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Florida International University

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Rising sea levels a major threat to Miami area

JUNETTE REYES
Staff Writer

Forget about Atlantis; give South Florida a few more years of sea-level rise and Miami will definitely be the new “Lost City” of the world. Only this time, it would not be as mythical but as serious as finding our very own FIU to be the new underwater university of the future.

This predicament of the rising sea-level is the focus of the South Florida Water, Sustainability and Climate project, led by FIU’s Dr. Michael Sukop, associate professor in the Department of Earth and Environment. The SFWSC study has been recognized by the National Science Foundation as part of their Water, Sustainability and Climate Program, who has awarded the project a grant of \$5 million.

The SFWSC is using an integrative approach to do research on the hydrologic, ecologic,

and economic components of managing South Florida’s water in order to understand how plans can be formulated when it comes to decision-making for water management.

“We can’t come up with any kind of definitive, binding plans for people to follow but we can come up with strategies and try to understand the whole process,” said Sukop.

Miami is ranked first in a list of 20 cities worldwide as having the most infrastructures exposed to the sea-level rise and coastal flooding. The value of these economic assets are estimated to be \$416.29 billion as reported by the Cities and Climate Change project of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

A currently exposed population of 2,003 puts Miami in ninth place in an additional list of 20 cities. The estimations are projected to only go up from

there to the point of year 2070 seeing a little over \$3 trillion worth of infrastructures and a population of nearly 5 million exposed to the sea-level rise.

“Sea-level rise is an issue for us in the sense that there has always been seawater intrusion; seawater intrusion means that the

saltwater from the ocean comes underground into the wells that supply our water and sea-level rise will make this problem worse,” said Sukop.

The SFWC research team is made up of a group of diverse and multi-disciplined scientists, including hydrologists,

engineers, behavioral scientists, economists, ecosystem scientists and landscape ecologists.

According to Sukop, ecologists are focusing on the mangrove forests which are collecting a lot of peat, an organic

SEE WATER, PAGE 2

Hi-Ya!



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Senior Sky Hanul Choi (center), Asian studies major, performs a Tae-Kwon-Do demonstration during a Korean-themed Asian Student Union meeting. Choi, a TKD black belt, successfully managed to break through four concrete blocks in a single strike.

Law professor writes article on straight supremacy

VICTORIA RONDEROS
Contributing Writer

Last week, law professor Jose Gabilondo’s essay, “Los Fueros de la Heterosexualidad en Su Ocaso” (The Twilight of Straight Supremacy), was published in “La Discriminación de Género en el Derecho y Sus Expresiones en la Legislación y en la

Práctica Jurídica, or, the Gender Discrimination in Law and Its Expression in Legislation and Legal Institutions, by the Association of Cuban Jurists in Havana.

Gabilondo’s essay describes the fear the heterosexual identity has over the current gay rights movement. His article also happens to be published on the same week of the Supreme Court’s hearings of

California’s Proposition 8 and the Defense of Marriage Act, two landmark same-sex marriage cases. Proposition 8, which has been on the California ballot since 2008, proposes the ban of same-sex marriage in California. The second, DOMA, which has been around since 1996, has been giving unequal federal rights to same-sex married couples.

“That was a complete coincidence,” said Gabilondo, “that essay was for a book that was published in Cuba.”

“But it was a very timely coincidence. Although to tell you the truth, there’s so much going on now, in terms of gay issues generally in this country, that I think it seems that not a week goes by that you don’t see a headline involving it,” said Gabilondo.

Born in Cuba and raised in Boston, Gabilondo, with the help of a tutor, decided to write his essay entirely in Spanish.

“I’ve always made serving the Spanish language media a priority, because what I saw, was that, even here at FIU, the Spanish media was discounted, and people wouldn’t take it as seriously as the English language media. That drove me crazy, because I thought that was unfair,” said Gabilondo. “I wrote it largely for a political reason, because what I was saying is that, it’s as important to write a serious legal work in Spanish as in English. Even though, a lot of the faculty here, don’t [take] that work seriously, and have said so openly, I do think it’s a central part of who we are, as a law school and an institution, and it’s certainly a central part of my identity.”

Gabilondo, who is gay himself, has been studying the heterosexual and homosexual culture and gay rights movement for about 20 years now. He has published a plethora of articles regarding the heterosexual identity in various law journals.

“Activism, on behalf of the gay community, has always been a very [big] part of my life,” said Gabilondo.

“The problem has never been homosexuality or homosexuals. Instead, the problem has always been the heterosexual condition. What I mean by the heterosexual condition, is I mean that, at least in the recent past, when heterosexuals have understood who they were, their self-concept was based on excluding homosexuality, and considering it an inferior form of being,” said Gabilondo.

“It’s turning out to be harder for the heterosexual male identity to adapt to the gay rights movement, than it has been for the heterosexual female identity, for a variety of reasons, and I think that’s still going to be the case for a while.”

Gabilondo will also speak at the 10th Annual Florida Collegiate Pride Coalition Conference, which will be from April 5-April 7, here at the University. The FCPC is a three-day conference where gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and ally college students can come together and network, share experiences, and educate themselves on issues of the current gay rights movement. Gabilondo will speak on Friday, April 5.

-news@fiusm.com

Remembering Waugh



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

Past and present members of the University community gathered on March 26 to celebrate the life of Butler Waugh, who died on Nov. 7, 2012. Waugh was the founding dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 1969.

WORLD NEWS

Striking Guantanamo prisoners say water denied

Prisoners taking part in expanding hunger strike at Guantanamo Bay leveled new complaints about their military jailers Wednesday as a team from the International Committee of the Red Cross made a fact-finding trip to the U.S. base in Cuba.

