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The Beacon, January 13, 2016

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FIU, Fairgrounds dispute continues

SAM SMITH
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A meeting regarding a possible new location for the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition Inc. was discussed at a Homestead Council meeting Wednesday, Dec. 16, according to WSVN.

FIU has been looking to expand its MMC campus into the Tamiami Park Fairgrounds, on the condition that the institution finds a replacement venue to host the fixture, which moved adjacent to FIU in 1972. FIU must also reimburse the fair for its infrastructural investment at its current location.

The new location discussed at the meeting is one Sandra Gonzalez-Levy, senior vice president of External Relations, discussed as among the most feasible back in 2013 – a county-owned agricultural property next to the Homestead Air Reserve Base.

This venue was previously rejected by the fair due to its potential to reduce

attendance by 20 percent, according to Robert Hohenstein, president and chief executive officer of the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition, Inc.

The Miami-Dade County Commission must now vote whether to accept FIU's proposal to move the fair to Homestead.

According to the Miami Herald, a recent memo

“There has to be some protection for the county if there is a move to relocate the fair and the fair doesn't want to leave.”

Michael Spring
Cultural Chief
City of Miami

from Mayor Carlos Gimenez was sent out Tuesday, Dec. 29 and hinted that the dispute between FIU and the Youth Fair may have to be settled in court.

In the memo, Gimenez mentioned that FIU has “refused” to pledge a protection agreement for the county should the

Youth Fair pursue damages under the 90-year lease for the Tamiami site.

In an interview with the Miami Herald, cultural chief Michael Spring, the Gimenez aide who is tasked with mediating the resolution between the Fair and FIU, said, “There has to be some protection for the county if there is a move to relocate the fair and the fair doesn't want to leave.”

FIU's lawyer says that because the university is a tax-funded school, FIU is unable to pledge future revenues to indemnification agreement due to the fact that elected leaders in Tallahassee have the final call on the amount of money FIU is allotted any given budget year.

Richard Perez, a Holland and Knight attorney representing FIU, explained to the Herald that the school is “...not in a legal position to indemnify [the fair].”

“It's not that we've said we won't give it to them. It's that we've said we can't give it to them,” said Perez.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SONATA



ERICA SANTIAGO/THE BEACON

Monday, Jan. 11, freshman psychology major Loretta Gonzalez practices her piano skills with Jose Parra, a freshman pre-med management major in the GC piano room.

Student suffers car crash, community unites to help

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Monday, Dec. 21, 2015, Andrea Mirabal, an anthropology major and former Miss FIU 2014, was Christmas shopping near campus when she was involved in a minor fender bender. Mirabal got out of her vehicle to inspect the damage when a third car hit the rear of the second vehicle leaving Mirabal pinned between the two cars.

Mirabal's legs suffered multiple fractures and she was

rushed to the Trauma Center at Kendall Regional Hospital where doctors performed a four hour surgery on the day of the crash, and a second surgery Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015.

Mirabal's loved ones started a GoFundMe page to help pay for her surgeries and financially help with the healing process. According to updates on the page, Mirabal's previous surgeries have realigned her tibia bone in her left leg and the leg is now symmetrical with the right leg.

Her final surgery was scheduled

for Monday, Jan. 11. The surgery will consist of a skin graft performed by a plastic surgeon. After the surgery, Mirabal is planned to be discharged from the hospital and moved to a rehabilitation hospital.

As of January 11, the FIU community and Mirabal's loved ones have raised over 14,500 dollars.

Mirabal is expected to undergo months of physical therapy but her family, friends and the entire FIU community remain hopeful on her recovery.

University's new hoverboard policy announced

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Monday, Jan 11., FIU External Relations sent out an email to the university community detailing rules and regulations pertaining to hoverboards on university property.

The email states that hoverboards are covered by the university regulation, FIU-115. According to external relations, this same regulation also relates to “skateboards, longboards, scooters, skates and similar devices.”

The FIU-115 prohibits the use of hoverboards inside any university building. Hoverboards, along with other devices mentioned in the FIU-115, may only be used on university sidewalks and crosswalks.

For the time being, hoverboards cannot be charged anywhere on FIU property.

According to the email, the storage and use of hoverboards is explicitly banned in residence halls and university apartments. External Relations warns that those harboring hoverboards in campus housing must remove the hoverboards immediately, otherwise they are in violation of Housing and Residential Life policy.

This policy is effective immediately, though any official changes to the policy will be adopted by the Board of Trustees at a future meeting.

FIU's Department of Environmental Health & Safety will be conducting a review of best practices concerning hoverboards. The review will take into consideration the results of investigations conducted by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and certification currently being completed by the Underwriters Laboratories.

Students can contact EH&S Director Yenny Diaz at 305-348-7882 for more information concerning the policy.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Abe offers apology, payment to South Korean ‘comfort women’

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe made a landmark apology to South Korean “comfort women” coerced into Japanese military brothels before and during World War II, with his government agreeing to provide \$8.3 million to a fund for compensating victims.

The governments of Japan

and South Korea agreed that this would be a final “irreversible” solution to an issue that has dogged bilateral ties for decades. Abe’s message was delivered by Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida at a press conference in Seoul after a meeting with South Korean counterpart Yun Byung Se.

Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman apprehended in Mexico

Security agents Friday recaptured notorious drug kingpin Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, six months after his second prison escape, thrusting Mexico again into a debate over whether it can ensure he remains behind bars. Mexican marines located Guzman in Los Mochis, a coastal city in northwest Sinaloa state, the region that is a cradle of his crime group’s global narcotics empire.

Mexican President Enrique Pena

Nieto sounded triumphant in his announcement of Guzman’s arrest on Twitter: “Mission Accomplished: We got him. I want to inform Mexicans that Joaquin Guzman Loera has been detained.” Guzman faces indictments in at least seven U.S. jurisdictions. The most recent case accuses his criminal gang of smuggling 465 tons of cocaine into the United States between 1999 and 2014.

