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# The Beacon, January 25, 2016

Florida International University

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## Car catches fire near Ziff Education building

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Thursday night, Jan. 21, a car caught fire near the Sanford L. Ziff Family Education Building.

Officer David Navas, who was not on the scene at the time, told FIUSM the fire may have occurred in Lot 9.

Steve Montoya, a senior psychology major, was on his way to class when he saw black smoke rising from the education building around 6:10 p.m.

He states he saw the incident

as he was walking from Panther Garage over to the law building.

“I saw black smoke going up and so I knew something was burning,” says Montoya.

As Montoya kept walking he began to see a glimpse of the fire.

He could also hear sirens and see flashing police lights in the distance.

At around 8:20 p.m. last night, Montoya walked by the area again after class and says the incident seemed to be resolved. He saw no fire or car on the scene. He also didn’t hear any sirens or see flashing police lights.

FIUSM was able to take photos of the burned car being towed away after the incident.

“I saw black smoke going up and so I knew something was burning.”

Steve Montoya  
Senior  
Psychology Major



JASMINE ROMERO/THE BEACON

A red Chevy Silverado with burn damages after a fire in Lot 9 took place on Modesto Maidique Campus, Thursday, Jan. 21.

## Campus-carry legislation hindered again

**ERICA SANTIAGO**  
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The effort to permit concealed guns on the campuses of Florida’s 40 public colleges and universities has once again been stalled.

According to the Miami Herald, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Miguel Diaz de la Portilla confirmed Thursday that he won’t schedule a hearing on the controversial legislation (SB 68), which he also wouldn’t take up last session.

Without being vetted in Diaz de la Portilla’s committee, the bill goes no further in the Florida Senate, even as an identical measure is moving swiftly through the Florida House.

The bills, sponsored by Sen. Greg Evers, R-Baker, and Rep. Greg Steube, R-Sarasota, are a priority for the National Rifle Association, Florida Carry and student groups that support allowing the more than 1.4 million people with concealed weapons permits in Florida to carry their weapons on public university and college campuses.

But Diaz de la Portilla said, “I don’t think this is a Second Amendment issue,” according to the Herald.

“I think what we’re talking about here is campus safety, and the best way to address that issue, and whether the proposed cure is worse than the disease,” he said.

Alexander Casas, FIU’s chief police, addressed the possibility of allowing concealed guns on

campus this past Sept. 2015.

In an interview with FIUSM, Casas said “I would rather that statute didn’t pass.”

Casas expressed concern that more guns would only make dangerous situations even more risky by causing more difficulties for first responders.

“In a fraction of a second, they have to make a decision. That’s a big ask.”

Casas added that he would be more comfortable with the bill if there were a requirement that someone with a concealed weapons permit had to have a certain level of training or demonstrate a certain level of proficiency with a firearm.

“You don’t even have to shoot a round,” Casas said of how easy it is to receive a concealed weapons permit. “Go to a gun show, take a class and you can walk out with a gun.”

Greg Evers, the Senate sponsor, told reporters Diaz de la Portilla didn’t talk to him about his decision, although the two had previously discussed the proposal.

“It would make a statement to the residents of Florida to bring it up and actually have a vote on it,” Evers said.

Greg Steube, who’s shepherding the House companion, HB 4001, which is ready for a floor vote, suggested lawmakers could use some procedural maneuvering to keep the proposal moving, albeit in a different form.

“One person basically deciding what the public policy

of the state is going to be isn’t really how this process should work,” Steube said, suggesting the campus-carry plan could be added as an amendment to other gun or education-related proposals under consideration.

Though that seems within the realm of possibility, there is still a high likelihood of retaliation by Senate leadership.

“Anything’s possible ... but the chairman [Diaz de la Portilla] would probably not take too kindly to that,” Senate President

Andy Gardiner, R-Orlando, said. “We were hearing from members on all sides that there was a little discomfort with [campus carry].”

In a coincidence of timing -- and before Diaz de la Portilla’s decision was widely known -- U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Weston, appeared at a Capitol news conference to add her voice to the Democrats’ opposition to pro-gun bills moving through the Florida Legislature.

