BASEBALL

Fans feast with the fishes in new Marlins Park

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When FIU fans travel to Marlins Park tonight to watch the Panthers take on the Miami Marlins, they’ll be greeted by a slew of things they are not used to seeing at the FIU Baseball Stadium.

They will see a towering centerfield home run sculpture with marlins, seagulls and flamingos attached to it. They will notice an entire swimming pool behind the left field fence.

They will tilt their heads up and notice that the stadium has a retractable roof, and when they turn toward home plate, they will notice the massive aquarium lining the back wall.

And, hopefully, they will take notice of the Panthers taking the field against a major league ball club for the first time in school history.

Marlins Park, as it is tentatively named while until it gets a sponsor, is being called the jewel of South Florida. Built on the site of the Orange Bowl, the $515 million stadium is the newest park in Major League Baseball and is providing South Floridians with much needed amenities that SunLife stadium, the Marlins former home, lacked.

Most notably would be the retractable roof. Though the Marlins were in the middle of the pack in rainouts experienced in the last decade (10), the heat is what may have irritated many fans. Sunday games at 1 p.m. would serve as blistering saunas under the Miami sun.

Karl Ebert, manager of event services for the Marlins, wants to ensure that the stadium accommodates fans as best as possible.

“Our fans are our number one concern,” said Ebert. “We want this to be a comfortable environment with a constant 75 degrees on the field.”

Ebert noted that the FIU game would have the roof open, weather permitting. Fans will have the entire promenade level open, which spans from foul pole to foul pole, and is the closest one could sit to the field.

Upon sitting down, the centerfield home run sculpture will undoubtedly draw stares from the possible 15,000 fans in attendance.

The 74-foot, $2.5 million structure was designed by Red Grooms, an American pop artist born in 1937. “It’s incredibly hard to miss,” Ebert said. It explodes with lasers, sounds, water and movement with every Marlin homerun and has been subject to much criticism.

The sculpture, however, will not activate for any homerun tonight. The Marlins plan to trigger it on April 1 against the Yankees if any Marlin hits a home run.

Marlins slugger Mike Stanton (who will now be announced as Giancarlo Stanton) joked that if the fans don’t like it he would stop hitting home runs.

Ebert pointed out that Marlins Park would offer a wider selection of food than the regular ballpark fare that SunLife Stadium had.

“There will be a Mexican stand, a Cuban stand and a kosher food stand,” Ebert said.

All three will be open tonight. Ebert said the Marlins partnered with three local restaurants, Don Camaron, Papa Llego y Pon and Latin American Grill, to serve limited menu items to fans.

Faculty clinic opens up services to community

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FIU fans will be able to enjoy a variety of food; from Mexican, cuban, and kosher types just to name a few.

Upon arrival for the 2011-2012 academic year, students may have noticed a change at PG5.

College of Medicine HealthCare Network at the University, as well.

The practice began only seeing faculty and staff, but has since expanded its services to dependents of the University, employees and members of the community 18 and over.

As a part of the HealthCare Network at the University, the practice provides medical attention to the University community.

It differs from University Health Services in that it is primarily geared at the employees of the University, although students with private health insurance coverage can access the services of the practice as well.

“This is an option for service,” said Amy Metula, director of quality management of the FIU College of Medicine HealthCare Network. The shift away from exclusively attending to the needs of faculty and staff emerged as a byproduct of requests made by these individuals that their dependents be allowed to use the facility as well.

At the center, the patient is greeted with a contemporary interior design.

Frosted glass panes separate the arriving and departing patients offering them privacy as they come to seek out the services of the facility.

Past the lobby, ten separate exam rooms await patients. The practice is also equipped with a laboratory and an X-Ray machine in the radiology room.

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POLICE

Police break up anti-Putin protest in Moscow

Riot police are breaking up an opposition protest contesting Prime Minister Vladimir Putin’s victory in Russia’s presidential election and arresting dozens of participants, including prominent opposition leaders.

The action followed a rally in downtown Moscow, which drew about 20,000.

The big rally went on peacefully, but police violently dispersed several hundred protesters who attempted to stop on Pushkin Square.

Hundreds of police in full riot gear moved to push the demonstrators away from the square and rounded up scores, including several protest leaders.

Putin won more than 63 percent of the vote according to the nearly complete official returns, but the opposition says the election was marred by massive fraud.

But the Brevard County couple separated two years later, and the birth mother eventually left Florida with the child without telling her former lover. The woman who donated the egg and calls herself the biological mother finally tracked them down in Australia with the help of a private detective. Their fight over the now 8-year-old girl is before the state Supreme Court, which has not announced whether it will consider the case.

A trial judge ruled for the birth mother and said the biological mother has no parental rights under state law, adding he hoped his decision would be overturned.

The 5th District Court of Appeal in Daytona Beach obliged, siding with the biological mother and saying both women have parental rights.

At issue is the 1993 state law meant to regulate sperm and egg donation. Scholars debate whether the constitutional right to procreate includes outside-the-body technologies used to conceive.

