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PLANNING AHEAD



VINCENT RIVES/THE BEACON

Nimrod Simeon, a senior in international business, talks to a representative at the internship fair on Sept. 15. Internship fair gave students the opportunity to introduce themselves to companies looking for interns.

MSA asks police to send bug to forensic lab

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After almost two years of finding a possible listening device in the Graham Center's Serenity Room, the Muslim Student Association asked the University Police to analyze the bugging device in a forensic lab.

Back in 2013, members of MSA contacted the Council of American-Islamic Relations, an organization that promotes the interests of Muslims in the United States, after they found a small metal object embedded in the carpet with wire attached to it while praying in the GC Serenity Room in 343.

Nezar Hamze, director of CAIR, received the device from the students and then contacted the United States Attorney's office to report the incident. That's when University Police got involved, said Chief of Police Alexander Casas.

"We investigated the situation, but in the end, we found there was nothing that we could do," said Casas.

Casas explained the situation to the attorney and to MSA. The bugging device was then turned over to the University Police Department to be impounded.

Several agencies that work closely with the police department, like the Miami-Dade Police Department

SEE MSA, PAGE 2

University joins the #selfie movement

NATALIE ALATRISTE
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With the trending topic of selfies taking over social media channels, the University couldn't pass up on the new fad.

The school has smiled in the background of multiple selfies taken by students using the new iSnap photo booth, which currently sits in the Graham Center.

The University Division of External Relations office purchased the photo booth about a year ago—a starter model—and later upgraded to the current booth that sits against a wall between tables in the middle GC.

The iSnap photo booth is a presence-based marketing technique where guests can share photos on social media to expand interaction, according to

“Now, it's going to be a constant struggle of what I do between classes—should I eat? Or should I take a selfie?”

Francisco Ripoll
Junior
Broadcast Media

its website.

Jodi Ann Reid, assistant director of social media in External Relations, brought iSnap to campus with the help of Eduardo Merille, director of marketing and new media, and Ryan Morejon, social media community manager. They've been in charge of its use since then.

"It was initially used to keep [the concept of] the frame

alive—to keep the conversation about FIU going on social media outlets," said Merille. "The goal was to add to our hashtag campaigns."

iSnap was first brought to the University to be used specifically at commencement ceremonies, and has since been used in multiple events on campus, such as open house.

The machine cost about \$5,000, and comes from allotted

funds given to the External Relations' Marketing and New Media. There is a \$50 monthly maintenance fee, which includes software updates.

While many students are fond of the purchase, some find it to be alarming.

Raquel Aymerich, a sophomore majoring in biology, doesn't think the expense was worth it.

"I think spending \$5,000 for something that isn't needed seems wasteful—that money could've been applied to something much more useful, such as student resources," she said over the phone. "I've seen it on campus and if people wanted selfies, they can use their cell phones."

By renting it out to others, though, the External Relations office is able to recover its cost. This business model was part of

the original idea of the project.

However, it's only been rented out for two events for \$300 each.

The office doesn't charge for certain events, such as commencement or open house.

There is currently only one booth, which is in the pilot stage, according to Merille, and the department is unsure of purchasing a second one.

Merille said it's all about strategic placing to get the most use out of it.

"At commencement, we placed it [where the graduates come in] so they can take pictures and post it on social media outlets," he said.

The booth is easy to use—students can simply take their photo, sign in to their social media accounts, add a message,

SEE SELFIE, PAGE 2

'Hatred is Poisonous:' A Muslim turned Zionist

BRYAN PALACIO
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Growing up as a British-Pakistani Muslim, Kasim Hafeez was raised around extreme anti-Semitism. All he knew to be true was that Israel was responsible for everything wrong in his world.

"I used to be a radical anti-semitic and anti-zionist," said Hafeez. "I hated the Jewish state, the state of Israel and Jewish

people as a whole."

Hafeez is now a self-admitted pro-Israeli and Zionist supporter. He spends most of his time on tour sharing his life story with his speech, "How I Found Peace from a Lifetime of Hatred."

Hafeez was the guest of honor at Hillel's First Shabbat, an on-campus event organized by Hillel FIU, Shalom FIU and other Jewish student organizations at Modesto A. Maidique Campus on Friday, Sept. 12.

Shabbat is Hebrew for

Sabbath, the holiest day of the week for Jews. It is commemorated by abstaining from most forms of work and includes prayer services and customary meals.

"You're not a real Muslim!" were the words yelled at Hafeez by a Muslim audience member who was escorted out during his presentation. "This man doesn't represent you or Islam!"

This is Hafeez's new life. After decades of being indoctrinated with hate and violence, he now

stands up for the people he swore to help destroy.

"It was a gradual change and it started by picking up this book, 'The Case for Israel,'" Hafeez said. "At that point in my life, I thought I was an expert on the Middle East. I thought I'd buy this book and I'll disprove it."

So Hafeez spent a few weeks doing some research in his attempt to discredit the book. Weeks turned into months, and months turned into years. Hafeez couldn't seem to find

the overwhelming evidence he needed disprove it to himself.

"When you believe something that you're ready to die for, you can't accept that it's wrong," Hafeez said. "You have to somehow find a way to prove it right again and I was struggling."

Eventually, he concluded that the only way he was going to get the evidence he needed was to take a trip to Jerusalem, Israel.

SEE SHABBAT, PAGE 2

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Apple reports record-breaking orders for iPhone 6, iPhone 6 Plus

Pre-orders for the iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus topped a record-breaking 4 million in the first 24 hours the phones were on sale, according to Apple. The first iPhones will be delivered to some customers Friday, but many who pre-ordered will have to wait until next month to get their hands on the new devices. People who wait in the now-traditional epic lines at Apple stores on Friday also may be able to snag a new phone, but supplies there will not be endless either. In comparison, Apple reported in 2012 that the iPhone 5 sold at a pace of about 2 million in 24 hours. The record-breaking sales last week also spurred myriad complaints of problems. The new iPhones were supposed to be available for pre-order online Friday at midnight, but once the clock struck 12 and customers around the U.S. refreshed their Web browsers, nothing happened. Many continued seeing Apple's standard "We'll be back" message for hours.

