

4-4-2016

The Beacon, April 4, 2016

Florida International University

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TRASH TO TREASURE

Eco-Couture Recycling Fashion Show teaches sustainability



PHOTOS BY MELISSA BURGESS/THE BEACON

Students model couture outfits made from recyclable materials such as egg shells, wine corks and plastic bottles, during the third annual Eco-Couture Recycling Fashion Show on March 31.

MELISSA BURGESS
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Thursday, March 31, about 1,100 visitors gathered in the Paul L. Cejas School of Architecture courtyard to witness the third annual

Eco-Couture Recycling Fashion Show.

Amira Ajlouni, FIU's architecture alumna and the founder of the Recycling Fashion show along with the help of her event planner Jennifer Luis, a current architecture graduate

student at FIU, organized the fashion show. Through the collaborative effort of FIU's School of Architecture and university student volunteers, this recycled fashion show competition has become an annual event.

This year's runway showcased 38 outfits, which had to be made out of recyclable items and must be reusable.

The contestants were competing for scholarship prizes. First place won \$1,000, second place won \$500 and third place won

\$300. There was also an additional award for People's Choice award winning an additional \$200.

Each outfit is judged on innovation, beauty, craftsmanship and recycled material.

The panel of judges

included Rene Ruiz, designer of Rene Ruiz couture, TV personality Candela Ferro, journalist and Spanish news presenter Marian de la Fuente, director of Arquitectonica GEO Margarita Blanco,

SEE FASHION, PAGE 2

Access FIU presidential, vice presidential candidates removed from SGC-MMC voting ballots

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Jose Sirven and Devondra Shaw of Access FIU have been taken off the ballot for the SGC-MMC presidential election.

Initially Sirven and Shaw were disqualified from this year's elections, but still kept on the ballot, following a decision made by the Supreme Court of SGA at FIU. The Supreme Court ruled that Sirven's position as president of the Residence Hall Association is not an SGA position, despite RHA being an agency under the jurisdiction of SGA.

Shaw then appealed the decision to Student Affairs.

Eric Arneson, assistant to Vice President Larry Lunsford of Student Affairs, was authorized to review the appeal in Lunsford's absence.

"Shaw appeals the Majority Opinion of the Student Supreme Court of Florida International University - MMC dated March 23, 2016 (Majority Opinion," said the Arneson's statement to Shaw.

Arneson's final decision was to uphold the Supreme Court's decision in presuming Sirven and Shaw ineligible to run for office.

He said, "I have concluded that there is no basis for the appeal and therefore, I uphold the Majority Opinion of Student Supreme Court of Florida International University - MMC dated March 23, 2016."

In a statement made to Student Media, Shaw said, "Our disqualification came as a shock to both Jose and I, considering the personal relationship we have with the individuals running in the FIYOU ticket."

"Had our eligibility to run been in question, I would have hoped it would have come up in conversation sooner

“

We are preparing to file suit in the BBC Supreme Court against the Supreme Court at MMC, because they waited so long for the hearing to take place

Jose Sirven
Disqualified Presidential Candidate
Access FIU

”

than a week before elections," she said. "However this has motivated us more than ever to continue advocating for the needs of FIU students that do not belong to the political class that now controls the student government."

"We are hoping that the administration will share our desire for democratic and fair selections and overturn the unjust ruling by the SGA MMC Supreme Court," said Shaw.

According to Arneson, the decision constitutes as final agency action of the University and no further action will be

taken by the University.

As a party, Access FIU is not disqualified from SGA elections. However with Shaw and Sirven taken off the presidential ballot, SGA Speaker Alian Collazo and his running mate Michelle Juarez of FIYOU are now running unopposed.

"We are preparing to file suit in the BBC Supreme Court against the Supreme Court at MMC, because they waited so long for the hearing to take place," said Sirven in a statement made to Student Media. "Our hope is that Devondra would be allowed to run for President with me as her running mate."

Collazo sympathizes with Sirven and Shaw's frustration at their disqualification, but he respects the decisions made by Student Affairs, according to Collazo in a statement made to Student Media.

"I have nothing against Mr. Sirven and I have nothing against Devondra Shaw," said Collazo.

"I have never questioned their integrity but that has not been the same [case] from Mr. Sirven and his party," he said.

"From day one, [Access FIU] said 'Bring integrity back into Student Government,'" he said. "They didn't question our ideas, they didn't question what we've done, they questioned our integrity - and that, we will not do."

Though Collazo is running unopposed, students can still vote for either FIYOU or Access FIU for senatorial position on April 5 and April 6.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Former Stanford athlete found guilty of sexual assault

A former Stanford athlete was found guilty Wednesday of sexually assaulting an unconscious intoxicated woman outside an on-campus fraternity party in a case that helped increase pressure on colleges nationwide to do more to prevent assaults and punish offenders. Brock Turner, 20, was convicted of three felony charges: assault with intent to commit rape of an intoxicated

woman, sexually penetrating an intoxicated person with a foreign object and sexually penetrating an unconscious person with a foreign object. District Attorney Jeff Rosen said the case helps make the distinction clear between consensual sex and sexual assault.

“Drunk means no,” Rosen said. “Passed out means no.”

California isn't using blood data in Exide battery plant cleanup

The state of California has blood test results showing high levels of lead in children living near the closed Exide battery plant in Vernon, southeast of downtown Los Angeles, but is not using the information to direct its cleanup of lead-contaminated homes and yards.

Health experts say the test results should be used to help pinpoint neighborhoods most in

need of swift cleanup because children there have been exposed to more of the poisonous metal. Lead, which spewed for decades from the Exide Technologies recycling facility, is especially dangerous to young children, putting them at risk of lifelong developmental and behavioral problems. Blood-testing data have guided government responses to lead contamination elsewhere.

Agent Orange benefit screening process scrutinized in Congress

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs is looking into whether a contractor thoroughly reviewed the files of Vietnam veterans who might deserve benefits for illnesses linked to exposure to Agent Orange. A contractor that prescreens veteran files for evidence of those illnesses often spent just minutes reviewing each file, internal

company documents show.

