

3-10-2016

The Beacon, March 10, 2016

Florida International University

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Florida International University, "The Beacon, March 10, 2016" (2016). *The Panther Press (formerly The Beacon)*. 879.
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Faculty Senate addresses the Nature Preserve

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The faculty senate was in session Tuesday, March 8 to discuss a proposed resolution for the development of two intramural fields that are planned to be built over the northern part of the Nature Preserve, a resolution which included a 2.9 acre expansion to the south.

The deliberation resulted with a 15 in favor, 10 opposed, and two abstention vote. The Preserve's compromise deal will be presented to President Mark B. Rosenberg and possibly at the Board of Trustees meeting on Friday, March 11.

The resolution suggested the approval of the intramural fields to be constructed in the northern area of the preserve provided that a list of conditions would be met before its execution. Some of the conditions included adding the 2.95 acres to the southern area, and the excavation of a new wetland that will be sustained into perpetuity for

multi-purposes.

The list of conditions requires the allocation of \$2 million to a Nature Preserve endowment and improvement fund, to enhance the preserved and natural areas on campus. It also demands the development of a sustainability and connectivity plan for both MMC and BBC that would evaluate campus sustainability and open space connectivity.

Many of the additional demands that were stated at the meeting suggested a compromise between the University's administration and the faculty to properly fund and protect the Nature Preserve and all the natural areas on campus in the future. Those in favor of the resolution stated the crucialness of the decision to be made in favor for the plan because the University's administration expected decision to build regardless of the outcome of the faculty senate's decision.

According to Victor Uribe, a professor of history, "I would very reluctantly vote in favor of this motion only if we can ensure that nothing worse will happen."

Advocacy Program, introduced Attorney Crump. They are dear friends and colleagues.

Professor Smith has been practicing law for about 43 years and was the president of the National Bar Association 20 years ago. Smith also helped mentor Crump out of law school.

According to Smith, this event is important because he wants students to see themselves in great legal storytellers that they see on TV and read about in the newspaper.

He said, "They are flesh and blood just like you. It is a way to motivate the students, educate the students and confirm that their dream is not too big a dream."

He believes this event presented three important key points.

"One, you have to care about your community. Two, caring is not enough; you have to do something for your community. Three, You need to have the courage to do what is right event if it makes people angry and makes you a target of criticism and bad publicity because you will be criticized anyways,"

ONE BOY TWO BOARDS



JAVIER SANLLEY/THE BEACON

Nasser Al-Rabeah, freshman communications major, performs skateboarding tricks outside Deuxieme Maison on March 4, 2016.

However, those who voiced concerns about the resolution believed that the University's administration did not conduct a proper investigation of the area and the master plan would negatively impact the rest of the ecosystem.

Another concern was the questionable link between the

Miami FC and FIU deal that was made in October 2015 in association with the new practice fields. It legislates a three-year deal with a two-year option where the team may pay \$10,000 rent per home game match, and \$2,500 for any opposing team that would practice at the University.

Joshua Muñoz, the organic

garden manager, shed light on these facts that were provided by the Miami Herald when voicing his concern that the University may have special interests.

However, Kenneth Jessell, chief financial officer of the University, denied the accusation by stating that the fields are not intended

for anyone other than for the students.

Despite making the decision to go ahead with the University's master plan to build over the northern area, many students and faculty still remain hopeful that the Board of Trustees will respond to their demands for a win-win resolution.

College of Law hosts annual Great Legal Storytellers event

FUNMILYO IKUNIKA
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Benjamin L. Crump, the attorney for Trayvon Martin, described the late teen's case as, "The case that introduced the world to Stand Your Ground and the controversy of Shoot First Laws," during FIU's College of Law's fifth annual "Great Legal Storytellers' event.

The event occurred this past Thursday, March 3, in the ceremonial courtroom.

It featured Trial Attorney Benjamin L. Crump. Crump is the attorney for Trayvon Martin, the attorney for the Oklahoma City Police Rape victims, as well as President of the National Bar Association.

"Great Legal Storytellers" was sponsored by the Trial Advocacy Program and Passionate Principal Advocacy with the purpose to give students the opportunity to experience firsthand some of the greatest trial lawyers in the criminal field and the legal field of America.

Professor H.T. Smith, director of the FIU College of Law Trial

Smith says.

During the presentation, Crump acknowledged Rashaad Perry-Patterson, the education and enrichment chair for BSU, in the audience.

Crump could not help but notice a shirt that Perry-Patterson

“They are flesh and blood just like you. It is a way to motivate the students, educate the students and confirm that their dream is not too big a dream.

H.T. Smith
Professor
College of Law

wore listing all the names of unarmed black lives that were murdered.

As Rashaad stood up, the list included names such as Sandra Bland, Michael Brown and Tamir Rice.

Perry-Patterson attended Great Legal Storytellers on

behalf of the Black Student Union. He serves as their Education/Enrichment Chair for 2015/2106 Academic year.

When asked about what he gained from the event, he said, "I learned the value of lawyers, specifically the morals and ethics that make a good lawyer. Our job is to enforce equality and due process for all, regardless of gender and ethnic background. Those citizens that Crump fought for like Trayvon Martin and Eric Garner, were owed justice."

Anabel Miguelez, a member of the FIU Trial Team and Trial Advocacy Program is a second year law student. She was in attendance and currently works for an insurance defense firm.

When asked how students can make an impact she responded, "Each individual person has the power to makes the impact they want to make. If you don't do it, who else will do it. We all have the responsibility to make the world a better place and to do what we can for people who do not have the same opportunities."

Miguelez continued, "When you see the images and injustices occurring, you think about what

you can do to help and make a change. As Crump stated, you can have all the influence in the world but it doesn't matter if you don't use it when it matters."

FIU college of Law has a pro bono office to support cases of people that live below the poverty line. According to Crump, it is important that students are a valuable resource to our community.

