

Rosenberg signing deal with Peru's former president Partnership for student exchange and study abroad

NICOLE MONTERO
Staff Writer

The Latin American and Caribbean Center is celebrating its 35th anniversary with Peru's former president Alan Garcia who will sign an agreement with President Mark B. Rosenberg



Former President of Peru Alan Garcia (left) will give a lecture at the MMC GC Ballrooms.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EMBASSY OF PERU

to open up student exchange and study abroad programs between a Peruvian university and FIU.

But before Garcia and Rosenberg put ink to paper, the School of International and Public Affairs will host Garcia on Feb. 3 in a lecture and Q&A session open to the entire University.

"How often do you get to be 10 to 15 feet away from a two-time, and possibly three-time, president?" said Randy Pestana, a graduate student and treasurer of MALOKA.

Garcia, a leader of the Peruvian Aprista Party and the only party member ever elected as president, served his first term from 1985 to

CHECKMATE



ANDRES APONTE/THE BEACON

Peter Bouwsma (left), mechanical engineering major, and Angelo Martinez (right), majoring in social work, played their first match of chess on campus. The two usually compete off campus.

1990 and his second term from 2006 to 2011. Under his leadership, Peru experienced an average 7 percent GDP growth a year and held inflation below 3 percent annually.

He is speculated to be running for office

again in the 2016 election.

"President Garcia is a statesman and a well-known figure in Latin America," said Frank O.

SEE DEAL, PAGE 2

Students allowed guns, University changes its policies

ADRIAN SUAREZ-AVILA
Staff Writer

In light of a court opinion delivered by the Florida First District Court of Appeal, public universities must comply with the statute that legally allows students to keep firearms in their parked cars on campus.

According to Benjamin Guerrero, assistant chief of the University's Police Department, the court opinion

presented the need of the Police Department to edit its previous policies regarding firearms on campus.

"The way that we interpreted the statute was that a school district could have a written policy that restricted individuals from bringing guns onto the property," Guerrero said. "What the First DCA held was that Florida's public universities are not school districts as intended by the legislature."

As a direct result, the University does possess the legal authority to draft its own policies banning firearms on campus.

"If the state statute doesn't apply, where the University Board of Governors has chosen to exercise jurisdiction with respect to maintenance of safety on college campuses, then the University [would have] the right to draft its own policy," said Leonard Strickman, founding dean and

professor at the College of Law.

According to Strickman, in the case that the state statute does apply, the University must comply with what BOG sets forth, losing authority to draft its own policies concerning firearms.

The policy change follows a recent state court decision striking down the University of North Florida's ban on weapons in cars. On Tuesday, Broward College became

the latest school to allow firearms on campus.

While FIU must abide by the Court's interpretation, students must also respect the requisites for firearm storage, as specified by the court opinion.

"A person can have a firearm in their vehicle as long as it is securely encased and not readily accessible,"

SEE GUNS, PAGE 2

Bluntly: Medical marijuana on Florida ballot



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Mishka Ahmad, junior in elementary education, signed a petition to include medical marijuana on the 2014 ballot made by the Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

DESTINEY BURT
Staff Writer

The long battle to get medical marijuana on the Florida ballot has been won, but the controversy has only started. The proposed constitutional amendment would allow the use of marijuana if prescribed by a doctor for debilitating conditions.

This will need 60 percent of votes to pass.

"The U.S. could help save lives by giving Americans access to cannabis, like people who are living with debilitating diseases and mental health illnesses," said Kelly Rodriguez, graduate student and former president of Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

Republican Gov. Rick Scott opposes medical marijuana, while Democrats former Gov. Charlie Crist and former state Sen. Nan Rich are

in support of it.

Damian Doss, a junior political science major and the treasurer of SSDP, feels that the republicans aren't against the idea of the legalization; it's just a party politics issue.

"The Republicans introduced legislation two weeks ago to allow a certain strand of marijuana, Charlottes Web, for epileptic kids," Doss said. "So the republicans do support medical marijuana, they just want to get it passed and claim that the Republicans passed the marijuana legislation."

Some long-term ideas of getting medical marijuana legalized are hopes that eventually Florida will legalize it for recreational use as well.

"We've seen it become an excuse to further the road of civil liberties. It has amounted to enormous injustices in terms of who are in prisons and why they are there," said

Sean Walsh, a professor in the Department of Politics & International Relations and SSDP faculty advisor.

SSDP President Sebastian Hernandez, a senior in psychology, noted the hefty sum to process a drug user through the criminal system.

"It's a hefty sum to keep them in prisons and to force them through rehab programs," Hernandez said. "All these costs are paid for by us, the taxpayers."

According to Drug Sense, the U.S. has spent over \$3 billion on the drug war this year alone.

Given that 80 percent of Florida supports the legislation, there is a possibility that medicinal marijuana will get legalized.

"I believe when Florida legalizes medicinal marijuana, it will be a breaking point in the south," Doss said. "We

will be the first southern state to recognize marijuana for any purpose other than it being a crime."

Washington, D.C., and 21 other states have already legalized medical use of marijuana.

There's concern that without the legalization of medicinal marijuana there is an infringement upon our rights.

"If you're concerned about the idea of freedom, then we should be very concerned of what's happened with the idea of the fourth amendment," Walsh said. "In terms of individual health and well being, there can't possibly be a good excuse to tell a person who is dying of cancer 'I'm sorry, you shouldn't be able to smoke a joint.'"

If votes allow Florida to

SEE VOTE, PAGE 2

WORLD NEWS

Ukrain lawmakers consider protester amnesty

Ukraine's parliament discussed an amnesty Wednesday for those arrested during weeks of protests in the crisis-torn country - but some of the possible conditions attached to it would be unacceptable to the opposition. The amnesty bill is part of a series of concessions from embattled President Viktor Yanukovich, after a week of street clashes between police and protesters and protesters' seizure of government buildings in western Ukraine.

Syria talks in Geneva make 'positive' step forward

Syrian negotiators discussed the establishment of a transitional government body for the first time Wednesday, an opposition delegate said, describing it as a "positive step forward," a day after talks were cut short over a U.S. decision to resume aid to the opposition.

Thai firms feel squeeze from crisis, seek solution

Hotel occupancy rates in central Bangkok have plunged. Conventions have been canceled. The latest spasm in Thailand's near decade of political upheaval is taking an economic toll as anti-government protesters barricade Bangkok's major intersections and confrontations between protesters and supporters of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra periodically flare into deadly clashes.

For more world news, check out FIUSM.com.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 25, Issue 56 the article titled "FIU hosts event to help women snag a husband" said the event was a "new and improved Tuesday Times Roundtable" but that was never stated. In the same story, the statement "Felix personally encourages women to consider snagging a husband before graduation" was incorrect; Felix did not say she personally encourages women to consider snagging a husband before graduation".