Also at issue are constitutional questions about gay people’s right to raise children and claim equal protection under law. Another appellate court ruled Florida’s ban on gays being able to adopt unconstitutional in 2010.

The biological mother, however, isn’t concerned about being a legal or social pioneer, her lawyer said. She just wants her child back in her life.

“She hasn’t seen her daughter in years, and it’s been terribly, terribly difficult for her,” said Robert A. Segal, a family law attorney in Melbourne.

The birth mother’s lawyer, Robert Wheelock of Orlando, did not respond to written questions sent by email.

The battle over what defines motherhood is being played out on prime-time television shows and in courtrooms across the country.

Lisa Miller, a Virginia woman who renounced her homosexuality, has been in hiding with her daughter since 2009 after a court ordered that her former partner, Janet Jenkins, be given custody.

The two entered into a civil union in Vermont in 2000. Miller’s own egg was artificially inseminated and she gave birth. The Virginia Supreme Court ultimately agreed with a Vermont judge’s custody decision, the case raised questions about one state’s duty to recognize same-sex relationship rights created by laws in another.

In the Florida case, the women agreed to “reproductive medical assistance,” have a child and raise that child as a couple, court records show.

It’s unknown to the women who are separated after 2 years, but the appellate decision said the birth mother mates the state’s law on sperm and egg donation, which says that donors “relinquish all maternal or paternal rights,” to argue that the biological mother wasn’t the child’s parent.

The trial judge ruled for the birth mother, but said he didn’t agree with the law and told the biological mother, “If you appeal this, I hope I’m wrong.”

The appellate judges reversed him 2:1 in a decision that found the biological mother wasn’t a “donor” as contemplated by the law because she and her partner intended to be parents together.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gay custody battle may change law

JAMES L. ROSICA

A custody battle in Florida between two lesbians could fuel the growing national debate over the definition of motherhood.

It also might force state lawmakers to reconsider a 19-year-old law regarding the rights of sperm and egg donors.

The women, now in their 30s and known in court papers only by their initials, were both law enforcement officers in Florida. One partner donated an egg that was fertilized and implanted in the other. That woman gave birth in 2004, nine years into their relationship.

But the Brevard County couple separated two years later, and the birth mother eventually left Florida with the child without telling her former lover. The woman who donated the egg and calls herself the biological mother finally tracked them down in Australia with the help of a private detective.

Their fight over the now 8-year-old girl is before the state Supreme Court, which has not announced whether it will consider the case.

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PRACTICE OFFERS ROUTINE PHYSICALS, WELL-CARE VISITS, DISEASE SCREENINGS

The Beacon – Wednesday, March 7, 2012

The patients are happy. The practice has really picked up since we opened full time in August.

Amy Makulis, Director of Quality Management

College of Medicine HealthCare Network

The practice offers routine physicals, well-care visits, disease screenings that take care of radiology, gynecology and obstetrics, rheumology and general family medicine.

The practice plans on adding medical specialties throughout the spring term, one of which is cardiology.

More imaging modalities, including ultrasound, are also in the near future.

“The patients are happy,” she said, “the practice has really picked up since we opened full time in August.”

Patients receive routine physicals, well-care visits, and preventive health maintenance.

The facility also screens for chronic diseases and helps patients manage them.

Should an individual come upon an acute illness, such as rashes, fever and nausea, they may also seek out the services of the practice.

The practice provides vaccines, electrocardiograms, nursing consultations and educational programs that assist patients in leading a healthy lifestyle.

Established patients are also offered 24/7 access to on-call physicians should anything come up.

They will also be seen at the facility on a walk-in basis. New patients or returning non-established patients must make appointments to be seen by the physicians on staff.

The practice is open Mondays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays until 5 p.m.
Ashley McClain breaks school all-time RBI record

ANTHONY GUIVAS Staff Writer anthony.guivas@fiusm.com

FIU snapped a four-game losing streak where they were outscored 31-8 during the DeMarini Invitational in California. The Panthers beat the Beavers 4-1 on the last game of the invitational on March 6.

During the win, Ashley McClain became the school’s new all-time RBI leader, knocking in her 137th run in her collegiate career. McClain surpassed Jennifer Owens, who previously owned the record for eight years. McClain carried the team offensively on the day, bringing in two of the four runs of the game.

It was a scoreless contest for the first three innings until the fourth when McClain delivered her historic RBI on a double that scored Beth Peller. FIU’s lead was short lived, however, as Oregon State evened things up in the following inning on a single by Hannah Bouskar.

Oregon State and FIU stayed tied up until the seventh inning, where Rachel Slowik and Megan Horne got on with singles and later advanced on two steals. An error by the Beaver’s catcher allowed Slowik to score, giving FIU a 2-1 lead.

