

Coley makes history, Panthers stumble in C-USA semifinals

RUBEN PALACIOS
Sports Director

After rewriting the FIU record books, senior Jerica Coley decided it was time to rearrange the NCAA's record books as well.

Coley became the 10th player in NCAA Division I history to eclipse the 3,000-point barrier, doing so with a 20-point showing on March 11 in FIU's 85-65 win over 12th-seeded Rice in the first round of the Conference USA tournament at El Paso, Texas.

Unfortunately for Rice, it got the worst of Coley's accomplishments this season.

In a regular season matchup earlier in the year, Coley became FIU's all-time leading scorer when she scored 16 points against the Owls.

And in typical Coley fashion, the senior didn't realize the magnitude of her accomplishment.

"One of my teammates was telling me that I was the 10th to get to that number, so it seems like a pretty big deal if in all the years only 10 people have gotten it so far," Coley said in an interview with the Associated Press. "I'm sure I'll think about it more a little later, but just that fact was pretty shocking."

Coley rested on 3,012 points after the Rice game, but she wouldn't settle there.

In a matchup against heavily favored five-seed East Carolina the next day she netted 42 points. That performance propelled her to become the fifth leading scorer in D-I history.

After the 42-point performance, she stood at 3,054 career points.

Coley dished out one of her most efficient scoring performances of the season -- if not her career -- as she shot 12-of-19 from the field and went 14-of-16 from the free-throw line.

The FIU guard passed USC's Cheryl Miller who was eighth on the career list at 3,018 points.

Tennessee's Chamique Holdsclaw



BRIAN KANOF/CONFERENCE USA

Senior guard Jerica Coley led FIU to three upsets in the Conference USA tournament before falling to top-seeded Middle Tennessee State in the semifinals. Coley climbed to no. 5 all-time in the Division-I scoring charts with 3,107 points.

formerly seventh at 3,025, Connecticut's Maya Moore who was sixth at 3,036 and Delaware's Elena Delle Donne who sat at fifth at 3,039.

"I never would have thought that this would have ever come about, and it did," Coley said. "It's a great honor to be in the same company with those names."

Coley, always willing to take the attention off her and credit her teammates, was thankful for the treatment her teammates provided her throughout her career in the limelight.

"I have really good teammates, and

they've made me feel good about the whole thing for the last three years," Coley said. "They never made me feel weird. Having them on my team and helping me get to where I am, that's made the whole experience even more fun."

Coley and the Panthers (13 seed) continued to upset opponents when they faced off against fourth-seeded Tulane on March 13. Coley scored a team-high 34 points and led the Panthers to the 69-55 upset.

SEE COLEY, PAGE 6

Muslim students awaiting action on found 'bug'

MADISON FANTOZZI
News Director

Over a year after a possible listening device was found in the Graham Center's Serenity Room in 343, the Muslim Student Association is still waiting for someone to claim the wireless bug students say was discovered burrowed in the carpet under a prayer mat on Feb. 9, 2013.

Student Media contacted MSA President Farouk Farouk who directed all news inquiries to representative Rayid Sakib.

"We have waited for over a year to get an answer from the investigation, and we haven't received any

have claimed the device as one they were using for an investigation.

President Mark B. Rosenberg and the University Police Department were unavailable for comment, but a University spokeswoman released a statement.

"The device was not related to any investigation that FIU Police is conducting or assisting in," the statement reads. "As of this time, FIU Police have been unable to determine the origin of the device or confirm if any outside law enforcement agency was conducting an investigation."

According to the spokeswoman, UPD contacted local and federal law

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It's not about feeling safe, it's about feeling violated.

Rayid Sakib
Junior
Engineering Major

”

solid explanation of this incident," Sakib said. "We decided to bring it out and also we felt the students who use the room deserve to know about this."

The MSA released a statement on its Facebook page on March 11 in response to an article published by Miami New Times, which coupled the investigation with an incident in New York where NYPD is said to have spied on MSA chapters in the area.

"For reasons unknown, the placement of such a device evidently accounts for a form of espionage intended to take place in the room," the statement reads. "However, we find it necessary to establish that these assumptions behind this finding will only lead to closed ends."

Sakib said the association retained counsel from the Council on American-Islamic Relations and is waiting for an organization to claim it.

Neither the University Police Department nor Miami Police Department

enforcement agencies in an effort to obtain information, but no more information is available at this time.

Students continue to use the Serenity Room.

"It's not about feeling safe, it's about feeling violated," said Sakib, a junior engineering major. "There are cameras everywhere. At what point can we have some privacy? What were they trying to achieve with the bug?"

According to the MSA, the bug didn't have a wire. "It just doesn't add up," Sakib said.

The association's statement further read:

"Although our organization does not intend to make conclusions upon this shocking discovery and regardless of the ones behind it, we feel it is significant for our rights to be protected on this campus."

Sakib said this is an issue of First Amendment rights for not only Muslim students, but anyone who uses the prayer space.

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Amazon Prime doubles its price, but still a cheaper alternative

KIERON WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Amazon has long been known to the business world as an unexplainable phenomenon. The company has increased in product, sales and revenue nearly every quarter for the past 10 years, but has yet to make any kind of tangible profit. However, despite this lack of return, investors have inexplicably held steadfast to Amazon shares, according to International Business Times.

Investors have kept an eye on the increasing industry revenue, watching Amazon

take business away from rivals both online and offline. While they may have felt that the company has been stringing them along, Amazon may have chosen 2014 to capitalize on their share of the market.

Amazon's chief financial officer Thomas Szkutak told the New York Times that the company plans to increase the price of their Amazon Prime shipping program by \$20 to \$40, a 50 percent increase from its original price.

With an estimated 25 million Prime subscribers, the price increase could lead to an immediate boost in profit for

“ Amazon would have to increase the price of Prime by almost double just to cost the same as Barnes and Noble. ”

the company. But are Prime subscribers willing to lose the old customers-before-profit Amazon?

