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The Beacon, July 2, 2014

Florida International University

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State grants $10 million to relocate fair, but the University needs voter support

University honors Douglas Wartzok, Provost Emeritus

For years, the University has lobbied to relocate the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair and acquire the 86 acres of adjacent county-owned land for expansion. Meetings involving the county, the University and the fair resulted in the analysis of 24 different sites across the county. The county is completing a viability study of the latest site under consideration – Tropical Park. We feel that is the appropriate site and that is the feasible site for us to move the fair there,” said Senior Vice President of External Relations Sandra Gonzalez-Levy at the Board of Trustees committee meeting on June 3.

The Fair has a 99-year lease with the county, through 2040. The University has gained more confidence recently when the Florida Legislation granted $10 million for the University’s Strategic Land Acquisition initiative. “What that has done to us is the fact that it has told the commissioners and the county how serious we are and also how the state is serious about supporting us,” Gonzalez-Levy said. “It has actually placed us on track in order for the us to get the fair.” However, county voters may think differently. A recent poll conducted by Bendixen & Amandi International for the Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald shows that the voters don’t support FIU’s plan to move the fair. The poll, which surveyed 400 Miami-Dade registered voters from June 3 to June 5, showed that 43 to 50 percent of voters oppose the University’s land acquisition initiative.

By contrast, The University’s External Relations office had reported in April that the Miami Herald had conducted an unscientific poll that showed ??

See Katey Blood, Page 2

Provost Wartzok, your heart for FIU and your spirits for University academia and administration have given FIU students the greatest possible gift they can ask for: the opportunity to make their dreams come true.

Alexis Calatayud
President SGA-MMC

In a previous interview with Student Media, Wartzok said students need to have a commitment to lifelong learning. “To continue to be intellectually alive because that’s really what distinguishes us from all the other creatures on Earth,” Wartzok said. He also said that to be Worlds Ahead, students cannot plan for a career that’s there today. He said most contemporary careers were unknown at FIU when he arrived 13 years ago. Other speakers at the event were Board of Trustees member Cesar Alvarez, President of the United Faculty of Florida Teresa Lucas and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in the College of Arts & Sciences Maureen Donnelly. As a gift of gratitude, Wartzok was named Provost Emeritus of Florida International University. He thanked his wife Susan for supporting him throughout his responsibilities as provost. He also said that provosts come and go, but the faculty and staff remain and continue providing all the services to students. “FIU really is the future of America and I’m immensely grateful to have played a part in it,” Wartzok said.

For the video related to this story, check out fiusm.com.
**World News**

Transportation in Brazil mostly holding up under onslaught of World Cup fans

With more than half of the World Cup’s 64 games completed, many are pleased with how it has gone so far, in particular because Brazilians had strong reservations about staging the event. Hundreds of thousands of汹涌的 fans are here for the tournament. People across the globe from Kolkata to the occupied Palestinian territories and even the United States has seen a record television viewership audience. There have been problems, and the concerns Brazilians had about playing host leading up to the tournament remain unaddressed. But for the first few weeks at least, foreign visitors, estimated at approximately 200,000 from more than 180 countries including a strong U.S. contingent, are bustling a sight of relief that the logistical problems some feared in the lead-up have not yet materialized, particularly in transportation and lodging. Major concerns about transportation and, in particular, airport readiness in Brazil surfaced in the months prior to the World Cup. Brazil spent billions of dollars on airport renovations yet some went unfinished and many were delayed. That infrastructure was significant because the tournament was spread out over 12 cities, and many teams and their fans faced long travel distances while in Brazil.

**Suspect arrested after blast in Nigeria**

One suspect has been arrested in connection with Friday’s deadly attack on a hotel in the red light district in Bauchi, Nigeria, the Bauchi State Police spokesman said Saturday. Lawal Shehu told journalists the suspect was being interrogated and that efforts to apprehend his accomplices had intensified. The blast took place last Friday at a building on the outskirts of the city believed to have been used as a brothel. Witnesses said gunmen wearing military uniforms detonated explosives and began shooting people at random. The commissioner said the number of victims had risen to 11 dead and 28 injured. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, but the ruling Islamist group Boko Haram has targeted Bauchi in the past. Boko Haram, which launched its insurgency against the Nigerian government in 2009, is said by government officials of creating an Islamic state in Nigeria, has killed more than 2,000 people in the country this year alone.

