

'NO RACIST POLICE' Miami protesters rally for Ferguson



LEFT: Protesters rallied at the Torch of Friendship in Downtown Miami on Sunday Aug. 24, for a demonstration supporting the on-going situation in Ferguson, Missouri where a white police officer shot an unarmed black teen, Michael Brown.

BELOW: Protesters in Ferguson, Missouri believe police brutality and racism have reached unacceptable levels after the shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

SEE FERGUSON OPINION, PAGE 3

BRYAN PALACIO
Ass. News Director
bryan.palacio@fiusm.com

Monday morning was the first day of college for thousands of scheduled freshmen— but one of them, it was his funeral instead.

Protesters rallied at the Torch of Friendship in Downtown Miami on Sunday Aug. 24, for a demonstration supporting the on-going situation in Ferguson, Missouri where a white police officer shot an unarmed black teen, Michael Brown, who was scheduled to attend Vatterott College.

In Ferguson, daily non-violent protests transform into nightly clashes with police armed with riot gear and militarized weaponry. In Miami, signs filled the sidewalk where the organizers assembled to spread their message, while six police

cars watched carefully from across the street.

“Hands down, don’t shoot,” screamed a group of protesters with their arms raised to the sky, making sure their homemade signs were clearly visible to on-coming traffic.

Among the group of participants was Gordon Kingston, senior history major and president of the Florida Student Union at the University.

“At the end of the day we really do have power,” said Kingston. “Us as students, as people, as human beings, we all have power. We need to exert this power to make a free, just society.”

The rally started at 4 p.m. with attendees lining up the side of Biscayne Boulevard. Signs and banners were waved at cars slowly creeping by, and bull horns blared with the sounds of chants and demands.

“No justice, no peace. No racist police,” was among many of the crowd favorites.

Overall it was a very peaceful demonstration. Bystanders would frequently stop and take pictures and videos, very often engaging in talks with many of the participants.

“We want to show our support in a real way,” said David O’Connor, member of the One Struggle, an anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist initiative, which helped plan the event along with other organizations such as the People’s Opposition, an anti-war group.

“We want to stop black death. We want to stop unjustified black death by the cops. It happens time and again and it shouldn’t happen.”

The demonstration also included a speech segment where a few participants took the time to address everyone and thank



them as a group. It even included one protester who used the opportunity to read an essay she wrote while being there. After firing up the troops, it was back to the sidewalk for some more

good old-fashion assembly.

About two hours in, the event wound down when a group of three protesters started to get into

SEE FERGUSON, PAGE 2

Week of Welcome sparks insight on fire safety

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
Staff Writer
adrian.suarezavila@fiusm.com

Living on campus his freshman year, Gordon Kingston was tired of being woken up by fire drills.

“They would have fire drills at three in the morning,” said Kingston, a senior history major. “If they [had information sessions on fire safety] and didn’t wake us up in the morning, that would have been nice.”

In an effort to inform students about important issues, the Student Government Council at Modesto A. Maidique Campus will be hosting an event tailored to address both fire safety and nutrition on campus as

part of the Week of Welcome series.

“We are doing a whole ‘declassified’ section, as you’ll see throughout the year,” said SGC-MMC deputy chief of staff, Victoria Junkins. “We’ll be pin-pointing things that we think students need to know since [some] are by themselves for the first time.”

University Safety Officer Wilfredo Alvarez will be one of various presenters at the event, highlighting dos and don’ts of fire safety, and conducting a demonstration for a fire prevention system that has been installed recently in all cooking units of residence halls carrying stovetops.

According to Alvarez, last year the University experienced three fire incidents: two in Parkview and one in Univer-

sity Apartments, as previously reported.

The new fire-extinguishing device will attach to the underside of the vent hood above a stove. In the case that a fire is produced, a fuse will be triggered, releasing a powder that will terminate the flames.

“If a student is distracted while cooking a meal, then a fire may be produced,” said Alvarez. “This new device keeps the damage down to a minimum.”

The Week of Welcome info session will also include a segment on nutrition.

Sahar Ajabshir, a graduate senator and PhD student in dietetics and nutrition, along with Christine Tellez, registered dietician for Student Health Services, will offer nutrition advice to students and

answer questions.

Tellez will be offering ten tips for students to avoid the “freshman 15;” the term refers to the weight gain new students often experience. Among these tips are reminders to not avoid carbohydrates and eat in moderation.

Although keeping weight off is a concern, finding something to eat is just as important to some students.

“The options at Fresh Foods [are] not that great,” said Kingston. “The other restaurants have healthier stuff, but they [are] more expensive.”

Ajabshir has something to say about it.

SEE WELCOME WEEK, PAGE 2

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

American writer held by Syrian militants freed after nearly 2 years

Al-Qaida's Syrian affiliate on Sunday unexpectedly freed an American writer from nearly two years of captivity after secret international negotiations for his release that were apparently led by Qatar. The Nusra Front may have freed Peter Theo Curtis as a gesture to distinguish itself from its more reviled rival, the Islamic State, which declared a caliphate on the huge parts of Syria and Iraq that it has overrun in offensives marked by mass executions and other atrocities.