Natural gas contaminated drinking water in Texas, study says

Natural gas production near homes in a Texas subdivision contaminated residents' well water, according to a study published Monday. The discovery was made in a community where the Environmental Protection Agency halted its own investigation two years ago. In the course of a broader effort to determine the origins of high methane levels in drinking water aquifers near gas wells in Pennsylvania and Texas, scientists found that water in two homes in Parker County, Texas, changed over nine months from containing trace amounts of methane to having high levels.

Students seek to reignite case of bug found in classroom

MSA, PAGE 1

and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, were contacted but denied any participation in the incident.

"Their preliminary was that they could not identify it," said Casas. "It was not theirs and they assured us that it was not a device typical of what they would use in a surveillance."

Casas then contacted the FBI. "Our partners at the FBI recognized the type of device that it could be," he said. "They directed us to a website where the device could be purchased in quantity."

The device was a very common condenser microphone that is typically used in digital recorders and can be purchased on digikey.com for \$3.08. It can also be purchased in quantities of a hundred per pack at \$162.

"Basically, the FBI told us that the device was typical," he said. "So typical that it's what most students use to take notes in class," Casas said.

MSA representative Rayid Sakib, junior engineering major, previously told student media that the bug had a wire on it when it was found, but University Police say it did not.

Sakib also said that this was an issue of First Amendment rights for not only Muslim students, but for anyone who uses the Serenity Room.

Farouk Farouk, president of MSA,

also told student media that the goal was to reignite the situation and put it back in people's mindsets.

"We want to make sure that FIU has strict policies in place to restrict any sort of spying on campus," said Farouk earlier this year.

didn't just fall out of someone's pocket?"

Natalia Monterrey, a sophomore business administration major, believes that it is possible that someone would want to listen in on a conversation or prayer.

"Anything's possible right now," she said. "There's so much hatred going on at

“We investigated the situation but, in the end, we found there was nothing that we could do.”

Alexander Casas,
Chief of Police
FIU Police Department

After several attempts to make contact, MSA did not make further comments.

Other students around campus, like Alejandro Zarza Martinez, information technology junior, have a hard time believing that anyone at FIU would want to spy on each other.

"Why would anyone need to listen to college students' conversations and prayers? It doesn't make any sense," he said. "Also, it's not just MSA that uses that room. It's practically open to anyone – so how exactly do they know that the device

this time and a lot of people and religions are being attacked. Even if the device wasn't meant for MSA, it's still creepy and, if I was them, I would certainly feel violated as well."

FIUPD has officially closed the case but still sympathizes with situation.

"I understand the sensitivity and why this is very important to that association," said Casas. "In today's day and age, in what's going on with our post-9/11 world, I can absolutely empathize with their sensitivity."

Photo booth turns heads at events

SELFIE, PAGE 1

tag friends and share.

Pictures are also posted on the FIU iSnap website. The pictures feature a custom-made frame—resembling polaroids—depending on the event you attend.

Merille, Reid and Morejon, all FIU alumni, are in charge of customizing the frame artwork.

They also manage the pictures uploaded to the websites, making sure that they are appropriate.

"Sometimes you don't get

students, you just get people that don't know what they're doing—like the staff," said Morejon. "It's actually kind of funny. They just look super confused."

FIU is one of seven universities across the country that have incorporated iSnap as a part of their marketing approach. It is, however, the only school in Florida using iSnap.

Students at the University have seemed enthusiastic with the purchase, as students are seen snapping selfies every day by the

GC pit.

The photo booth has taken nearly 1,800 photos and counting.

Francisco Ripoll, a junior majoring in broadcast media, really enjoys the marketing tool.

"I think it's really a great addition to the school—it shows FIU is tech savvy, and so many people find it enjoyable," he said.

"Now, it's going to be a constant struggle of what I do between classes—should I eat? Or should I take a selfie?"

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Muslim shares story of hatred to love

SHABBAT, PAGE 1

Everywhere he looked, there was an assimilation of people—Jews, Christians, Muslims, South Americans, Europeans, young and old. It was at this moment that he had a change of heart and one he felt he needed to share with others.

"It was like I had a moment of clarity with my own thoughts to really process things," said Hafeez. "Here I am in the state of Israel, the world's only Jewish state, and we've got Christians, Jews, and people of all

“If I could stop one person from feeling the poisonous hatred I felt for so many years for Israel and the Jews then that's a victory.”

Kasim Hafeez
Guest Speaker
Hillel's First Shabbat

colors.”

Hafeez said he spent about the next two weeks in Israel. He visited different cities, speaking to people and learning more about its history.

That's when he said he fell in love with Israel. He told himself that it wasn't enough just to move on, he had to speak out.

"If I could stop one person from feeling the

poisonous hatred I felt for so many years for Israel and the Jews then that's a victory," Hafeez said. "That's a success, because that's what matters. Hatred is poisonous."

Hafeez believes that to oppose Israel is hypocritical to the millions of people who died in his country.

"It's not about politics, it's not about conflict. This country is about survival. This country is about the continuation of possibly the greatest story in history, the story of the Jewish people."

‘Girls in free’ is not equality

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Women have faced and continue to face obstacles due to sexism. For years, society has worked to create a world where men and women are equal. This includes workers’ rights, equal pay, the right to vote and all human rights in general.

Why then, if the world is trying to equalize races and genders, do clubs and parties not seem to understand this concept? Walk around any college town, go to any fraternity party, show up at any club and depending on your gender, you may have to pay to get in.

There are constantly flyers and promotions with phrases like “girls get in free until midnight” or “free drinks for girls until 1 a.m.” Fraternity parties have people standing at the door checking to see how guys show up. They can come to the party

with alcohol or there may be a cover charge for them.