In an emergency motion filed with a federal court in Washington, lawyers say guards have refused to provide drinking water to hunger strikers and kept camp temperature “extremely frigid,” to thwart the protest. A spokesman for the detention center denied the allegations.

Pope Francis forces Argentine political about-face

Catholic doctrine considers the pope to be God’s delegate on Earth. That alone might explain the remarkable about-face that Argentina’s populist president Cristina Fernandez and most of her followers have managed to pull off in the days since the cardinal she treated as a political arch-enemy became Pope Francis.

For more world news, check out www.FIUSM.com.

Decisions, decisions



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

At a hearing that took place on March 27, plaintiff Richard Moran, sophomore in political science, held the position that each political party should have the opportunity to put up a candidate for each seat. However, defendant Charles Perretti, elections commissioner for the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique Campus (left), contended that particular circumstance is unjust and would be jamming the ballot.

Teen indicted in Ga. baby slaying

RUSS BYNUM
AP Writer

A Georgia teenager shot a 13-month-old baby in the face while trying to rob the child’s mother, according to an indictment returned Wednesday that also charged the suspect with shooting another person in an unrelated robbery attempt earlier this month.

The indictment by a Glynn County grand jury charges 17-year-old De’Marquise Elkins on nine counts, including malice murder, in the slaying last Thursday of young Antonio Santiago a few blocks from his home in coastal Brunswick.

Another suspect, 15-year-old Domi-

nique Lang, was indicted on seven counts including felony murder. But the indictment specifies that authorities believe it was Elkins who shot the child and wounded his mother with a .22-caliber revolver as the boys tried to steal money from her.

District Attorney Jackie Johnson of the Brunswick Judicial Circuit said in a statement Thursday she would not seek the death penalty against either suspect because Georgia law doesn’t allow capital punishment for defendants charged with crimes committed before they were 18. Both teens are charged as adults.

Elkins was also indicted on two counts in a second attempted robbery and shooting that happened 10 days

before the baby was slain. On March 11, according to the indictment, Elkins tried to rob a person identified as Wilfredo Calix-Flores, pointing a gun at him while demanding his cellphone and wallet. Elkins shot Calix-Flores in the arm with the same caliber revolver used to kill the baby 10 days later, the indictment says. He is charged with attempted robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.

Kevin Gough, a public defender representing Elkins, said he felt prosecutors rushed to indict his client before collecting all available evidence. Gough had asked a judge for a preliminary hearing next week to determine if prosecutors had sufficient evidence to charge Elkins.

CORRECTIONS

In Issue 77, Vol. 24, the article titled “Vendors might need more than bling to lure students in” Miami Wow and Mini Gateway Inc. are mentioned. Their correct names are Mini Getaways Inc. and Wow Miami Flowers and Gift, Corp. Also, in Issue 76, the front page photo was incorrectly credited. The correct photographer is Roberto Jimenez.

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

THE BEACON æ

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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

Editor-in-Chief:
(305) 348-1580
philippe.buteau@fiusm.com

Advertising:
(305) 348-6993
advertising@fiusm.com

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Miami faces concerns with rising sea levels

WATER, PAGE 1

soil with a lot of carbon, as well as an estuary in the same area that acts as a nursery and feeding ground for fish.

Economists are working on aspects such as the economic valuation of ecosystem services and the value of water for other uses.

Sukop explained, for example, that bringing in more fresh water from Lake Okeechobee, as well as other sources, can possibly hold back the sea water more efficiently.

“But it’s a double-edged sword; to hold the seawater back, we have to raise the water level on the land side but the problem is that the water level is only a few feet or meters down in a lot of places already and by raising the water level to hold the seawater back, you can actually create more flooding problems,” said Sukop.

Behavioral scientists are working on the decision-making aspect of the research, particularly individual valuations of water management and the perception of risk.

The research proposal placed an emphasis on a “hydro-economic optimization model” meant to incorporate the decision-making criteria of water allocation by comprehending the cognitive and perceptual biases in both individual valuations and group decision-making.

“We have people who are behavioral specialists, basically, trying to understand how people make decisions about this; not only just how they make decisions but how, when presented with information in different ways, like the framing of the questions, that changes the possible decisions,” said Sukop.

As project leader of the study, Sukop has attended

what NSF calls “Principal Investigator” meetings, which involves people that have projects in the WSC program.

“It’s really kind of a pleasure to go up there and hear about everybody else’s but it also allows me to put South Florida’s circumstances into perspective; I can see that we really have some potentially dire circumstances here relative to other places,” said Sukop.

The SFWSC project has a five-year expectancy and is a collaborative effort alongside University of Miami, University of South Florida, University of Florida, Florida State University, University of Central Florida, University of Hawaii, Michigan Technological University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Pennsylvania, and Geodesign Technologies.

junette.reyes@fiusm.com

Media Arts Festival: A night of visual creativity

MICHAEL BAISDEN
Opinion Editor

As the end of Miami's Film Month ends, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication premiered its first Media Arts Festival Tuesday night at the University's Miami Beach Urban Studios.

The theme of the festival was "Only in Miami..." The event was not only a platform for local artists to showcase their visual storytelling talent but also a significant step for Miami, and FIU, to highlight this city as a part of the film culture.

My night started off with drinks, conversations and yummy appetizers to eat.

I arrived much earlier than most so my boyfriend and I walked to the small bar area and we lucked out because it was free beer until 6:30 p.m., which is exactly when all the traffic started to come in.

