

Wolfsonian-FIU director steps down

CAROLINA PERDOMO
Contributing Writer



CATHY LEFF

Wolfsonian-FIU Director Cathy Leff has served the museum for 17 years and said while institutions have character, they also have life cycles-- a life cycle she affirmed is complete between her and the museum.

But while the Office of the Provost will conduct a formal, national search to identify her successor, Leff does not plan to stray far from the University, continuing to serve as a senior fellow.

"I will reflect on what I have

learned and seek ways to share that with others," Leff said. "Simultaneously, I look forward to watching the Wolfsonian move boldly forward."

Leff has led the Wolfsonian through its first generation, which opened in 1986 and merged with the University in 1997.

"I feel fortunate to have been part of the first generation in birthing a new institution in the Wolfsonian complexities of relationships and expectations involved," said Leff, who joined the Wolfsonian in 1996.

Over the years, Leff has raised operating income, built a professional staff and has distinguished the museum internationally. The

SEE DIRECTOR, PAGE 2

OUT OF LUCK



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

With the cube under renovation, students will have to resort to crossing their fingers if they have a test coming up.

Israeli groups proud of University for opposing boycott

MADISON FANTOZZI
News Director

Israeli groups on campus have joined University administrators in opposing the American Studies Association's resolution for a boycott of Israeli academic institutions--a decision these students believe is appropriate for an "international" university.

Fay Goldstein, president of pro-Israel student organization Shalom FIU, thinks it only makes sense for the University to oppose the boycott.

"As a University that is proud to be



I am relieved and I am proud to be a student at a University that disproves of the attempt to restrict academic inquiry and instead upholds the pillars of education and academia in all realms.

Fay Goldstein
President
Shalom FIU



a top 'research university,' this boycott would not only harm the Israeli institutions involved, but also FIU's academic

advancement and research," said Goldstein, a senior international relations major.

The boycott was called for by the Palestinian civil society in response to alleged violations of human rights. This will eliminate the association's participation in Israeli conferences and public lectures, as well as prevent representatives of Israeli academic institutions from participating in ASA meetings.

President Mark B. Rosenberg and Provost and Executive Vice President Douglas Wartzok denounced the boycott in a University-wide email, joining schools including Harvard, Yale, Boston

SEE BOYCOTT, PAGE 2

Alternative Breaks students grant Christmas wishes

GISELLE CANCIO
Contributing Writer

Winter break for most students means going out late, sleeping in and perhaps a vacation or two. For one group of students, the beginning of their winter break consisted of a service trip.

Freshman communications major Cassandra Banko said the children's Christmas lists at the homeless shelter where she worked was impacting.

"They wanted things like shampoo, conditioner, interview clothing -- things I usually take for granted and consider a necessity rather than a wish," said Banko.

The Center for Leadership and Service's Alternative



They wanted things like shampoo, conditioner, interview clothing -- things I usually take for granted and consider a necessity rather than a wish.

Kassandra Banko
Freshman
Communication arts



Breaks organizes community service trips like this: a hands-on approach to service learning where student groups travel to different states and countries, participating in service projects.

The program traveled to Atlanta this past break. Banko participated in the program and worked with people in poverty and at-risk youth.

She worked with the Medici project and went to the

Covenant House, a homeless shelter, every morning. At the shelter, the group would help with different things such as organizing Christmas gifts, wrapping and cleaning.

"It impacted me knowing that it was a homeless shelter for children around my age," Banko said.

SEE BREAK, PAGE 4

Russo: Davydova will sit out entire season due to transfer rule violation

STEVEN ROWELL
Staff Writer



MARITA DAVYDOVA

The FIU women's basketball team has completed the non-conference part of its schedule and now for the first time will start conference play in Conference USA.

Officially, they will have to play for the rest of the season just like they have all season without the services of senior center Marita Davydova.

In a post-game interview with Head Coach Cindy Russo after an FIU 78-44 win over Palm Beach Atlantic University, Russo confirmed the status of Davydova.

According to Russo, the native from Russia will not suit up for the rest of this season due to eligibility issues not related to academics but related to transfer rules.

"She is ineligible to play this year, just a transfer rule and out for the whole season," Russo said. "She's a double-double player so I think we do miss her."

After spending the summer in Russia and playing basketball there, Davydova returned to Miami and has only taken the court once this year for FIU, that was in an exhibition game against Nova Southeastern University in which the Panthers won 75-69 and Davydova had a double-double with 17 points and 13 rebounds.

The senior has been in street clothes for every game since.

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 6

WORLD NEWS

US will support Iraq, but without troops

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday that the United States will support Iraq's fight against al-Qaida-linked militants who have overrun two cities, but won't send in American troops. Kerry said the militants are trying to destabilize the region and undermine a democratic process in Iraq, and that the U.S. is in contact with tribal leaders in Anbar province who are standing up to the terrorists. But, he said, "this is a fight that belongs to the Iraqis. ... We will help them in their fight, but this fight, in the end, they will have to win and I am confident they can."

Kidnapped Turkish journalist freed in Syria

Turkey's state-run news agency says a Turkish photographer who had been kidnapped in Syria has been freed. The Anadolu Agency said Sunday that 43-year-old photographer Bunyamin Aygun has been handed over to a team of Turkish intelligence officials and is on his way back to Turkey. The photographer for Turkey's Milliyet newspaper - who recently won awards for his photographs of Syria's civil war - was kidnapped in northern Syria in November by groups believed to be linked to al-Qaida.

For more world news, check out FIUSM.com.

University's leaders and Israeli groups oppose academic boycott

BOYCOTT, PAGE 1

University, University of Florida and University of Miami in opposition.

Roseberg and Wartzok cited academic freedom for all.

"Throughout my years here as a student, I have come to realize the necessity of a free academic environment," Goldstein said. "I am relieved and I am proud to be a student at a University that disapproves of the attempt to restrict academic inquiry and instead upholds the pillars of education and academia in all realms."

The Hillel Young Adult Division holds the same pride.

"We are very honored that the University

agreed to act against the boycott for freedom for academics," said Or Kaidar, an Israeli fellow and member of the Hillel Young Adult Division.

Kaidar believes the boycott is a double standard.

"It's okay to criticize, but it's not okay to single out a group or a country," Kaidar said. "There's no boycott of Iran or Iraq for their wrongdoings."