Attorney Crump gave a presentation that emphasized the responsibility students have as their brother's keeper to use be a moral compass in seeking justice.

He explained this by showing graphic clips of unarmed black citizens killed by the hands of police, referencing MLK's Letter from Birmingham Jail and detailing his own experiences as an attorney.

As Benjamin L. Crump said in his presentation, "We all have a moral obligation, as good minded people, to take a stand for just laws."

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Sex a bigger problem for Zika than first believed

A dozen new Zika cases are raising worries that the virus may be more easily contracted through unprotected sex than originally believed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Friday that they're investigating 12 cases where the women's only known exposure to the Zika virus was through sex with a male partner who had traveled to areas where Zika was active. Now other researchers are assessing that information and

reaching alarming conclusions about how Zika is spread. Zika has not spread via mosquitoes in the United States, as it has elsewhere, Paul Roepke, co-director of the Center for Infectious Disease at Georgetown University, pointed out. That makes unprotected sex the only known way that the disease has been transmitted in this country - something researchers would never have expected just a few months ago.

UCLA will get hundreds of millions for rights to prostate cancer drug

A prostate cancer drug developed at UCLA will provide hundreds of millions of dollars for research under a record-setting deal announced Friday by university officials.

Royalty Pharma, a New York-based pharmaceutical investment company, paid \$1.14 billion for royalty rights to the drug known as Xtandi. It was the largest-ever technology transfer deal involving a University of California invention.

UCLA pocketed \$520 million of the proceeds for its 43.9 percent ownership stake in the drug. The funds will be placed in a portfolio that is expected to generate \$60 million a year to fund campus research, scholarships for undergraduates and fellowships for graduate students. The annual haul will continue until 2027, when major patents on the drug expire.

Belly-rubbing advice to pregnant student costs Wayne State University \$850,000 payout

A federal appeals court has upheld a \$850,000 judgment for a former social work student at Wayne State University who was told to wear looser clothing and not to rub her pregnant belly because it might excite the male clients she was working with at a rehab center.

Monday's ruling refused to set

aside the \$848,690 jury award in U.S. District Court against the university in a lawsuit filed by former graduate student Tina Varlesi, who contended she was the target of discrimination during a social work internship at the Salvation Army that led to her being denied the chance to graduate.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Student Conduct Committee seeking new board members

NAPHTALI ROSENBERG
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FIU has a Student Conduct Committee which is comprised of both students and FIU staff. The committee has multiple roles and missions. They seek to encourage safe demonstrations and exercises of First Amendment rights, they look to promote correct campus conduct and etiquette and they hold actual hearings where the board assesses possible infractions and delivers judgment.

The opportunity to participate in this democratic project, to be voice for the student body, is presenting itself right now. The SCC is currently looking for more students to join the Council.

There are a number of requirements for potential student board members to meet: a student must have completed at least one semester at FIU, he or she must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours for undergraduates or 5 credit hours for graduate students, a student must be in good academic standing and conduct standing with FIU, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and be available to serve on at least three hearings, three hours each, a month. Interested applicants can find a link to apply in the FIU Student Affairs website under the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution section.

The deadline to apply has not been listed on the SCC official website or recruitment page.

The director of student conduct and conflict resolution, Kristen Kawczynski, describes the

SCC as "responsible for adjudicating cases for students, but also trying to promote safe environment for our students so they can have an educational environment."

"We think about Florida International University as a community. There are certain expectations and norms that govern the behaviors of all of us. And for students those are governed by the code of conduct," says Cathy Atkins of student affairs.

At an SCC hearing, a student presents his or her

death of Kellie Fullilove last year to determine if there was cause for a Conduct hearing.

Between its promotion of free expression and its commitment to providing students with due process, FIU's Student Conduct Council is seeking to promote students' Constitutional rights. They manage to do this on a micro level: the SCC is mechanism for First Amendment and Fifth Amendment preservation housed entirely within the university.

“We think about Florida International University as a community. There are certain expectations and norms that govern the behaviors of all of us.”
Cathy Atkins
Dean
Student Affairs

case in front of a board of two students and one faculty member. This is a right that every student has.

Kawczynski describes their objectives: "We promote the concepts of respect, integrity, and community for our students. Every student has the right to have a hearing in front of the board, so this gives them the opportunity to present their side of the case and to bring any witnesses forward."

Many cases have been presented before the SCC, such as hazing incidents, dorm room conduct violations, campus demonstration infractions and many others. The SCC has been involved in many high-profile incidents at FIU. For example, the SCC investigated the tragic

Looking for ways to connect to the Student Conduct Council? If a student has a case and would like to appeal before SCC, said student can visit GC 311 in MMC, where the SCC office is located. Students who have an incident they would like to report then they may do so by visiting studentaffairs.fiu.edu.

The Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution webpage also features the FIU Student Code of Conduct, and a link to apply for a position on the Council. Students can follow @conductFIU on Twitter for updates and weekly conduct tips from the SCC mascot, Cody the Camel.

Additional reporting by Michelle Rodriguez

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The Beacon is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. The Beacon is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. The Beacon is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by student government.



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It's spring break – not 'spring bum'

ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM



VALENTINA DEL PINO

than planning what to do during next week?

With Miami Music Week, March 15-20, Ultra, coming up March 18-20 and the Miami Winter Conference March 21-24, there is plenty to do and plenty of events for all tastes in music.

With an estimated 2 million travelers from around the globe specifically coming for these events, FIU students have the opportunity to mingle with a

M i d t e r m week couldn't be over fast enough. The weather is on point and the beach vibes are strong. The wait for Spring Break is almost over. What better way to procrastinate

melting pot of people. Miami is about to become the biggest party city in the world for seven days straight. There is no excuse for being a couch potato and missing out.

From getting a tan after indulging in South Beach's sun to attending pool parties held by your favorite DJ's, there are events going on almost every single day during Spring Break. Even if Ultra Music Festival has you already booked for the weekend, you still have five other days to fill with moments that will last for life.