Henry Doce, senior psychology major and avid Amazon customer, doesn't seem to mind.

Doce uses Amazon Prime to buy electronic equipment and accessories and says he has

never received a late package.

"I've pretty much replaced Best Buy with Amazon," he said. "Even with the price increase, I'd still be saving a substantial amount of money with the free 2-day shipping considering the amount of purchases I make in a year."

SEE PRICE, PAGE 2

WORLD NEWS

Russia: reserve the right to intervene in Ukraine

Russia has warned again that it reserves the right to intervene in defense of ethnic Russians it says are under threat in eastern Ukraine. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement Friday that authorities in Ukraine have lost control over the country and are unable to provide basic public security. Russian officials pointed to clashes overnight Thursday in the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk as evidence of growing instability. One person died and 29 were injured in violence between pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian activists. Troops under apparent Russian command have already deployed widely across the Ukraine's southern province of Crimea, which is to hold a referendum Sunday on seceding and merging with Russia.

Search for lost jet expands amid signs it flew on

The search for the missing Malaysian jetliner expanded east and west on Friday after American officials said it was emitting signals to satellites for hours after its last contact with air traffic control nearly a week ago over the South China Sea. Malaysian officials insisted that investigators had yet to reach a definitive conclusion on what radar and satellite data showed, and said the search was being expanded because efforts in current areas have not found any wreckage from the Boeing 777.

At genocide trial, Rwandan ex-intel chief defiant

A former Rwandan intelligence chief targeted in France's first trial over the Rwandan genocide proclaimed his innocence Friday and insisted he never even saw any the dead bodies that littered the country's roads and towns at the time. In his final appeal to the jury, Pascal Simbikangwa insisted that the "authenticity of my innocence needs no more proof." After 5-1/2 weeks in court, the jury of three magistrates and six civilian jurors retired to discuss accusations of genocide, complicity in genocide and complicity in war crimes against the 54-year-old Simbikangwa over the 1994 genocide that left at least 500,000 dead, mostly ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus. They were expected to deliver a verdict later Friday.

National Geographic's first woman photographer talks climate change

LILA REYES
Contributing Writer

In communities where environmental degradation is apparent; health, education, livelihood and climate change are constant battles, third world countries continue to lack sustainability due to human disturbances that affect their natural resources.

A report by Mother Jones states that "women are more severely affected by climate change or natural disasters because of their social roles or because of discrimination or poverty."

Their research has pointed out that women are underrepresented in climate change, as they rarely have the opportunity to discuss and make decisions about adaptation. This

involves human effort to limit our vulnerability to climate change and mitigation, which is known for projects or programs that impact historic or natural resources.

The School of Environment, Arts, and Society will open the area of discussion on March 20 in School of International and Public Affairs auditorium room 125 at 7 p.m.

"Alternative Energy: Invest in a Girl, Change the World" hopes to provide a new perspective to students about women and children living in areas that are challenged in fulfilling their basic necessities.

Annie Griffiths, the first woman photographer to work for National Geographic, is the event's speaker.

"She is someone who has self-propelled herself and does

really great work," said Elaine Pritzker, the coordinator of the event. "She's someone who has photographed in over 100 countries, participated in dozens of book and magazine projects for National Geographic Society, and is very committed to photographing for aid organizations around the world."

"I think what she has done would be very inspirational and motivational for our students."

Griffiths is also the executive of The Ripple Effect Images, an organization where photojournalists join to raise awareness by sending photos to aid women and girls living in communities affected by climate change.

Pritzker, who has spoken to Griffiths about the group, learned that the photojournalists use their work so that

non-governmental organizations and other aid groups can provide resources and infrastructure to ease the burden on the women and girls.

Ketie Ross, who is pursuing her master's in religious studies, expressed interest in the event.

-news.fusm.com

EVENT INFO

What: Alternative Energy: Invest in a Girl, Change the World
When: Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.
Where: School of International and Public Affairs room 125

Prime remains cheaper alternative

PRICE, PAGE 1

Although Amazon's new price increase on Prime is out of character for the company, the the prices of their products aren't changing.

Even if one of their services is more costly, they will still have competitive prices on everything from apparel to electronics to textbooks. And when compared to Barnes and Noble, it may even be safe to say that a student with an Amazon Prime subscription would save more money than a student paying for their books on campus.

One can compare Amazon prices with the Barnes and Noble College website to find the prices for the used textbooks of some typical freshman courses: ENC 1101, College Algebra, SLS and Spanish I.

The combined price of all the required

books through the campus bookstore website came out to \$509.75 with tax, and that's including package deals that come with necessary online access codes. The two most expensive books on the list were the Dicho y Hecho package for Spanish I that cost \$107.15, and the Algebra+Trig package that cost \$182.90.

Each textbook can also be found on Amazon—even the FIU-specific SLS book.

Some of the packages that contained the textbook and online access code at a cheaper price could not be found, so their components had to be added separately. But even with that disadvantage, the difference is a staggering: \$360.17 with tax. Every single book was found at a cheaper price than their Barnes and Noble counter-

part, the biggest price difference being the Dicho y Hecho package that went from \$107.15 to \$39.94.

Amazon would have to increase the price of Prime by almost double just to cost the same as Barnes and Noble, and even then the advantage of 2-day shipping would still put it over the edge.

Although Amazon is taking an aggressive step forward to increase their profit margin, it may be more harmless than it appears to be on the surface.

"Even if they increase the price, I'm still saving money when I'm shopping with them," Doce said. "That's what matters the most to me."

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The Internet: a music lover's 'frenemy'

KESHA DORISMA
Staff Writer

When asked “What do you do for fun?” I always find myself rummaging my mind to come up with an answer. I don't play any sports, partying is not my thing and I don't head out every day for morning yoga. Instead, my greatest pastime is simply listening to music.