Indian court rejects more jail time for man convicted as a minor in 2012 gang rape

A day after a man convicted as a minor in a brutal 2012 gang rape and murder in New Delhi was released from detention, India’s Supreme Court on Monday rejected appeals to extend his sentence in a case that has sparked a passionate debate over juvenile justice. The man, who was shy of his 18th birthday when convicted, was released Sunday after completing a three-year term in a reform home, the maximum sentence allowed under

Indian law. On Monday, India’s highest court dismissed a petition filed by the Delhi Commission of Women, a government body, arguing that the man should be returned to custody. The court ruled that despite the emotions surrounding the case, which prompted international outrage and reforms that have expedited prosecutions of rape cases, it had no legal grounds to extend the man’s sentence.

University unveils revamped GC pit



MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

President Mark B. Rosenberg, Student Government Association President Alexis Calatayud and Student Affairs Vice President Larry Lunsford cut the ribbon at the renovated Graham Center Pit, which features a large screen and speakers, Monday, Jan. 11.

ERICA SANTIAGO
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Monday, Jan. 11, the revamped GC pit was finally unveiled to FIU students.

The ribbon cutting event included a live DJ to show off the pit’s new speakers and Campus Life was also there to provide food and refreshments.

The newly refurbished pit has been updated to include blue and gold stage lighting, a large flat screen mounted into the wooden panels behind the pit and

the ability to plug music into the GC sound system.

The updated sound system will allow for pit events and other broadcasts to be heard throughout the building.

For safety measures, the floor of the pit has been raised to make the pit more shallow in depth. This is to keep pit users, especially those carrying equipment, from tripping into the pit. President Mark B. Rosenberg, who was present at the unveiling of the pit, expressed that the GC pit has served as the “epicenter” of FIU since

the university’s earliest days.

Rosenberg expressed that the pit will not only be used to broadcast FIU events, but world events as well. Events like the World Cup, presidential debates, news broadcasts and more, will be showcased on the pit’s big screen.

Rosenberg has expressed that it is important for the pit to be gradually modernized to heighten the quality of events. The renovations took about two months to complete, having started back in November 2015.

I-CAVE brings Shakespeare’s London to FIU students

SARAH MEDINA
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As part of the programming for the arrival of the First Folio at FIU in February, a full immersion experience of Shakespeare’s London will open on the Engineering Campus.

The project will use the University’s Computer Augmented Virtual Environment technology, which will allow students to experience London c.1598. The project is lead by english graduate student David Frisch. In an interview with FIUSM, Frisch explains how engineering will enhance the experience of Shakespeare’s London.

Q: The I-CAVE is a very new system, under works since last year. Is this the first major project the English Department has undertaken using this system?

Yes, and not only is this the first major project for the English department in the I-CAVE, but it’s also our first major Digital Humanities project. With the growing trend in digital humanities, a project like this is an important milestone in our department.

As well, this project is also a first of its kind in regards to the interdisciplinary nature of the experience. We have architecture students

doing the 3D Modeling and computer science students programming and texturing the area of Bankside and The Globe. We also have students from theater doing voice acting and a student from fine arts who is helping with the character design.

Q: How much time has been necessary to complete such an experience?

So far, I’ve been working on the project since August and we’re still going strong into January. We’ve hit some bumps in the road, but my team is fantastic and we’ve been able to overcome all the obstacles that we came across.

Q: What is your favorite part of Shakespeare’s London?

My favorite part is the stylized approach we took to creating the experience. While the buildings and the environment are 3D modeled, the characters that populate the area are 2D figures. We cropped and animated portraits and crowd scenes from works of Early Modern Art to populate the city. So while the participant is walking in a 3D rendered environment, they are interacting with pieces of art from the time period that we’ve brought to life.

For the full story, visit fiusm.com

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THE BEACON

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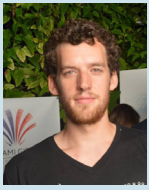
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THROWBACK THEATRE

Quentin Tarantino puts the magic back in

SICK FLICKS



DAVID SEELEY

Going to the movies these days is a pretty straightforward and simple form of entertainment.

You can call up some of your friends, head down to the local multiplex and figure out which of the 20 different movies that are playing you would like to see without giving it much thought or effort.

A night out at the movies wasn't always this casual and routine, from the early 1950's through the 70's going to a movie was a spectacular event in its own right. Seeing a new movie back then was akin to going to a Broadway show in modern times.

People dressed up in their fanciest clothes, the theaters provided souvenir programs, an overture would play before the movie, sometimes even with a live orchestra, attendees would have reserved seats, and the longer films would have an intermission in the middle to split them up in two parts.

Classic epics such as "Ben-Hur," "Cleopatra" and "Lawrence of Arabia" made full use of these roadshow experiences taking advantage of new widescreen and stereophonic sound technology to create breathtaking sights and sounds to be enjoyed by patrons at their special night out at the movies.

Noticing the recent lack of enthusiasm by today's moviegoers, filmmaking virtuoso

Quentin Tarantino has tried to reignite this nostalgic roadshow viewing flame with the release of his new film "The Hateful Eight."

It was released on Christmas day in only 100

These weren't just any 100 theaters. Since "The Hateful Eight" was shot in Ultra Panavision 70mm (another staple of the great epics that were released during the roadshow

undertaking by the studio and distribution heads. 70mm film compared to the 35mm that we usually see is a much wider high-resolution film. It can show more detail and lets you see

a wider range in a single frame, which makes it ideal for projection on much larger screens.

Tarantino, with the combination of all of the crazy ideas, has created a reason for you to get excited about going to the movie theater again--an idea that has become alien to many who have resigned to sitting at home watching Netflix or waiting for a movie to come out on-demand rather than wanting to spend money for a night out at the movie theater.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

theaters across America. These were roadshow events complete with illustrated programs, a 10-minute overture and an intermission--all things that are unheard of in today's modern movie watching culture.

heyday) many theaters across the country had to be fitted with projectors that could actually play the film.