It was very casual and the main area was very open so they had a few tables



NATALIE LYNNE MEROLA/THE BEACON

Julia Duba, senior journalism major, enjoys the work of her fellow students and alum at one of the watching stations.

and pedestals set up so that attendees could view the videos on either iPads or on a computer desktop. There were another two rooms where they had a few videos on rotation.

Though I did not submit anything into the festival, I was interested in seeing what some of my classmates, the alumni, and locals had done

for the festival and there was some really cool and creative videos showcased.

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau submitted "It's So Miami," definitely one of the stand out videos of the evening.

Krysten Medina, an SJMC student, submitted a very colorful video, Wynwood

Walls, that showcased one of the artists whose work is displayed around the vibrant neighborhood of Wynwood.

A few of my classmates had their submissions featured at the event and I was happy to see their hard work get recognized not only by their peers but by also by the faculty and staff.

I think this event needs to become a staple for SJMC. Sure, it's publicity but it's also a night for creative appreciation and those who submitted can brag and say they got featured in a film festival, which I think is pretty cool. And although the videos and my two free beers were great, I was kind of hoping that there

would be some kind of winner announced.

Christian Smith, an advertising major, agreed that he was also expecting a little bit more when the event started.

I left around 7:30 p.m., but I'm pretty sure there was no big climax. The gist of the night was just to show the displayed submissions.

In any case, what SJMC has done for students, faculty and alumni is a great step forward. Artists always need some kind of sources to get their work out there and this event provided just that.

Smith and Zudina Hidrobo, a public relations major both said they appreciate FIU for putting this all together for the students.

Smith also said he enjoyed seeing the effort put forth by his peers.

"We know it's not easy," Smith said. "We all have the same classes and we know all the work that goes into it."

-michae.baisden@fiusm.com

How the media further victimizes the victim

LAUREN BANA
Contributing Writer

Some of us might have heard about the Steubenville, Ohio rape cases involving two of the local high school's star football players, Trent Mays and Ma'lik Richmond. There have been numerous accounts where newscasts have portrayed these underage rapists as the victims of bad timing, and personally, I am completely enraged and repulsed by the resonating tones of remorse fluctuating through the media towards these boys.

CNN, ABC News, NBC News and USA Today have all been making excuses for the boys, and stressing the drunkenness of the girl.

It seems as though the media want to extract sympathy from

society for these boys.

When CNN broadcasted the news of the boys' guilty sentences, the reporter seemed sorry for them because of their "promising futures."

Unfortunately, for the rape victim, the broadcast made her out to appear as an irresponsible girl, who ruined the lives of these two boys. They don't take into consideration the years of mental turmoil that she will have to undergo, and now, especially, under the ridicule of an entire nation.

The footage also covered the actual trial, revealing the boys in their devastated state.

Both were crying hysterically and apologizing to the victim's family, but to no avail. The reporter kept reminding her viewers of how the "courtroom became filled with emotion," and that they should

really take into account the amount of alcohol that fueled this very serious crime.

They made it a point to stress her drinking because they wanted to show that she was "too drunk."

USA Today also emphasized the drunkenness of the rape victim as well.

The last line in an article on USA Today said, "Both Weaver and Anile [former friends of the victim] testified that they were upset with the victim the night of the party because she was drinking heavily. They both said she has a history of drinking and has lied about things in the past."

After reading the entire article, it became clear that they were deliberately trying to plant

the thought in their readers' heads that maybe she was drinking too much. The way these news

sources have handled sexual abuse cases like this one is absolutely repulsive.

For instance, a similar rape case occurred in Connecticut, involving two high school football players raping several 13-year-old girls.

Their case was not as highly recognized as the Ohio case, but the media have very similarly regarded them with higher esteem than should be given to sexual assaulters.

Many people want to rule out the possibility of a 'rape culture' brewing in our society, but after watching that CNN broadcast, I was completely convinced.

The media are only further fueling this 'rape culture' with their attempts at squeezing out sympathy from their viewers and readers.

News stations are subtly teaching society that it is okay to

rape, sexually abuse and publically humiliate people as long as you don't get caught or as long as the blame can go elsewhere.

Sexual assault, abuse, public humiliation is not okay, ever. That is what these boys will have to learn the hard way.

The fact of the matter is that Mays and Richmond, with their "promising futures," raped a 16-year-old girl, and defiled her by posting photos of her naked body on various social networks.

The boys, these media outlets and these "former friends" are trying to make it as though she deserved it for allowing herself to become too drunk, but rape is rape, and not one person on Earth deserves to be violated in such a way.

-opinion@fiusm.com

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ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

Dennis Nawrocki (black shirt), art historian at Wayne State University in Detroit, gives an unofficial tour of the José Manuel Ballester Exhibit in the Frost Museum to a visitor. Ballester, who excels in the field of photography, brings a unique perspective of interpreting of architectural space and light through his “Concealed Spaces” Exhibit, which is an innovative collection inspired by the loss of a friend.

‘Concealed Spaces’: a collection of deconstructed paintings

NATALIE MONTANER
Contributing Writer

José Manuel Ballester’s “Concealed Spaces” is a truly innovative collection showcasing the deconstruction of famous paintings throughout history.

Through digital manipulation, Ballester managed to remove all traces of life from every painting, allowing the original artist’s intended setting to be the sole and main focus. The narrative is, therefore, not showcased and instead, the setting and background are able to become the center focus.

Francine Birbragher, the exhibit’s curator, praises this by saying, “Ballester’s series ‘Concealed Spaces’ presents a unique interpretation of western art history. By removing all references to action from iconic works by Bosch, Botticelli, Da Vinci, Géricault, Goya and Velázquez, among others, he rediscovers their magnificent landscapes and architectural backgrounds.”

