

Senate passes bill for office hours

MADISON FANTOZZI
News Director

After two debates about office hours, the Student Government Council's Modesto Maidique Campus Senate passed a bill in its March 3 meeting to require all senators to hold three hours a week starting fall 2014.

The bill was proposed on Feb. 24, but was sent back to the authors after senators questioned the specificity of an "office hour" and argued how many hours the senators would have to hold.

In Monday's meeting, senators were still confused.

"I asked for a bill on my desk with more structure and this is what I got," said Senate Speaker Nicholas Aquart.

The bill had been redrafted, lowering the requirement from five hours to three and clarifying that committee and senate meetings would not constitute office hours.

Senators raised its first question: would meetings with administrators count?

Finance Committee Chair Nicole Buchely defined an office hour as time spent catering to students.

"If you're doing your job as a senator, you are catering to students — whether it's meeting with students, meeting with administrators or working on legislation," she said.

Another concern was the fluidity of the schedule. As it remains, office hours can be any day, any time on campus.

Senators proposed holding office hours at 3 a.m. in the Green Library.

"If you're holding office hours at 3 a.m., how are you making yourself accessible to students?" said Mary Corbin, lower division senator of student advocacy.

Corbin suggested structuring the bill for more reasonable times.

Aquart reiterated his message from the prior Senate meeting: "It's not just about meeting with students, it's about getting SGA work done."

"I don't really see any structural problems. We're talking three office hours," Aquart said.

"Let's not be ridiculous. We don't need structure; we can be reasonable."

"Most of us won't be here next year, so let's just vote," said Tereza

"If you're doing your job as a senator, you are catering to students — whether it's meeting with students, meeting with administrators or working on legislation."

Nicole Buchely
Finance Committee Chair
SGC-MMC

Vokata, a graduate senator.

"It's not about that. It's about the students," Corbin said.

In the end, the bill passed 12-9.

Office hours will be posted to the SGA website.

The Senate also unanimously passed a bill updating the responsibilities of the Rules, Legislative and Judiciary Committee Chair to be responsible for informing all incoming senators of the appropriate legislative format by the second official senate meeting of their term.

The Senate also appropriated \$1,500 to the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and

TEMPORARILY OFF LIMITS



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Lot 5, east of the Wertheim Performing Arts Center's School of Music, will be closed through April 5 due to the the Fair & Expo and the University's agreement with Miami-Dade County regarding shared use of campus property.

SPRING BREAK HOURS MODESTO MAIDIQUE CAMPUS

GRAHAM CENTER OFFICE HOURS

MARCH 8 - 15: 7 A.M. - 8 P.M.

GREEN & HUBERT LIBRARIES

MARCH 8: 8 A.M. - 8 P.M.
MARCH 9: CLOSED
MARCH 10 - 13: 8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
MARCH 14: 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
MARCH 15: CLOSED

RECREATION CENTER

MARCH 9: 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.
MARCH 10 - 13: 6:30 A.M. - 9 P.M.
MARCH 14: 6:30 A.M. - 7 P.M.
MARCH 15: 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.

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

Related Sciences for four students of America for 29 students' bus Finance Committee has \$500 left to attend the 29th Annual Career transportation to the 2014 State for appropriation this semester. Fair and Training Conference, and Leadership Conference. According to Buchely, the -madison.fantozzi@fiusm.com

Parkview introduces key card access

JEFFREY PIERRE
Asst. News Director

The plan for Parkview Hall was to improve the quality of on-campus living, but the office took its induction as a chance to also improve security for housing students.

The Parkview project, which began 2 years ago, included the proposal to install card readers throughout main access entrances in collaboration with the One Card office.

On March 3, residents of Parkview were able to use their panther one card to enter into the residence hall.

"I've always wondered why they never did this before," said Quinton Knight, a construction management sophomore. "It adds to the 'awesomeness' of the building."

Housing Director Joe Paulick, former assistant director of Housing and Residence

Life at the University of Central Florida, is quarterbacking the new venture, but is not limiting the project to the one building.

"It adds to the 'awesomeness' of the building."

Quinton Knight
Sophomore
Construction Management

"We want to expand to all of our buildings. We're looking into at least 30 to 40 locations," Paulick said.

Following Parkview, Paulick plans to install several card readers in the summer. They are expected to be operational and active in each hall by fall 2014.

University Apartments, however, will not be a part of the plan because the card readers are to control access and security on interior halls and major entrances, according to Paulick.

In addition to improved security, Paulick said the card readers will also track exactly who is going into each building.

Paulick said that although no particular student incident is at the root, he thinks the ability to monitor exactly who comes in and out of each building can provide the housing, residential life, resident assistants and staff with valuable information.

Housing and Residential Life provides resource centers for RAs and staff, and a tutoring service for all students at Lakeview South, room 133 called the Academic Resource Center.

According to Paulick, the new system will be a good way to tell if students are using these services and if they are accessing the rooms

through the card readers.

Along with the card reader project, housing is addressing a survey that was conducted summer 2013, taking student suggestions into consideration.

"We're looking to improve Wi-Fi bandwidth for our students and we're looking to add Hi-Definition channels," Paulick said. "We're going to start with the sports channels."

Paulick also mentioned possible design changes to Panther Hall and the housing quad, and construction of a stage for live performances.

Paulick said his key focus is rooted in one thing: community.

"We're trying to create spaces to build a community so people can get to know each other — you don't just get to know people inside your building, but all over," Paulick said.

-jeffrey.pierre@fiusm.com

WORLD NEWS

Diplomatic exit for Ukraine? Talks, \$15B in EU AID

The European Union prepared a \$15 billion aid package to Ukraine on Wednesday and froze the assets of 18 people blamed for looting the treasury of the nearly bankrupt country. The moves came as top diplomats from the West and Russia gathered in Paris to defuse tensions that have approached Cold War levels. NATO was taking up the issue directly with Russia in an extraordinary meeting in Brussels of the military alliance.

Israeli naval raid nabs Gaza-bound arms from Iran

Israeli naval forces raided a ship in the Red Sea early Wednesday and seized dozens of advanced rockets from Iran destined for Palestinian militants in Gaza that would have significantly boosted their ability to strike Israeli citizens, the military said. The ship, the KLOS C, was carrying Syrian-made M-302 rockets and was intercepted more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) south of Israel off the coasts of Sudan and Eritrea, military spokesman Lt. Col. Peter Lerner told reporters.

Target tech chief resigns as is overhauls security

Target Corp. Chief Information Officer Beth Jacob is resigning effective Wednesday as the retailer overhauls its information security and compliance division in the wake of a massive pre-Christmas data breach. Target Chairman, President and CEO Gregg Steinhafel said in a statement released to The Associated Press that the company will search for an interim chief information officer who can help guide the company through the transformation.

Honors College students create new, better registration system

RAUL ALVAREZ
Contributing Writer

Alastair Paragas and Robin Mayrand, freshman Honors College students, built the school's new course registration system.

The estimated time for the project to be completed was a year. The computer science and astrophysics majors built the entire system from scratch in a week.

Mayrand described the "nightmarish" registration process the Honors College went through, inputting every single student by hand into the "badly designed interface."

"Everything was dictated because they state their process to you, what course and what section you have, what times and what teachers you will have," Mayrand said. "But this course registration system will basically eliminate that."

