TOUGH LUCK

Marty’s Cube leaves University after 16 years

Students may have to find another ritual to help them pass their exams now that the University’s lucky charm has been removed for good.

On May 22, Marty’s Cube, as it was titled by sculptor Tony Rosenthal, was lifted from its spot for the past 16 years, outside Duxieme Maison, and hauled away.

The University cited safety concerns for removing the cube.

It had been damaged and could have presented a danger to members of the University community passing by it, according to a statement from the University Media Relations office.

These safety concerns prompted the University to return the piece back to its original donor, Martin Margulies.

The Margulies Collection Curator Katherine Hinds said that, over a period of time, outdoor sculptures tend to have maintenance needs.

“Universities make budgetary decisions,” said Hinds, who was glad that the University gave her the opportunity to take back the sculpture to renovate it and bring it back to top-notch conditions.

However, once it’s fixed, the cube will not be coming home to FIU.

“We will then decide where to re-donate the work,” said Hinds.

The cube will be donated to another educational institution in Florida— one that will have the funds to maintain the sculpture, she added.

Marty’s Cube had been donated to the University a few years back, under President Emeritus Modesto A. Maidique.

The SGC MMC president at the time, Arthur “AJ” Meyer, told Student Media back in 2009 that he had written a letter to Margulies, asking to keep the cube permanently at the University.

“I wanted to secure that we keep Marty’s Cube at this University, a university without many traditions at all, and so I sent a letter through President Maidique,” Meyer said. “Mr. Margulies just responded to us and told us that it was ours.”

Meyer could not be reached for further comment by press time.

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Meyer could not be reached for further comment by press time.

The cube was first brought to the University in 1998. Since then, it had become a part of the University spirit, with the popular student tradition of spinning the cube for good luck before an exam.

According to the Student Alumni Association traditions page online, this tradition was started by a group of chemistry students who first spun the cube just for fun while they studied.

They all received perfect scores on their exam.

After testing out the cube’s luck and acting their exam the following semester, they decided not to spin it again and see what would happen. That semester that the students chose not to spin the cube, they all failed the exams and had to repeat the class.

Spinning the 15-foot sculpture has since become a part of the freshmen orientation tour, midterms week, finals week and the Student Government Association’s Cram Jam events.

With the cube gone, FIU Meme Generators created a virtual

Board of Trustees approves new partnerships ventures

REBECA PICCARDO
News Director

Over the course of two weeks, the Board of Trustees Committees and the full Board approved several new projects for the University.

During a full board meeting on June 12, the University’s Board of Trustees approved the tenure of 29 faculty members, a new PhD program in International Crime and Justice, along with three partnership ventures.

The committee approved a partnership with the National Tropical Botanical Garden, a non-profit that offered the University plots of land adjacent to the Kampong garden in Coconut Grove.

Two separate grant donations give a total of $5 million in funding for this project.

According to the Board’s agenda, the partnership’s mission is to study tropical plants and develop sustainable solutions to preserve tropical plant diversity.

FIU students and faculty will have access to the Kampong garden and four other gardens located in Hawaii.

The Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science is also partnering with the University to build a joint-use facility at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

This project received a $5 million grant to build the facility.

The Board’s agenda states that FIU students will gain hands-on experience with exotic, large marine animals and birds. Also, classroom spaces will be provided for four new Professional Science Masters.

The committee also approved a 15-year agreement with Shorelight Education in the hopes of attracting more international students, along with their out-of-state tuition.

By partnering with Shorelight, the University would establish a 12-month undergraduate program for international students to help provide specialized English-language instruction along with their academic coursework.

According to the Board’s agenda, FIU has one of the largest criminal justice departments in the state.

The approved PhD program in International Crime and Justice has made FIU the first minority-serving institution to offer a PhD in criminal justice.

The program will be available at FIU’s Modesto Maidique Campus and online.

While most of the Board of Trustees committee meetings that met on June 3 discussed new projects and recent accomplishments, the Health Affairs Task Force Committee discussed looming changes in college health care.

As federal health reform begins to affect college health plans FIU still offers the cheapest University health fee in the state and does not require students to buy health insurance.

All students pay a health fee of $187.60 for two semesters, but data shows that the Student Health Services resources are underused, which concerned chair Jose J. Armao.

“We’re in an urban environment where there are lots of other options for health care other than just right on campus,” said Provost Douglas Warneke. “And so only about 20
Main content:

**Katherine Hinds Curator of the Margulis Collection**

**CUBE, PAGE 1**

Marty’s Cube can spawn online.

“Don’t you fret, and don’t you frown, there’s now a virtual cube in town,” read the Facebook post on the MFE meme page along with the hashtags, “save the cube,” “spin the cube,” and “love the cube.”