6.0 quake rattles Bay Area, sending about 170 people to hospitals

The little-known West Napa Fault shook for about 20 seconds early Sunday, enough to leave the San Francisco Bay Area with its biggest earthquake in 25 years – wrecking historic wine country buildings, buckling streets, emptying store shelves, rupturing gas and water lines, and sending about 170 people to the hospital. The 6.0-magnitude earthquake, centered about six miles south of the city of Napa. No one died and only half a dozen suffered serious injuries, including a boy crushed by a falling fireplace.

Ferguson rally shows tension with police and protesters

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a heated exchange with the police. The protestors, wearing Guy Fawkes masks, walked out onto the street blocking traffic holding a banner that read "Anonymous Miami," referencing the hacker-activist group known for its politically based cyber-attacks on government, religious, and corporate websites.

They argued that the police

“Us as students, as people, as human beings, we all have power.”

Gordon Klingston,
Junior
History

”cruisers, which were parked on the far right lane of the street, were illegally blocking traffic.

That's all organizers needed to call it a day. Acknowledging the turmoil between protesters and police in Ferguson, they wanted to distance themselves from the altercation as the three protesters continued their rally across the street.

“Everyone be safe and don't do anything stupid,” were the final words the organizers directed towards the crowd.

University welcomes students with tips on nutrition, fire safety

WELCOME WEEK, PAGE 1

Her portion will cover, among other topics, reading nutrition labels, shopping smart in supermarkets, emotional eating, and the importance of physical activity.

“[In all restaurants] they have healthier options,” said Ajabshir. “When you go to Subway, instead of adding a lot of meat, you can add vegetables to your sandwich.”

Ajabshir will also be providing a demo on how to use ChooseMyPlate.gov, an online tool that helps individuals track their eating habits and find information on their dietary needs.

“My eating habits were horrible,” Ajabshir said. “I am a very good example of a person who modified her diet with time. And if I could do it, anybody can do it.”

Student organizations, such as the Association of Graduate Students of Dietetics and Nutrition and the Student Dietetics Association will be tabling to answer questions and distribute materials on nutrition education.

SGA, the Residence Hall Association, Radiate FM, Student Health Services, and others, will also be present to provide information.

“There are so many resources

available that students don't know about,” said Junkins. “We want students to gain more knowledge.”

The event, which will be open to all registered University students free of charge, will take place Thursday, Aug. 28, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the MMC housing quad.

Robeks Juice will be on-site to hand out smoothies and half wraps to those in attendance. Beach mats will be given to the first 300 students to rest on.

In case of rain, the event will be moved to the Everglades lounge.

CORRECTIONS

In Volume 26, Issue 7, we attributed the “WOW: students look forward to an eventful week” to Adrian Suarez Avila, when Samiyyah Black wrote it.

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

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ALFRED SOTO

CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-5 PM
(305) 348-2709
news@fusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus:
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-5 PM
(305) 919-4722
bbc@fusm.com

Fax:
(305) 348-2712

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
philippe.buteau@fusm.com

Advertising:
(305) 348-6994
advertising@fusm.com

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Solidarity and unity: Accounts from Ferguson, Missouri

CLINTON WALKER
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Carrying a megaphone, a young man by the name of Nick Coulter shouts, “Hands Up!” The crowds respond, “Don’t Shoot!”

“No Justice!” “No Peace,” “Mike Brown! Mike Brown,” these are just a few of the dialogues that can be heard from the once normal street of West Florissant.

I am simply amazed. As I look out among the sea of people, the steady conveyor belt of cars with citizens and their families chanting back with the protesters with their hands in the air, it’s hard for me to believe that this is where I live.

After spending my summer at FIU attending classes, this was not the welcome home I was expecting.

As everyone now knows, on Saturday, Aug. 9, 2014,

unarmed Michael Brown was shot 6 times by a Ferguson police officer, Darren Wilson, in the Saint Louis County area of Missouri.

Presumably being in response to a theft, there are now hundreds of protesters on the busiest streets in North County who believe that this was no accident, and that Brown was no criminal.

With constant social media coverage, this event eventually caught national attention, which meant that this small St. Louis community was now under the watchful eye of the mass media of America, and let me be the first to say everything you see is not what it seems.

After the initial protests that ended up in riots and looting, constant social media activism, and the persuasion of friends, I finally had to see if this was really happening in my city, and what I saw was not what the media told me.

What I saw was unity in the strongest definition.

People of every race, culture, sex, age and every other demographic were spending a nice Tuesday afternoon in the summer actively demanding justice for a young man who probably no one but roughly 15 in

“
What I saw was unity in the strongest definition.”

the crowd knew personally.