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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Center celebrating LACC'S 35th anniversary with Peru's former president

DEAL, PAGE 1

Mora, professor and director of LACC. "I thought this would be a great opportunity for someone like that to visit campus to engage faculty, students and the community outside of FIU on issues that are of interest to all of us."

Mora said attendees will understand what a traditional Latin American politician is like and will experience first-hand Garcia's perceptions of political, global and social issues. These issues could range from matters of poverty or equality to matters of arms race or global security. However, Garcia is allowed to speak on any matter that he deems necessary.

"We've given Garcia a very broad parameter of things to speak about," Mora said. "He is a guy that is very charismatic and likes to talk, so he will probably say anything that comes to mind. However, I imagine that he'll mostly talk

about the trends in the region—trends of challenges and opportunities."

The lecture, co-sponsored by MALOKA, the graduate student association at LACC, will end with a Q&A segment for guests to directly engage with Garcia.

"Latin America could be a very polarizing topic, so I'm very interested to see what questions we get," said Eric Joyner, a graduate student at LACC and philanthropy chair of MALOKA.

Pestana hopes Garcia's talk is geared more toward education, considering the former president's visit is part of a new partnership to promote exchange between Peruvian universities and our own.

"This event is going to be one of the biggest ones we've had because there are major things happening," Pestana said. "We can learn directly from the source because Garcia has the experience."

Garcia and Rosenberg will sign the

agreement Feb. 4.

"The partnership and the event are great opportunities for all students," said Pestana. "You don't get to talk to a president every day—no matter what country they're from."

The lecture is scheduled for 4 p.m. in the Graham Center Ballroom at Modesto Maidique Campus.

-nicole.montero@fiusm.com

EVENT INFO

What: Lecture by Former President Alan Garcia of Peru
When: Feb. 3, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Where: Graham Center Ballroom
RSVP: Visit eventbrite.com or call (305) 348-2894.

Court opinion causes change in on-campus firearm policies

GUNS, PAGE 1

Guerrero said. "One can have it in a holster with a safety strap, a locked glove compartment or a gun case with a closing device."

The gun must also be out of the student's reach when both are inside of the vehicle.

Some expressed delight upon receiving the news.

"I think it's great that students are now being allowed to carry guns in their cars," said Victor Ponce, a freshman chemistry major. "There are a lot of people out there looking for trouble, and I think students should have a firearm to keep themselves safe."

Despite the fact that the right to bear arms is a fundamental one, some students could not help but cringe at the thought of this law's enforcement.

"The state is in full right to

allow guns on campus, but that doesn't mean it's a good idea to give students the chance to keep guns in their cars," said Analía Henestrosa, freshman psychology major. "Parties are common on campus and I believe a student who's been

Other students shared Henestrosa's concern.

"I believe there have been three or four shootings on college campuses this week," said Angelica-Joy Dumervil, a junior political science and international relations major.

The fact that college campuses are common areas for shootings says a lot about the culture of gun violence in this nation.

Angelica Joy Dumervil
Junior
Political science and international relations major

drinking can easily go to their car, grab the gun and cause mayhem."

Most colleges still don't allow guns anywhere else on campus, though. But Florida Carry, a gun rights group, filed a lawsuit saying students should have the right to keep guns in their dorms as people are allowed them in homes.

The most recent shooting on a college campus was a shooting on Jan. 24 at South Carolina State that left a student dead outside his dorm.

"The fact that college campuses are common areas for shootings says a lot about the culture of gun violence in this nation," Dumervil said. "I only see allowing concealed

weapons on campus furthering the violence."

Although the recent court opinion may result in legitimate concern among students, UPD said it is prepared to handle the situation effectively.

"We have prepared a training bulletin for our officers, letting them know what the First DCA ruled," Guerrero said. "And how we, as a law enforcement agency, must comply with its opinion."

However, there is a desire for change.

"In the meantime, we need to continue to work under the current law and enforce it as it's written," Guerrero said. "At least until someone moves forward on this to try to change the statute or there's another ruling from another court allowing us to draft our own University policy."

-news@fiusm.com

Floridians to vote on medical marijuana in coming November

VOTE, PAGE 1

legalize medicinal marijuana it may be a long time before we see any legalization for recreational purposes.

"Florida is a very conservative state. We are very old fashioned so we are going to need time to make sure that the medicinal marijuana system is working. It needs to be seen as

a respectable medicine," Doss said.

Though some of these views seem positive, there are also some opposing views towards this action. Gregory Ayres, a junior political science major, is against the gesture to get medicinal marijuana legalized.

"While some may point to purported positive effects in

other states where medicinal marijuana has already been legalized, the long-term effects of these policies is yet to be seen," Ayres said. "Therefore, a cautious approach is taken toward any new policies that only decades ago were unthinkable to the public at large."

Ayres said there's a community of people who

"logically fear that this could lead to the proliferation of the drug and consequently increased exposure of previously banned substances."

Voters will cast their ballots in November.

Additional reporting by "Associated Press."

-destiney.burt@fiusm.com

You shall not pass! Graham Center's pedestrian problem

JENNIPHER SCHAFER
Contributing Writer

Overcrowding on campus isn't really an issue unless you're trying to park your car at a peak hour. However, there are occasions when it seems that everyone on campus is in GC. More specifically, they are blocking the entire main hall by the pit, making a simple task like walking to class daunting. Granted fundraising events such as bake sales often are a tasty diversion at times, it is still incredibly frustrating to have virtually no room to move through the building because one or more groups have commandeered the entire path for a display, show, or other event. Some may think it's lame, but if I have to reroute my entire path to a class on the second floor of the GC because one group has taken over it is irritating.

Backing up a few steps, allow me to explain. I have my reasons for not joining in the crowds which gather around these events.

For one, the music is nearly always louder than most concerts I've attended. And I've been to Ozzfest to see Disturbed, Slipknot, Manson, and Sabbath, so that's loud. If I can hear the music in the back of the Fresh Food Company, chances are it really is too loud. I also am one of the students on campus with a service animal and music that loud can cause him physical harm to his eardrums; not good. The other issue is timing. These events seem to always render it impossible to get to class on time even if I've left the dorm with time to spare. The crowds are packed around the entire pit and block even the hall behind the stairs, making veering in that direction just as difficult.

The biggest issue isn't so much the events themselves. I understand clubs have events and it can get adrenaline pumping in some of the student body. What isn't ok is blocking the entire pathway so that anyone on their way to class is forced to practically jump over the tables in the dining area to get around the

throng of people crowded around the event. A little crowd control would be a very welcome thing at events where this kind of people traffic jam full of onlooker delays is expected. Keep the action in the pit and mark out some kind of a buffer zone so others can walk by and get to class. I hardly think it's too much to ask that people have a path.