The real cube sculpture now sits at the Margulis Collection at its warehouse in Miami, where it will undergo any needed maintenance and renovations.

Marty’s Cube is one of five similar sculptures spread throughout the country. The

“Alamos” was the first cube of its kind, finished in 1967, and now stands in New York City.

It is difficult to put a value on works such as these because these monumental works do not come on the market place often,” Hinds said. As a point of comparison, the Alamos, which has the same dimensions as Marty’s Cube, was appraised by the Fine Art Asset Management firm at the end of 2013 at $1 million, according to Philip Abramson from the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation.

Margo’s has also loaned other works to the University, like “Argory,” the red towering sculpture on the roundabout at the intersection of 11th Avenue and 16th Street.

According to the statement from Media Relations, the University is grateful to Margulis for his sculptures and how they enhance the Modesto A. Maiquez Campus.

Rhys Williams and Diego Saldana-Rojas contributed to this report.

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**BOT, PAGE 2**

percent of students are using our health care services on campus.”

For a commuter school like FIU, that percentage should be closer to 50 percent, said Watrzik.

Armas said that one of two things must have gone wrong—either students are not made aware about the services they have, or “the services are so poor, they just don’t want them.”

Watrzik said that although the University does not want to operate with such poor use of SHS, any increase in utilization might make the health fee increase.

The board also discussed how state universities, like the University of Florida, are moving towards requiring students to have an insurance plan as well as pay a health fee.

If FIU were to make health insurance mandatory for students, it would result in an immediate 20 percent increase in cost of attendance, Watrzik said.

For the time being, the University is working towards integrating SHS with the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine’s FIU Health by sharing a common electronic medical record system and laboratory resources.

FIU Health is also credentialing SHS physicians and nurse practitioners, according to Watrzik.

Armas asked to keep SHS on the agenda for future meetings.

At the External Relations Committee meeting, Stephen Sauls, vice president of governmental relations, presented the recent University victories from the legislative session.

Among these, the University secured $8.8 million in incremental performance funding, $10 million towards acquiring the fairgrounds and over $20 million in several other projects alone.

Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell commended the trustees’ efforts in making sure that all University projects received funding.

“We had pretty good intel that one of our very important projects was in jeopardy, and you were made calls,” said Jessell. “It really is a group effort.”

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**SGC-MMC appoints cabinet positions**

The SGC-MMC appointed cabinet positions for the Spring 2015 semester, including a new student government president.

Adrian Suarez

AVILA Staff Writer

On June 2, the SGC-MMC senato rs met for the first general meeting of the semester to confirm the newly appointed student government president.

The senators, each delivered a brief speech to the cabinet and special projects coordinators, explaining their qualifications and ideas and their respective positions. The transition to Miami was one that Cobon said was perfect for the company.

“We don’t have any stores in Miami yet so when the opportunity came to not only open a store in Miami but to open it on campus, we went right for it,” said Cobon.

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**FIU to open nutrition store in new parking garage**

Whether it’s Crossfit, gym memberships or your occasional stroll down the street, there seems to be a rise in exercise and making right choices as to what students put in their bodies.

Coming in January, EXN Nutrition will open its first Miami store in the almost finished Parking Garage 6.

The Broward-based company plans on opening up in one of the biggest universities in the country. “FIU has done so much for the city of Miami and it seemed like a great fit to be a part of a community like that,” said EXN Nutrition Marketing Director Paul Cobon. “There’s a lot of universities down here [South Florida] but FIU was the one that we’ve had in mind.”

Gaining a spot in POG6 was more than simply paying a fee or being the first company to sign their name on the dotted line. The company had to apply and give the University reasons as to why they were fit to be a part of the university.

“It was a process we had to kinda apply for and submit a marketing package...pretty much an entire package why we deserved to be on of the stores on campus,” said Cobon.

The transition to Miami was one that Cobon said was perfect for the company.

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**Somali journalist killed in Mogadishu car bombing**

A 27-year-old Somali journalist was killed Saturday by a car bomb in Mogadishu, witnesses said. Visiis Abukar, an award-winning journalist, was driving through the capital’s Hamarweyne district on his way to work, when the bomb went off. “It is a very shocking tragedy. His car was badly by the explosion and his body blown into pieces,” journalist Abdirahman Halane told dpa. Abukar worked for privately owned radio station Mustagh in Mogadishu as well as Radio Ergo in Nairobi, Kenya. He was well-known for his outspokenness about Islamist militant group al-Shaabab and his criticism of Somalia’s government. No group has yet claimed responsibility for the killing.