The contractor, QTC Medical Services, reviewed files for 160,000 veterans. The company was paid approximately \$300 for every file reviewed under 2 inches thick and \$350 for files more than 2 inches thick.

SCHOOL OF ROCK



JACOB BURNS/THE BEACON

Alternative rock band, The Super Fuzz, performed live for Graduate Appreciation Week. Free food was provided for attendees.

Students design for scholarships

FASHION, PAGE 1

acclaimed psychoanalyst and artist Constance Silver, Ajani P. Stewart, the Environmental Programs Manager from the City of Miami, Barbara Hulanicki, a designer and Jessica Anderson, founder and chief designer of Apparel Design House.

“Everything has to do with craftsmanship. I looked for the way they put it together and the way they did it, because you know at the end of the day anyone can put things together but if you have the time and the talent to do it well that's what makes it art,” said Ruiz.

Eco-Couture started in spring 2014. Ajlouni said the fashion show was her thesis project that gained a lot of popularity and she never expected her thesis to turn into an annual event.

The competition was created with the purpose of promoting sustainability through fashion and strives to educate and inspire the community about good recycling habits. The show is also meant to educate visitors on how to live an environmentally-friendly lifestyle.

“I'm always impressed by the outfits. Every year I always see something beautiful and interesting. The students' works are always well designed and the materials are unique and the way they use them are innovative,” says Ajlouni.

At 8:30 p.m., the models hit the runway. The Master of Ceremonies, Martin Amado, encouraged the audience to vote for their favorite pick for the People's choice award. Then he welcomed all 38 contestants and their designers back on stage for the judges to make their decisions.

Finally, the winners were announced. Third Place winner was contestant number 21, Cindy Rodriguez. Her dress was made out of a combination of white and brown egg shells, magazines and beer bottles.

“It's really wonderful to display the egg shells on my dress that no one really thinks about. I was hoping people would

appreciate the fact that it's a different type of material and its egg shells. I feel like a lot of times, people abandon the egg shells and you can't really use them. I wanted to showcase that we don't really have to use paper bags or bottle caps. We can think about other materials that are out there,” said Rodriguez.

Second place winner and People's Choice Award winner was contestant number 37 Adrienne Kanter and designer Susana Alonso. Alonso said her dress was made out of white plastic grocery bags and was completely crocheted. The bottom of the dress had over 200 pompoms.

“A lot of craftsmanship was involved but it was worth it because I'm really proud of the dress. You know, there's a lot of really awesome garments this year and I'm excited for everyone. I know we all worked so hard and I'm just happy to be here and happy that people get to see the dress and all the work I put into it.”

First place winners were contestant number 28 with designers Laura de la Vega, Sharit Ben Asher and Andrea Canaves. The two-piece jumpsuit was made out of garbage bags, plastic and 3D print draft. Vega said that their look was a representation of women in architecture in the 21st century.

“We are extremely happy and we cannot believe we won. There was a lot of good designs and designers in the show. It's amazing to know that we are capable of doing something like this and also being a winner,” said Vega.

Ajlouni hopes that the fashion show will continue to inspire people to integrate environmental sustainability into their lifestyles and inspire people to see recycled materials in a different light.

“This is an amazing experience and I wouldn't miss for the world. It gives these wonderful students the stage to show how really talented they all are. It's for all ages. Once you see the outfits, the creativity just shocks you. It just wakes up your creativity and inspires you to all the things you didn't think was possible,” said Silver.

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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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Killing arcades—the death of social gaming

IN TRUTH



DAMIAN GORDON

Going outside and socializing is overrated; the further we are from each other, the better. What sounds like words of a crazy cat lady from down the street is actually what appears to be the outlook of the youth these days.

Arcades are becoming an increasingly rare relic within this society which is growing to favor distance over intimacy.

These buildings which house games, prizes and machines brought some of gamers' wildest fantasies to life, bringing them closer to reality, while being shared among players of all ages. Going to the arcade on any given weekend was the place to be for many growing up.

In Dania Beach, Boomers closed last January. The remnants of its existence was a large wooden roller coaster, called the Dania Beach Hurricane, recently demolished along with a bit of people's childhood.

Arcades were huge in the '80s, '90s and early '00s, primarily due to how they were more powerful than home consoles. They gave an unrivaled experience that several

friends and members of the family could enjoy for an affordable price.

Putting down a quarter on a cabinet

“

Arcades are becoming an increasingly rare relic within a society that is growing to favor distance over intimacy.

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signified that you were next in line, while players battled inside a noisy and dimly lit room on top of countless, long dried, Coca-Cola spilled floors.

These arcades are where I learned the art of negotiation and that my words can be one of my greatest tools.

“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” was a tent-pole beat ‘em up game in arcades for years, staying in player rotations with life and death discussions over who was going

to be Leonardo.

There were plenty of times I had to convince other kids that Raphael was cooler, just to free up Leo for myself. There were times when I ran out of quarters and had to persuade someone that I could help them beat “House of the Dead” if they covered me.

It's no secret that neighborhood streets are less crowded by playing kids as most of them have everything they need on tablets now.

Growing up, most of my generation couldn't wait to go outside. Staying inside was virtually a punishment.

When online gaming became a prominent force in gaming's last generation with the introduction of Xbox Live and Playstation Network, arcades fell further to the wayside as people no longer had to leave their homes to play together.

The nasty and disrespectful comments people spout online would even provoke the Pope to slap the braces out of some kid's mouth.

This invisible wall between two parties doesn't exist in arcades, meaning two things must be kept in mind with whatever is said. First, You're within arm's length of another

person and second, if you're not being a decent human being, nobody will want to play with you, unlike online, where some poor soul is forced to.

Companies like Sony or Facebook are gambling their fortunes that Virtual Reality will be the next big thing. This technology is bound to be expensive to own and could be a big revival of the arcade scene.