Kaidar said Israel is "working on it" and could use support rather than a boycott.

"The boycott doesn't help the peace process at all," Kaidar said. "I think continuing with peace documents and internal talks is important."

Both Goldstein and

“It's okay to criticize, but it's not okay to single out a group or a country.”

Or Kaidar Israeli fellow and member of the Hillel Young Adult Division

Kaidar said Israelis have provided Palestinians with water and electricity.

Goldstein believes that instead of a boycott restricting academia, academia should be used to engage Israelis and Palestinians in academic discourse and discussions to solve issues.

"By boycotting academic research and knowledge, you leave no room for balanced conclusions or research," Goldstein said. "Advancing education and promoting knowledge is the first step to peaceful communication and resolutions."

Students for Justice in Palestine was unavailable for comment.

-madison.fantozzi@fiusm.com

Wolfsonian director steps down, remains University fellow

DIRECTOR, PAGE 1

directorship's responsibilities includes negotiating collections, fundraising for events and accrediting memberships with national organizations.

“I feel fortunate to have been part of the first generation in birthing a new institution.”

Cathy Leff Director Wolfsonian-FIU

approach to looking at objects as both agents and expressions of change.

"Cathy ensures that the Wolfsonian has become one of the most admired, respected and imitated

indebted to Wolfson for trusting her as a collaborator.

"Cathy has had remarkable success in leading Wolfsonian-FIU and integrating it into the teaching and research agenda of the university," said Provost and Executive Vice President Douglas Wartzok.

The University is looking into a new director with different qualifications that requires experience.

"The new candidates for this position have to understand how the contents of the museum contribute to the intellectual and artistic dialogue in the domains covered by the collection,"

Wartzok said.

Leff said it takes more than a director to run the museum, it takes a team.

"This is a job that no one person can do alone, it takes a dedicated staff, a committed board and the public and private support," Leff said.

Leff commented that she never saw the obstacles and only the opportunities throughout her journey.

"I learned how much fun it is and how gratifying it is to be involved in a cultural and learning environment at this point in time," Leff said.

Leff said it is hard to summarize her 17 years spent as director.

"The opportunity to help shape, build, and solidify The Wolfsonian is one of the most rewarding feelings from my journey," Leff said.

-news@fiusm.com

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 25, Issue 47, in the article "Alumnus and students face felony charges in exam theft ring" we mistakenly named Krissy Lamadrid as Krissy Demadrid. In the headline "Parking and Transportation offering 2,700 temp spaces", the correct number is 2,400. Also, the "Spring 2014 Week of Welcome" calendar incorrectly listed Peer Advising/Panther Camp Facilitator Announcement for Wednesday, Jan. 8. The event is Thursday, Jan. 9.

In Vol. 25, Issue 47, in the "Week of Welcome calendar," the Peer Advisor/Panther Camp Facilitator Announcement is listed as taking place on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014. This information is incorrect. The announcement will be on Thursday, Jan. 9.

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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CONTACT INFORMATION

Modesto Maidique Campus:
GC 210, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
(305) 348-2709
news@fiusm.com

Biscayne Bay Campus
WUC 124, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM
(305) 919-4722
bbc@fiusm.com

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
brandon.wise@fiusm.com

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

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Along the years Leff worked with Mitchell Wolfson, Jr. to broker his original gift to the University -- the largest gift ever to the State of Florida University System. She also reportedly raised \$2-3 million annually to support Wolfsonian operations and capital improvements.

The Wolfsonian-FIU Museum's collections is comprised of approximately 120,000 objects from 1885 to 1945—the height of the Industrial Revolution to the end of the Second World War—in a variety of media.

"My job has been to develop Wolfsonian as a brand and give its collection a meaningful reputation and positive [public relations] for FIU," said Leff.

The Wolfsonian has received wide recognition for its unrivaled collection of modern material culture and its multidisciplinary

cultural institutions of our time," said Micky Wolfson, founder of the museum.

Leff said she is forever



SUMMER JOBS:

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Tips and tricks for a New Year's well done

ASHLEY VIERA
Contributing Writer

With New Year's over, many decide to make a list with resolutions for the new year, however few follow through with it.

Here are some tips to assure that doesn't happen to you:

1. Keep it simple.

The more complex and intricate you make your resolutions the harder they are to follow through with.

2. Keep it short.

Don't make a long list of expectations, it will just lead an even longer list of disappointments.

Seeing an extensive list of wants and desires for the new year will quickly become overwhelming and tedious.

3. Keep it realistic.

Don't go crazy and get overly ambitious,

even ambition has its own limits.

For example, if you made a resolution to get all A's in school in the upcoming spring semester, yet are taking arduous courses such

Apply the statement all comes with patience because, well it does.

5. Get creative and innovative.

If you hastily begin to feel discouraged with

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If you hastily begin to feel discouraged with your resolutions think of new and different ways to approach your resolutions. This will keep your resolutions fun and light, making them easier to complete.

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as calculus, you might want to readjust your expectations.

4. Don't get discouraged.

If you don't hastily notice changes and positive modifications with regards to your resolutions; be patient.

your resolutions think of new and different ways to approach your resolutions.

This will keep your resolutions fun and light, making them easier to complete.

For instance, if one of your resolutions is to get fit and healthy don't just restrictedly

stick to one sort of exercise. Pursue various, different types of exercises such as walking, dancing, biking and swimming.

This prevents the task of exercising from becoming redundant and boring.

6. Persistence is key.

No matter how much you might want to quit continuously remind yourself that the end result will be totally worth it.

Finally, remember New Year's is a time for reflection and rejuvenation not utter reconstruction of self.

It's about making changes that will make a positive impact on your life.

Also, keep in mind that you do not need to wait until the end of the year to make positive changes, start as soon as you can.

So, take a deep breath and embrace the new year with open arms and positivity.

-*opinion@fiusm.com*

New Year's in New York: from MIA to NYC

ZOE LAWRENCE
Contributing Writer

I've never considered myself much of a country girl.

I was born and raised in Pembroke Pines about 20 minutes via the 95 from FIU. I grew up in the suburbs where the grass was always lush and green, and the houses were always well kept and uniformed.

People not native to Florida assume we're either beach-goers, clubbers experiencing the wild nights of downtown Miami or in rural areas home to orange trees. South Florida is definitely different from the majority of the Sunshine State.