The Honors College wanted something faster, and so called on the students who operate a small technology business of their own.

Paragas co-founded the small company called Forefront Technologies that creates websites, administrative systems, intercompany desktop programs, antivirus software built from scratch and web browsers for clients.

Mayrand joined the team after meeting Paragas at FIU, and they have been operating under the name

Project Omicron, working on web applications, mobile applications and other experimental projects.

"We got the whole plan and we started working, but the biggest bulk of the whole work was now in the past month. That's when we barely slept. Even now, last night, that's like

"We wanted the course registration system to be not only quick, but also secure."

Alastair Paragas
Freshman
Honors College

the first five hours I got of sleep this whole week," Mayrand said.

The students didn't profit monetarily, but they said they gained valuable experience.

"The whole process was fun, hard; we learned and now it's functional and it will keep on expanding," said Mayrand, the project's front-end designer who developed most of the design aspects.

Paragas, the self-described back-end designer, wrote most of the programming language.

"We've gained so much experi-

ence, especially with a programming language used by most websites," Paragas said.

He said security was top priority. "We also learned about hashing and security because we wanted the course registration system to be not only quick, but also secure," Paragas said. "We wanted to make sure that no sensitive information such as Panther ID or password got out."

Mayrand originally hails from Canada and has always loved everything about video games. Paragas moved to the United States from the Philippines, and became enthralled with the world of programming ever since his parents gave him his first computer as a freshman in high school.

The young entrepreneurs are currently working on building a website that will be a flash game portal that will lead users to the newest games online, and an artificial intelligence unit codenamed Complimentary Artificial Intelligence Unit that will listen to speech and respond in a human manner, taking inspiration from Iron Man's J.A.R.V.I.S. system.

The duo said everything they create is made from scratch, without borrowing from existing technologies.

-raul.alvarez@fiusm.com

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 25, Issue 70 in the article titled, "Venezuela" in the Opinion section, the headline was incorrectly spelled, "Venezuala."

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

Office of Sustainability encourages Panthers to take earth-friendly oath

BIANCA ORDONEZ
Contributing Writer

The University began offering "earth-friendly" gowns made with molten plastic pellets from about 23 plastic bottles in 2011.

This year, seniors can also sign the Office of University Sustainability's banner, pledging their eco-awareness. The banner will be presented at graduation and those who take the oath will boast a green ribbon on their gowns.

"I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work," the oath reads.

The office's initiatives include incentivizing students to walk, bike or carpool to school three or more times a week by giving them six free cab rides a year, and working in tandem with Housing and Residential Life to make sure all dorms are using biodegradable soap.

However, this project has seniors second guessing their view on the environmental crises.

"This is something that we need to do. We need to protect the Earth," said Yunus Altug, a senior political science major. "[But] in reality, who knows where I will be working. If the only job offer I get doesn't recycle, I would have to accept it."

Altug said he may take the pledge, since he believes it is for a good cause.

Alexandra Dutton, interim assistant director of the Office of University Sustainability, said students should not let the potentiality of the lack of green-friendly job offers deter them.

"They shouldn't be torn. This is a personal commitment that requires simple actions like turning off the lights when you leave a room," Dutton said.

This spring marks the second year of the Green Graduation Pledge.

The Office of University Sustainability discov-

ered it through the Graduation Pledge Alliance, whose mission, according to their website, is "to build a global community of responsible graduates improving society and the environment through the workplace."

But the practice of environmentally friendly graduation at FIU goes back even further.

Since last spring, 5,000 people have pledged and Dutton thinks that number is going to continue growing.

"We have to take care of what we have," Dutton said. "The Earth is our home."

Dutton also mentioned that her organization has not started tabling for the Green Graduation pledge. It will instead begin this process during commencement.

According to an article published by The Guardian, just 90 companies caused two-thirds of man-made global warming emissions. This statistic alarmed environmentalists worldwide. However,

it has yet to convince many seniors entering the workforce.

Peter Lynch, senior economics student, said he would not sign the pledge unless he is asked by a friend.

"I think that not a lot of people understand the

"If the only job offer I get doesn't recycle, I would have to accept it."

Yunus Altug
Senior
Political Science

environmental crisis," Lynch said. "They understand being broke much better."

Additional reporting by Raul Herrera, Assistant News Director.

-news@fiusm.com

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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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Sexes show love differently

ARIEL WEINSTEIN
Staff Writer

Love is one of the most complex emotions. It is easy to tell when you feel happy, sad, angry or passionate about something, but how do you know when you feel love?

Some people believe in the concept of love at first sight. I, personally, think this idea is simply an idea. How can you know you are in love with someone by just one glance? Maybe they look attractive in your eyes or maybe you can feel a rush of adrenaline and desire to be with them and talk to them, but does that mean that you love the person?

I feel there needs to be some knowledge of the person's personality at the least, to know if you even like them.

Having said this, once you know you are for sure in love, how do you then show it?

Everyone shows emotion in different ways but the way men and women show love has similarities and differences at the same time.

For example, when people are in love with each other, they want to make their lover happy and give them what they want and desire. This being said, if woman's man wants tickets to a basketball game, a new guitar or whatever it is that makes him happy, the women will most likely try to give it to him because she wants to see him happy.

When a guy wants to make a girl happy, it seems much easier to accomplish. All women really want are flowers, chocolates affection and cute goodnight and goodmorning texts.

The majority of time, I feel men make women way more complicated than they actually are. Yes some women may like diamonds and jewelry and expensive shopping sprees but for the most part, flowers and cute good-night text can make a girl so happy.

Many men do understand this though and they do show their love by verbally expressing it.

Studies have shown, however, that men do not show actual emotion as easily as women

do. When it comes to showing love through emotion, men resort to sex, or "making love."

Sex is a way a man shows love because its an opportunity to make his woman feel good, and some men think this is the best possible way to express it.

This is not to say that women do not feel the love when a man has sex with her, or that women do not show love for men through sex, hence the whole "making love" idea, but in general, men tend to show their emotional side through sex, whereas women show their love for a man by doing things for them: making them dinner, giving a massage and coming up with a creative original idea to do for them.

Love is a complicated phenomenon that if you happen to have the chance to find, you should keep it, cherish it and most importantly, don't be afraid to show it.

-ariel.weinstein@fiusm.com

Writing course inspires civic action

JENNIPHER SCHAFFER
Staff Writer

As an English major, I thought it would be prudent to take courses for the Technical and Professional Writing Certificate program here at FIU. The certificate seemed like a logical way to both boost my resume and improve my writing skill in other classes. I never thought it would renew my love of civic engagement. That all changed the first day I walked in to my community writing course with Paul Feigenbaum.

Allow me to explain a moment: I've always been interested in some levels of engagement. I vote, share petitions and even send emails to elected officials if something seems important enough for me to do so. Before coming to FIU, I spent a year as the vice-president for my two-year college's Gay-Straight Alliance. So how was it that I was not still actively engaged?

The class is small and intimate. We spend most lecture days circled around giving each person a voice. This is how we discuss the issues we read about in our weekly journal

entries. We respond to writings new and old in the hope that we take in new ideas and information on how to better communicate the importance of an idea. We study how to make ideas "sticky" in the public eye.

