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Play for female empowerment comes to the University

NICOLE MONTERO
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A global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls brings an episodic play of women's rights, empowerment and respect to the University community.

The Vagina Monologues, brought to FIU by the Women's Studies Student Association, is a play that consists of 16 different stories and interviews about all kinds of female experiences.

"The play talks about the experiences and things that women deal with: the good, the bad, the sad, the happy – all with the ultimate goal of female empowerment," said Genesis Adrian, WSSA president and executive producer for the play. She says, "There's a lot of shame behind the female body, so we're viewing the vagina as an image of empowerment and individuality."

The play was written by Eve Ensler, founder of V-Day, a non-profit organization dedicated to stopping violence against women. According to Adrian, Ensler started the plays because she felt there was a lot of shame around the female body.

"That's how it came about and it's important because, first of all,

we live in a community that is infamous for a lot of bad things," said Adrian. "South Florida is one of the largest communities with human trafficking in America. It's an alarming statistic and people don't know that."

According to Adrian, this statistic is the reason why the University became involved with the "It's On Us" campaign, a movement dedicated to raising awareness about how the community can stop sexual violence.

"FIU is doing so many things right now," said Kendra Jacobs, junior biology major. "I'm proud to be in a school where people, of all gender preferences, can be welcomed. There are gender neutral bathrooms and this new It's On Us campaign... It just feels like people can be safe here."

In December, the Miami Herald published an article about gender neutral bathrooms at FIU. The transgender woman featured in that article, Gaby Benavente, an FIU student, is a cast member for the play.

"These issues are relevant right now," said Adrian. "This year, we have pieces centered around the transgender experience -- what it's like to be a transgender woman. We have a large LGBT community in Miami and, a lot of times, the

BUSINESS TIME



ALEX VEJUZ/THE BEACON

Anthony Hernandez, a recent graduate who studied health services administration, shakes Detective William "Gunny" DeJesus's hand at the career fair on Feb. 9 after a conversation. DeJesus was representing the Fort Lauderdale Police Department at the career fair, where students had the opportunity to meet with various potential employers.

"T" in LGBT gets forgotten: the Trans."

According to Adrian, the "Trans people" have a high percentage of being hurt or victimized. She believes that The Vagina Monologues will help nurture FIU's progress on less violence and victimization toward that community.

The Vagina Monologues, a recurring play since 2007, will be collaborating with Omega Phi Beta, a new sorority dedicated to female empowerment.

All proceeds of the play will go to Kristi House, a nonprofit organization in Downtown Miami that rescues girls in

human trafficking; and the Victim Empowerment Program at FIU, a program that provides counseling to students and staff that have been victimized.

"It's refreshing to see an event like this," said Jason Hernandez, sophomore sociology major. "This is something everyone should be interested in – not just women. Women progression and empowerment in America affects us all. Their success is our success because it means that America is progressing. I'm excited for this."

Adrian added, "We go around and tell people to come see The Vagina Monologues and, usually, the girls are really excited and

the boys just say 'oh that's a girl event', and it's not. It's a human rights issue... [Boys] came from somewhere. I know you got a mom, a sister, a cute girl on Instagram and this issue pertains to her. It pertains to your life."

The play will show on Thursday, Feb. 19 and Friday, Feb. 20 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. It will be held in the MMC law building – RDB 1100.

Tickets are available for any college student with ID at \$12, faculty and staff at \$15 and general admission at \$20. They can be purchased in DM 212 or online at fiuvday2015.eventbrite.com.

Memorial held to honor Phillip Marcus

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
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Faculty of the English Department, alongside students and members of the University community, met on Thursday, Feb. 12, for a memorial honoring Phillip Marcus, a professor of English who died on Saturday, Jan. 10.

Leading the memorial was James Sutton, chair of the English Department and associate professor of English.

According to Sutton, the memorial was organized to not only honor the memory of Marcus but to also give all of those who knew him the chance to talk about him, read poetry, and talk about the impact he had on their lives as professors, students and lovers of literature.

While Sutton was in charge of overseeing the event's coordination, he received help from other faculty members in the English department, as well as current students and alumni who knew Marcus.

He admitted that what took place at the memorial was exactly what he had in mind.

He wanted to host an informal event in which those who knew Marcus would have an opportunity to share stories about the times they spent with him.

To give those affected by the loss a chance to find comfort in one another's stories was also an aim of Sutton's.

Sutton admitted that although he didn't know Marcus nearly as well as some of his students did, he did get to know Marcus on a personal level as a fellow lover of poetry.

He joked that he got along with Marcus from the beginning of his time at the University, even though Marcus received his graduate degree from Harvard and he from Yale, never letting the rivalry get between their friendship.

He informed those in attendance that the University's English Department looked forward to bring Marcus on board after he left Cornell University in the 1990s and met with a

University faculty member while visiting the Florida Keys.

At that time the Department was particularly excited about welcoming Marcus, an expert on the writings of William Butler Yeats.

He mentioned that what Marcus cared most about was

Sutton used the email as an example to call attention to how much Marcus cared for his students and how we was thinking about them while he was sick.

Sutton also read emails that past students of Marcus sent the professor, expressing their

“We will continue to remember him, and hold him dear.”

James Sutton
Chair
English Department

being in the classroom with his students, never wanting to teach online courses.

An email that Marcus sent to his students last fall was read at the memorial.

"I've missed you all terribly, and I very much look forward to seeing all you again soon," read the email.

gratitude for the impact that he had on their professional, academic, and personal lives.