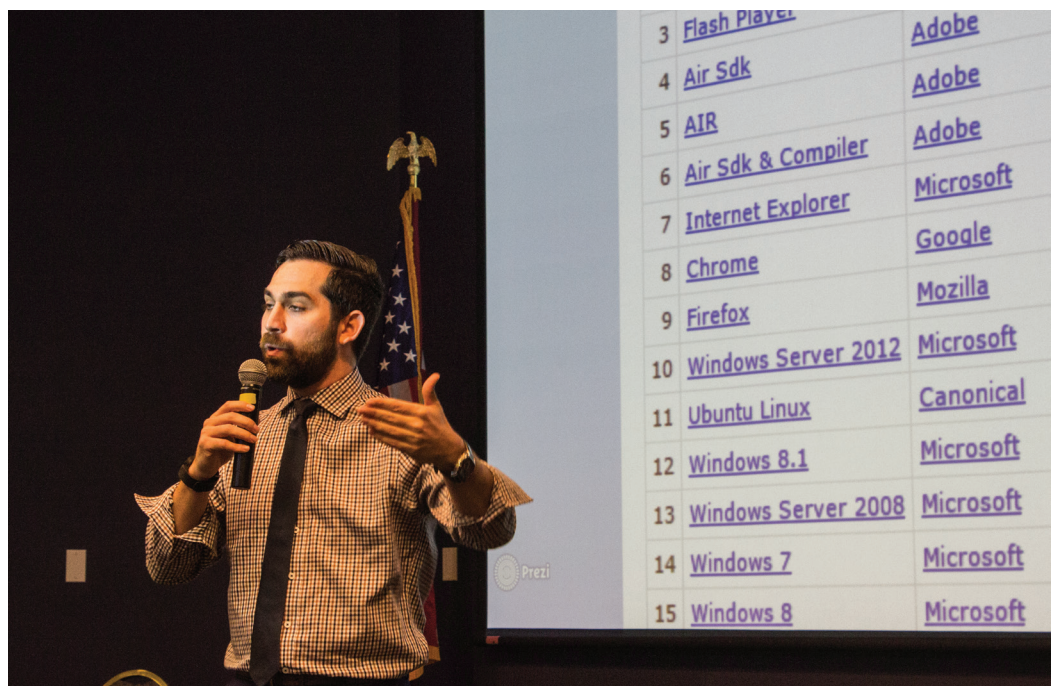
“I’m here to sound the alarm to

make sure that they wake up and understand that they should be listening to people,” she said. As a mother of twins who are juniors in high school, she said, “it’s really troubling and disturbing to me to think they could be on a college campus where another student may decide to solve a problem with a gun.”

Allowing concealed weapons on campuses has widespread

**SEE GUNS, PAGE 2**

### PROTECT YOUR DIGITAL LIFE



BLANCA MARTINEZ/THE BEACON

Elvis Veliz speaks at the Lifesave: Shield Your Digital Life event held at Graham Center 140, Wednesday, Jan. 20.

# NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

## When gay sex is taboo, apps open a door

Within the quietly thriving gay scene in India's entertainment and financial capital, one thing appears to be common.

"Everybody from the gay community is using Grindr," Inder Vhatwar, a Mumbai fashion entrepreneur, said of the dating app geared toward gay men.

Despite a national law banning same-sex intercourse, tens of thousands of gay Indians use Grindr for social networking, dating and, yes, sex. As in many other Asian countries where homosexuality

is outlawed or taboo, Grindr and similar apps have opened up a new digital frontier for gays but also raised concerns about privacy, safety and government clampdowns.

Grindr's international appeal is in the spotlight following the announcement Monday that a Chinese gaming company had purchased a majority stake the Hollywood startup for \$93 million. The deal with Beijing Kunlun World Wide Technology Co. values Grindr, founded in 2009, at \$155 million.

## Rep. Diaz-Balart pushes Cuba to free dissident journalist on hunger strike

Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart called Tuesday for the Cuban government to release an independent journalist who stopped eating four weeks ago to protest his Dec. 17 arrest.

Diaz-Balart said Misael Canet Velazquez is being held "in abhorrent conditions in Camaguey's notorious Kilo 8 prison without clothes or a suitable place to sleep, and has been provided limited access to water."

Moreira has waged his own hunger strike while in prison.

Canet is a leader of the National Front of Civic Resistance Orlando Zapata Tamayo, a protest group based

in southern Cuba.

Along with other dissidents, Canet was arrested Dec. 17 during a demonstration in which they demanded the release of a human rights activist.

Canet had been one of 20 signatories to a Jan. 17, 2014, proclamation in which leaders of resistance organizations spelled out a common strategy for defeating Cuban President Raul Castro.

Canet, who has been detained multiple times, began a hunger strike after his most recent arrest.

# University inventor receives NAI fellowship

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Shekhar Bhansali, the Alcatel-Lucent Chair and Professor of Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at FIU is among the eleven inventors from the Florida State University System elected Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors, as announced via press release from the Florida State Systems Board of Governors.

To be elected as an NAI Fellow is to be given the professional distinction as an academic inventor who has displayed an inventive spirit for innovation in creating or facilitating inventions that have made an obvious impact on quality of life, economic development and the welfare of society.

Bhansali is one of the 168 academic inventors selected for induction as NAI Fellows this year. The group now comprises 582 fellows from over 190 prestigious research universities and governmental and non-profit research institutions.

According to the press release, the 2015 Fellows accounted for 5,368 issued U.S. patents, bringing the collective patents held by all NAI Fellows to more than 20,000.

"We are proud of the outstanding

innovators elected as NAI Fellows from our Florida state universities and research institutes," said Marshall Criser III, chancellor of the State University System of Florida "Their dedication to translating their research into inventions and patents is improving our state and the lives of our citizens."

The NAI Fellows are to be inducted April 15, as part of the Fifth Annual Conference of the National Academy of Inventors at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

USPTO Commissioner for Patents Andrew Hirshfeld will provide the keynote address for the induction ceremony. In honor of their accomplishments, Fellows will be presented with a trophy, medal and rosette pin.

"It is my privilege to welcome the 2015 class of outstanding academic inventors to the Academy as Fellows," said Dr. Paul R. Sanberg, president of the NAI.

"These inspiring individuals have made remarkable contributions to society through their work in research and discovery as well as in patents, licensing and commercialization. They encourage a culture where invention and innovation is brought to the forefront and it is an honor to recognize their tremendous accomplishments with NAI Fellow status."

# Effort for concealed guns on campus stalled

GUNS, PAGE 1

opposition from college and university presidents, campus police chiefs, the League of Women Voters and most Democrats, as well as several student and faculty organizations. College and university administrators estimated they'd have to spend millions on increased security measures and police training, if it ever became law.

Patti Brigham, chairwoman of the League's gun safety committee, praised Diaz de la Portilla's decision as "bold."

"I think he's seeing all the stakeholders who really have been so strongly opposed to campus carry and he's listened, and we're appreciative of that," Brigham said, saying the group is "cautiously optimistic" the legislation is dead for the 2016 session.