There were people with signs, others directing traffic to the parade of citizens in their cars of support, while other nights there were street performers, and people handing out water and food to famished participants.

Though these were not the only occupants of the protest, you had opposing gang

members, Indian Monks, Protestant Priests, and even Holocaust survivors were walking the streets chanting with strangers.

These were not the angry mob the media was warning us about.

This was a community in mourning and it’s sympathizers, coming together not only in support of Michael Brown and his family, but also in celebration of unity, of the people who are saying, “Enough is enough, we are tired of seeing African American youth die unjustly.”

No guns, no Molotov cocktails, no fighting, just people who are taking a stand.

I also urge people to not only follow the national media on this subject, but actually follow citizens of Ferguson, and St. Louis.

They are the people going through this, and there is no better place to gather facts than from the source.

Purr off: women don’t appreciate cat calls

STEPHANIE PIEDRAHITA
Staff Writer
steph.piedrahita@fiusm.com

To all the men who think it’s okay to act like an animal towards women: Have you ever considered that every woman has been sexually harassed at least once in her life?

This isn’t an exaggeration, this is a problem.

Every time you disrespect a woman on the street, you add to the already enormous list of reasons why this world sucks. In your mind, this is all fun and games and you’re never going to see her again. What’s the harm?

The harm is one day maybe someone will cross the line and hurt someone you love.

This fear has created apps to help women call for help if they feel like they’re not safe, designer pepper spray cans and key claws.

I can already hear the obnoxious voices in my head of past male friends who have said that carrying a weapon would solve this problem and make women feel safer.

I’m discarding that and going to try to put something into perspective for you.

Think of your sister, cousin, daughter and mother. Are you okay with this happening to them one day? Too late, they’ve already been through it or they’ll go through it. So let’s give them a weapon to solidify that men are pigs and keep them scared for the rest of their lives.

It is a very sad truth, but it doesn’t have to be. You can potentially change the world by doing one thing: Be respectful.

Before (guilty) men out there start justifying their rude behavior, let me introduce what kind of actions falls underneath “sexual harassment.”

Anything that is unwanted attention is harassment. Cat calling is harassment. Asking a girl on the street what her bra size is harassment. You’re driving your car and see a girl sitting at a bus stop, then you pull up to them making obscene gestures or ask if she wants a lift to your house. Guess what. That’s also harassment.

I’m here to inform you, however, that it’s never too late for you to be a decent human being. Now I’m very happy, but unimpressed, that you have the motor skills necessary to honk a horn because that means that there’s a slight possibility you might use it in an important situation like a car accident.

If you dig deep enough, past your primal pre-historic animal instincts, maybe you can discover that you are capable of something even bigger and greater than your swollen ego: intelligence!

Yes, I’m also here to tell you that the way into a woman’s heart is by using your brain. If your intention isn’t to pick up a girl on the street, and it was just for laughs, then congratulations! You are a pathetic individual.

One day you’re going to look back at your life and realize how much of a jerk you were towards women and finally figure out why life has led you down such a sad path. If you can honestly say you don’t care after reading all this, that’s fine too.

Just don’t get mad when I flip you off after you’ve disrespected me.

Acquiring software for good

DIEGO SALDAÑA-ROJAS
Opinion Director
opinion@fiusm.com

Stealing is against the law, yet many of us are thieves.

You may have never stolen a car, broken into a house or even swiped a piece of candy. However, there still is a good chance you are a different kind of thief- a digital one.

It would be unfair to say “everyone does it,” but it truly seems that the number of 20-somethings who legally purchase digital goods through iTunes, Amazon Music or software like Adobe Photoshop or Final Cut Pro; are not many.

The legality of downloading programs and media without paying for them is undisputed and the ethics behind it is still debated.

There’s one particular case where on an almost daily basis, I’ve seen the positive effects of stealing programs – my brother.

It all started when he commandeered my father’s Canon T3i DSLR and started taking photos.

I don’t know when or how but he acquired Photoshop.

At first, I thought my brother was being a typical teenager by downloading the photo editor to mess with a few pictures

during times of boredom to then forget he downloaded it.

One edited photo became another. Simple color changed to complex layers and masks.

Within a week he had torn up a few lamps and turned his room into a photo studio.

“
Even with student discounts, editing programs can be out of reach for many students.”

After 8 hours of shooting and editing, he had created his first stop motion video of a Lego robot building itself.

Fast forward to this summer and my 15-year-old brother is working with Unity, a video game development tool and Blender, a motion graphics program.

Through “messing around” with these programs and a helpful YouTube tutorial here and there, he has not only discovered a new passion for design but has now found a career choice.

He has the added bonus of having a high level of experience with design programs, without having set foot on a

university campus or design school.

I also see stolen programs being put to good use by fellow student journalists.

Many download the essentials: Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, InDesign, Illustrator and Final Cut Pro.

These programs on their own can cost hundreds of dollars making it difficult to fit into an already tight student budget. Even with student discounts, editing programs can be out of reach for many students.