Speaking in regards to dealing with loss, Sutton said that one way of dealing with Marcus' death was by doing exactly what took place at the memorial in a way that Marcus would have found fitting: getting together

and sharing stories in an informal setting.

Among those in attendance was Patrick Marcus, one of Marcus' three children.

Patrick brought with him the first copy of James Joyce's novel "Ulysses" that his father ever purchased.

Inside of it was Marcus' last Starbucks card, which he utilized to buy coffee for his students during his informal coffee hours.

Patrick, encouraging students to read the inscription on the book, containing the date that Marcus first read the book, said that he believed that the first love his father could accept was found in the pages of Ulysses at the age of 20.

"He gave a relationship to each of you that is unchangeable," said Patrick. "I want to do honor to the relationship you already had with him."

He then went on to share stories about how he spent his days prior to his father's death.

SEE MARCUS, PAGE 2

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Tokyo district mulls plan to recognize same-sex couples dpa

A central Tokyo district could become the first in Japan to give same-sex couples official recognition pending approval by the local government, media reported Thursday.

A plan by Tokyo’s Shibuya ward to issue certificates stating that couples are in “relationships equivalent to marriage” will be brought to a vote in the local assembly in March, the Kyodo News agency reported.

The draft is likely to be opposed by assembly members who say it could threaten traditional family values, Kyodo said.

Same-sex couples can face discrimination when living together or visiting partners at hospitals on the grounds that they are not seen as relatives.

Cairo judge orders 2 Al Jazeera journalists freed on bail

A Cairo judge Thursday ordered the release on bail of two journalists for Al Jazeera English at the start of their retrial on terrorism-related charges.

Mohamed Fahmy and Baher Mohamed have spent more than 13 months in jail. Their Australian colleague, Peter Greste, was released and deported last week.

The case has been closely watched by human rights groups and media advocacy organizations. The arrest of the three journalists came amid a wide-ranging crackdown on opponents of the Egyptian government, and their supporters said the charges were politically motivated and an attack on media freedom.

Netanyahu’s U.S. speech drives wedge between Democrats, Israel

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s planned address to Congress next month is driving an uncomfortable and rarely seen wedge between congressional Democrats and Israel--and that may have been exactly what House Speaker John A. Boehner and other Republicans intended.

For many Democrats, and especially the more than two dozen Jewish members of Congress, Boehner’s decision to invite Netanyahu to speak about Iran’s nuclear program--despite objections from the White House--is forcing them to choose between their president and their long-standing support for Israel.

SJMC Scholarship deadline days away

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The deadline for journalism scholarships at FIU is fast approaching.

Last week, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication sent an email reminding students that Sunday, Feb. 28 is the final day to apply for SJMC scholarships.

Scholarships are available for various concentrations such as broadcast and print journalism, public relations and Spanish-language at the graduate level.

Students interested in applying are encouraged to login to Academic Works using their MyFIU account information and fill out the general scholarship application.

SJMC majors will then be able to

search through the scholarships under the “Recommended” tab to find matches based on their application.

Once clicking “Apply,” students may have to provide additional information based on the scholarship requirements, which usually include supplementary documentation or added personal statements.

However, many university scholarships are available on Academic Works for all fields of study.

Once applications are reviewed by the SJMC Scholarship Committee and winners are chosen, the scholarship winners will be announced via email. The awarded candidates must then attend the award ceremony on Thursday, March 26.

For further details, students may contact the SJMC at (305) 919-5625 or email sjmc@fiu.edu.

Dr. Marcus memorial

MARCUS, PAGE 1

Following Patrick’s portion of the memorial were recollections of Marcus delivered by Cindy Sepulveda, a student of Marcus who graduated from the University in 2003 with a Bachelor’s degree in English, and Michael Gillespie, professor of English.

Finishing his portion of the event with a reading of William Shakespeare’s “Sonnet 65”, Sutton encouraged all those who wanted to share words or a story about Marcus to step up to the podium.

Among those who spoke was Jenny Parra Fuerte, a junior English education major.

Marcus made it no secret that he cared for his students, said Parra Fuerte, who added that Marcus encouraged her habit of speaking in vernacular and made her feel like someone who deserved to be at a university.

The remainder of the memorial consisted of current students and alumni sharing stories about their time with Marcus. Those who stayed afterwards partook in pizza and coffee.

“We will continue to remember him, and hold him dear,” said Sutton.

UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY MMC 2015

NETWORKING EVENT DATE: Feb. 16, 2015 TIME: 1:00-2:00 p.m. LOCATION: MMC GC 230	HOW TO STAND OUT AT CAREER FAIR WORKSHOP FOR BUSINESS STUDENTS DATE: Feb. 17, 2015 TIME: 3:45-4:45 p.m. LOCATION: MMC CBC 121	LINKEDIN DAY DATE: Feb. 18, 2015 TIME: 2:00-5:00 p.m. LOCATION: MMC GC 316
PEACE CORPS PREP: MEET FIU’S PEACE CORPS RECRUITER DATE: Feb. 19, 2015 TIME: 4:00-5:00 p.m. LOCATION: MMC GL 482	BUSINESS ETIQUETTE 101 WORKSHOP FOR BUSINESS STUDENTS DATE: Feb. 20, 2015 TIME: 10:00-11:00 a.m. LOCATION: MMC CBC 121	HOW TO BRAND YOURSELF DATE: Feb. 23, 2015 TIME: 1:00-2:00 p.m. LOCATION: MMC GC 230
DIVERSITY BREAKFAST DATE: Feb. 25, 2015 TIME: 8:30-10:45 a.m. LOCATION: MMC Law School Student Lounge	CAPS GROUP COUNSELING DATE: Every Wednesday starting on February 11, 2015 - March 25, 2015. TIME: 1:00-2:30 p.m. LOCATION: MMC SHC 270	
11TH ANNUAL RELAY FOR LIFE DATE: Feb. 27-28, 2015 TIME: 6:00-7:00 p.m. LOCATION: MMC RDB Loop		

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

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Terrorism has no religion and no race

MEGHAN MACLAREN
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Rest in peace to the three Muslim students shot dead near Chapel Hill, North Carolina on Tuesday, Feb. 10. I cannot begin to imagine what their families are going through right now and I'm sure I speak for all of our readers when I say my thoughts and condolences are with them.