**University receives funds, continues lobby for fairgrounds**

University receives funds, continues lobby for fairgrounds

**SGC MMC talks possible parking garage counters, low meeting attendance**

There has been some news regarding the installation of parking garage counters in Blue and Gold garages here on campus, but there’s no solid information on it. According to an announcement made by Perretti at a previous senate meeting, the parking garage counters will keep track of all the available spaces in the parking garage in which they are installed, updating the student population when the garage is filled to capacity. The measure aims to reduce traffic and pollution, among other things. Assuring the senators present at the meeting that the newly appointed Cabinet members are hard at work fulfilling their various duties, Perretti informed those in attendance that, although the position of comptroller is vacant, SGC-MMC pres- ident Alexis Calatayud, has taken it upon herself to handle the comptroller’s duties for the time being. This may spell some trouble.

According to Perretti, the organization’s consti- tution does not allow the president to sign off on duties charged to the super- vision of the comptroller. However, as the posi- tion is vacant, Calatayud is handling the duties as the president.

“Of course it behooves us if the Senate votes to make an amendment to the statute,” Perretti said. “The Senators may decide that in lieu of a comptroller, ‘x’ individual may assume the posi- tion for a certain amount of time until someone is appointed to the position.”

**For the related video, check out fiusm.com**

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**Editorial Board**

**NEWS**

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**Contact information:**

**Modesto Maidique Campus**

(305) 348-6994

rebeca.piccardo@fiusm.com

**BBC**

(305) 348-2700

admin@fiusm.com

**Biscayne Bay Campus**

(305) 348-1580

editor@fiusm.com

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**University**

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**Fairgrounds, Page 1**

percent of participants supported the initiative.

This may be a setback to the University because its next move was to lobby the county commission for a county-wide referendum asking the residents of the community to move the fairgrounds, according to Gonzalez-Levy.

“We have a very short window of opportunity for us to actually get approval from the commission for us to acquire the fairgrounds site and to move the fair,” said Gonzalez-Levy at the June 3 meeting. “That window is now.”

At the faculty senate meeting on June 10, Provost Douglas Wartozk addressed questions about the recent poll.

“I would interpret the total vote as [there still being] a confusion between [acquiring] specifically the Youth Fair and the county park,” Wartozk said. “A lot of people are opposed to the idea that FIU would be taking away park. FIU’s Strategic Land Acquisition Initiative does not include Tamiami Park, just the area occupied by the Youth Fair.”

Wartozk said that the phrasing in the recent poll might have been confusing to some people.

“The way it was phrased was not as clear as ‘specifically the Youth Fair,’” he said.

In the Miami Herald poll, the question asks, “do you support or oppose FIU’s efforts to expand onto County owned land currently leased to the Dade County Youth Fair?”

The results of the poll, according to SGC-MMC president Alexis Calatayud, is approximately $30-$50 million, which would come out of FIU’s pocket and state legislature. However, the Herald’s poll says that the relocation estimate is between $200 and $250 million, and the cost would be shared between FIU, Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida.

The Modesto A. Maidique Campus is, according to External Relations, “the smallest main campus of the 12 state universities in Florida and has the highest classroom utilization rate in the system.”

The 2013-2014 Student Govern- ment Association Senate passed a bill to support the efforts to relocate the fair to Tamiami Park because the student population has outgrown its facilities.

“The Modesto A. Maidique Campus is meant to support 37,000 students and we are well beyond that with a current population of 44,000,” Calatayud said.

SGC-MMC, according to Cala- tayud, believes the success of this acquisition is that it will not only benefit the student population at the University but also the local community.

External Relations had previ- ously reported that, with the acqui- sition of the fairgrounds, there would be a $900 million expansion, with a recurring economic impact of $541 million a year.

“The Miami Herald poll highlights the need for all FIU Fair Ground Expansion advocates clearly artic- ulate the facts of local economic impact and enhanced student experi- ence that will undoubtedly strengthen the true PHI expansion growth and expansion,” Calatayud said in an e-mail to Student Media. 