To me, one of the simplest yet greatest pleasures in life is letting the rhythms and grooves of a song carry me far beyond myself.

It actually amazes me how I can manage to spend hours upon hours browsing the internet in search of new music.

With websites such as

YouTube, Spotify and Pandora, the internet is like an endless buffet appeasing my undying appetite for music.

“As much as I am thankful for the internet and the ease that it provides music lovers like myself to discover new music, I also despise it for this very same reason.”

As much as I am thankful for the internet and the ease that it provides music lovers like myself to discover new music, I also despise it for this very

same reason. There is something so special, so gratifying about finding a new band or artist after hours of browsing blogs and

YouTube videos. However, thanks to the internet, it seems like there is no such thing as an underground artists anymore. Instead, it is only

a matter of time until you hear the artist that you slaved so hard to find, being played on your friend's iPod or even worse, being blasted on the radio as they enjoy their fifteen minutes of fame.

Artists such as XYYYXX and Azealia Banks are both examples of artists I randomly stumbled upon years ago, back in the Myspace days, during my routine searches for new music.

During that time they had few fans and were far from ever being played on the radio.

Years later, internet exposure has allowed these artists to rise to moderate fame and it is quite disappointing to see that the artist that took me hours to find online can now be discovered by the

simple turn of the radio knob.

As an original fan, I know I should be happy when I realize that an artist that I have been following from the start of their career is finally being heard and recognized for their talent but the fact is, I hate it when this happens.

It may be that I am selfish and stingy about my music and don't want to share a good song with others or maybe I just like the thrill of finding a song that no one knows.

Whatever it is, as much as I love the internet, it is really cramping my style when it comes to music.

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What Miami doesn't know about snow pants

ARIEL WEINTSTEIN
Staff Writer

Living in Miami, it's all about soaking up the sun, hitting the beach, and getting your tan on year round.

I love the way the sand feels beneath my feet, lying on the beach and swimming in the ocean, surrounded by palm trees and seagulls.

When it comes to Florida, it isn't even just about the beach. Florida is called the Sunshine State for a reason.

People from such a tropical climate like Miami, do not realize the issues and struggles northerners such as myself go through every winter. Growing up in Massachusetts, I have seen winter at its finest, its most beautiful and it's not so greatest.

When I came to Miami, I found it absolutely fascinating that some people did not even know what snow pants were. Then I realized if they didn't know what snow pants were, they most likely didn't have a clue as to what winter is all about.

Yes, snow is beautiful and fluffy and everyone hopes for white Christmases. However, it is not always a winter wonderland as the movies portray it to be.

With snow and cold

weather comes endless struggles. For example, turning the heat on itself can cost you a crazy amount of money. This is why in my house for example, we sleep with sweatshirts, winter coats, and multiple blankets, topped off with however many stuffed animals and pillows you have on the bed too, just to make it that much warmer. Then hopefully, one of the dogs will hop into bed and create more warmth.

If you think bedtime sounds like a process, the morning isn't that much better. First, you have to wake up an extra half an hour early just to start your car, so it can warm up and defrost the engine, windshield wipers, and everything else the car needs to function with. Then, if you take a shower, you need to make sure your hair is completely dry or else it will literally freeze and harden when you walk outside.

Walking outside is a struggle in itself as well. First off, if you can open the door without icicles falling on your head, you are already in good shape. Then, you need to make sure there is sand on the front step, and the walkway to the car, so you don't slip on the ice.

If there's too much

snow, you won't be able to back the car out of the drive way, so you'll need to grab the shovel or snow blower and shovel your way out of the driveway. Once you're finally in the car, double check you have a small hand broom to wipe the windshield when you get back into the car so you can see.

These problems are only a few of many. Temperature alone can leave soft healthy hands cracked, dry, and even cut.

In high school when my hands would be so cold they would turn purple and numb, and the only way to do homework and write would be to take a heat lamp and put it directly over my hands, so they could defrost and I could move them.

In general, I feel southerners don't realize how good they have it. Not that I don't appreciate the seasons or the first snowfall of the year, and snowfall after that, but I feel mother nature gives northerners many more obstacles during the winter seasons, than she does southerners, who have hardly heard of snow pants.

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An explanation of asexuality

JENNIPHER SCHAFER
Staff Writer

There is an unnoticed group in the queer community, often misunderstood and even forgotten.

The queer community includes everyone who is not strictly heterosexual. Often the focus is made to gay and lesbian individuals, though recently transgendered issues have been more open. Still, the asexual population is ignored in favor of the more sexually charged images of the LGBTQ community.

So what exactly does it mean to be asexual? This is a tricky thing to define because asexual people can and do have sex.

What The Asexual Visibility and Education Network defines asexuality to be is “someone who does not experience sexual attraction. Unlike celibacy, which people choose, asexuality is an intrinsic part of who we are.”

So if they experience no sexual attraction why do some asexual people have sex? The answers are simple enough. Sometimes it is the desire to show their significant other that they want to meet their needs as well.

They still feel arousal; it is simply not necessarily directed at anyone in particular such as a romantic partner. Some identify as demi-sexual which means that once a deep connection and trust have been established they can become aroused by a partner even if they are not romantically involved. Still others are gray-asexual which means that they are between asexuality and sexuality, for example because they experience sexual attraction very rarely, only under specific circumstances, or of an extremely low intensity that is almost (or completely) ignorable.

Asexual people can also identify as hetero-romantic, homo-romantic, bi-romantic, or pan-romantic as well.

This means that even though sex is not

the basis for their attraction they still can feel love and a desire for companionship. Many asexual people still want close relationships and even love.

Sex has never been the sole way to express love and so even if a sexual person finds love with an asexual partner there are many ways to express the emotions which do not involve sex.

Some asexual people enjoy small contacts such as hand holding or cuddling to be satisfying means of communicating their love.

If you find yourself dating someone who identifies as asexual it is best not to pressure them about sex.