They weren't white Americans taken hostage and killed by ISIS. They weren't young black men killed as a result of police

brutality. But that shouldn't for a second lessen the significance of their deaths. Before people start arguing over whether the motive for their murder was because of their religion or because of a 'parking space dispute', people should take the time to recognize that three young people lost their lives when they shouldn't have.

Deah Barakat, Yusor Abu-Salha and Razan Abu-Salha were people. They were Muslims, but that isn't where their story ends. They were three young people with dreams, and families, and achievements.

We need to stop categorizing people by the color of their skin, or the religion they believe in, or their sexual

“Black lives matter, but so do Muslim lives. So do gay lives, so do Hispanic lives, so do white lives. So do the lives of every individual from every walk of life.”

orientation or by any similar factors. Judge them by what they do in their lives.

ISIS is not representative of all terrorists. ISIS is not

representative of all the bad people in this world. As this tragic incident in North Carolina proves,

ISIS is not representative of all Muslims. The man who is accused of killing Barakat, Yusor and Razan, is supposedly an atheist.

Does that mean we should now start fearing all atheists? Does that mean all atheists are capable of committing murder, and acts of terrorism? Of course it doesn't. We shouldn't fear Muslims because the members of ISIS are Muslims, we should fear ISIS because they are terrorists. Some people are capable of murder and capable of terrorism, and that is not a direct result of their skin color or religious choice. If acts of terrorism are going to get publicity such as in the case of ISIS, and Charlie Hebdo, so should this attack. It is not

any less tragic because Barakat, Yusor and Razan were not the same religion or race as the majority.

Black lives matter, but so do Muslim lives. So do gay lives, so do Hispanic lives, so do white lives. So do the lives of every single individual from every walk of life. People need to stop using religion, or race, or anything else as excuses and justifications for fear and for killing. People have a right to think the things that they think and believe the things that they believe in, but first and foremost, people have the right to live.

'Old' television returning to spotlight with millenials

MICHELLE MARCHANTE
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The entertainment industry is a powerful force and I don't mean the influence celebrities have on the population, I'm talking about the power that lets fans form connections with each other. What makes a T.V. show old? The year it was filmed, the style, the lingo, maybe the quality it was shot in, are all true answers but then why would someone from a different generation still enjoy it?

The quality of the show must be the answer. A good show, is well, a good show, no matter the year it was made- same with movies, music, and books. Whatever people liked about it back then must be why people like it now. But why have old shows seem to make more of a comeback with our Millennial generation than the ones before? The Internet is probably to thank, with the power to have virtually anything at our fingers, we've been able to discover shows that have been forgotten, not by those who

used to watch it, but by the mainstream society.

People are discovering that just because a T.V. show ended before you were born or maybe before you were old enough to watch it, it's still a show worth watching. *Gilligan's Island*, a show that ran until 1967,

or *I Dream of Jeannie*, a show that ran until 1970, are classics that can still bring laughter to anyone who watches them. *The Facts of Life*, a show that ended in 1988, can still teach important life-lessons in the world today, and people still go gaga over those old

Star Trek episodes. I can't help but wonder why but then I think, 'Hey, good quality T.V. is good quality T.V.' Maybe that's why everyone's falling in love with *Friends* all over again? Shows can unite fans, giving them common ground, allowing a friendship to form, even if it's just for that one moment,

Shows can unite fans, giving them common ground, allowing a friendship to form, even if it is just for that one moment, no matter the age difference.

no matter the age difference. That could very well be why old show reunions seem to be popping up everywhere. Last year, comedian Jimmy Kimmel accomplished having a *Friends* mini-reunion when he invited Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, and Lisa

Kudrow to his show, *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* to revive their old characters Rachel, Monica, and Phoebe for a scene.

Comedian Jimmy Fallon recently did a *Saved By The Bell* reunion this past month on his show, *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, as well as doing a *Full House* mini-reunion on his old show, *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, last year when Bob Saget, John Stamos, and David Alan Coulier, played their old characters Danny, Jessie, and Joey for a special skit.

These special reunions aren't just making fans of the show, old and new alike, happy. These reunions prove that while the times may change, the fundamental aspect of these beloved T.V. shows: the basics, the story, the characters, can still impact our generation, making a resounding sound in our hearts, as we see a little bit of ourselves in those characters. So feed your curiosity and find out what shows your family members used to enjoy. Look it up, watch an episode, and who knows maybe you'll find you're next binge-worthy show...after you finish binge-watching *Friends* of course.

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SAMUEL PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

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Celebrating Valentine’s Day the FIU way

KRYSTAL PUGH
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Love is in the air as the famous celebration of love, Valentine’s Day, approaches. The Student Alumni Association, with efforts from the Student Government Association, hosted their annual Sweetheart event on Thursday, Feb. 2, between the Ryder Business building and the Green Library.