In a previous statement made in September, Brigham said, "Campus carry bills are very concerning because they really have nothing to do with the Second Amendment," said Patti Brigham, chairwoman of the League of Women Voters of Florida's Gun Safety Committee that was launched last year. "This is

a public safety issue."

Supporters of the bill expressed frustration and disappointment but said they'll keep fighting. They argued, like Evers, that Diaz de la Portilla should have given the proposal a fair hearing, even if it failed.

"[He] should vote 'no' to the bill if he truly does not support it, but his job is to put bills on the agenda that have high

"I think he's seeing all the stakeholders who really have been so strongly opposed to campus carry and he's listened, and we're appreciative of that."

Patti Brigham  
Chairwoman  
League of Women Voters

public interest, which campus carry does have," said Rebekah Hargrove, a Florida State University graduate student and director of Florida Students for Concealed Carry Inc.

Meanwhile, a related proposal that is also backed by gun-rights advocates will continue to move

forward. Diaz de la Portilla said he does plan to hold a hearing on legislation to give concealed-weapons permit-holders the ability to openly carry their weapons.

"To me, the debate is better about open carry because you still keep all the exemptions in place," Gardiner said. "I don't think there was ever consensus on how you get campus carry done."

Amendments to the open-carry legislation (SB 300 / HB 163) have been suggested by both Florida sheriffs and police chiefs, and it's likely some of those could be folded in to make the plan more palatable to critics. The father-son duo, Sen. Don Gaetz, R-Niceville and Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fort Walton Beach is sponsoring those bills.

Evers, although disappointed about his own bill, said the open-carry proposal is "even more important to me than campus carry."

"Standing up for the Second Amendment and supporting the Second Amendment is never a bad thing," he said.

Additional Reporting by  
TNS Staff

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

## CORRECTIONS

In Volume 27 Issue 51 that ran on Wednesday, Jan. 20, the article titled "Student support will bring in domestic athletes" forgot to credit additional reporting from TNS Staff.

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

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## THE SIGHT OF RIGHTS

### Photographs tell the South's Civil Rights story

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Jordana Pomeroy, director of the Frost Art Museum, grew emotional when introducing the museum's latest exhibit featuring the work of Danny Lyon, a photographer who documented the Civil Rights Movement in America during the 1960s.

She spoke softly, but with conviction when highlighting the importance and risk-factor of Lyon's work at the time.

"He spent time behind bars for his actions and was present with his camera everywhere where civil rights protests were erupting," said Pomeroy to the crowd at the Frost Art Museum's opening reception.

Lyon's documentation of the American Civil

Rights movement covers the protests of the Atlanta-based Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and will run through March 20, at the Frost Art Museum.

His raw-natured photographs marked a new style of reporting called "New Journalism," in which journalists become part of the story they wish to document, through photographs and film.

The black and white photos presented in the exhibition show pivotal moments of the American Civil Rights Movement as well as monumental names in African American history, such as Ella Baker, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Willie Ricks, who is known as the first to have cried out the phrase "black power."

"They are snapshots of a time when an organization



AMANDA RABINES/THE BEACON

From 1963 to 1964, photographer Danny Lyon traveled through the south documenting the Civil Rights Movement.

thought it can [sic] change an entire culture and offer a trajectory of the future through nonviolent protest and through the lens of a camera," said Pomeroy.

A snapshot capturing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Reverend Ralph Abernathy being escorted to jail in Albany, Georgia

is one example of his work.

Photos of African American men being carried away by cops and segregated water fountains all depict the harsh reality of racism in America's history.

Brian Schriener, FIU's dean of the College of Architecture and The Arts,

was at the reception and said it was not by accident that the university's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration kicks off at the Frost Art Museum.

"In 1964 Dr. King, during [his] Nobel prize acceptance speech, spoke about importance of art and humanities," Schriener said at the opening reception. "I ask that you listen carefully to what he said because the words that he spoke 52 years ago could describe the world we live in today."

Within Lyon's collection, museum goers can see the SNCC having their famous sit-in protests at racially organized lunch counters in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Bryan Salazar, a freshman taking Modern American Civilization at FIU, was told by his professor to visit the exhibit. As he slowly took

his time to examine the photos, he said he was struck by the relevance the photos share with today's current race wars.

"Things like civil infringements still happen today," said Salazar, "I feel we should be doing more as a society, because everyone in these photos were so driven to do more themselves, and because of them laws changed."

This exhibition is sponsored by FIU's Multicultural Program & Services, Division of Student Affairs, College of Architecture & The Arts, College of Business, College of Law, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, University Graduate School and the African and African Diaspora Studies.

To become a member of the Frost Art Museum visit thefrost.fiu.edu

## Alumni offer virtual networking, share insights

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Panther Alumni Week is an annual event in which alumni to return to their alma mater and share career advice and insights with current students.

Besides panther pride, the centerpiece of PAW is networking and for the

second year in a row the alumni association is taking this to the virtual sphere with their Virtual Meet Up event on Feb. 3 from noon to 1 p.m.

The FIU Alumni Association is the first department to offer a virtual networking event in the university, according to Maria Tomaino, associate director of alumni career development.

This virtual networking

event will pair current students with alumni in an online speed-networking forum that will consist of one on one 8-minute, text-based chats. The transcripts of these conversations will be saved and emailed to students, who will then be able to follow-up with the alumni they networked with.

"Virtual meet up is something that many universities are doing," said

Tomaino "the great thing about it is that we can host as many students as we want, distance is no longer a shortcoming."

And according to Tomaino, FIU being such an international university there have been instances where distance gets in the way. Alumni from places like New York, Los Angeles, India and Jamaica have participated in PAW Virtual Meet Up.