This is exciting as it could lead to a whole new era - where the new generation is able to experience similar things people my age and those before me did.

The arcade is a place where friendships could start; where memorable stories can unfold and be saved in our memory banks for years to come.

Socializing in person with others is crucial to one's development as a person. The experiences offered by arcades can potentially mold someone for the better.

In Truth is a commentary on issues that everyone has thoughts about, but doesn't discuss. Damian Gordon is a staff writer for FIU student media. For suggestions, email Damian at damian.gordon@fiusm.com

Bernie Sanders is not to be underestimated

ON THE SCENE



GABRIELLE GARCIA

From enduring an unsteady start to his presidential campaign in May of 2015 to his current status in the 2016 primary election season, Senator Bernie Sanders has significantly defied a series of unfavorable projections toward his campaign.

On Saturday, March 26, Sanders' campaign gained a swift momentum, winning three caucus states: Alaska, Hawaii and Washington state.

During the early months of his campaign, Sanders most definitely attracted the attention of a range of pundits, especially with the announcement of his Democratic Socialist political philosophy.

Almost instantaneously, Sanders' campaign was struck with a fog of hateful rhetoric that has continued to make

its appearances and many voters have, and perhaps still do, question his credibility as a candidate - quite possibly because of the way in which Sanders' campaign is represented by media platforms. With web access at the tips of many, if not most Americans' fingers, social media sites serve as a virtual gateway for the 2016 election season.

Though many voters and pundits view Sanders as an underdog, I view Sanders as a beacon in a lighthouse, aiding sailors on their travels through a dark and tumultuous sea.

Regardless of the many difficulties his campaign has experienced, Sanders has responded by unwaveringly advocating, addressing and discussing topics that many find difficult to bring to the forefront of conversation.

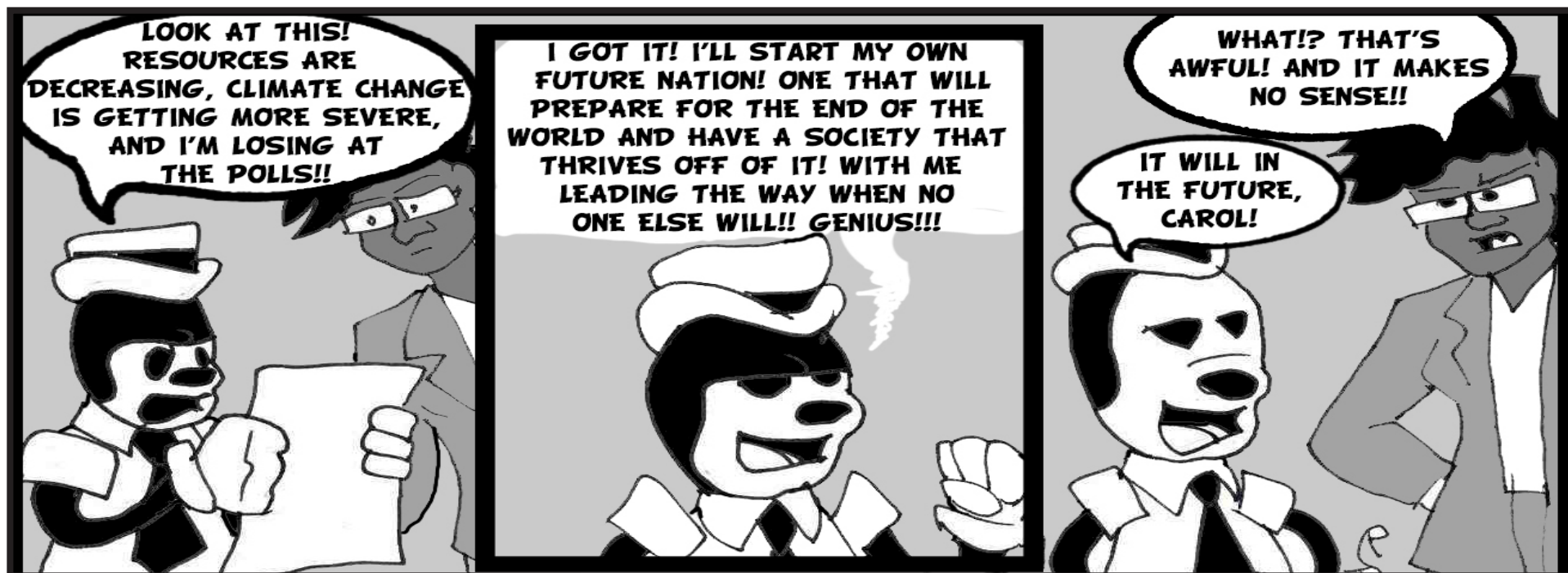
Among his extensive and detailed list of issues the United States faces today, Sanders is applauded by his supporters for his fight to end income and wealth inequality, his advocacy

for health care as a fundamental human right, his courage to take on enormous economic and political powers affiliated with the billionaire class, his social progressivism and his passion for environmental sustainability and protection.

Perhaps it is his consistency or his ability to engage with audiences of all backgrounds that has captured the minds and hearts of many Americans. Time can only tell what the next few months of primaries, caucuses and conventions have in store. Despite the results to come, Sanders has raised awareness to important questions, issues and dynamics the United States is experiencing. This may influence our nation for the better.

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

A PLACE OF MY OWN



SAM PRITCHARD-TORRES/THE BEACON

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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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How to recognize and fight emotional eating

SDA HEALTH



SARA HYACINTHE

Ice cream and chocolate have always been presented as comfort foods for those

to be responsive to signs of hunger and satiety as a method of choosing how much food to consume. People with eating dysregulation rely on exterior reasons to initiate and cease eating. It is also believed that heightened stress levels are associated with the consumption of more food.

The scientific rationalization is that interactions between the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis. The reward-circuitry of the brain may facilitate the correlation between stress and eating by lessening the stress response, thus motivating the intake of high calorie foods. In layman's terms, the brain deals with stress by reducing stress levels the moment calorie rich foods such as pizza, cake or ice cream are consumed.