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LAUREN SHADE
Contributing Writer

I first noticed it while I was waiting in traffic; my front windows were rolled down letting in a soft breeze and pouring out one of my favorite songs. Specifically it was “One of a Kind” by the infamous Korean idol, Kwon Ji Yong, better known by his stage name, G- Dragon. We were at a standstill on Florida’s Turnpike in 7 p.m. traffic when I looked over to the idle vehicle beside me. I saw a pair of curious dark eyes and lips that formed a frown when they took in the foreign sounds that were in every way similar to Western music, save in speech.

After a few minutes when the passenger didn’t look away, but still stared inquisitively into my car, I rolled up my windows embarrassed – I was glad they were tired. Of course, this scenario can be looked at from many different angles; for instance, the driver could have been looking at me, or might have been interested in my car, so on and so forth.

However, these scenarios in which atten- tion suddenly surrounded me each time my ringtone sang out EXO-K’s “Mama” or I turned PnB Rock’s “Hot Nites” on my phone, have forever situated me as a curious outsider in the clubbing scene downtown and on the beach. It’s one which many people from various parts of the East, Latin America and in various European countries openly listen to American music. In Germany, English isn’t a native language, yet, as someone with first hand experience I know that when Germans listen to American music, they aren’t indiscriminately bad for our reputation as dumb Westerners, and for the people who seek to live out their lifestyle that is inherently bad for our reputation as an emerging world-class city.

Money and power are king; even if people have neither, they pretend that they do. Many of the people who are into the clubbing scene in Miami are into mainstream electronic dance music. The lifestyle this mainstream electronic dance music rein- forces is a scene that embodies and exudes glitz, glamour, wealth and opulence. The people, therefore, attempt to reflect some of the characteristics of the music themselves. You see it in music videos, promotional posters and at acclaimed parties. Imagine a guy rolling up in the rented limousine with a that is, or is made to look, more expensive than a car, wearing a $20,000 suit, surrounded by four bodyguards and inhuman stewardess; note also the girls that circle around him as he attempts to win a spot at his highly coveted private table with bottle service.

I was about the girl in 12-inch, diamond studded heels wearing a faux Prada handbag who doggedly tries to consciously acknowl- edge anyone who she perceives to be smaller than her; she’s the girl many guys will attempt to seduce through plentiful free drinks and engorged, self-cen- tered conversation.

This is what the clubbing scene and music sells to its fans. It spreads the ideas of money and power as the most important things in life. This is why main- stream electronic dance music, typical Miami dance clubs and the people who seek to live out that lifestyle are inherently bad for our reputation as a growing world-class city. Their preferences paint a picture of the people they most likely are: self-centered, egotis- tical, inconsiderate, self-serving manipulative and it makes me sad.

I am disappointed this is the picture people imagine when they think of Miami.

Almost everyone makes attempts to avoid certain kinds of importance or social supremacy.

The clubbing scene in Miami is notoriously elitist and vain.

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The fourth film in the Hasbro franchise, “Transformers: Age of Extinction,” does away with Shia LaBeouf, gives us Mark Wahlberg and features Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor, Stanley Tucci and Kelsey Grammer as our fellow humans.

Hasbro had Peter Cullen as Optimus Prime, John Goodman as Hound, John DiMaggio as Crosshairs and Ken Watanabe as Drift voicing the Autobots.

The film, directed by Michael Bay, features some good cinematography, showing off spectacular action, destruction, and of course, explosions — gorgeous explosions, I might add.

The action is easy to follow, but occasionally there might be a moment where you’re not 100 percent sure as to either what just happened or how something happened; thankfully, the movie offers moments — no more than five — are few and far between.

Bay’s direction is top form here, featuring slow-motion, sweeping takes, and plenty of looking-up shots, almost a Bay trademark. There’s no doubt Bay calculates the action, and of course, explosions — gorgeous explosions, I wouldn’t go as far as to say this was exactly what I wanted and then some, a film that delivers like this was strangely hilarious, slightly self-aware, and easy enough to follow that I don’t need to wonder what is going on.