The registration process is online and it consists of a questionnaire to facilitate matches and an attached resume and/or LinkedIn profile.

More information on PAW Virtual Meet Up can be found on paw.fiu.edu, from there students/alumni who are interested in participating will be directed to a brazenconnect.com page where they can commence

registration. There is no cut-off time for registration; however, it is mandatory in order to participate in the event.

"We want to build that bridge and foster that connection, one person can mean millions of doors," said Tomaino.

For more information or details on the event contact Maria Tomaino at 305-348-3334 or mltomain@fiu.edu

### ROCKING THE GUITAR



MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

Thomas Caprara (right), a junior in Music Business and Shaun Rodriguez (left) a junior in Music Education played acoustic guitar at the CSO Club fair, Thursday, Jan. 21 at the Graham Center Ballrooms promoting the Guitar Club.

## TV Land's 'Younger' a unique twist on familiar storyline

TV TALK



CAYLA BUSH

Over winter break, I was desperately searching for a show to watch. I'd temporarily paused my Netflix subscription to get my life together and not procrastinate, but still had enough downtime to watch a show or two.

So, when TV Land's incessant ads for its show "Younger" started to air, I caved in and decided to watch an episode on demand. What was supposed to be a 30 minute distraction turned into a six hour, marathon "catch-up" session.

"Younger" follows a 40-something divorcee as she tries to rebuild her life and reclaim the job she had before "life got in the way." A plot that's been tackled numerous times, "Younger" separates itself by taking on a unique angle - Liza Miller, the show's protagonist, is mistakenly assumed to be half her age, and decides to go with it.

Honestly, I was really only interested in the show because of Hilary Duff. I've been a fan of Duff's since she played Lizzie McGuire back in Disney Channel's heyday. I figured if she was on the show, it couldn't be horrible.

Surprisingly, it wasn't Duff's performance as Kelsey Peters that enthralled me; Sutton Foster's performance as Liza was the one I found most captivating and honest. Throughout the first season, she's just trying to figure out how to maneuver through a world run by millennials.

Whether she's learning to use Twitter to promote the books that are published by the company she works for, or trying to navigate dating again, Liza manages to be authentic and relatable; an oxymoron considering she's lying about who she is the entire time.

When Josh, Liza's twenty-something, tattoo artist boyfriend portrayed by Nico Tortorella, tells his friends that he and Liza are "just hanging out," she reacts as any young person would

SEE GEM, PAGE 5

# Orlando guitar pop band SALES releases self-titled EP

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SALES is definitely not a new band in Florida but recently their fan base has been exploding.

They originally hail from Orlando but everyone across the globe seems to have caught the SALES bug.

The band recently had a fall tour in Europe and a summer tour in the West Coast. Their self-titled Extended Play finally collected together most of their songs and even include a remix of one of their songs "Toto" done by another Orlando artist, XYYYYX.

Lead singer, Lauren Morgan's voice is full of this child-like innocence, even as she sings about a relationship falling apart in "Vow." It feels as though it takes place right before a relationship falls apart, where one of the parties is

making promises they cannot keep.

The duo is able to create intricate minimalistic songs that get trapped in your mind. "Getting it On" falls into this category perfectly, it's

captures Morgan's signature tone and it's one of their happier tracks. It's about a new start, and who doesn't need a fresh start everyone once in awhile.

Celebration of a Chinese

enough to keep fans from missing them too much while the band gets back to work on a new EP.

Their music can be found for preview and sale at bandcamp.com, a music sharing website that supports the artist directly.

But there is no need to stop there, the band's soundcloud, where you can find an exclusive track called "Tonka Time." This song has a more indie synth-pop vibe that the rest of their songs and wonderfully features the range that Morgan can reach with her voice.

Even though SALES hasn't released anything new as of yet, what they do have out now is sure to capture your attention.

*Natalie is Local Genre Director at WRGP, her and Diana Romero co-host the live show The Pipeline every Wednesday from 4-6 pm. For Suggestions email life@fiusm.com*



PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMONS

Jordan Shih (left) and Lauren Morgan (right), the duo that make the band SALES.

catchy, sad, and relatable. It's the post break up song, full of resentment and questions that will never get a satisfying answer.

My favorite track off their EP is "Chinese New Year," it

New Year brings good fortune and happiness and that's what you get when you listen to SALES.

If this EP wasn't enough the band also recently released the single "Big Sis," that's mellow

# International employment workshop offered

**GUETHSHINA ALTENA**  
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their degree. According to internationalstudent.com, the OPT allows international students to stay in the US for a year after graduation to work in their field of study. Students may apply for OPT after being enrolled for at least 9 months, but they cannot begin working until they receive their Employment Authorization Document (EAD).

In order for international students to remain in the U.S. after graduation, an employer must sponsor them with an H-1B visa for skilled foreign workers, according to fortune.com.

For the 2,500 international students at FIU, the College of Business - Career Management Services is offering an Employment workshop.

The process can be long and complicated for foreign undergraduate students. According to Peertransfer's website, those on F-1 student visa, you have a 60 day grace period after your date of graduation or last day as a registered student.

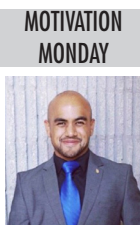
International students can also apply for the optional practical training (OPT) status both during and after completion of

In this workshop, students can accept to learn about the opportunities available to find a job in the U.S.A and how the process works for international students after their graduation.

The event will take place on Jan. 29 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Students are required to RSVP in Business Career Link at business-fiu-csm.symplicity.com/students/

Any international students in business in welcome to register and attend. For more information on the event contact the College of Business at 305-348-2751.