By doing this, eating becomes an effort to keep negative emotions at bay, providing comfort and a distraction when emotionally distressed. In this scenario, eating does not exist as a method of survival but rather as a coping mechanism for the morose.

However, research shows that there are ways to design an intervention that teaches focus on internal cues to guide

eating behaviors.

It has been suggested that children who are taught to concentrate on their internal cues of hunger and satiety when eating are better at regulating their food intake, compared to children who are taught to focus on external cues.

These external cues are many and they vary from stress from academic work, anxiety from socializing, heartbreak or the loss of a loved one or boredom due to a lack of interesting activities. With such a range, no one is exempt and everyone could be an emotional eater.

It is imperative to pay attention to the inner signs. The next time emotions are running high and stress or anger compels you to grab a cupcake or bag of chips, think twice. Once you have centered yourself and allowed your mind to harmonize with your body, you might be surprised by the results.

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

undergoing heartbreak. For some reason, these foods taste better when feeling disconsolate and inspire one's sweet-tooth. Coincidence? Perhaps not. Emotional eating has always been a part of most routines, but perhaps was never singled out.

As described by Adriaanse Marieke, emotional eating is "the tendency to overeat in response to negative emotions such as anxiety or irritability." This is precisely what we experience when ingesting an excessive number of calories following a breakup.

Does it then follow that eating while emotional is a problem? Perhaps not by itself. The issue manifests when one overeats as a result of negative feelings, like depression, anxiety or boredom.

These emotions can all cause "eating dysregulation," an individual's tendency not

The five components of physical fitness

MOTIVATION MONDAY



NIHAT STRIDER

This week's Fitness Model is Saskia Guilbaud, a freshman architecture major. Guilbaud spends a lot of her time in the architecture studio on MMC campus but she makes sure to dedicate time for exercising in between her busy schedule.

The definition of physical fitness can be a little complex as we all have a different idea of what "fit" should look like. For some of us it might mean a sleek, Hollywood style body, while others might want bulging muscles, while a lot of women strive for the hourglass figure.

However, scientists have discovered five components of physical fitness. These components represent a reasonable definition of what a fit and healthy body should be like.

We always hear that exercise is great for you. Undoubtedly, this is true, but in order to get the maximum results from

your workouts, you should follow a fitness regime that has variety and is balanced.

This is where the five components of physical fitness are applied.

Cardiovascular fitness. Cardiovascular fitness is the foundation that enhances all other levels of fitness. Cardio refers to the heart and vascular is related to one's blood vessels leading to and from our lungs.

Cardiovascular exercises efficiently deliver oxygen and nutrients to the working muscles.

In other words, it is the capacity of our heart and lungs to work together to supply required oxygen and fuel to our body so it does not suffer through fatigue

Studies have shown if you perform highly cardiovascular workouts during your exercise, you will have a more efficient heart, lungs and vascular system even when you are at rest. Maintaining this will help people avoid illness and disease, leading to a long and healthy life.

For more of Motivation Monday visit fuisum.com.



LIFE!

FIU stu

KATHERINA DEL RIO
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Students, staff and community members filled the courtyard of the Paul L. Cejas School of Architecture Thursday, March 31 to see 38 original fashion designs created by FIU students from recycled materials.

"I worked in the woodshop and helped make a dress out of wood palettes," said Cesar Charria, a junior majoring in architecture.

The Eco Couture Fashion Show was started by Amira Ajlouni while she was working on her thesis as an architecture grad student.

The goal was to promote sustainability through fashion. Currently, she is the show's artistic director and a project manager at Development Service Solutions, LLC.

"We want everyone to see trash in action," Ajlouni said, during her opening speech.

Other speeches were made by Jennifer Luis,

Models wear sus
Eco Couture Fash
March 31. From
bags and trash
create trash in ac

Coming of age collegia

LIFESTYLE POINTS



JOSEPH CARDENAS

His first film after 2014's critically acclaimed "Boyhood" follows a 1980 college baseball team on a journey the weekend before classes begin. As the freshmen embrace adulthood and freedom, they move into a dorm house with their competitive teammates.

"What we wanted to

capture was what it's like for someone to go off to school," star Tyler Hoechlin said at a roundtable interview with three other actors in the film: Blake Jenner, Ryan Guzman and Will Brittain. The roundtable took place at the Mandarin Oriental hotel in downtown Miami, sitting with other reporters, Brittain even engaging in games of tic-tac-toe with everyone at the table.

Hoechlin elaborated, looking back on his own days in college about "that moment [of] my parents driving away and realizing 'oh wow I'm actually on my own, and these are the first moments where I'm free to

be who I want to be'."

The film focuses closely on one of the freshmen, Jake (Jenner), a pitcher whose noticeably tamer than the rest of his rowdy team. As he and the other freshmen navigate disco clubs and house parties, being mentored by upperclassmen Finnegan (Glen Powell), Roper (Guzman), and McReynolds (Hoechlin), he grows close to one of the girls, Beverly (Zoey Deutch). Over the weekend, Jake and his friends explore their freedom and sexuality, growing and establishing their own identity along the way.

It seems almost appropriate for a college

LOOKS, LOOKS, LOOKS

Students show off wearable, sustainable fashions

Ajlouni's event partner, and Jason Chandler, the chair of FIU's School of Architecture.

Chandler offered a moment of silence before the fashion show began to honor architect Zaha Hadid, who died Thursday.

Outfits were made using items that typically end up in landfills, including: plastic forks, garbage bags, water bottles and pieces of old tires.

Pedro Munarriz and Christopher Gongora, architecture grad students, worked together to create a two-piece outfit made of scraps of plywood and used sandpaper.

For Munarriz it was important that their piece have a narrative and while the finished product wasn't what was originally intended, he describes the outfit as post-apocalyptic and aggressive.

"We originally imagined something more elegant but it's hard to make sandpaper look sexy," Gongora said.