In this course we have two main projects. One is solitary and the other is in a group. The idea is to find an issue and formulate a way to make a difference. The class does not specifically require that we take the action we suggest, though most of us plan on it regardless. Everyone has different ideas and each issue is very important. We all share the ideas and most of us have volunteered to help one cause or another. The enthusiasm seems to surprise our professor at times, though pleasantly so.

So far many ideas have been presented. One student wants to bring people back to the simplicity of listening, really listening to others. Another wants to utilize the concept of art installation to remind people that art is important.

Still more want to address the lack of music education in our public school systems by showing people how sad a lack of music in the world would be. Another

wants to address the issue of eating disorders for athletes. There is a nutrition campaign for the health of the community.

One group wants to help people learn to interact with one another again now that technology seems to rule over our lives. For my group project, we came up with an unavoidable look at the reality of local human trafficking and what we can do about it. My personal project is aimed at preventing LGBT youth suicide. Not everyone's ideas have been presented yet but I feel many more brilliant ideas are forthcoming.

As far as I can tell, this particular course is not major specific. Most of us will need basic professional writing skills for our jobs. Doctors and scientists write papers for their ideas and work as well. Even if you are not an English major or minor I highly recommend you try to set aside one class slot for Writing, Rhetoric, and Community (ENC 4331), or as it is more simply called; Community Writing. It will be well worth it.

-jennipher.schafer@fiusm.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR RE: SCULPTURES LACKING FUNDS

I'm writing in response to an article published earlier this week regarding FIU's sculptures located throughout MMC.

These sculptures give our campus its unique character and contribute to the educational and cultural experience at FIU.

Maintaining our sculptures has been an on-going effort of the University. On a positive note, we are pleased to have the support

of many in the art community, including our own students who have embarked on fundraising efforts to help support our beautiful sculptures.

Here is an update on some of the best known sculptures in our collection:

"Journey's End," a sculpture that sits near the Wertheim Performing Arts Center, has been identified as a candidate for being dismantled and removed from the collection. The decision to remove Journey's End was made after it was determined that it presents a safety hazard and efforts to fund a

\$100,000 restoration project have been unsuccessful.

As has been reported previously in The Beacon, one of the best known pieces on-campus, "Marty's Cube," has been fenced off while it undergoes restoration.

Alexander Liberman's "Argosy," the tall red sculpture that sits at the center of the traffic circle near the 107 Avenue entrance, is on a six-year maintenance and painting cycle and is scheduled to be repainted later this year.

At FIU, we value the arts and the sculptures are an important

part of our cultural heritage. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and donors should rest assured that efforts have been underway to ensure that future generations of Panthers will have access to this important university and community resource.

To donate to Save our Sculpture, visit ignite.fiu.edu or contact Michael Hughes at hughesm@fiu.edu

Kenneth Jessell
Chief Financial Officer
& Senior Vice President
Finance and Administration

THE BEACON | Editorial

Should college players be paid?

The NCAA would like to suggest academics is the answer, but some student-athletes would say that's not the case.

That's why the Northwestern football team is arguing that they are employees of the university. These students are forced to put football atop their priority list or risk losing what keeps them in school: free tuition.

The question about paying college athletes beyond their scholarships isn't a new one. For decades now, the NCAA and those on the pro side of athlete compensation have fought on the matter.

The NCAA and universities take an antiquated position: student-athletes are students before they are athletes.

Former Northwestern quarterback Kain Colter, who is now preparing for a chance to play in the NFL, has been vocal about his experiences as a football player. Colter argues that the notion of student-athletes being students first is inaccurate.

According to a CNN report, Colter said that football was dominating his college experience, consuming up to 60 hours a week during the season and up to 20 hours the rest of the year. This comment was made during a weeklong hearing before the National Labor Relations Board in Chicago as Northwestern tries to stop its football team from unionizing.

Colter added that he and his teammates never got summer and winter breaks, couldn't schedule certain classes and were required to adhere to dozens of rules or risk losing their scholarships.

Student-athletes are closer to being employees than anything else, but how they would be compensated if the NCAA were to ever change its mind is what makes this whole ordeal tricky.

Do football players and women's swimmers get paid the same? What about the star quarterback, does he earn the same as the fourth-string punter?

And beyond that, where would the money come from. Student fees? NCAA budgets?

Students at FIU pay an athletic fee of \$368, and that's just based off 12 credits per semester. Any additional credits will increase the fee amount significantly.

FIU ranks among the most expensive public universities when it comes to athletic fees, only Florida Gulf Coast University charges its students a more expensive athletic fee of \$373.

Florida Atlantic University charges \$343, University of Central Florida charges \$321, Florida State University charges \$161 and the University of Florida charges a state-low \$46.

With the amount of money that the University charges its students already for an athletic fee, it would be a horrific sight if it was ever proposed that the athletes compensation would be taken entirely, or even partially, from student fees.

The fees are too expensive as is, and with salaries on the line, they would only continue to increase.

Student-athletes are more than your average college kids. They have to meet certain standards to keep their style of living, and it can all be taken away from them in the blink of an eye or the tear of a knee. But how and where the money to pay them would come from is where the problem lies, and no one seems to have a good answer.

For right now, everything with student-athletes must remain status quo.

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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We built this University City

FIU and the City of Sweetwater partner up creating University City

GISELLE CANCIO
Staff Writer

A campus that started off as an airport tower has the potential to officially become a college town, or as Sweetwater and FIU like to call it, "University City."

University City is the name that has been given to the partnership between FIU and the City of Sweetwater. There are many projects, facility constructions and events that will be taking place over the course of the next few years to bring this all into reality.

"The creation of student housing, the proposed pedestrian bridge across 8th Street and the various internship opportunities offered by the City are a few of the components of this strengthening relationship," said Daniel Irigoyen, Student Government Association Housing Senator. "In a sense, this is a mutualistic relationship where the FIU and Sweetwater communities enrich each other and add value to living, studying and working in the area."

The FIU Honors College has had a working relationship with Sweetwater for years, but the University as a whole has been moving towards having a closer connection with this neighboring community and has had success.

In order to celebrate these recent accomplishments, this Saturday, March 8, FIU SGA in conjunction with the city of Sweetwater will have the University City District Festival.

The festival is a street party with diverse food, live music, craft beverages, a DJ battle between fraternities, giveaways, street vendors, a farmer's market and much more for students and families to enjoy.

It was originally thought of by former Student Government speaker, Javier Navas, who currently works for the City of Sweetwater.

Navas created the Ad-Hoc University City Committee in the senate, which among many things, has helped with the planning of this event.

The event is being executed by the University City Committee, the City of Sweetwater, and the developer of 109 Tower.

109 Tower is the residence hall that is currently in construction across the street from PG5. There is not an expected open date yet, but they are taking applications for both residency and resident assistants.

"I think the event serves as an orientation to University City," Irigoyen said. "At the moment, the academic opportunities for students in Sweetwater are increasing, but I think that a festival is the best way to make the sense of community a tangible feeling."

Irigoyen's goal, alongside the committee is to introduce students to the community that we have right across the street.

In other universities around the country, the surrounding communities are a part of, and add value to the college experience.

"There is something to be said about being

JULIUS CAESAR



PHOTO BY TONY GALASKA, LIGHTING DESIGNER FOR THE PRODUCTION.