The Panthers would tack on three more insurance runs in the seventh and last inning. Peller and Kayal Burri got on base with a pair of fielder’s choices. The school’s all-time RBI leader, McClain, and Brie Rojas knocked back to back singles extending the lead to 4-1. McClain’s second RBI of the game was also her 138th of her career.

As much as McClain’s historic RBI stole the show offensively, starter Mariah Dawson stole the show on the mound as she threw her sixth complete game of the year. Dawson also allowed just two hits in the game.

The team now stands at 8-11 after finishing the DeMarini Invitational on a high note. The Panthers will look to start a win streak as they face DePaul and Delaware at home to start off the FIU invitational.

Season ends despite late charge

MALCOM SHIELDS Staff Writer malcolm.shields@fiusm.com

The Panthers were eliminated in the first round of the Sun Belt Conference tournament on March 5 in Hot Springs, Ark. Khalil McDonald scored 11 of his 19 points in the second half to pace Western Kentucky to a 67-63 victory. The loss ended the Panthers’ season.

Deluan Wright finished with 24 points and 12 rebounds, Cameron Bell followed with 11 points, Jeremy Allen added seven points and three assists for FIU (8-21, 5-11 SBC).

“We got off to a very slow start in the first half,” said head coach Ishah Thomas. “We didn’t shoot the ball well, but I thought we came out in the second half and played a lot better.”

After trailing 39-27 early in the second half, the Panthers countered with a 6-2 run to trim the deficit to eight. After Western Kentucky (12-18, 7-9 SBC) up its lead to 46-36, Wright went on a personal 9-1 run to get the Panthers within two points with less than 11 minutes remaining. Wright’s run led to a 16-1 run for FIU, that was capped off on an Allen three-pointer and a Deric Hill layup to give the Panthers its first lead in the second half at 52-51.

“We picked it up defensively and went on a run,” Wright said. “Guys just started making shots, but it wasn’t enough.”

The Hilltoppers responded with consecutive jumpers by Jamal Crooks and a three-pointer by McDonald to tie the game at 52. McDonald continued his shooting from behind the arch as another three gave the Hilltoppers a 57-54 lead. The run for Western Kentucky expanded to a 14-2 run to push its lead to 61-54 with less than four minutes remaining.

“We tried to get a little bit more man [defense] and put a little more pressure on the perimeter and just try to get them to shoot under pressure,” Bell said.

FIU countered with a 7:0 run, which was capped off on a Taylor three-pointer, off a steal, to tie the game at 61 with 1:39 remaining. After McDonald gave the Hilltoppers a two-point lead on free-throws, the Panthers had a chance to tie or take the lead, but the Panthers turned the ball over, missed on a three-pointer and a put-back layup in consecutive possessions.

“We wanted to try to get a quick dribble or take the best shot that we could get,” Thomas said of the possessions.

The Hilltoppers converted at the free-throw line late to ice the game. Western Kentucky finished the game shooting 43.5 percent (10-of-23) from three-point range.

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Women’s Basketball

Coley struggles as FIU eliminated by Middle Tennessee

BRANDON WISE Asst. Sports Director brandon.wise@fiusm.com

Asssn when head coach Cindy Russo said her team had not played a complete game all year, came to a screeching halt on March 5 when the Panthers lost to Middle Tennessee 63-53 in Hot Springs, Ark.

All season long, the team had a slow first half, normally scoring 15-20 points. However, the Panthers came out hitting on all cylinders, at one point leading by as much as 10, 19-9.

It was short lived however, as the Blue Raiders came flying back, taking a 32-27 lead into halftime. The Panthers actually played one of their best first halves of the year, shooting around 50 percent.

When the second half action got going, the Panthers kept their hopes alive, leading by three with 9:30 to go in the game. But, the Blue Raiders proved to be too much as they pulled away to their 10-point victory.

Jerica Coley, who brought the Panthers back in their previous matchup with Denver, struggled all game long to find her shot. She finished the night 4-24 from the field and 1-10 from three point range.

This marks the first game in the 32 season that Coley failed to reach double digits in points. The Panthers also failed to get to the foul line even one time, where the Blue Raiders went to the line 21 times. That is the first time all year the Panthers were unable to reach the line at all.

With a season record of 22-10, the Panthers’ hopes of going to the NCAA tournament are more than likely gone. Now, they must sit and wait to find out whether or not the NIT decides to pick them up for their tournament or not.

The 64-team field will be decided on March 12. Each conference is supposed to receive one automatic bid to the tournament and FIU is the only other team in the Sun Belt that won at least 20 games.
WHAT FIU VS MARLINS EXHIBITION GAME ~ WHEN 7:10 P.M. MARCH 7 AT MARLINS PARK (RADIATE FM) ~ WHO PANTHERS TAKE ON THE NEW LOOK MARLINS AND MANAGER OZZIE GUILLEN

COMING SOON TO A STADIUM NEAR YOU

Marlins Park has gone through final preparations to ready for exhibition with the University of Miami and FIU.

Concession stands will be open for fans on game day.