Those who aspire to be designers and journalists of any type will have to work with these programs in the future.

Knowing how to use them and produce superior content is the only way to stand out in an already competitive job market. In majors like journalism, students must wait until they are in their junior or senior years to work on large projects with advanced programs like Premiere.

In some cases, the thief ends up having to purchase the legitimate version of the program anyways. You can’t have Adobe Premiere glitching on you during an important edit for a client or a company you are working for.

Acquiring intricate and expensive editing programs like Photoshop, Illustrator and Premiere, without paying for them, is illegal.

If you’re going to steal, at least be a noble thief and put them to good use.

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It was the best of days, it was the worst: Day 1 at FIU



Day one of the fall semester is a day filled with the good —like musicians Nick Reynolds, sophomore, who plays tunes while walking to class— and the bad —scarce parking that has become a recurrent problem especially in the Blue and Gold Parking Garage where Cheryl Donisi, a university parking official instructed students to look elsewhere

JEFFREY PIERRE/THE BEACON



Cuban-American organization emerges

DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS

Staff Writer
diego.saldana@fiusm.com

Florida International University's students are made up of approximately 60 percent Hispanics — of which a substantial number are Cuban-American.

Despite the overwhelming majority of Cuban-Americans, there were no clubs or organizations in place to represent them and their culture, until last September.

Last fall semester, the University's Cuban Research Institute sent out a flier calling on students to organize a Cuban-American student

organization. By the time the first meeting ended, 20 students met, held elections and chose their executive board.

"A great portion of students, FIU students, are Cuban or are interested in the Cuban-American culture...until last September we didn't have a Cuban-American student organization. There wasn't a place or a club where Cuban or Cuban-American students could come and talk about the culture," said Anigladys Mesa, senior political science and criminal justice major and the Cuban-American Student Organization president.

CASO seeks to promote and celebrate Cuban culture among the University's students.

Past events have included hosting Domino tournaments and Cuban reggaeton artists on campus as well as roundtable discussions focusing on issues that affect the Caribbean nation.

"We promote Cuban culture. We promote pretty much anything that has to do with Cuban studies and we also help out the Cuban Research Institute with events," said senior political science and Cuban-American studies major, Glenda Almela.

Despite the historic political clashing between Cuba and the U.S. government, the organization is non-political and does not advocate for either side.

"The only thing we do not do is that we do

not promote anything that has to do with politics," said Almela.

Although some of CASO's events are in Spanish, all of their bi-monthly meetings are in English. "Being Hispanic or speaking Spanish is not required. The club's secretary is an embodiment of this as he is neither Hispanic nor speaks Spanish," said Mesa.

The organization hopes to continue recruiting members and providing the University with events that highlight the culture of the island.

CASO's next events are planned for Sept. 24 and Oct. 28 with free food, music and giveaways.

Mirel Wagner's lullabies contemplates the light in darker places in her second studio album

JASMINE ROMERO

Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

Lack becomes luster in the music of the 23-year-old Ethiopian-Finn, Mirel Wagner. Her debut self-titled album was released in 2012. She is known for writing earthy, cold, poignant songs since the age of 16.

"When the Cellar Children See the Light of Day," her second album, is born from branches and barefoot walks through an autumn

forest at daybreak.

It is bare yet lush; you have the privilege of seeing the ribcage while hearing the heart inside.

Every song is bare, it shows itself for what it is. They are songs you could play at night by the fireside. Wagner's red-wine voice could help you cope with the loss of something loved.

"1234," the first, and one of the album's strongest songs, has a mean streak. It's slightly vicious as Wagner repeatedly asks

the listener, "What's underneath the floor?"

The guitar is softly growling and suggestive behind words like "Chewed up lips/Milky milk teeth/A little bit of pain/And a whole lot of need." It has the vague essence of death and yearning, a mood that remains through most of the album.

A lyric that stood out to me is from the second song, "The Dirt": "'Cause you can't drink the dirt/even if you wanna." It is sung to a mother from a child

suffering from hunger. It's brushed with the dry dust of a barren landscape and it catches in your throat.

While the song is centered on the desperation felt from starvation, it also recognizes the mother's pain in her inability to give her child what she needs.

An interesting shift can be heard in the last two songs, "Taller than Tall Oak Trees" and "Goodnight". While it retains the dark hush of the entire album, it introduces sultry and loving.

"I want to make babies with you" is a lyric that manages to hit both feelings in seconds. Even for love songs, Wagner takes care to stay away from sugary sweet.

The album cover is cream colored and reminds me of bone. Inside, its booklet contains imagery of Wagner, the twig-strewn floor of the woodlands, and leaves on black water. It is perfect for the character of the songs.

My only gripe is that every song sounds similar,

and so I would like to see Wagner experiment in delivering her ghostly echo. Despite this, her style is much needed, as it pushes away grand gestures and asks you to appreciate the simple but substantial melodies.