Since most theaters these days have digital projection as the standard, this was a massive

When I first heard of the unusual release plan I couldn't wait to go out and experience a refreshing way to watch one of my all-time favorite director's new films.

"The Hateful Eight" is Tarantino's eighth

University holds health insurance marketplace

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For the fourth time since 2013, the Affordable Care Act Committee is collaborating to put in place the fourth annual Health Insurance Marketplace Enrollment Events.

The committee consists of the FIU Healthy Living Program, Student Health Services, FIU College of Law and the Health Council of South Florida.

These Health Insurance Marketplace Enrollment events are aimed at students still wondering which health insurance they should get or simply haven't made a choice because there are too many options.

According to Melodie Peirsel, the Wellness Assistant of the Healthy Living Program, the ultimate goal of the event is to educate students about the importance of insurance and assist them

if they are not insured in navigating the insurance options available through the marketplace.

Four of the events will take place on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus at different locations during four non-consecutive days: Saturday, Jan. 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Law Clinic (RBD 1010), Tuesday, Jan. 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Graham Center Computer Lab, Thursday, Jan. 28 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the GC Computer Lab and Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Law Clinic (RBD 1010).

The same Health Insurance Information Enrollment Events will take place at the Biscayne Bay Campus on the second floor of the Hubert Library. The days for the BBC campus events are Thursday, Jan. 14 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All events are open to the public. Participants are recommended to register in advance, but

will not be required to do so. Students can visit <http://go.fiu.edu/ACAEnrollment> to view the schedules of the various events available on campus.

"At the events, participants will have an opportunity to discuss their current insurance situation with a navigator. Navigators will then educate them about the different insurance options and if they need assistance in obtaining insurance, will assist them with navigating the Affordable Care Act marketplace," said Piersel.

One-on-one appointments with the Modesto A. Maidique Campus Health Insurance Marketplace Navigator are available Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There are three different ways to schedule an appointment: call at 786-308-0836, email at fiuhelpaca@gmail.com or through <https://connector.getcoveredamerica.org/>

Downtown Disney makeover

LIFESTYLE POINTS



JOSEPH CARDENAS

As with anything in life, sometimes a brand new look can make something fresh and exciting again.

Walt Disney World has come to perfect this idea within the past five years: giving its Magic Kingdom park a next generation magical makeover, releasing the much anticipated "Pandora--The World of Avatar" in Animal Kingdom this coming year and already preparing a Star Wars takeover for Hollywood Studios, a new name for MGM Studios.

Recently, Downtown Disney has received a similar, albeit much larger scale, treatment.

Gone is the 90s hip nightlife culture that defined Downtown Disney since its third rebranding; now we enter the shopping district's new image. Disney Springs was announced in March of 2013, confusing many with the new name.

Is it a spa resort? Seriously, what's going on here?

Disney Springs officially made the name transition in the fall of 2015, removing Downtown Disney from guide maps or marketing material.

Spring opened with a new section available to guests called The Landing and two new restaurants: The Boathouse, which sells mostly

seafood and has a well themed bar and gift shop, and Jock Lindsay's Hangar Bar, themed to Lucasfilm's Indiana Jones franchise.

Most Recently, it added Morimoto Asia, owned by Iron Chef Morimoto. As well as few retail outlets like Chapel Hats and the Art of Shaving.

The next and last area opening for the expansion, Town Center, does not have a projected opening date yet, but the complete transformation of the district is expected in mid 2016.

The Town Center has been confirmed to include The Edison, an Industrial-Gothic themed restaurant, in addition to retail outlets such as UGG Australia and Pandora.

If you haven't been to the resort in a while, other things to look out for as part of the Disney Springs development is a bridge in the Marketplace area leading to The Landing, as well as new touches to the West Side area like a plaza where food trucks are licensed to sell, a Marvel merchandise store and a new next generation parking garage.

Just in case visitors need that shot of caffeine to keep them going on their shopping spree Springs boasts not one, but two Starbucks. Thanks to Disney's deal with Starbucks, there are also locations in each theme park with special location based coffee mugs depicting each park.

Other things expected to change soon range from the Marketplace's World of Disney store to undergo a

massive expansion and the DisneyQuest, the district's interactive video game the

There is no cost for walking distance of Hollywood Boulevard, which is like non-Disney resorts such as Best Western and B Resort also offer free Disney shuttles



Construction continues at Disney.

ER

movies

film and his second Western-styled film after 2012's "Django Unchained."

It is a murderous mix of mystery, terror and violence set in post-Civil War Wyoming. It features an ensemble cast of Tarantino all-stars, including Samuel L. Jackson, Tim Roth, Michael Madsen, Kurt Russell and Walton Goggins, and features first-time Tarantino performances from Jennifer Jason Leigh, Bruce Dern and Damien Bechir.

Together they make up the group of eight mysterious individuals stuck together inside a stagecoach stopover in the middle of the Wyoming wilderness during a deadly blizzard.

It may not sound like your typical Hollywood epic, with only two major settings: a six-horse stagecoach roaring through the snowy mountains and inside Minnie's Haberdashery, the stagecoach stopover that brings all the characters together.

His sharp and witty dialogue dominates the movie, while his craft for creating ingenious shots is on display both with the sweeping snowy western landscapes and the formulaic positioning of all of the characters inside Minnie's.

In fact I couldn't imagine a better way to experience a brand new Tarantino film.

Legendary composer Ennio Morricone, known for composing Western Classics such as "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" and "Once Upon a Time in the West," composed the overture and score that lingers throughout,

giving you a sense of the impending doom creeping up on the characters as the mystery unfolds.

The intermission was used as a perfect break in the action of the movie, which is longer than three hours, and the large 70mm presentation provided astonishing depth to the picture.