The Beacon –Wednesday, March 7, 2012

SPORTS

FIU will face pro team for first time in 39-year history

EDUARDO ALMAGUER
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Don’t blame TJ Shantz for being a realist.

When asked at what point in his baseball career he expected to play on a major league field against a major league team, a grin spread across his face and he answered in one word: “Never!” Well, Shantz, you already know the old saying.

FIU will be facing off against a major league team for the first time in its 39-year history tonight when it faces the Miami Marlins in Marlins Park.

Head coach Turtle Thomas broke the news to his team early October, and since then every Panther has been pumped for tonight’s game.

A college team playing a major league squad is not something unusual. In spring training, MLB’s pre-season, one of the first few exhibition matches that a professional team plays is against a local university.

The Marlins have a tradition of playing University of Miami every year.

The Hurricanes have beaten the Marlins once (in 2011) in the past decade. Earlier this week, one of FIU’s earlier opponents in the year, Florida State University, played against the Philadelphia Phillies.

But now it’s FIU’s turn.

With power slugger Giancarlo Stanton and four-time All-Star Jose Reyes among others sharing the field with the Panthers, enjoying themselves is something they won’t have to try hard to do.

Senior left-hander R.J. Fondon said that he wants to strikeout the speedy Reyes.

“He’s a switch hitter and one of the toughest guys to strike out,” said Fondon. “I’ll probably use my changeup.”

Fondon also hopes to glean a few things from the Marlins pitchers, specifically their mechanics and work ethic.

Staring the Panthers down for the first couple of innings will be right-hander Ricky Nolasco.

Shantz, who knows Nolasco always pitches in the strike zone, already had his attack plan ready.

“I’m going to swing at every pitch,” said Shantz with a laugh. “That’s my style, free swinging!”

At the time of print, Thomas had no indication as to which pitcher would start against the Marlins. He gave no indication to a lineup, either.

For precedence, however, FSU had a pitcher per inning in all nine innings against the Phillies. Thomas may follow suit in order to give as many players the chance to pitch against a major league athlete.

On the other side, the Marlins’ boisterous new manager, Ozzie Guillen, was asked why he would not start All-Star Josh Johnson against FIU.

“If they see JJ, they might quit. They might stay in school.’’

For the first time in its 39-year history
Miami’s Cuban coffee buzz

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“Cuban coffee is not a beverage, it’s a ritual—like a Japanese tea ceremony,” wrote author Carlos Frias in his memoir, “Take Me With You.”

During the 18th century, coffee production was introduced to the colonial island of Cuba, making it one of the main exporters of coffee to Spain. Shortly after the advent of espresso coffee in Italy in the 19th century, Cubans got a hold of the new brewing technology and made it all their own.

“Cafeteras Italianas” were used for making the coffee, but what took place after the coffee began to rise through the metal coffeemaker was uniquely Cuban. The technique of making “espressada,” or foam, by slowly pouring the newly brewed coffee directly into sugar, stirring vigorously until it creates a creamy paste, and then pouring the remaining coffee into the paste caught on and became the way to make coffee. Soon, variations of creating Cuban coffee were born. “Cortado” is when Cuban coffee is topped with a small amount of steamed milk, and “cafén con leche” is the Cuban equivalent of the French “café au lait” (coffee and milk), which is often served with Cuban desserts.

Soon, coffee had become a major point of pride for Cubans, and competing companies began advertising their coffee as distinctly Cuban, which can be seen in a 1951 animated television spot for Pilón coffee. The black-and-white commercial featured a rhythmic jingle sung by Cilia Cruz, the “queen of salsa.” “Oye,” shouts Cruz, as a cartoon stick figure dances and drinks coffee on the screen. “Cafén Pilón, sabrosos hasta el último buchito!” (“Pilon Coffee, delicious to the last sip!”)

After the Cuban Revolution, thousands of Cubans brought their coffee-drinking habits across the Florida straits and into Miami. Almost every young Cuban-American has memories of their grandparents making and serving coffee from the stove, while socializing with the lady in the shade and sipping coffee in the sunny weather.

Sigma Kappa fights Alzheimer’s

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Sigma Kappa Sorority hosted their third annual King of Hearts pageant on Feb. 29 to raise funds for the Sigma Kappa Foundation, the second-largest contributor to Alzheimer’s disease research, following the Alzheimer’s Association. The Greek organization, which promotes a core value of service, has partnered with the philanthropic association since 1984.

In February, the Obama administration issued headlines by announcing their plan to stop Alzheimer’s disease in its tracks with the “Alzheimer’s Can’t Wait” campaign. The government initiative will call for more funding allocated to Alzheimer’s disease research by an extra $50 million in the National Institute of Health allowance.

Under Obama’s plan, effective without the necessity of an approval from Congress, NIH will dedicate the supplemental funds to the research and treatment testing of Alzheimer’s disease.

Stephanie Wietrzychowski, Sigma Kappa’s vice president of philanthropic services, said raising money is imperative to ending the chronic disease.