Every hotel in Miami Beach will be hosting events that will require either a ticket or an entrance fee, so get your bikini and your wallet ready, drinks will be \$15 minimum and some of these events require a minimum

charge of \$100 per group to get in. Don't worry, if money is your excuse (because we all know

“ Miami is about to become the biggest party city in the world for seven days straight. There is no excuse for being a couch potato and missing out.

” the college student struggle), promoters are always offering good deals and there are a couple events offered for free. All it

takes is going out and looking for those deals.

Traffic is also not a problem. If you plan to drive to South Beach, it is recommended to drive early in the morning and leave your car parked until late at night. Or to be worry free, you can always take an Uber or a Lyft.

Hotel prices are off the charts this week and tourists are mostly staying outside South Beach, so traffic will be something you'll definitely want to plan around. You were warned, don't complain later.

With all this madness coming up I recommend to leave everything meaningful or expensive at home. While everyone is having fun, there are always people trying to take advantage of the situation, so avoid getting robbed beforehand

by bringing only the essentials to your excursions.

Now you have no excuses to stay home and binge watch Netflix. Starting this Friday, music will be on and school stress will be off. Leave all your valuables at home, bring out your fanny pack and put on some sunblock before leaving the house because we all know you won't be thinking about that once you get to the beach! Go out and enjoy the craziness of Miami in one of the best weeks of the year!

Elephant in the room is a column about upcoming issues affecting students. Valentina Del Pino is a contributing writer for the Beacon. For further commentary contact Valentina at opinion@fiusm.com.

How popular culture appropriates and mutates gay lingo

COCOBTR DIARIES



DARIUS DUPINS

Shade. This is a word I hear more often than terms like, “thank you” or “please” and it has become more than just a nuance. I wish I could go a day without someone claiming they're about to “throw shade” without understanding or knowing its origins.

in speeches or rap verse, Andy Cohen's cohort of Real Housewives and reality show pawns have made it a part of every promotion advertisement. Even hyper masculine male rappers have been heard referencing the word shade and so has Alex Trebek, too.

I hear it from girls and more recently, guys who don't openly identify as gay or bi are beginning to claim the phrase as their own. As usual, with

– regularly checking my behavior against masculine ideals.

As just an observer of the film, I get a glimpse of a world unbeknownst to me. The NYC ball scene and the affluence in the late 80s of gay culture makes for constant insider/outsider dynamics.

The thing with “shade” is that it's subtle. Also, “shade” is a form of expression. Unfortunately, expression must change to fit the standards of modern media's greatest medium, the Internet. Subtlety as an art form is slowly dying. I know this because I've been misunderstood on the Internet and in real life.

This isn't the first time mainstream pop culture has misinterpreted slang. This is how language works, though; it mutates and manifests. For example, “gay” used to mean happy, now it describes an individual's sexual orientation and can be synonymous with the word “dumb” or “stupid.”

“That's so dumb or stupid,” now turns into “That's so gay!” Offensive, but language's ability to be fluid is what makes it dynamic.

As a takeaway from the film, we also learned the true meaning behind voguing, well before Madonna's polarizing black and white video

took this dance art form to mainstream culture.

Voguing, as defined by Willi Ninja, a ball scene fixture, is “the same thing as taking two knives and gutting each other up, but through dance form... voguing came from shade because it is a dance that two people did because they didn't like each other... whoever was throwing the best moves was throwing the best shade, basically.”

In Madonna's case, she

took that context away from the art form and term by making it a refuge from the “heartache” and “pain of life.”

Sure, we can take this as a win for gays: the mainstreaming of these terms is a sign of acceptance of an “extremely gay” culture, by hetero standards.

Of course, that doesn't demand that gays be masculine. But there must come a point when “shade”

is used correctly!

To all my straight brothers and sisters, make sure to shade responsibly and remember, shade comes from reading, reading came first.

Cocobtrdiaries is a commentary based on the black community and gay pop culture. For suggestions, please email Darius Dupins at darius.dupins@fiusm.com

“

A term rooted in gay culture is being appropriated, even though the gayest of us are appropriating it, too.

”

The legendary Dorian Corey once said, “I don't tell you you're ugly, but I don't have to tell you because you know you're ugly.” One of Corey's infamous quotes from Jennie Livingston's iconic documentary, “Paris Is Burning,” sheds light on the art of shade.

In recent years, “throwing shade” has infiltrated its way into mainstream pop culture. Rapper Nicki Minaj has said it or referenced the word a handful of times

popularity comes backlash by those who claim the term “throwing shade” has become blanket term for cattiness or even pettiness.

A term rooted in gay culture is being appropriated, even though the gayest of us are appropriating it, too. The culture depicted in Livingston's 1990 documentary isn't mine.

For the most part, I can relate to some of the subject matter the film discusses about always operating on two levels in the society

RALLY BOT



SAM PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

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Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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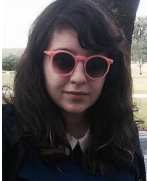
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LIFE!

'Sound of Ceres' shows maturity

SELECTED ANALYZED WORK



CINDY HERNANDEZ

Sound of Ceres, formerly Candy Claws, a boy-girl psych/dream/lounge/honestly magic duo from Fort Collins, Colorado have done it again on their new album "Nostalgia for Infinity." Three years after the release of their second full length debut Ceres and Calypso in The Deep Time, Sound of Ceres encompasses a mature, enthusiastic and dramatic fascination for nature and the universe and its never ending wonders.

The opening track "Pursuer" sets us up for the many "orbits" the album takes, placing a listener firmly in the world of a planetarium. "World where I've been...Standing without standing still/So light," are the lyrics that cement the group's fascination with space.

On their lead single and second track "Bryn Marina," the group brings back their favorite sounds: 60s space age lounge, 70s nature documentaries and a pop oriented guitar chord progression, to a song that thematically throws us back to their first full length debut, "In The Dream of The Sea Life."