Because the frame and the screen are so large, at any given moment you have to notice what is going on in the foreground as well as the background.

Of course, since Christmas Day, "The Hateful Eight" has seen a much wider release in the standard digital projection format. While this version of the film does not have an overture or intermission and is about 15 minutes shorter, it is still a captivating story told in a way only Tarantino could.

It is worth getting off your butt and going down to your favorite theater to see.

You could wait until the movie comes out on DVD, or even try and watch it on your iPad or iPhone, but there is still something magical about watching pictures move at 24 frames per second on a big screen with a bunch of strangers.

Bigger may not always be better, but in this case it was.

Sick Flicks is a weekly column that provides movie reviews on newly released obscure or independent films. To offer suggestions for David, send an email entertainment@fiusm.com

Over finalized in 2016

the closing of
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Disney decorates for all the seasons and holidays just like the parks and even has entertainment at its Waterside Stage.

From bowling to shopping and from eating to catching a movie, visitors can spend an entire day there and never lack something to do. There is even a permanent Cirque du Soleil show called La Nouba.

So, those who just want a taste of Disney, without paying exorbitant park fees, Disney Springs may be just the place for you.

LifeStyle points is a weekly column by Joseph Cardenas, for suggestions or comments email entertainment@fiusm.com



JOSEPH CARDENAS/THE BEACON

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015 in preparation for Disney Springs, previously Downtown

Tuesday Times Roundtable returns

LESLIE OVALLE

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Tuesday Times Roundtables, the weekly discussions centered around various New York Times articles, began in 2009 and have continued every fall and spring semester since then without fail.

Tuesday Times Roundtable will be kicking off the semester on Tuesday, Jan. 19 in GC 150, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.-its regular time and place.

"These [Tuesday Times Roundtables] are not lectures, everyone is encouraged to participate," said Eric Feldman, coordinator for the office of Global Learning Initiatives.

Vickie Toranzo, a librarian at FIU specializing in government documents, will be leading the first roundtable of the year. She will be talking about how the costly housing market will impact South Florida graduates.

The topic seems fit to begin the semester,

especially considering South Florida's housing market is continuously ranking among the least affordable.

In September it was reported by the SunSentinel that Palm Beach and Broward counties ranked in the 35 least affordable housing markets nationwide, with buyers needing to spend around 50 percent of their income on housing, utilities and commuting.

Miami-Dade County did not fall short on the list, ranking third overall only falling behind San Francisco and Los Angeles. In Miami-Dade buyers need to spend 69.2 percent of their income on housing and commuting expenses.

"On a personal note, I am a relatively recent graduate and I am at the point where I am hoping to have a house instead of renting," said Feldman, "I am definitely looking to get something out of the discussion."

These Tuesday Times Roundtable events can also be valued as points towards the "Excellence in Global

Learning Medallion."

The medallion requires students to participate in global co-curricular activities, conduct a research project, complete four global learning classes, create an eportfolio and have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA at the time of graduation.

According to Feldman, as soon as someone is interested in the medallion they can sign up on the University's global learning website.

Tuesday Times Roundtables happen weekly, at the same time and place. Free lunch is offered, along with occasional prizes and an interactive discussion with a professionals and insightful peers.

Feldman recommends arriving early, as "some of them get rather packed, so sometimes the food is gone before everyone arrives."

Details and a schedule of topics can be found on the global learning website.

Underdeveloped health a unique American problem

SDA HEALTH



CARLOTTA ORLANDO

My transition from Italy to the United States began about three years ago, when I came to this country to study nutrition and play for the FIU tennis team.

I began to wonder how such a developed, innovative and educationally advanced country is still so behind in solving health-related

problems such as obesity, malnourishment and countless others.

Coming from another country that is internationally famous for its cuisine, I have a completely different cultural perspective than the one I have observed in Americans.

I ask, "why are all these personal health related issues still so prominent in the U.S.? And what is America doing wrong?"

For starters, family-sized and supersized food options, which are common to Americans, are not common overseas. The immense availability of products in supermarkets and of fast food restaurants such as Starbucks and McDonald's right around the corner is also something very common in America's culture.

In Italy we are not used to seeing so much food availability. After all, Italy has 512 McDonald's distributed throughout the entire country, compared to the 986 McDonald's distributed in Florida alone!

Here, in America, we see a constant bombardment of unhealthy food advertisements, which presents a temptation not found in Italy.

America's relationship with food is also unique in that it lacks meaning. In America, everything needs to be fast and ready to eat. In Italy, home cooking is part of the daily routine where lunch and dinner are moments to connect with family or friends, have fun and give your

mind a break from the day's monotony.

There is no rush in Italy. For example, when I walk by the food court in the Graham Center, I frequently see people eating and studying at the same time, or biting a sandwich while texting or sending emails. Americans are so busy doing countless of other things that they don't even pay attention to what or how much they are eating.

This way of eating leaves them vulnerable to distraction or falling into food temptation when they dine out--and let's be honest, they do that a lot!

It is important to consider that the portions served in restaurants here are huge compared to Italy. With this, Americans tend to make the incorrect assumption that the quantity on the plate is the appropriate amount to eat.

In Italy and other parts of the world a "passeggiata", which means a little walk after eating, is very common. And here lies a key problem: Italians eat less and walk more, while Americans eat more and walk less.

Ultimately, small changes can sometimes be the best changes.

Start giving more meaning to your meal and take small walks after, giving yourself time to bond with your company and unwind.

Stop assuming that what's on your plate is what your body needs. Just because you are used to something, that doesn't mean that it is normal or right.

I strongly believe that it begins with each individual, taking small steps in improving your daily routine can drastically improve the health of America.