We have come to call this melting pot of many different cultures "home." We share our lives with countless ethnicities and our children are brought up seeing diversity in their

classrooms.

The life of a south Floridian is far from "country" and although it comes nothing close to the congestion in Times Square, being stuck on Flamingo and Pines during rush hour could make any New Yorker nauseous.

In many ways I consider South Florida a lot like NYC. We have a fast paced lifestyle, and we share our lives with people who come from different backgrounds just as they do in the city.

For winter break I decided I wanted to take a trip to the Big Apple. While most people were flying down south to escape the brutal winter, I wanted to go up north and experience the brisk weather and explore the magic that comes with the streets of New York City.

As I walked out the airport and stepped onto the concrete jungle I remember thinking to myself,

"This cold isn't so bad!" It was around 45 degrees that night and temperatures hadn't reached frigid weather, which I would

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All I can describe the city as is "lights." Lights that make you feel small, and buildings that make you feel even smaller, but an atmosphere that makes you feel like the whole universe is inside of you.

”

later feel first hand.

My first few nights in NYC, I noticed that people didn't smile much. Maybe it was the cold weather that made people withdraw from social interaction but everyone seemed to be too busy inside of their own heads, especially while riding the subway.

I feel as if train rides should

connect people. Regardless of where our destination is, for the moment everyone is sitting on a bench next to people they have

never met and yet the fibers of our coats are touching one another. Instead people's eyes looked desolate and weary.

Once off the subway and in the heart of the city, the vibrations of everyone seemed to rise. People were laughing and gliding through the streets with bright, glossy eyes and hurried steps.

One thing for certain about cold weather, it certainly makes you want to grab the person you're walking with and cling onto their arms for warmth.

Above me buildings were strung in lights, and the windows began to look like shimmering rivers currents flowing in the sky. All I can describe the city as is "lights." Lights that make you feel small, and buildings that make you feel even smaller, but an atmosphere that makes you feel like the whole universe is inside of you.

My friend took me to all the hot spots such as Rockefeller Center, the Empire State Building and Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum. We also explored SoHo, and found our way in beautiful craft stores and peaceful bookstores.

-*For the rest of the column, go to fiusm.com.*

Age ain't nothing but a number...or is it?

ELIZABETH VALLADARES
Contributing Writer

I'm 20 years old.

When you tell someone your age, most people you come across will automatically label you by a stereotype.

It's ironic how some people generalize and emphasize the bad but underestimate the very little good that's left in our world.

The worst part is that the more the good in people is underestimated, the less humanity there will be.

Every day we become less and less humane.

There will come a point where the loss of our humanity will be catastrophic for global society.

By federal law, age discrimination is prohibited and is subject to fines and/or jail time.

There are multiple bodies of law at the local and state levels as well.

But if I even begin to tell all these stories of age discrimination while attending college, the workplace, along with people

I've known and randomly met, I think I would have at least 10 people punished by law.

I've had so many situations where I've been underestimated because of my age that I could've written a book by now and that's only a part of my life.

From ignoring my capabilities to not even giving me the right to speak, is there really equality? Are older people threatened by the younger people's capabilities? Should young people like myself pay the consequences of those who didn't listen to life

advice? Should the older people blame the younger people for their own consequences or should the younger blame their own consequences on the older people? Does appearance matter more than intellects?

A potential job should look at you and ask one thing: How well can you do the job you are being asked to do?

It shouldn't be about how old you are, or how you look, but how efficient you are.

-*opinion@fiusm.com*

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

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Fortress Social Club: good effort, but try again

JUNETTE REYES
Entertainment Director

"Make Love, Not Babies" is the sophomore album of Fortress Social Club, an album with 11 tracks that were recorded by the entire band in full takes.

Their debut album, "Dreamin' the Life," sounded like the kind of music that model Edie Sedgwick would have danced to during one of Andy Warhol's soirees in The Factory, particularly the house band The Velvet Underground. Fortress Social Club somewhat

abandoned this style in "Make Love, Not Babies," channeling a lot of the airy, psychedelic sound of The Beatles and a little bit of the rock 'n' roll rawness of The Rolling Stones. The Beatles influence is the heaviest throughout, but this is

mainly due to frontman Shawn Harris' vocals, which are reminiscent of John Lennon's vocals. It also doesn't help that one of the tracks is titled "Blueberry Pie," which immediately makes me think about "Strawberry Fields Forever" after reading the title alone.

A more contemporary comparison in terms of vocals would be the frontman of Tame Impala, Kevin Parker, as well as Tame Impala itself at times. **For the final verdict, go to fiusm.com.**

Changing the world one break at a time

BREAK, PAGE 1

"By the end of the trip, our group was attached to the kids and I think our main goal was to leave them with a seed in their hearts to continue school and strive to be the best," said Kelly Ibarra, sophomore communication arts major.

Each trip consists of two site leaders and multiple participants. Before the trip itself, monthly workshops are used to train, educate and prepare the participants for their experience.

The group's steering committee has site research chairs that communicate with organizations and establish a partnership. Based on the site leaders choice of social issue, the locations are spread amongst the groups.

Following the Alternative Breaks philosophy "changing the world one break at a time," trips are done in the summer, winter and spring.

The sites can range from



within the United States to an international site like the Bahamas.

The different social issues Alternative Breaks supports are at-risk youth, environment, animal rights, LGBT, homelessness, poverty, health, education, immigration, social justice

and women's rights.

Catherine Cruz, junior social work major, was the site leader for the Atlanta trip.

"I applied to be a site leader because [Alternative Breaks] had given me the chance to be a part of something bigger than myself,"



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALTERNATIVE BREAKS GROUP

Photo to the left shows the Alternative Breaks group in front of the homeless shelter they volunteered at during the winter break. Photo above shows them in front of the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site.

Cruz said. "I was given the opportunity to give back to a different community and see other individuals leave an impact and grow exponentially as active citizens and leaders."

As a site leader, Cruz was in charge of managing all the logistics for the

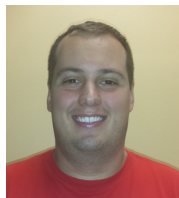
service, serving as the communication between the site contact and the participant and arranging all fundraising efforts for the group. She also picked the social issue, choosing poverty because she says a little help goes a long way with it.