Ryan Hover's background vocals, singing "Something real can't feel this real," along with Karen Hover's singing of "Turns inside of me, universe" couples nicely with the married couples effortlessly supplementary vocals. Pushing two wispy vocalists like this together against themes of unity and magic really expresses both the love they have for each other and on this album.

On "Ember Age," spacey reverb with slight analog synthesizers and a spooky piano rhythm entertain the idea of a monster living beyond our moral, human lives. "Creature face, hiding eyes/ Slow, huge size," impress on us this monster towards nature, but the real monster, that of a "Human-shaped and named/ I know it/ Silent Morning," brings us a gentle pleading on the state of our ever warming planet.

On the track "My Spiral Arm," we get this same descriptive song of a creature

but at the bottom of the sea, calling out to Karen Hover.

It's worth pointing out that each track finds a fascination with the planet that hit so many emotional notes, along with the clash of emotions on this album: seamless, natural and much like the maturation of this band in terms of production and exploration of sound.

My favorite track, "Hand of Winter," goes into a more shoegaze territory, with lyrics about the winter and the scarcity of warmth in a cold climate, yet small details like "The back of her hair/ The gleam at her throat," striking a nerve on romance in the face of a crumbling infrastructure. The fascination with outer space on "Side A" is just as adorable, referring to a "Dark eyed star child," as "Side A on both sides," with a synth pop influence and a sassy salsa guitar that really lends itself to an optimistic turn for the rest of the album.

On "You're Me," we're taken back to a more traditional dream pop sound, reminding me a lot of earlier Slowdive and Rachel Goswell in general. The lyrics "Your eyes search for me, and I am always there," are poignant and accompanied with the cutesy bleep bloop sounds of a MIDI keyboard along with a gentle percussion. A duet from both Karen and Ryan are just extremely adorable, but never saccharine. If anything, the love songs here sound pure and excitable.

On "Kingfisher," we get the most obvious lounge inspiration, with lyrics about jet setting across the solar system like, "East in the morning/ South in the afternoon/ See Solar starling/ Hiding behind the Earth on my right in my mind."

The Instrumental track "Antiprism" is an intense bridge that blends gospel and synth into our final track "Dagger Only Run," inspired by, of all things, a course in the video game "Dark Souls 2," recognizing Sound of Ceres playful nature. Ending the album with the lyrics "All time was there in one place" is powerful and attests to the groups theory of love and imagination blending all at once.

Selected Analyzed Works is a column that discusses selected works from the RPM genre. For suggestions or comments email life@fiusm.com

HOMANS OF FIU



BLANCA MARTINEZ/THE BEACON

Claudia Recio, marketing junior.

"My top 10 fantasy locations for Spring Break would be: Cancun: because of the good weather and the parties; Hawaii: I would love to see the beautiful landscape of the islands; Las Vegas: because of the party; Australia: I have never been there and I would love to; South Africa: because the wild animals and different culture; Peru: Machupichu must be wonderful; San Diego: because of the good vibes; Bali: it is a exotic place; Bahamas: It has beautiful beaches; Spain: I love the food of this country"

Ten local Spring Break attractions for students

ON THE SCENE



GABRIELLE GARCIA

After a long year of coursework, many Spring Breakers can't wait for the perfect beach party. But what about those who crave a different kind of escape from the mundane demands of Spring semester?

With many activities to choose from, here are ten suggestions for the perfect South Florida Spring Break Getaway!

Jungle Island: Want to set sights on some of the world's most unique and exotic species? Make your way down to Jungle Island! You may just set sights on a Liger, some Spider

Monkeys, Parrots, oh and a Lemur or two!

Grab a Bite to Eat. With thousands of restaurants to choose from, Miami has the perfect fit for your culinary wants and needs! From Indian and Japanese to Cuban and Italian, So. Flo. has something for everyone!

Adrienne Arscht Center: With an array of productions playing year round, The Arscht Center is home to the epitome of your artistic experiences. Go online and grab your tickets!

Shark Valley, Everglades: Itching to get a good workout in? Grab your friends, mount your bikes and head out to the gorgeous Shark Valley! Don't have a bike? No Problem! Shark Valley offers hourly and daily bike rentals. Exercise just got a whole lot better with a killer view of all sorts of South Floridian wildlife!

The Bonnet House

Museum and Gardens: Located in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, this hidden gem is sure to not disappoint! From luscious and vibrant gardens to touring the quaint grounds of the beloved estate, The Bonnet House is sure to be a worthwhile experience.

Knaus Berry Farm: from glorious sticky cinnamon buns to strawberry picking, Knaus Berry Farm, located in Homestead, FL, serves as the ultimate sweet treat.

Camping at Big Cypress: This Everglades attraction makes the perfect campground. With good food, music, friends or someone you love, this destination provides the perfect opportunity for quality time with nature!

Oleta River State Park: Looking to bust a sweat and a wave? Head out to Key Biscayne for a Kayak Ride. Get in touch with one of Florida's most renowned

ecosystems — mangroves!

Wynwood: Whether you have an interest in street art, the excitement of nightlife or in the mood for a cup of warm coffee, head down to Wynwood for a day or night out on the town!

Pinecrest Gardens Farmers Market: You will definitely want to come on an empty stomach! With fresh local food, crafts and lush Gardens, a Sunday at Pinecrest Gardens may just be all you need.