Contrary to popular belief, the sweetheart event is more than a celebration of love.

Samantha Pujol, interim coordinator of SAA, explained that the sweetheart event is in efforts to honor the kissing bridge and turtle pond.

FIU’s kissing bridge has a tradition which states that if you kiss someone on the bridge, you will be with them forever.

Pujol also expressed that she has been a member of the SAA throughout her undergraduate career and even now, she walks away with the same feeling of happiness from the event.

“I like that SAA keeps the tradition of the sweetheart event alive, tradition is very important and it’s something to always look forward to each year.”

The sweetheart event had great turnout, however, it’s great selection in food could have more to do with it then anyone will own up to.

There was an assortment of cakes, pies and cookies. Vendors such as Chipotle and People Dedicated to Quality

catered with chips and dip as well as fresh chicken strips and dipping sauce.

In addition to the chicken strips, FIU students were given free coupons for their choice of a hand-spun shake or cookie.

“I love free food. I am full time student, I don’t work and whenever events are on campus as such, I always enjoy them with my peers,” said Mercedes Jones, sophomore with an undeclared major.

Previous fellow panther, Adriana Fajet, was present in the festivities and put her skills as a “Kissologist” to work at her kiss and tell activity with Mary Kay cosmetics.

Fajet explained that there is a story behind every set of lips.

Students, particularly the lady panthers were asked to pick a lipstick and kiss a slip. Fajet would then tell them what type of personality is behind the kiss.

In addition to learning their pucker personalities, students earned a complimentary makeover and the chance to win a trip to 2015 ACM Awards.

“I never wear makeup, but today I stepped out my box at the sweetheart event and puckered up,” said Sarah Frantz, a junior and political science major.

Melting pot raffle was a table full of prizes. SAA accepted donations in exchange for a chance to spin the wheel and win a prize and the funds are extended among SAA’s Legacy Scholarship and Pride for Panther Scholarship.

In regards to the location so close to the kissing bridge, there was an assumption that there were going to be many



VINCENT RIVES/THE BEACON

Biology freshman Mayandreina Rojas and computer science sophomore Mauriel Fernandez make the most of FIU’s Kissing Bridge on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

kissing couples. However, there were none. There were, however, many singles enjoying themselves. Most notably were groups of friends taking photos along the kissing bridge, mocking kisses and making “duck lip” faces and having a good time.

Couples at the event were more modest and did not even kiss on the kissing bridge.

This could also mean that they are not in hopes to spend their lives together afraid of testing the FIU kissing bridge tradition.

The Flash and Arrow bring on the personal drama

DC ON TV

CHRIS SANTIAGO

Talk about possibly the greatest opening to any TV drama, ever.

Watching Barry in this week’s episode of The Flash go through different outfits at super speed for his date with Linda Park while “Uptown Funk” played in the background was absolutely priceless.

Let’s also talk about what a date that was! Barry went saved a suicidal man while Linda was in the bathroom! If that isn’t great, I don’t know what is. Then again, it must be super hard to maintain a love life while being the hero of an entire city.

This episode was enjoyable because the producer’s switched things up and gave the viewers more story than just action. It was wholly dedicated to two things: Barry’s love life proving to be more difficult than usual, even with superpowers, and S.T.A.R.

Labs’ attempt to track down Ronnie, aka Firestorm. However, Ronnie’s body is being used as a host for Dr. Stein who took control of it after the nuclear explosion months ago.

Let’s talk about Barry’s

love life. He’s developing feelings for Linda and Iris takes notice. She becomes jealous that another woman is taking Barry’s attention. She talks with Linda and tells her that Barry is still in love with her, so she should leave him alone.

I don’t know how Barry was able to keep his cool after he found out. If I had found out Iris had done that to me, I’d flip a few tables, but things work in Barry’s favor in the end and he gets another chance with Linda.

As for Ronnie, they need to find a way to separate him from Dr. Stein without causing another nuclear explosion.

I really enjoyed how Robbie Amell, the actor

“ It gave chills to see the apprentice stand up to the person who is almost always in charge.”

unsure on whether he is alive or dead. It was a powerful and emotional episode, for sure. With the crime boss Brick out of the picture, things in Starling City seem almost back to normal. Of course, we know that can’t last more than one episode.

Moving on to Arrow, things start off chaotic in this week’s episode as we watch Canary getting herself beaten by a hallucination of her sister as a result of the toxins from the criminal known as Vertigo.

The episode then jumps back in time by 48 hours and shows Arrow and Arsenal running through the city taking care of business, which leads them back to their hideout below Thea’s club.

It’s funny to me that Oliver believes he can just waltz right back into his home and have things back to the way things were, especially since Team Arrow made it clear throughout the previous episodes that they’ve learned to take care of the city without him and that was one of the biggest points of the episode.

After Oliver reveals to Thea that he’s the Arrow and has been trying to protect her though being the masked vigilante, Thea

that plays Ronnie, was able to act as two completely characters flawlessly. It really shows his ability as an actor.