The Theatre Department had the opening night for the production of "Julius Caesar" on Friday, Feb. 28. In the current production, the action will take place in a modern city similar to New York, but still referred to as Rome, and the characters will be using Skype, GPS and cell phones. The last performance is March 9 at 2 p.m.

in a diverse environment that exposes students to both academic and working-class individuals that see things from different, but equally valuable standpoints and seeing those layers enriches one's understanding of the world," Irigoyen said.

This event has been in the works since January and they expect it to be nothing short of a success. It will run from 2 PM to 10 PM right across the street from PG5 and students are encouraged to bring friends and family with them.

City officials, including the Mayor of Sweetwater, will be in attendance and will say a few words to the community.

"As a civil engineering student, I think it would be really nice to have a public square where people from different walks of life are able to see and interact with each other on a daily basis," Irigoyen said. "I think good public design that encourages civic interaction would really bring the University City vision home."

-giselle.cancio@fiusm.com

Spring break checklist: preparing to relax

ALEXIA LUE
Contributing Writer

It's time to put down those pens and stop writing those papers. Spring break is finally here.

After months of hardcore dieting and exercising, it is time to show off that perfect beach body. Or, in my case, it's time to start wishing that I went to the gym a little bit more.

The sun is out, the sky is blue and vacation is here. But before anyone calls it quits, there is still some housekeeping left to be done. I mean that both figuratively and literally.

Many people think that vacation starts when classes finish. However,

one does not simply go on break. Thankfully, FIU students have become well versed in the art of spring breaking. There are things that "have" to be taken care of before one can actually go on vacation mode; some of which take months of preparation.

Senior and criminal justice major, Ricardo Gomez-Martinez has put in a good amount of planning in the weeks leading up to spring break.

"I work out a lot. I work on my diet, I make sure to lose a couple pounds to get that semi, I might go to the beach body ready", said Gomez-Martinez.

Meanwhile, Mary Joo, senior and social work major approaches the next week of freedom a little differently.

"I clean my dorm and throw away all the stuff in the refrigerator that can go bad," she said.

This leaves a lot less work to be done when break is over. No one likes a stinky fridge with rotten food.

Coming back to a clean room also allows a student to take in the last few hours of break with joy.

Vacationing doesn't necessarily mean having to leave FIU or the Miami area. Plenty of students stay on or around campus. This does not mean that they don't do the necessary preparations to make their spring break as enjoyable as possible.

Civil engineering sophomore, Jeremy Braithwaite will be hanging

around sunny South Florida, but there is still a list of things he wants to get done before break starts.

"I want to make sure I do all my assignments, stock up on supplies so I don't have to go grocery shopping and try to be well rested so I don't have to waste time with sleep," Braithwaite said.

Cutting out grocery shopping and homework allows students to maximize vacation time.

Almost all forms of greatness require planning and it seems to be that FIU students do not treat spring break any different. It is like a baby that needs to be properly nursed so it can grow at its full potential. With

planning, there is less room for errors.

Some students make a checklist and others spend countless hours at the gym. They find whatever works for them and go with it.

Ryan Taylor a junior majoring in education leaves everyone with a piece of advice.

"Don't wait until the last day to pack."

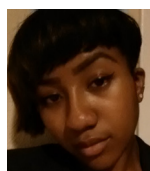
For those students who are staying for spring break, don't wait until the last minute to plan.

Taylor leaves on vacation soon and not a single item has been packed.

-life@fiusm.com

Stray away from cliché spring break plans

COLUMNIST



OLAMIDE STERLING

Feeling pressured because you don't have your Spring Break plans together? Partying, traveling and shopping are probably at the top of your list, but it doesn't have to be! Why not save some money this year by putting a spin on your Spring Break, and indulging in activities that will spring you to the top!

Beach-Bod Bye Bye!

Instead of freaking out because your body isn't perfectly chiseled for beach selfies, feel free to take it easy on yourself this year. If you are concerned about your weight (maybe you gained the freshman 15!) have no fear!

Use your free time to create a workout regimen and maybe even keep a food diary. Take this free time to research diet and workout plans that would best suit your needs. As you go out with your old body, be prepared to preserve your new body and stick to your goals!

Mark, Get Set, Go!

With so much going on

daily, it gets hard to wrap our heads around our schedules. We often are too tired to keep up with our obligations and tend to meet deadlines just barely!

How about for this Spring Break you take the time to "get your life together." Organize your school calendar with important upcoming dates and get a head start on upcoming assignments.

This way after your break

is done, not only will you be more energized; but, you will also be able to continue to take it easy upon your return to school.

20/20 Vision

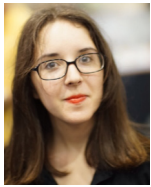
This Spring Break should be one about all about R&R--relaxation and revamping into a new you! I dare you to envision life after college. Now I dare you to translate it

to paper. Create a vision board and see your dreams come to life! Hang it up somewhere that you can't escape it! This will challenge you to take your goals more seriously and set forth a clear plan for the future. What are you waiting for?

For the full story go to fiusm.com.

Spring break adventures captured on film

COLUMNIST



MADARI PENDAS

It is difficult to find an Oscar-worthy spring break movie. The genre of spring break movies has habitually recycled plots, portrays Miami as a city devoted to bikinis and fiestas, and shows that true love, albeit transitory can be found within the sybaritic environment that is spring break. The movies on this list are chosen for their novelty, interesting commentaries on adolescents, comedic value, and for some, the cheesiness that makes them so bad they're good.

1. "Where the Boys Are"

This film was released in 1960 and is one of the first movies that chronicles teenagers going to Miami for vacation. Instead of highlighting and glorifying

the hedonism of spring break, four adolescent college women explore the varying meanings of femininity and friendship. The film offers some serious discussion on female sexuality, and challenges the assertion of domesticity and women's place in the world. The progressiveness of the attitudes in the film is amazing, especially considering the era and the subjugating mentality that was pervasive during the 1960s. The film, unlike many of its modern contemporaries, explores the dark side of spring break, showing the exploitation that can occur, the vulnerability caused by intoxication, and realistic consequences.

2. "From Justin to Kelly"

I can vividly remember the first season of American Idol. Brian Dunkleman was still co-host; Randy, Simon and Paula

were still judging; Kelly Clarkson sung a breathtaking rendition of "A Moment Like This," and Justin Guarini's corkscrew curls wobbled as he walked on stage. This movie is a by-product of American Idol's first way of capitalizing and marketing their stars, as well as using the loyalty of their fans for merchandising gains. The novelty of this movie comes from the cultural impact American Idol had on society. The movie in and of itself is gimmicky, trite and formulaic; and has been called "a monstrous Idol movie musical that in the most generous light is the worst film so far this century." "From Justin to Kelly" has the same entrancing quality as "Troll 2": it's so bad, it's good.

3. "Spring Breakdown"

For Saturday Night Live lovers: "Spring Breakdown"

encapsulates quick wit, some of the best female comedians in the industry, like Amy Poehler and Rachel Dratch, and a sinuous plot, with lots of unexpected occurrences. The film takes place in Fort Lauderdale during a spring break, where three women, feeling dissatisfied with their lives, go on vacation. The film comically portrays relationships and the struggle between generations--the older women having a difficult time assimilating and identifying with the younger women.