For entertainment’s sake, “Age of Extinction” was exactly what I wanted and then some, a film that delivers the goods in action, comedy, spectacle, and enjoyment.

Claudio Zelaya

Transformers comes in strong opening weekend

Students assist Fabien Cousteau in Mission 31

University Muslims observe Ramadan

Grooves and good vibes with Say Anything

Contact Us

Jeffrey Pierre
Entertainment Director
jeffrey.pierre@fiusm.com

The Beacon – 4 Wednesday, July 2, 2014

AQUARIUS, PAGE 8

Zenone said that a one point, the habitat’s air conditioner stopped working properly to air conditioner stopped working properly to air conditioner stopped working properly to air conditioner stopped working properly to air conditioner stopped working properly.

According to NASA’s Earth Observa

According to NASA’s Earth Observa

Zenone said in the habitat is really safe.

“Still, this stuff is more regulated than traffic in Miami,” he said.

Shantz said they almost had all the luxu

According to Shantz, coral reefs and their days anytime before the following year’s Ramadan. Muslims and non-Muslims joining the fast can do to help

Adnan Samma, a senior majoring in economics and international relations, said

According to ISNA, fasting is obligatory for adult Muslims “except those who are ill, travelling, pregnant, diabetic or going through menstrual bleeding.”

Muslims who are able to fast, but have to miss a few days during Ramadan for the previous reasons, are able to make up the days anytime before the following year’s Ramadan.

Ramadan is a month of fasting observed by Muslims around the world. In fact, it is when Prophet Muhammad first received revelations of the Quran, therefore the month is considered the most sacred time of the year by Muslims.

Since the holiday is based on the lunar calendar, it shifts every year. According to the Islamic Society of North America, the first day of Ramadan this year was Saturday, June 28. In other places, the fast started June 29 or June 30.

Adnan Samma, a senior majoring in economics and international relations, said that debates surrounding when to start Ramadan have dated back a long time.

How do you tell if it’s Ramadan? It’s based on the new moon. Ramadan doesn’t begin if the new moon has not been seen. If it’s sighted June 27, then [fasting] begins the following day,” said Samma.

One might say these films don’t have much of a story, but I think it’s worth talking about. “Age of Extinction” has a man named Cade Yeager (Wahlberg), just wanting to invent something useful and make sure his daughter Tessa (Peltz) stays safe and healthy. Of course, Optimus Prime is discovered and long story short, they’re on the run from scary men who want to destroy all the Transformers.

Directed by Harold Attinger (Grammar), these scary men are generally ruthless as well as enjoyable to watch — hammy performances help a film like this one. There’s also Joshua Joyce (Tucci), who has been working on creating a movie out of what the Transformers are made out of; a matter which allows him to make anything, including man-made Transformers that are, in his view, better than the ones that came before them.

While I enjoyed the cast as a whole, Tucci was (as always) not only a highlight, but a scene stealer, scene...
Yourself the reasons behind the fast.

“When you remind yourself why you’re fasting, it makes your body understand you’re doing something that’s worth it,” he said.

The month of fasting is a time for spiritual reflection and increased worship, according to ISNA. During the fast, Muslims turn away from worldly activities and focus on God. In addition to cleansing the body and the spirit from impurities, the fast helps people empathize with those less fortunate, those that regularly do not have something to eat or drink.

“Fasting was difficult because I wasn’t at home and I wasn’t in control of when I was eating,” she said, “but they were very accommodating – they even bought me dates.”

For a successful Ramadan, Samma recommends to wake up early and eat breakfast, not just sleep past sunrise; to talk less so one’s mouth doesn’t become dry; and to avoid foods that are really oily or spicy because that could lead to stomach problems which would make your fast more difficult. Veronica Canas, an alumna of the University, experienced something similar to Samma when she went to India on a study abroad program and found herself there during Ramadan.

“Back home it’s more joyous to go to the mosque. Here, you don’t know when you’re going to the mosque. Here, you don’t know what to expect,” said Nasimul Ghani. “You’re not constantly reminded to Moden prayer. In Malaysia, the fast helps you turn away from worldly activities and focus on God. In addition to cleansing the body and the spirit from impurities, the fast helps people empathize with those less fortunate, those that regularly do not have something to eat or drink.