The fashion show

Sustainable fashions at the Fashion Show on Thursday, 3D print drafts, plastic bags, student designers.

competition was open to the entire FIU student body, the only requirements being that the dress be made of completely recycled and reusable material and that the outfit could be worn more than once.

Jose Caba, a junior economics major, saw the show for the first time last year and knew he wanted to design an outfit this year. He created a dress fit for a queen using newspaper, chains, tape, garbage bags, hooks and velcro.

"I did a little everyday so I didn't slack and wait till last minute," said Caba, who worked on the elaborate project for two weeks.

TV host and interior designer Martin Amado served as the show's master of ceremonies and

mentioned the materials each dress was made from as its model walked down the runway.

The outfits were judged by a panel of eight judges, including journalist Marian de la Fuente, director of Arquitectonica GEO Margarita Blanco, Constance Silver, a psychoanalyst and artist, TV personality Candela Ferro, designer Rene Ruiz, founder and chief designer of Apparel design house Jessica Anderson and the City of Miami's environmental programs manager, Barbara Hulanicki.

There were a total of four money prizes ranging for \$250 - \$1,000. The top three prizes were decided by judges and the last prize was determined

by the audience through anonymous voting ballots.

Judges deliberated on the 38 outfits for more than 25 minutes. Third place winner, Cindy Rodriguez, created her dress out of eggshells. Susan Alonso took home the second-place prize of \$500 as well as the People's Choice Award of \$250 with her outfit made from plastic water bottles and white plastic grocery bags.

The first place prize of \$1,000 went to a team consisting of Laura De La Vega, Sharit Ben Asher and

Andrea Canvaes who collaborated to create a two-piece outfit from plastic bags and 3D printed material.

All proceeds made during the fashion show will go toward scholarships for students in the FIU Department of Architecture. Designs featured in the Eco Couture Recycling Fashion Show will be on display on the second floor of the terrace dining area at Dadeland throughout the month of April.



PHOTOS BY SELENE BASILE/THE BEACON



ate comedy impresses

newspaper. Going into this setting, we're just starting to explore ourselves and experience the world our own way. In that, you can easily connect with the heart of this movie.

Out of this, it's still a movie you can go in and enjoy. It's a comedy that plays best on its parody of the hypermasculinity that drives the team's competitive atmosphere, but shows its endearment in the relationships they form with each other. Exceptional performances by Hoechlin, Powell and Jenner carry this movie well.

The cast also had fun filming in the setting of 1980

with disco era backdrop. The actors had to learn to dance disco and also had to embrace the fashions of the time to capture the year, and it almost look like a perfect snapshot of the 70s.

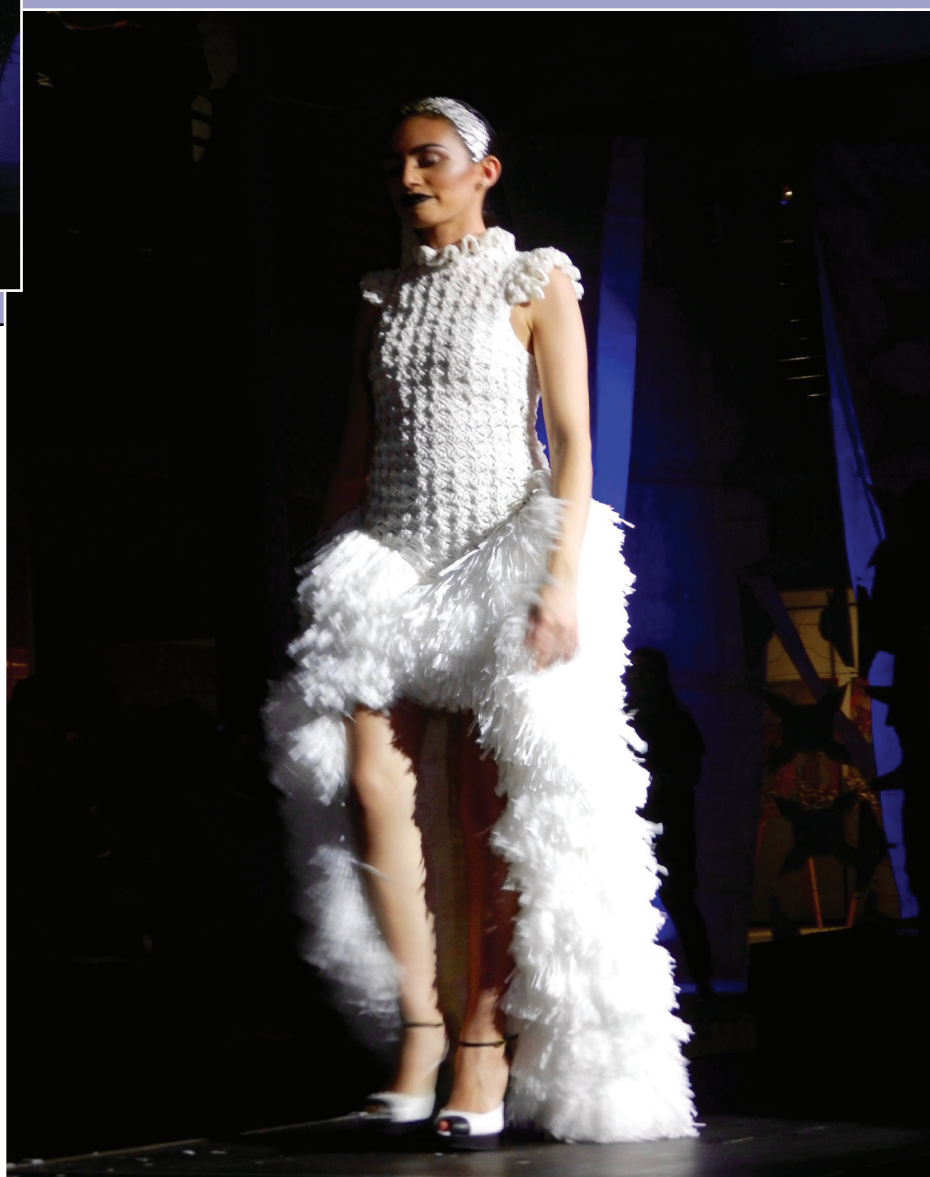
"Disco dancing is nice because I'm not a great dancer," Brittain said, eliciting a collective chuckle. "[It] allows you to be yourself. No one can really look at that and say 'that's not how you do it.'"