"Alternative Breaks is a life changing experience that everyone should give a chance to, it allows you to take the first step into being the change you want to see in the world," Cruz said.

-life@fiusm.com

This season in shoes: Kobes dominate January releases

COLUMNIST



FRANCISCO RIVERO

As we all start to wrap up the first week of the Spring semester a few questions get through our minds: how good are professors will be, how many exams and papers we'll be doing throughout the semester and what have people been wearing.

It's no secret that fashion is something that we all pay attention to — yes, some more than others, but at the end of the day what you wear will be noticed by

your peers.

What better way than to start by getting your shoe game right? This weekend will see the releases of a number of sneakers that will be at the top of every sneakerheads list. However, since we all are not millionaires, it's time to break down what's hot and what's not.

Kobe 6s are a must-buy this weekend

This Saturday will see the release of multiple sneakers but none greater than the Kobe 6 Prelude. If you're a fan of having something bright and colorful on your feet then

this is the shoe for you.

The Preludes come in a variety of colors that include teal, yellow, orange, black, baby blue and red. With a yellow Nike slash along with baby blue laces, the Prelude's bizarre combination of colors bring a state of uniqueness that most people will not be rocking on their feet.

Retail price for the Preludes will go for \$2 hundred at your local shoe stores. However, this is a shoe that you're going to have to get the first day. Any later and don't expect to be rocking these limited sneakers any time soon.

SEE SHOES, PAGE 7

SPC MOVIE NIGHTS

(All movies at 5 and 8 p.m. in GC 140)

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

DON JON

FRIDAY, JAN. 17

THE CONJURING

FRIDAY, JAN. 24

42

FRIDAY, JAN. 31

KICK ASS 2

FRIDAY, FEB. 7

THE FAMILY

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

ABOUT TIME

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

**THE HUNGER GAMES:
CATCHING FIRE**

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

THE BUTLER

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

INSIDIOUS 2

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

JOBS

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

**THE MORTAL
INSTRUMENTS**

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

THOR 2

How do you solve a problem like Ms. Travers?

COLUMNIST



JUAN BARQUIN

Disney's legacy of erasing history for the sake of its image can't be denied. Most of the time, it's just ignoring the existence of racist caricatures in movies – we won't ever forget "Song of the South" – but they've gotten a little smarter at this over the years. The question, then, is how exactly does a studio solve a problem like a strong-willed woman who challenges the company? Well, erase her, of course.

That woman is P.L. Travers, author of the beloved "Mary Poppins," who had one of the most tumultuous relationships with Walt Disney and, frankly, with everyone around her. In "Saving Mr. Banks," Disney's woven together tale of her fight against Walt for the rights of "Mary Poppins," she is written out like the kind of uncompromising, misunder-

stood villain that Disney lovers just plain eat up. And eat her up they will thanks to Emma Thompson's performance and the fact that they parade her mythical, melodramatic childhood on screen for folks to cry.

But director John Lee Hancock and writers Kelly Marcel and Sue Smith have no interest in escaping the trappings of melodrama. They embrace it, albeit not very well. "Saving Mr. Banks" bounces between Travers' troubles with Disney and flashbacks to her childhood to help set the scenes for the inspirations that supposedly brought such a beloved character out of her, as well as providing reasons for her to be so protective of her rights to Poppins. The problem here is that as much as Disney wants me to cry because a film I enjoy was made, every drop of the story feels like it's fiction, up until the screen went dark and the tears came flowing from Travers' eyes.

With "everyman" Tom Hanks as the

grand creator of all things sweet and childish Walt Disney in his supporting role of hero here, it's obvious that some smoke would be blown – certainly not out of the mouth of good ol' Walt, though, as in a moment of self-awareness from the filmmakers, Hanks clearly states smoking is a rather nasty habit after he puts out a cigarette off-screen.

The idea that a woman who never gave up the rights to any novel post-Disney experience crying with joy during the premiere of the film is outlandish. Yet her immense bitterness throughout the entire production of the famous '64 film is impossible to deny, and the only thing that makes her an even remotely compelling character.

With actual audio of Travers challenging songwriters Robert and Richard Sherman smartly placed in the credits, we get a glimpse of her reality matching her on screen persona. Her snappy orders and immediate dismissals of songs are the most delightful

bits of acting on display, helping us forget the obnoxious Electra complex they force between her and her drunken father (Colin Farrell) with every flashback. A better idea could have been to dedicate a bit more time to the woman they claim was essentially the Mary Poppins to her younger self, but you can't rake in the tuppence without emotional manipulation these days.

As entertaining of a movie as "Mary Poppins" is – of which the film reminds the audience by playing songs from it non-stop and leaving Thomas Newman's mediocre score in the dust – its behind the scenes tale "Saving Mr. Banks" has no idea how to be anything other than bait: bait for cash, bait for tears, bait for Oscars and even bait for Disney ticket sales as they show off their lovely theme park to the world.

-juan.barquin@fiusm.com

"American Hustle" focuses more on character development

COLUMNIST



RAFAEL ABREU

Directed and co-written by David O. Russell, "American Hustle" is a fictional take on the ABSCAM scandal that occurred during the late 1970s. Starring Christian Bale, Amy Adams, Bradley Cooper, Jeremy

Renner and Jennifer Lawrence, the film takes us through a ride involving con-men, politicians and mobsters who need to be taken down – all in the name of "justice."

The main story involves the FBI using a couple of con men (Bale and Adams) to get a hold of some corrupt politicians. Even though the film has a great story with plenty of unforeseen twists and turns, the script and film are really focused on the characters. In many respects, "American Hustle" is not about any scandal or FBI bust but about people and what they'll do to get their way, and in some cases, what they'll do to protect the ones they care about.

Irving Rosenfeld (Bale) might be a con man, and he might rip people off, but he never does it to those that don't deserve it. He does what he does to survive and cares very deeply for his business partner and lover Sydney (Adams), as well for his son, who he adopted when he married his mother (Lawrence). Irving is a street smart man, and when he believes that the FBI are getting way over their heads involving the mob in their scam, he becomes even more concerned and protective than before. His motivations are simple: hustle to survive. However, he is not hotheaded or impatient and likes to keep his business as small as possible. This is the polar opposite of Richie DiMaso (Cooper), an FBI agent that sees this whole project as an opportunity to be recognized and famous; his arrogance, self-centeredness, and overall out of control attitude causes many problems for not only Irving and Sydney, but also his boss (Louis C.K.), who cannot take any more of his insanity.