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**Ukraine’s president declares one-week cease-fire in restive east**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko on Friday declared a one-week, unilateral cease-fire to try and end the bloody conflict with pro-Russian insurgents in the country’s east. The truce will last until June 27 in order to allow the “terrorists” to lay down their arms, Poroshenko said in a statement published on the Interior Ministry’s website. “Military actions can be carried out in response, that is when rebels attack our forces,” said the president.

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Katherine Hinds Curator of the Margulis Collection

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**World News**

Iraqi insurgents capture more towns; Maliki government downplays rebel successes

Iraqi rebels seized four critical towns in the western province of Anbar overnight Saturday and Sunday, taking control of the last major border crossing to Syria still in government hands and opening a path for the rebels to open the Euphrates River valley down to Ramadi, the provincial capital. The four towns in western Iraq fell in close succession, opening the Syrian border and areas in Syria controlled by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria to areas in western Iraq also held by the group. After a lightning offensive that began in the northern city of Mosul, Iraq’s second-largest city, in which most of central and northern Iraq’s Sunni areas fell in 10 days, the militants refocused their efforts on western Iraq.
Miami as a whole is a self-destructive city, particularly when its ever-changing music scene is taken into consideration. Venues come and go as they please for various reasons. The traditions and history that come with these venues are therefore rarely maintained. The city that is constantly on the move and constantly obsessed with erasing anything that is no longer youthful. The scene that do remain usually cater to a specific type of sound and audience, more likely the sound and audience that is now considered “hip” or “trendy.” Sadly, in the audience, they are the most fickle, unreliable group of people you will ever come across. An entire culture that has been established around what is popularly known as “miami time,” meaning everyone is always late to an event. This leaves bands and artists who open shows to play to nothing but a handful of people. The scenario that is inherently hypocrit ic; it’s ironic that a self-pro claimed feminist would act in such a manner. It only takes a small presence of mind to realize that by marginalizing and side lining men’s rights groups, one is working against equality rather than for it, and as such, these people are fighting against their own goals. Men’s voices are and have been included as much as women in the conversation for equality.

Men’s rights groups do not seek to discredit or define feminism. In fact, I would argue that most members of men’s rights groups could more than likely be considered feminists themselves. They simply felt that mainstream feminist discourse was beginning to lose touch with its core philosophy of a truly egalitarian world society.

On both sides, knee-jerk reactions and radicals have taken provocative stances that have devolved most conversations between men’s rights and feminist groups into simple-minded, irrational and illogical debates diluting the message that don’t get any real talking done. Some segments of feminism and feminist philosophers have taken an unbalanced and one-sided approach against men’s rights groups. This is completely counterintuitive to the actual conversations that should be taking place because it doesn’t address their core issue which is the very essence of feminism. It’s ironic that a self-proclaimed feminist would act in such a manner. It only takes a small presence of mind to realize that by marginalizing and sideline men’s rights groups, one is working against equality rather than for it, and as such, these people are fighting against their own goals. Men’s voices are and have been included as much as women in the conversation for equality.

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Feminism has in effect censored some men’s rights discussions through its liberal use of misogyny and sexual shaming of anyone who has anything to say that is against or questioning of feminist ideologies or stances. Feminism has also shunned and turned away men from entering conversations relating to women’s rights citing reasons such as: “It’s not about men,” “it’s about women,” “it doesn’t concern men,” “only women understand and only women can be a part of the discussion” and “they’re purposefully marginalizing men’s real issues.” This separation and exclusion of men simply furthers an inequality in gender-based equality discussions and is counterproductive to the feminist philosophies of equality for all, regardless of gender.

Recent pieces on “rape culture” and male-feminist apologists have garnered the overall impression that it is yesterday’s male-feminist mainstream culture against the involuntary act of being a man. Many recent pieces have been skew to imply mere guilt by association by just being of the male gender. Some pieces go as far as calling all men involuntary enablers of rape culture. I have personally read many of these pieces such as Zaron Burnett’s “The Gentleman’s Guide to Rape Culture.” In this particular piece, this journalist argues that all men are guilty of certain grievances that are supportive of rape culture. Again, presuming that all men are guilty of supporting rape culture when that is not at all the case.

Feminism has refused to acknowledge the legitimacy of men’s rights groups on the basis of tyranny of the majority, citing the male-centric patriarchy as reasons to exclude from conversations involving their very own rights and abilities to achieve and maintain happen-
Artists explore sexual identity at ‘Bend’

JUNETTE REYES Editor-in-Chief

Tyler Wasson, a University psychology and LGBTQA specialist in the office of Counseling and Psychological Services, marked an end when he first graduated with his degree to support the marginalized and give a voice to the voiceless.

Wasson specifically assisted in giving a voice to the LGBTQA community within the University in art form by organizing and producing art exhibitions in the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum. The second annual art show titled “Bend,” presented by the CAPS and the Multicultural Programs and Services LGBTQA Initiatives, recently ran from May 22 to June 11 and featured the lived experiences of gender, sexuality, empowerment and equality.