If your partner does open up to you sexually make sure that not only was it their decision, but that you understand what this means. Make your partner comfortable.

“So what exactly does it mean to be asexual? This is a tricky thing to define because asexual people can and do have sex.”

Several asexual people I know have said immediately after any sexual act they need to wash and dress.

It helps to feel less uncomfortable and in some cases reminds them they are not being objectified for the act.

Asexual people can make wonderful romantic partners. There is nothing wrong with them. In fact, many of us could learn a thing or two about how to love our partners every day without sex being the ultimate goal.

-opinion@fiusm.com

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Successful Black History Month for BSU

SAMANTHA DAVIS
Staff Writer

Putting on an event requires a considerable amount of planning and organizing. Despite the challenges of putting on a month's worth of events, February was a success for Black Student Union, with many of their Black History Month events bringing in large turnouts. BSU encouraged FIU students to come out and celebrate Black History Month with lectures, dinners, movie nights, dancing, documentary showings and more.

Nyobee McCall, BSU president and a junior hospitality major, and Chelsea Morrison, BSU secretary and a junior communication arts and public relations major, put in a considerable amount of time

and effort to get students all over campus to learn and have fun during Black History Month.

"The turnout for the events was great, a lot of people actually came out. People enjoyed the fish fry, the Dick Gregory lecture and the movie showing we just had, 'Fruitvale Station'. We also had a hair forum at BBC Vista Bay Housing and people really enjoyed that because they got to learn about natural and processed hair. We were able to have a good discussion about it," McCall said.

Another successful event for BSU was the "Speak Your Heart Out" event on Valentine's Day, in collaboration with the University's poetry club Student Poets Eloquently Articulating Knowledge. "We had to bring in so many more chairs. It was a packed house, it so much fun and

the dessert was amazing," Morrison said. Some students did open mic, some played the guitar and outside poets also came in.

"Humoring Humanity" with Dick Gregory, an American comedian and social activist, was another event hosted by BSU. "He used to work for the government and he educates people on things they would never be able to find on Google," McCall said. "We were allowed to have him speak at our event for 45 minutes and this man spoke for two hours."

McCall and Morrison also organized a kissing booth event in GC where they sold kisses--the candy--and students took photos and donated money to Relay for Life. "We got gift cards for the, that was the main incentive for them,"

Morrison explained.

"We try to encourage our members to participate in all our events, community service and getting involved with Relay," McCall added.

Among the many things they did for Black History Month, BSU camped out at Relay for Life, a major charity fundraising event that supports the fight against cancer. It lasted from 6 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. and featured bounce houses, cages, live music, food and games. FIU organizations at the event all had tents and their own activities as a way to collect donations for the cause. BSU sold buttons and made crown pops, which was part of their royalty theme for the event.

Now that Black History Month is over and March is underway, McCall

and Morrison are now focusing on planning events for the remainder of the school year. They can't do what they do without student involvement, so they are also focused on getting students involved or at least interested in the organization.

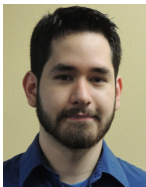
"We really want to see the freshmen come out and get involved because they're the future," Morrison said. "We're gonna be graduating soon so it's important that we find people to take over for us. We want people to see that we do plan fun events, so that they'll be interested in joining."

Students who are interest in what's happening with BSU can check out the organization on OrgSync.

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Wait, they made a 'South Park' role-playing game?

COLUMNIST



LUIS BOLANOS

The PC version of "South Park: The Stick of Truth" was reviewed and is available for Xbox 360, Playstation 3 and PC. The game was provided by Ubisoft.

Television's famous quiet little mountain town makes its return to gaming, this time with an "epic fantasy" role-playing game as its backdrop.

"The Stick of Truth" is comparable to a consistent season of "South Park" with the added bonus that it's interactive and enjoyable in its own right. It stands well as an RPG, and shines in terms of writing and art design.

The characters and story are on par with your standard "South Park" episode. Cartman, Kenny, Stan, Kyle and the rest of the 4th grade boys are around, along with other "South Park" residents. The story follows an all-powerful item called The Stick of Truth and the shenanigans that follow after it's stolen. You play as the new kid in town, who you can customize to your heart's content. And if you don't like the way your kid came out you can use the local plastic surgeon to change your looks.

Everything in "The Stick of Truth" echoes Dungeons and Dragons, Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones, Elder Scrolls and The Witcher. Of course this is all powered by the imagination

from the boys of "South Park," so everything looks like it was built by a nine- or ten-year-old. The difference between a full season of "South Park" and "The Stick of Truth" is that it follows a long story arc in which you are one of the central characters. Things happen, and as one would expect, crazier things happen and continue to happen.

“It's definitely one of the best licensed games I've played, and definitely the funniest licensed game to hit the market.”

A good chunk of the main cast is involved in the story, and there's an unprecedented amount of references and cameos from the show. This game caters especially to those that have been following the show since its inception, and as someone that's seen the show on and off the past couple of years I greatly appreciated the references and cameos.

After completing the tutorial you're free to explore the overworld: "South Park." You can explore the local neighborhoods and the many strange locations within the town that include

the local abortion clinic, the Tweek Bros. Coffeehouse and the sewers. While the overworld is not as vast as that of games like "Skyrim" or "Dark Souls," the "dungeons" you encounter throughout the game add depth to the world.

During your journey you'll encounter several groups of enemies that include elves, hobos and other factions you might not expect. Upon

encountering these enemies you're thrust into combat, which is pretty engaging.

The combat takes very heavily from games like "Paper Mario" and "Mario and Luigi: Superstar Saga." Those games feature combat that is reliant on pressing buttons at the right time to do the most amount of damage and use of appropriate attacks against certain enemies.

"The Stick of Truth" takes these mechanics and adds a nice "South Park" flavor to combat. Having appreciated this system prior to "The Stick of Truth," it's no surprise that it works

very well in the game. The timing attacks give a greater satisfaction when you pull off a devastating fart attack.