4. "Spring Breakers"

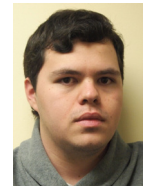
Part of the joy of watching "Spring Breakers" is seeing the transformation of James Franco. Franco dons long braids, multiple tattoos and silver grills; and the lead actress, most of whom are originally Disney stars, shed their PG skins and play manipulative, violent, overly-sexualized femme

fatales. This film deviates from the spring break genre and presents a much darker worst-case scenario version of spring break, instead of fluorescent drinks and parties, the audience witnesses addiction, the harm of bad association and murder. The film is an interesting experimentation on the "coming of age" adventure that pervades most films; while most films depict the positive outcome and uplifting person that results from adventure, "Spring Breakers" shows the duality of the situation, showing the equal inclination of youth for both good and bad. In one of the last scenes from the film the protagonist narrators over a mass murder, and says "they have found who they truly are." This cult film presents youth honestly and explores the gravitation some adolescents have towards misconduct.

-madari.pendas@fiusm.com

A look back at the 2014 Academy Awards

COLUMNIST



RAFAEL ABREU

The Oscars are a time when Hollywood's finest dress up and try not to look disappointed when they don't win the award for "Best Actor." It's a time for looking distinguished and honored when your documentary just won "Best Documentary Short Subject." It's also a time to see Hollywood pat itself on the back while also laughing at itself.

Ellen DeGeneres hosted this year's Academy Awards, and aside from Kevin Spacey (or should I say, Francis Underwood), she was my favorite part of the entire ceremony. This was a year where, for almost all the major awards, any winner would have been fine with me. That can make a show boring, especially if the wins are predictable, but Ellen made the show itself one of the best times I've had watching the Oscars. Her subtle, simple and casual delivery and way of

being stole the show for me, especially with refusing to be a traditional host and just making sure everyone was enjoying themselves.

I absolutely loved seeing Meryl Streep's husband eat pizza, seeing Brad Pitt hand out plates, and of course, witnessing Bradley Cooper taking the greatest (group) selfie of all-time. Any moment featuring Kevin Spacey was golden, especially when Francis Underwood made an appearance. My personal favorite was when Ellen was asking for money for the pizza and Spacey handed some money to her saying "that's for you." Seeing Jim Carrey was also nice, as was Bill Murray taking a moment to remember his fallen comrade Harold Ramis.

There were plenty of award moments that stood out to me, especially when it came to the speeches. Jared Leto's and Matthew McConaughey's speeches for winning "Best Supporting Actor" and "Best Actor" in "Dallas Buyer's

Club" were excellent, from addressing important contemporary issues to giving a universally applicable strategy of reaching your goals. Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez's win for "Best Original Song" ("Let It Go" from "Frozen") gave way to an excellent (and, by the looks of it, rehearsed) speech that gave me a pleasant surprise.

The only award that I was really watching for was "Best Original Screenplay," hoping that Spike Jonze would win for "Her" (and he did). Some other awards that I also cared a bit about were "Best Original Song" (I wanted "The Moon Song" to win, but of course, it didn't), "Best Original Score" (Stephen Price for "Gravity"), and "Best Foreign Language Film" (I knew "The Great Beauty" would win).

As for the major awards, I thought any of the men nominated for "Best Actor" deserved

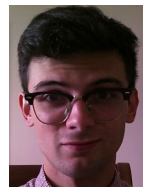
it, and when it came to "Best Picture" I expected "12 Years a Slave", but any of the films would have been fine with me (I was secretly rooting for "Nebraska" if only because it would be an upset). I also expected Alfonso Cuarón to win "Best Director" for the stellar "Gravity", which also, unsurprisingly, won every technical award. Cate Blanchett for "Best Actress" ("Blue Jasmine") and Lupita Nyong'o for "Best Supporting Actress" ("12 Years a Slave") didn't surprise me too much, neither, but that's alright.

This was a year where almost anyone was deserving of a win and I was more than pleased with the results, especially since it was the show itself that kept me most entertained.

-rafael.abreau@fiusm.com

Oscars: best and worst dressed

COLUMNIST



JOHANY HERNANDEZ

Another year, another Oscar event. This year there were a lot of pale colors, embellishments, and sadly, not many "wow" moments. Still there were a few show-stoppers on the carpet that made the event worth it.

Cate Blanchett wore a beautiful gold Armani Prive gown, embellished with sequins and gold Swarovski crystals that glistened with the camera flashes. Not only did she shine when accepting her Oscar for Best Actress, but also on the carpet in a gown that says she's ready to take some names.

Though Kate Hudson was not a nominee, she sure dressed like she was. She looked gorgeous in a gown by Atelier Versace with a plunging neckline that showed her cleavage to perfection. She did wear a cape, and though capes were big this award season, her cape was beautiful and stood on its own, making the gown complete.

Is a black dress just a black dress? Charlize Theron blew me away with a gown by Dior Haute Couture featuring invisible tulle straps and pleated organza strips on the

skirt. She was more than beautiful, she was regal.

A crowd favorite and new fashionista, Lupita Nyong'o went a different route with her gown. She wore a custom-made, icy blue Prada gown. She said the blue reminded her of her home, Nairobi. To everyone else, it was a dress fit for a princess with knife pleats on the skirt. Not only did she wear a great gown, her Oscar for Best Supporting Actress shined just like her witty and youthful headband.

Not everyone had a great streak on the carpet. Like any event, there were some tragedies that left me asking why.

Elsa Pataky, a gorgeous woman pregnant with twins wore an unflattering Elie Saab gown that did not do her belly justice. I'm not one to rip on pregnant women, but Chris Hemsworth's wife needs to rip a page from Olivia Wilde's fashion book.

Anna Kendrick is bubbly and cute. Her gown said otherwise. The perky star just had too many things going on in her gown. There was mesh, sequins, layers, ruffles all wrapped into one dress that was less than appealing to the eyes. Anna, less is more in this case.

I only have a question for Liza Minnelli—electric blue trouser suit paired with orthopedic shoes? Even the streak in her hair, which was kind of fun, did nothing for Liza. Though I will say she stayed true to herself and that's commendable... I guess.

The Latin actress Penelope Cruz wore a gown that made her look like she was going to a prom and not the Oscars. A powder pink Giambattista Valli haute couture silk gown, accented with a stark black ribbon at the waist, was not a winning look. It almost looked like a toga and had too much fabric that covered her amazing curves.

-life@fiusm.com

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SWIMMING & DIVING

Beaupre, Gustafsdottir lead Panthers to second place



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONFERENCE USA

Senior Sabrina Beaupre earned the title Diver of the Meet for the 2014 Conference USA swimming and diving championships.

RUBEN PALACIOS *Sports Director*

The swimming and diving team finished the Conference USA Championship with a splash on Saturday, March 1. The Panthers won two events on the day and won their first C-USA trophy with a second place finish.

Senior Sabrina Beaupre and junior Johanna Gustafsdottir each won individual events. Beaupre was the highlight of the meet -- earning Diver of the Meet honors.

Dive Coach Rio Ramirez, who guided the brilliant Beaupre, won C-USA Diving Coach of the Year.

Last season, Ramirez garnered the same honors in FIU's last stint in the Sun Belt Conference.

Rice University took the top overall spot at the meet with a total of 1,000 points.