I personally have mixed opinions about this issue. This idea of letting girls in free to places, although it benefits me as a girl, completely defies and contradicts the country’s efforts of making itself a place of equality. Making men pay money when women receive the same product for free is a form of sexism which goes against a lot of what this country stands for.

This leads me to wonder why clubs and parties do this. In one sense, it is a rather sick way that clubs make money. Men are naturally attracted to women, and clubs understand that men are willing to pay a price to get into a place where there are an abundance of females.

If they let girls in for free, many girls will show up. If many girls show up because it’s free, then many men will want to show up as well. Because men know a lot of women will be there, they are willing to

pay the cover charge to get into that space.

This means that although the club is not making money from girls entering the club, they are making money from men entering, and possibly paying the amount it would cost for both the girl and the guy.

Ricardo Henriques, a sophomore architecture major, believes that it’s not fair for men to pay a cover charge for clubs when girls get in free.

“Girls get in free, which brings more guys to the club, but then they have to pay for drinks, entrance fee, etc.,” he said.

Is this fair?

Clarely Allende, a junior majoring in criminal justice, sees it a little differently.

“Guys pay for what they want, so they are going to pay regardless,” Allende stated.

I love having the privilege of getting in places for free, but I don’t think we can truly say we live in an equal society if men pay and women don’t to enter the exact same place.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: MILITARY EQUIPMENT NOT WELCOME

Many can agree that armaments are for security, but at what point do arms become a counterproductive security measure?

The Michael Brown shooting brought up this point when Ferguson police herded crowds of protesters with automatic rifles and mine resistant vehicles. Even the cable television began talking about the show of force.

This brought to light the relatively unknown Defense Department Program 1033 – which allocates military surplus and grants money to local police to buy gear.

FIU Police is a recipient of this program. Our police have a mine resistant vehicle and 50 M16 rifles that are capable of automatic fire. In countries filled with violence, it’s common to see police walk the streets with these kinds of rifles. This is not the case in our educational institution.

Campus police officers direct traffic, write tickets, and give directions to lost freshman. They don’t respond to violent insurrections during a typical day.

Our campus police were granted more automatic rifles than the local Sweetwater police through this Pentagon program.

There’s an argument that is parroted in order to justify extraordinary security measures – terrorism.

It’s the argument we wash our hands with whenever we violate human rights. We use that concept to justify almost anything, from spying on our own citizens to torturing our enemies.

An educational institution does not need an arsenal of military gear in order to provide security to students. I don’t feel safer knowing that the police have their own mine resistant vehicle.

It makes me contemplate what they could possibly need it for.

In a recent Miami New Times article, journalist Michael Miller asks the FIU spokesperson whether or not military equipment intimidates students.

The spokesperson did not give a response, but let me answer that question since I am a student: it does.

-Andrew Dias
Senior
Communications Arts Major



NICOLE GRADY/
THE BEACON

THE BEACON | Editorial

University militarization creates unrest in student body

College campuses have been militarizing thanks to the Department of Defense 1033 program, with over 100 institutions stocking up on equipment.

Some schools acquired mundane tools that can be used for daily tasks, including first aid kits, overalls and metal detectors.

That is not the case at Florida International University.

The FIU Police Department received 50 M16 rifles and a Mine-Resistant Armored Protected vehicle from the Law Enforcement Support Office Program.

The United States military pays approximately \$730,000 for MRAPs. The University paid \$2500 for the MRAP and \$2000 for 50 M16 rifles—what a bargain!

University Police Chief Alexander Casas told Student Media back in fall 2013, when they were still on a waitlist to receive the vehicle, the department would only use the vehicle in case of natural disasters and active shooters.

The program has been around for years, and the University is only one of many that have stocked up on rifles and military vehicles over the years. So why do we care now?

Recent incidents, like the one in Ferguson Missouri, have the public wondering why these military machines are available to law enforcement.

Casas cited tragedies like the Virginia Tech shooting, and it makes sense for some schools to prepare themselves with a plan or equipment to prevent incidents like this from reoccurring. But members of the University have told Student Media that they feel relatively safe on campus.

The University hasn’t had life-threatening incidents like the high rate of sexual assaults at Florida State University and the University of Florida. Although nothing major has happened yet, we agree that campus law enforcement should be prepared, but how would military weapons improve safety?

While 50 rifles and an armored vehicle may seem extreme, other Florida universities like UF have armored vehicles, while others have acquired more dangerous weaponry. The University of Central Florida, for example, has a grenade launcher.

There are unarmored humvees that could help with natural disasters, and if there is an active shooter, would the over 10-foot-tall and approximately 50,000 pound vehicle be nimble enough to get right to the front door of a building?

Whether necessary or not, FIU, and all schools for that matter, need to reevaluate if bringing military-grade equipment to campuses will do more good than harm to students on campus.

M16s and grenade launchers have their roots as tools of war. Their functions are to inflict damage and repel oncoming enemy attack.

Grenade launchers can be used to launch tear gas. This makes us believe a state university like UCF is prepared to confront riots or violent protests.

The military equipment that national police forces have been obtaining over the past do not serve to build trust between civilians and officers. It does the opposite.

If police forces, including the University’s, are obtaining weapons and vehicles commonly used in conflicts we can’t help but ask, “Who are they preparing to wage war with?”

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Guitarist reaching rock'n'roll stardom

ENTERTAINMENT
DIRECTOR



JEFFREY PIERRE

It was his dream internship at his dream job — a college graduate looking to work in public radio.

And he didn't get it.

Benjamin Booker had just graduated from the University of Florida and after the rejection letter in 2012, he crossed-off interning at NPR from his list and decided to go with his second option: music. The 22-year-old started playing shows as a solo artist in his hometown of Tampa, Florida.

The next year, a nonprofit job opportunity presented itself in New Orleans, Louisiana and Booker, who was eager to leave Florida, packed his bags. Soon after, he recorded a low fidelity blues-influenced folk-punk bathroom recording on an acoustic guitar. The EP had four songs. He managed to make a name for himself in New Orleans as well, playing shows here and there while promoting his self-produced EP.