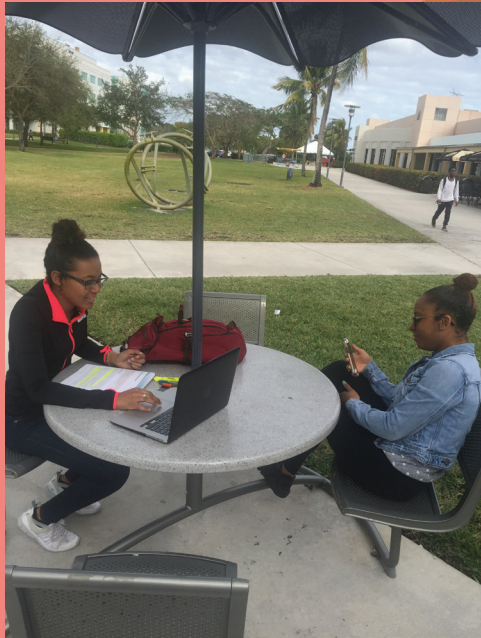
In any case, if this list doesn't satisfy any of your interest make sure to have a safe and enjoyable Spring Break 2016!

On the Scene is a commentary on the hottest pop culture topics. For further commentary, contact Gabrielle Garcia at gabrielle.garcia@fiusm.com

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ALL ROADS LEAD TO SPRING BREAK



DARIUS DUPINS/THE BEACON

Francesca Jackson (left) is traveling to Tampa to visit family and spend time on the beach, while Dahlia Campbell (right) will be spending the break on Miami Beach with her sister and her boyfriend.

DARIUS DUPINS
Entertainment Director
darius.dupins@fiusm.com

Spring Break is only hours away and it's evident the student body is fiending for a well-deserved break. Spring Break is all about forgetting the worries of that failed midterm or the beginning of the end for seniors.

Here are a few of our Panthers that are excited for their plans for the next week!



DARIUS DUPINS/THE BEACON

Mirei Watanabe (left) and Kana Nakao (right) are planning a girls' trip to Guadalajara, Mexico for spring break. The two are seen here sitting outside of the Graham Center putting the final touches on their trip.

Flight of the Conchords returns to Florida

NOTES ABOUT NOTES



JULIAN BALBOA

Flight of the Conchords have announced their "Flight of the Conchords Sing Flight of the Conchords" summer tour and are setting their sights on Boca Raton and St. Augustine for their only Florida appearances since their Miami show in 2009.

Flight of the Conchords are a comedy-folk musical act from New Zealand with two albums and an EP to their career, as well as a cult following to their HBO series of an eponymous nature. They are made up of guitarists/vocalists Jermaine Clement and Brent McKenzie. They formed in 1998 after having met as roommates at their apartment while attending the Victoria University of Wellington.

According to FotC fan site, What the Folk, the band refer to themselves as "the almost award-winning fourth-most-popular folk duo in New Zealand." Signed to Sub Pop records, the group released their only albums, "Flight of the Conchords" and "I Told You I Was Freaky," in 2008 and 2009

respectively.

They broke up shortly after the cancellation of their HBO TV series, but in 2012, reunited and have since gone on multiple tours with a handful of rumors of a third album in full swing after the most recent announcement.

It goes without saying that it's been a long time since they've come down to Florida. That's usually the case with most artists that go on tour. Miami and the rest of Florida, is often ignored in favor of not having to spend more money on making the trek down south, yet Atlanta, Georgia is a popular stop for artists.

It's difficult for students on a budget to make the trip to Atlanta to see their favorite artists, but when a well-respected artist goes out of their way to perform at a local venue, it's appreciated with overwhelming response.

With any hope, the forthcoming Flight of the Conchords concerts in Boca Raton and St. Augustine will sell out and have overwhelming demand for them to return once again.

Notes About Notes is a column focusing on music news and live events. For commentary or suggestions, email life@fiusm.com.

Bas' 'Too High to Riot' an 'emotional display'

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With "Too High To Riot," New York rapper and Dreamville/Interscope's Bas attempts to deliver an album that presents variety and an emotional display of the artist's

fourth and most well received mixtape "Water[s]."

While sharing the same instrumental from two years ago does contribute to Bas' album lacking originality, his lyrical delivery help give the impression that it is a different song at an extent.

Dopamine is another

come off as not being genuine.

Another fault in Bas's project is the similar sound throughout the project.

Being a member of Dreamville, the same label as J. Cole, you can pick up on the similar sounds as the album plays through.

This is a similar issue J.Cole



While sharing the same instrumental from two years ago does contribute to Bas' album lacking originality, his lyrical delivery help give the impression that it is a different song at an extent.



ambitions and personal efforts.

While it is clear of the artist's goals for the album, the execution of it results in a familiar, underwhelming project, even though the album's title track did not give this impression.

The track borrows instrumentals from the song "Comfortable" by Chicago rapper, Mick Jenkins, off of his

highlight on "With Too High To Riot."

Bas shows a little bit of wordplay rapping "my father got whip it ain't sick enough, my mother need more treatment like she ain't sick enough."

It is an emotional reach, musically, towards the audience, however, when the content becomes inconsistent with the message the songs

has had with his past projects.

On "Too High To Riot," the majority of the songs have no unique characteristics to them in comparison to Chance The Rapper's jazzy and spontaneous delivery, J. Cole's ability to maintain a sense of narrative or Kendrick's overall execution. In short, the album comes across as average.

SOFTBALL



Kugelmann gets second no-hitter in two weeks

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Softball dropped their first three games last weekend before turning it around with yet another no-hitter by Megan Kugelmann.

The Panthers took their 11-5 record on the road with a short trip to Gainesville to compete in the UF invitational, hosted by the University of Florida.

The first game of the tournament for FIU was against Illinois State University, Friday, March 4.

The 3-11 Redbirds looked

to be in danger after Dani Mowry made two hits that extended the FIU lead to 4-0 in the bottom of the third.

In the fourth inning, the day came to an end for Abby Summers, who started strong but then gave up three RBIs and five hits all in one inning.

The sequence tied the game at 4-4. Kugelmann took the mound, and she gave up three more runs for the Redbirds in her two innings of play.

Rachel Dwyer came in as the reliever in the seventh inning, and she recorded a strikeout, but it was all too late for FIU.

The Panthers' pitching collapsed and the Illinois State Redbirds pulled off the upset with a final score of 8-4.

Kugelmann dropped to 2-1, her first loss of the season, while Summers got a no decision in the game.