# Strider shares his secret to maintaining a fit lifestyle



NIHAT STRIDER

When starting the path of fitness the two rules of fitness are determination and consistency. These rules are key to maintaining the lifestyle, if this is your goal then they should be engraved in you.

The mental state of being determined is vital for your physical strength and attribute. Remember, "Mind over matter". Your body might be too tired or may want to

give up, but your mind is what is going push it to keep it going. In the last few reps of any workout, you will have to push yourself. That is when your mind takes over and pushes your physical abilities.

If you want something you make time for it, we all have responsibilities, work, school, family, life, you may feel like there is no time but with organization anything is possible. Your body is the only temple you live in. If you are not healthy, then you will not be able to perform any other tasks.

Missing one day may not seem like a big deal, but it can

cause a loss of rhythm and it will not be as easy to get back on track.

When you fly on airplanes, the safety instructions says, "please put on your own oxygen mask before assisting others". This works for life in general: if you do not take care of yourself, you will not be able to take care of anything or anyone else.

Consistency is the second rule that will help you maintain the things you have achieved, in this case a fit lifestyle.

Imagine you are training for a race, you've been training for months now and you are at the

starting line. The gun fire sounds, on your marks, set, go. Then halfway through the race you quit. That is inconsistency, it will lead to you never crossing the finish line, never reaching your goals.

Now, consistency doesn't happen overnight, just like one healthy meal will never make you healthy and one rigorous workout will never make you fit. It is consistency that will get you every result you desire. It is the day in and day out hard work that helps you obtain your objectives.

When I lost 61 pounds of fat, it was 6 months of consistent

workout and healthy nutrition.

Now imagine if after those 6 months, I stopped eating healthy or stopped working out. I would have been unhealthy again and went back to square one. Instead I decided to get certified as a Fitness Trainer. Where I am in my life today is because of consistency and determination. In life when you set any goal, always be consistent. You cannot give up!

*Motivation Monday is a weekly column covering fitness and health. Strider is a certified personal trainer, for comments or questions please email life@fiusm.com*

## 'Younger' an 'underrated gem'

**GEM, PAGE 4**

- by sending well-planned, uninterested texts to maintain an air of nonchalance.

When working as a temporary book doctor, she openly describes how it feels to be reawakened sexually as a middle aged woman who has recently left a dead marriage. Viewers understand her pain, fear and excitement at being faced with new love.

while at first glance is a satirical take on millennials and how they navigate the world, on a deeper level, it's a reminder that we're never too old or young to get in touch with ourselves and pursue our dreams. That's the beauty of the show, and what makes it worth watching.

It's an underrated gem chock full of witty dialogue and hidden symbolism.

of "Younger" can be viewed on demand season two airs Wednesday nights at 10 p.m. on TV Land.

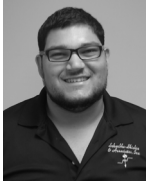
TV Talk is a weekly column providing reviews of television shows available through various on-demand programming options. To provide show suggestions for Cayla, or offer commentary, email cayla.bush@fiusm.com.

MONDAY JAN. 25	TUESDAY JAN. 26	WEDNESDAY JAN. 27	THURSDAY JAN. 28	FRIDAY JAN. 26
<p><b>Blue and gold recruitment week: Career Bash</b> 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Panther Square</p> <p><b>Resume writing</b> 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. GC 230</p> <p><b>Modern Spain and the Jews</b> 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU</p>	<p><b>True Life--The Life of a Student Leader</b> 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Panther Square</p> <p><b>Tuesday Times Roundtable</b> 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. GC 150</p> <p><b>Times Roundtable BBC</b> 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. WUC 159</p> <p><b>Discovery and Recovery: Preserving Iraqi Jewish Heritage</b> 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU</p>	<p><b>Interviewing/Salary Negotiation</b> 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. WUC 255</p> <p><b>Internships/Career Readiness</b> 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. WUC 255</p> <p><b>Bike Shop DIY Class- Fix a Flat</b> 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. GC 150</p> <p><b>Becoming Human and Dog Together</b> 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. WC 130</p>	<p><b>Jose Marti Breakfast</b> 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. WUC Ballrooms</p> <p><b>Councils Unplugged</b> 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Panther Square</p> <p><b>Resolution Resuscitation</b> 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wellness and Recreation Center</p> <p><b>FIU men's basketball vs Charlotte</b> 7 p.m. on Lime Court at FIU Arena</p>	<p><b>Sketching in the Galleries</b> 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wolfsonian-FIU</p>

**BASKETBALL**

## The sociology of losing games

**T-TIME**



**GIANCARLO NAVAS**

Society looks at the failures of athletes different than failures of others. If an NBA player misses a go ahead shot at the buzzer a lack of empathy is common.

People will always say, “win or lose they make millions.” Or, “they just play a game.” Zero empathy.

The rift between fans and pro athlete is millions of dollars and the perks of being famous ; Of mattering. Middle America can’t relate to that.

When Dwyane Wade slinks off the court after getting blown out by the sub .500 Milwaukee Bucks, do you think he is happy he is rich? Do you think he is okay with that kind of failure? A failure of being embarrassed on television with an audience of millions.

Fans seem to think the money eases that. That because of financial security the losing is okay.

Funny enough, the fans are the loudest in criticism with the least amount of information. “Fire coach X!”, “Trade Player Y!”, “Why isn’t coach X playing guy Z more?”