“Artists themselves get to put their voices out there just by creating this work and having it shown in the Frost Museum, or any museum for that matter. But then the people who come and join us, whether they submitted or not, are also acknowledging those voices—just acknowledging the struggle. Participating in a struggle that might be there, participating in a celebration that might be there. It’s not all a struggle. I think that a show like this does that. It gives a voice to people who may not otherwise feel they have a voice,” said Wasson.

Curated by Brittini Winkler, a curatorial practice student at the University, the exhibition featured the work of six artists. In the form of paint- ings, photographs and videos, bodies were shown in motion or expressing something while exploring the concept of gender.

“I don’t know about all of them, but when I think about the paintings, that is something that takes time and the work evolves over time. It’s something that if your heart is not in it, you’re going to lose interest because it does take some time for that to evolve. So I really think that especially the paintings, their heart and soul is in that and they get to see that piece evolve the more effort they put into it. I think that it says a lot about identity as well, like the more effort you put into searching and discovering, exploring your identity, the more you’re gonna learn, the more you’re able to express,” said Wasson.

Natalie Merola, one of the artists and a digital media alumna, chose photography as her outlet with three photo- graphs in the exhibition featuring Palace, the first and only gay restaurant and bar at South Beach known for its drag shows.

“When I got to go behind the scenes with Noel Leon, I was really focused on the featured subjects in my photography, she was telling me that the craft goes a little deeper than what most people see. They think that it’s just someone that wants to be a woman. They try to label them. Some people identify as a queer or that they’re gay and sometimes it’s just a straight man that wants to dress up. It’s different people trying to iden- tify with how they feel on the inside,” said Merola.

“I particularly thought it was important to embrace this—how people feel and how they choose to express themselves and that they are no different from other people. These people that are very marginalized deserve that voice and they deserve to be showcased as human beings, for who they are.”

Merola has a unique perspective of the craft as she identifies as an ally, explaining that...
Exhibition gives voice to LGBTQA community

BEND, PAGE 4

that it is necessary to be a voice so that others can acknowledge the importance.

I can see each person’s different personality or the different sociopolitical perspectives and how they choose to express themselves. It’s kind of like an artist can be either a sculptor, a painter, an illustrator or they can be all of the above. It makes me feel happy that no matter what, these people are who they are and they don’t care who knows it. They’re gonna be themselves. That’s the most important thing: to be themselves and outside.’

Merola explained that using photography as an outlet helps one see things through a different light when one is an outsider in somebody else’s culture.

“Kind of like that there in the wall. I get to indulge in all the greatness that these people have in their own communities. I think the more people see outside of their own culture, they start to shed away that ethnocentricity. They start to truly become more cultured and understand and compassionate for another human being. I think that is very integral for the European audiences and the ones here.

Tell us about your tour throughout Europe.

Danny: It’s always fun. It’s always kind of weird to be there in your own Europe. It’s pretty much always a positive experience. People over there are really friendly, you get treated well. Shows are always fun. I think we probably played it’s kind of like a ‘What are we doing this? Does the city influence you

Merola: It’s definitely a positive influence. I think anywhere you’re living will sort of have an effect. All of it, the nice weather, the art, the culture, the whole atmosphere, the heavy Latin influence.

Danny: It’s in some of the lyrics. It probably does more than we think.

What do you think of the current state of Miami’s music scene?

Gabriel: It’s in some of the lyrics. It probably does more than we think.

Have you noticed any differences between the European audiences and the ones here?

Gabriel: There is a difference. It’s not like, you say a French crowd, a Spanish, a Dutch. It’s not like that. It’s like, when we go to Europe, when we talk to the bands (as an artist), they’re kind of in awe.

Danny: I think the biggest difference is kind of the way the bands are treated when you go overseas. It’s not like one crowd gets crazier and does different things. If it’s a good show, it’s a good show. It just feels good regardless. I’d say when you’re over there, you get to sleep in hotel rooms and you get better food and stuff like that. I think that’s the main difference.

What lets you know that you’re back home?

Gabriel: The weather. You just get out and that’s it. I think you can tell that you’re back in the U.S. when you see that sun back, the sun was out — not a cloud in the sky. We hadn’t hadn’t that in like a month. It was pretty gloomy; the sun would go down at 3 p.m.

Danny: We always have constant flights somewhere but I feel like the second we land in the U.S. somewhere and I see someone with gold teeth, I’m always like “We’re back in the U.S.”

Would you say you take a sense of Miami with you when you go on tour?

Danny: Yeah, because people always ask where we’re from because of our accent. We guess we bring it.