Perhaps these things can't be helped at all, but if that is in fact the case, why are these kind of events scheduled in the pit at all? If they can't be contained and allow the purpose of university, that is going to class and learning, then are they hindering? I think yes, they are hindering if they spill out and prevent students from making it to class both on time and in one piece. I'm sure they're fun, but the purpose for our being here is to graduate. Maybe I'm the boring girl who doesn't go to all the parties, but I don't think I'm the only one here.

-opinion@fiusm.com

Miami: a unique experience

SANDEEP VARRY
Contributing Writer

"Dude, I'm in the United States of America," is probably the first statement that comes out of one's mouth when they call their friends back home after arriving to this country. Unlike others, I had to wait over a year to say the same, when I made a trip to my best friend's home in Columbus, Ohio.

One of the primary reasons for me to consider FIU was the feedback I received from a friend. He emphasized the graduate assistantships and the warm weather, which is similar to the city in which I grew up. But, what he did forget to mention was that I should make a trip to the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages in my hometown of Hyderabad, to get a 101 in the Spanish language.

The moment I landed in Miami, I got my firsthand experience of being in a city that runs on a language not pre-programmed in my head. The first semester, especially the first few weeks, consisted of a ton of trash talking about the language issue. And it really did not help that none of my friends who I came along with spoke Spanish.

I started noticing how life could get tough if one could not roll their 'r's or pronounce their 'j' as 'h'. From the Publix across the street to the Walmart across the town, you just could not fill your shopping cart without finding a bilingual

speaker to assist you. And when the time came to cut your hair at the old Cuban barber shop, well, you just prayed and hoped for the best.

This was all back when I was new here, but now, like a wave replacing a wave at South Beach, I never noticed when my 'Namastes' and 'Hellos' were replaced by 'Holas'.

The transition was smooth, at least for me, but I am afraid I cannot say the same for everyone around me. After living here for the past few years, the magic city of Miami has earned a permanent spot in my heart as my second hometown.

I can get anywhere with my eyes closed, figuratively speaking, and I can fill my shopping cart without any bilingual assistance literally speaking. In fact, I find no hesitation in talking to the lady, who rolls down her window and addresses me as "niño," before she asks me the directions to the graduation ceremony.

It is not uncommon to hear someone say "the best part about Miami is that it's so close to the United States," when they are comparing Miami to the rest of this country. Also, I've heard few international students complain about not getting the "American Life" experience, which they thought they would while watching "FRIENDS" or "Spiderman" back in their countries.

Miami is a nation of its own,

with a culture of its own. I get that, but I neither argue nor force my opinion upon anyone. And if someone from Boston or Chicago bad-mouths Miami, why should I respond to them? I'll let the Heat respond to their criticism during the playoff season.

The key to having a great time in Miami and at FIU is 'embracing'. Embracing the culture shock, not being able to speak enough English to get that awesome American accent and embracing that to change lanes you don't really have

“
The key to having a great time in Miami and at FIU is 'embracing'.
”

to use your turn signals.

It gives me immense pleasure when I call my family back home to tell them stories not just about my friends from India, but also from the U.S., Mexico, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Turkey and the list goes on. I can never undermine the role of FIU in providing such a platform, to make something like that possible.

Talking about diversity is one thing, but living it is another. In my personal experience, I haven't come across a city or university that glorifies diversity as much as

FIU or Miami. Of course, no city or school is 100% perfect, but, what matters is how much you make out of it.

People, as a part of a city or university, define those places. What defines FIU and Miami is the perfect blend of nationalities living under one sky. If I were to roughly sum up the book "This Land is Our Land," written by Alex Stepick, Guillermo Grenier, Max Castro and Marvin Dunn, I would say while everybody comes to the United States to assimilate into its culture, Miami has been successful in making the United States assimilate to Miami's culture.

I can go all day talking about this topic, but the best part is the element of surprise in building your very own experience. Much has changed about how I interpret the things around me. My previous perspective about this city has definitely received one of those hard Muhammad Ali knockout blows. In the end, no matter where you are, the place is just half the factor. The remainder is the kind of friends you make and the people you surround yourself with. With the right kind of crowd, there is no running out of things to do at the University or in Miami.

With that said, you'll have to excuse me. I need to get a guava pastelito before my cafe con leche gets cold.

-opinion@fiusm.com

BEACON | Editorial Kovens Center: a bad business model that needs a revamp

The Kovens Conference Center is bleeding money, and until recently the University was doing nothing about it.

The Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management began managing the center back in 2008, when it was already mounting in debt.

Since June 2013, the center, south of the Biscayne Bay Campus has had a negative balance of almost \$380,000, of which about \$100,000 was from the total losses of the last fiscal year.

The center is supposed to be self-sustaining by renting out conference space in the first and second floors; however, expenses have continued to surpass revenue, according to an audit conducted by the Office of Internal Audit.

Although the College of Medicine and the Chaplin School's Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Education and Research use the third floor, how can these departments take up an entire floor of a building operating on a negative balance?

The Office of Internal Audit says that the pricing method for the conference services in the past two fiscal years did not factor in the "incurred costs of the center."

This seems like a bad business model and naive management.

It only makes sense to factor operating costs into a fee for your business.

Management said it feared that raising Kovens' prices would put the center out of the market, but hotels and conference centers nearby are probably in better economic shape than Kovens.

It seems reckless to align our business model to them for years, ignoring the fact that it won't cover its own expenses.

The audit also reports fees that were not accounted for, when the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management used Kovens' resources without paying the center.

Management then said they paid directly from their own funds to offset the use.

If any other department were trying to use the center this way, we don't think they would be able to pull it off, so the Chaplin School shouldn't take advantage of its management position.

Since it is clear that the University on its own cannot sustain it, we suggest that it is time to cut our losses and partner with a private firm.

The University does love partnerships, after all.

Share the losses—share the profits—with Hilton or Marriott that could provide a similar deal like Royal Caribbean with internships.

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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Roundtable to discuss aggression, competition

BARBARA PENALVER
Contributing Writer

Though it appears that it happens mainly in high school, female aggression is a continuing problem in our society. An article published in the New York Times that dealt with the issue caught the eye of one of our own librarians, Ava Iuliano. After reading it, she decided to have this discussion on female aggression as one of the Tuesday Roundtables, specifically the one that took place on Jan. 28.

Iuliano also stated that her intent for this discussion was “to spark a thoughtful discussion on female aggression that will not devolve to women-bashing but rather draw larger, overarching conclusions about human behavior in general.”

Iuliano said she chose to have this event because “The article really peaked my curiosity about how we interact with each other and the reasoning behind what we do. As a librarian, I ask critical questions whenever I read conclusions drawn from research studies.”

The discussion started with the

moderator, Iuliano, showing the audience the trailer to the infamous 2004 movie “Mean Girls,” seeing as how that’s where the name or the discussion came from.

One of the first questions that she asked was what attendees thought female aggression meant. Some of the answers thrown around were “subtle or indirect cattiness, bullying, or shaming girls due to how they display their sexuality.”

Iuliano then went on to ask an important question: How much do we think biology influences our behavior?