“Music & Culture,” jazz music sales now account for less than three percent of sales figures.

“This album presents the band’s new direction, one heavily influenced by the jazz masters who preceded them.”

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Muhammad Nasimul Ghani
Economics and International Relations

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Revolution Live presented a memorable show

The popular single, “Au Revoir,” sent the venue into a frenzy. The fans moved to every side of the floor as the traditional jazz-fusion glory days. The pace rarely slowed down as Say Anything let it rip. Night after night, if the night were to end that early.

After hours of jumping, getting pushed around, and some instances of just standing there, the headlining band, Say Anything, finally hit the stage. The crowd roared as soon as the lights started flashing and Say Anything jumped into their vast catalog of songs. “Six Six Six” was one of the most enjoyable portions of the set that set the mood for a phenomenal closing act. Like every other act that night, Reay Murray, the drummer, was playing what seemed like the best show of his life.

The pace rarely slowed down as Say Anything let it be known they were there to make everyone sweat. The mosh pit opened up once again to songs like “She Won’t Follow You” and “Do Better.” “Do Better” was one of the songs fighting for best song of the night until they played arguably the most recognizable tune in their arsenal, “Wow, I Can Get Sexual Too.” This turned everyone nuts as people were flying in the air, singing along, and just set the tone of the night to an all-time high.

After that, the band left the stage while the audience chanted for an encore. The band’s vocalist, Max Bemis came back out by himself to serenade everyone with a couple acoustic songs before being joined by his band. The night came to an end with another fast paced jam to send everyone home. The concert had some of the most exceptional musicians I’ve seen in a while.

Students gathered at GC to watch Germany defeat the US National Team in the World Cup game of Thursday, June 26.

This album presents the band’s new direction, one heavily influenced by the jazz masters who preceded them.

Jazz was big in the early 20th century and has lost support due to the genre’s shift towards eclectic rock and avant-garde music. The genre has not seen mass public support since the post-bop and jazz-fusion glory days. According to “Music & Culture,” jazz music sales now account for less than three percent of sales figures.

“III,” comes a more traditional jazz sound -- a surprise when compared to their earlier works. BBNG’s first two albums were defined by a list of impressive covers including a classic rendition of “The World Is Yours” by Nas and a few tracks by Odd Future.

This album presents the band’s new direction, one heavily influenced by the jazz masters who preceded them. Gone are the hip-hop covers in favor of something that makes more sense when considering their classically trained background. The album opener “Triangle” is the standout here, with piano and percussion

BadBadNotGood’s new album keeps traditional jazz elements alive

BadBadNotGood are not experts on the incorporation of electronic instruments with jazz, but it did not stop Bill Evans from trying. Bill Evans may have attempted if he had these instruments at his disposal.

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Students gathered at GC to watch Germany defeat the US National Team in the World Cup game of Thursday, June 26.
FIU second baseman shares travel insights

JUNETTE REYES
Editor-in-Chief

Baseball is nearing the end of its season and the rest of the games appear to be keeping the boys away from home for quite some time.

Second baseman Edwin Rios is no stranger to away games in his sophomore year with the Panthers as a sports management major at FIU and is always grateful to be back home.

“It feels real great. I mean we’re excited to be back home. It’s Miami weather. It’s hot but we love it, we’re used to it. We’re just glad to be back home and sleep in your bed,“ Rios said.

On the topic of his bed, Rios said that is what lets him know he is back home when returning from an away game.

“You’re bed, there’s nothing like your own bed and sleeping in it. Just the bed, I love my bed,” Rios said.

Several matchups against opposing teams have Rios and the team visiting various cities and states, such as in Hattiesburg, Mississippi where the team ended in the Conference USA tournament.

Despite the opportunity to visit these places, the team rarely gets a chance to explore the area.

“Not really,” Rios said. “Well, we go to the mall in the mornings [Head] Coach [Turtle Thomas] likes us to wake up early, so we go to the mall, walk around and go out. So yeah, we kind of see the malls, but nothing else.”

This does not stop Rios and his teammates from having their own fun, though.