The exact artistic process is a bit complex and meticulous, but in short, Ballester photographs the images, digitally removes all life, and then proceeds to use Photoshop to fill in the voids brought upon by the elimination of portions of the

Ballester’s ‘Concealed Spaces’ comes to the Frost

paintings. He then prints them in their original size.

The Photoshop process of restoring the painting’s background after the removal of all life is an art form in it of itself. Ballester shows his immense talent by recreating the brush strokes, coloring and textures and filling in the blank spots using just a computer.

By doing this, he creates a new work of art of his own through the works of other famous artists.

“For an art historian, ‘José Manuel Ballester: Concealed Spaces’ is a ‘dream exhibit’”, said Birbragher, “Not only does it introduce to the public the works of one of the most important Spanish contemporary artists but it also presents the works of art history’s masters in an interactive way through the use of QR codes.”

“The dialogue between the old and the new is particularly

enriching from an educational perspective.”

The inspiration behind this concept came about with the loss of Ballester’s close friend. In order to honor her memory, he removed all signs of life from her favorite work of art, Fra Angélico’s “La Anunciación”.

He has also manipulated and deconstructed other famous works such as Leonardo da Vinci’s “The Last Supper”, Diego Velázquez’s “Las Meninas”, and Sandro Botticelli’s “The Birth of Venus”.

In a video interview conducted by the University, Ballester explains that his collection “spans history and, in some ways, is a reflection on art and how it’s understood in each historical period.”

“And with this technique of altering temporal sequences and eliminating the narrative aspect we create a series of interpretations newly appreciated, a new way to see what we understand as art.”

This is the first time Ballester’s “Concealed Spaces” will be on display in the United States. It will be open to the public at the Frost Museum until June 23.

-life@fiusm.com

LGBT Pride Week to become Pride Month: new initiatives

YANAISIS COLLAZO
Contributing Writer

At FIU, 10 percent of the student population is LGBTQA, according to Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and Ally. In other words, out of the 50,000 students here on campus, 5,000 young adults are part of that category.

Gisela P. Vega, new associate director of LGBTQA initiatives, is their new representative with support systems and networks in the making to ensure the group there is a place for them here at FIU as well.

“They are an invisible group here on campus,” Vega said. “For me, it was the next progression, in terms of getting back to this group and having their needs met.”

Already establishing goals, Vega is setting them into three folds: create

awareness and education on the campus of LGBT students, develop support systems and networks, and work together instead of working in silos.

This year LGBTQA 2013 Spring Events have huge presence in the month of April. Two weeks from now, Vega and LGBT students are wrapping up for the 10th annual Florida Collegiate Pride Coalition Conference, hosted by FIU, starting on April 5 to 7.

FCPC, a non-profit organization with a board of directors consisting students and graduate students all across of Florida, is creating an avenue for LGBT students to come together once a year and bring awareness, education about topics and issues that impact this community as students. This year, the conference is having thirty workshops in a number

of different areas to help in anyway they can.

Programs such as spirituality and transgender and/or leadership, activism, career, health and wellness services will help the students.

Far from being over, Vega has turned Pride Week, beginning April 8, for LGBT students into Pride Month instead here at FIU. Within the month of April, 200 students, faculty and staff from FIU are participating in Pride Parade, located in Miami Beach on April 14, bringing in about 60,000 people.

“I have had students sitting across from me in my office, with a dejected and hopeless expression on their face telling me they wish not to go to school anymore or their parent is kicking them out for choosing who to love and be,” Vega said. “This is the reality. Discrimination happening

right here on campus instead of practicing unconditional love.”

Vega said one of her other goals is to connect the students with academic and financial so they can still succeed and prosper. She does not want the students here at FIU to feel isolated or be part of the 40 percent homeless youth population statistic due to their lifestyle choices.

Ultimately, her role is providing students with the tools they need to find support, be a listening ear, and make the best decision at the moment.

In doing so, she is creating a mentor program for the LGBT students. Pairing students with faculty and staff in becoming another sense of support/guidance.

“We all deserve to live in respect and in dignity,” Vega said. “It is the golden rule, treat others like you would like to be treated.”

Being able to relate to the students on a personal level, Vega understands the struggles they go through. Finding spirituality and knowing affirming churches accept who you are helps a great deal for many.

During Diversity Week, The Hurt to Healing helps the LGBT community find their spot in religion. Pastors come in from different churches to educate and ensure students they have a spot in the house of God regardless of their sexual preferences/lifestyle. Utilizing the office and the resources FIU has available, LGBT students know they are not alone.

“Any experiences of harassment or discrimination on campus will be taken care of,” Vega said. “There is nothing wrong with them. It’s who they are.”

-life@fiusm.com

Diversity Week will celebrate FIU’s multi-cultures

DIVERSITY WEEK

MONDAY, APRIL 1
--2013 Diversity Week Kickoff: MMC, GC Ballrooms, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2
--2013 Diversity Week Diversity & Inclusion Summit: MMC, GC Ballrooms, 10 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week PantherFest - Latin Food and Music Showcase: Broward Pines Center Courtyard, 5-7 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week celebrates Third Shift Scholars: MMC, GC Pit, 8-10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3
--2013 Diversity Week Law School Forum on Affirmative Action/Perspectives of Diversity: MMC, RDB 2008, 4-6 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week PantherFest - Caribbean Food & Music Showcase: Broward Pines Center Courtyard, 5-7 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week Baseball Game FIU Panthers vs. FAMU Rattlers: MMC, Baseball Stadium, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4
--2013 Diversity Week Reality Game “THRIVE” – Hosted by the FIU College of Medicine Neighborhood HELP Team: MMC, Betty Chapman Plaza, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week PantherFest - International Food & Music Showcase: MMC, GC Pit, 12-3 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week Employee resource Groups – Connecting to Make a Difference: MMC, Faculty Club Lounge, 4-6 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5
--2013 Diversity Week Engineering Center Celebrates Diversity: EC, First Floor lobby, 12-1p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week Discusses How to Turn the Hurt to Healing: Spirituality in the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Community: MMC, GC 140, 1-2 p.m.
--2013 Diversity Week Celebrates the Kickoff of Pride Week! Pride Week Kick-Off Fair and FCPC Conference Opening: MMC, GC Pit, 7-11 p.m.

