been shuffling and re-shuffling his lineup all season long, trying to find the right lineup to get things going for the Golden Panthers.

He might have found it as FIU hammered the Boston College pitching staff in what ended up being a slugfest on Mar. 10.

The game lasted three hours and 44 minutes as both teams combined for a total of 32 runs scored.

"When we play this late, it's way past my bedtime," Thomas joked after the game.

After the Eagles took an early lead, outfielder Jabari Henry erased it for the Panthers with a grand slam in the bottom of

the second and then hit a three-run homerun in the fifth.

Henry finished 2-for-5 with seven RBIs.

"I saw the pitch and I just exploded on it," Henry said. "He left a hanging a curveball and I just took it out."

Boston College retook the lead in the fourth inning, but FIU quickly jumped back in the lead, taking a 14-6 lead going into the sixth inning, but the Eagles picked up eight runs in two innings to tie the game in the seventh inning.

Pablo Bermudez hit a two-run homerun to give FIU the lead for good, as the bullpen held on to give the Panthers some momentum going into their weekend series against Rutgers.

"That showed a tremendous amount of heart by our ballclub," Thomas said about the team's ability to answer the Eagle comeback. "That's about as good as it gets."

PLAY BALL!

Play Baseball The Way It Should Be Played

...IN THE MIAMI ABL



SEASON STARTING SOON!

South Florida's Newest 18 & Over
Wood Bat Baseball League

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www.MiamiABL.com

BASEBALL: BC 11, FIU 5; FIU 18, BC 14



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

Daniel DeSimone [above] struggled in his first start of the season in a loss against Boston College on Mar. 9.

Golden Panthers split home series with BC

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers (9-3) split a two-game weekday series with Boston College (5-6) after struggling to produce runs when they needed them in the first game, but lit up the scoreboard in the series finale.

BOSTON COLLEGE 11, FIU 5

Most times it is the first out which is the hardest to get. Usually, it gets easier after that.

But for FIU, taking on Boston College on Mar.9, it was getting the third out that caused headaches for as the Eagles ravaged the pitching staff, scoring all 11 of their runs with two outs already recorded.

“We didn’t swing the bat very well in Arizona and we didn’t swing the bat very well tonight,” coach Turtle Thomas said.

FIU posted two runs in the bottom of the second to open up the scoring, but BC responded with their own two-run inning in the top of the third.

With two outs, Robbie Anston tattooed a pitch by FIU starter Daniel Desimone into centerfield that tailed away from FIU outfielder Pablo Bermudez for an RBI double. Matt Hamlet followed with a single to right field to tie the game.

Things got dicey for FIU from there on out.

Hamlet came back to haunt DeSimone again with another two-out RBI single to give the Eagles a 3-2 lead and then Mickey Wiswall smashed a three-run homerun to bust the game wide open. Boston College would add one more in the inning to take a 7-2 lead.

Reliever Dillon Vitale got two quick outs in the sixth, but the Eagles roared back with a series of hits and added three more runs to their already comfortable lead.

The Panthers would strike back in the eighth with three runs of their own, powered by a two-run two-out double by Rudy Flores, but could not come up with

SERIES, page 7

MAR. 10 - FIU 18, BC 14

FIU	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB	AVG
1. P. Bermudez	5	4	3	5	1	1	0	.422
2. J. Henry	5	2	2	7	0	2	0	.200
3. J. Patton	4	2	3	1	1	0	0	.381
4. M. Martinez	5	2	3	1	0	1	0	.429
5. G. Wittels	5	0	2	3	0	0	2	.481
6. T. Jobe	4	1	0	0	0	1	1	.265
7. R. Flores	3	2	1	0	1	1	0	.400
8. J. Behar	5	1	2	0	0	1	0	.261
9. J. Arrojo	3	4	1	0	1	1	0	.211

Team Totals

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	ERA
1. R. Fondon	3.2	7	6	4	2	3	1	3.97
2. A. Cardenas	1.2	3	3	0	2	0	0	1.93
3. B. Garcia	1.1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1.80