As Dan Le Batard always says, it’s whack-a-mole of criticism. In the Heat’s case, Goran Dragic was the first scapegoat. Fan complained about Dragic’s below expectation

performance. He was to blame. He got hurt and the offense has been a disaster.

The next mole to come up is Hassan Whiteside and his roaming on defense and his inability to pass out of a double team. Whiteside then gets hurt and Miami suddenly can’t hold on to a rebound and the Wizards are running circles around an already depleted team.

McRoberts hasn’t

need to fix this because they are taking away my feel good.”

They act as if players are trying to lose. Because I guarantee that the players playing the games care more about the result than the fan on his couch with Dorito fingers.

We can do this with all sports and all leagues, even college.

The FIU Women’s Basketball team has dropped 11 straight

why they have sculpted their skills over years and years.

While an engineer works on math all their life, a basketball player crafts their post game or jump shot. An engineer can’t write a novel and a novelist cannot calculate head loss in a drainage system. They also can’t dream shake.

Inversely a basketball player probably can’t write a novel or solve calculations. That

in academia like it is in America. The Japanese would call a great chef a genius or brilliant musician or even a great athlete. They seem to understand that expertise in a specific field is what a genius does. Not just a great novelist or engineer.

So as teams continue to lose, fan bases will continue to act like maniacs. Demanding accountability from the entertainers while not



NICOLE MEZA/THE BEACON

Guard/Forward Janka Hegedus fights to get the ball from UTSA Roadrunner Alexis Dukes at the game held Thursday, Jan. 21, where FIU lost with a score of 52-63.

played in a few games? He will.

The scapegoat keeps changing and a new mole comes up to hit. Fans go crazy and need to find someone to blame. But in the end, they are millionaires and “they

games and has a 2-15 record for the season. Do you think any of those girls are having fun?

Athletes have professional pride as much as any other profession. They care about their craft. That’s

doesn’t make them stupid or lesser beings. It just makes their skill of focus different.

Something I have always loved is how the Japanese refer to geniuses. It isn’t limited to something

empathizing with their pain. Because losing for them hurts a lot more than for you.

*T-Time is a biweekly column about women’s basketball in FIU.*

## By the numbers: C-USA Women’s Basketball

**C-USA SCORING OFFENSE**

TEAM	W-L	AVG/G	POINTS
1 Charlotte	10-7	73.8	1255
2 Marshall	12-5	73.3	1246
3 Florida Atlantic	10-7	71.5	1216
4 UTEP	15-1	71.0	1136
4 WKU	15-2	71.0	1207
6 Middle Tennessee	10-7	67.9	1154
7 Louisiana Tech	8-8	66.9	1071
8 Southern Miss	10-6	64.1	1025
9 UAB	10-7	62.8	1068
10 UTSA	6-10	62.5	1000
11 FIU	2-15	62.4	1060
12 North Texas	7-9	61.5	984
13 Old Dominion	7-11	57.6	1037
14 Rice	3-14	54.7	930

**C-USA SCORING DEFENSE**

TEAM	POINTS	AVG./G
1 UAB	946	55.6
2 UTEP	921	57.6
3 Southern Miss	951	59.4
4 WKU	1012	59.5
5 Marshall	1055	62.1
6 Middle Tennessee	1058	62.2
7 UTSA	1005	62.8
8 Old Dominion	1132	62.9
9 North Texas	1027	64.2
10 Louisiana	1030	64.4
11 Rice	1114	65.5
12 Charlotte	1196	70.4
13 Florida Atlantic	1224	72.0
14 FIU	1276	75.1

**C-USA FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGES**

TEAM	FG AVG.	FG PCT.
1 Charlotte	1016	.450
2 Marshall	1050	.430
3 WKU	1052	.429
4 UAB	950	.424
5 UTEP	979	.424
6 Southern Miss	865	.420
7 Louisiana Tech	944	.408
8 Southern Miss	998	.408
9 FIU	981	.403
10 Florida Atlantic	1053	.398
11 UTSA	993	.394
12 MTSU	1014	.392
13 Old Dominion	1042	.383
14 Rice	884	.371

\*All records up to date as of Jan. 22

**SWIMMING AND DIVING**

## Panthers can’t come up with header

**LOUIS AGUDELO**  
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Winter break was a long one for the Swimming and Diving program at FIU. The Panthers were handed their second loss of the season by the Seminoles of Florida State University to kick off the break at Indian River State College. Of course they

followed it up by defeating the former community college of Indian River. Towards the end, the Panthers were beaten badly by N.C. State, although by a much smaller margin.

So far, the Swimming and Diving team have dropped three contests over the duration of this 2015-2016 season. This can be blamed on the fact that this season’s schedule have featured

meets against no less than five ranked opponents, with every loss coming against a ranked program. FIU is a novice by no means, to taking on legitimate competition, and competing at a high level, but this season’s schedule reflects their performance and finish from last season. Bigger and better major colleges are paying a lot more attention to the other Division-1

school in Miami now.

Head coach Randy Horner seems to have an open door policy to any school daring enough to make the trip, or to welcome the Panthers into their facility for a meet. He trusts his team’s ability to not only win, but to prepare themselves in just the right span of time and at just the perfect pace to reach peak condition and form by Conference USA

Championships in late February.

The difficulty in this season’s schedule not only lies in the talent faced, but also in the number of meets, with three more this season than last. The length of the regular season. The 2015-2016 regular season will last at least another week more than it did in 2014-2015, as well.

**SEE CONFERENCE, PAGE 7**

FOOTBALL

# Future Panthers represented in National Signing Day

PETE'S PICKS



PETER HOLLAND JR.