Several females in the audience raised their hands and stated that they thought biology influenced our behavior completely. They stated that women, as a whole, are “inherently catty” and turn against one another because at the end of the day “we’re all looking for a mate.”

After, Iuliano went on to show the experiment that had been conducted by anthropologist Sarah B. Hrdy, which had been talked about in the New York Times, and had been what had peaked Iuliano’s attention and made her plan this discussion.

TRAVEL TIME



OSCAR LIN/THE BEACON

Grace Taylor, part of the University study abroad council, guides students of any academic year to prepare for study abroad and exchange programs.

The experiment involved how women reacted to other women who were dressed conservatively versus those who were dressed more provocatively. As it turns out, the women were more catty and hostile towards the women who were dressed provocatively once they had left the room.

“Why is this?” Iuliano asked. To which someone in the audience answered that it is because the girls who are being hostile are projecting their insecurities onto the girl they are harassing or being aggressive towards.

Some of the other points that were brought up by members of the audience were: Why is sex talked about, if it is something that happens in private between two people? Why is it such a big issue?

The end of the discussion revolved around the question: Who are the minds behind these ideas? Who is behind the idea that women have to put each other down in order to ‘feel better’ or because they feel the other girl is doing something wrong? Would it be men, seeing as how we live in a patriarchal society? Or women in general who choose to

think that way?

It’s a question that no one that attended the discussion could really answer. I felt that the event was worthwhile and interesting. It opened my eyes to things that I’ve done and that I’ve seen other people do that could be changed. As one of the members in the audience said, “Women shouldn’t bash each other. We’re the same species, we should work together.”

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Student Leadership Summit conference gives students chance to learn and grow

GISELLE CANCIO
Staff Writer

The FIU Student Leadership Summit is a one-day conference for current student leaders, featuring sessions that focus on developing leadership competencies, such as critical thinking, ethical reasoning, communication, diversity awareness, interpersonal skills, civic engagement, and fiscal responsibility.

Throughout the day, there are different workshop sessions that cover the competencies alongside a keynote speaker.

The presenters range from undergraduate students and faculty to faculty and graduate assistants.

“Students have the opportunity to learn from the vast expertise of faculty, administrators, employers, and alumni,” said Patricia Lopez-Guerrero, Associate Director for the Center for Leadership and Service. “They also get to establish a network of support within the university and community.”

The 11th Annual Student Leadership Summit will take place on Saturday Feb. 1, 2014 at the Biscayne Bay Campus. This

year’s Summit will offer over 27 workshop choices to an anticipated audience of 390 FIU students.

The Student Leadership Summit has been successful in the past growing from 50 participants in its initial year of 2004 to almost 400 in 2014.

The Summit is coordinated through a collaboration of many FIU departments, including the Center for Leadership & Service, Campus Life, Orientation & Parent Programs, Women’s Center, Career Services, Residence Life and Athletics.

This years keynote speaker is Charisse

Grant. Grant is the Senior Vice President for Programs at the Miami Foundation. She leads the Foundation’s grant making and leadership development programs. Before joining the Foundation, she was a reporter for the Miami Herald newspaper covering a range of issues. She served on the board of the Children’s Trust and the City of Miami Bond Oversight Board and worked as a volunteer teacher in southern Africa

The competencies covered this year are clarified values, effective communication,

SEE SUMMIT, PAGE 5

Panthers give their take on the Grammys

JUNETTE REYES
Entertainment Director

This year’s Grammys saw several artists take home awards that were either well received or not generally favored among FIU students.

A lot of debate surrounds two particular artists: Macklemore and Kendrick Lamar. The two artists were nominated for “Best New Artist” and “Best Rap Album,” both of which were won by Macklemore and producer Ryan Lewis.

Senior advertising major and marketing minor, Lyanne Rodriguez

has no issues with Macklemore having taken home the win for “Best New Artist.”

“In the media, there was a lot about Kendrick Lamar not getting ‘Best New Artist.’ That was everywhere the morning after, saying that Macklemore didn’t deserve to have that title,” said Rodriguez. “Honestly, I think he had a breakthrough year. All his songs were phenomenal; they were played on the radio. Personally, I think he deserved that. He did an awesome job and I can’t say he didn’t deserve it.”

Freshman communication arts

major, Ashley Newman, on the other hand, did not agree that Macklemore deserved the win.

“The fact that Kendrick Lamar did not win ‘Best New Artist’ was the most disappointing moment of the Grammys,” said Newman. “I think Kendrick Lamar is a great artist and he has come really far in his career from where he started on his own. It’s the same with Macklemore but I just think that Kendrick Lamar, especially after his performance, really did deserve it.”

Cera Gomez, freshman and criminal justice major, seconds

Newman’s opinion, except her vote would have been for the New Zealand newcomer, Lorde, who was not even nominated for “Best New Artist.”

“He was good; I just don’t think he deserved all those awards. I think Lorde should have won more, even though I was still happy she won something,” said Gomez.

Lorde won both “Song of the Year and “Best Pop Solo Performance.”

Junior biology major, Kevin Persaud, and freshman communication arts major, Dylan Lopez, were more upset that

Macklemore and producer Ryan Lewis won “Best Rap Album” for “The Heist” instead of Kendrick Lamar for “good kid, m.A.A.d city.”

“Macklemore shouldn’t have won ‘Best Rap Album.’ Kendrick Lamar should have,” Persaud said. “His album was more of a pop album. I think he deserved everything else but not ‘Best Rap Album.’”

“I think Kendrick Lamar deserved it for the ‘Best Rap Album,’” Lopez said.

Kendrick Lamar and Macklemore

SEE GRAMMYS, PAGE 5

The best and worst dressed of the Grammys

JOHANY HERNANDEZ
Contributing Writer

The Grammys are a time to really stand out and take fashion risks. If you want to understated silhouettes and classic colors, go to the Golden Globes or the Oscars. The Grammys always leave everyone talking, whether for better or for worse. Overall, there were looks that made headlines and others that looked like yesterday's news.

Taylor Swift, the

pop-country superstar glowed in a metallic dress designed by Gucci. Normally Swift likes to dress in demure and lackluster colors, but this dress is nothing short of amazing. The Gucci premiere gown was tailored to perfection because it fit her like a glove and shimmered throughout the carpet.

If Beyoncé would've released her self-titled album sooner, she might've taken home many awards, but this femme fatale did no wrong on the red carpet. Her lace,

see-through Michael Costello gown, that looked nothing like your grandmas doilies, graced the carpet and was stunning in white.

Christine Teigen, model and love of John Legend, wore a gold sequin, strapless gown designed by Johanna Johnson. The gown had a sexy "V" cutout on top to show a bit of cleavage and a slit to show some leg. This dress answers the question of why John Legend can't stop writing love songs.