The year was going pretty well and his music was taking off.

He went back to Tampa and connected with his now drummer Max Norton and formed a garage-gospel duo called Booker & Norton. The two were even named 2013's Best New Band by Creative Loafing in Tampa.

In October of that same year, Jon Salter of ATO Records visited the two, who were playing a show at Tampa's New World Brewery. They signed a record deal in a parking lot, according to Booker.

In December of 2013, Booker and his full band, playing under the name Benjamin Booker, were looking at six days to record an album and a year of touring that would include a show at the Newport Folk Festival in Rhode Island, Lollapalooza in Chicago and an appearance on David Letterman.

In every sense of the phrase, Booker was an instant success. He eventually caught the attention of a not-so-old love, NPR, and told his story of rejection to triumph to Arun Rath on "All Things Considered."

"The guy I play bass with, Alex, actually did intern at NPR. He probably took the internship that I didn't get," he told Rath. The two laughed at the humor of it.

"So NPR did you a favor in a way - or the musical world a favor because I'm sure you would've been a great intern," Rath said.

For a first timer, Booker's self titled album is a punk-blues masterpiece.

The album opens with "Violent Shiver," a boogie-blues track where Booker's voice—harsh and gnarled, yet delicate, vulnerable and soft—chants "We found a way," on top of a repetitive guitar riff.

The energy fluctuates throughout album; however, it works well.

The first drop comes in an organ led ballad "Slow Coming," where Booker foreshadows and warns of a gloomy future slowly approaching.

"Although our parents fought to be equal, the state decides true love. If they only knew," he sings. His soft spoken rasp builds up to the chorus where he wails, "Honestly, I cannot be bothered now. To tell you the truth I ain't been sleepin' too well."

There's a lot of depth to Booker's music. On the surface and first listen, it's an album that can get even the most uptight to move their feet. The album could stand just on its groove. But Booker put more into the album than that. Many of the songs are personal.

In "Have You Seen My Son," Booker speaks from the place of a mother worried about her son falling to the world's vices.

"I said God must love everyone even the ones he just loves the least. They say that when a mother loves a child she would do most anything,



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM BUGBEE, VIA CREATIVE COMMONS

On June 18 in Cambridge, Massachusetts at The Sinclair, Benjamin Booker played a show in support of Australian artist Courtney Barnett. Booker has been playing show extensively since 2012.

I know that I can never make it right but it's hard to hear you say have you seen my son? He's lost in the world somewhere."

In an interview with the New York Times, Booker said "that song was [about] the day I realized that they weren't ever going to be completely happy with what I was doing and it just has to be something that's fine." Booker comes from a conservative family —his dad served in the military for 20 years and his mother studied theology.

Booker says most of the songs were written to be used as a conversation starter with friends. In "I Thought I Heard You Screaming," Booker sings lullaby-like conversational words reflecting on a friendship with a self-destructive girl who

rode with Booker down a dark path.

The album is complete. It has soul. It has movement and progression. The question with Booker's first album is not whether it's good music, but can he recreate and maybe build upon the energy of his self-titled album for a second, third or even fourth time?

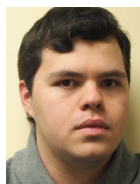
But until then, the 25-year-old is a rock star.

jeffrey.pierre@fiusm.com

Artist: Benjamin Booker
Album: Self Titled 2014
Rating: 4.5/5

Atmosphere is everything in this neo-noir film

CULT CLASSICS



RAFAEL ABREU

The 1981 movie, "Thief," was producer Michael Mann's first film. While it acts as a smaller precursor for one of his later and most successful films, "Heat," it is still generally overlooked.

"Thief" stars actor James Caan as a professional diamond thief in Chicago, wanting to do one last big score before retiring and settling down. Based on the novel by Frank Hohimer, "The Home Invaders: Confessions of a Cat Burglar," the film features Tuesday Weld, James Belushi, Robert Prosky and Willie Nelson, with a mesmerizing score by Tangerine Dream.

The cinematography by Donald Thorin is probably the first thing I noticed, setting the mood immediately before Tangerine Dream's score came on. The neon and rain soaked streets of a grimy and urban Chicago, Illinois dominates almost all of the scenes. If it isn't explicitly shown, it's always felt.

The score by Tangerine Dream also sets the mood, complimenting the sights and sounds, becoming one with the environment and characters. The score is not traditional, since it has no real build up or anything; it's almost completely atmospheric, never trying to get the attention of the audience, but instead becoming one with the film, so that sights and sounds all come together as one.

The acting is excellent, especially by Caan (Frank), who really sells this criminal as someone to sympathize with; sure he's done some things, but he's also no fool and knows when to quit. The scene featuring Tuesday Weld (Jessie) in the diner is, and has been noted as, the best the scene in the film; there's little to no music and the focus is just between the two characters and the blackness outside of the window. What makes the scene so excellent is the performance by Caan and Weld, with the highlight being Frank's monologue.

There are many scenes where we simply see Frank go

about his life, doing his best to make things stable with Jessie, making sure everything goes smoothly once the final heist is done. These scenes are all great, but the heists themselves are marvelous, helped by the music score mixing with the sounds of the machines used to do the heists. There is also an ever present blue tint throughout, giving the film that grim and urban neo-noir look and feel.

Ultimately, "Thief" is a film that thrives on mood and an excellent gangster tale of a man who cannot escape the life he's in. Even on a technical level, the film is worth recommending, but it's the neo-noir story and atmosphere, excellent performances and immaculate score that make it a must-watch movie.