SDA Health is a weekly column written by members of the Student Dietician Association. The column focuses on healthy eating and living. For more commentary or to suggest a topic, email life@fiusm.com.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Panthers' success over break brings hope

DAVID DRUCKER
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While most FIU students spent their winter vacation huddled up at home, the men's basketball team was hard at work on Lime Court and on the road. From the end of the fall semester to the beginning of spring, the Panthers compiled a 4-3 record, redeeming some of their early season troubles as they fought their way back to .500 (8-8, 2-1 in Conference USA). During this stretch, the Panthers saw a five-game winning streak end and a four-game winning come to life.

The holiday season started with a rough patch for the Panthers. On Monday, Dec. 14, FIU traveled to Jacksonville to face off against the University of North Florida. The Ospreys lit up the Panthers' defense, shooting 41 percent from three and 75 percent from the free throw line in a 94-72 rout. UNF only turned the ball over on four occasions compared to the Panthers' eleven.

Next up on FIU's three-game road trip was a battle against the Northern Illinois University Huskies on Saturday, Dec. 19 that stretched into a second overtime. Senior center Adrian Diaz got himself into foul trouble early in this contest, scoring just seven points in 17 minutes. He fouled out with 5:29 left in the second half. Stepping up in his place, however, was junior guard Donte McGill; the

transfer student dropped 23 points on 8-15 shooting, including 4-5 from three point range. In a game that saw a total of 15 lead changes, FIU found themselves down 78-75 with five seconds left when senior

points of the second overtime, their offense was shut down in the final two minutes and fell to the Huskies 74-72.

On the last leg of the road trip, the Panthers beat a Binghamton

of a two-game home stand.

The Panthers rang in the new year in the best way possible: a 76-59 win over their conference rival, Florida Atlantic University. Diaz took over in the second half,

Diaz, who normally struggled from the charity stripe, went 8-8.

Although WKU had the edge for most of the second half, FIU found another gear with 5:33 left in the game and got on a stunning scoring run. In the final 3:26 of the game, the Panthers outscored the Wildcats 13-2. As the final minute was evaporating with the score tied up 72-72, McGill gained possession off of a WKU turnover and sank a game-winning three pointer. The win gave the Panthers a perfect 2-0 conference record.

On Saturday, Jan. 9, Marshall University broke the Panthers' relatively stout defense over the break in a 99-81 victory over FIU. Although Draper set a new career-high with 25 points, this game was all Marshall. The Thundering Herd secured a 34-17 lead midway through the first half and wouldn't give it up through the rest of the game. FIU picked up their first loss in C-USA play with the defeat on the road.

FIU's record over the break confirms that this team is more streaky than they were in 2014-2015. Beginning with a stunning 75-81 loss at home to Stetson on Monday, Nov. 30, the Panthers skidded to five losses in a row. They rebounded with the win over Binghamton however, ripping off four wins in a row. The longest winning streak last year was the Panthers' 3-0 start against Florida College, Stetson and Florida Memorial. Their longest losing streak was during their C-USA stretch late in the season against North Texas, Marshall and Western Kentucky University.

The Panthers are scheduled to play their first game of the spring semester on Thursday, Jan. 14 when they host Louisiana Tech.

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The Panthers rang in the new year in the best way possible: a 76-59 win over their conference rival, Florida Atlantic University. Diaz took over in the second half, scoring 20 of his 23 at a time when he is usually susceptible to being removed because of foul trouble.

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forward Elmo Stephen drained a three from 25 feet out to tie the game at 58-58 and force overtime. Stephen scored a total of 15 points in what was his second game at the University.

The Panthers were fouled often in the first overtime against NIU, but to Head Coach Anthony Evans' delight, they shot 7-8 from the free throw line. FIU couldn't defend senior Travon Baker with seconds remaining as they watched him run the full length of the court for a game-tying layup. Although the former Sunblazers scored the first

University team on Tuesday, Dec. 22 that would provide a morale boost for FIU's imminent four-game winning streak. The Bearcats were abysmal from the floor, shooting 26 percent from the field and 14 percent from three. Although the Panthers were not much more efficient - they were 3-16 from three and lost the turnover battle 10-3 - McGill showed up again in a big way, leading FIU with 22 points. FIU took the game 66-49.

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, FIU put together another impressive performance on defense as they wrapped up their non-conference schedule with a 65-45 win at home over Florida A&M University. Stephen impressed again in his young career at FIU, sinking six triples on 6-10 shooting. The Panthers proved in this contest that when they settle down and focus, they can make huge scoring runs. With 4:12 left in the first half, they threw together a 19-0 run to put them up 45-25. FIU's defense held on to get the victory in their first match

scoring 20 of his 23 at a time when he is usually susceptible to being removed because of foul trouble. McGill played a key role as well, notching 22 points.

After a hard-fought first half that saw FIU on top 30-25, Diaz got the Panthers rolling, scoring their first 12 points of the second half. FAU didn't give up easily, however, and responded with a 10-0 in a span of less than three minutes. The Panthers took the reigns back though, outscoring the Owls 21-10 through the rest of regulation.

In what was their signature win of the four-game winning streak, the Panthers shocked Western Kentucky University on Thursday, Jan. 7 when they created a last-minute comeback to defeat the Wildcats 75-72. Senior forward Daviyon Draper and McGill led the way, scoring 21 and 16 points respectively. The incredible offense can be chalked up to the fact that the two conference foes were remarkably efficient from the free throw line, with WKU shooting 90% and the Panthers shooting 94%. Even

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In what was their signature win of the four-game winning streak, the Panthers shocked Western Kentucky University on Thursday, Jan. 7 when they created a last-minute comeback to defeat the Wildcats 75-72.

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HOCKEY

Panthers fend off feisty Oilers for 12th consecutive win

CRAIG DAVIS
Sun Sentinel
TNS Staff

The Florida Panthers' franchise-record winning streak hasn't been a complete picture of dominance.

Some recent wins were on the ugly side.

Coming off four games in which they won despite being significantly outshot, the Panthers were eager to get back on their A game Sunday in their final visit to Rexall Place, once the scene of many virtuoso performances by the Wayne Gretzky-era Oilers.