JESSICA VALERIE RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

With students from more than 100 different countries, the University created a tradition three years ago to represent their diversity.

The University is going to celebrate its third annual Diversity Week by hosting a week filled of fun events dedicated to stressing the importance of incorporating all aspects of diversity into our daily lives.

The event will be held from April 1 to 5, with a variety of planned activities that will show a mixture of multi-cultural festivities. The event will host an array of conferences, interactive workshops, events and activities discussing and celebrating cultural, economic, religious and racial diversity all around us.

This event is relatively new and is still working to improve. From previous years, human resources has realized that students are a vital element in making a successful event. Therefore, what is particularly significant this year is that students

are not just audience members, but they are also collaborating with staff and faculty to plan, promote and participate in the Diversity Week Cultural Community Programming. It was the students themselves who came up with this year’s theme: “Connect to Make a Difference.”

The theme originated from the idea that experiences in real life are more impactful than a lecture or reading about it. The students felt that engaging in real life activities that allow them to interact directly with other people was the best way to go about this event.

Sophomore biology major Andres Lopez agrees.

“Coming to FIU has opened my eyes to how big the world is,” Lopez said. “Talking about it in geography was interesting in high school, but now I sit next to students who come from places I had never even heard of. It’s insane.”

With the theme also comes a challenge, the “Connect to Make a Difference Challenge.” The challenge consists of attending as many events as possible, then tweeting to the Diversity Week Twitter account,

taking a picture and posting it to the Diversity Week Instagram account, or blogging about it on the Diversity Week Facebook page. The challenge provides an opportunity to get to know people and learn from each other. It is open to students and faculty.

The tweets and other online posts will be displayed in the Graham Center. Additionally, members of University student organizations or fraternities and sororities will also earn community service points for each Diversity Week event they attend. Freshman public relations major Karina Nogues will be doing it for her sorority.


“I was going to stop by and see what it was about but now that I can get community service for my chapter I will definitely make the effort to go to as many as I can,” she said.

At the end of the week’s challenge, five special awards will be given to those that attended the most number of Diversity Week events/activities and that posted their attendance on the Diversity Week social media sites.

-life@fiusm.com

‘Evil Dead’ makes for a bloody new addition to Sam Raimi’s classic series

COLUMNIST



JUAN BARQUIN

With copious amounts of blood raining down from the sky, Fede Alvarez brings us a new addition to the world that Sam Raimi created over thirty years ago, and boy, is it a great one.

“Evil Dead” introduces us to entirely new characters in the Evil Dead world, so that means no more chainsaw wielding Bruce Campbell as Ash Williams. That’s not a bad thing at all though, as it completely allows for the focus to completely shift off of the classic series outside of those subtle and blatant references thrown in for old fans and new.

The film takes a familiar path to set up the horror story, as a group of friends head over to an old family cabin in the woods. Mia, played by “Suburgatory” star Jane Levy, is attempting to quit her drug habit cold turkey once again, and her friends and brother are determined to keep her off the drugs.

It doesn’t take too long for the wonderful world of “Evil Dead” to kick in, as the group finds a basement full of dead cats and a little book all wrapped up in a garbage bag and barbed wire that clearly shouldn’t be touched. That book, as fans of the series all know, is the Necronomicon, which is essentially the reason everything goes to hell in a handbasket minutes after one of the boys reads a few key words from it.

From here on we find ourselves thrown into a film full of all sorts of horrifying images, from ligaments being torn off clean to possessions and even sexual assault by nature rather than human. It’s an incredibly uncomfortable series of events that only serve to lead us into

one wildly riveting final act that actually showcases some great horror writing.


And great writing it is. What Alvarez does best is bring forth exactly the sort of film that Raimi and Campbell set out to make decades ago: a horror film. With the original “Evil Dead,” regardless of its technical prowess and intention as a straight horror film, Raimi fell into camp territory more often than not. This was quickly remedied by retelling the story with “Evil Dead II” as a masterpiece mixture of comedy and horror, but a true horror piece was never brought forth.

While the possession of multiple characters could have easily fallen into a category that was more humorous than scary, like most horror flicks nowadays, “Evil Dead” keeps from working against itself.

Levy, whose character has more twists and turns than practically any horror character in the last decade, is an absolute marvel to watch. Her first act work is about average, as the drug addicted girl is just as uninteresting as every other character, but once her character is completely given over to the demon, she gets a chance to show incredible range.

As always with any film that boasts the name of one from the past, people will yell “remakes are dumb” at the top of their lungs, and again, I return to yell back, “Shut up until you actually watch it and then tell me you didn’t fall in love.” Alvarez shows us just how innovative one can be when bringing forth a new addition to an old, beloved series with “Evil Dead” and let’s be real, if Campbell and Raimi are willing to wholeheartedly support the man, every “Evil Dead” fan should be just as willing.