Nothing is more intense than a high school athlete making a big decision in what university they want to play and get their education

FIU's football head coach Ron Turner. Right now FIU's football team currently has 22 verbal commits in the recruiting class of 2016 and four players have already enrolled this semester. Last year's class Turner made an attempt to put this football program one step in the right direction.

be surprising if he gets more opportunities to play next season next season.

There were still some freshmen who didn't play as much but still impacted the game. Fermin Silva, at defensive end, who saw the field and finished with seven tackles and 0.5 this season, Stone Wilson, who started every game at punter or even Kenyatta Anderson, who blocked a punt during a game against Charlotte had their share of contributions that led to FIU victories. Coach Turner and his staff could find players who can contribute right away or step in when someone goes down. Turner has taken advantage in searching talented players in the state of Florida. Even though ranking high school players from 0 to 5 stars isn't very accurate than what

people think, Turner and his staff will for sure look for players that fits their system and who could be that hidden gem like T.Y. Hilton, Jonathan Cyprien or even Richard Leonard. When you look at the latest recruits, don't look at how many stars they received or the rankings because clearly the coaches know something that we don't.

I think Turner's main focus in this year's class is depth, which was of the Panther's weakness all of last season. Most injuries from last season were on the offensive line and the secondary. After Jordan Budwig went down during the summer, the coaches had to rotate different players in the front line until they find the right pieces that can get on the same page. On the defensive side,

majority of the starters are gone. This leaves some positions wide open for even a true freshman, redshirt freshman or a junior college transfer to step up.

This is pretty much why National Signing Day is the paramount of the offseason. It's somewhat similar to the NFL draft. The only difference is that it's the player's decision. Majority of them already made their commitment and only needs to sign the letter of intent. While for some players, it comes down to the tip of their hat.

*Pete's Picks is a weekly column about football. To offer commentary contact the writer at peter.holland@fiusm.com*

for the next four years. That's what National Signing Day is all about. Wednesday, Feb. 3 will be National Signing Day. It is an all-day event for talented high school athletes signing their letter of intent to play for a college of their choosing. Nothing is more exciting than a football player dressed up in their future team colors and signing that dotted line to their future schools.

It's going to be a busy day for

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

# Estefanie Bethancourt steps up for upcoming season

STEFANO RIVERA  
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The 2016 FIU Women's Beach Volleyball season has yet to begin; however, the practices are in full swing and the team is preparing for another successful year on the sand.

One of the players that will be looking to compete and help the team is sophomore, Estefanie Bethancourt.



Bethancourt is a native of Guatemala and attended Colegio Interamericano

prior to FIU. There she lettered in volleyball for three years and was named the team's Most Valuable Player in 2013. At 5 foot 9, she is the shortest player on the Panthers; however, she has not let her height affect her style of play.

Last season as a freshman, Bethancourt did not play much, only appearing in three exhibition matches before the regular season. She had a combined record of 1-2 in those matches, but this season Bethancourt will be looking for a top-ten

spot in the team now that she is a more experienced player. The Panthers had six player who graduated a year ago, making it difficult to compete with the experience and talent those upperclassmen had.

Bethancourt did, however, attend the 2015 American Volleyball Coaches Association National Championship as an alternate player, which took place in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Being born and raised in Guatemala, Bethancourt has been able to compete in international competitions, including the 2015 Under 21 Women's Central American Beach Volleyball Championship in Panama.

Partnered up with fellow Guatemalan sophomore, Natalia Giron, Bethancourt was able to win gold in a first place finish. The duo defeated Nicaragua 2-0 in the finals and did not lose a single match.

"It was certainly an exciting experience," Bethancourt explained, "we lost that championship in 2014 so it was exciting to get the title this time."

Aside from competing in the WCABV Championship, she has also competed in the Junior Olympics, representing her country.

The duo of Bethancourt and Giron is currently Guatemala's No. 1 team and is ranked eighth in the

North, Central American and Caribbean Volleyball Confederation, which consists of 40 countries.

"I think we've grown together as a team now, since we get to play with a lot of different people here. Like in Guatemala there are not a lot of beach volleyball players, but here we got the experience to play with different people and that has made us grow as a national team too", Bethancourt explained.

Bethancourt hopes to help lead her team to another stellar season. Last year, the Panthers finished 20-3, defeating numerous elite teams such as Florida State University, Stetson University, and

Pepperdine University. The team fell short in the quarterfinals of the AVCA National Championships in a rematch against Pepperdine.

Players are aware it will be difficult to match the season the six seniors left behind, but they know they are capable of accomplishing such a feat.

Bethancourt said, "I think we want to get to Nationals first, then do our best to get the title."

The team will start the season off in the FIU Fort Lauderdale Beach Invitational on Friday, March 4 against the University of New Orleans.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Panthers prepare for Conference USA

CONFERENCE, PAGE 6

Any skeptics of this season's squad compared to last, should be cognizant of the fact that most of last season's top talent returned, not to mention that FIU has swept Conference USA Swimmer and Diver of the Week honors four times this season.

Understand also that Horner

falling asleep at the wheel of this superior vehicle that he has turned his division-1 program into, is not the problem here. Those three losses, while frustrating for FIU, are not real concerns, from everything Horner has said in the past. To him, it's not about wins and losses, yet. Not until Wednesday, Feb. 24 in Atlanta, Georgia.

FIU has dropped to No. 20

in the CollegeSwimming.com Mid-Major rankings, as of their last meet against N.C. State. This is lower than they've been ranked in quite some time, and will likely be a motivator for this team to work harder now than ever, exactly a month away from Championships. "Holding things together" according to Horner, is a lot of what they've really been focusing

on throughout this season, which is really all that needs to be done with such a well-oiled machine as is this Swimming and Diving program.