The Panthers had the second game of a double-header coming up the same evening was against the No. 1 ranked UF Gators. The Gators came into the game with a 17-0 record.

It was a defensive battle between both teams. After trailing most of the game, the Panthers offense showed some signs of life with a Dominique

Grossman homerun to cut the lead to 2-1.

It was the first homerun allowed by the Gators all season, and it broke up a perfect game bid.

However, it was the only hit the Panthers managed all game, which ended in a 3-1 defeat. The loss drops Corrine Jenkins to a 1-3 record for the season.

FIU's troubles carried into their next game on Saturday, March 5. The Panthers started off the day with a rematch against the Gators. The Gators wasted no time, and scored six runs in the first inning.

Summers started the game

and left in the first inning after allowing a homerun, followed by back-to-back RBI singles.

Hunter Scharf would replace Summers, but she also gave up two runs of her own in the opening inning. FIU would find themselves in an early hole, down 6-0.

The game did not turn over for the Panthers at all. FIU only scuffled two hits and two walks all game.

The Gators went on to win easily 10-0. For Summers, it was her second loss of the season (5-2), and she gave up six runs on five hits.

The loss also marked the biggest losing streak for the Panthers at three, dropping them to 11-8 and 0-3 on the road.

FIU had one more game Saturday to cap off a double header, and there was no better way for the Panthers to get back to their winning ways than with a Kugelmann no-hitter.

Kugelmann tossed her second no hitter in two weeks in an 8-0 win over Florida A&M University. She also had three strikeouts and walked just one in the victory.

The bats were banging once again for FIU as well. After scoring one run in their previous two games, FIU managed eight runs on eight hits, being led by Jackie Schoff going three for four while scoring two runs.

The win improved the Panthers to 12-8 and dropped the FAMU Rattlers to 5-10.

The stage was set to close the tournament against the University of South Alabama Jaguars on Sunday, March 6.

The Jaguars were in the "Receiving Votes" category for the USA Today/National Fastpitch Coaches Association Coaches Poll in the past week.

South Alabama struck first, scoring two runs in the first inning. Jenkins got off to another rough start, walking four batters and a run, and giving up an RBI single in the first inning.

The FIU offense found some rhythm in the third inning, scoring two runs after Ashley Leon batted in a run on her single.

The score stayed knotted at 2-2 until the final inning of play. A.J Belans made her way to first after a walk, but moved to third after a Deven Kennedy sacrifice walk and Jaguars error.

Grossman made her way back to the plate and a hit down centerfield bought Belans in for the game winning run. The score would end at 3-2.

Jenkins got a much needed win to go to 2-3 for the season, and the Panthers improve to 13-8 overall.

The Panthers return to Felsberg Field at the FIU Softball Stadium Tuesday, March 8, against East Carolina and Wednesday, March 9, for a double header against Notre Dame.

These games will set the stage for FIU's first look at a Conference USA opponents in the season.

The Panthers will play the Charlotte 49ers on March 12 and 13 at home, looking to get their conference matchups underway and start off strong.



PHOTOS BY MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

TOP: Freshman outfielder Jackie Schoff rounds the bases after hitting during the February 26 game.

BOTTOM: Freshman outfielder Deven Kennedy throws the ball to first base, attempting a double play.

NFL

Pete's Mock Draft: Picks one through five

PETE'S PICKS



PETER HOLLAND JR.

As much as the NFL season is exciting and people can't wait until September, nothing is more exciting and intense than the NFL off-season. My favorite part of the off-season

is the NFL Draft.

The Draft feels like a three day Christmas, full of waiting for the NFL teams to announce who they're drafting out of college and NFL fans will be reacting uncontrollably to who the team got as if it was a Christmas present.

The NFL Draft is less than two months away and draft analysts like Mel Kiper JR, Todd McShay, and Mike Mayock would have their mock drafts, projecting who should this team pick just according to their position needs.

To countdown to my favorite time of the year, which starts April 28, I will be producing a series of mock drafts every Tuesday.

Here is my first mock draft from one through five.

1. Tennessee Titans (2-14)

Laremy Tunsil

University of Mississippi

6-foot-5, 315-pound, offensive tackle

The Titans hold the No. 1 overall pick and they need as much help they can get. They have their quarterback in Marcus Mariota, who they drafted last year with the No. 2 overall pick.

Unfortunately, the Titans failed to protect Mariota last season as he's been sacked 38 times, which is ranked 10th in the NFL.

Here comes Tunsil, a massive behemoth who only gave up two sacks in his college career. His size and quick footwork as a pass blocker could be the answer for the Titans.

2. Cleveland Browns (3-13)

Carson Wentz

North Dakota State University

6-foot-5, 223-pound quarterback

It's no secret that that once again, for two decades, the Browns have yet to find their franchise QB.

I'm not a huge fan of drafting a player from a sub-division school as high as the first round, or even in the top five. However, Wentz is not an ordinary sub-division QB.

He's basically the perfect prototype of an NFL quarterback in this day of age. He has size, a strong arm with excellent accuracy.

Even at 6 feet 5 inches and 223 pounds, he's very mobile and can make plays outside the pocket. The

Browns can't let this opportunity go to the waste, what do they have to lose?

3. San Diego Chargers

Jalen Ramsey

Florida State University

6-foot-1, 209-pound defensive back

Ramsey could arguably be the best all-around football player in this year's draft class. The only question evaluators have been asking ever since he declared was where to put him in the secondary.

Is he a cornerback or a free safety? To me he has the skills of a cornerback but the size of a safety.

The Chargers need a playmaker on defense, especially in the secondary since long time starting free safety Eric Weddle decided to walk away and test the free agent market.

If Ramsey is available at number three, look for the Chargers to get on top of that.

4. Dallas Cowboys (4-12)

Joey Bosa

Ohio State University

6-foot-6, 276-pound defensive end

There are some questions regarding to Bosa with his immaturity and what defensive scheme fits him as an edge rusher.