-juan.barquin@fiusm.com



FLORIDA
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Health Fee Committee
will be holding public hearings on

Thursday, March 28, 2013 MMC
GC 150 at 10:00am

Thursday, March 28, 2013 BBC
WUC 155 at 2:00pm

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Health Fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

Defense making noise during spring practice

PATRICK CHALVIRE
Staff Writer

Cold weather was not enough to chill the energy and enthusiasm that washed over the football stadium on March 26 during the second week of practice.

The defense for the Panthers came out strong even before practice officially began. Coming out of the locker room, everyone on and off the field could hear the voice of Markeith Russell, a redshirt senior linebacker, hyped and ready to take on a new day.

“Linebackers are traditionally known as the quarterback of the defense,” said Tom Williams, linebackers coach for the Panthers. “You got to be vocal to get a lot of the communications made defensively, so Markeith fits that model.”

During scrimmages, the offense didn’t finish as well as hoped, courtesy of the defense. There were more dropped passes than completions, but backup quarterbacks E.J. Hilliard and Akil Dan-Fodio and the receivers did get more prac-

tice time which may fall into why there were some more missed opportunities.

Senior running back Kedrick Rhodes understood it was a slow day for the offense as a whole. On the bright side, Rhodes saw Tuesday morning as a minor bump in the road as the offense, as well as the rest of the running backs, continue to learn under a new system.

“Today was a down day for the offense,” said Rhodes. “We’re just getting a new playbook, so everything should be coming around soon.”

Alongside Rhodes comes a plethora of running backs both talented and with the same style as Rhodes, as well as what the coaches are looking for. Last season, Rhodes spent some time on the sideline due to injury.

So far this spring, Rhodes feels great and ready to go, but he knows if he hits a roadblock or takes a play or two off to rest, the offense won’t struggle without their senior leader. Something Rhodes doesn’t mind at all.

“Being able to handle that pressure and able to execute as an offense, obviously is what gives you a chance to win.”

Andrew Hayes-Stoker
Assistant coach
Football

“I can come out and get a breather and know we won’t go wrong. We won’t miss a beat,” Rhodes said.

Helping to bring the new pro-style offense to the running backs will be the job for new assistant coach Andrew Hayes-Stoker. The past two practices in pads, or live practice, have given Hayes-Stoker a better understanding of what must be dealt with and improved on throughout these next few weeks.

As a team last season, the Panthers fumbled the ball 29

times. Though most of the fumbles did not necessarily come from the running backs position last season, time in practice has shown Hayes-Stoker early on that protection is key.

“There are areas we need to improve on,” said Hayes-Stoker. “Ball security is one that stands out to me right now. We had too many turnovers, the ball was on the ground. And then our blitz pickup and blitz recognition. Being able to handle that pressure and able to execute as an offense, obviously is what gives you a chance to win.”

Earlier in the spring, Jerico Lee, who missed last season for personal reasons, had been practicing with the running backs as a possible fullback for the Panthers. Lee had even been seen on campus carrying around a football, but not Tuesday morning as he was back in a blue jersey alongside the defensive linemen.

Lee had been willing and able to play any position asked of him. According to Head Coach Ron Turner during the first spring practice, he seemed to have the body type of a fullback. Hayes-Stoker didn’t take anything away from Lee, but felt his talents were best suited back to where he began his FIU career.

“Fullback. We really expect that position to be a guy that can pound and hammer,” said Hayes-Stoker. “We pulled him over because we thought he might have some trace to play fullback, we evaluated him, and we thought he fit better on the defensive side of the ball right now.”

-sports@fiusm.com

Panthers’ pitching, bats not getting the job done



ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

The softball team’s bats were dwarfed by the University of South Alabama this past weekend, getting outscored 29 runs to 10.

JOLSON DIAZ
Contributing Writer

With a five-game winning streak, the softball team rode a wave of momentum into this past weekend that was quickly crushed in their home stand against University of South Alabama.

FIU gave up 29 runs in a weekend series sweep, allowing USA to remain in first place both in the Sun Belt Conference.

During the first game of the series, freshman Corinne Jenkins (11-3), who has been FIU’s most dominant pitcher, suffered her third loss of the season giving up four runs in only 3 1-3 innings. Junior Mariah Dawson (4-10) picked up her 10th loss of the season after allowing 10 runs in a complete game pitched in the second game of the double header.

Junior Shelby Wagon was not much different. Picking up her second loss of the season, she gave up five earned runs in just 2 1-3 innings. Long balls proved to be an issue as well; FIU pitchers gave up seven home runs, four in the span of just one inning.

“We’re just not pitching well,” said Head Coach Jake Schumann. “We gave up a couple long balls with people on after a couple walks, good teams like that are going to pounce on you and make those mistakes hurt.”

FIU SWINGING QUIET BATS

Along with pitching, this past weekend FIU bats were cooled down by South Alabama’s pitching. FIU’s opponent held them to just six hits and struck them out 14 times in just the first two games of the series.

During the first game of the double header, FIU was only able to carry out five runs off three hits and committed five errors. USA knocked out 11 runs off 10 hits committing no errors. Game two was not

much better as FIU scored no runs off three hits, while USA scored 10 runs off of 10 hits.

Game three was much improved for FIU, they were able to attain five runs off seven hits, compared to USA’s eight runs off eight hits.

“We have to step it up when it comes to hitting,” said senior Brie Rojas. “We have to make fewer errors and tighten up defense. Our hitting isn’t enough.”

GETTING BACK UP

After holding down the top two spot in SBC softball in week six, FIU drops to fifth place in the division and SBC after losing three straight to South Alabama this past weekend. The Panthers look to revamp their energy by taking on teams that all fall below them in the SBC standings.