“This past weekend, everyone decided to hit all the little PS Vitas. I decided to get one and then my mom said it was too expensive. So I had to sell it and give it back. It was kind of sad, but whatever I got the money back. Now I can use the money to eat and, you know, more important stuff than a PlayStation,” Rios said.

In regards to his fellow teammates and prepping the team before each game, Rios said he enjoys being the one to lift their spirits.

“I’m kind of like the guy to try to pump up the team. I put the music on really loud and just start dancing around to see if anyone gets pumped up. And when it’s time to go, just thank God for giving me another chance to play the game and get it.” Rios said.

The game itself is clearly important to Rios, and his record on fiusports.com shows that he plays hard for the love of the game.

During his freshman year at FIU, the National College Baseball Writers Association named Rios a “Second-Team Freshman All-American,” having led the team with a .332 batting average, 52 RBI, nine home runs and 20 doubles.

His career as a freshman on the team totaled up to 24 multi-hit games and 15 multi-RBI games, both of which he was the leading player on the team. As an infielder on the team, Rios has also made 47 starts at shortstop and 11 starts at first base.

Before entering FIU, Rios played at Osceola High School in Osceola, Fla. and was named the MVP of his team and all-county, hitting .480 with four home runs and 30 RBI.

Rios takes the game seriously even during the off-season.

“When the off-season comes, it’s summer ball and you just keep working out. Baseball is a year round sport, so there are really no breaks. You always just have to work hard and just keep going,” Rios said.

“Getting better at the game is ultimately one of the things that push Rios and the team. A seven-game winning streak was recently broken against University of South Florida in the third and final game of the series, but he does not let that stop him from continuing to push forward and improve as a player.”

“I feel good about winning the series but we wanted that sweep. It was important to us. We’re going in good ways right now. We’re winning a lot of ball games and we just want to keep that track. We hit a little bump in the road but you just have to keep going. It’s tough but you have to look past it and just get ready,” Rios said.

---junette.reyes@fiusm.com

Lone senior Boha gone, but new talent coming in

This recent season had the Panther’s tennis team drop out of the 2014 Conference USA tournament in the second round to the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles. The Eagles received their 4-2 victory to the Panthers to go on to lose in the quarter finals to No. 3 seed North Texas.

With the end of the tournament, it indicated the end of Giulietta Boha’s Panther reign.

The only senior had the best record of 25-4 in singles and 15-2 in doubles. Her record and team dedication implicate what sort of loss the Panthers have to endure through.

Testing the water for the new conference was not taken for granted. Carlotta Orlando and Boha alike earned All-Conference USA honors.

Orlando concluded her sophomore year with receiving her Second-Team All-C-USA honors selection while Boha received Third-Team All-C-USA honors selection.

Orlando’s longest win streak of 6 straight matches, to end the season, included her undefeated 3-0 record in the C-USA Tournament. This ending season concludes her second for the Panthers and is returning for next year.

Competition in the next year will be without her strongest teammate Boha and three incoming true freshmen players.

Orlando may have to be called into a leadership position and step up to lead the team to a tough team and contend throughout the C-USA tournament. With three incoming players that may fill the team roster and have some to better set up doubles matches with more strategic duos. The 2013-2014 season was a team of six just able to fit in all six positions.

With the possibility of having the five undergraduates return along with the new Panthers, players won’t have to play through injury as the last year.

There is also a less chance of injury and exhaustion allowing different rotations in practice, resulting in higher development in skills and well rounded experience.

Head Coach Katarina Petrovic announced the signing of Nerma Caluk, Andrea Lazaro and Monika Stanikova to National Letters of Intent.

Caluk of Bosnia and Herzegovina was a top four finalist in a series of competitions under World Tennis Association and International Tennis Federation. Lazaro of Barcelona, Spain earned a series of singles and doubles championship titles under WTA and ITF. Stanikova of Trencin, Slovakia also found experience in a series of competitions as a finalist for WTA and ITF.

News came out on June 2 that the recruiting class for Petrovic was ranked No. 17 in the nation by tennisrecruiting.net. FIU is one of two Conference USA schools in the top-25 as Rice University landed spot No. 12.

New talent and experienced players will come under Petrovic to a hopeful season. They all will be together for the start of program of the fall semester. Continuing the trend of European players the Panthers have the potential to serve up fresh and improved results.