As far as when he believes they'll be ready, and this was said long before the season had even started "The day before conference Championships." is that day.

For now though, they have a meet Saturday, Jan. 30 to face the

University of Miami for a second time this season, and attempt a season sweep on the. They'll finish their season against a much improved Florida Atlantic squad on Tuesday, Feb. 6, although the Panthers' mind will likely be thinking more about the Super Bowl the day after that meet, as the Owls pose no real threat to the Panthers.

BASEBALL SCHEDULE

Opponent	Date	Time
Ole Miss	Feb. 19	TBA
Ole Miss	Feb. 20	TBA
Ole Miss	Feb. 21	TBA
St. Thomas	Feb. 23	TBA
Missouri	Feb. 24	TBA
Seton Hall	Feb. 26	TBA

## Award-winning journalist hosts webinar for SJMC

**LAUREN MARTINEZ**  
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FIU's Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Center for the Advancement of Women in Communication at BBC will be hosting a webinar with award-winning journalist and NBC 6 reporter Stephanie Bertini, Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 1 p.m.

Bertini will be discussing what she's learned from her 10 years of experience and the importance of perfecting one's craft.

"I'm basically going to be looking at what it takes, not only to work in the business, but to be successful. Your craft is what you do and how you do it. We're going to cover everything," Bertini said.

Bertini, who was born and raised in Toronto, realized she wanted to become a reporter after results from an aptitude test taken at her university revealed television broadcasting. After graduating, she kicked off her career by working at Canadian television station CTV News. Bertini always had intentions to venture into American journalism but had to overcome a few obstacles on the way.

"I always wanted to work in the United States. There are more opportunities. My transition into the American market was a challenge. I had to work on voice training because I had an accent. I had to work on style and being more interactive," she said.

Bertini's first reporter job in the U.S. came in 2010 in south Texas by the Mexican border. During the three and a half years she spent there, one of the stories she worked on exposed the Mexican drug cartel making its way into the police department at the border in the Rio Grande Valley. The story gained her a National Edward R. Murrow Award.

Bertini moved to South Florida and joined the NBC 6 team in May of 2015. Although this will be her first time speaking at FIU, she is eager and excited to share her experiences with SJMC students and prepare them to be worlds ahead.

"I feel a responsibility to share what I've learned. It's my business to make myself available to you. I'm very excited to teach what I've learned from others and hopefully inspire future journalists."

## Philanthropist donates millions for a chair of transgender studies

**ADRIAN SALGADO**  
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Jennifer Pritzker, a Chicago billionaire philanthropist, donated \$2 million to a university in Canada in order to create a chair of transgender studies, which will become unique to any research position in global academia.

The funding for the University of Victoria in British Columbia comes from Pritzker's Tawani Foundation. Half of the money will support the chair position for five years, and the other half is pledged to match other donations to the program.

Aaron Devor, a sociology professor who has studied transgender issues for three decades, was named inaugural chair.

"Far too many trans and gender-nonconforming people still live in poverty and fear," Devor said in a statement.

"As the inaugural chair, I will act as a resource locally and internationally for those needing information for their own research or for policy development, as well as building linkages between community-based and academic scholars working in transgender studies."

Devor also is the founder of the university's Transgender Archives, launched in 2012, which houses publications and memorabilia detailing the history and work of notable transgender and gender-nonconforming activists.

In November, the FIU community facilitated a conversation concerning trans issues.

Campbell Alexander, member of the Board of Directors for the AQUA Women's Foundation and partner of FIU explained, "It's great to actually have a conversation with someone and have them see that we're just regular people."

"Unfortunately, there is a lot of stigma against the letter 'T' [in LGBT]," said Alexander.

The Tawani Foundation, a supporter of military personnel and history, is led by Pritzker, who is transgender and a retired Army lieutenant colonel.

At FIU's BBC event "Understanding the 'T' in LGBT", a student shared her experiences with transgender issues.

"I am currently taking an LGBTQ course in alliance with FIU's global learning initiative," said Katherine Marcelino, a junior English student at FIU.

"I have also been a part of the committee that organizes the events for transgender week," said Marcelino.

According to Marcelino,

"It's important that we don't conform or adhere to just one stereotype of gender or one sense of self."

Katherine Marcelino  
Junior English

through philanthropy. Some of the first pushes for exploring transgender issues came through funding and support from the Erickson Educational Foundation, according to Devor.

Reed Erickson, a transgender man, started the foundation in the early 1960s. Among other things, the organization sponsored

academic positions studying transgender issues have been established but are no longer active, according to university officials. Both were in the Netherlands. An endocrinologist was chair of transsexology at The Free University of Amsterdam for 20 years, and a psychologist was chair of gender development and psychopathology at the University of Utrecht Medical Centre for 10 years.

"The chair in transgender studies sets (University of Victoria) apart," university President Jamie Cassels said in a statement.

"I am proud of our campus community's commitment to diversity, as well as grateful to Dr. Devor, Lt. Col. Pritzker, the Tawani Foundation and all those who help us continually learn and grow in a welcoming environment that promotes the rights and affirms the dignity of all persons."

Additional Reporting by TNS Staff.

"It's important that we don't conform or adhere to just one stereotype of gender or one sense of self. It allows you to relate to many different kinds of people. It also helps you to be more sensitive to the needs of others."

Much transgender research throughout North America has been supported

the first symposiums of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, named for the doctor who worked with patients with gender dysphoria. That organization now is called the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.

Two other similar

### CARTOON CAMPAIGN



SAMUEL PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON



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