The Panthers recorded 740 points for the second place finish while East Carolina University registered 700 points to round out the top three.

"I am so proud of these ladies," Head Coach Randy Horner said in a statement. "They should be proud of the team's accomplishments in our first year in Conference USA."

Gustafsdottir posted a time of 1:55.05 in the 200 backstroke, taking top honors in the event. Beaupre won two-of-three diving titles during the meet, earning a final score of 298.40 to win the platform diving championship on Saturday. That score also topped her previous

best score set earlier in the year at the Mizzou Invite.

Senior Sonia Perez placed second in the 1650 freestyle as she registered a time of 16:28.83 --which is a school record. Perez's 1000 freestyle split in the event was 9:55.91, also a school record.

The 400 freestyle relay team consisting of Gustafsdottir, junior Klara Andersson and freshmen Jennifer Alfani and Jenny Deist made history by breaking the school record in that event. Gustafsdottir's lead-off split time in that event was 50.01, a school record for the 100 freestyle.

NCAA Zone Diving meets are set to kick off March 10 in Greensboro, N.C.

-ruben.palacios@fiusm.com

Conference USA Championships Top 3



Rice
University
1,000
Points



FIU
740 Points



East
Carolina
University
700 Points

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Panther forward reflects on senior year and looks to new beginning

PATRICK CHALVIRE *Staff Writer*

Senior forward Tymell Murphy has called the U.S Century Bank Arena home for the past two years and as he looks back at his time as a Panther, including a change in coaches and a postseason ban, he says it all happened for a greater cause.

Murphy made a splash for the men's basketball team his junior year as a leader on and off the court, but the forward faced a decision that would've sent him packing once again.

Recruited out of junior college, Murphy instead chose to stick to his commitment after word came out that his senior year would be one filled with changes and without any chance of playing in the postseason.

"It's been a learning experience for me from, not necessarily basketball, but from a life standpoint, you know, with learning a lot from Coach [Anthony] Evans and the whole coaching staff and you know having a difficult time with my teammates through adversity, losing some games that we should have won but just sticking together through it all," Murphy said.

Many people wouldn't have blamed Murphy for leaving early. As the team struggled midway through the season, some even questioned if he made the right decision to stay, but for the him, there aren't any regrets.

"No, I don't regret it because I think I've learned a lot about life and not only through basketball," Murphy said. "I learned to just fight through

adversity and when things come your way that's tough, you know you just gotta get through it."

For the New York native, it was a tough transition to the Magic City. Going into his senior year and with the addition of Head Coach Anthony Evans, another Brooklyn native, a relationship grew that was separate from any other.

"It's a different type of relationship, you know, you got so much in common, being from the city and understanding the type of basketball that's being played," Murphy said. "Sometimes I would go outside the X's and O's and he would understand it because playing on the playgrounds and stuff like that kinda related to my game. Sometimes he just talked to me in ways that he doesn't talk to anybody else but I understand how he's talking to me and what he's trying to get through."

Murphy has set high goals for himself since early in his basketball career. After spending just two years at FIU, he's 7th on the all-time scoring list, above former Panther and former NBA star Raja Bell. Just as Bell made a name for himself in the big leagues, Murphy plans to do the same thing.

"I see myself in the NBA," Murphy said. "I see myself playing at that next level because I feel like I have the tools to entertain the NBA, so that's my dream and that's what I'm shooting for."

Prior to the 2013-14 season, Murphy jokingly said that him and fellow teammate and redshirt senior Rakeem Buckles were the Batman

and Robin of the team. Neither being the official caped crusader, rather, splitting the roles when the time called. A fitting comparison.

"We flip flop because when I'm not on my game, I just pray that he is," Murphy said. "I just pray that he rebounds off me and I rebound off him. So it's basically, if one person is down then, you know, I got your back and if I'm down, he's got my back. That's why I use the Batman and Robin. No matter what happens, you know, we're just right behind each other in the numbers."

Despite the ups and downs he's endured, if given the opportunity to do anything differently, Murphy said he wouldn't change a thing.

"No, I think what happens, happens for a reason," Murphy said. "You get what you deserve, whether it was good or bad and I think what we did and what we went through made us the people that we are today. I wouldn't change nothing, I'd just relieve it."

As the humble crusader begins to close out his time at FIU and begin to embark on a new chapter in life, he does have one message for any future employers.

"They're gonna get somebody that's gonna play hard," Murphy said. "They're gonna get somebody that's really passionate about the game. They're gonna get somebody that's gonna try to get better every single day and try to help their team win and just gonna get a fighter."

-patrick.chalvire@fiusm.com

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tennis drops the day against Boston College

JAHREL FRANCIS *Contributing Writer*

The women's tennis team has been working with some tough matches this season. With a new conference and a young team there is great potential but also areas to work on.

Giulietta Boha, an international business major, is the lone senior being with the team since she was a freshman. Her freshman record was well with an experienced team to push her where they saw fit.

During Boha's freshman year the team conquered the 2011 Sun Belt Conference title. With a winning individual single record, she hopes to close her season with the Conference USA title.

"My freshman year I won conference so, I would like to win my last year conference too," Boha said. "As a freshman, all of the girls were older than me. I was the little one, they took care of me. And now I'm the senior and sometimes I will give them advice, so it's a lot different."

Not only is she the only senior but the remainder of the team are of at least a two year difference from Boha, consisting of freshmen and sophomores.

With an entire team of international students, they have all new experiences inside the conference besides the sport itself.

The Panther's last home match was against Boston College Eagles with a close losses. To begin, the team gave up a quick point by being defeated in the dual matches. Though they retired the last double with Boha and Carlotta Orlando, these panthers had a tight

lead against their opponents. Despite their lead they know their needs to be improvement.

"I think I still have to work on my double with Giulietta, to come in on the net and to put better first serves on the double, today they weren't so good," Orlando said.

Coming from doubles, Boha and Orlando were able to come up with two points for the team in singles. The rest of the team did well but it just was not enough.

"Two matches were lost 4-3 after being up and couldn't finish," Head Coach Katarina Petrovic said.

Boha retired her match at 6-1, 2-6, retired, to make it a ten singles match winning streak for her season. Meanwhile Orlando was proven triumphant against her eagle opponent in a 7-6, 6-2 win. Freshmen Nina Nagode and Tina Mohoric went 8-0 as sophomore Aleksandra Trifunovic and freshman Valentina Briceno went 8-6 for doubles.

"Hopefully we learn match by match: how can we do better? I think it's a learning process, we're working 100% in our practice we just need to start working 100% in our matches to play our game," Petrovic said.

Now the team is playing the sport in California for a west coast road trip. California State University, Northridge March 6 and Loyola Marymount University March 8 is the competition for the closing of this week.

"The important thing is to focus point after point and not to think about wins for the team," Petrovic said. "In tennis you win individually."

-jahrel.francis@fiusm.com

FEATURE

Men's basketball: the words behind the numbers

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Growing up, watching the game you love and having a favorite player is something every sports fan can relate to.

When those people start young, and have the opportunity to suit up for even a recreational youth team, a lot of them want to wear the number of their sports hero.

This is true for two members of the men's basketball team.

The two players are finished with their collegiate careers as they are senior forwards Tymell Murphy and Rakeem Buckles.

Buckles wore No.5 for his final season of collegiate basketball.