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ASST. ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR



CAROLINA BARRETO

When I’m driving alone for more than 48 minutes, I enjoy putting the windows down and b l a r i n g music that makes me nostalgic for the days I’d pretend I was an alien in a cardboard spaceship. Sounds of dark synthesizers with psychedelia undertones are existentially chilling yet alluring. Los Angeles pop-electronic trio, Cannons, released their first extended play album, “Up All Night EP,” on the site Bandcamp in August. It’s now available on iTunes and Spotify. Why nu-disco junkies haven’t latched on to the “future boogie” sound played by drums and keys player Paul

Davis, guitarist Ryan Clapham and lead vocalist Michelle Joy is beyond my comprehension. The EP starts with “Touch,” a track evidently influenced by ‘80s electronic dance music. Using Joy’s sensual vocals, Cannons’ lyrics describe a “do or die” relationship. The song encompasses the electrifying sensation and goose bumps you can’t shake off your skin when you touch the person you’re swooning over. The theme bleeds into the next track, “Temporary Romance.” Joy whispers, “Love you/I love you,” as a funky guitar melody is plucked. The song retains its icy feel despite a tempo change. The title track, “Up All Night,” is by far the grooviest song on the album. It’s fitting for a late night slow cruise through a roller rink as neon lights flash

WE GOT THE BEAT



VINCENT RIVES/THE BEACON

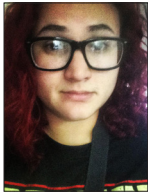
Osney Chery, a sophomore in communication arts, plays guitar at the A.M.P.D. UP open mic performance showcase hosted by Disciples on Campus in the GC Ballroom Friday, Sept. 12.

and a disco ball reflects on your American Apparel leotard and nylon shorts. “Neon Light” closes the EP with a fresh sound. The hypnotizing beat plays well with the melancholy synthesizers, guitar strums and bass plucks. Fans of Blood Orange, Poliça and Jai Paul will thoroughly enjoy the Cannons. carolina.barreto@fiusm.com

Artist: Cannons
Album: Up All Night
Rating: 3.5/5

Fall and winter bring artists to South Florida

COLUMNIST



NADINE RODRIGUEZ

Students in the University are given an amazing opportunity to witness various types of artists. Even better, the prices are not ridiculously high, so most concerts are affordable on a college budget. If one is into the heavier scene of music, such as metalcore and deathcore, there are over a dozen bands to go see this fall and winter. Four bands to note are A Day to Remember, The Black Dhalia Murder, Beartooth and Attila. A Day to Remember will be visiting Florida on Oct. 10 on their “Parks and Devastation Tour” to perform at the Hard Rock Live Orlando. Alongside them will be Bring Me The Horizon, Motionless in White and Chiodos. The average ticket cost will be \$38, plus fees, so not too expensive. If a group of friends go and split a cheap hotel room between them, the costs will definitely be affordable. Concertgoers can expect an amazing performance since it is the last tour date and the venue is in A Day To Remember’s

hometown. Meanwhile, The Black Dhalia Murder will be paying a visit to metal fans on Oct. 13 at Revolution Live. Accompanied by Suicide Silence, Chelsea Grin and Alterbeast, you can bet it will be a memorable show. The average ticket cost will be a little cheaper at \$21, plus fees. Following them the day after is Beartooth, who will be playing the Culture Room. Their concert will be the cheapest with the general admission ticket price and fees totaling a low \$19.35. Attila will be stopping by Revolution Live on Nov. 14 while on the “Monster Energy

Outbreak Tour.” With them will be Crown the Empire, Like Moths to Flames and Sworn In. The original ticket price is \$19, plus fees, which will come out to about \$29. While not the cheapest option, the line-up is unique and the performance is expected to be memorable. If heavier music isn’t your thing, there are also two great alternative rock acts visiting the Sunshine State. Anberlin will be visiting Revolution Live on Nov. 24 for “The Final Tour.” The ticket price will be about \$29 if you buy it beforehand, a price worth spending on seeing the band perform on their last tour ever. Later in the year, The Black Keys will be

visiting the BB&T Center on Dec. 15 as part of their “Turn Blue World Tour.” St. Vincent will be joining them. If you’re into indie music, this is your concert. The prices depend on the seats and range between \$35 to \$250. If you’re into more R&B-type music, Usher will be visiting the American Airlines Arena on Dec. 13 for the “UR Experience Tour.” Along with Usher will be disc jockey Cassidy and August Alsina. Again, the ticket prices vary depending on the seats chosen, but they start at \$53. If none of these artists catch your attention, there are dozens more on Ticketmaster, such as Ariana Grande, Marc Anthony, Pitbull and The Word Alive. Living in South Florida, we are given remarkable opportunities to see such a variation of genres and artists visiting our venues. It would be foolish for fellow college students to not take this opportunity, so hurry, tickets are selling.

“If a group of friends go and split a cheap hotel room between them, the costs will definitely be affordable.”

nadine.rodriquez@fiusm.com

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SOCCER

Panthers look to hang up the Hatters

JAMES PROFETTO

Staff Writer

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A big two-game weekend is upon the Panthers and bleachers are expected to be filled. It's Family Weekend in Miami, from Sept. 19 to Sept. 21.

The Panthers will first face off against Stetson University Hatters on Friday, Sept. 19 at 5 p.m. The series history is extensive, as both teams have met a total of 19 times, with the Panthers' record at 14-4-1 against the Hatters. Stetson is 1-5-1 thus far in 2014, which doesn't paint a pretty picture of confidence.

Through six games, SU has been outscored 22-6, with their largest margin of defeat coming at the hands of Minnesota on Aug. 22 (10-0).

In 2013, the Panthers won 2-0 on the road against the Hatters, and Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt's team was not "whole." Now, Chestnutt can feel even better about his team's chances with a more complete roster. Even with the absence of sophomore midfielder Talia McMurtrie and backup goalkeeper Ashley Westberry, the depth of the University helps to compensate for the short-term injuries.

With a stout defensive performance against Oregon State University on Sept. 12, the iron core of the Panther team is going to find no trouble trickling onto Stetson. A testa-

ment to the defense is found in the University's Conference USA-best four shutouts on the year.