On the outset, I was looking most

forward to seeing Cooper and not Bale; but during the course of the film, I began to dislike Richie and root for Irving, once I saw how these characters really were and what drove them to do what they do.

Everyone in the cast does a stellar job and, in my opinion, no one deserves to be a stand out so no one is overshadowed. Jeremy Renner (as Mayor Carmine Polito of New Jersey) impressed me as the nicest guy in the whole film, who only wants to do what's best for his people and his family; Lawrence is excellent as Irving's neglected and angry wife Rosalyn, who hates to be ignored and only wants to be loved by her husband. Louis C.K. does a great job as Richie's boss, who seems to never have a good time, no matter where is or what's going on; Bale, Cooper and Adams are nothing short of brilliant, chewing the scenes they're in with grand enjoyment.

For the most part, the acting in this film is slightly over the top, which works for a film that doesn't aim to be very serious at any point.

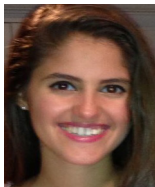
In fact, the whole film is slightly over the top; the film can best be described as a comedy and there are indeed many laughs to be had and re-had (you'll get a kick out of what they call a microwave). It's good that Russell and co-writer Eric Warren Singer know how to enjoy themselves, even when things don't look their brightest (a particular scene late in the film involving Irving and Carmine borders on heartbreaking and hilarious).

As previously mentioned, "American Hustle" seems less focused on its own story and more so on its characters, which lends itself to excellent performances and insights. Still, the story element helps make the film even better than it already would have been with just its cast as a strong suit. Topped off with an excellent soundtrack from the era and a slightly over the top attitude, "American Hustle" succeeds in being entertaining, if nothing else.

-life@fiusm.com

Season of the witch: a dark palette for winter fashion

COLUMNIST



CAROLINA BARRETO

Miami's nonexistent snow and general lack of cold weather hinders our use of winter apparel. With the holidays now behind us, it's time to put away those Bill Cosby inspired "ugly" sweaters. But winter doesn't end until March 19, so how can you enjoy the season without asphyxiating in a turtleneck? Color. The answer came to me while watching FX's "American Horror

Story: Coven."

"Change your clothes. Wear something black," Fiona Goode told me. I realized a dark color palette would help keep the winter spirit without causing me to melt like the Wicked Witch of the West. People dodge black outfits for fear of looking like a tombstone tourist; however, black can look sleek, slimming and edgy. The key is to accessorize by integrating your different tastes. Junior biology major Ivanna Gamez says, "I don't have a specific style. I try to accessorize with things I like even if they don't look punk. I mix it up, and that's why it doesn't look scene or gothic."

When accessorizing with a black outfit, keep it simple with a watch or a few bracelets. Senior digital media studies major Kristopher Saad advises the guys, "Just cuff your jeans and wear some bold, brightly colored socks that will contrast the color of your outfit." If you want to remain edgy, you can partner a simple bracelet or necklace with a dark, solid colored hat or studded accessories like boots.

Go beyond all black. Pair it with one dark color: either burgundy, deep purple or gray. Another color provides an accent. If you want an accent that will pop, make it neon. Whether it is one neon yellow necklace or a black dress with a neon orange zipper.

"Colors go beyond clothes and accessories," Gamez reminds us while wearing MAC's Punk Couture lipstick. "My makeup and my nails are more seasonal than my clothes. I probably wouldn't wear the lipstick color I have on now in the summer. The glitter pink nail polish I have on now, I paired by painting my ring finger black. If it was summer, I'd wear it with white."

A smoky eye with blood red lipstick looks eerie; however, paired with a bright, Marilyn-Monroe-red lipstick, the makeup is modified to be sophisticated. Do not ice your face like a cake with makeup. Dark colors grab plenty of attention. I recommend the most obvious makeup to be black eyeliner on your upper eyelid and a matte lipstick color.

For lipstick, try red (bright or dark) or a deep purple. Be cautious with deep purple, and stay away from black and blue unless you want to look like you were in a bar fight. For bright and dark red, I recommend Grenadine from Smashbox and Scarlet Empress from NARS. For purple, I recommend both Heroine and Punk Couture from MAC.

Wearing dark lipstick makes any dead skin on your lips visible. Before applying, exfoliate with a scrub such as Lush's Popcorn Lip Scrub. After exfoliating, apply your favorite lip balm to avoid dryness. Follow with an eye makeup primer to prevent lipstick smudges that'll make you resemble the Joker. If you don't have eye makeup primer, apply the lipstick followed by a quick swipe of your powder foundation. These tricks will help the lipstick last longer and prevent it from straying. If by some wizardry/black magic the temperature drops, do not get overly excited. "Our weather doesn't limit people because they still go out wearing parkas, Uggs and snow boots when it's 65 degrees outside," said Saad.

Please, leave the snow gear cozily tucked away in your closet



JUNETE REYES/THE BEACON

Here are some examples of accessories to help style black clothing.

— especially your Uggs. "First of all, they smell. One thing is to wear black that gets hot, but another is to wear Eskimo boots," said Gamez.

Ultimately, wear what you feel comfortable in without overheating yourself. "You shouldn't settle to wear certain things because of where you live. You should base how you dress on how you see yourself," said Gamez.

-life@fiusm.com

NCAA rules favor coaches, not players

COLUMNIST



RUBEN PALACIOS

The NCAA does not often rule in the favor of student athletes. It is an entity that values its coaches rather than the players that produce results.

Student athletes commit four years of eligibility to a university, and if they ever choose to transfer to another school they are forced by the NCAA to sit out an entire year before they can play again.

Now, if the NCAA were fair, it would enforce the same treatment upon coaches who leave a school for another.

Coaches sign multi-year contracts at schools and walk into the homes of future student athletes to secure their promise to come play under their reign at a school. They develop a bond with these players, and often the players choose the school in which to attend solely because of who the coach is.

Once that student signs their letter of intent to a

school, the NCAA has them in the palm of their hand. The same, though, cannot be said of a coach when they sign their initials on money-heavy contracts.