It invites you to visit the shadows that most don't want to face. "When the Cellar Children See the Light of Day" has successfully crafted the sound of a haunting spell. Like magic, it will seduce you into its warm arms.

5 Seconds of Summer, a new kind of boy band

MARLISA PONCE
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

5 Seconds of Summer, the Australian based pop-punk band, has gained some international exposure since opening for One Direction during their Take Me Home tour.

Do not be fooled by their affiliations with One Direction — they're emphasizing that they're a band, not a boy band, contrary to the claims of countless critics.

"How am I supposed to tell them apart from all the other boy bands?" asks Amanda Dobbins in her Vulture review "What Is 5SOS? Your Boy Band, Explained".

"Well, they're Australian, which is new," she replies, "And they play instruments — like, real ones. Guitars and drums. They are a boy rock band."

Labels aside, 5SOS has come a long way from the days of YouTube covers that brought them to fame in the online realm. They're writing original music and working with producer John Feldmann, really showing the capabilities of these young men.

Lead vocalist and guitarist, Luke Hemmings, guitarist and vocalist, Michael Clifford and bassist and vocalist, Calum Hood all attended Norwest Christian College when they started

posting up YouTube videos of themselves covering popular songs. Drummer, Ashton Irwin, was the last to join in 2011 but was clearly a missing piece to the puzzle.

Despite only having Facebook and Twitter to thank for promotions, the band signed a deal with Sony ATV Music Publishing and later released an EP entitled "Unplugged" that reached number three in Australia's iTunes chart.

Their international buzz began when One Direction's Louis Tomlinson tweeted out their YouTube link and stated he has been a fan for quite some time. Later on, 1D's Niall Horan furthered the band's fan base when he tweeted out 5SOS's video link for the song, "Out of My Limit."

5 Seconds of Summer finally got their big break when One Direction asked them to open up for their worldwide tour in 2013.

The band announced in November 2013 that the band signed to Capitol Records.

The four band members told Vevo Lift in an interview that their influences have always been bands like Good Charlotte, Blink 182 and Green Day. In the same interview, they stated that they take '90s and early 2000s rock and mix it with today's pop to stay modern and be played on

WELCOMING THE CLASS OF 2018



JASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

President Mark Rosenberg speaks to incoming freshmen at freshmen convocation.

the radio. These influences and mixture of genres has definitely been reflected on their self-titled album.

The album's first track and first worldwide debut single is "She Looks So Perfect," which has a great combination of a pop melody and a rock sound. A catchy hook does the trick to hit number 32 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100, making this track the band's first top 40 single.

The band collaborated with Benjamin and Joel Madden of The Madden Brothers, who helped write songs for their first studio album. The result of their

collaboration, "Amnesia", is now their latest single in the self-titled album.

It's easy to recognize why 5SOS are subjected to the pop boy band genre. With a pop melody and clever lyrics, these boys can definitely tug at your heartstrings. In songs like "Everything I didn't say," lyrics such as "I wish that I could of made you stay, and I'm the only one to blame, I know that it's a little too late, this is everything I didn't say," make young girls all over the world get weak at the knees.

Also in their song "Beside You," belting out lines like "she

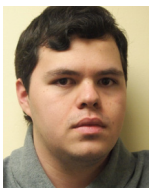
sleeps alone, my heart wants to come home, I wish I was, I wish I was beside you," it's hard not to catch the young teen girls demographic that love boy bands.

However, despite being tossed into the pop category, 5SOS doesn't shy away from writing lyrics like "She's got a naughty tattoo in a place that I wanna get to" in the first verse of "18."

All in all, these guys are much more than some boys playing instruments, making music, and this album reflects that. They have substance to their songs and show potential for a long and great career ahead of them.

'Lucy,' a box-office flop, disappoints critics

REEL TO REEL



RAFAEL ABREU

Written and Directed by Luc Besson, "Lucy" is a film that has garnered its share of controversy and attention. Starring Scarlett Johansson (stunning as ever) as the titular character, Lucy, the film takes the "ten percent of your brain" myth and runs with it, showing what happens to a woman that is able to access much more of her brain's capacity.

In a swift hour-and-a-half, the movie never wastes time, showing us some gun fights, a car chase and, most enjoyably, Lucy's evolution from regular party girl/college student to the

most advanced living thing on Earth.

Luc Besson (best known for directing "Leon the Professional" and "The Fifth Element", as well as having written and produced various action films) had an interesting and original idea, and perhaps because of his reputation and stature, was able to fund and release a film like "Lucy" through an actual major studio and starring a big name actress.

Respectfully, "Lucy" could have been written and directed by someone else, released by some random studio, with less of a budget, and it would conceptually remain the same: a silly movie with a ridiculous premise that, at the very least, aims to entertain.

Besson could have left it at that, but he seems to also be interested in exploring some other themes, such as who we are, not only as people, but a species here on Earth.