BC

	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB	AVG
1. R. Anston	5	3	3	1	1	0	0	.458
2. M. Hamlet	4	3	2	0	1	0	1	.326
3. M. Wiswall	4	2	1	2	2	0	0	.319
4. Melchionda	6	0	2	1	0	4	2	.388
5. J. Sapota	5	1	3	4	0	0	0	.429
6. B. Zapenas	5	1	0	0	1	0	3	.289
7. M. Watson	6	0	1	2	0	2	4	.341
8. M. Peridos	3	1	1	1	0	1	0	.286
9. G. Smith	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	.115

Team Totals

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	ERA
1. A. Del Colle	1.1	3	4	3	2	1	0	39.00
2. C. Kowalski	2.2	6	5	5	0	3	1	8.64
3. M. Brazis	1.0	0	0	0	0	3	0	5.79

FIU making strides under Coach Thomas

As the Golden Panthers exploded for 18 runs against Boston College Wednesday, FIU head coach Turtle Thomas’ hands were over the field.

COMMENTARY



JONATHAN RAMOS

Centerfielder Pablo Bermudez went 3-for-5 with five RBI’s. Third baseman Garrett Wittels extended his season long hitting streak to 12 games with a two-hit performance. Mike Martinez and Jeremy Patton both had three hits.

And freshman leftfielder Jabari Henry hit two home runs, including a grand slam, to pad his seven RBI game.

Thomas’ had his hand in recruiting each of the talented underclassman who are shining under his guidance. On Wednesday, he got the chance to see it all come together for an offensive explosion at FIU stadium.

Those in attendance got to see it to.

In fact, the few people in attendance at the game, including nearly as many BC fans as FIU fans, had the opportunity to watch what has emerged as the best revenue sport the university has to offer.

A GEM

Under the FIU men’s basketball promotional pamphlets with Isiah Thomas’ face on the cover and the game day fireworks the football team has in place, Turtle has turned around the baseball team faster than T.Y Hilton’s 40-yard dash.

Since his hiring in 2007, the Golden Panthers have improved every season with him at the helm, including a 34-win campaign a year ago that led to a fast start this season.

Thomas is athletic director Pete Garcia’s best hire since he took over in 2006. Cristobal and Isiah Thomas have shown they can recruit as well, but not near the level Thomas has, and they have not been able to say they coach a conference contender. Neither have them have even been able to call themselves a winner, for that matter.

A masterful recruiter, Thomas had 18-straight recruiting classes ranked among Colle-

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INTRAMURAL SOCCER: FRATERNITY

Second half run pushes Fiji to first intramural title

ANDRES LEON
Contributing Writer

Fiji shocked Pi Kappa Phi on Mar. 9 to earn the intramural fraternity soccer championship, 3-2.

“What a great way to end the season, we really didn’t know what to expect, we’re a brand new team, we came together this year and push forward,” said FIJI captain Emmanuel Propst.

Late Monday night was the moment the fraternal world at FIU had been waiting for. FIJI’s deep purple flag hailing in the distance, while the glistening gold of Pi Kappa Phi

took the field at 10:00 p.m.

Shortly after the first change of possession, FIJI scored.

Nicholas Fuentes playing central mid was constantly pushing the ball forward until the deadlock was broken and perfectly placed goal in the lower corner tied up the match, 1-1.

Shortly after the half FIJI forward Dustin Rivest scored the goal that opened the game up for FIJI, who took a 3-1 lead later in the second period.

A late goal by Pi Kappa Phi forward Brian Cooke to give his team some hope, but in the end FIJI finished it off.

SIGMA PHI EPSILON V. FIJI

Fiji defeated Sigma Phi Epsilon 2-1 in the bracket semifinal to advance to the intramural fraternity championship on Mar. 8

“We had problem with our defense at first, but later on we came together as a team and we capitalized on our break away and open shots,” said FIJI captain Emmanuel Propst.

Early in the second half the game was all tied up by penalty kick.

As the second half closed down so did FIJI they punched one last goal to close the game and put the championship holders out of this year’s final.

PI KAPPA PHI V. PI KAPPA ALPHA

Pi Kappa Phi’s Brian Cooke’s late goal preserved a 1-0 victory in the bracket semifinal over Pi Kappa Alpha to advance to the intramural fraternity championship.

“It was a hard fought game, we were exhausted by the end of the first half and it was basically a match of will and endurance. In the end we wanted it more and came through with a late score, I think we’ll have enough gas in the tank for tomorrow and we look forward to seeing FIJI in the championship for the first time, it’ll be a new challenge,” Cooke said.