An aspect of the game that differs from the last match is the goal-scoring for the Hatters coming from more than two players. There have been five different scorers, with Hatter midfielder Eduarda Pavao finding two goals. Regardless, the Panthers will look to play a close game, as they have been all season. Chestnutt and his team proved they can win against a team they "should" beat, so Stetson is no exception.

Game two on Parents' Weekend will be against Long Beach State University (3-2-2), who recently had their five-game unbeaten streak snapped by Brigham Young University in a 2-0 loss. Notice how it's an "unbeaten" streak and not a "winning" streak. That's because, during the five-game span before BYU, Long Beach won only three games. Not unimpressive, seeing as they are looking for their fourth win against an unfamiliar team. The Panthers have zero history with the California-based team. With a 1 p.m. start on Sept. 21, the brutal sunshine will surely favor the Miami team.

Something Long Beach State brings that could create a tougher game is their ability to outscore and keep games against their opponents close. LBS is outscoring teams 7-6. A player that is going to be keyed in on is freshman forward Ashley Gonzales and her four goals on the season, which leads all players in the Big West Conference. Sara Stewart, Nikki Rios and the rest of the Panthers defense have had no trouble in marking big time scorers during games, so this is just another challenge in the face of these seasoned defenders.

Long Beach is sitting comfortably at the number two spot in the Big West compared to Stetson sitting in the bottom-tier of the Atlantic Sun Conference. A name expected to be found in the scoring column this weekend is Ashleigh Shim, the senior forward who has found the back of the goal twice. Shim has been itching for a goal during their home-stretch, and when her name is called, she's shown the ability to be ready. As always, midfield play is so crucial to the Panthers' success and, if the tale of the tape holds true, opportunities will be created by the likes of Scarlet Montoya, Courtney Phillips and Johanna Volz (two goals on the season).

With these two matches coming before the first conference game of the year against Old Dominion on Sept. 26, they should serve as confidence builders in the light of tougher competition.



KRONO LESCANO / THE BEACON

Senior forward Chelsea Leiva talks to the referee after receiving a yellow card for hurting the Oregon State goalkeeper on Sept. 12. Leiva went on to score the winning goal against the visiting team. The FIU women's team will play Stetson University on Sept. 19

VOLLEYBALL

Panthers facing tough opponents in the Crimson-White Tournament at Alabama

ALEJANDRO AGUIRRE

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Following the home opener on Wednesday Sept. 17, the volleyball team will head out to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to play three matches at the Crimson-White Tournament. There they will play against University of Alabama, San Diego State University and Clemson University.

The margin for error has to be minimal for the Panthers if they want to make it out of there on a high note and get their record closer to the .500 mark. This will not be an easy task because all three of their opponents have a record of .500 or better. Their "easiest" opponent on paper is San Diego State with a 3-3 record but you can't take any game for granted. If the team leaves

the tournament with a winning record, this will be such a boost for them because they have been struggling as of late.

The Panthers first opponent is the host of the tournament, the University of Alabama. This is a tough way to start off the tournament because Alabama is coming in scorching from their last tournament, winning three straight matches and putting their record at 8-2. Compared to FIU's 3-7 record this seems to be a David and Goliath type of battle but still nothing is guaranteed in sports until it is all said and done.

If the Panthers want to come out with a win against Alabama, expect co-captains, juniors Lucia Castro and Gloria Levorin to set the tone and be huge impact players for the University.

Some matches like this can give the University the win but

against this tough Alabama team they are going to need help from their supporting cast of sophomore Anabela Sataric and freshman Lea Montavon and Jennifer Ene. One of the heavily relied upon Alabama players, sophomore Krystal Rivers, will make the match difficult for the Panther's defense as she leads her teams in kills by a very large margin. Expect Castro and Rivers to go back and forth exchanging points.

The second opponent Panthers will face is Clemson. Clemson is another team the Panthers will play against coming in with a lot of momentum winning their last two matches. This season their record is a remarkable 9-1.

If the Panthers think Alabama will be a tough competitor, then they are going to have their hands full when they play

Clemson. Representing the Clemson Tigers is senior Kristin Faust. She leads her team with 164.5 points scored and leads her team in kills with 146. She also makes her presence known in the game on the defensive end with 107 digs, which is second on her team. The coaching staff or FIU would probably match her up with Gloria Levorin as they both have the same play style. They would need Levorin to be a stopper against Faust so she can't lead the Tigers offensive charge.

The Panther women rounds off the tournament against the easiest of their three opponents, San Diego State. If FIU can't come up with wins against Alabama or Clemson then this a match that's a must win for the Panthers.

The last thing the team needs is losing all three matches in

back-to-back tournaments. This is going to be a match where FIU needs to capitalize. San Diego State has not been overpowering at all when it comes to scoring as they only have outscored their opponents 279 to 270.

This shows that they do not really have a stand out player to match up against FIU's top players. Still, as mentioned before, the team can't take this for granted. They do not want to worsen their record as it already is bad enough.

Expect Castro and Levorin to make quick work of this match as a win in this match can put the Panthers on the right path.

Best of luck goes out to the volleyball team as this is going to be a true test of what this team is made of in the early part of this season.

SOCCER

Men's soccer hopes to conquer their first home win against Aztecs

ALEJANDRO SOLANA
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The Panthers (1-2-1 as of Sept. 15) will look to improve their home record this season



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Quentin Albrecht, forward, winds up a shot in the box at the first home game against Stetson University.

when they host the Aztecs of San Diego State on Friday, Sept. 19. For the University, it will be their second home game of the season, and the first since losing their home opener to

Stetson University two weeks ago.

The matchup between the Panthers and the Aztecs will be the first of three straight home games for the University after returning home from a two game road trip that saw them draw against Elon University and face off against

Head Coach Calabrese's ex-team, the Buccaneers of East Tennessee State University, a game played on Tuesday, Sept. 16 in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Head Coach Scott Calabrese, who has noted that a switch in formations and maybe even a personnel change may be coming for the Panthers, will be seeking his first regular season home win as the front man in charge since being hired back in January.