Combat may not be as deep as other RPGs, but it's deep enough to allow you to form strategies when dealing with certain enemy types. There's multiple layers in the combat from status effects, armor and shields. There's even summons you can use after completing certain side missions in the game. Once you get the hang of the battles and the system, the game rewards you when you take advantage of weaknesses and use proper defense against powerful attacks.

Unfortunately this leads to developing strategies that allow you to one-shot several enemies. I had a formula to annihilate any random encounter in 2 turns or less late in the game. While this removes some of the depth with normal battles, boss battles shake things up and force you to be on your toes.

The game also allows you to have a buddy supporting you. The buddies consist of Cartman, Kyle, Stan, Kenny, Jimmy and Butters. All of them have different abilities that can greatly assist you in combat, although you might find yourself liking certain buddies more than others. I ended pairing up more with Cartman, Butters and Jimmy, because I preferred their moves in

SEE GAME, PAGE 5

Some books to accompany you through spring

IN HER WORDS

LAURA CALDERA

After a non-existent winter in Miami we finally have spring around the corner.

Most of us have finished midterms, projects and attended events. We've all been crazy busy this semester thus far, but now it's our time to relax and enjoy the change that comes with spring. Sit under Florida's merciless sun and pour yourself a glass of iced tea with a good book.

Here my top four suggestions for books I think embody the traditional and

modern forms of change - how spring is to us. I promise not to write spoilers.

"Wings" by Aprilynne Pike

In this story Aprilynne Pike takes the meaning of fairy, scrambles it a little bit and serves you the most delicious fairy-salad ever.

Laurel is an estranged girl when she moves into her new home in Crescent City where her parents enroll her into high school.

In times of stress she befriends a boy named David, but Laurel is still attached to the old cabin where she used

to live. She decides to go back and discover what is going on in the property and ends up finding a strange boy who tells her things that make her rethink her own existence.

"Mandy" by Julie Andrews

Written by the famous actress, this book does not disappoint. The story is about an orphan girl named Mandy who is an adventurous little person who loves to explore the house and even create a bit of mischief.

One day Mandy gets the courage to cross over the

wall into the wilderness on the other side. As she walks in the forest, she finds a little treasure of her own: an abandoned cottage.

Mandy takes up the responsibility of caring for it during her free time and makes it her own little paradise from the orphanage she has always known.

"The Secret Garden" by Frances Burnette

I'm sure many of you have seen the movie starring young Kate Maberly, but as some of us have experienced, the movie is never the same as the book. Little

Mary has been orphaned after her parents died of cholera in India. She is sent to America, to her late aunt's home in Misselthwaite Manor, with her overly depressed uncle. Mary soon discovers her sickly cousin who has been left stranded by her uncle with no one to love him. One day while she explores her Uncle's vast lands, Mary finds a hidden gate that leads to a secret garden.

"It's Kind of a Funny Story" by Ned Vizzini

Continuing with theme of troubled teens, I present to you Ned Vizzini and a fresh

perspective on everything teen. Craige, a teen stressed about his future, nearly kills himself and decides that it's time to seek medical help. He checks himself into the mental hospital. While at the hospital, Craige narrates his story, recounting his time there, how he becomes adjusted to it, how he faces the base of all his anxieties and how he finds an unexpected road to happiness.

I hope these suggestions help you have a great time this spring break. Happy reading.

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Panic Bomber gives insight on DJ scene in Miami

**JUNETTE REYES &
DIEGO SALDANA-ROJAS**
FIUSM Staff

In the series of sit downs with local artists, FIU Student Media has had the opportunity to sit down and interview artist Smurphio from the local electronic funk band known as Afrobeta, local hip-hop artist Flight Williams from the collective rap group known as Outta This World, local DJ and producer Jesse Perez, Harlowe G. and Lauren from Jean Jacket, Juan Turros and Michelle Forman of ¡Suénalo!, members Michelangelo, Alana Dym, ChrisP and Sean of The Cornerstoners and members Daniel Fernandez, Alejandro Facusse and Harrison Kelner of The Halfways.

This time around, FIUSM got to interview Panic Bomber in collaboration with the WRGP Radiate FM program called Local Radiation.

What do you go by: DJ Panic Bomber or just Panic Bomber?

Panic Bomber: I am an artist first and a DJ second, so Panic Bomber.

How did this project come about?

Panic Bomber: I am a musician based in Miami. I do a lot of different music stuff. I've done a lot of ...a myriad of genres. Right now, Panic Bomber is the name for my main dance material and I write mostly dance music at the moment for myself. But I also do a lot of other music as well on the side. Panic Bomber is what I use for dance production and deejaying.

When it comes to dance music, what genres do you draw your inspiration from?

Panic Bomber: Well, I listen to a lot of everything. My two favorite things in life are probably techno and heavy metal. So, I take

inspiration from everywhere. I'm a classically trained pianist. I've played in punk bands, I've played in rock bands, and I've played in country bands. I sing. I really take inspiration from all over the place. I just do music. The only reason I do dance music is so I can deejay it.

Do the genres you've played directly influence the kind of music you produce?

Panic Bomber: I don't think there's often a one-to-one correlation in a lot of stuff. I don't like to section things off in genres in my head. That's for bloggers. I just make music but I do like to try keep it reigned in to a certain extent so I can kind of handle it and know where I want a certain piece to go. But I'm not married to one particular style.

Earlier you made the distinction that you're an artist first and a DJ second. Is it because of your heavy involvement in music?

Panic Bomber: Yes, I am an artist first and a DJ second. I produce first. Deejaying for me is a means to more production. I write constantly and I really enjoy the process, but I've recently fallen in love with deejaying. Sometimes it gets frustrating.