Nadea Volianova turned heads at the red carpet, but for all the wrong reasons. She is an electronic artist and was born in Paris, France, but there was nothing Chanel about her ensemble. She wore an electric blue dress with lace up sandal booties and together is one hot, fairy-like mess. Not to mention her hair looked flat and fried. If you didn't know who she was, you will now.

Sara Bareilles baffled me with her mullet dress and all its feathery decorations. The

Blumarine gown looked like a duck flew through an airplane fan. The fit was wrong, and the matchy-matchy tangerine clutch and shoes were nothing short of juvenile. The beachy-boho hair was pretty cool, but made no sense with the gown. Nothing but question marks for Miss Bareilles.

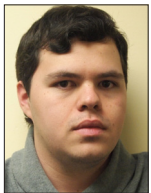
Just when you thought she did it wrong on the Golden Globes, she continued that trend of wearing horrible dresses at the Grammys. Paula Patton, wife of Robin Thicke,

stunned me at the red carpet and it was more like from a tranquilizer that was her dress.

Designed by Nicolas Jebran, the zebra print, painted on dress was disastrous, but what caught my eyes first were the lions designed over her chest. Her lioness hair continued my confusion. Zebra print plus lions over chest plus lioness hair equals perfection and cohesive? I don't think so.

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"I, Frankenstein" movie turns out dead on arrival



RAFAEL ABREU

I walked into "I, Frankenstein" hoping to see a movie so terrible that I would be enjoying it all the way through.

What I got instead was a mediocre movie that was neither good nor bad, just okay.

Based on the graphic novel by Kevin Greivoux, "I, Frankenstein" is about Frankenstein's monster (Aaron Eckhart) being pulled into a war between demons and gargoyles.

The book of Victor Frankenstein is found, detailing how he made his creation, and it is taken and shut away, lest the demons get a hold of it.

The monster, named Adam by an angel who leads the gargoyles (Miranda Otto), wants no part in this war and decides to leave the gargoyle's protection, choosing to live his own life and fend off whatever demons find him.

Two hundred years later, we are caught up with Adam, who seems to have kept his agility and strength, but not his long hair. In this present we are introduced to Prince Naberius (Bill Nighy), a man who has been hunting Adam ever since he ran off. Naberius basically wants to re-animate an

army of corpses so the demons that reside in Hell can come back and take over Earth.

The plot of "I, Frankenstein" is pretty one dimensional, as are most of the characters: their motivations are basic and there's not much deep meaning behind anything they say. None of this is bad, per say, but it displays what is, in my view, the film's biggest flaw:

It's nothing special. The acting is okay, as are the action sequences, the cinematography, and the script itself.

The film never featured terrible acting or ridiculous plot holes; sure there are a couple moments where I realized the script wasn't as polished as it could have been, and there are at least one or two plot points that are brushed aside, but it's really just a product of the film's simplistic formula.

When things happen, and they're taken care of, the film moves on, regardless of how important the characters made it seem; rarely is something that happened previously brought up, and when it is, it's brushed off quickly.

I found myself slightly bored at times, realizing that, against the filmmakers best efforts, I was rarely so entertained as to be on the edge of my seat. Seeing Nighy was probably the most exciting

part of the movie: his way of being is always entertaining to some degree and his mannerisms can be extremely enjoyable (an eyebrow raise can say so much).

The action is acceptable but never too thrilling, if only because no one ever seemed to be in much danger (gargoyles ascend to Heaven when killed) and Eckhart doesn't make for an exciting action hero.

There are also many moments where characters merely talk and converse, and that wasn't a problem for me, but it might be for some. Also, there's barely any humor in this film, only coming from Nighy and occasionally dialogue said by other characters.

"I, Frankenstein" is not the failure I hoped it would be, instead opting to be an extremely average piece of fantasy fiction. From the action, to the acting, to the dialogue, everything is pretty much as "okay" as it can get. I find films like these hard to recommend, since there's barely anything special about them; you may see it and like or dislike it much more than I, but there's a greater chance you'll just walk out of this film and say "that was okay."

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Leadership summit to leave Panthers with good memories

SUMMIT, PAGE 4

diversity, interpersonal skills, leadership skills, social responsibility, event management/program development, professional development, healthy behaviors and satisfying lifestyle.

Clarified values offer the leader a compass to navigate through a variety of leadership situations and challenges. Effective communication helps ensure achievement of goals. Understanding of diversity is developed through celebration of diverse cultures, advocacy for the needs and identities of all members within the community and recognition of the diverse communities within the campus and beyond.

Interpersonal skills are critical for successful leadership. Student leaders must understand that their role is to be a positive change agent, to influence others and create a vision. Social responsibility includes on and off campus behaviors matching the values of the organization and institution leaders represent. Student leaders have a unique opportunity to learn and practice effective event management and they should strive toward understanding the appropriate

steps and issues involved in event planning and management.

Establishing healthy lifestyle habits while in college translates into healthy lifestyle habits after college. Balancing time between school, work, leisure, recreation and family will help student leaders stay emotionally, physically and spiritually grounded.

"One of the main reasons I love going to the leadership summit is because as a student leader, I am given the opportunity to attend sessions that teach me how to enhance my leadership qualities and apply them within the student organizations that I am a part of," said Marlena Bruno, junior majoring in health services administration.

The Summit has been coordinated by a planning committee since June of 2013 and the committee is excited to demonstrate their hard work this coming Saturday.

"The Student Leadership Summit is a great learning and education opportunity to enhance leadership skills and I encourage all students to attend at least once while at FIU," Lopez-Guerrero said.

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Panthers' take on the Grammys nominations

GRAMMYS, PAGE 4

were also nominated for "Album of the Year," but that went to Daft Punk for "Random Access Memories."

Emmanuel Lopez, sophomore international relations major, was generally against Daft Punk winning this award as well as the "Best Dance/Electronic Album" category.

"There was a lot of debate over [Daft Punk's] album," Lopez said. "They criticized the electronic industry for using gadgets on the computer and making prerecorded sounds. It sounded nothing like how electronica would sound nowadays."

Lopez also noted that he would have voted for Macklemore's "The Heist" to win "Album of the Year," as it had more known music that was played on the radio compared to "Random Access Memories."

Disappointments aside, the live

performances seemed to be the common factor for why students watched the Grammys.

"Kendrick's performance was the best," Persaud said. Rodriguez noted that the performances were her favorite part about this year's Grammys.

"I think it was a year of breakthrough performances. Whether it was Beyoncé and Jay-Z's performance, Macklemore singing with Madonna; that was just fabulous," said Rodriguez. Gomez agreed that the performances were her favorite, especially the combination of several artists sharing the stage.

"All the mashups of people that played together, the older people and newer people, that was awesome. Probably my favorite was the mashup of Imagine Dragons and Kendrick Lamar," said Gomez.

Dylan Lopez dissented from this, having said that "This was the most boring Grammys

ever; all the performances were pretty terrible."

Other students opted out of watching the Grammys altogether.