FIU has recently experienced this dilemma.

Most recently, former men's soccer coach Kenny Arena, son of Los Angeles Galaxy head coach Ken Arena, left FIU to take a coaching job under his father in the MLS.

Arena had a less than spectacular two-year run at FIU, posting a 8-8-2 (0-7-1 C-USA) record in his first season and a 6-10-1 (2-6-1 C-USA) record this year. Arena was a big-name hire by FIU a couple of years ago, and was expected to improve the team drastically.

The problem with Arena's early departure is the players he leaves behind. The athletes he recruited to come to FIU based solely on the fact that they wanted to play for him, and now he is gone.

Most of the players Arena recruited are from Europe, which makes his departure even harder on them. Athletes like junior

Quentin Albrecht, who left his native Germany to follow Arena to Miami, are not stuck in limbo as he awaits for a new head coach to be named.

Albrecht, one of the best players the last two years, can transfer to another school, but not without losing his eligibility.

That's not fair is it? Arena is not the only FIU coach to leave town after a short stint. Former men's basketball coach Richard Pitino bolted for the University of Minnesota after just one season in South Florida.

Pitino finished just one year of a five-year, \$1.25 million deal with the Panthers that he signed in April 2012. Pitino led the Panthers to an 18-14 record and their first winning season in 13 years before falling to Western Kentucky University in the Sun Belt Conference Championship.

Pitino's case was even tougher on the players he left behind because a lot of them transferred to FIU and lost a year of eligibility to play under Pitino. Point guard Raymond

CHASING HISTORY



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Senior guard Jerica Coley, who is fresh off a 31-point performance against Palm Beach Atlantic on Sunday, now sits just eight points shy of becoming FIU's all-time leading scorer.

Taylor left Florida Atlantic University to play for Pitino, whose father is Hall of Famer Rick Pitino. Raymond Taylor is still at FIU as a senior and completely Pitino-less.

Forward Rakeem Buckles followed Pitino from the University of Louisville, where Pitino was an assistant coach under his dad, to play at FIU. Buckles obviously thought a lot of Pitino

and was willing to make a drastic change in his life for him, and then Pitino bolted for the Golden Gophers.

The NCAA denied Buckles a transfer to Minnesota that would allow him to play this year with the Gophers. Buckles, already a fifth-year senior, had to no choice but to remain at FIU if he wanted to continue to play basketball at the collegiate level.

Buckles was denied to leave for Minnesota by the NCAA but Pitino was allowed and even saw a hefty pay raise out of the matter.

The NCAA clearly frowns upon empowering its student athletes, but they should not favor its coaches, either. Let's level out the playing field, NCAA.

-ruben.palacios@fiusm.com

After solid junior year, Davydova is ruled out

WOMEN, PAGE 1

After the game against Nova, Russo went on to say that Davydova is a bull on the boards and in the past has often described Davydova as being a brute on the court.

Senior guard Jerica Coley spoke on Davydova following the game against Florida Gulf Coast University on Nov. 8.

"She's a huge contributor on offense, defense and rebounds so we definitely we have to adjust now," senior guard Jerica Coley said.

With Davydova's absence the Panthers are missing her size as Davydova is 6'3" and also was last year's second leading scorer with 9.8 points per game and averaged 8.8 rebounds per game which led all players last season. Davydova also recorded 10 double-doubles which included a season high 19 points to go with 11 rebounds in a win last season at the University of North Texas.

With FIU standing at 6-7 thus far, it has been up to players such as sophomore forward Brianna Wright and junior forward Tynia McKinzie to fill in for Davydova. It has been a season of growing for both players as Russo has constantly said all season in regards to Wright and

McKinzie.

Both McKinzie and Wright only saw limited action last season. Wright appeared in only three games last season while McKinzie appeared in 10 while starting in three games. Also with Davydova's absence has given more playing time to junior forward Arielle Durant, but most of the down low scoring has been done by either McKinzie or by Wright.

So far this season growing pains have been experienced by both players, they have shown ability to be a scoring option down low to take pressure off of Coley. Wright this season has consistently been able to grab rebounds getting double digit rebounds in four games and nearly reaching 10 in five other games. Wright has scored in double figures four times this season and has recorded two double-doubles this season.

McKinzie has been on a surge recently. In her seven of her past nine games McKinzie has reached double figures in

scoring including a double-double against Wake Forest University on Dec. 29 in which McKinzie scored a season 16 points while grabbing 10 rebounds. McKinzie has three double-doubles on the season.

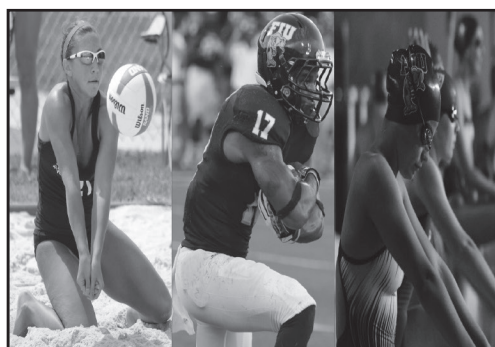
While for most of the season so far, it's been one or the other stepping up in a given game, in two of the past three games both Wright and McKinzie have reached double figures in scoring.

As the team still searches for chemistry with many new players playing this year, the team will need the continued production from McKinzie and Wright moving forward into conference play as the team pushes for an NCAA Tournament berth; a realistic goal in the mind of Coley.

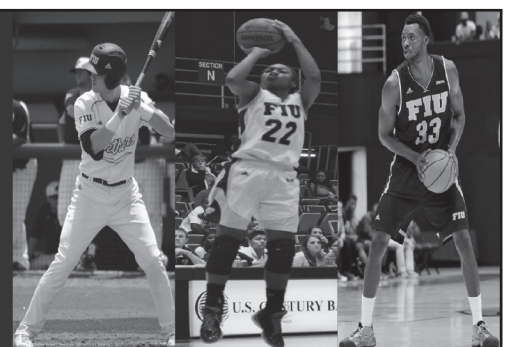
"Very realistic, that is one of our main goals to win our conference and go to the NCAA tournament, that's our goal every year," Coley said.