"I got to see what all the fuss was about. My parents were always jamming out to music from that era, so it was cool to embrace all of that," stated Jenner.

"Everybody Wants

Some!!" is a wild, rambunctious ride with a surprising amount of endearment but never once disguises its intention to be about college freedom. Though slow paced, you won't walk out of the movie unsatisfied. It comes out nationally April 8 and is rated R.

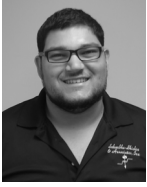
Lifestyle Points is a weekly column covering films and pop culture by Joseph Cardenas. For suggestions and comments email joseph.cardenas@fiusm.com



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Untangling the mess of the WNT pay gap

T-TIME



GIANCARLO NAVAS

The United States Women's National team (USWNT) is once again at war with their soccer federation. Five players from America's most successful soccer team have filed for a wage-discrimination action against the U.S. Soccer Federation (USSF) with the Equal Employment

Opportunity Commission.

In the past the WNT have fought for better playing and travel conditions and while never getting much success with these movements, they have garnered a lot of public support. Their latest movement, however, is being met with more resistance.

There are many dissenting opinions of what is fair pay in a sports business model, based on revenue brought in and collective bargaining agreements.

Following the release of the USSF's 3025 financial report, the WNT felt like they had a legitimate case. According to the report the WNT made

approximately \$20 million more than their male counterparts, while getting only a fourth of the pay. Any capitalist would agree that's wrong and in an anti-Marxist America it feels kind of illegal.

However this isn't a simple conversation. There are layers to it and untangling it all makes for difficult nuance, it isn't as black and white as saying; they made more money therefore they should get paid more.

I think agreeing on the aforementioned is a starting point that any sensible American can get behind. However what makes this complicated and

hazy is the odd labor discussions the WNT find themselves in. Their collective bargaining agreement (CBA) expired in 2012 and the women have been operating under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) while the new CBA is being negotiated.

The divide is tangibly delineated here as the point of contention and key to the WNT's case action is what exactly does this MOU mean. What the USSF says is that the MOU is supposed to keep much of the CBA's structure while tweaking a few key points and that it extends to the end of this year.

The WNT says it's only a

stop-gap measure not an end all be all. However, the MOU specifically details the player's salaries, which range from 36,000 a year to 72,000 a year.

Richard Nichols who is the executive director of the players union informed the USSF in December of 2015 that the MOU was invalid as a CBA and if a new one was not put into play by February of 2016 then it would end and the player's would be bound by it's no-strike clause.

So here is where the case lies, a judge will have to decide the limits and powers this MOU has

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BASKETBALL

NCAA shows the nature of corporate America

JUMPSHOT



DAVID DRUCKER

I once thought that the purpose of the NCAA postseason was to find the best team, but of course not - this is corporate America. It's an ingenious mechanism that makes a sport our country and doesn't care about anything besides profits.

Make no mistake, nobody watches the NCAA regular season. In 2014-2015, 57 percent of normal games earned a television rating of 0.0 or 0.1 per SportsMediaWatch.com. That same postseason, however, had a draw of 11.3 million total viewers according to NCAA.com.

Most people ignore the regular season because it doesn't matter.

They are many flaws with the current NCAA tournament. For one, teams like Michigan State - a team locked into the Final Four in many brackets - was knocked off by Middle Tennessee State University in the very first round. Is it fair? Yes, in the single-game elimination format. Is it good for people who enjoy watching good basketball? No.

If you think March

Madness was made for basketball fans, a person with a lot of money has been fooling you. March is for the gamblers. Americans don't tune in necessarily to see the best games but instead hope for most insane unlikely results that line up with their unique brackets.

This gambling spirit is achieved by convincing everyone that each team has a real chance. This is based on a stretched truth - although number 15 seeds take down number two seeds in the first round all the time, the lowest seed to ever win the whole thing was number 8 Villanova.

The tournament is exciting because the stakes are high. But we're not supposed to be gamblers - we're sports fans. Watching the better team find out who they are and win should be enough for us, right?

In this casino of basketball, one group is winning big: the mid-majors.

It comes down to motivation. The allure of making it to the big tournament is real, but it's also a long road. It is already infinitely harder and more depressing for mid-major teams to make it to the NCAA tournament than a power 5 conference team.

They normally aren't

SEE MONEY, PAGE 7

NFL

NFL mock draft predicts potential upgrades for teams

PETE'S PICKS



PETER HOLLAND JR.

It's April and the NFL Draft is only five weeks away. The top 10 picks have been published and we now focus on picks 11-15.

These picks are intriguing because it's the mid first round from teams that finished right in the middle of the pack and also because the Miami Dolphins currently hold the number 13 pick after trading away their original number eight pick to the Philadelphia Eagle's in exchange for linebacker Kiko Alonso and

cornerback Byron Maxwell.

11. Chicago Bears (6-10) DeForest Buckner 6-foot-7, 287-pounds defensive lineman University of Oregon

NFL evaluators are very high on Buckner not because of his monstrous size, but because how disruptive he is against offensive linemen.

Playing for the Bears seems like a better fit because he came from a 3-4 scheme back in Oregon. He is definitely a day one starter who can get off blocks and swallow up quarterbacks consistently.

12. New Orleans Saints (7-9) Jaylon Smith 6-foot-3, 229-pound linebacker Notre Dame University

The Saints' defense has been a major issue all season long for head coach Sean Payton. The main problem for them is

linebacker help.

Saints have struggled to make tackles and gave up 29.8 points per game. Smith has been a defensive juggernaut for Notre Dame in the past two seasons. He is a sideline to sideline tackler.