This upcoming weekend, they start a road trip in Louisiana taking on Louisiana-Lafayette and Louisiana Monroe.

Louisiana-Lafayette (19-11, 2-4 SBC) is seventh place in the standings. Louisiana-Lafayette’s 7-2 home record proves that they feel more comfortable playing on home turf, while FIU has an away record of 4-4.

Louisiana Monroe (14-14, 1-5 SBC) is eighth in the standings, with just one win in conference play. Their winning percentage in the overall division and in the SBC falls below .500 and they have a record of 4-1 at home.

FIU looks to take advantage of the lower-ranked Louisiana squads.

“During the last game of the series against USA, we were able to score when they made their mistakes,” said Schumann. “We did a better job and we will build on that going on into the next series.”

-sports@fiusm.com

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FGCU savors its ride to NCAA tournament’s Sweet 16

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Writer

Sherwood Brown only wanted a bagel.

The Florida Gulf Coast star walked into a restaurant on campus Monday and was quickly surrounded. People wanted autographs. People wanted photos. People just wanted to yell words of encouragement.

The Eagles can be seen at anytime during the school week. Some choose to even include themselves in student activities to stay in shape, outside of basketball.

“I see most of the players on campus,” said Jessica Curran, a sophomore majoring in Legal Studies at FGCU. “[Sherwood] Brown goes to spin class with me actually.”

A school that opened a mere 16 years ago finds itself front-and-center in March Madness, one of only 16 college basketball teams left from a field of 68, hoping to win the NCAA national championship.

“I had no idea it was going to be like this, but I’m loving it,” Brown said as he made his escape from the shop. “I feel like we’re getting a lot of America behind us. I guess you could say we’re a part of America’s team at this point.”

And the Eagles spent the day savoring their moment.

Lines in the campus bookstore snaked from one side to the other, more than 100 people waiting for the chance to pay for their FGCU shirts and hats.

Phone lines were jammed by those seeking tickets for this weekend’s South Regional, and even the university president half-seriously wondered if he would be able to obtain what he needed. And as they arrived at classes, players were met with applause.

“It’s so brand new,” Eagles coach Andy Enfield said Monday, as emails popped into his mailbox at a fairly dizzying rate. “No one knows — no one knew — what FGCU stood for, the letters. Now it puts our university in a national spotlight and rightly so, because this is a great place. It’s a young, vibrant university with just a lot of energy. I’ve been trying to tell that story to a lot of people.”

The Eagles play Florida in the South Regional semifinals Friday night, two wins from a most-improbable trip to the Final Four. Seeded 15th in their region, FGCU knocked off both No. 2 Georgetown and No. 7 San Diego State in Philadelphia over the weekend to keep their season going.

Enfield’s lone mistake so far in the NCAA tournament may have been what happened when he went to bed around 5:30 a.m.

Monday, roughly two hours after the Eagles landed home in Fort Myers after punching their ticket to the regional semifinals.

Before Enfield went to sleep, he forgot to silence his ringer. Suffice to say, he was awakened long before he wanted.

“It’s part of the moment,” Enfield said. “We’re happy to sacrifice a little sleep for the success of our program.”

Here’s maybe the best way to explain what’s happening right now with FGCU: In a state where the Gators are back in the regional semifinals, where the Miami Hurricanes (who lost to FGCU early this season) are still alive in the field and look very much like a title contender, and as the Miami Heat took a 26-game winning streak into their game at Orlando on Monday, it’s the Eagles who might be the best story.

The Eagles — 26-10 overall and 13-5 in the Atlantic Sun Conference — are starting their own tradition, since they have no real tradition yet.

Of the 19 banners that sway in their gym to commemorate various accomplishments, the earliest entry on them is for a women’s volleyball trip to the NCAA Division II tournament in 2004.

The school has about 11,300 students, half of whom come from the state’s southwest

section. FGCU is in such infancy as a school that its oldest alumni probably have yet to turn 40.

“I’ve been in higher ed for a long time, worked at several institutions, and I have not experienced anything like this phenomenon,” FGCU President Wilson Bradshaw said. “What has happened in the last three or four days has been exceptional. We’re getting, I’m getting, my staff members are getting emails and texts from all over the country, and it’s been very gratifying.”

“I think everybody’s shocked, mostly,” said senior Kristi Hurson. “We went out to watch the game Friday and were all joking that this wasn’t going to be a big deal. And then it was.”

Her friend and fellow shopper Erica Turczyn used three words to describe the mood on campus right now — crazy, nuts and chaos.

“Professors canceled classes today, some of them,” Turczyn said. “I don’t know how anyone can focus right now.”

Give FGCU guard Brett Comer some credit. He was trying to focus, anyway.

Comer got three hours sleep before waking up Monday to hit his statistics class. As he arrived, his professor asked why he was there.

“A lot of students didn’t seem to make it to class today,” Comer

said. “But I was.”

He won’t be at any classes later this week.

The team’s annual banquet is scheduled for April 2. Someone in the lobby of the arena saw that sign Monday and asked if it would be canceled if the Eagles make the Final Four.

A good question, one that no one even a few days ago would have imagined would have ever been uttered at FGCU.

“Our heads have not gotten bigger,” Bradshaw said. “But we really are excited about the attention that we’re getting. And I’ve said this before: If it takes our very successful basketball team to get people to come to our website and learn more about Florida Gulf Coast University — and there is so much more — then I’m fine with that.”

Monday night ended with a pep rally to congratulate and support the team. It didn’t start there, the party on campus has been going on since FGCU made the tournament according to Curran.