The Cowboys have already decided they won't be looking for a quarterback to develop as a backup for whatever happens to Tony Romo, and not to resign troubled defensive end Greg Hardy. Not to mention pass rusher Randy Gregory, who they drafted last year, will be suspended for the first four games due to breaking substance abuse policy.

Having Bosa will be a huge boost for the Cowboys defense because he's a dominant force at defensive end.

His upper body strength to penetrate and wear down offensive linemen to get to the quarterback is sensational and could impact the Cowboy's front four.

5. Jacksonville Jaguars (5-11)

Vernon Hargreaves III

University of Florida

5-foot-11, 192-pound cornerback

The Jags, just like the Chargers, need more playmakers on the defensive side.

Hargreaves could be the answer. His size and his ability to read the QB's eyes is what the Jaguars need for their defense.

As all SEC cornerbacks, he has experience going one on one against big time receivers, such as Amari Cooper, former All-American wide receiver from the University of Alabama, now rookie sensation for the Oakland Raiders. Vernon is a day one starter, who is not intimidated with the completion of the NFL.

UP UP AND AWAY



MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

Junior infielder JC Escarra watches as the ball he batted soared during the March 4 game against Loyola Marymount University. The Panthers lost the game 4-8.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Heat thriving without Bosh, looks for strong finish

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After the February 27 acquisition of Joe Johnson, the Miami Heat has given fans another reason to be excited about their season.

Since losing Chris Bosh with his health prognosis still looming, Miami Heat fans were in scare of a repeat

Suns.

Injury Report: Bosh and Tyler Johnson (Heat).

Under Head Coach Erik Spoelstra the Heat is one of the deepest teams in the league. The team sits first in the division and fourth in the Eastern Conference, only 1.5 games behind the Boston Celtics, the third seed. The Miami Heat are looking at 21 games left (12 away, nine home) in the season and they hope to carry this momentum into the playoffs.

“With absolutely no real expectations from the media, the Miami Heat are looking to shake things up and close out the season strong and challenging the Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference playoffs.”

from last season for a moment. But not so far, since the Miami Heat signed seven-time all-star and tweaked their lineup adding more versatility and firepower experience to the lineup.

It was a no brainer for Johnson to join the Heat with his friendship with Dwyane Wade and former teammate Amar'e Stoudemire helping with the recruiting process. Moving Joe Johnson to the small forward position allows Luol Deng to play a fast type of power forward making the Heat more of a running team, which they have lacked all season.

Johnson adds an all around game and most importantly gives the Heat another three-point threat. In his first three games, he's averaged 14.7 points, 2.7 rebounds, 3 assists and 1.7 from the 3-point line.

Since joining the team, the Miami Heat are shooting the ball at a high percentage of 54.4 percent, including a franchise high performance from the team against the Bulls (67.5 percent). Not always does a big time acquisition like Joe Johnson fall into the Heat's hands but it's also boosted the team's performance going 3-0 with convincing victories over the Knicks, Bulls and the

Still unsure of Bosh's health, the Heat has found a way to continue scoring and move the ball more, giving more opportunities to the likes of young center, Hassan Whiteside.

After a monster performance of 26 points, 14 rebounds and four blocks, Whiteside stepped up to fill in for the center.

“Now that Bosh is down, its time for me to step up,” said Whiteside at on the Heat Live post game show.

Still coming off the bench but playing starter minutes, Whiteside is looking to continue his all-star play into the playoffs on the final year of his contract. Surrounded by veterans, including Johnson, Whiteside will be surrounded by no better teammates to respond to.

With absolutely no real expectations from the media, the Miami Heat are looking to shake things up and close out the season strong and challenging the Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

With Cleveland failing to acquire Joe Johnson, it adds extra spice to the storyline. Miami Heat fans can only continue watching as the Heat look to clinch a playoff spot for the first time in the post Lebron era.

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Campus Life's Tunnel of Oppression to highlight diverse forms of oppression

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After a tentative date and one postponement, Campus Life's Tunnel of Oppression event will take place April 7 in the WUC Ballrooms from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The event is meant to highlight different forms of oppression throughout history as well as in the present.

"It's a 15 minute simulated tunnel; by simulated I mean it's very interactive," Kaytien Franco, program assistant at the Office of Campus Life at BBC, said to Student Media. "It gives students, faculty and staff a front line view of what oppression is and that it is a big deal and something that happens daily."

According to Franco, the WUC Ballrooms will be transformed into a tunnel consisting of different interactive scenes.

"Students are taken into a scene, various scenes, and each room covers a different topic of oppression," she said. "It's very interesting and we try to connect all of the rooms in some sort of way to complete a story."

Participants will also be given the

opportunity to discuss their experience in the tunnel, once they've traveled through the whole Tunnel of Oppression.

"At the end of the tunnel, there is the Tunnel of Hope," said Franco. "Everyone will be welcome to sit in a circle and have a discussion about what they thought about it and their emotions going through it."

Though the date for the Tunnel of Oppression is set, coordinators for the event are still looking for volunteers.

"The more volunteers the better," says Franco. "The Tunnel will run from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. in at least six shifts that day. A volunteer would either be a tour guide, because there's always a tour guide following you through the tunnel, or an actor."

The lines will mostly be improvised and the actors will be directed by the coordinators in order to create a "live, interactive experience," according to Franco.

She credits Tiffani Brown, graduate assistant for the Office of Campus Life, with bring the event to BBC.

According to Franco, Brown is the driving force behind the event.

She said, "[Brown] brought this idea to BBC and she's the main coordinator of

all of this."

"She's worked really hard. She's leaving us because she graduates in the spring but hopefully this can be a tradition that we can carry through long after she graduates," said Franco.

Brown could not be reached in time for media deadline.

Franco says the event presents diverse forms of oppression to match the diverse University community.