“We’re really hopeful about the extra funding from the NIH. We put a lot of work into hosting events like King of Hearts to remind everyone that we can make Alzheimer’s disease a distant memory for those suffering through it,” said Wietrzychowski.

The Kappa Omicron chapter of Sigma Kappa has driven multiple fundraising campaigns for philanthropic causes in its three years on campus.

Last year, the chapter donated $2,500 to the Sigma Kappa Foundation and raised an additional $1,300 for the Alzheimer’s Association’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s. It is expected that this year’s King of Hearts pageant raised more than $2,000 for the foundation.

“A woman at a nursing home once told me that when you become old, your memories are the only thing you have left to hold on to. Imagine how frightening it would be to lose all of these memories and forget your family members. We support the Alzheimer’s Association because we want to see a cure,” said Wietrzychowski.

How to dress sharp for a job interview

For the most part, interview attire has remained somewhat the same from decade to decade, it basically is business attire. Dressing for an interview is prob-ably one of the events where dressing your best matters the most—it is the time where you being judged to see if you qualify for the job you want, and looking outdated or simply bad can be the decision factor in getting that job.

When dressing for an interview, remember this combination: Simple and smart. If your outfit is simple and smart, you are good to go. Dress simple to show efficiency, and so your clothes don’t do all the talking. Dress smart to show you know what you are doing—nothing makes it seem more like your life is together than dressing smartly.

So you’re going to an interview, what exactly do you wear? A business suit of course, but don’t go overboard. Whether showing up for a job interview, an important thing to consider is the job you are applying for. For instance, if you are applying for a creative position, instead of wearing suit, wear slim-fitted chinos, paired with a sports coat—a more relaxed look.

“Remember, simple and smart!” —Juan Sattizabal is a guest columnist for Haute Topic, specialized in men’s fashion.
**RADIATE REVIEWS**

Grime’s masters captivates pop sound

Claire Boucher better known as Grime, a genre that’s gained a peculiar interest take on pop music. Her signature sound, a mixture of airy synths, borderline choppy vocals and pulsating bass lines create the perfect atmosphere for a catchy array of songs as is found in Visions, her second album. This border-line bubblygram pop walks a fine line between great pop girl bands such as Sugababes and more ambient, electronic music such as Ford & Lopatin; yet it still feels original and effervescent, demanding the listener to dance and sway to the rhythms.

Songs such as Genesis and Oblivion, personal runners up for pop songs of the year so far, demonstrate a great ability in creating compelling melodies with simple structures, creating bright soundscapes and rounding off one of the best albums of the winter.

The ongoing trend in Visions instrumentally speaking is a certain focus on minimalism. While the songs themselves feature multiple layers of sound at times, these are simple, easy to follow and maintain a harmony or syncopation that is not only pleasant but attractive to the listener.

Looking back at previous material, Grimes, has a particular focus on melody has evolved, from Vanessa (from the Darkloomb EP) where a simple piano chord, coughed, and harmonized. The foundation for the song, instantly increasing its appeal.

In Visions’ case, the first song Infinities Without Fulfiment, presents a certain build up of simple drums, synths and vocals, often through looping or pre-recorded vocals, as it’s also reproduced on her live shows. While the finished product in itself is quite exciting, observing the buildup of the melody and act in person is quite remarkable, as you can see when she performs here in Miami this March 5th.

Other songs such as the afore-mentioned Genesis, starts off with a basic pulsating drone, repeating effortlessly as primary synths chords the constant iteration of the same elements begins to wear, creating a certain sense of boredom towards the end of the record. While this does not imply the song itself is bad, the repetitive nature of the elements starts to take over the initial sense of wonder felt when listening to Visions.

At 13 songs, the album could have used a stricter had in picking the songs that would make it onto final pressing. Tracks such as the following track Oblivion, while the finished product in itself is quite exciting, observing the buildup of the melody and act in person is quite remarkable, as you can see when she performs here in Miami this March 5th.

The national cost for medical and nursing home tabs related to Alzheimer’s disease reaches about $180 billion a year—and that number is expected to swell to $1 trillion.

The winner of the 2012 King of Hearts pageant, sophomores Luis Portonduo, whose aunt and grandmother both live with Alzheimer’s disease, said he hopes to bring to light the severity of Alzheimer’s disease in America on a community level.

“I believe it is up to the leaders of Sigma Kappa and myself to make sure the students of the University are aware of the dire situation that millions of families, like my own, deal with on a daily basis. Using events, such as the King of Hearts pageant, I think we can push local awareness to an all-time high,” said Portonduo.

The sorority’s latest push involves supporting a petition started by the Alzheimer’s Association, which urges the Obama administration to provide more funding for Alzheimer’s research.

**CUBAN COFFEE REMAINS CLASSIC**

**COFFEE, PAGE 5**

Cuban descent.