Even before release, people were attacking the film for using the "ten percent of your brain" myth as a major plot point. Indeed, the film does not refute this and, like I aforementioned, goes with it: during the film, we see, via percentages, Lucy's increase of cerebral access.

All things considered, I allowed myself to believe in the film's pseudoscience, as the percentages, at the very least, gave me an idea of how much stronger and "brainer" she became, i.e., the higher the percentage the more powerful she became.

In this respect, the film's silly premise actually works, since it's as crazy to the characters as it must be to the audience.

Lucy soon understands what's happening to her, but she's basically the only one. Every other character (including the audience) has little understanding as to what exactly is happening to Lucy; only she can really grasp what's happening, since she's the one experiencing it all.

She at one point explains that she can now feel everything around her, including memories from her infancy and gravity itself. She never really explains how this is possible, especially since she herself is still figuring it out as it happens; additionally, any scientist's theories on increased brain capacity is, as Morgan Freeman's character puts it, just a hypothesis.

Much like Lucy's inability to explain what she's becoming and what's happening, the film

doesn't seem to want to explain either.

I could just say that it's either lazy or clever writing (why bother explaining such a silly premise for such a silly movie), but I think Besson decided to make a film that would only need to focus on its protagonist, leaving all explanations with the only person who would be able to understand them.

In this respect, I believe the film allows audiences themselves to wonder and question what exactly happened and how.

While it is a sci-fi action film, the most exciting thing for me was seeing Lucy's transformation. It was neat to see her notice things no one else could, do things that would be deemed impossible and fight people without lifting a finger.

As the film reaches its interesting finale, Lucy becomes so massively powerful that it's hard to talk about without spoiling it all. Needless to say, I believe that the film, in one form or another, makes its point with this finale; what that point is, however, may depend on the interpretation of the audience watching.

It may seem unfair or dumb if the film ends the way it does, but I also wonder if the film would have had as many complaints if it were a lower-budget, randomly released film that would qualify as a B-movie. Maybe audiences were expecting something more formulaic instead of experimental.

As it stands, "Lucy" can at least be admired for being different than most summer blockbusters — it at least succeeds in that regard, if nothing else.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BAGO GAMES, VIA CREATIVE COMMONS

Scarlett Johansson, well-known and respectable actress in Hollywood, surprised many critics with her performance in "Lucy."

SOCCER

Women's soccer team kick-starts the season

JAMES PROFETTO

Staff Writer

james.proffetto@fiusm.com

A crowd of 379 FIU and University of Arizona fans alike joined the women's soccer team in kicking off their home and season opener of the 2014 season Friday evening. The fans were electric, thanks in part to the men's soccer team leading chants like "I believe that we will win" and singing "Ole, ole, ole, ole!" – until their collective breaths drew short.

The Panthers had a physical battle against the Arizona Wildcats. There were plenty of 50/50 opportunities to be had by both teams; three yellow cards were handed out, all to FIU, and there was a bit of scrappy play between both squads. Unfortunately for FIU, they were on the short end.

"It was hard to keep the ball under control for us today," said redshirt senior Chelsea Leiva. "I think [the problem was] keeping the ball on our half, the attacking half of the field."

The Wildcats capitalized early on a misguided clearance by the Panthers and scored goal one of two in the fourth minute.

Freshman goalkeeper and international recruit Nevena Stojakovic had the start tonight and found herself busy early. While the first goal was by the skilled Wildcats forward Alexandra Doller, who finished the night with three shots, one on goal and a goal, Stojakovic didn't seem to let off. Her aggressiveness paid off at times and that helped her get three tough saves that night.

Johanna Volz, senior midfielder for FIU, had a solid outing to begin the season. While the box score is blank, her contribution on defense and timely tackles kept FIU in the game.

As for the overall team defense, Volz had this to say: "It wasn't our best performance, but we know what we need to do to get better... I have faith that [in] the next game we will do what needs to get done. We have a great group of girls."

After the early goal, FIU's confidence seemed to "peak," according to Volz. A spark



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Members of the football team cheer on the women's soccer team at the first home game of the season. The women's soccer team lost 0-2 to University of Arizona.

off the bench came via freshman midfielder Courtney Phillips.

Beginning the night as a non-starter, Phillips proved her worth against an Arizona defense that seemed unbreakable until the end of the first half, breaking down Wildcats defenders left and right.

"She was just composed. That's the bottom line," said Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt.

Aside from the miscues, FIU had areas of success that night: tenacious attitude by each Panther – even after being down a woman on a late second yellow card, resulting in a red card, issued to midfielder Sara Stewart.

The team had more shots in the first period than the Wildcats as a result of their synchro-

nized play on both offense and defense towards the 25-minute mark of the match. The second goal of the night came on an 11-on-10 advantage for the Wildcats. Having the 11th woman on the field could make all the difference and most likely doesn't allow a late goal.

Another area of optimism can be found in Leiva's strong play. With three shots on goal, she says she feels "good" and "stronger than before."