"The tunnel addresses oppression from almost any possible background you can think of. Last year we covered different oppressions, this year we're tackling some of the most crucial ones," said Franco.

According to Franco, one of the most crucial topics this year is race.

"That's an oppression that we're tackling again this year," she said. "Another one is called 'Beauty Hurts,' which is body shaming, beauty standards and norms."

The event was impactful for students last year and contributed to very emotional responses from participants, according to Franco, especially due to the tunnel's Black History room.

"That was the most impactful room for most of the people that did the tour.

I think the reaction was more like 'Man, this is how African American's used to be treated,' she said. "I don't think they realize that impact. Everybody was kind of shocked."

Franco believes that shock is an important factor when hosting the event.

She said, "It's meant to be impactful. It's meant to make students understand 'This is the real deal.' Oppression is very concerning and something that is still going on."

Students can get involved by visiting Campus Life at BBC and reaching out to Brown via email.

"Students that don't want to volunteer but want to come to the Tunnel of Oppression can RSVP."

It's important for students to RSVP because the participants will walk through the shuttle in shifts, according to Franco.

Franco hopes the experience will open student's eyes to different forms of oppression that occur every day.

She said, "This event is to remind students to be careful of what you say and to think before you speak. Never judge a book by it's cover because you never know the impact you can have on someone."

Florida shores yellow, brown and black all over

JENNY STALETOVICH

Miami Herald

TNS Staff

What's yellow, brown and black all over? After a bruising watery winter on the heels of a dry summer, Florida's water.

In July, a stinky stain scientist's call yellow fog spread across Florida Bay after a regional drought killed miles of seagrass. Last month, water managers began flushing Lake Okeechobee into the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico after record rain. A familiar wave of black water thick with sediment soon flowed east, spreading to corals on the northern remnants of the state's reef tract. On the west coast, water turned a muddy brown.

"You can't see 3 inches in the water," said fishing Capt. Mike Connor, whose Stuart-based business is down 70 percent this year as he struggles to recover from a similar flushing in 2013.

"We get this every two to three years," he complained. "It's like a punch drunk boxer. You get punched too many times and you just don't get up."

Dumping lake water has become a routine move with an aging flood control system that can't handle Mother Nature's curve balls. But scientists fear this round of releases, coming so early in the dry season, could be

even worse than 1999, when lake releases preceded widespread fish kills. Since the dumping started in January, the normally brackish St. Lucie estuary has changed to almost entirely fresh water, clouded with sediment.

Already alarms are sounding. On Friday, after Conde Nast Traveler warned readers that "excess sludge" was being dumped off beaches, Gov. Rick Scott declared a state of emergency, blaming problems on the aging dike and the Obama administration.

"Not only is the well-being and health of our families at risk if the Obama Administration doesn't immediately begin funding repairs to their federally operated dike, but our housing market, tourism industry and agricultural community will fail if the dike is not repaired and properly maintained," Scott said in a statement.

Locals, meanwhile, dusted off old battle plans: A group of anglers headed to Tallahassee last week to complain while others organized a protest Friday in Stuart. Three mayors from the west coast also flew to Washington to beg for help. A video Connor posted on his Facebook page last month has been viewed more than 377,000 times.

"Unfortunately, the writing on the wall is total destruction,"

said Jacqueline Thurlow-Lippisch, a commissioner for Sewall's Point, the tiny, affluent town that sits on a peninsula dividing the St. Lucie River from the inlet.

"It's like 'Groundhog Day,'" she said. "I can't believe I'm doing this again."

Problems this year started when record rain hit the region in January. Already saturated from a wet El Nino winter that flooded parts of Miami-Dade County in December, causing \$125 million in crop losses in a single week, the lake rose rapidly, forcing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to start dumping water to protect the dike.

When releases into the Caloosahatchee river failed to bring down levels fast enough, the Corps started releasing water to the east. On Feb. 4, as the lake continued to rise, the Corps announced it would begin dumping as much water as possible into both the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers.

Meanwhile, sprawling water conservation areas to the south of the lake normally used to hold excess water also topped out.

To get rid of the water, the water management district began opening taps wherever possible. More than 5.6 billion gallons of water have been moved into Everglades National

Park after Scott asked the Corps to speed up a restoration project. Water in the conservation area is continuing to rise, but at least had slowed by Friday, said district engineering, construction and operations chief John Mitnik.

The district is also pumping up to 96 million gallons of water a day into an emergency detention basin near Miami International Airport constructed after Hurricane Irene in 2000 and has cranked up pumps dumping water into the Miami Canal. Another 5 million gallons a day is being pumped into an aquifer storage and recovery pilot well in Palm Beach County, which was part of larger project scrapped because of questions over effectiveness and ecological impacts.

Even with the extreme pumping and more rain forecast, water managers say they'll likely need to keep dumping water into the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee for some time. And the longer the releases last, the bigger the odds for dead seagrass and more toxic consequences.

"It won't happen right away. Usually stuff like that happens after the fish have been stressed for a period of time. Kind of like people," said Dennis Hanisak, a director of Marine Ecosystem Health at Florida International University's Harbor Branch Observatory where, following

the 2013 event, researchers installed monitoring stations to better understand and distinguish impacts from lake water and the local watershed.

"Every time we have this it's just really challenging to the system," he said. "In Florida, everything is connected by water."

Thurlow-Lippisch, echoing environmentalists around the state, says the solution to the problem is simple: more storage south of the lake.

But that solution, first posed by former Gov. Charlie Crist, has been repeatedly rejected by legislators and Scott, even after voters overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment to spend taxes from real estate deals on land to save the Everglades. A bill this year sets aside up to \$200 million for the next 20 years on Everglades restoration. But money for land, \$27.7 million, went to restoration projects already under way, not a reservoir.

"This year what really has people angry is the Amendment 1 money," Connor said. "We thought that was a blessing for us. But the Legislature has stolen the money two years in a row. We've had 25 years of promises here and nothing is in the ground."