“Cuban coffee. I grew up in a Haitian household, and my mom gave it to us every morning with Cuban breakfasts. It’s been a staple in my culture since I was 6. It wakes you up and doesn’t let you crash hours later as an energy drink,” said Daniel Giovani, a broadcast journalist.

The constant iteration of the same elements begins to wear, creating a certain sense of boredom towards the end of the record. While this does not imply the song itself is bad, the repetitive nature of the elements starts to take over the initial sense of wonder felt when listening to Visions.

Songs such as ‘Genesis’ and ‘Oblivion,’ personal runners up for pop songs of the year so far...

Most companies such as Starbucks and Dunkin’ Donuts. While these companies spend millions of dollars each year on advertisements and lifestyle-type marketing, Cuban coffee remains under-advertised, and under-priced. This is because Cuban coffee is a staple in many households across the city and not an overpriced trendy way to intake caffeine, like a mocha Frappuccino.

Using events, such as Grimes’ ultimate strength in this record is her ability for catchy rhythms and beats, a great mixture in equal parts bubblegum pop, and 80’s revivalist nature that grabs the listener’s attention and invites them to dance.

The combinations of these elements leads towards a very pleasant final project that, while it’s not without its flaws, these can be overlooked and still have a great time.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FIU SCHOOL OF MUSIC AT THE GIBSON GALLERY SERIES: FIU JAZZ GUITAR ENSEMBLE WHEN: 8-10 p.m. WHERE: Gibson Miami Showroom (Dorissa Bidg)

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THREE KINDS WHEN: 6:30 p.m. WHERE: U.S. Century Bank Arena, Room 119

GREEN CRITICS’ LECTURE SERIES WITH JUAN MANUEL ECHAVARRIA WHEN: 5-7 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public WHERE: The Frost Art Museum

SGC BBC LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS: ADRIAN GRENIER WHEN: 6-7:30 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free for students, faculty and staff. General admission is $5 and $10 the day of the lecture. WHERE: MMC WUC Ballrooms

WIND AND PERCUSSION ARTS SERIES: FIU SYMPHONIC BAND WHEN: 7:30-9:30 p.m. HOW MUCH: Tickets are $15.00 General Admission, $10.00 Seniors and Free For Faculty/Staff, $5.00 FIU Students and Alumni Association Members. WHERE: Herbert & Nicole Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

INCONVENIENT TRUTHS ABOUT INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN POLICY WHEN: 2:30-4 p.m. HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public WHERE: MMC SIPA 103

TO HAVE YOUR EVENT FEATURED EMAIL: CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**NEW WAY DAY SERVICES IS LOOKING FOR VERBAL BEHAVIOR TECHNICIANS AND BOARD CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS TO TEACH CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER. LANGUAGE AND ACADEMIC SKILLS USING THE METHODS OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (ABA). WE PROVIDE EXTENSIVE TRAINING AND SUPERVISION TO ENSURE COMPETENCE. PREFERRED TIMES OF SERVICES INCLUDE MONDAYS-SATURDAYS 3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. WE PROVIDE SUPERVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL ANALYST CERTIFICATION FOR FREE. PLEASE FAX OR EMAIL YOUR RESUME TO: 305-597-3863 OR RESUME:NWDS169@GMAIL.COM

HELP WANTED: SUMMER JOBS

RECREATION CAMP COUNSELORS/SUPERVISORS FOR SUMMER RECREATIONAL CAMP PROGRAM 6/11/12-8/3/12 FOR CHILDREN AGES 5-14. WESLEIGUARD AND MAINTENANCE AIDS (5/12-8/12). EXP. DESIRABLE. CITY OF PLANTATION (LOCATED WEST OF FT. LAUDERDALE) 400 NW 73 AVE., PLANTATION, FL 33317 OR WWW.PLANTATION.ORG TO DOWNLOAD APPLICATION.
School violence still a major issue

Both students and professors must do their part in preventing such a heinous act, and this can be done by doing two simple things: being observant and being proactive.

I would be remiss if I didn’t address the high school shooting in Ohio that claimed the lives of three innocent students and landed yet another emotionally disturbed youth behind bars.

On Feb. 27, 17-year-old TJ Lane opened fire in a cafeteria full of students at Chardon High School, killing three students and injuring two others and leaving an indelible painful mark on all who witnessed it. Interestingly, Lane wasn’t even a student at Chardon.

Ever since the Columbine High School shooting in 1999, the first one I was directly exposed to, I have noticed that whenever a school shooting happens we, as a society, try to figure out whether or not the shooter came from a broken home, listened to death metal and played violent video games, hoping that these ultimately useless facts would somehow help us understand why he committed such a horrendous crime. Truthfully, it does seem as if the shooters in these incidences were troubled in some way.

In Lane’s case, a report in The New York Times revealed that he attended Lake Academy, a school for at-risk youth, and is said to have witnessed several incidences of family violence at a young age, particularly the fights between his parents that landed them in court several times and was likely the determining factor in their divorce. However, there are many students that go through much more and have never picked up a gun.