Instead the Panthers had to scratch and claw to extend their streak to 12 games in a contentious 2-1 victory. It was also their

sixth consecutive road win, another franchise record.

In a feisty game that featured three fights, two of them involving Edmonton's Matt Hendricks, and several shoving matches, the Panthers showed more fight than artistry against the game Oilers.

Once again goaltending saved the day for Florida with back-up Al Montoya turning away 24 shots, many of them sensational, to improve to 7-1-1.

Montoya was at his best in the second period when the Oilers kept the Panthers bottled up and outshot them 14-2 in a lopsided but scoreless 20 minutes that ended with Florida clinging to a precarious 2-1 lead. Edmonton had a 25-14 advantage for the game.

A double-minor for high-sticking on Jonathan Huberdeau late in the period

carried over to the third. They killed it off with Montoya denying Teddy Purcell, who was set up with a crossing pass, just before it expired. For the second game in a row the Panthers scored on their first two shots. Unlike at Ottawa when it took them 12 minutes to do so, the first came 3:22 in when Jaromir Jagr stole the puck from Darnell Nurse at the Florida blue line and skated free on a breakthrough.

As he began to make a move on Cam Talbot, Jagr lost control of the puck but it fluttered through the goalie's legs for his 15th goal of the season. His 736th moved him to within four goals of Brent Hull for third on the career list.

The Oilers thought they had the equalizer four minutes later on a nifty play by their top scorer Taylor Hall. But the Panthers' successfully challenged that

Purcell was offside before he made the pass to Hall, and the goal came off the board.

Panthers defenseman and Edmonton native Alex Petrovic celebrated his first NHL game in his hometown by fighting Hendricks late in the second period. Petrovic, who had about 45 family and friends at the game, got the best of it, getting in a couple shots before taking Hendricks down.

Early in the third period it was Logan Shaw engaging Hendricks after the Oilers forward administered a hard hit on Aaron Ekblad behind the Panthers net, knocking his helmet off. Ekblad went to the locker room to get checked out but returned to the game.

FOOTBALL

Campbell disrespected

CAYLA'S CORNER



CAYLA BUSH

Former Head Coach Joe Philbin was a disaster - on that one thing I can agree with Miami Dolphins fans.

His short-lived 2015 season was evident that he was not really handling the pressures that the front office was placing on him to improve the Dolphins' playing and standings in the NFL.

I'm no fan of the Dolphins; I am, however, a football fan, and like to keep up with what is going on in the NFL.

I am staunch in my support of Nick Saban and Bama's Rolling Tide, more than enough proof that I do not care about the fate of the Dolphins. To be quite frank, whenever someone told me they were a "Dolphin" my response would be "I'm so sorry, but how 'bout that Tide?"

I kind of understand why the Dolphins hate Saban, because he did say he wasn't planning on leaving. It makes sense, if you're not a Bama fan, or you're capable of seeing more than one point of view.

But, I want to ask Dolphins' fans to take a look at the treatment of Interim Head Coach Dan Campbell.

Campbell was named interim head coach in week five, and led the Dolphins to a 5-7 record under him. While for many standards, that's not a great record, it's far better than what many feared, especially considering how sorry the Dolphins looked at the beginning of the season.

Hearing Campbell speak at press conferences was refreshing - he sounded much more like a coach than Philbin, more passionate and most importantly, more disappointed about the losses.

Although Dolphins' owner Stephen Ross gave Campbell a big endorsement on Saturday, saying he'd love to see him remain in Miami, and despite Campbell's decisions that led to a better playing, more cohesive Dolphins team, his future is in limbo. Gase, at least for now, will call his own plays and many of Miami's offensive staff members are already departing.

Campbell will meet with Gase about staying on the staff.

But others in the organization question whether that's best for Campbell or Gase.

Campbell can undoubtedly earn a position on someone else's coaching roster, but it's important to understand that his job being in limbo is similar to the disruption and destruction that is left in the wake of Saban's decision to leave on a dime.

Campbell has his own livelihood to focus on, as well as his family's.

While my first question when learning that the Dolphins had made the decision not to keep Campbell on as head coach was "what more do they want?" But, I am looking at this from a viewer's standpoint and not an owner who has to make money. So, I gave them the benefit of the doubt that, economically, new Head Coach Adam Gase is the better choice.

But, recently there have been reports that the Dolphins never even considered keeping Campbell.

Seven other candidates were considered, including Stanford Coach David Shaw, former Tampa Bay Coach Jon Gruden, Tampa Bay Offensive Coordinator Dirk Koetter and New England Defensive coordinator Matt Patricia.

After all the Saban bashing that has, and will inevitably continue in Miami, how can someone who is passionate about the franchise, dedicated to their success and was integral to their improvement not have a secure future, all because he stepped up and filled a void that no one else wanted to?

Miami needs to take a long, hard look in the mirror and realize that their decisions place them along the same lines and on the same level as Saban. Both Saban and the Dolphins care about the bottom line - which decision will bring the biggest checks and most wins.

Additional reporting by TNS Staff.

Cayla's Corner is a weekly column offering commentary on various sport's topics. To send commentary and offer topic suggestions, email Cayla at cayla.bush@fiusm.com.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Time cuts for players

BARRY JACKSON
Miami Herald
TNS Staff

Heat president Pat Riley gave his coaching staff six natural power-rotation players this season -- all with quality résumés, albeit a brief one in Hassan Whiteside's case.

But though Amar'e Stoudemire has played more recently, coach Erik Spoelstra overall has made sporadic use of half of those six big men -- Stoudemire, Udonis Haslem and Chris Andersen.

Another, Josh McRoberts, has missed 17 consecutive games with a bruised right knee, with no set timetable for his return.

The modest playing time for the Heat's backup big men is largely the byproduct of the evolution of today's NBA game, with more and more teams

playing small, and the Heat often using Luol Deng or even Justise Winslow at power forward.