Calabrese and the Panthers did beat University of North Florida in a pre-season match up before their regular season began.

Starting off strong will be one of the keys to the game for the home team, having failed to find their rhythm early on in their past outings.

It is no secret and easy to spot for any fan following the team, that the Panthers have played much better soccer in the second half's of their games, playing well with chemistry that just does not develop until the latter parts of the games.

Since defeating the Wolverines in the first game of the season, inconsistency from the attacking side of the ball has plagued the Panthers thus far.

The University has done a great job at creating opportunities for themselves, but haven't had the success they want when it comes to finishing their chances and beating the oppositions goal keeper.

The Panthers have outshot their opponents by a wide margin as of Sept. 15, and it will be crucial to have the ball find the back of the net if the team wants to be successful moving forward into their season.

Scouting the Aztecs

San Diego State University (5-1-0) makes their way down to Miami lead by Head Coach Lev Kirshner, his 15th season as the man in charge for the Aztecs. SDSU, members of the PAC-12 conference, fell in their season opener but since have been on fire, sporting a five game win streak. Their latest win came against Pacific, dropping them 2-0. The Aztecs also have two very impressive wins over two ranked opponents, #25 Clemson University and #19 University of Denver, both home games played in San Diego.

These wins for SDSU prove that they will not be an easy test for the Panthers, and the team will have to bring their best soccer to the pitch Friday night in order to top the Aztecs who will be coming into the Panthers Soccer Stadium on a five game winning streak.

Despite the tough opposition ahead for the Panthers, a win Friday night will really give this team the confidence they need, not only because it will be their first home win of season and the first win for Head Coach Calabrese at home, but it would also start their three game home stand strong and the right way.

After the match up with the Aztecs, Panthers will host in state rival FGCU on Sept. 24th and then finish up their home stand with a matchup against the Blazers of UAB, Sept. 27th.

GOLF

Women's golf starts season in top 5 fashion

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The women's golf team started their season this past weekend at the Mary Fossum Invitational. The Panthers played three golfers in this year's tournament that played in this same tournament last year. The team finished tied for fifth which was an improvement from last year's eighth place team finish.

The team was led by senior golfer Meghan MacLaren. She entered the weekend as the team's number one golfer and she did not disappoint in any way. In last year's tournament she shot 74-76-74 (224) and finished in 11th place. This past weekend she shot 74-73-74 (221) and won the entire tournament finishing in first place. She took advantage of the Par 3s by shooting a two-under par on those holes which was the third best in the entire tournament. She also shot four-over par on the Par 4s which was tied for third best for the entire tournament.

The freshman Katerina Krasova, from the Czech Republic made her highly anticipated debut for the Panthers this past weekend. She entered the tournament seeded as the team's number four golfer but she certainly did not play like it. She started out rough by shooting a 79 but she bounced back in her second round by shooting a 74. She capped off her weekend by shooting a third round 78. It was good enough for her to finish tied for 13th in the entire tournament and second for FIU. Most of her success can be attributed to her success on the Par 4s. She shot a stroke average of 4.23 on the Par 4s which was tied for fifth best

in the entire tournament.

The other two golfers who played in last year's tournament were junior Sophie Godley and sophomore Coralia Arias. Godley was not part of the starting team and participated in the tournament individually. She shot a 77-84-76 (237) and placed her tied for 32nd for the tournament. That's a slight step backwards from last year's tournament when she shot 74-78-78 (230) and finished in a tie for 24th. Coralia Arias entered this weekend's tournament as the team's number two golfer. She shot an 82-79-77 (238) and finished tied for 35th. That was a major improvement from what she did last year, when she shot 81-81-83 (245) and placed tied for 72nd. Her play this weekend was good enough to place her third amongst the FIU starters and fourth overall on the team.

Sophomore Camila Serrano and junior Carla Jane also played in this weekend's tournament as the team's third and fifth golfers respectively. Serrano, the reigning Conference USA Freshman of the Year had a very rough start to her season. She shot 82-81-81 (244), tied for 60th and finished as the team's fifth best golfer. Jane shot 84-76-80 (240) which tied her for 45th place and placed her fourth on the team.

University of Notre Dame won the overall tournament followed by Michigan State University in second, University of Toledo in third, University of Houston in fourth, and University of Michigan and FIU tied for fifth. The next tournament for the golf team will be from Sept. 29th- Sept. 30th when they will play in the Johnie Imes Invitational in Columbia, Missouri.

PANTHERS FOOTBALL

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USA

Tennis teaches discipline and builds community

ANDREW DIAS
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The tennis courts surrounded by mangroves are sporting an after-school program for kids and the coach wants University students to get involved.

The Biscayne Bay Campus tennis courts, adjacent to the Chaplain School of Hospitality and Tourism Management building, are home to the Tom Fowkes Tennis Fitness Camp.

Tom Fowkes, coach and creator of the program, gives tennis lessons to grade schoolers during the week and offers free lessons to children on Sundays.

"We're just trying to have fun and build a community," says Fowkes.

Fowkes and five other coaches held fitness sessions for 30 kids, in addition to a round robin tournament at BBC late last summer.

This season, lessons for grade schoolers began in August and will

run until Dec. 20.

Programs are divided into three categories: "Pee Wee Tennis," for children under 6 years old; "Satellite," for kids over 7 years old that have beginner or intermediate skills; and "Tournament Bound" for children over 10 years old with advanced skills.

"It develops them physically, emotionally and academically," says Neil Hanson, parent of two sons in the competitive-level sessions. "Children need a lot of practice to develop good discipline."

Fowkes now invites University students and faculty members to volunteer between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday to help coach children in the community.

However, the Recreation Center will host an event next month for University members who wish to compete.

On Saturday, Oct. 4, the BBC Rec Open Tennis event will take place at

the BBC tennis courts between 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., providing a doubles tennis tournament for University students, faculty and staff.

Participants can register as individuals or in teams at www.imleagues.com/fiubbrec.

Fowkes will also be offering weekday morning classes for FIU students and faculty, starting at \$10 a session.