"My favorite player is Kevin Garnett," Buckles said. "He has kinda been jumping around numbers lately, since he has been changing teams so I try to have the same one most of the time."

Buckles also admitted that he tries to play like KG.

"He inspires me and I try to play like him. I try to make myself similar to him," Buckles said. "I don't model everything after

him since he is 7-feet tall so he has some things to his game that I can't do but his passion for the game and how hard he plays is how I want to be."

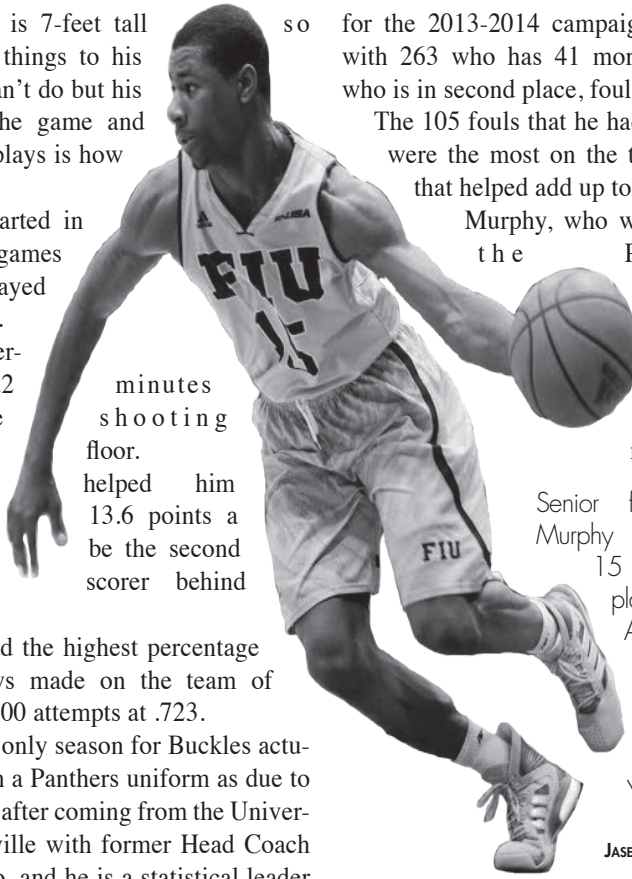
Buckles started in 29 of the 30 games that were played as of March 5.

He averaged 30.2 minutes a game while shooting .444 from the floor.

This helped him to average 13.6 points a game and be the second leading scorer behind Murphy.

He also had the highest percentage of free throws made on the team of players over 100 attempts at .723.

This is the only season for Buckles actually playing in a Panthers uniform as due to transfer rules, after coming from the University of Louisville with former Head Coach Richard Pitino, and he is a statistical leader



JASEN DELGADO/THE BEACON

for the 2013-2014 campaign in rebounds, with 263 who has 41 more than Murphy who is in second place, fouls and foul outs.

The 105 fouls that he had as of March 5 were the most on the team by 13 and that helped add up to six foul outs.

Murphy, who wore No. 15 for the Panthers, was at the top of the charts for nine categories and was second for most of the ones

Senior forward Tymell Murphy wears number 15 like his favorite player, Carmelo Anthony, did in college. Anthony now wears No. 7 for the New York Knicks.

in which he did not lead.

"Carmelo Anthony is the reason I chose to wear No. 15. He has been my favorite player since he was in Syracuse and in Denver where he wore that same number," Murphy said. "He still is my favorite player and that is why I chose it."

He admits though, it is not Anthony who he models his play after.

"I don't model my game after him, I model it mostly after left handed players," Murphy said. "Some of those guys are Delray James from Brooklyn, New York who went to Rhode Island and is currently playing overseas in Italy, Manu Ginobili of the San Antonio Spurs, James Harden [of the Houston Rockets] and guys like Kenny Anderson from way back. Those are just some left handed guys who made an impact on the game of basketball."

Murphy led the team with 1,029 minutes, an increase of 50 minutes from the player with the second most, 46 blocked shots, 54 steals, 68 assists and 503 points overall which leads the team.

-rhys.williams@fiusm.com

COLUMN

Bring on the C-USA competition for baseball

COLUMNIST



RHYS WILLIAMS

For the most part, the 11-1 Panthers baseball team, as of noon on March 5, is finished with their out of conference games.

This excludes the late April 4-game series against the Peacocks of St. Peter's University and several single matchups with Bethune-Cookman University, the University of South Florida, and a final matchup against the Lions of Florida Memorial University.

Exciting things have been happening and if you take

away the hiccup that the men had against the Dartmouth College Big Green in the only loss, and with the College Baseball Newspaper ranking them No. 21 in the country behind the leadership of junior catcher Aramis Garcia, it is exciting to see that an athletic program is doing well.

This coming after the other two "Big three" sports didn't exactly meet up to par with spectacular.

Football went 1-11 and their only win was on the road against the only team in the country that was statistically worse than they were, while men's basketball had not only the post-season ban due to the APR but with the Raymond Taylor ineligibility

situation did not do so hot in general as with a single game left in the season the men were 14-16 overall and do not have the chance to play into the postseason.

I was one of the believers after the 4-0 start by the baseball team that something great could happen and we have seen that to be true.

No one can argue, unless you are playing against a team of high schoolers, that a 23-1 victory is not remarkable.

When they beat the Lions that bad I told some of my fellow sports writers here at FIU Student Media that they would be top 25 in the nation if they won the series against Dartmouth, which they did and now they are.

There is some steep competition lurking in Conference USA however that would be defining moments to come away with wins.

Those series include Rice University which will be in Miami on March 14, 15

and 16 and the series against the Pirates of East Carolina University, which is in Greenville, N.C. in early May.

By the time the ECU series happens the team's outlook may already be defined but next week's series against

the Owls of Rice is, in my opinion, going to be an early glimpse into whether or not FIU Athletics will have to purchase plane tickets and hotel rooms near Omaha.

-rhys.williams@fiusm.com

Spring Break Baseball Schedule 2014



Three Game Series
March 7-9
Univ. of North Carolina
at Charlotte
Charlotte, N.C.
Game 1: 4:00 p.m.



Single Game
March 12
Univ. of South Florida
Tampa, Fla.
5:00 p.m.



Three Game Series
March 14-16
Rice University
Miami, Fla.
Game 1: 6:00 p.m.

Away games in BOLD

INTRAMURAL

Soccer team leads league in scoring and is undefeated

VERONIKA QUISPE
Staff Writer

The Bitchin Ballers have returned for a second women's soccer intramural championship. They are currently 2-0 after defeating Las Terroristas 8-0 and the Sick Kicks 3-1. They're also leading their division with 16 goals. Balls Out (2-0) follows with 14 goals. Most of the Bitchin Ballers have been playing together for three years. They have developed their own strategies and styles on the field that has helped place them in the finals every year.

"We're really comfortable playing with each other. We don't even need to practice because we know where each of us are on the field. I always know where someone will be so I can easily pass them the ball, and make plays faster," Senior captain Hannah Balmaseda said.

Forward Vanessa Toledo spoke on sophomore Carolina Flores.

"Now we have a really good goalie," Toledo said. "She even scored from the goal. She just

punted the ball and it went straight in."