When senseless acts of school violence occur, it resurrects the fear many of us have, especially as students. We succumb to hyper-vigilance and paranoia, terrified that on one fateful day of one of our peers will step foot onto our campus ready to open fire, gun laws and anti-violence policies be damned. Although the threat of school violence is an unfortunate possibility, it doesn’t have to be a reality so long as we get such students the help they need before they are committed to harming others and themselves.

Reaching out to troubled students doesn’t stop at the college level, as illustrated by Seung-Hui Cho and the Virginia Tech shooting that occurred in 2007. Thankfully, our University has not endured such a dangerous ordeal, but the possibility still exists.

Both students and professors must do their part in preventing such a heinous act, and this can be done by doing two simple things: being observant and being proactive.

Should any of us see red-flag behavior in our peers, encourage them to get help from the University’s counseling services or by other means, and do not hesitate in reporting observed threats of violence to the authority figures on campus. Stringent gun laws and discouraging death metal music will not completely eliminate gun violence in any arena, even a school.

What we can do, as a society, is reassess why these students become murderers and make improvements in a variety of systems so the next school shooting does not occur.

Getting an education is stressful enough as it is; none of us should ever have the additional worry of being shot on our way to class. My condolences go out to those affected by the Chardon High School shooting.

“Class Dismissed” is a weekly column critiquing education in America. Email jasmyne.elliott@fiusm.com

SGA matters should be public, open to students

The opinion presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and members of the University community.

After reading The Beacon’s editorial “Lack of transparency affects students” we at the Coalition of Students for Reform, feel that public information should in fact be public. The information requested by The Beacon should not be hidden in password protected sites, but readily available online and physically to anyone who requests it. That is the meaning of transparency.

Given the resources at their disposal, there is no excuse for the Modesto A. Maidique Campus or the Biscayne Bay Campus to not publish and make available all documents and information that affect the student body and university as a whole.

Our student newspaper, emphasis on student, should not have to go to such extraordinary lengths to obtain public information. Not when transparency has been an SGA promise for years. SGA has not only a legal obligation to make records available under Florida law, but under its own constitution as well.

We at the CSR understand those in SGA are also students and have many obligations, but when they chose to run for office, they chose to live by a higher set of standards. When it comes to an organization that manages roughly $13 million in student fine fees must not only have the highest standards, but live up to them as well.

To be truly transparent, there needs to be a top-down restructuring of how SGA presents information to the public.

Keeping SGA matters private should be a thought process removed from SGA rationale.

Instead a completely open system that encourages student input and participation should be implemented.

No one should have to go to the extreme lengths The Beacon did to obtain public information.

-FIU’s Coalition of Students for Reform

The one dollar per credit hour fee that would only be used towards renewable energy and efficiency initiatives on campus is an allocation of funds that makes sense; not only is it money well spent for the environment, but it reflects well on the University as a progressive environmentally conscious of their institution.

The Beacon commends the Students for Environmental Action for proposing this Student Green Energy Fund.

We support the one dollar per credit hour fee and are looking forward to the environmentally conscious changes that will be taking place on our campuses.

Furthermore, we support SGA’s interesting tactic of having students vote on whether or not they would like this fee added to their overall tuition.

In a FIU Student Media article published on March 5, “Students Petition for a ‘Green’ Fee”, Jessica Okaty, former vice president and current member of SESA said, “Many people think we are trying to implement the fee, but really we are trying to initiate a referendum to allow students to vote on it they want to initiate it.”

This kind of social activism encourages students to get involved in our institution.

Student Government Association President

Patrick O’Keefe expressed reservations about the new proposed fee.

O’Keefe said, “[it] sends the wrong message to create a new fee at a time when students can’t afford college and are asking for no tuition hikes.”

Not only is it money well spent for the environment, but it reflects well on the University as a progressive university environmentally conscious of their institution.

However, the average student, who takes 4 classes at three credits each, would add only 12 dollars to their overall tuition, a small amount for a good cause.

For the price of a decent lunch, students could help evolve environmental policies at FIU. We agree that added fees can be problematic, but we disagree with O’Keefe that this adds any real financial burden.

This new initiative is applauded and encouraged by The Beacon.


green fee a go
From sea to shining sea, no critter is left unturned

STEPHANIE FELDMAN Staff Writer stephanie.feldman@fiusm.com

For researchers like Michael Heithaus, plunging into shark-infested waters or wrangling giant sea turtles is just another day at work.

Heithaus, the director of the School of Environment, Arts, and Society is an internationally renowned biologist and ecologist whose work has appeared in scientific journals and has helped produce over a dozen documentaries. At the Biscayne Bay Campus, Heithaus expresses his commitment to education as a means to make powerful and positive changes in the environment. He hopes that SEAS will help maximize the University’s impact on students and the world through excellence in teaching, research, creative works and partnerships.

“I want to see SEAS become a national and international leader in innovative teaching to prepare our students for the challenges that they will face including those that we don’t even know about yet,” Heithaus said.