Gabriel: We always tend to bring banners that say ‘Panther Boys from Miami’, whatever. I say it every time we start the show. We definitely love where we’re from.

Does the city influence your music?

Danny: It’s definitely an influence. I think anywhere you’re living will sort of have an effect. All of it, the nice weather, the art, the culture, the whole atmosphere, the heavy Latin influence. All of it. It’s in some of the lyrics. It probably does more than we think.

What do you think of the current state of Miami’s music scene?

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#Don’t get rich

Trichomoniasis increases your risk for HIV...

Trich (Trichomoniasis) is a sexually transmitted infection [STI] caused by a parasite. It can increase your chances of acquiring HIV. It can cause discharge and painful urination, or there may be no symptoms. Luckily, trich is easy to cure with just one dose of antibiotic.

Regular testing can help reduce your risk of acquiring or transmitting STIs. You can get tested at a doctor’s office or STD clinic — or your campus health center may offer it.

Get Involved: Go to www.amplifyyourvoice.org/trl to learn more about this issue and sign up to get materials so you can raise awareness about sexual health services on your campus!

USE A CONDOM EVERY TIME.

NEW scripted show offers alternative perspective

MTV, PAGE 4

In one of the episodes Amy is laying in bed fantasizing about kissing Karma again, and feels content and comfortable in her embrace. This scene shows young women how acceptable exploration is, and normalizes female-female interactions and feelings, instead of ostracizing the feelings or using the cliche ‘it’s just a phase.’

Amy is an excellent role model for adolescents, while Karma is a high school trope. Karma begins a clandestine relationship with Liam, whom she fawns over constantly because he’s the most popular and attractive guy in their school. However, as MTV is not quite ready to break their reliance on teenage stereotypes, most of Karma’s scenes focus on Karma going through extraordinary means to get Liam’s attention. Amy even questions Karma’s motives and criticizes the “trying-to-get-a-boy-to-like-you” as the only female imperative. Amy, on the other hand, confronts her homophobic mother.

The attitudes expressed on the show directly contrast the stereotypes and archaic gender roles of a lot of MTV’s programs have demonstrated. For instance a “machismo” standard is evident in a lot of MTV’s most popular programs, like the “Real World” and the “Jersey Shore,” where the men are portrayed as aggres- sors and sexual conquistadors. “Faking It” shows a different type of masculinity, one in which hyper-masculinity is not the dominant attitude; instead, two young men of different orientations can feel comfortable dancing together and openly discussing their feelings.

The show, however, has some serious flaws that are hopefully resolved by the end of the series. One of my issues with the program is the way homosexuality is viewed as a method of popularity, and most gay teenagers are not exalted like Amy and Karma — rather they face serious difficulties and struggles that the show has neglected to present thus far. It treats gay identity as trivial and light-hearted and ignores the anguish many gay people experience.

Not everyone’s coming out experience is the same, and the show explores an alternative while offering positive messages and strong characters that many marginalized youths can identify with. In an interview view creator Carver Covington, he spoke with a person who confessed, “I was shocked,” Covington said. “That idea seemed so foreign to me given the world grew up in, but this kid explained that he went to a very tolerant high school where being gay was like a badge of honor. That’s when I realized there are schools out there where being gay is no longer a problem, and tolerance is viewed as an asset.”

For the full interview, check fiusm.com.
Several Panthers named to Preseason C-USA teams

Early June had the release of Phil Steele’s 2014 Preseason All-C-USA football team, from the first team to what would be the fourth string.

This is not something to be stunned by as Steele is one of the most highly respected college football analysts around. It should come as no surprise that there are a few Panthers among the names, but there are some concerning ones from Head Coach Ron Turner’s second year at the helm.

Smith highest ranked Panther

The first Panther sighting on Steele’s list is one of the few who had a decent year in 2013, tight end Jonnu Smith.

For being in a mostly disregarded position in today’s football, Smith was pretty spectacular – given the situation last season while going 1-11.

Smith had 39 receptions for 388 yards, including a 10 reception game against the Pirates of East Carolina University.

However, with only two touchdowns in the entire season, those numbers lack a certain luster to me, even for a tight end.

I respect the position a lot more than the average fan, but still, I think he needs to have a breakout year to get close to being All-Conference.

This, along with the uncertainty of who will be leading the offense, may not be the best thing for an offensive All-Conference hopeful.


Budwig, Halley, Leonard all share the fourth-team

Offensive guard Jordan Budwig has the measurables of the typical offensive lineman; he’s 6-foot-4 and weighs in around 325 lbs. It is very hard for someone to measure the talent and level of an offensive lineman, especially one in the interior, but I can see why this pick makes sense.

He has the potential to be a pretty good offensive lineman and possibly follow in the footsteps of former offensive lineman, Caylin Hauptmann, all the way to the NFL.