One red flag for Smith that could really drop his first round status is his recent knee injury he sustained two months ago during the Fiesta Bowl against Ohio State.

He's currently recovering from a torn ACL and LCL. Some said he could have had nerve damage that could keep him out the entire year.

His highlights say first round, but whoever takes him will most likely medically redshirt him until he is fully 100 percent.

13. Miami Dolphins (6-10)

SEE DRAFT, PAGE 7

Pete's Picks: NFL Mock Draft

1. Tennessee Titans get Laremy Tunsil, OT from Ole Miss

2. Cleveland Browns get Carson Wentz, QB from North Dakota State

3. San Diego Chargers get Jalen Ramsey, CB from Florida State University

4. Dallas Cowboys get Joey Bosa, DE from Ohio State University

5. Jacksonville Jaguars get Vernon Hargreaves, CB from University of Florida

6. Baltimore Ravens get Ronnie Stanley, OT from Notre Dame

7. San Francisco 49ers get Jared Goff, QB from University of California-Berkeley

8. Philadelphia Eagles get Laquan Treadwell, WR from Ole Miss

9. Tampa Bay Buccaneers get Noah Spence, DE from Eastern Kentucky University

10. New York Giants get Myles Jack, LB from UCLA

11. Chicago Bears get DeForest Buckner, DL from University of Oregon

12. New Orleans Saints get Jaylon Smith, LB from Notre Dame

13. Miami Dolphins get Ezekiel Elliott, RB from Ohio State University

14. Oakland Raiders get Jack Conklin, OT from Michigan State University

15. Los Angeles Rams get Reggie Ragland, ILB from University of Alabama

SOFTBALL

SLIDE THROUGH



MEGAN TAIT/THE BEACON

Freshman outfielder, Jackie Schoff, slides into third base to avoid the force out. FIU eventually lost the game against UTEP 6-4.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Soccer federation wage gap shows inequality in sports

WAGES, PAGE 6

and if the player's union has a leg to stand on.

It is complex and layered and the numbers of the pay gap are startling when you think of how much more successful the WNT has had than the men's national team (MNT). Each player on the MNT for example, get's \$5,000 for losing a friendly.

The WNT gets paid \$1,350 for a win. If the MNT wins a World Cup Qualifier match they get \$12,500, the WNT gets nothing. The MNT also get bonuses for winning world cup games while the WNT do not see any additional money until a fourth place game. The bonus for winning a world cup for the WNT is \$75,000 per player and the bonus for the MNT is \$9.375 million to the team player pool.

The numbers are uncomfortable, especially when considering the WNT brought in \$20 million more last year. It is important to remember that 2015 was the first year that the WNT had ever earned more than the men and that it was in part due to it being a World Cup year paired with their victory tour across the

country.

You would have to understand how upset this would make the WNT. They are fighting for not only equal pay, but equal playing conditions as men and equal travel accommodations as men. They look at last year and saw how they made significantly more money than the MNT and on top of all of that, they are much more successful.

So what are left with are people who feel literally unvalued and look at their male counterparts and see how much better they are treated financially.

Who can blame them, it's a human and natural feeling to have and from a moral standpoint, they're right. But, this is business and business is cold and does not favor morality. The issue is not one so black and white, but as the WNT continue to wear red white and blue, the only color that matters is grey.

Be Real is a bi weekly column focusing on social issues in sports. For commentary and suggestions, email Giancarlo Navas at giancarlo.navas@fiusm.com

BASKETBALL

NCAA tournament structure keeps outliers in the running

MONEY, PAGE 6

invited - they must win their own conference tournaments in order to secure a bid. Take the University of Alabama at Birmingham: they crushed their competition all season long going 26-5 overall, but lost in the postseason and went to the National Invitation Tournament instead.

I have covered two below average men's basketball teams at Florida International University in my two years here. Both of them could not keep a .500 record with some of the top talent in Conference USA.

Add in the fact that their standing body of student fans is a fraction of that of a power five conference and you get a pretty sad

game-day atmosphere.

When their pride has been taken away from these Panthers - when they are spending the prime of their lives being spanked on their home court on a Saturday night instead of partying like most of their peers - how do you get off the floor? How do you convince these Panthers that they are playing for something?

It's teams like the Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raiders that keep FIU motivated. They weren't just underdogs; they were dark horses by mid-major standards.

In their final game of the regular season, they needed a last-second three just to lift them over FIU. They went on to upset

number two Michigan State University in the first round of the tournament. Applause and hysteria swirled around them for days as they relished the national spotlight.

As they got the attention that they would never otherwise gain.

Many people think that the NCAA tournament is unfair for mid-major teams, but it's quite the opposite. They are the best thing to ever happen to them.

They bring hope to otherwise hopeless seasons. Then they give players a chance to upset a heavyweight so above their pay grade that they would never be able to book them during their regular season schedule. After all

that, they get to return to campus heroes and nationally known.

In the end, the NCAA Tournament isn't fair the way it's set up.

To rightfully crown a national champion, we should have the best teams playing at least five-game series against each other to eliminate outliers like Middle Tennessee over Michigan State. But I write hoops for a mid-major school. So as long as I'm here, you won't see me complaining.

Jumpshot is a bi weekly column about issues surrounding the NCAA. For commentary and suggestions email David Drucker at david.drucker@fiusm.com

NFL

Defense and offense rise on mock draft

DRAFT, PAGE 6

Ezekiel Elliott 6-foot, 225-pound running back Ohio State University

A lot of Miami Fans are dying to know who they are going to pick after trading down 5 spots and holding the Philadelphia Eagles' original pick.

The Dolphins have a lot of holes they need to fill offensively and defensively.

Right now the biggest need for the Dolphins is running backs now that former Dolphins' starter Lamar

Miller decided to play for the Houston Texans.

Ezekiel Elliott could be a home run pick for the Dolphins if he's available at number 13. Also known as Big Freak Zeke, he has all the tangibles to be every down back due to his size and breakaway speed. He could make 5-yard gain into a 50-yard gain in one carry.