The problem with deejaying in Miami is that a lot of times you're doing it as a service to a club. Are you a DJ for hire or are you a DJ because you want to play tunes you love? It's like being in a cover band versus being in a band where you write your own material. Are you beholden to the manager that will tell you what to play or are you doing your own thing really deejaying? And I find that being a DJ is very delicate. It's not about you; it's very selfless.

Regardless of all these Steve Aoki's these days, it's not about you; it's about the audience. I am far more selfish than that and as an artist, when I'm on stage, I don't care what you



NATALIE BOJORQUEZ/THE BEACON

Panic Bomber had a live DJ set during Local Radiation on Feb. 26.

think in the audience. I'm going to be doing my thing. And that's kind of where I come at in music, from the more creative dictatorial side. It's not a democracy; I don't care what the dance floor thinks. But as a DJ, I've learned to respect their opinion.

What do you have to say about the Miami music scene, specifically the DJ scene?

Panic Bomber: I think it's an exciting time to be an electronic musician in Miami. We are lucky enough to be in one of the host spots in the world. It's hard being a musician in any part of the world. It's hard being in a live band in this city for sure. I always got very frustrated and I still get very frustrated trying to be a live musician in this city that is very DJ orientated. I think that this is a healthy step, I think it's a

good thing for the scene.

Obviously, you have competing interests sometimes because you have the beach that is very corporate aligned, very bottle-service aligned but they also have a lot of talent. That's where the money is. I'm more in the downtown scene. I do Saturdays and Tuesdays...I'm in a group called Slap & Tickle. We focus on the underground and that's in the downtown market. Bardot every Tuesday, Garrett every Saturday. And then one offs here and there and we try to keep it interesting and underground.

It's not about making money, it's not about playing top tracks. I have no idea what is on the beatport charge right now, I have no clue. But we know what we like to play and we know what we think is cutting edge.

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The best role-playing game you never wanted

GAME, PAGE 4

combat. For example, fire farts are really good against enemies that are weak against fire, so Cartman became an invaluable asset.

Customization is also important for combat, as the weapons you equip, the clothing you wear and the modifiers you can activate are essential. Unfortunately your clothing and weapons do not level up along with you, so you have to upgrade to

stronger weapons and clothing in order to survive later battles. The ability to customize your buddies is absent, so you can't dress Cartman up as the Coon. For the sake of the story, it makes sense to keep the buddies out of customization and puts a greater focus on customizing yourself. Fans of micromanaging in RPGs may not appreciate this, but others might appreciate the greater focus on customizing one character instead of seven.

Outside of combat, you'll

encounter some puzzles that require the use of special items you've acquired along with fart spells. These puzzles keep the flow of the game consistent, and might even save you a couple of battles since you can incapacitate enemies using the environment.

If the gameplay or story doesn't resonate with you, the art style and overall world of "The Stick of Truth" is probably one of the most impressive video game worlds I've encountered. The near perfect

effect of making you feel like you're interacting with the "South Park" universe is just fantastic. The wizards behind this great feat managed to recreate the unmistakable style of the franchise to the point. The art style and voice acting takes huge advantage of the world, and I can't imagine any other "South Park" game not using this formula in the future.

The game also takes advantage of the "South Park" universe, as the game is loaded with references and characters. In order to properly appreciate these references and characters you need have seen enough episodes to understand what goes on in "South Park." I would advise to anyone who intends on playing this game to watch the Black Friday trilogy if they haven't seen it. Those episodes function as a prequel to the game, almost.

The biggest factor impacting your enjoyment of "The Stick of Truth" is the humor. Again, if you haven't seen "South Park," this game will feel foreign. It's loaded with shock value, fart jokes, pop culture references, poop, extreme violence, gross stuff and several other things that would be considered offensive. If you have seen the show,

the previous sentence sounds about standard for a "South Park" episode. It shouldn't be surprising such things remain in full force in "The Stick of Truth." There's many surprises that await players, and I would advise to avoid watching gameplay videos to avoid having any of the jokes spoiled.

The Verdict:

I appreciate funny video games. One of my all time favorites is "Conker's Bad Fur Day," a game that was actually inspired by "South Park." It feels appropriate that "South Park" has its own funny and good video game adventure to boot.

Your enjoyment of this game is determined by how you enjoy the humor put in place by Matt Stone, Trey Parker and company. If you think "South Park" is total poop and a waste of your time, don't even bother with "The Stick of Truth." If you think "South Park" is pretty okay, you enjoy a couple of episodes and enjoy a light RPG, then there's a good chance you'll get enjoyment out of the game. And if you are a die-hard "South Park" fan, this is probably the greatest thing ever since AWESOM-O.

The gameplay is solid but not fantastic, and the steady stream of humor throughout the game kept me laughing. I secretly wished there were original songs in the game like in the "South Park" movie. Nonetheless, the references and humor keeps the game fresh. There's also replayability since the four classes available to your character function differently.

Again, in order to really get enjoyment out of "The Stick of Truth" you have to at the very least enjoy some "South Park" episodes. The game also ends up being really easy in the normal difficulty, so I'd advise to up the ante if you're blowing through enemies without hassle. I beat the game on the normal difficulty after 14 hours, but I also plan on having another go around with another class and on the hardcore difficulty.

With video games aiming for photo realism and top notch graphics, "South Park's" style is simple, but more effective than other games. It's definitely one of the best licensed games I've played, and definitely the funniest licensed game to hit the market.

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DOUG KLINE/CREATIVE COMMONS

Pictured above is the art for "South Park: The Stick of Truth." It was released on March 4 by Ubisoft and is available for Xbox 360, PS3 and PC.

SOFTBALL

Panthers equal best start in team history

YOSVANY RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Through the first 23 games of the 2014 campaign FIU has totaled 16 victories, which has only happened twice before for FIU (2001, 2010).

The last time that FIU got off to a start like this they reached the regional round of the NCAA tournament before losing to eventual College World Series participant University of Florida. The 2010 Panthers finished (38-21).