-sports@fiusm.com

Davydova 2012 - 2013 Season Stats		
		Team rank
Points per game	9.8	2
Rebounds per game	8.8	1
Double-doubles	10	1
Games played	32	T-1
Games started	28	3



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Rosenberg Rowdies: new traditions at basketball games

ALEJANDRO SOLANA
Staff Writer

Cameron Crazies, eRUPption Zone, the Izzone and now the Rosenberg Rowdies.

All of these, except of course for the last one, should sound familiar to any college basketball fan as the more popular student

sections around the country at their respective schools. How about FIU?

Well now, thanks to a group of FIU students trying to create new school traditions for future Panther's, "partying at the beach" has taken on a completely new meaning for Panther fans going to watch senior forward Rakeem Buckles and the rest

of the men's basketball team, led by Head Coach Anthony Evans.

They call themselves the Rosenberg Rowdies, and you can hear them chanting and yelling at all of the FIU home men's basketball games. Each member wearing the cliché beach attire, rocking their outrageous island shirts and oversized sombreros, sitting just behind the basket at the new Lime Court at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

Started by senior Andrew de Mino and his group of friends who all attend FIU, the Rowdies have created what they hope will be a new culture and tradition at the school for students who are trying to get the most out of its campus life and athletics program.

De Mino, along with Joshua Rivera, David Kinne and Giorgio Izzo all decided one day to start going to the men's basketball games wearing beach attire as a group, fitting the beach theme that the new Lime Court has given to the school. According to the group, they had grown tired of the dull atmosphere at the football games, and decided to take matters into their own hands.

"We were at the homecoming football game and the crowd was just non-existent. We sat around for a few hours thinking of ways to make these games better for not just us, but all of the students that are here at FIU," De Mino said. "With the new court for the team being a beach, it was just a perfect idea to start up a beach crew that would go to every game and make them more exciting."

The Rowdies, as they refer to themselves, believe that this is the perfect way to get students at FIU more involved on campus and enjoy their experience as Panthers more.

"It's not easy to get students to come out to the sporting events at our school because of the commuter nature at FIU. If the word got out of how much fun these basketball games truly are, then more and more people would attend the games making the student section a serious home court factor," said

De Mino, when asked why the stands are usually not full during games. He continued, "We hope that people get creative with the beach attire and come out and enjoy the games as much as possible."

Along with the beach attire, De Mino and the rest of the Rowdies have been thinking of new and different traditions that they hope to implement at the upcoming basketball games this season. A run around the new and improved FIU Nature Preserve after every FIU basketball team home win, and also staying to "pledge to thee dear FIU" with the singing of the Alma Mater after every home game. "We are even considering wearing speedos to the games, we just want to make sure we won't get in trouble," De Mino said.

The U.S. Century Bank arena holds up the 5,000 people, with the highest attendance of the year so far nowhere near that number. According to sophomore Edward Marcos, this is exactly what is needed to get people out at the games.

"College Basketball is one of the more exciting events students can attend while going to a university, and it is awesome to see someone finally start making the games and the experience that comes with it more enjoyable and fun here at FIU," Marcos said.

The Rosenberg Rowdies do have a twitter page, @RosensRowdies, and also are on other social media sites that can be found through their twitter page. They hope for other Panther fans that are looking to get the most out of their college experience to join them for future home games and experience the Beach, as they get rowdy cheering on their school.

The Rowdies will be out at the next Panther home game partying at the beach, when FIU (8-7) will host the Old Dominion Monarchs (6-9) on Jan. 16 at 7 p.m.

-sports@fiusm.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW DE MINO

The Rosenberg Rowdies have taken over the FIU student section during the basketball games at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

Solid backup: retro Jordans

SHOES, PAGE 4

If the Kobe Preludes are out of your price range, or just too colorful for your taste, have no fear as the Jordan 1 retro "Bobcats" will also be releasing that same day.

At a retail price of only \$130, the Bobcats are at a much more reasonable price range compared to the Kobe Preludes. The Bobcats are a high top sneaker that is completely grey based except for the bottom and inside of the shoe which is a bright orange color.

Even though I'm more of a bright and colorful shoe kind of guy, the Jordan 1 Bobcats are definitely a shoe that I would purchase. Let's forget the fact that it's a Jordan Retro and almost every Jordan retro is a must have, and focus on the fact that it's a perfect going out shoe even casual shoe.

Even though the bright orange is an attention grabber, the fact that it's located on the bottom of the shoe hides it's over barring color but allows just enough to catch someone's eye.

Nike Flight 13's coming up short this weekend

Adding on to the sneaker mayhem that will be happening this Saturday will be a pair of Nike Flight 13's. The first is a mid-top sneaker that is mostly white based with a few black outlines while also consisting of some lime green and blue colors mixed into the design of the shoe.

The second of the Flight 13s will be another mid-top shoe with a mostly white color base along with some outlines

of black however, this model will also have the color pink splashed into the design.

At a retail price of only \$100, the flight 13's are by far the biggest bargain this weekend. However the fact that the shoe itself is very 90s themed and just the bulkiness of the sneaker gives off a bad vibe. I just don't understand the design or theme of the shoe. I feel as though Nike left the Flight 13's without a form of identity.

-francisco.rivero@fiusm.com

Swim team prospers during break

SWIM, PAGE 8

and would go on to place second after a very strong Michigan team.

"Our success and performance is really hard to measure because the classic is based on a short course meter meet, we competed very good and fell against Michigan, one of the top teams in the nation," Horner said.

The FIU Invite closed out the weekend for the No.45

ranked Panthers as they won four events and were able to finish second to New Mexico University. Freshman Jennifer Alfani went on to win two of her events. The experienced diver for FIU Sabrina Beaupre shined once again by winning the one and three meter diving competitions while freshman Lily Kauffman came in third in the three meter diving event for the Panthers.

"The girls are dead tired, we came back from break on

the 27th and have been training every day since then and definitely didn't post our best times but we were able to fight through it and regroup for still a strong finish on the meet," Horner said.

It was a successful break for the FIU Swimming team as they were able to come up with a victory as well as two second place finishes in big tournaments, and although it was a tough couple of weeks for the Panthers they were

able to see past the struggles and exhaustion for a strong start. FIU is scheduled to have three more meets before the C-USA Championships, which is where the sight is set for this team, this is when they will be fully prepared to showcase their talents. Until then the Panthers host Central Connecticut this Saturday on Senior night.