However, if they can’t get the number of sacks, quarterback hurries, and tackles-for-losses down, I doubt that we will be seeing a Panther offensive lineman on anyone’s big board for a while.

The next name that pops up on the list is the first on the defensive side of the ball for the Panthers: the 6-foot-3, 200 pound safety Justin Halley.

The Boca Raton native is entering his final year for the Panthers and if he has any hope of continuing to play, he must make this season phenomenal.

Having 53 total tackles in the 2013 campaign and never reached double digits in a single contest.

This, along with the three sacks and eight tackles for breakups that he had, make me a little hesitant to put him on a preseason C-USA team but he may end up surprising everyone.

The second to last Panther mentioned by Steele is cornerback and kick-returner Richard Leonard.

The last statistics for Leonard are from the 2012 season, as he was academically ineligible for the 2013 campaign.

Hauptmann, all the way to the fourth team on the list is for missing that season.

One of the least surprising events to me would be Leonard making first or second team All-C-USA.

Scuba cats splash in the Floridian waters

To most people who live in Miami, the ocean is their backyard, so it’s no surprise that a variety of underwater activities have become local pastimes.

One in particular that has gained popularity among the public and university students alike is scuba diving.

Unlike regular cats, the Panthers in Florida International University SCUBA Cats Club dedicate their time to becoming better acquainted with the underwater world.

According to junior biology major Christian Lopes, the club was founded in 2010 by alumnus Denny Carvajal and continues today under President Sebastian Usquiano, also an alumnus.

It has expanded and now hosts about 500 members with an active roster of 10 people per semester.

“We mainly do dives from Miami Beach and Key Largo. Some other diving locations are located between Jupiter, West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Miami Beach and Key Largo. The SCUBA Cats try to go out to one of these locations at least once a month. The dives may be morning, afternoon or night dives and can last between one to four hours.

Dives offer SCUBA Cats a chance to explore local reefs, beaches and wrecks. Every Panther has their beach of preference.

“When we have a new diver or someone starting off with limited experience, they tend to enjoy the reef or the beach dives because they are very comfortable for them,” Lopes said. “When they start getting more advanced, they like the challenge of going to the wrecks.”

Cats belonging to special groups may also organize activities such as spearfishing, catching lobster and underwater photography. Interested Panthers can view some of the photography in the club Facebook page.

To participate in the club activities, you must be a licensed scuba diver with a minimum of an open water certification. Fortunately, the club brings unlicensed people one step closer.

“A big part of our club is that we are affiliated with a lot of local businesses and we sponsor their efforts to educate people about the ocean,” Lopes said.

This affiliation makes the transition that much simpler for those who are interested in the sport and wish to become certified.

“Four divers can come in and we can give them gear, but anything above that we would have to help you get your own gear,” Lopes said.

Some basic equipment that a member should own includes a mask, fins and a snorkel. Other diving basics are available to rent in local diving stores.

Since members may have to rent their own equipment, the club provides special rates to their divers on charter and equipment rentals.

Besides the license and proper scuba diving gear, the SCUBA Cats maintain an open water policy; anyone can participate in the club, including alumni and the general community.

“We have technical divers [and] we have people who just learned how to snorkel and started diving,” Lopes said.

There are a variety of members at different levels and an equal variety of dives to accommodate them, such as the recreational reef and wreck dives. Fortunately, Florida is host to several types of reefs so there are numerous diving possibilities.

Sanjay Dhawan, a senior academic advisor in hospitality, wears the Ghana flag at the World Cup kick off at BBC. His native country’s team tied in their second game against Germany on Saturday, June 21. Ghana plays against Portugal on Thursday.
Lacrosse looks to become nationally known

JORGE CORRALES
Contributing Writer

FIU Lacrosse is quickly moving up the ladder in its quest to become a nationally recognized program. The team is led by Head Coach Mark Parets. Parets is no stranger to the lacrosse scene in Florida; he played attack at Florida State University from 1989 to 1992. He’s been a coach in the South Florida area since 1997. Parets even earned a ring as a coach at Gulliver Preparatory School.

In 2012, Parets was inducted into the South Florida Chapter National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. The Panthers’ leader on the field is senior attacker Eric Quisenberry. Quisenberry played at Palmer Trinity High School and played one year at Louisiana State University before returning to Miami to play at FIU.

“I came back to play on the FIU squad because a lot of my friends were on the team,” Quisenberry said. Quisenberry has been a captain each of the last three years and will be president of the team this coming year. Next season, the team will compete in the Florida Lacrosse League in hopes of gaining recognition and an invitation to play in the Men’s Collegiate Lacrosse Association Division I. The Panthers would play in the SouthEastern Lacrosse Conference along with schools like the University of Miami, Florida State University and the University of Central Florida.