Chestnutt feels that the goal now is to look forward to University of North Florida and use the first matchup as a learning tool for the rest of the season.

"At the end of the day, I thought our team fought hard. We certainly highlighted some things we needed to work on," said Chestnutt. "We'll get better from it and prepare now for [UNF]."

Panthers rebound from home loss, pounce on Ospreys

The shot total for FIU and the University of North Florida was 18-5 last Sunday, Aug. 24.

The Panthers 18 shots over the Ospreys' five was due in large part to redshirt junior midfielder Scarlet Montoya.

Montoya made a team record high six shots and another team-high three shots on goal. The Ospreys were smothered by the Panthers' early offense and seemingly could not find a way to halt the barrage of opportunities flowing FIU's way.

At the 18 minute mark, senior forward Ashleigh Shim found the first of her two goals of the day, with an assist by Montoya.

Shim controlled a cross by Montoya and found a way to get a low shot past the Ospreys' goalkeeper, Megan Dorsey. At Shim's second goal, which put the game out of reach with a final score of 3-0, forward Chelsea Leiva found Shim on the right side. With two goals Sunday afternoon, Shim moved into number 10 all-time scorer for FIU.

Senior midfielder Johanna Volz took full advantage of a penalty kick at the 21st minute, giving the Panthers a 2-0 lead.

The defense and midfield seemed to be in sync and fully locked in after dissecting some of their miscues from Friday night against Arizona. The Ospreys did not get a single shot on goal against Stojakovic. The defense for the Panthers kept their opponents at bay for most of the game, both in an effective and clean manner. No yellow cards were handed out for the Panthers compared to the three they were issued in their season opener.

An interesting change in the starting line-up was implemented by Chestnutt. Senior forward Caroline Hernandez, who impressed spectators with her strong leg against Arizona, and sophomore Talia McMurtrie made their way into the starting 11 for FIU. This gave Chestnutt and his team flexibility in their attack and ultimately forced UNF Head Coach Robin Confer to substitute a couple defenders early on to try and harbor a comeback.

The Panthers (1-1) will look forward to their next matchup against the Santa Clara University Broncos on Friday, Aug. 29, at 10 p.m.. Friday's match will be the team's second of a three-game road trip before returning home, Sept. 3.



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Talia McMurtrie(left), midfielder and Sophomore and Chelsea Leiva, forward and senior, stand disappointed in the FIU soccer field after a 0-2 loss to the University of Arizona.

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FOOTBALL

University partner rechristens the FIU Stadium home field

PATRICK CHALVIRE

Asst. Sports Director

patrick.chalvire@fiusm.com

For the next three years the University football field will be going by a different name.

Wednesday afternoon, FIU Athletics announced that they signed a three-year deal with Ocean Bank to change the name of the home field

located in FIU Stadium to Ocean Bank Field at FIU Stadium.

Since 2011, the field had been going by the name Alfonso Field at FIU Stadium, after alumnus David Alfonso.

The University has had a previous partnership with Ocean Bank and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

“Since our founding in 1982, we have grown alongside FIU and supported its development into a major research university, and one of the largest in the nation,” said Ocean Bank Chairman

A. Alfonso Macedo.

Macedo is currently a member of the Dean’s Council for the College of Business. Other bank members and

executives – such as Juan del Busto, a member of the Board of Directors, and Ralph González-Jacobo, executive vice president and head of lending and retail banking – are both school alumni.

Ocean Bank has already contributed \$1 million to the University’s College of Business, which helped fund the construction of the Ocean

Bank Auditorium.

There is no word as to how much the University will benefit monetarily from the partnership.

Ocean Bank Field will host its first football game Aug. 30, when the Panthers host the Bethune-Cookman Wildcats to start off the 2014 season.

VOLLEYBALL

Women’s volleyball players bringing their ‘A’ game into the new season

COLUMNIST



ALEJANDRO AGUIRE

After losing in five sets against the No. 3 Tulsa Golden Hurricane in the quarterfinals of the Conference USA Volleyball Championship, the University’s women’s volleyball team is determined to redeem themselves.

The team is entering their second season in the C-USA

and is optimistic about how they will do and how

far they will go.

To help the squad, Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett added Tim Edfors to the volleyball staff as an assistant coach.

This is a great acquisition to the team because Edfors brings 30 years of experience that includes 10 years of collegiate coaching experience. He’s known to bring the best out of his players and can teach new volleyball techniques and training methods to the team.

With the coaching staff in place, the team is ready to embark on a long journey to success.

Some people have questioned the fact that the team only has one senior on the roster, Martyna Gluchowicz. They believe this can negatively affect the team since they don’t have an abundance of veterans or leadership that other teams might have.

The volleyball team has responded to these remarks by adding Edfors to the coaching staff who brings his knowledge of the game to share with the players.

The coaching staff has not worried much about having only one senior on the roster because the same young team proved to them that they can compete and win against older and more experienced teams.