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FIU Triathlon Club to host Night Color Run

SOFIA GALIANO
Staff Writer

The FIU Triathlon Club is getting their glow sticks ready for the first-ever night run at the Biscayne Bay Campus on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 7 p.m.

This glow in the dark paint party will stretch along the 3.1 mile bike trail surrounding BBC. This event is for FIU and non-FIU students to run or walk, in an effort to raise funds for the FIU Tri Club.

"We like to have events that people don't have to be a runner to come to," said Christina Reddick, FIU Tri Club race coordinator.

In 2013, the FIU Tri Club hosted themed running events including the "Homecoming Color Run" and "Running Scared 5K" for Halloween, all of which were free to FIU students and faculty.

However, the Night Color Run will cost University participants \$10 in addition to a 50 cent service fee for online registration; \$50 for non-FIU students along with a \$2.50 service fee; and \$20 for kids ages 14 and under including a \$1 service fee.

Although there is a no-refund

policy, fees can be transferred toward another Tri Club event.

For that price, all participants will receive glow in the dark accessories before the run, but runners are welcome to bring glow sticks and flashlights from home.

The first 1,000 people to register will receive a white FIU Color Run T-shirt to be splashed with colored powder and neon paint the night of the race.

Wacky outfits and colorful tutus are more than welcome for this event

"We are encouraging crazy costumes," said Reddick.

The event will take place behind the Aquatic Center, where there will be music by local DJs, food trucks and vendors handing out freebies.

Water bottles will be given to runners at the finish line.

"Night runs have gained popularity in the U.S. during this past year," Reddick said in an email. She said they are "the next big fun thing in running events."

Michael Vasconez, a senior psychology and criminal justice major who helps with the running events, was the one who suggested a night color run.

Vasconez said the first color run the Tri Club hosted in February 2013 was really successful and he thought a color run at night would be cool.

"The first one we had had a couple hundred people," he said.

To register, participants must visit the FIU Tri Club website at futriathlon.com/color/ prior to



COURTESY OF CHRISTINA REDDICK

FIU students have participated in previous color run events hosted at the Biscayne Bay Campus to raise money for the Triathlon Club. Now the FIU Triathlon Club will add night time color run events at BBC starting this spring.

“Night runs have gained popularity in the U.S. during this past year.”

Christina Reddick
Race Coordinator
FIU Triathlon Club

the race. Race day registration is not available.

When registering, participants choose the wave they will run in, with the first wave beginning at 7 p.m. and a new wave starting every 15 minutes until 9 p.m.

Packet pick-up will be in the BBC Bookstore on Wednesday Feb. 5 and Thursday Feb. 6 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. for FIU students and faculty.

For non-FIU students, packet pick-up will be at Sports Authority, 4100 Oakwood Blvd,

Hollywood, FL 33020 on Friday, Feb. 7, from noon to 9 p.m.

Participants may also retrieve their race packets the night of the run, but Reddick warns runners to expect long lines.

Free bag check will also be available to participants to store their belongings.

"We think the college students will enjoy the night run," said Reddick. "Night runs tend to have a 'party' vibe rather than a competitive vibe."

For those who need community service hours, volunteers are needed to promote the event using social media and on-campus marketing, helping with packet pick-up, checking in runners, and working the water and color stations.

Prospective volunteers can email Reddick at reddicke@fiu.edu or call (305) 919-4549 for more information.

"I believe our students will appreciate us hosting one of these popular runs on campus," said Reddick.

-sofia.galiano@fiusm.com

PACKET PICK-UP

FIU students and faculty at BBC Bookstore on Wednesday Feb. 5 and Thursday Feb. 6 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Non-FIU participants at Sports Authority, 4100 Oakwood Blvd, Hollywood, FL 33020 on Friday, Feb. 7, from noon to 9 p.m.

Participants may also pick up packets on the night of the run.

Women's swim team relishes successful winter break results

LUIS BARROSO
Staff Writer

As the Fall semester came to an end and students went into Winter break to take a rest, the FIU Swimming team was doing the opposite, as they were getting set to compete in four meets, three of which were invitationals.

FIU started the round of play with the Nova Invite in good fashion ending in second place out of ten teams. Senior Sonia Perez was the star of the meet, earning the Michael D. Fish Award by tallying 149 points over the four day tournament and being a big part of FIU's success in the Invitational. The Michael D. Fish Award is the top Swimmer

Award for the most outstanding female swimmer of the tournament. This performance by Perez also rewarded with the second Swimmer of the Week award for the Spain native this season.

The Panthers also had some notable performances from junior Johanna Gustafsdottir on the 200 backstroke by setting FIU's best time. FIU went on to go over some of the top schools on the meet while clinching second place in the tournament.

"We go into this meet as a training exercise and with all the training plus a four day tournament, we see it as a character builder for the girls, we didn't really focus on the result but on the progress from the

girls on this marathon meet, greet and determination was the key for that week," Said Head Coach Randy Horner.

Later during the week the Panthers had their second home meet of the season as they hosted the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets and were able to outscore them with a 130-94 mark. This meet set yet another program milestone for FIU as it became their first victory against an ACC school in their history.

"We competed like I hope we would, excited to end 2013 with a dual meet against a top opponent on the ACC, our program has never won a meet like that, and to do it convincingly by winning 9 out of 12 events is huge for us," Horner

said.

This was also an outstanding meet for senior Sabrina Beaupre as she took the victory on both diving events, she tallied 294.7 points on the one meter dive setting a new school season-high score. Perez also had a notable meet as she won two out of her three events and winning the 200 IM event. Freshman Jennifer Alfani captured a win by .01 seconds on the meet to give FIU another event victory.

FIU was able to finish this four-meet stretch on the semester break by competing in two meets in as many days, starting it off with the Orange Bowl classic this past Friday,

SEE SWIM, PAGE 7

WELCOME WEEK EVENTS

MONDAY, JAN. 6

Ask me tables 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at ACI area
"Food by the Bay" 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the ACI
"Dancing with the wolf" 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center.

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

Ask me tables 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at ACI area
"Involvement and Volunteer Fair" 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at ACI and ACII

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

"Golden Panther Brunch" 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the WUC Ballrooms.
"Dancing with the wolf" 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Recreation Center

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

"Splash and Dash" 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bay area by Aquatics

To have your event featured, email us at calendar@fiusm.com