“It’s been wild, everyone is wearing FGCU attire to class and taking pictures with the basketball players,” said Curran, “Everyone is so excited and I think it’s having a really positive impact on our university.”

Additional reporting by Patrick Chavire.

Crossing Over



Junior Marita Davydova, right, a starter for the women’s basketball team, messes around with Maryna Samoday on the sand volleyball courts on March 23.

ROBERTO JIMENEZ/THE BEACON

FIU | FLORIDA
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Capital Improvement Trust Fund
Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on

Monday, March 25, 2013 MMC
GC 140 at 10:30am
Monday, March 25, 2013 BBC
WUC 155 at 2:00pm

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the CITF fee, used to fund student buildings. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

CAPS offers empowerment to survivors of violence

VINSON PRESSLEY
Staff Writer

Individuals who have endured and survived violent situations have a group of people ready to help them overcome their traumatic experiences.

The Counseling and Psychological Services office has the Victim Empowerment Program, which offers confidential help to FIU students, staff, faculty and university visitors who have survived traumatic experiences. The Victim Empowerment Program will also explain options, accompany students who need medical services and help during the healing process.

Liane Dornheim, a licensed psychologist for CAPS at Biscayne Bay Campus, said that the Victim Empowerment Program office has individuals who specialize in dealing with the traumatic experiences that survivors go through.

Dornheim mentioned that the Victim Empowerment Program will go with the survivor to the hospital to receive medical attention, help them with the legal process and ensure the abuse stops as well as give them information about how to receive shelter if they have no where to go after the situation.

According to Dornheim, although the Victim Empowerment Program specializes in dealing with victims, she noted that the CAPS office at BBC can also handle those types of situations. Dornheim also mentioned that the University itself and University President Mark. B Rosenberg are “psychology minded” and provide a “wonderful work environment to take care of our students in-house.”

“They’ve been a big and longstanding facility here at FIU, providing psychological help and connections to the [right] places,” said Gabriela Bonilla, senior sociology major and president of the National Organization for Women, which has worked with the CAPS office for over a year.

Bonilla discussed that the CAPS office along with the Victim Empowerment Program has experience with dealing with any type of abuse and understands the process of stopping violence.

Bonilla mentioned several ways of stopping sexual violence toward women by ending the “culture of silence” and eliminating the myths and stigmas surrounding survivors of such abuse.

“[Women] are viewed not as a survivor but as a victim,” said Bonilla, which

can unfortunately lead to stigma. Bonilla discussed that victims are sometimes blamed for the violence that they received and feel powerless and fear how society will view them as a victim.

Although a survivor’s recovery and healing process may be long, students believe that the Victim Empowerment Program can help and support students.

Richard Smith, freshman accounting major, believes that the services on campus

that help victims get through tough times are reliable.

“That’s really good, nowadays, people are afraid to go to friends or parents [to discuss problems],” said Smith. Smith also mentioned talking to friends about tough situations may not always be the best option.

“Friends suck sometimes, if they haven’t gone through it and don’t know what to say,” Smith believes that CAPS provides students with the chance to open themselves up to someone

who can’t legally share their intimate information with others.

Mayra Rodriguez, junior biology major thinks the efforts of the Victim Empowerment Program are positive because it helps “someone overcome a traumatic situation [so] they can continue with their lives.”

Rodriguez mentioned that when someone goes through a traumatic experience, the person may find it difficult to move on with their lives and “get stuck in that situation.”

Zizhao Luo, sophomore psychology major, shares Rodriguez’s sentiment.

“[The program] helps victims overcome what they experience and help them get back on track faster.”

The sentiment of the CAPS office toward the students is summed up in every flier that they post: “Students Are Our Priority.”

The Victim Empowerment Program could not be reached as of press time.

-vinson.pressley@fiusm.com

Life of pie



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Phalencia Luisy, sophomore and English major (left), “pies” Tashaun Williams, president of the Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Campus, during the Student Organizations Council’s Field Day Club Fair outside of the Wolfe University Center as part of SOC’s Golden Week.

Travis Porter to headline end of year bash

FIU LIVE CONCERT

Performances by:
Travis Porter
DJ Cato K
DJ Zelaya
DJ Sloter

Will take place on April 12.

JENNIFER SANS
Contributing Writer

The Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Campus will host a concert event next Friday, April 12. Students will be able to take part in the FIU Live Concert held at BBC in the Ballrooms where many acts will perform.

“We like to call it the week long end of the year bash with comedy shows and concerts. The last day will be the concert featuring Travis Porter, DJ Cato K, DJ Zelaya and DJ Sloter,” said Kaytien Franco, public relations assistant at Campus Life-BBC. “During previous

years, the genre of music was usually just electronic dance music, but this year, it’s going to be a mixture of hip hop, rap, and electronic dance music.”

DJ Cato K has worked on Y100 and plays multiple types of music.

Henry Zelaya, also known as DJ Zelaya, and Christian Clark, also known as DJ Sloter, are actually students at FIU and are excited to be the opening performance for Cato K and Travis Porter.

Clark and Zelaya have worked together doing performances. Their biggest performance so far was at The Grey Area located in Wynwood,

Miami.

“We’ve done gigs before, but this is our biggest performance yet,” said Zelaya and Clark.

Zelaya and Clark expressed that they are nervous but are excited to see their faces on all the flyers.

“This is the third year we’ve done FIU Live and are excited to have another successful event,” Franco said.

Tickets for FIU Live are free to students and can be picked up at the Office of Campus Life in BBC and MMC with their student IDs.

-bbc@fiusm.com