Rhys Williams contributed to this article.

---rhythwilliams@fiusm.com
FIU hosts inaugural celebrity softball game

The FIU Baseball Stadium played host to the first annual Jimmy Wilson’s Celebrity Softball Charity Game, June 14, to benefit the Above 500 Foundation.

Wilson teamed up with the foundation and came up with the idea of a softball event as a new way to give back to the community.

“I wanted to put one on, something that will help the kids,” Wilson said.

He is a four-year safety with the Miami Dolphins.

The afternoon included meet and greets with players, a Home Run Derby competition and the softball game. Teams were made up of former teammates Teal and White, with the Teal team winning 7-6.

Above 500 Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to being a part of that.

Wilson said. “Whether it be the circumstance or whatever, kids don’t make the decision to do what they do. There are others out there who will.”

For the inaugural event, Wilson was joined by family and several teammates, including Mike Pouncey, Brent Grimes, Lamar Jackson, Cortez, Olivier Vernon, Dion Jordan, Reshad Jones, Jason Fox, Koa Misi and others.

“It’s just glad I got the support of my teammates, they’re like my brothers, we’re together every day so it’s good to see them out here and having fun,” Wilson said.

Several local celebrities were also invited to the event, including FIU alumni and WSVN-7 Sports Reporter Donovan Campbell.

“Anytime you get a chance to come back to FIU for anything, I’m always honored and blessed and this is my alumni,” Campbell said.

“Anytime you can do a charity event it’s great and when you get a chance to get invited as a reporter to come and play with them, the Dolphins, a team you cover, that’s always a great feeling,” Campbell added. “I think I was one of two media members to be invited so you gotta feel honored and blessed to be a part of that.”

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Student aquanauts lived underwater for 17 days

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
Asst. News Director

Six miles off the coast of Key Largo, University students Adam Zenone and Andrew Shantz spent 17 days living in the Aquarius Reef Base, the world’s only operational underwater research habitat.

They participated in a 31-day mission led by renowned ocean explorer and filmmaker Fabien Cousteau, grandson of oceanographer Jacques Cousteau.

From June 1 to June 17, the students studied the behavior of reef fishes by using model predators and high resolution imaging sonars.

They also accessed the impact of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution from fertilizers and sewage outfalls on, for example, coral reefs.

The pollution stimulates the growth of harmful algae in the corals.

To study these undersea worlds was a dream-come-true for both scientists.

Zenone, a graduate student, said he has always loved the ocean since he was a child.

“I knew that I wanted to be a marine biologist and I followed that, and here I am,” said Zenone in an webcam interview with Student Media while stationed at Aquarius.

On the other hand, Shantz, a doctoral student, said he had never imagined that he would choose this career path until he started scuba diving a couple of years ago.

“I started diving and said, ‘This is awesome and I want to keep doing this and see where it takes me’,” he said.

Shantz, who was stationed in Aquarius last November, said that becoming an aquanaut at the reef base was on his list for things to do in life.

During night dives, the term ‘an aquanaut’ truly takes meaning for Shantz, since he said it feels like he is in space.

“It’s the most cool, surreal feeling in the world to see this underwater space capsule-looking habitat all lit up in the middle of the night,” he said.

“We call any liquids sometimes going away, like an air conditioner malfunction.

SEE AQUARIUS, PAGE 4

Multiple BBC council appointments pending

ALEXI CARDONA
Staff Writer

The Biscayne Bay Campus’ Student Government Council has four appointments pending for new members.

Both the senate meeting on June 23 and the general meeting on June 25 did not reach quorum. The council could not conduct formal meet-

ings, discuss the day’s agenda or appoint new members.

If this week’s meeting reaches quorum, the council will appoint a new comptroller, who will assist in overseeing the SGC-BBC’s finances, a senator for the School of Jour-

nalism and Mass Communications, a marketing coordinator and an International Student Services coordinator.

SOC-BBC’s main goal for the summer is to fill all senate positions so they can discuss and pass legislation and start updating the constitution. The council cannot update the constitution until they have senators representing students in each college.