"Right now we're trying to introduce ourselves to the community and get to know the students and staff," says Fowkes.

BBC Campus Recreation recently renovated three of its tennis courts.

Last year, the courts were painted electric blue and light green, matching the official Miami Open Tennis courts, and a pantherized "FIU Campus Recreation" net was placed around on the fences.

Elias Bardawil, director of BBC Campus Recreation, says an order has been placed to renovate the remaining courts, which will take about six

IN THE ZONE



MARIA LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Hospitality graduate student Jiawen Deng learns about sexual consent and healthy relationships at the Red Zone event hosted by Counseling and Psychological Services. More sexual assaults happen during the first six weeks of college classes, hence called the Red Zone.

weeks to be completed.

The courts are open every day for University students to use for free, as well as others in the community.

"It's a game that you can play when you're eight or 80," Fowkes says. "Tennis teaches you life lessons through competition."

Participants will get a chance to meet other players who may be inter-

ested in forming a tennis club.

Eventually, Fowkes says he wants to form a club and register to compete in the United States Tennis Association.

"The school is trying to build a world-class facility and we're trying to build a world-class program," said Fowkes.

Moon Fest traces roots, not about the booze

COLUMNIST



ALEXANDRA MOSQUERA NETZKARSCH

People celebrate holidays differently all over the world. Some people in the United States care about the significance of a holiday, but many just care about getting a day off from work and drinking with friends. They see holidays as an opportunity to "have fun" while being under the influence of alcohol, completely forgetting the significance of the day -- but not the Chinese.

On Sept. 6, Chinese celebrated the Moon Festival, also known as the Mid-Autumn Festival -- a weekend-long festivity spent praising the moon with family and friends.

Like all holidays, the Moon Festival has a story behind it.

The Chinese noticed how the moon and its movements had a relationship with the seasons and agriculture. To honor the harvest, they would offer a sacrifice to the moon during days of autumn, which were mainly moon cakes.

Holidays like this are celebrated in a traditional manner in China, by incorporating family members and friends. Here in America, we celebrate holidays with family and friends, too. But aside from roasting a turkey and shopping for Black Friday on Thanksgiving, the significance of holidays seem to be getting lost, with celebrations turning into drinking fests.

Don't you wish certain holidays would involve more friends and families, and of course, more dishes like the ones celebrated in China? I do, because their values are above abusing alcohol or drugs, which is a much healthier and enjoyable way of celebrating a holiday.

The International Student Club hosted an event on Sept. 9 in Panther Square at the Biscayne Bay Campus to celebrate Moon

Festival. Chinese international students at BBC shared their customs during the event and prior, at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. There, they made moon cakes and later shared them at the event.

The event became about spending time and sharing stories with each other.

Xiaofang Pu, a hospitality major, was one of the students making moon pies. Pu said being away from home is not easy, but celebrating Moon Festival with fellow students and baking moon pies made her feel like she was back home.

The Full Moon Drum Circle in Miami Beach also honors the moon. It is a community-oriented celebration where families and friends join other groups of people under a bright, full moon and shining stars, while hearing the banging of drums. But, as most holidays and celebrations in the U.S., it tends to deal more with people consuming alcohol and other substances.

Coming from Spain and after celebrating American holidays for the past four years, I realized the main objective on these days is for people to get drunk rather than acknowledge the day's significance. They have become superficial, evolving around how drunk someone can get, how much they will remember the next morning, who hooked up with who, and so forth. However, cakes, camaraderie and the sharing of stories is what made the Moon Festival special for students -- not beer pong.

I don't want future generations to grow up in a world where holidays are filled with alcohol and no meaning. Learn from the Chinese and get back to the roots of each holiday, starting by enjoying time with family and friends, and putting down the booze.

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Day catering to hospitality students returns to BBC

ALEX BLENCOWE
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Hospitality students will receive internship advice, have their resumes critiqued and learn tricks of the trade at an upcoming event, three semesters in the running.

Hospitality Day returns on Wednesday, Sept. 17, to cater to young professionals in the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The day allows students to meet with academic advisors in the newly renovated Wine Spectator Restaurant Management Lab, in addition to prospective employers from the Marriott and Carnival Cruise Lines.

Hospitality academic advisor Gabriela Gillespie said it is important for students to get involved during the beginning of the semester so they can get on the right path toward graduation.

"We want our students to meet with employers and get that exposure," said Gillespie.

Hospitality Day was held at the Modesto Maidique Campus in previous semesters in an effort to attract students University wide.

This term the event is taking place at BBC to accommodate incoming freshmen and returning students at this campus, according to



We are a management school. Our focus is that when students graduate, they aim to achieve a management-level position.

Lourdes Gomez
Employer Relations Coordinator
Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management

Gillespie.

"We always tell our first-year students, 'The earlier, the better,'" she said. "There are so many options out there, especially in hospitality, that what you think you want might not be what you really had in mind."

At the event, students will learn about study abroad programs and clubs, such as the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International FIU Chapter.

In addition, they will learn about job and volunteer opportunities, including the South Beach Wine and Food Festival -- which raised over \$2 million for the hospitality school this past year, by the hard work of students and faculty.

Students will also have a chance to speak with professionals from Trump International Beach Resort, Thompson Hotels, Waffle House, SeaWorld Orlando and Four Seasons Hotel and Resorts, to name a few.

Gillespie said the event is a great opportunity for students to network with employers and build their portfolio.

As students spruce their resumes and meet with professionals in the industry, they will have a chance to explore the Restaurant Management Lab, a fully functioning restaurant with a state-of-the-art kitchen, wine room and beer lab.

Lourdes Gomez, the employer relations coordinator for the school of hospitality, said Hospitality Day is a great event for students to find resources, improve themselves as professionals and elevate their thinking.

Gomez said the day is devoted to preparing hospitality students for post-graduate jobs.

"We are a management school," she said. "Our focus is that when students graduate, they aim to achieve a management-level position."