At the top of Heithaus’ agenda: developing new interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate programs in the school and collaborating with other colleges and schools. He also stresses the importance of fostering strong partnerships as a way to increase the scope of school’s work and its impact.

For example, National Geographic, where he serves as a research fellow for the Remote Imaging Program and was the host of the “Crittercam” television series from 2002 to 2003, helped conduct research using camera devices that monitor behavior and movement when attached to animals.

Animals have always been an important part of Heithaus’ life.

“I grew up camping and fishing and always loved animals—especially in the ocean—so I knew that I wanted to be a biologist very early in my life,” Heithaus said. “I also was very curious, so science was a really good fit for me.”

This curiosity has led to a career as a biologist and an established authority on sharks and shark behavior. Heithaus’ research focuses on the importance and influence of large predators on marine ecosystems and their unique relationship with prey.

His goal is not only to help find solutions to the problems these species face, but to also educate the general public about the vital roles they play in keeping the ecosystem in balance. Learning about these animals involves traveling to the ecosystems most impacted by their presence, such as the Florida Keys and Shark Bay, Australia.

It is in this isolated stretch of sea grass and ocean in Western Australia that the interactions between predator and prey are most evident. He hopes that his involvement in the Shark Bay Ecosystem Research Project will provide important data about the importance of sea grass ecosystems and how to protect them and other ocean communities.

Whether on land or in the sea, Mike Heithaus, director of the School of Environment, Arts and Society, has been a part of numerous research projects for various institutions. Above, Heithaus takes samples of various species of coral.

The project, funded mainly by the National Science Foundation and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada as well as private donors and scientists from around the world, including University students studying the animals that live in this environment and the correlation between their shrinking numbers and the disappearance of sea grass beds.

The material the project gathers is then distributed to a larger audience via its website, SBERP.org, where viewers can see pictures, watch videos and find teaching resources for secondary schools.

SBERP has also collaborated with National Geographic and the Discovery Channel to create educational documentaries as well as inviting middle school science teachers to visit Shark Bay so they can create lesson plans and participate in research.

Heithaus hopes that with his involvement on a local level, creating educational materials for the K-12 audience, as well as many outreach programs, he will not only help find solutions to help struggling species, but also educate the general public about the role these animals play.

“Many of the challenges students will face once they graduate will require being able to be creative, to see problems from multiple perspectives, and to work in teams with people from different backgrounds and diverse perspectives,” Heithaus said. “We want to make sure FIU students are not just prepared, but are ready to be leaders.”

SEAS

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT TO BE FEATURED AS PART OF TALKS

KRISTI GIBBONS Contributing Writer bbc@fiusm.com

Ladies and gentlemen: invest in yourselves.

Today, the Women Who Lead Conference will be held in Wolfe University Center room 221 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The daylong conference is designed to enhance the personal, professional and academic leadership development of female students at the University, as well as faculty, staff and community members.

The event, sponsored by the Women’s Center, will feature keynote speakers Hollis Wilder for the conference at Biscayne Bay Campus today, and Monique Catoggio at Modesto Maidique Campus on March 29.

Both women were chosen because of their inspiring pathways to leadership, their contagious enthusiasm, and their empowering perspective on what it takes to be a woman whose accomplishments stand out even in this competitive economic climate,” said Bronwen C. Bares, associate director of the Women’s Center.

Wilder is the two-time winner of the Food Network’s cupcake wars, a former caterer to the stars and owner of Jacksonville and Orlando’s gourmet cupcake and frozen yogurt concept: SweetByHolly.

“Last year’s conference planted the seed to think of how as a woman I can make a difference,” said Chrystelle Edma, program assistant of the Women’s Center.

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Two sessions facilitated by Dionne Stephens and Paige Telan will be after a networking lunch. Stephens will be leading the “sexual scripts” from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and Telan will lead “Success is F.R.E.E.” from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

“Their research and expertise in the topics relate closely to the conference themes and learning objectives,” Bares said.

The conference has four goals ranging from enhancing the student understanding of the scope of female leaders and assisting female students in developing their personal leadership plan.

Today, there are more and more women who are reaching new positions of leadership in the U.S. unfamiliar with the strategies available to maintain and balance their work as well as personal life choices.

The speakers will be sharing detailed tactics related to what they did to land their dream jobs. They will also share their daily regime, which in turn set them apart from the rest of the competition.

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CHRISTELLE EDMAN Women’s Center, Program Assistant

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The Beacon – 8

www.fiusm.com Wednesday, March 7, 2012

WOMEN’S CENTER

Professional advancement to be featured as part of talks

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CHRISTELLE EDMAN Women’s Center, Program Assistant

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“The conference is free for all University
students, however, the networking lunch
is $7 for University students and $10 for
staff and faculty. Registration is required and community members may
join in for $25.

At BBC, the event will begin with a conference check-in and resource fair
with campus and community organizations, followed by Wilder’s speech.