FIU already got a taste of the competition they would face as a part of the SELC. In March, the Panthers took on the Golden Knights of Central Florida. The Golden Knights came in as the number one ranked team in Florida at the time and were heavily favored against the Panthers. FIU went into halftime up 8-3 and in good position to upset the Knights. At the end of regulation, the score was 11-11.

The Panthers eventually fell short in double overtime but the game was a major step forward for the program. It was the first double overtime game in FIU history.

Quisenberry had a huge game for the Panthers, scoring six goals and having five assists. “It was a huge step towards the right direction because we were supposed to lose by 20 points,” Quisenberry said. “It was also my first game getting 11 points in one game while at FIU.”

Games like this are what fuel great rivalries in sports. When the Panthers do eventually begin to play in the MCLA, you can bet the Golden Knights will remember their prior meeting with FIU.

The Panthers will also have the honor of playing professional players for the first time ever in the first lacrosse game on FIU’s campus in the new Roberts Family Stadium.

Senat, Francois snubbed by Steele’s list

STEEL, PAGE 6

Confusing pick by Steele

Austin Taylor was possibly the least expected name to make this list from Panthers, but it happened anyway. He was one of two place-kickers that saw playing time in the 2013 season, along with Sergio Snoka.

For his true freshman season, Taylor had 66 percent in field goals and went 8-12 with a long of 52 yards.

He missed a point-after-touchdown which brought his overall to 11-12, which an All-Conference kicker cannot do.

It’s a bit strange that someone who only kicked off 19 times throughout 10 games would get this nod.

The Panthers did not score too often and most of these would be at the beginning of the game or of the second half. Out of those 19 kicks, only four were touchbacks, which even at the college level is too few in my opinion.

I think he missed a couple

The team is without it’s two defensive leaders from last season, defensive tackles Ismae Faciane and Greg Hickman, who are both making names for themselves in the NFL.

Faciane is with the Minnesota Vikings and Hickman is a member of the Detroit Lions.

In comes defensive lineman Giovanni Francois to take their place as leader of the front seven for the Panthers on defense.

Although he missed four games, he still put up some pretty decent numbers.

I expect that if he stays healthy, he will have more than the 16 tackles and two sacks that he had in 2013; if he does that and leads this pretty young team on the defensive side of the ball, there is no question in my mind that he would be All-C-USA.

Another notable player is center Donald Senat, who is on the watch list for the Rimington Trophy which goes to the nation’s best center.

Senat, is one of 64 on the spring watch list and if the offense gets more production and keeps whoever will be playing quarter-back upright, then I think Senat may get both the nod for All-C-USA and the Rimington Trophy.

Head over to fiusm.com to see the video associated with this column.

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Renovations are underway at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Wolfe University Center

**SOFIA GALIANO**
**Staff Writer**

Renovations are being undertaken at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Wolfe University Center this summer.

Changes are coming to Panther Plaza, the storefront and interior of the BBC Barnes & Noble at FIU and the Mary Anne Wolfe Theater as an effort to enhance the student experience at BBC, according to WUC Director Scott Jones. “Overall, all of [the renovations] are to the benefit of students,” said Jones.

He said the approximate months’ worth of work is moving quicker than expected.

The Panther Statue, a twin of the original monument mounted in front of the U.S. Century Bank Arena at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, was placed outside of WUC on May 20.

Jones said the 1-ton statue is covered by a tarp to protect it during construction. It may not be unveiled until fall, when WUC construction is completed and presented in the Panther Plaza ribbon-cutting set for August 29. Renovations in the bookstore began Friday, June 13, marked by a temporary wall during the initial weekend of construction.

A wider storefront entrance, laminate wood floors and new eating options are just some of the changes to come by July.

Juli Savage, BBC bookstore manager, said she is always looking for new food items, like the recently added oatmeal machine or hot soups and salads. Although renovations are underway, the space of the bookstore will remain the same.

“My problem was I was running out of space and electricity,” said Savage.

As a result, a counter will be installed where the ice cream machine is located to provide additional room and power, according to Savage.

The theatre booth is undergoing the first phase of renovations with audio-visual upgrades, also expected to be completed by this summer. Meanwhile, the theatre will be closed for events.

Classes and programming will regain access to the theater in fall, and the second phase of renovations offering new floors and seating is scheduled for completion by fall 2015.

SOFIA GALIANO
**Staff Writer**

The Biscayne Bay Campus’ new Student Government Council vowed to continue campaigning for a second road to access the University and work toward better meeting the needs of students at BBC during their first meeting of the summer.