Andersen has played the fewest minutes of the three -- just 33 -- but hasn't complained. He said he and Spoelstra have "had several conversations," but he has not asked for a trade "and we're both understanding of what my role is."

Andersen -- who is shooting 3 for 9, with 10 points, eight rebounds and two blocks in six games -- said the limited role is "tough, but I still have a lot in the tank to provide. My role is to contribute with actions and experience. I will embrace it. I am a highly competitive warrior."

The Heat would be interested in moving Andersen's \$5 million salary to substantially lessen its luxury-tax

burden. But the Heat hasn't found a taker, and Andersen said he knows "it's not personal."

Though it's a small sample size, the Heat entered Saturday having been outscored by 20 with Andersen in the game, by 10 with Stoudemire and by four with Haslem on the floor.

"We consider the practices our games," Haslem said. "Before games, we go upstairs and play two on two to keep ourselves in shape. We understand it's a young man's game."

Guard Tyler Johnson on Saturday was expected to miss his ninth game with a strained left shoulder, an injury that has bothered him since December. But Spoelstra and Johnson said the Heat will continue to treat the ailment with rest and rehabilitation, not a surgical procedure.

Johnson said having the arthroscopic surgery during the season has "crossed my mind" but deemed it unlikely, saying the condition has improved, and he needs to give it rest when it flares up.

He said recovery time for surgery is two months. "It has gotten a lot better," he said, expressing optimism he would play Monday at Golden State.

Johnson missed three games with the strained shoulder last month, returned for one, missed another five with the shoulder, then played in the past seven before again feeling discomfort in the shoulder Wednesday against the Knicks. He said it wasn't smart to attempt to play through the injury Friday in Phoenix.

Heat falls flat in loss to Jazz

BARRY JACKSON
Miami Herald
TNS Staff

This night, and this road trip, started so promisingly, with Miami winning Friday in Phoenix and the Heat storming to an early 10-point lead in Utah.

Ultimately, though, there was too much to overcome here Saturday -- a second-half eruption by Gordon Hayward, 54.9 percent Jazz shooting, too many turnovers and an off night from Dwyane Wade, who missed 14 of 17 shots.

This 98-83 loss dropped Miami to 22-15, and the road trip becomes substantially more difficult from here, with defending champion Golden State awaiting on Monday, the Clippers on Wednesday, and Oklahoma City on Sunday.

There's also a game Friday at Denver, where the Heat traditionally struggles.

The second-half shooting told much of the story. Utah shot 21 for 36 after halftime, Miami 14 for 46.

This one turned on the Heat in the third quarter, with Utah shooting 11 for 17 in the period to transform a four-point halftime deficit into a 72-68 lead after three.

Much of the damage was done by Hayward, who scored 18 in the third, making eight of nine shots.

Hayward closed with 34 points, including 23 in the second half, finishing 14 of 22 from the field, offsetting 24 points from Chris Bosh.

"They read our schemes of what we were trying to do defensively," Dwyane Wade said.

Making matters worse, Wade scored just eight, closing 3 of 17 from the field, including 1 for 11 in the second half.

with only 16. He left just two minutes into the third quarter with his fourth foul -- then sat out for the equivalent of a quarter.

Erik Spoelstra said he could have brought Dragic back sooner than two minutes into the fourth quarter.

But "in hindsight, we were still in control of the game," Spoelstra said. "I don't know if it would have mattered."

“The loss prevented the Heat from moving nine games above .500 for the first time and also dropped Miami into second place in the Southeast Division.”

He missed the final 6:08 of the third quarter with a strained left shoulder, an injury that required him to go to the locker-room.

Wade said he still doesn't know what the exact injury is. "It's something that happened with a crossover."

Asked if he's in discomfort, he said: "There were a few things I couldn't do. I felt I was able to come back in."

He said he will see how he feels Sunday before determining his availability for the Golden State game on Monday.

Meanwhile, Goran Dragic, who scored 14 in the first half, finished

with only 16. He left just two minutes into the third quarter with his fourth foul -- then sat out for the equivalent of a quarter.

Erik Spoelstra said he could have brought Dragic back sooner than two minutes into the fourth quarter.

But "in hindsight, we were still in control of the game," Spoelstra said. "I don't know if it would have mattered."

to Dragic's nine first-quarter points and 12 for 17 shooting. The game was then delayed two minutes when confetti slipped through what Jazz officials called a leaky roof.

"We came out with the right mentality and focus," Wade said.

With Dragic in foul trouble and Tyler Johnson missing the game with his recurring shoulder injury, Beno Udrih was needed for 20 minutes.

Udrih, who entered with 29 assists and six turnovers in his past seven games, committed two turnovers and missed four of six shots.

As soon as Dragic left, Utah took its first lead since the first quarter, at 53-51. The Heat trailed by one when Wade left to the locker-room with his shoulder injury. Frustrated with the game's turnaround, Spoelstra threw his clipboard to the floor.

The Jazz then went on a run before the Heat closed to within 72-68 after three. But the Jazz kept hitting shots, not only Hayward, but others. Joe Ingles' two threes pushed Utah's lead to 80-73 early in the fourth.

"Hayward was in a great rhythm, put us back on our heels quite a bit," Bosh said.

Said Spoelstra: "They kept on scoring in bundles. [Hayward] is a saby scorer, off drivers, off movement, off pick and roll."

Everglades restoration relies on citizen understanding

EVEYLYN PEREZ
FIU NEWS

Mustafa Kamal Sikder wants more people to engage in Everglades restoration efforts.

The FIU environmental studies student is examining Floridians' opinions on the various benefits they currently enjoy from the River of Grass, including water purification, storm protection, recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat. He also wants to explore their attitudes about restoring it. His research project is funded by the Everglades Foundation FIU ForEverglades Scholarship.