Senators are needed to represent the schools of jour-

nalism, hospitality management, education, arts and sciences, nursing and health services and the Brownlie Fines Center.

More shuttle times for Summer B, now with Wi-Fi

REBECA PICCARDO
News Director

The Department of Parking and Transportation recently announced shuttle service updates for Summer B, which will offer students more opportunities to commute between Modesto A. Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campus.

Beginning on Monday, June 30, the department has added two additional depart-

ure times to the summer shuttle schedule, which ends on August 1. Also, smaller internal buses will be serving the route, according to Travis Stokes, events coor-

dinator of Parking and Transportation.

In the new schedule, the last route covered by the Golden Panther Express, which seats 55 passengers, will be at 6:30 p.m.

After that, the CATS shuttle, which are used to take students to and from the Engineering Campus, will service the route to BCC at night.

“The routes scheduled from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. will be covered by FIU’s very own 25-passenger CATS shuttle,” Stokes said in an e-mail.

These shuttles are now equipped with Wi-Fi.

The pickup and drop off stop for MMC is in Lot 3, next to the Gold Parking Garage. The pickup and drop off stop for BCC is located in front of AC1 Building.

For more updates visit https://parking.fiu.edu

Online registration for kayak and paddleboard events comes at a cost

SOFIA GALIANO
Staff Writer

Water recreation enthusi-

asts now have a reliable way to enroll for kayaking and paddleboard-

ning after the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center introduced online regis-

tration last month.

On April 29, the BBC Rec Center announced, due to the growing success of Adventure X Programs which include day and night kayak and paddleb-

ording events, participants must register online at Active.com prior to attending—

 ditching the old first-come, first-service enrollment.

Although the new system saves students like Christopher Sapienza, a senior economics major, a commute from Broward County and hours of waiting in line without being guaranteed a seat, registering online comes at a cost.

Students have been able to kayak and paddleboard for free since the Rec Center first offered daytime kayaking trips six years ago, but now students have to pay $5 each time they register.

“We don’t want to charge,” said Elle Bardawil, director of Campus Recreation at BBC.

According to Bardawil, the fee is so students can secure their seats and confirm they will attend.

He said pre-registering without a fee resulted in frequent no-shows in the past, and while the department considered charging students $3, they decided some would still bail on their reservations for that amount.

Bardawil also said because the Rec Center is operating on the same base budget as they were three years ago, student fees will provide funding for new life jackets, paddles, mainte-

nance and the online registration service.

“I don’t mind paying the $5 because I know it would save me the $20 in gas,” said Sapienza.

He said he participated in Kayak After Dark after making several attempts, but the hassle of enrolling on a first-come, first-serve enrollment discouraged him from attending future events.

When the Rec Center posted on social media that reservations will be available, they received over a dozen “likes” and several friend tags between their Instagram and Facebook page.

Both Bardawil and Recreation Administration and Adventure X Programs Specialist Jonathan Torrey said students have responded favor-

ably since online registration was implemented earlier this month.

However, participants must now scramble to register online or be left ashore.

Torrey said registration for each Adventure X program opens up the day after an event, giving participants up to a month in advance to secure their seat and three chances to reschedule their reservations.

But Sapienza said although the online registration is an improvement, he said in a Facebook message that the new system is “subject to similar waste and frustration with the old system.”

“Already sold out?” wrote Melony Magrone on a Rec Center Facebook post advertising the next Kayak After Dark, which Torrey said is the most popular event.

Torrey said because the night kayaking event on May 15 was cancelled due to a tornado warning and flood advisory, several students rescheduled for the following trip on June 19.

But not only is the next night kayaking event fully booked, so are both trips of the next Kayak Day on the Bay on May 24 and all three trips of Panter Paddle on June 7.

The only event still accepting participants is the night paddleboarding event on June 12.

Bardawil said the depart-

ment requested special funding to purchase eight more kayaks this past year, which would allow 16 more participants per trip, but the funding was not granted.

He said the Rec Center will request special funding again during the next budget cycle.

Instead of buying more kayaks, Sapienza suggested they offer more trips, Torrey said the Rec Center plans to do so.

-staff writer at the bay

-photos courtesy of Andrew Shantz

-Alexi Cardona

Staff Writer

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