Suni Ruiz, freshman international relations major, said "I don't care for them. I think the important parts will be posted online anyway, so I'll get my info like that. It should be enough to sum up the Grammys."

Emmanuel Lopez, despite having strong opinions on the winners, also decided not to watch.

"I didn't watch it because I'm not interested. I would watch it if it was with a friend. There are some artists that I feel should win, but they don't, so I get sort of frustrated at that," Lopez said.

Ken Levi, junior communications major, shared a similar sentiment in terms of not seeing the artists he wants to be nominated, specifically within the rock genre.

"It seemed like there really aren't that many more rock bands that go there anymore, which is an awesome hybrid of music. We need to see more rock groups performing and winning awards and start selling out venues and just playing really well," Levi said.

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WINNER INFO

Record of the year

"Get Lucky" – Daft Punk, featuring Pharrell Williams and Nile Rodgers

Album of the year

"Random Access Memories" – Daft Punk

Song of the year

"Royals" – Lorde

Home, sweet home for FIU baseball in 2014

FRANCISCO RIVERO
Asst. Sports Director

It's all about home cooking for the FIU baseball team this year as the 2014 season will kick off with 12 straight home games and 33 home games in total.

After finishing six games under .500 last season, Head Coach Henry "Turtle" Thomas has no doubt that the learning experience and return of key players will help the development of this ball club.

"We are expecting an outstanding season this year, we got a lot of veteran guys back," Thomas said. "We got our three outfielders back, we got three out of our four starters in the infield back and we got a great catcher coming back."

The 2014 season will also be the first season in Conference USA for the baseball team, but Thomas has no fear that his guys will be able to step up to the plate and compete with the higher level of competition.

"Yes, we do need to raise our level of play because we have a lot of good teams in our conference," Thomas said. "Teams like Rice and East Carolina and it's also good that we've played Rice the last three years so it's not like we are not used to seeing that type of team or anything like that. No doubt that it should be a very interesting year this season."

Thomas isn't the only one expecting his team to step up to the new level of competition. Senior pitcher Ty Sullivan feels like the Panthers have something to prove this season.

"We've been talking all year that we feel like we are the underdogs," Sullivan said. "We are a new face



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Senior pitcher Ty Sullivan feels like the Panthers are "underdogs" as they enter Conference USA in this upcoming season. Sullivan will represent FIU's pitchers during the team's inaugural C-USA campaign.

for the whole conference and we are coming in and hopefully we are coming in hot. We want to shake this conference and show them that FIU means business and we are here to play, we aren't here to let these big boys roll over us."

The 2014 season will open up at FIU when the Panthers will host visiting Rutgers, a team that went 28-30 and 14-20 when they were on the road.

However, the Panthers know that every year is different and when asked which game caught the teams

interest they all said Rutgers.

"I know we open up with Rutgers and I'm a big fan of Rutgers," Sullivan said. "They got a solid program over there and it will be a fun matchup."

"From beginning to end Rutgers is always a solid team," Thomas said. "They play us or Miami every year."

There's no question that the amount of injuries that the Panthers had last season effected FIU's overall performance.

So it was no surprise that when asked what was the number one thing

that needed to be worked on in the offseason, Thomas answer was short and sweet, health.

"More than anything it was just to be healthy, I know that sounds kind of crazy for a coach to say that I just think that guys coming back off the disabled list is as important as anything else," Thomas said. "It's just like anything else we at FIU have a certain amount of depth on our team but when you lose to many of your stars it's just very difficult to compete with teams that we are playing. Especially last year when we were playing

teams like Ole Miss and Rice."

On top of injuries, the Panthers were also inconsistent when it came to pitching throughout last season.

Finishing with a team earned run average of 5.03, the Panthers also allowed 289 walks last season which is a nightmarish scenario for Thomas.

"We walked very few guys in the fall which in the past year or two we have walked way too many guys. We would have like 10 or 12 freebies in a game which means walks, hit by pitches, errors and wild pitches things like that," Thomas said. "When you have that many freebies in a game you're talking about four innings of bases loaded. Our goal is to have only three freebies in a game and if we can do that we will win a lot more baseball games."

To help Thomas out with this process he has brought in new pitching coach Sam Peraza.

Peraza joins the Panther coaching staff after spending last season as Cal State Northridge's pitching coach.

Peraza brings to FIU nine years of pitching coaching experience along with producing a total of four conference Pitchers of the Year and eight All-Americans as a pitching coach.

"There's no doubt in my book that he is the best pitching coach we've had in the seven years that I've been here, no ifs ands or buts about it," Thomas said. "He brings a lot of knowledge, he brings a lot of skill and he knows all the little details of pitching from things like pick offs to bunt defense. He's really stressed the point of going after hitters and trying to get ahead and the expanding the strike zone."

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New pitching coach will bring aggressiveness

LUIS BARROSO
Staff Writer

As Spring rounds the corner, it means baseball season is also approaching, and for this FIU baseball team, a couple of questions still remain unanswered.

A big question coming into this offseason is the pitching staff, FIU is known for its offense but the pitching has held them back the past couple of years.

As this season approaches, Head Coach Henry "Turtle" Thomas looks for the pitching performance to turn around.

Coming into the picture this season is Sam Peraza, he was named the new pitching coach for this upcoming season and he is ready to take on the challenges this season brings.

"I'm excited to be here, the boys have been working hard this Fall and Spring," Peraza said. "and you will definitely see a more aggressive

and competitive staff this season"

Peraza, a California native born and raised in Los Angeles, decided to make the jump to the East Coast after four collegiate seasons as a pitcher.



SAM PERAZA

Peraza finished his senior year at San Diego State University, followed by nine successful seasons coaching in the West Coast, in programs such as Cal State L.A. University and Cal State Northridge, which he led this past year to one of the most successful pitching seasons in program history.

Under Peraza, the team recorded it's best earned run average in 21 years and reached a season-high in overall wins.

A record that stood since since 2002. Peraza brings some of the California knowledge and mindset into the South Florida stage.

West Coast pitching differs from the East Coast because in California pitching is built more under a fundamentals and mechanics

platform, while on the East Coast it is more about talent.

As Peraza makes his transition to Miami, he also brings new knowledge as well as new goals and expectations into the team and as his pitching staff.

"We have a couple of goals as a staff," Peraza said. "The main ones being to walk less than two batters per nine innings, have a collective Earned Run Average of under four, and hopefully on the low three's."

This new pitching staff also has many weapons in their repertoire, there are "three Mikes" to look forward to in junior Mike Franco, senior Mike Gomez as well as junior Michael Ellis on the mound.

They will all look to step up for the team as far as performance as well as leadership.

To help that big three there is also a very talented freshman upcoming class, a class that looks to stay at FIU for a while.

"Our approach towards hitters is to come

right at them, it consists of attacking the hitters, and minimizing bases, staying aggressive and staying away from walks and hit-by-pitches in order to have successful innings," Peraza said.