"This Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan is one of the largest restoration efforts ever attempted in our country. It is being implemented in 16 counties over an 18,000 square-mile area, but its outcomes will be felt in the entire state," Sikder said.

"Restoration can affect everything from fisheries, which are major, economic drivers, to how we extract ground water for our consumption. People need to be informed of and care about what's happening with Everglades restoration."

In 2000, the U.S. Congress authorized the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan to restore, preserve and protect the water resources of the Florida Everglades. By redirecting freshwater flow to areas that need it most, the plan would likely alter the various ecosystem services it provides.

While research has generally focused on the science behind Everglades restoration, Sikder is collecting information from residents living in different areas throughout Florida, including coastal, inland, agricultural and urban communities, through an online survey. The study will also analyze the public's

perception on climate change and sea level rise risk, and how these perceptions align with the restoration plan. According to Sikder, decision-makers need to understand how residents are going to respond to the plan as it is implemented in the next 30 years.

"Policy decisions that have a direct or indirect impact on people requires knowing the public's preference to ensure its sustainability," said Sikder, a graduate student conducting research under Earth and Environment Professor Pallab Mozunder.

Sikder hopes the body of knowledge derived from his work will assist policy-makers in introducing, modifying or evading legislation pertaining to Everglades restoration; avoiding local conflicts; and better implementing the restoration plan.

FIU should have addressed the hoverboard policy sooner

SHADY CORNER



CAYLA BUSH

I'm going to preface this piece by getting one simple opinion out of the way: hoverboards are stupid.

Honestly, let's talk about the fact that you're not even hovering, so why is everyone calling it a hoverboard? I can't really think of any time that I've seen a person on campus riding a hoverboard and haven't thought they're pretentious.

Riding a bike, scooter or even a skateboard isn't as absurd as riding a hoverboard. Imagine, if you will, a person riding around campus using a segway. You'd laugh at that person, and most likely call them a Paul Blart wannabe.

So, why is it that a hoverboard is considered cool? It's just the awkward child of a segway; entirely too slow to actually be useful in getting someone to their destination in a practical amount of time.

Although I don't like hoverboards, and often consider them more a nuisance than a technological advancement, I do think that the University has taken too harsh a stance on their on-campus use and storage.

Monday, Jan. 11, the University reiterated the official policy on hoverboards. The email, sent to all students, stated that "these devices may only be used on University sidewalks and while crossing the street at crosswalks."

I understand they're a safety hazard, especially when some idiot is riding down the hallway practically barreling over people. But I think it's ridiculous that the University has to remind students not to be inconsiderate, to not barrel over people in the hallway or damage floors by using the wheels inside.

However, the University continues its email to insist that "the storage and/or use of hoverboards also is expressly prohibited in residence halls and University apartments." Here, is where my critique of the policy comes in.

Students who eagerly brought their new Christmas gifts to school are now being told they're prohibited. Where are these students supposed to keep their belongings, if not in their home for the next 15 weeks? Are they supposed to pay to ship them home, wherever that may be?

In addition, the email states that "until further notice, hoverboards cannot

be charged anywhere on FIU campuses, centers, museums or any FIU property." So, you can bring your hoverboard, but if it dies you're on your own.

I know that the University is concerned primarily with the safety of hoverboards, which have been shown on the news to have caught fire. But, the devices that have caught fire have done so due to negligence and improper use.

Furthermore, any concerns the University might have had about students' use of the devices should have been addressed before students returned to school, especially those who live on campus and now have to figure out where to keep their belongings or face being kicked out of housing.

Hoverboards have been in the news for at least four months now, and the craze didn't just happen overnight. Chris Brown, Tyga and both of their children were the first seen on social media using the boards months ago. For someone to convince me that the University did not think that students would be using them on campus, they'd have to make me reasonably believe that those in charge do not watch the news, or at least haven't

done so at all in December.

I find that incredibly hard to believe. It's almost impossible to convince anyone of this.

So, why is it that the University didn't have the foresight to inform students of such harsh restrictions and give proper warning of the changes and possible consequences?

I have absolutely no issues with the University looking out for my safety. I just feel that their decisions that have such an effect on students should be given much sooner to give students proper time and options as to how to abide by them.

In the future, I'd prefer to have an email such as this sent at least three-days before move in day, as I'm sure most of my peers would as well. This would not only give the students who live on campus enough time to make the proper adjustments to what they're bringing on campus, but would also give commuter students time to take note and heed the changes as well.

Shady Corner is a column that tackles University policies. For suggestions or comments contact Cayla at cayla.bush@fiusm.com

YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN



SAM PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

Volleyball signs important recruit

STEFANO RIVERA
Contributing Writer
sports@fiusm.com

Monday, Jan. 4, FIU women's volleyball Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett announced the signing of a new commit, Sidney Henderson to a National Letter of Intent. Henderson is a 5-foot-9 outside/opposite hitter from Chicago, Illinois, and a senior in Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy.

Henderson was awarded Most Valuable Player for the 2015 season and continues to build on her four year letterwinner career at Gwendolyn Brooks. In 2013, she helped lead her team to a second-place finish in the City Championships of Chicago.

Henderson has also been playing club volleyball since 2012. She began her first three seasons as a member of Club Kace but moved to Chicago Elite in 2014.

Henderson is the first player from her 2016 Chicago Elite class to sign to a Division I school.

Henderson provides impressive athletic ability. Her approach touch is 9 feet 9 inches, block touch is 9 feet, and vertical leap is 28 inches.

In 2015, the Panthers finished 15-13 (9-7 in Conference USA), which was good for seventh in the final conference standings. The team bounced back from a 7-23 record in 2014, and improved in many areas.

Henderson will attempt to follow the footsteps of Lucia Castro, one of the best players to play for the Panthers in recent years. Like Henderson, Castro was an outside hitter, and finished in the top-ten of various FIU volleyball record books.

The Panthers are a young team and will be looking to utilize Henderson's abilities and talents throughout the 2016 season.