SGC-BBC President, Jasmine Felix, said that while the main campus wants to expand by acquiring fairgrounds owned by the Miami Dade County Fair and Exposition Inc., BBC’s struggle is pushing for “Second Road to Success,” a campaign advocating for a new access point on campus.

Of the three options available for a second access road to BBC – Northeast 163rd Street, Northeast 143rd Street and Northeast 135th Street.

Over the next two years, BBC will see construction of new dorms, the Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. facility, a building for Math, Arts, Science and Technology Academy students and possibly a wildlife center and science research museum.

For the three options available, Felix said she is always looking for new traffic and activity BBC will experience.

Felix also said there is talk of adding a parking garage at BBC within the next five years.

When first elected in April, Felix told Student Media her top priority is making BBC a more student-centered and unified campus.

To do this, SGC-BBC will form the Inter-Council Coalition, a partnership between BBC’s major student organizations; among the organizations are the Student Programming Council, the Black Student Union and the Council for Student Organizations to address student needs and concerns.

“The most direct link to students is the organization they join. To better assess their needs, that’s where we’ll go through,” said Felix.

The council also wants to work toward improving the major maps and getting more general advisors for undergraduates. Felix hopes this will help increase the university’s graduation rate.

Felix met with current provost Douglas Wurtzok and incoming provost Kenneth Futran to discuss increasing the percentage of students who graduate from the University in four to six years.

FIU integrating Research Engagement Assessing and Learning Commission drafted a plan to “identify ways FIU can leverage its current success as a world-class research university and a community engaged solutions center to be more world serving and stay competitive.”

Aside from increasing the percentage of graduation rates, the RREAL draft hopes to increase enrollment, expand the university’s financial base and help graduates prepare for their careers in a quickly-evolving global marketplace.

An issue SGC-BBC has encountered over summer is poor meeting attendance. Felix stressed the importance of senators upholding their responsibilities and being committed to student government. While in some meetings they have reached quorum, there have been absent senators in every meeting so far.

“We need to call the senators and figure out what is going on,” Felix said.

According to Allhan Mejia, a sophomore management major and speaker of the senate, said even when they reach quorum and are allowed to discuss and pass legislation, there needs to be a senator to represent students in each college to be able to update the constitution.

The council’s goal is to start updating the constitution by the end of summer.

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**ALEXI CARDONA & SOFIA GALIANO**
**FIU Staff**

SGC-BBC aching to move forward with plans

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Jones said day use lockers will also be installed in the Wolfe Center.

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**FIU opens National Association of Black Journalists**

**SOFIA GALIANO**
**Staff Writer**

Melody Timothée, a senior public relations major, had never been involved in campus clubs or activities, then she found out about the newly-formed University chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists and decided to take part in its launch.

“I now have something I can say I am a part of,” said Timothée.

Black reporters at FIU are now represented by the NABJ as the University’s chapter concludes its first semester of meetings.

It took several years of discussion with the School of Journalism and Mass Communication faculty, the Society of Professional Journalists and an eager group of students for the association’s chapter to begin late last year.

According to Clayton Guttmore, president of the University’s chapter, the club will be accredited by fall 2014. He said the club was created to provide networking opportunities and to pave the way for black communication students on campus. “It breaks the barrier between ‘professional’ and ‘aspiring,’” said Guttmore, a senior communication arts major.

He said although the University is diverse, black students are poorly represented in the school of journalism.

In 2012, black journalism students made up about 15 percent of the total number of SJMC students taking lower division courses, and made up about 11 percent of the total SJMC students enrolled in upper division courses, according to the SJMC’s online public accountability.

“Within the school, the black population is very small,” said Neil Reisner, SJMC faculty and NABJ advisor.

Although black journalism students are lacking, Reisner said the club’s membership to grow in the upcoming semesters, inviting students of all majors and races.

“We are not segregated and anybody who wants to join can join,” he said.

This semester, local media professionals from the Sun Sentinel, the Miami Dolphins media Relations and Harris Public Relations came to speak to students on how they can advance in the field.

Timothée, who first found out about the club from Guttmore, said that interacting with professionals in her field and having access to additional resources through the club makes her glad that she joined.

Jasmine Richardson, a senior majoring in broadcast journalism and vice president of NABJ, said the success of the club relies on its members. For this reason, she wants to recruit freshmen who can maintain the club once the current board members graduate.

With less than a dozen unregistered members, the club hopes to reach students using social media and events, including hosting guest speakers and a bowling night. They intend to reach these incoming students by presenting themselves during the communication orientation in the fall semester, she said.

Richardson said the organization also plans to collaborate with the Black Student Union and host meetings at the Modesto A. Maidique campus in the future. But NABJ is currently focused on attracting students at the Biscayne Bay Campus, where the school of journalism is located.

“The club is in its baby stages,” said Richardson.

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