This showed in the C-USA tournament when they surprised the whole conference by making it to the quarterfinals. Not many people expected FIU to make it that far, but the University feels unsatisfied by the results of last year and is hungry to win.

The first step to the C-USA tournament starts off at the Radisson-University of Central Florida Invitational in Orlando. The Panthers will play against Western Carolina University, Northeastern University, Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Central Florida. The team will stay on the road for back to back tournaments at the University of South Florida and the South Dakota State University.

The big game to circle on your calendar is the home opener on Sept. 17. What makes this game exciting to watch is that it will be played against in-state rival Florida Atlantic University.

From there they will play their last out of

town tournament in Tuscaloosa, Alabama to finish off the month of September.

October will be a long stretch of key games played against other teams in their conference. The bulk of the season will be played then and FIU will see firsthand who will be their competition in the C-USA tournament.

That month is very crucial for the team because they want to bounce back and improve their conference record from last year. Last year they had a record of six wins and eight losses in October. If they can change that to a winning record this season, they will be a force to be reckoned with in the C-USA tournament.

The volleyball team is young, but they display an immense amount of talent. Be on the lookout for Anabela Sataric.

As a freshman last year she made her mark on the team as a key offensive weapon. She led the team in hitting a percentage of .333 that the year, posting 16 kills against four errors in 36 total attempts. Sataric was third on the team in assists with 230. She ended her freshman year with 79 digs, eight blocks and eight service aces.

This is just a small sample of what the whole team can bring to the game. With these developing players, it looks like all the pieces are coming together for a strong future and an exciting season.

Buck-Crockett and the rest of the coaching staff are staying positive. At the end of the day who doesn’t love a true underdog story?

Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett was unavailable for comment.

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MEET ME IN THE PLAZA



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

After several months of construction, the Panther Plaza and sculpture will be unveiled on Friday, August 29 at 2pm.

Feast and festivities, a Polynesian themed party

SOFIA GALIANO
BBC Managing Editor
sofia.galiano@fiusm.com

A traditional Polynesian-themed party welcoming students and faculty to the new school year is expected to heat things up with hula dancers, food, live music and giveaways.

The Panther Luau, previously known as the Freshman Luau, is taking place on Thursday, Aug. 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms for the Week of Welcome event series.

For the past 12 years, the luau has been a freshman-oriented celebration – or so the former name implied.

Ivy Siegel Mack, assistant director for Campus Life and advisor of the Student Organization Council, said titling the event “Freshman Luau” caused many to think the event was exclusively for students entering their first year of college.

Although still a popular event receiving hundreds of attendees, Mack said the name-

change transpired after being asked numerous times over the years if non-freshman are able to attend.

“I feel like it would be less confusing,” says Mack.

However, the name of the event is the only thing changing in this year’s luau.

Polynesian dishes will be served while hula

dancers entertain the crowd. Meanwhile, Campus Life will be handing out freebies.

There will also be a photo booth for students and faculty to capture their time during this year’s Week of Welcome – whether they are freshman or in their final year before graduating.

Food sampling and giveaways at Restaurant and Business Fair

SOFIA GALIANO
BBC Managing Editor
sofia.galiano@fiusm.com

With over 30 local restaurants and businesses offering a day of sampling and giveaways, students are bound to pack on some pounds during their first year in college, also known as the freshman 15.

The seventh annual Restaurant and Business Fair hosted by Campus Life takes place today, Wednesday, Aug. 27 from noon to 2 p.m. in Wolfe University Center Ballroom 244, continuing the Week of Welcome celebrations.

“A lot of people say that it is their favorite

event of the week,” said Andres Bermeo, Campus Life marketing coordinator.

Students, faculty and staff and even members of the community can enjoy sample size dishes and handouts from restaurants exclusively in Miami, such as City Slickers Subs and Salads and Misha’s Cupcakes, to well-known franchises like Smoothie King and Smashburger.

Tony Roma’s Steakhouse and Quiznos Subs Sandwich Restaurants join this year’s offerings.

The purpose of the fair is to acquaint locals with the restaurants near Biscayne Bay Campus, offering discounts to students and staff.

Campus Life will release “Guide to Savings,” a coupon booklet listing the discounts offered by most of the participating businesses during the first week of October.

With a record-breaking turnout at last year’s fair of about 700 attendees, Bermeo says he only expects this year’s turnout to be even larger.

He attributes this to the recent renovations to WUC, which he says will bring traffic to the event taking place in the WUC Ballrooms for the second year in a row.

In past years, the fair was held in Panther Square of WUC, but Bermeo says they moved the event to the ballrooms because they offer more space and power outlets.

BACK TO THE BAY



PHOTOS BY KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Students from MAST Academy high school study at the BBC library. Although high school started last week, some MAST do dual enrollment at FIU.



(Center) Students gather in Panther Square during BBC Welcome BBQ to get tank tops, food, and other free stuff. (Right) Caribbean Music Farm perform during the BBQ.