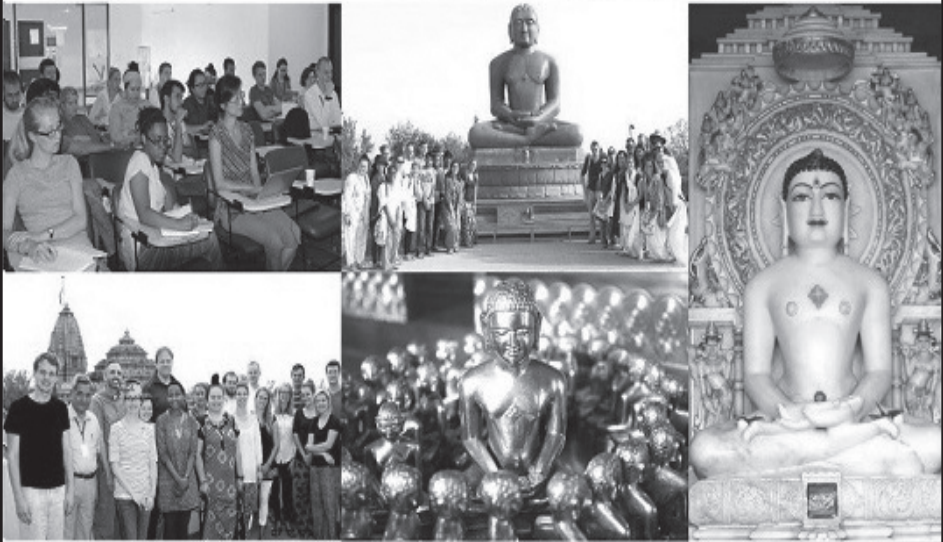
Unfortunately, Ronnie explodes, leaving us

Study Abroad info sessions
will take place in SIPA 502
on the following dates:

Monday, February 16, 1-2:30 pm
Tuesday, March 3, 5-6:30 pm



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR JAIN STUDIES
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International School for Jain Studies are pleased to announce two programs for Summer 2015 with a focus on the religious and cultural tradition of Jainism. This unique program will provide students from all over the world an opportunity to participate in a cultural and educational immersion in India. In India, the program will be based at ISJS centers in Delhi and Jaipur primarily.

SEE DC, PAGE 5



ANA ARENAS/THE BEACON

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

ANA ARENAS
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

For Jose Calderon, a political science major of class 2018, becoming his best self is important. “Being the best version of myself is all I want in life. I always wake up and try to be the best me I can be for the day. My studies are my main priority as a student, so I try to be the best student I can be. I do not know what my future may bring me but I can’t wait!”

Based off Humans of New York from the NYTs, Student Spotlight captures FIU students as their natural self. Ana Arenas, FIUSM Staff, will spotlight a new student every Monday, with a photo and quote that eludes to their personal story and goals.

Fifty Shades’ beats the book — but so what?

MOIRA MACDONALD
The Seattle Times
TNS

OK, let’s just do this thing: “Fifty Shades of Grey” the movie, for the record, is not quite as bad as “Fifty Shades of Grey” the book. But that’s not saying much.

Is it a good movie? No. Is Dakota Johnson’s performance better than it seems to be in the trailer, in which she appears to be perpetually on the verge of tears? Yes. Does Anastasia say “Holy crap!” in the movie as often as she does in the book? No, thank goodness.

Does this movie employ extremely nonsubtle visual metaphors, such as loving shots of keys sliding into locks and a pencil pushing on a woman’s lips? Yes, but at least there’s no train heading into a tunnel. Are lines like “I’m not going to touch you. Not until I have your written consent” just as wooden on screen as they are on the page? Yes, and why am I feeling like I shouldn’t use the word “wooden” here?

For anyone who’s managed to steer clear of this phenomenon (lucky you), “Fifty Shades of Grey,” based on the extremely dull erotic best-seller by E.L. James, is about new college grad Anastasia Steele (Johnson)

and 27-year-old Seattle tech gazillionaire Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan, sort of like a young Colin Firth on tranquilizers). They meet-cute-ish when she interviews him for her college paper_and, tripping as she enters his office, falls to her knees. (Foreshadowing!)

“Does this movie employ extremely nonsubtle visual metaphors, such as loving shots of keys sliding into locks and penicls pushing on a woman’s lips? Yes, but at least there’s no train heading into a tunnel.”

He, a tortured soul with a mysterious past, is quite taken with her, and wants to sign her up as his submissive, a process that involves a great deal of contract negotiation. (Which takes place in a dimly lit room!) Sex, in various shades of R-rated and consensual grey, ensues.

The book, long and tedious and awkwardly written, at least is bad enough to be funny. Director Sam Taylor-

Johnson (“Nowhere Boy”), however, knows what she’s doing, and “Fifty Shades of Grey” the movie, at least up until we get to the Red Room of Extremely Organized Pain, threatens to be not-terrible.

Early on, Johnson has an adorable little drunk scene on the phone with Christian (“You hit the hail on the ned,” she slurs), and you can almost see “Fifty Shades” veering off into Nora Ephron territory. Why can’t all the characters be cheerfully drunk for the rest of the two hours? Why can’t we?

But they’re not, and we’re not (well, I wasn’t; maybe you won’t make that mistake), and eventually we’re in the Red Room, where the movie goes to die.

Meanwhile, Christian begins to reveal his Dark Secrets and Tragic Past that cause him to behave the way he does (and, not incidentally, demonstrates a real knack for plunking out exquisitely moody postcoital Bach on his grand piano_and no, that is not a metaphor), and Anastasia begins to feel her power, as she realizes that she can change him_and that, my friends, is the fantasy that has earned E.L. James the big bucks.

Taylor-Johnson tries hard to sell it, but I wasn’t buying.

The chaotic lives of heroes

DC, PAGE 4

offers to help take down Vertigo, but Oliver scolds her.