"I just got some kids that are buying in and working really hard putting the time in and just making the plays," said head coach Jake Schumann. "We're battling, its not like we're world-beating everybody. So we're battling some games and making some plays and like I said they're putting the work in that they haven't done in the past."

The University's 2.55 team ERA ranks them 58th in the nation, and their 5.17 team runs per game has them at 74th. That's solid but not great when you compare it to the elite programs such as No. 5 Arizona State whose 6.97 runs per game is 12th in the nation in scoring. FIU was outclassed earlier this season when the Arizona State Sun Devils manhandled the Panthers in an 8-0 defeat.

Despite the embarrassing loss, FIU has shown that it can compete with the nation's premiere programs as evidenced by their 3-1 victory over the Minnesota Gophers who at the time were the No. 19 team in the nation.

The Panthers have been exceptional in protecting leads this season. FIU is 12-0 when leading after four innings and 12-1 when the Panthers score first. That being said, FIU has struggled when forced to

comeback. The Panthers are 4-7 when trailing or tied after four innings and are winless in two extra-inning games this season.

FIU's one-two punch

FIU is 15-2 in games in which they score more than three runs. This is in large part due to their two aces, Sophomore Corinne Jenkins and Junior Shelby Graves.

"Corinne is a workhorse," Schumann said. "She busts her butt, she's a student of the game, she understands the game; when you understand the game it comes a little easier to you, you're able to relax in the moment, and she's able to do that instead of pressing and doing some things that are going to prolong her and have her come out."

Jenkins led the team in wins as a freshman, accounting for 13 of FIU's 27 wins. She also led the team in ERA (3.01), strikeouts (100), complete games (9), and innings pitched (132.2). The problem was that FIU didn't have a second starter to complement Jenkins.

Fast forward to this season where FIU seems to have a legitimate one-two punch, thanks to the emergence of Shelby Graves. Graves was second on the team in ERA (3.59) and wins (6). However, she only started two games. This season Graves is 7-3 with a 2.40 ERA and a team leading 47 strikeouts. The combo of Graves and Jenkins has been responsible for 15 of FIU's 16 wins, combining for a 15-5 record and a combined ERA of just 2.04.

Krystal Garcia's resurgence

The Panthers have four players hitting over .360, one of these players notched just 29 hits in 135 at bats the previous season for a repulsive .215 batting average.

Junior Krystal Garcia has been one of the most improved players in all of



JASON DELGADO/THE BEACON

Sophomore catcher Aleima Lopez has started all of the Panthers 27 games thus far this season. Lopez is batting .260 at the plate with 19 RBIs.

college softball this season. Garcia's 2013 campaign and her current 2014 campaign are planets apart. Garcia has improved her batting average by .152 points, from .215 to .367. In half as many games as she played all of last season she has already surpassed her previous season totals in doubles, home runs, and RBI and has increased her slugging percentage from .267 to .700.

These types of improvements are unheard of. With her drastic improvements it is almost as if FIU replaced a bottom of the order hitter with a perennial All-Conference player.

One person that isn't shocked by Garcia's remarkable turnaround is Schumann.

"She's a great player that's why I recruited her," said Schumann. "I actually had signed her at the place I was at before I came to FIU. I knew she had a lot of potential, had a rough year last year I think she was just trying to adapt to Miami and FIU and being away from home and you know she's finally relaxed and she's just playing well right now so hopefully she can continued to ride that."

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Coley wraps up FIU career on a scoring spree

COLEY, PAGE 1

The Panther's Cinderella run came to an end in the C-USA semifinals against a very familiar foe: Middle Tennessee State University.

FIU, playing in its fourth game in as many days, stood strong with the top-seeded Raiders but ultimately fell 64-57. The Raiders concentrated heavily on Coley and held the senior to just 19 points.

The Panthers have had their conference championship bids taken away by Middle Tennessee in three-consecutive seasons.

"Another typical game. We knew coming in they were going to be a little tired and it shows in some of their shooting. We did

a good job on Coley," Raiders' coach Rick Insell said in a postgame release. "(FIU) did well, but playing four games in four days has a lot to do with their performance. You have to commend them; Cindy Russo is a tremendous coach. You don't win 600- something games with luck, and that's what she's done in her career as a collegiate coach."

Russo also spoke after the loss, saying she was proud of the performances her team put up leading to the semifinal matchup and that they did not want their season to end when it did.

"This is always a hard talk to have. We had a great ride and there was a

lot of nice basketball these last few days," Russo said. "For that, we are really proud of ourselves, but we did not want it to end today."

The ninth-winningest active coach in women's basketball also commented on her All-American in Coley.

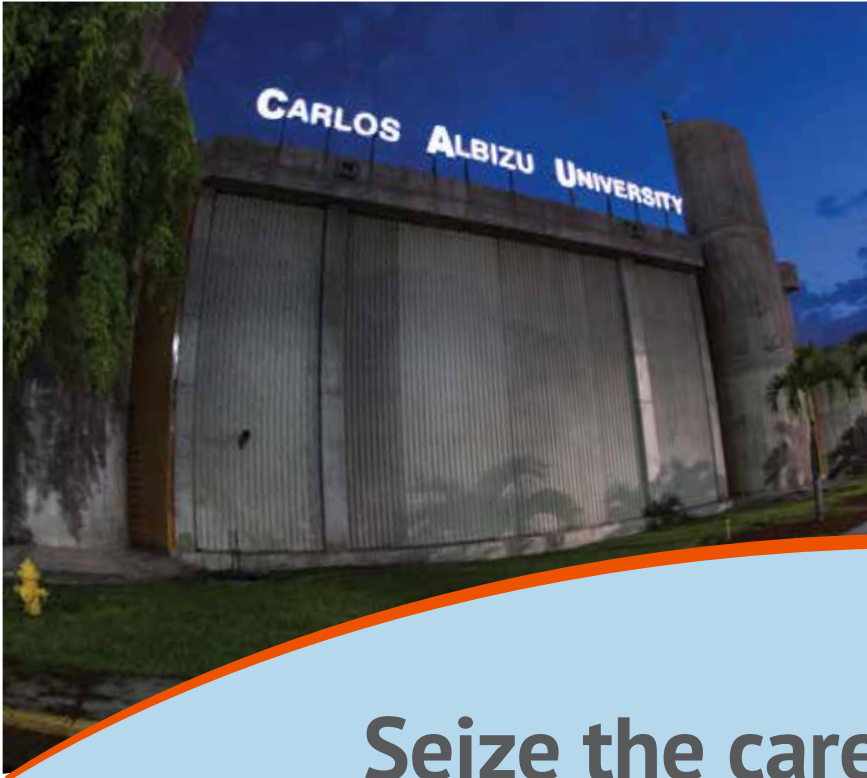
"It is pretty emotional. It is hard to think about life without Jerica (Coley). Not only is she a great ball player and I enjoy watching her as a fan sometimes, but she is just also a great person and a great friend of mine," Russo said.