Peraza also looks to continue his success in one of his biggest coaching philosophies, something he calls "2-out finish" it consists of the ability of a pitcher to effectively close out innings after recording the first two outs.

Peraza will also focus on basic simple techniques in order for his pitchers to have success, techniques such as fielding your position, throwing strikes, controlling the 1-1 count and not beating yourself in order to compete.

He will also focus on his pitchers to continue building the brotherhood philosophy picking each other up in order to build success in between the staff.

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Dissecting Super Bowl XLVIII

COLUMNIST



RHYS WILLIAMS

It all comes down to this coming Sunday in East Rutherford, NJ., as the Seattle Seahawks will play the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XLVIII.

As of Jan. 29 at noon, according to weather.com, the projected temperature for the outdoor stadium was 41 degrees as a high and 28 degrees as a low. Brrr.

It is a great day to hang out and, if you are of age, have a drink with your friends.

It also gives people, like myself, the opportunity to pull out some great game day foods and recipes to consume while watching the game. I will be cooking up some of my famous barbecue pulled pork so it should be fun.

I for one think that the Super Bowl should either be played in a dome, where you can control the temperature, or put it somewhere in the South.

Now some will argue that 'Football is a cold weather sport' and they have their merit, but as someone who played high school football in a state where the beginning of the season is hot and the end of the season is freezing cold, in Va., I would rather be playing in weather where I can't see my own breath.

That is one of the aspects of this year's game that is being blown up by the media. Yes, it will be cold, we get it.

No one expected the weather in New York to be the same as it is here in Miami in February.

The halftime show is pretty decent this year which also puts me against a lot of people in that I do like the fact that both Bruno Mars and the Red Hot Chili Peppers will be playing together. Even though it is not my favorite part of the night.

Another thing that is being blown up is the media activity on the side of the Seahawks players in cornerback Richard Sherman and running-back Marshawn Lynch.

These players are polar opposites when it comes to speaking with the media. Sherman is outspoken, and as was seen after the NFC Championship game, is not afraid to speak his mind.

On the other hand, Lynch, who recently signed a promotional deal with Skittles - they will donate \$10,000

for each touchdown he has in the big game - was assessed a \$50,000 fine for his closed-door policy during the season. That was put on hold however when he agreed to speak with the media during Media Day for the Super Bowl. He did the least possible though, speaking to reporters for just under seven minutes.

Now the most important part of the actual Super Bowl is the game, but I will get to that later.

I do want to say something that is on my mind every year. The people who watch the game just for the commercials anger me greatly as a football fan. The men on the field, this year in the freezing cold, have worked all season long, if not their entire lives for this game and for people to say 'Oh, I don't care about the game I just want to see the commercials;' those people make me sick in a way.

The game is kicking off, if weather permits, at 6:30 p.m.

It will be the first time in a while that the number one overall offense (Broncos) will be facing off against the number one overall defense (Seahawks) in the Super Bowl.

My prediction for gameplay hinges on the weather however. I believe that the Seahawks have a stronger running-back in Lynch than the Broncos do in Knowshon Moreno and Montee Ball. So if weather doesn't permit a good pass game from quarterback Peyton Manning and the Broncos offense, it should be an easier outing for the Seahawks, whose defense is led by Sherman.

If the weather permits passing, Manning, who has 55 passing touchdowns on the season as compared to Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson's 26, it will give a better chance for the Broncos to win but I am still taking the Seahawks to win with a score of 31-27.

One cool fact though for FIU Football fans is that former offensive lineman Caylin Hauptmann is in the game as a Seahawk. He started off this season as an undrafted rookie signing for the Cleveland Browns but was traded to the Seahawks.

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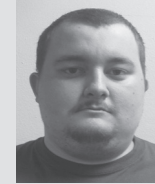
FIUSM Staff Super Bowl Picks



RUBEN PALACIOS

Seahawks: 31-24

I'm just not a big fan of Peyton Manning when it comes to big games, and this is the biggest game of them all.



RHYS WILLIAMS

Seahawks: 31-27

Defense wins championships and the Seahawks have the number one defense in football and Russell Wilson is a great young quarterback. "New School" beats "Old School".



FRANCISCO RIVERO

Broncos: 27-17

The Seahawks played in a division that was focused on defense and low scoring games. The Broncos will take advantage of an over aggressive D.



JAHREL FRANCIS

Seahawks: 31-21

I'm a Baltimore Ravens fan, but I knew that the Seahawks would get to the Super Bowl from the beginning of the season. Also, Marshawn Lynch and I share a love of Skittles.

PANTHER OF THE WEEK



JASEN DELGADO/THE BEACON

Redshirt junior Dennis Mavin (above) erupted for 14 points against Florida Atlantic on Jan. 25. Mavin also added eight rebounds and three assists in 33 minutes of play. Mavin is averaging 11.1 points per game this season.

Baseball on the rise behind promising recruiting class

YOSVANY RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

The FIU baseball team, which put up a 26-32 record in 2013, is coming off its first losing season since 2008.

The main issue for the team's sub-par record last season was their lackluster pitching. The Panthers bats needed to carry the slack for the team, as they were 7-26 in games where they scored less than six runs.

FIU looks to turn that around with the acquisition of pitcher Robby Kalaf, a transfer from State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota transfer and pitcher Cody Crouse a 6-foot-6 freshman from Bloomingdale High School; coincidentally the same high school as Kalaf.

"I figured he thinks he probably the better one," Crouse said. "He's more experienced I feel like he goes out there and controls the game."

Kalaf the more experienced out of the two pitchers and is coming off a remarkable season in Junior College, where he posted a 1.67 E.R.A, which was good for the ranking of number 20 in the nation.

He also pitched 102.2 innings good for seventh in the nation, had three shutouts which placed him eighth in the nation and struck out 86 batters which had him sitting at 22 in the nation.

Kalaf went on to win eight games this past season with just one defeat.

Although, Crouse may not have the experience of Kalaf he does have something you can't teach, height.

"I need to increase my velocity and my power behind it," Crouse said. "I'm a big guy so they expect my velocity to be very hard that my main focus right now and once I get that up I feel I'll be in good shape."

Crouse has been hard at work to add size to that big frame since coming to FIU.

"I graduated high school I was about 190-185," Crouse said. "I've been eating lifting weights and now I'm about 220 and I've gained about 3-4 mph."

Crouse was drafted by the New York Mets in the round 19 but decided to play collegiately at FIU instead.

"I thought that I needed to come to school and get an education," Crouse said. "I felt like I wasn't ready to go out and play professional baseball on my own, I wasn't ready to be on my own. So, I came here to get three years of school, get three years of maturity, and then I'd be able to play professional baseball."

This season's baseball recruiting class is one of the top classes in the nation and one of the main reasons for that on the offensive side of the ball is Freshman Catcher JC Escarra.