Roy stands up to him, much to Oliver’s surprise, and lets him know that things aren’t just going to go his way this time around.

It gave me chills to see the apprentice stand up to the person who is almost always in charge. I literally said to the TV, “Ha! Chill with that ‘tude, Ollie!”

As the episode rolls on, Arrow, Arsenal and Canary take on Vertigo and his goons.

Canary gets another dose of the hallucinogen

and has to fight both her father and sister.

She overcomes her fears and manages to take down Vertigo by smashing his face to the ground. Always an awesome move and a great ending.

I’m very excited for next week’s episode for one reason and one reason only: Slade Wilson. Believe me, he keeps his promises, kid. Time traveling and training, oh my.

life@fiusm.com

Study Abroad info sessions will take place in SIPA 502 on the following dates:

Monday, February 16 1-2:30 pm

Tuesday, March 3 5-6:30 pm

Jain Vishva Bharati Institute
(Deemed University)

LADNUN-341306, District Nagaur, Rajasthan, INDIA
Contact : +91-1581-226230, 224332, 226110, Fax : 227472
Email : jvbiladnun@gmail.com, registrar@jvbi.ac.in

Summer Study Abroad Programme

23rd July to 12th August

The Understanding Jainism Theory and Practice (UJTP) programme of the JVBI emphasizes Jain Philosophy, Ethics, Non-violence, Meditation, Art & Architecture and life-style in India. It is interdisciplinary in nature, with participating faculty of the Humanities, Social Sciences and Linguistics.

Highlights Include: Visit to important historical and archaeological places of Rajasthan, interaction with spiritual personalities, trekking, meditation/yoga session and more!

BASEBALL

Viewing Party

Baseball to be on national television five times in 2015

STEFANO RIVERA
Contributing Writer
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The 2015 baseball season has started and the team is looking to follow up a (36-20) record from last year. The Panthers will be looking forward to this season, especially after the recent announcing of the Conference USA television schedule.

On Feb. 10, the American Sports Network (ASN) announced that the Panthers would be playing in two of the televised games. The first game is at home against the University of Texas at San Antonio on April 4, at 4:30 p.m. Around a month later, the Panthers will be heading to Norfolk, Virginia, to face Old Dominion University. To add onto the two games

ASN will be televising, Fox Sports Network (FSN) will be televising three additional games. This includes the season finale on May 16 against Rice University. UTSA finished last season with a (35-26) overall record. They were just over .500 in C-USA play as they went (16-14). However, the Roadrunners had as strong home record. They used their home field advantage to get to a (21-12) mark.

UTSA will be without two of its best players last year, as they went on to graduate, but Junior Jesse Baker will look to pick up the load for his team. Last season he finished with 36 RBI's and 6 HR's. Senior relief pitcher, Logan Onda will challenge the Panthers this season. Finishing with a 2.34 ERA and earning 8 saves, Onda proves to be a reliable pitcher.

Not having played UTSA last year, the Panthers will be looking to beat a relatively unfamiliar foe. Very similar to UTSA, Old Dominion finished the regular season with a record of 36-26. The Monarchs had a balanced home (17-13) and

away (19-12) which led to their +.500 record. They took two of three games from the Panthers as they won the regular season series. They later faced off again in the C-USA tournament but Old Dominion went on to win. Senior first baseman Taylor Ostrich, had an impressive year for the Monarchs last season. He had a batting average of .306 in the regular season and led ODU with 19 multiple hit games. Ostrich will look to feed from last year and play strong against the Panthers. The Panthers will finish the 2015 season by playing Rice. Being the last of the televised games, the team will be looking for a strong finish to the season.

However, the Panthers will be tested as Rice posted a (42-20) record a year ago. The Owls dominated C-USA play finishing (23-7) and made it to the NCAA Regional Championships after winning the C-USA Championship. Junior pitcher, Blake Fox, was a big part for the Owls' success last season. Fox posted a 1.46 ERA, and finished a perfect (12-0). As a junior, he pitched a team high 104.2 innings,

11 more than the next player. As the 2015 baseball season gets in full swing, the Panthers will look to not only improve from last year's record, but also look to win these televised games against tough opponents.

UPCOMING GAMES

Stetson Univ.
Feb. 18 - 6 p.m.
Away

Coastal Carolina
Tournament
Georgia Tech
Feb. 20 - 12 p.m.

Coastal Carolina Univ.
Feb. 20 - 4 p.m.

Univ. of Albany
Feb. 21 - 3 p.m.

North Carolina State Univ.
Feb. 22 - 1 p.m.



MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO/THE BEACON

Senior third baseman Josh Anderson (center) mans the hot corner for the Panthers this season.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Struggle continues following Russo's departure

REBBECA CHARUR
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In sports, there is a constant presence of adversity that individuals or teams are challenged to endure and eventually overcome. The women's basketball team is no exception to this, especially in a 2014-2015 season where adversity is, seemingly, all they have known.

From the opening tip-off of the season, FIU struggled to find the formula for success. Immediately they stumbled towards a five game losing streak, dropping decisions against Tennessee Tech University, Florida Gulf Coast University, Cleveland State University, University of Arizona and University of Virginia. Moreover, the average margin of victory was a devastating 18.6 points.