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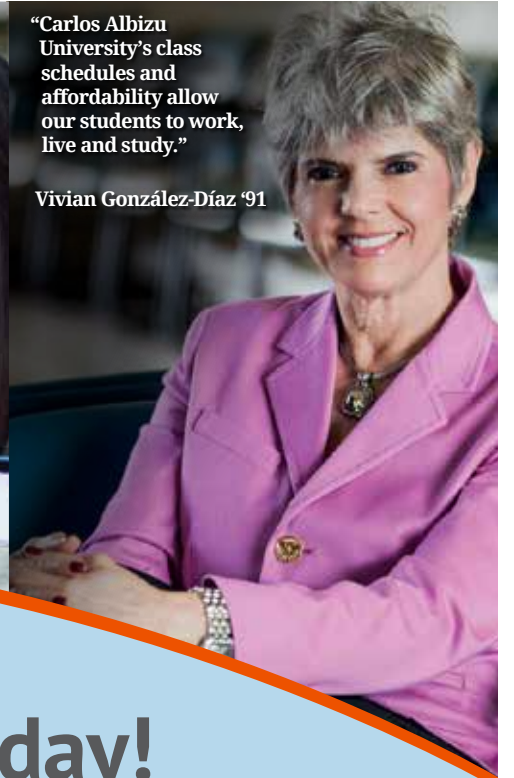
BRIAN KANOF/CONFERENCE USA

Senior Jerica Coley scored 19 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in a losing effort against Middle Tennessee State. Coley finishes her career as the fifth-leading scorer in Division-I history.



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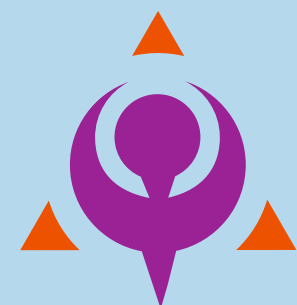
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Wellness Expo reminds students about check ups

ELI VERA
Contributing Writer

Spring break is over, it's time to get back on track with a healthy routine for summer.

Student Health Services signature event, "Wellness Expo 2014," will put students in contact with a variety of health experts and organizations.

A new spin this year are the vision screenings provided by the Conventry Health Care, Inc., providing students with optometrist consultations.

"It's a brief consultation, so if you are having a problem they will tell you and provide you with a referral, to at least tell you if something is going on or if nothing is going on," said Ludavica Virgile, program assistant for the Wellness Center at Biscayne Bay Campus.

March is Eye Health Awareness Month and the Eye Bank Association of America

annually promotes this month as the National Eye Donor Month to raise awareness for the need to donate eyes.

It is also Workplace Eye Wellness Month, reminding individuals the importance of eye health and regular exams provided by health-care services at the work place, according to the Prevent Blindness America website.

Among the different types of screenings available to Panthers and the community is the spinal screening, which lets you know about your posture.

"We have local vendors and others from the health department as well that will come out to do spinal screening and blood pressure screening," Virgile said.

This year the Wellness Expo will bring about 25 vendors that include the American Red Cross Healthy and Safety Department demonstrating a CPR demo, Earth-Save which will present infor-

mation on healthy cooking and Susan G. Komen for the Cure will be giving information on breast cancer.

New health vendors include the Pop Lab, a local ice pop vendor.

"Her focus is making healthy ice pops. She only uses fruit, water and basically blends that are healthy – so no sugar, no preserves and she uses all natural products," said Sarah Kenneally, senior health educator at Student Health Services at BBC.

Another standout is an organic coffee vendor who will provide students their caffeine fix for the day.

"We will have the organic coffee vendor that is coming and will be providing coffee samples and giving away baskets," said Kenneally.

Overall, the goal of the Wellness Expo is to engage the community to learn more about smart, healthy choices, while introducing them to

CHECKING OUT COMPETITION



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Javier Diaz (right), freshman in marine biology, and Nyobee Mccall (left), junior in hospitality management, view the finalists' photos in the ISSS Photo contest.

local vendors.

"The event is geared for the students but it is open to everyone, we are also partnering up with HR so its geared toward student and staff faculty because we are going to be bringing the insurance vendors, everyone that provides benefits will be there

as well for employees to talk to," said Kenneally.

After the expo Kenneally says that there is usually an increase in the visits to the Students Health Wellness Center due to the positive experience students have.

"There is an increase in massages and tri fit, a base-

line assessment of your body fat, strength, flexibility and it kind of gives you an idea of where your at physically, so for people who are starting to work out, helps them to see what they need to change," Kenneally said.

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DONNA BRAZILE

Veteran Democratic political strategist Donna Brazile is an adjunct professor, author, syndicated columnist, CNN political commentator, Vice Chair of Voter Registration and Participation at the Democratic National Committee (DNC), and former interim National Chair of the Democratic National Committee as well as the former chair of the DNC's Voting Rights Institute.

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