Escarra a freshman from Mater Academy is a 6'3 lefty hitter who like Crouse was drafted by the New York Mets in the round 32 but also decided

to come play for the Panthers.

"I chose to come to FIU because everybody's dream is to play in the big leagues," JC Escarra said. "And I was blessed to get drafted out of high school. The reason I came here is, obviously the money wasn't right, I felt myself that I needed to come to college. My mom is a big school person so her first decision was for me to not sign and come to FIU. So, I wanted to make her happy and myself happy also. I needed to come here to develop, get stronger and bigger, and educate myself."

Escarra played third base throughout most of his high school career but has changed positions at FIU.

"I actually got drafted as a catcher so those day are over," Escarra said. "Catching, it was hard at first transferring from position to position. But I'm getting the hang of it"

There is plenty of potential for this FIU team, but it will be up to the players and coaches to make everything work as they hope to get the baseball program back to their winning ways.

The Panthers begin their season on Feb. 14, as they take on the University of Rutgers.

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Food for thought: BBC food pantry

DESTINEY BURT
Staff Writer

Students lacking food on campus is more common than people think.

Christine Tellez, the dietician for Student Health Services recognized the students' need for food when they came into her office and were asked

“I've had many meetings with students where it would be brought to my attention that they didn't have enough to eat

Christine Teller,
Dietician
Student Health Services

about their daily eating habits.

“I've had many meetings with students where it would be brought to my attention that they didn't have enough to eat,” Tellez said.

That gave Tellez the idea to kick-start a food pantry, she shared the idea with her colleague Sarah

Kenneally, senior health educator for Student Health Services, who did the research.

When asked if most students in need might not be utilizing this option is due to embarrassment Tellez said, “I definitely think there is a stigma attached to it, but this is all confidential so students shouldn't be discouraged, because we will never share their information with anyone.”

Tellez made it a point that this pantry is open up to all students in need and to just remember that at some point everybody needs a little bit of assistance so to not feel ashamed.

The food pantry just opened in January and they are down to maybe half of the donations they received in December 2013.

“We just want it to be sustainable, I don't want to run out of donations,” Kenneally said, “I want to be able to keep going.”

This food pantry that is located at the Wellness Center in WUC 307, at the Biscayne Bay Campus, is going to be expanding to the Modesto Maidique Campus in March 2014.

Along with the expansion, Tellez and Kenneally are hoping for more

TIME FOR TEA



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Ivy Siegel (right), assistant director of campus life, served Spencer Weinreb (left), senior in liberal studies, some Chinese noodles during the special edition of the Late Day Latte series, the Chinese Late Day “Lattea.” In addition to the usual cup of coffee, egg rolls, spring rolls, noodles, and tea were served thanks to the theme based off the upcoming Chinese New Year.

support.

“We want it to be student ran eventually,” Kenneally said, “we don't have funding for it, so along with it expanding, soon it would be nice to get support from Feeding South Florida, who is the food bank warehouse that supplies all the food pantries in south Florida.”

However, expanding is not their number one priority, “I need the sustainability more than the size or anything else,” Kenneally said.

In due time, they are also hoping for funding from the Student Government Association.

“Usually employees help volunteer, but anyone is welcome to volun-

teer and bring food donations or do food drives,” Kenneally said.

The food pantry operates on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., available to all FIU students, with no proof of need required.

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Sex Carnival helps students make healthy choices

ARIEL WEINSTEIN
Staff Writer

Young adults don't always realize the risks that come with having sex, and the best possible ways to prevent those risks from turning to consequences.

The Student Health Services organizes and provides various activities and programs that educate students on various aspects of health.

On Tuesday, Feb. 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the SHS will be hosting what they call the “Sex Carnival” which will be located in WUC Ballrooms.

The event will consist of a resource fair from 10 - 1 p.m. During the fair, various activities will focus on educating guests on aspects such as contraception, relationships, STDs, and more.

“This event tries to explore the issues

college students face in sexual health and empower them to be educated,” said Sarah Kenneally, senior health educator of Student Health Services. “That knowledge could be the difference in helping a student to use contraception or decide to abstain.”

Organizations such as Planned Parenthood, Jackson Hospital Roxey, Bolton Rape Treatment Center, and others will be providing entertaining activities.

With free contraceptives, birth control and Plan B from the clinic, students have everything available to them to keep from sexual consequences, in addition to free food and fun t-shirts as well.

In addition to the speakers and activities, free STI and HIV testing will be provided from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To read the rest of the article, visit fiusm.com.

BBC-REC launches nighttime paddle boarding



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK AFFLECK PHOTOGRAPHY

FIU students can now enjoy day and night time paddle boarding trips throughout the semester at Biscayne Bay Campus.

SOFIA GALIANO & ALEXANDRA MOSQUERA NETZKARSCH
FIUSM Staff

The Recreation Center at BBC is starting the semester off with a splash by launching this year's Panther

Paddle with a daytime paddle boarding event on Saturday, Feb. 1 at 9:30 a.m.

Day paddle boarding trips will run through the month of October and will be on the first Saturday of each month; while the BBC Rec Center introduces the

first line of nighttime paddle boarding events on Feb. 6 at 7 p.m., taking place the first Thursday of each month.

“The paddle boarding program is a fairly new sport that allows participants to paddle through the water while standing,” said

Jonathan Torrey, Recreation Administrator at BBC, in an email. “This would also allow participants to observe aquatic wildlife as they move about the bay.”

In addition to paddle boarding, the BBC Rec Center is kicking off its calendar of day and night kayaking trips next month as well.

Both activities are free to FIU students and BBC Rec Gym members, and \$10 for guests -- cash is not accepted.

The daytime paddle boarding events offer three trips from which participants can choose from, the first trip at 9:30 a.m., the second at 11:15 a.m. and the third at 1 p.m.

The nighttime paddle boarding event however, only offers one trip at 7 p.m.

“I'm very excited that this

semester we are introducing the night paddle board trips,” said Michael Vasconez, a junior psychology and criminal justice major, who is a lifeguard and front desk clerk at the BBC Rec Center.

Vasconez, who has worked at the Rec Center since 2010, said he chose to work there so he could kayak and paddle board as he pleases.

He said BBC is such a “unique location” for many outdoors activities.

“What makes these particular activities so unique is that the Biscayne Bay is actually an extension of the campus, which gives the students an opportunity to enjoy the bay during their time at the university,” said Torrey.

“How many other universities can say that they have that type of resource right in their own back yard?”

“This would also allow participants to observe aquatic wildlife as they move about the bay.

Jonathan Torrey
Recreation Administrator
Biscayne Bay Campus

To register, participants must visit the front desk located in the BBC Rec Center prior to the event.

“I encourage students to come out and paddle with us at least once, and take back an experience you may not forget,” said Torrey. “No experience needed and all equipment is provided for a day of fun in the sun or a cool night under the stars.”

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