Toledo has had experience throughout high school and club traveling teams. She was in a different team her freshman year and won first place. "Vanessa is like a wild card, you never know if she will show up because she's always working. Yet she always comes to the game and scores," Balmaseda said.

"I may be the leading scorer, but it's not possible without their help. It's a team thing," Toledo said.

Practice is not common among most teams in intramurals due to everyone's packed schedule.

"It's hard to find time between work and school, let alone practice, I'm usually late to the games" Toledo said. "Yet we all play together well, and we pick up on a lot of our styles."

Since intramurals are open to all students, they are able to sign up to any teams.

"There were a few random girls that I accepted in our team. At first I was a bit sceptical but now they have proven to be great players," Balmaseda said.

The transition with the new players was fairly easy due to their high skill level.

"The first time we played together it was against a really easy team. So we had more time with the ball and we got to see how they handled it. We had more room for error and we saw that they can read plays very well," Toledo said.

The four new members have also learned to complement one another offensively.

"Gaby's fast and Megan is a little slower but has fantastic passes," Balmaseda said. "They both know their timing very well."

Not only have the new members brought talent to the Bitchin Ballers, but they brought a very loud fan base as well.

"They come out with a lot of their friends who are really excited to watch us play. Which is very encouraging for us to do better," Toledo said. "You step your game up for those in the crowd cheering you on."

This season there is a wide range of talent among the teams. However most teams have a few years playing on the same team. There-

fore rivals have been developed throughout the women's soccer division.

"It's sometimes tough because you see the same girls and you get mad because they beat you last time or in a different sport. But it's just fun competition," Balmaseda said.

"I've also played against some these girls back when I was in my traveling team. So I know how they play and it's sometimes scary because I know how good they are so it's more of a challenge," Toledo said.

Balls Out stands to be the Bitchin Ballers greatest competition this season.

"They're a really good team, they will definitely put up a fight. Plus they have a lot of experience too," Balmaseda said.

Sick Kicks have been proved to be a tough team to handle, as their game last week got very physical.

"They're tough girls. Their goalie is by far the best goalie I've ever played against," Toledo said.

-sports@fiusm.com

Zoo Miami internship proves ‘great resource’

RAUL HERRERA
Asst. News Director

It's been a few months since FIU partnered up with Zoo Miami, and now students can reap the benefits of this collaboration.

New internship opportunities with Zoo Miami are now available for students.

According to a University Newsroom press release, a memorandum of understanding was signed between FIU and Zoo Miami on July 16, 2013, establishing a partnership for the purpose of employing students with aspirations to participate in internship opportunities

Management.

Michael Heithaus, executive director of the School of Environment, Arts, and Society said that the purpose of partnerships like this is to “enhance student research.”

“The hope is that these internships empower students through the knowledge and contacts gained to forge their future careers,” Heithaus said.

Provost Douglas Wartzok had said in the press release that the partnership “brings together two world-class institutions to help define a 21st century zoo as a locus for high quality research and conservation leadership.”

which includes integration of the research community and the public consciousness to bring about scientific decisions for benefit of wildlife.

The partnership initiated a collaboration of lectures, called the FIU-Zoo Miami lecture series. The next step is internships.

“We just announced the first round of internship opportunities at the Zoo in a variety of areas,” said Heithaus. “We also hope to see more FIU classes taking advantage of the zoo as a great resource.”

Heithaus said that these internships are available for both undergrad-

WHAT ABOUT WONDER WOMAN?



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Jose Delbo (right), the comic artist who drew Wonder Woman, and Freddy Mappin (left), a senior in biology, talk about the role feminism plays in the Wonder Woman comics.

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The Zoo and FIU are working together on a number of fronts. There will continue to be exciting research collaborations, student opportunities, and community events from the Zoo-FIU partnership

Michael Heithaus
Executive Director
School of Environment, Arts, and Society

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at the Miami Metro Zoo.

The students to be employed are to come from College of Arts & Sciences and Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism

The press release also pointed out that the partnership is modeled after the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums' conservation strategy,

uate and graduate students, from either the College of Arts and Sciences or the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Management.

“The internships are

ongoing, filled as needed by each area,” Heithaus said in a follow-up email to student media. “The current plans are based on available resources and the needs of Zoo Miami.”

Heithaus later mentioned that the internships will be unpaid, but that “the Zoo hopes to make these paid internships once the funds are available.”

One possibility that he cited was using research grants. He also said that interns can re-apply once they finish an internship semester.

According to the aforementioned press release, work is subject to begin

immediately involving collective research initiatives in conjunction with internship opportunities.

It also states that the memorandum of understanding is to result in the creation of many programs, including Ph.D. projects, public seminars on biodiversity and conservation, and courses on zoo policy and management.

“The Zoo and FIU are working together on a number of fronts. There will continue to be exciting research collaborations, student opportunities, and community events from the Zoo-FIU partnership,” Heithaus said.

Heithaus expressed his

belief that this partnership will be a benefit to the university.

“The internships give students the opportunity to gain hands-on knowledge and experience in areas such as horticulture, restoration, education, and programming,” Heithaus said.

“Students will also have the opportunity to get research experience by participating in one of the many joint research projects being conducted by FIU faculty and Zoo staff.”

-raul.herrera@fiusm.com

Aquatic Center pool closed due to pipe leak

ALEXI CARDONA
Staff Writer

A pipe leak at the BBC Aquatic Center shut down the Olympic-size swimming pool late last month and there is no anticipated completion date for the repairs.

A to Z Statewide Plumbing, a full-service contracting company, is working on fixing the leak and reopening the pool as soon as possible.

Christina Reddick, assistant director for Campus Recreation, believes ground shifting caused the pipe to leak because it is the first time this particular pipe has given them trouble.

Reddick said Campus Recreation recognized the leak by keeping a close eye on their city water bills.

The Recreation Center noticed an unexpected increase in the price of the November and December

water bills and began investigating the problem from there.

This recent repair comes 5 years after an \$800,000 renovation that took two years to complete.

much this repair will cost and the plumbing company could not be reached for an estimate of the cost or the exact nature of the leak.

Richard Azimov, vice president

Campus Recreation did not want to take on.

“We have a sense of urgency to reopen the facility for the students,” said Reddick.

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We will need to make cuts to programming and possibly operational hours to make up for maintenance costs.

Christina Reddick
Assistant Director
Campus Recreation

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The Student Government Association footed the bill for the 2007-2009 renovation, but Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation will have to pay the cost of this repair on its own.

Reddick does not know how

of Student Government, said that Campus Recreation did not request funds from SGA for this particular repair. Reddick said they would love for SGA to help pay for the repair, but that requesting funds requires a lengthy process that

The Aquatic Center does not receive any money from student athletic fees. They operate on Activity and Service fees, which are the fees Student Government collects to fund different activities on campus.

Paying for the repair will impact Campus Recreation's budget greatly.

“We will need to make cuts to programming and possibly operational hours to make up for maintenance costs,” said Reddick.

The department will not only have to pay for the repair, but for refilling the pool, which could cost up to \$10,000, and to replace the chemicals to be able to restart the pool system.

If the department falls short on funds, they will have to generate revenue by renting the pool for swim meets and hosting other colleges' training sessions during winter break.

They also offer swimming lessons for children and adults during the spring and summer months.

-alexi.cardona@fiusm.com