In the sixth game of the regular season, however, former Head Coach Cindy Russo successfully led the team to their first win on Dec. 6, where they would go on to defeat the University of Central Florida with a final score of 66-57. It was a



JINETTE GARCIA/THE BEACON

Junior guard Taylor Shade looks to set up an offensive play in hopes to lead to a Panther basket against the University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles on Thursday, Feb. 12. The Panthers lost 78 - 65.

this point in the season that redshirt freshman Kiandre'a Pound began to emerge as the anchor of a team that would only benefit from youthful leadership as the season unfolded. After dropping two more

decisions to Jacksonville University and Western Carolina University, the Panthers earned their second regular season victory against Wofford University. Even after the worst statistical loss of the season

against Auburn University, where they were defeated by a deficit of 31 points, FIU bounced back against Bowling Green. This game marked their final non Conference USA game of the season and

their last win before heading towards a 10 game losing streak. And then the true adversity kicked in. If a six-game losing streak was not enough to damage the morale of a struggling

FIU team, then the news that long-time tenured Russo was leaving the program just may have. Life before the retirement had at least yielded three victories; however, the aftermath of the decision has only consisted of a continuation of the losing pattern. In their first game without Russo, FIU took on Old Dominion University and fell 80-67. Nevertheless, even in the loss there was a ray of fight and resilience that came from the Panther side of the ball. And had it not been for the spectacular play of ODU's Jennie Simms, FIU just might have pulled ahead in the final minutes to win their first game of the new year. With all the negative changes that the new year brought to women's basketball in FIU, the Panthers have been able to maintain a relatively optimistic mindset with the help of Russo. "Coach Russo would call and check in on us every now and then," said junior guard Taylor Shade. "She'd tell us to keep working and have fun, things to keep us going."

FOOTBALL

Dixon leaves to become Gators assistant coach

JACOB SPIWAK

Staff Writer

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The new head coach at University of Florida, Jim McElwain, announced the addition of former FIU running backs coach Kerry Dixon II to the staff at UF on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

Although Dixon has been exclusively a running backs coach since 2010, he will be working as the wide receivers coach for the Gators.

Dixon has been an offensive coach for the past 10 years at both the high school and college level. Dixon's coaching career started in the 2005 season as a coach at FIU, and the running backs for his alma mater, Booker T. Washington High School in

Houston, Texas. He then began coaching collegiately as a quarterbacks coach at Morgan State University in 2007, and at Texas Southern University in 2008. He became offensive coordinator for Stillman College in 2009 before beginning his career as a running backs coach.

He coached running backs at Montana State University in 2010 and 2011, and took the same position with Florida Atlantic University in 2012. After spending two years coaching in Boca Raton, FIU brought Dixon on board to work with their young core of running backs.

2014 was Dixon's lone season coaching at FIU, and the running backs really came together under his direction. True freshman Alex



KERRY DIXON II

POSEIDON PANTHERS PRACTICE



MARCIA AKSU/THE BEACON

Justin Vega, a sophomore studying computer science, practicing his butterfly stroke at the Poseidon's Panthers swim club practice on Thursday, Feb. 12.

Gardner averaged over 4 yards per carry, and consistently gave the Panthers a reliable option out of the backfield. When he went down with a season-ending shoulder injury, true freshman Napoleon Maxwell and redshirt-junior Anthon Samuel stepped up and played very well.

Dixon was also credited for playing a major role in recruiting

for the Panthers this season, specifically targeting players in Miami-Dade County. 21 of FIU's 22 new signees were from the state of Florida, and 9 were from Miami-Dade.

Dixon was visibly very excited about the new players FIU added on National Signing Day before the news that he was leaving for UF.

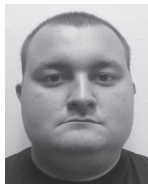
"I'm extremely excited about the guys that we have," Dixon said after FIU's Signing Day event. "A lot of them have great upside...and I think we have a lot of guys in this class that will be able to impact us immediately."

It is currently unknown who will take over Dixon's position as running backs coach at FIU.

FOOTBALL

'Dange-Russ' playing in spring training should be okay

RHYS' PIECE



RHYS WILLIAMS

Football games being played is done for the early part of 2015. Yes, I know that is a hard pill to swallow. However, one of the most exciting young players in the NFL isn't done being on the national major league sports stage till August.

Russell Wilson, the Super Bowl XLVIII winning quarterback for the Seattle Seahawks, is also technically a member of the Texas Rangers organization in the MLB. He also plans, for the second year in a row, to do some team activities in the beginning of spring training when the Rangers open up camp this year.

No one, outside of his little camp, knows why he is doing this. Whether it is for the love of the game, the extra money, to stay in shape or, also on a money side, to threaten the Seahawks with the knowledge that if he

doesn't get enough money he can always leave to play baseball, we may never know.

I, a sports and fitness studies major whose only goal in life it to coach football, find that the only thing wrong with this is the possibility of injury.

Why not do another thing that will keep you in shape, get you some extra money, and more importantly keep you from doing anything stupid in the time off that most players have between the seasons.

The offseason for football players is usually when they get in the most trouble, such as last offseason when two of the top five running backs in the league got into different types of trouble. I fully acknowledge that not all NFL players could play professional baseball but, if in the couple of months in between the end of the season and the beginning of the optional team activities, they have the chance to do something that could help them out in

anyway, I am a firm believer that they should do it.

Now some of the options that have been suggested, like UFC or MMA, are not smart at all. The main reason is risk of injury. Just look at what happened to Anderson Silva in 2014.

However, with some of the stupid injuries that athletes have outside of their sport I can see the negative side to putting one's body through training. For that, see Andrew Bynum of the NBA who hurt himself bowling.

Rhys' Piece is a weekly column on both FIU and National sports news that goes on. The views shown by Rhys' Piece are not necessarily the views of The Beacon, its Editorial Board or FIU Student Media.