14. Oakland Raiders (7-9)

Jack Conklin 6-foot-6, 326-pound, offensive tackle Michigan State University

The Raiders

are this close in becoming a legitimate contender in the AFC conference.

Adding a tackle makes sense for the Raiders since they struggled to protect their young franchise quarterback Derek Carr. Conklin provided size and power back at Michigan State. His pass-blocking skills could be a huge asset for the raiders.

15. Los Angeles Rams (7-9)

Reggie Ragland 6-foot-2, 258-pound linebacker University of

Alabama The debut of the L.A. Rams first pick could be an interesting one.

They could easily go quarterback in this round since they don't have a legit QB who can win them games, even back when they were still the St. Louis Rams.

Yet, there are still some veteran quarterbacks that could sign in the free agent market. For now, I have the Rams drafting a middle linebacker and picking Ragland makes sense now that they released their starting middle

linebacker James Laurinaitis just to save cap room.

Ragland is everywhere on the football field and is a tackling machine back in Alabama. Having Ragland up the middle on defense could be a huge upgrade for the Ram's defense whose strength is their defensive front.

Pete's Picks is a biweekly column about the NFL and FIU Football. For commentary and suggestions, email Peter Holland Jr. at peter.holland@fiusm.com

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‘Hateful’ origins of the Confederate Flag explained in lecture at BBC

POLITICOBUZZ



FABIENNE FLEURANTIN

When wearing something with a symbol on it, does one always know the symbol’s origins and meaning?

One may wear it for pride, or maybe to show off their sense of fashion. Sometimes symbols trend among the elite or the famous, thereby making it a must-have item to those who wish to stay with the times. The symbols one sports may gleam with glitz and glory, but behind every image lies a meaning; a designated history,

“The Confederate flag is a remnant of the southern states during the civil war - states who were in favor of slavery. This flag was generated in hatred and those who still use it today misunderstand its meaning.”

forever transforming its original definition to the world.

Thursday, March 31, the Multicultural Programs and

Services presented students at BBC with this discussion on the meaning behind the Confederate flag and how this symbol impacted students here at FIU in the Wolfe University Center.

Justin Hill is a Junior here at the university. He expressed his sentiments on what he thought the Confederate flag meant to him.

“The Confederate flag, for me, it means hate. I mean, it’s disgusting. I think that it goes more than just a war of the north and the south. And me, as a black man, you know, it isn’t just a war. It’s my ancestors and what they went through.”

Hill also thinks that it still affects people today.

“Although we’re a ways away from slavery, I don’t feel this country was built for us as a black race. I don’t feel like it was established with us in mind, so of course when I see the flag, I feel like they shouldn’t see it as a sense of pride. They should see it as a disgraceful flag.”

Jeffrey McNamee, director of MPAS at BBC, led the discussion and touched on other symbols that have been misused by the public.

The swastika, for example, was used throughout the Hitler and the Nazi Regime to terrorize millions of Jews into near extinction. It is virtually the most recognizable symbol of evil by many people.

Yet, the history behind it is different. This was a symbol that was, and still is, used by Hindus to mean “to be good.” But Hitler turned it at an angle, forever changing the significance of this



FABIENNE FLEURANTIN/THE BEACON

Jefferey Mcnamee, director of Multicultural Programs at BBC, discusses symbols and their origins

symbol and its impact on society as we know it.

The subject of cultural appropriation came up as well, with the inappropriate use of Native American headdresses and names of tribes as mascots. A number of sports teams have adopted these names, like Florida State University Seminoles.

In this instance, the university has built a relationship with the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Both parties work together to “include prominent participation by tribal members in many of the university’s most meaningful events and seek advice and direction to ensure tribal imagery is authentic,” as mentioned on

unicomm.fsu.edu.

Overtime, they have solidified a bond of mutual respect and unprecedented support from both sides. However, this is not always the case in other situations.

The Washington Redskins of the NFL refuse to change their mascot.

“The team would not reconsider whether to change the team’s nickname if it became a political barrier to building a new stadium in the nation’s capital or elsewhere,” said Redskins coach Bruce Allen to USA Today.

Herein lies the problem of the misconception of symbols, awareness of where they came from, what they mean to others

and what they stand for.

The Confederate flag is a remnant of the southern states during the civil war - states who were in favor of slavery.

This flag was generated in hatred and those who still use it today misunderstand its meaning. They know it as it is now and not as it was before. We are at risk of misunderstanding our history.

PoliticoBuzz is a commentary that raises awareness about political issues in the US and worldwide. Fabienne Fleurantin is a staff writer for FIU Student Media. For more commentary, contact her at fabienne.fleurantin@fiusm.com

BBC Events - April 4-15, 2016

“Know Yourself”/ FIU Live Kick-off April 4, 12-3 p.m. Panther Square	SGA Elections Voting April 5 & 6 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Academic One	Career Expo April 5 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. WUC Ballrooms	Disco Skating Rink April 6 4-9 p.m. WUC Ballrooms	LGBTQA 3-D Series: Intersectionalities of Pride April 7, 12- 2 p.m. WUC 155
Tunnel of Oppression April 7 12 - 5 p.m. WUC Ballrooms	Strolling - Art, History and Culture Embodied April 8, 6:30 p.m. WUC Theater	FIU Bayfest April 9 3 p.m. - 12 a.m. Lawns by the Bay	Pantherpalooza: FIU Flashback Style April 11, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Panther Square	Tuesday Times Roundtable April 12, 12:30-1:30 p.m. WUC 159
ALM Discussion: Hispanic Lives Matter April 13, 1 - 2 p.m. WUC 253	Day of Silence April 14 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Panther Square	Java Jam: Colombian and Venezuelan April 14, 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. AC-1 Atrium	Kayak After Dark April 14 7 - 9 p.m. WUC 160	Academic Quiz Bowl April 15 2 p.m. WUC Ballrooms