Check back every Friday for the latest edition of Rhys' Piece and email rhys.williams@fiusm if you have a topic that you would like to suggest.

BASEBALL

Marlins park will hold the 2017 All-Star Game

REINALDO LLERENA

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Miami will host the 2017 Major League Baseball All-Star Game at Marlins Park, the Miami Herald reported. Barring any changes, Miami will host its first All-Star Game in franchise history. The Marlins will host the game on the 25th anniversary of the team's inception in 1993.

The Marlins were originally slated to host the 2000 All-Star Game at Pro Player Stadium (now known as Sun Life Stadium), the home of the Miami Dolphins. However, former Commissioner Allan H. "Bud" Selig stripped the club of the honors in 1998 as punishment for a "fire sale" the club went through in the 1997 offseason. The fire sale dismantled the entire 1997 World Championship roster

and is considered as the most controversial roster change in franchise history.

Newly appointed Commissioner Robert "Rob" Manfred has apparently seen a shift in the club's philosophy regarding their roster, and subsequently rewarded the Marlins with an event they dreamed of hosting since the club's inaugural season.

This shift in mentality coincides with the offseason moves the Marlins made this year, such as re-signing slugger Giancarlo Stanton to a record 13 year, \$325 million contract back in November of last year. With the combination of a rising payroll and optimism brewing within the South Florida community, MLB decided that Miami should finally be allowed to host the "Midsummer Classic."

According to Clark Spencer of the Miami Herald, Commissioner Manfred has stated that he would like a bidding

process similar to that of the National Football League in order to determine which city plays host to the Midsummer Classic. This new proposed method would likely change the way the MLB Selection Committee decides who is allowed to host the annual game.

As a reminder, the All-Star game traditionally alternated between the National League and the American League since its inception in 1933. However, it seems that the MLB selection committee wants to embrace Commissioner Manfred's stance on breaking away from tradition.

For example, the Cincinnati Reds will play host to the 2015 Midsummer Classic while the San Diego Padres will house the event the following year. With the Marlins hosting the 2017 All-Star Game, the National League will own home-field

advantage in the Midsummer Classic three years in a row. To a traditional baseball fan, this may seem as an enormous break from tradition, seeing that the event, in recent times, had alternated between the two leagues.

For the city of Miami, there should not be any consequences regarding the event. The Midsummer Classic should bring in more revenue to both the city of Miami through tourism and benefit the city of Little Havana, where the ballpark is situated. Little Havana residents that live adjacent to the 37,000 seat facility will inevitably charge game-day traffic to park on their front lawns, as they have done dating back to the days of the Miami Orange Bowl.

The Marlins held an official press conference on Friday, Feb. 13 to formally announce the event.

‘Dancing with the Wolfe’ brings cultural immersion

DESTINEY BURT

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“Now move your hips to the right,” said belly dance instructor Kira Kismet at the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center.

Kismet teaches belly dancing as part of the BBC Student Programming Council Dancing With the Wolfe Series where students can take a break from a busy class schedule and bust a new dance move.

Kismet said that the series is a great way for students to be immersed into different cultures and rhythms, while meeting other students.

“I’m thrilled about the series, it’s a chance for people to experience different cultures and to learn different dance styles -- it’s a great educational thing,” Kismet said.

Sponsored by the

BBC-SPC, the series is geared towards bringing out a mix of diversity and culture that exists within student body. According to Tashaun Williams, BBC-SPC president, it is part of the SPC’s mission to host events with diverse themes.

Through Dancing With the Wolfe, the SPC offers a variety of dance classes each semester for students and faculty.

The more popular dances are based on the many cultures in South Florida. These include Haitian Kompa, a modern méringue in Haiti, as well as belly dancing, modern dance and salsa. They are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the REC Center.

According to Williams, the dance classes originally took place in Panther Square. However, the space became uncomfortable for students. Instead, they preferred to be

in a more closed area such as the center.

“It was very open and people prefer to learn in a more closed environment and in a class you can really see your progress,” Williams said.

Unlike at the REC Center where students must pay a dollar to take classes, the ones at the series are free of charge. You can also network with other people and develop a new skill, said Williams.

Students like Rebecca Larette, a junior broadcast media major, agrees with Williams about the advantages of the series.

It has been the first time that Larette attends Kismet’s belly dancing class. Kismet is a professional dancer who has spent many years producing popular seminars and elaborate Las Vegas style shows for South Florida.

“This was the first time

MOVIE TIME



CARL-FREDRICK FRANCOIS/THE BEACON

Justin Santoli, a junior studying elementary education and a program assistant for the victim empowerment program speaks to Ana Cabrera about options for victims in abusive relationships at the 50 Shades of Lust event on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

I did it. I just wanted to try something new, so I decided to check it out,” Larette said.

“It’s good exercise. It’s great because it gives you core strength and flexibility. And it’s great because you’re learning musicality -- it’s creative,” Kismet said.

Jeanette Benjamin, a junior international business major, has taken Haitian

Kompa a couple of times and enjoys learning from the other classes as well.

“It’s very beneficial... the instructors are great,” Benjamin said. “I did salsa and learned different techniques of moving the body and exercising.”

According to Williams, the SPC hopes to carry out Dancing With the Wolfe as

a sort of tradition at BBC. She said that the idea of the series was recently revived from past University archives.

“One thing I know FIU is trying to do is build on traditions,” Williams said. “So since it was something that worked for SPC in the past, we decided to bring back the tradition.”

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