Allegations filed contesting 2012 elections

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Following the announce-
ment of the winning Student Government presidential ticket as Laura Farinas and Alex Castro, four grievances were filed to the Student Government Supreme Court questioning the legitimacy of the 2012 SGA presidential election.

Claiming evidence of voter fraud and failure to comply with the Student Body Elec-
tions Code, presidential can-
didate Sanjeev Udhnani and his running mate Connor Mautner filed two of the four court orders last Friday to the Court against the Farinas-Castro campaign.

Throughout the campaign, we received copies of text messages from several sources in which they were asked to submit, or submitted, their panther ID's and passwords so that members of the Farinas 2012 campaign can vote on their behalf,” said Gracie
2012 campaign can vote on their behalf,” said Gracie
their behalf,” said Gracie
their behalf,” said Gracie

man, in a press release.

“Their actions Code, presidential can-
didate Sanjeev Udhnani and his running mate Connor Mautner filed two of the four court orders last Friday to the Court against the Farinas-Castro campaign.”

“We ran an honest campaign. With every single vote that we got we made sure that that person had informa-
tion on what was going to be done,” said Farinas in an inter-
view with Student Media last week. “If an appeal were to be sent in, I have no idea what grounds it would be on.”

The next day, April 7, another two court orders were sent by Anthony Maneiro, a petitioner, to the Court. The first was requesting the disqual-
ification of both the Farinas-
Castro and Udhnani-Mautner tickets and name the remaining candidates, Samir Patel and Andres Wu, the winners of the election.

According to the appeal, the Udhnani ticket and Farinas presidential campaign were campaigning in no-
campaign zones.

“By not following the Elec-
tions Code, these two tickets have compromised the 2012 SGA Elections, obtaining votes through methods specifically prohibited in our Statutes,” Maneiro said in the writ. “The nature, and multiple instances of these violations, show two presidential tickets that did not follow the rules, placing those that did at an inherent disavant-
tage that significantly impaired their ability to compete in the election.”

During the April 9 Senate meeting, Chief Justice Octavio Mella announced that the Court would not be hearing Manei-
ro’s court order on the grounds that they did have enough supporting material.

The second grievance by Maneiro was filed against the neutrality of the Elections Board and will be heard today at 9:30am, while Udhnani’s is to be held today at 8am.

“We see the opportunity for another election, with one or two days of election at two central polling stations,” said Udhnani. “At the end of the day, the 4101 students who voted for me, voted into an ille-
gitimate system.”

Catholics on campus strive to create a presence

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Catholic clergy and parishioners wearing white shirts with the Archdi-
ocese of Miami logo have become a new sight amid the more than 40,000 students registered at the University.

They are part of the archdiocese’s “revival of faith” campaign to reach out to the nearly 30,000 Catholics on campus at FIU.

It’s an effort raising some eyebrows and some questions from students – practicing Catholics, as well as those of other faiths or no faith at all.

“One of my big keys or one of the things that is being asked of me is to do more outreach,” Vega said. “Since it’s a very large university, we are trying to meet students where they are. This means going to sports events, foot-
ball games, organizing barbecues. We already have a weekly routine when we have an information table to sign up students who show interest.”

The reactions from students vary greatly.

After more than two months on campus, the project has attracted the interest of about 100 students, but just a little more than 20 are currently attending campus mass.

“I don’t mind these campaigns,” Ami Nakagawa said. “I love to hear different opinions even if I disagree with them.”

Although the numbers are still modest, Vega speaks very excitedly about his new job.

“A lot of students don’t know we exist yet,” Vega said. “And a lot just need to be reached out [to] and invited. When they are, more often than not they will accept to become more active in their faith. We have had a good response on the part of students that desire spirituality.”

Some students, however, worry about the conflicting nature and purposes of the Catholic teachings inside a public university that claims to be gaining more and more recognition as a top-notch research facility.

“It’s not progressive. I really wish they would allow something else to come to the school,” Karina Tellez, 19, said.

SEE CATHOLICS, PAGE 2
Farsakh lectures about ‘de facto’ apartheid in Israel

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Israil, unlike south Africa, never intentionally meant to create an apartheid reality; yet, Leila Farsakh, the middle eastern scholar at University of Massachusetts Boston, asserts that this precisely what has happened.

At an event coordinated by Students for Justice in Palestine on April 4, Farsakh gave a lecture titled, “Is Israel an Apartheid State? Implications for the Two State Solution.”

Using an explanation of apartheid - a system of laws and policy initiatives implemented by the National Party beginning in 1948 in South Africa-Farsakh argued that the system that institutionalized total segregation based on race is analogous to the Israel-Palestine conflict. Like modern day Palestine, apartheid policies in South Africa resulted in a deeply fragmented region.

Leila Farsakh, professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston, spoke to students on April 4, on whether Israel is an apartheid state. Her area of expertise is Middle East politics, comparative politics and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

“Israel is an Apartheid State? Implications for the Two State Solution.”

“By nature, Catholicism and Jews live in a multiplicity of regions. For Jews, the roots of secular, tax-supported institutions, which, by nature, support a view of man based on scientific knowledge and principles of the separation of church and state, are very nominally Catholic,” Vega said. “And like that, a large portion of Catholics are very nominally Catholic.”

According to Rose, the relationship between Jews and Catholics is as unsustainable as the current apartheid reality. Farsakh argued that the system institutionalized total segregation based on race is analogous to the Israel-Palestine conflict. Like modern day Palestine, apartheid policies in South Africa resulted in a deeply fragmented region.

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Winning streak up to six after sweep of Trojans

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It must be nice to be Jarabi Henry nowadays. Henry was an afterthought three weeks ago when he was hitting for a dismal .176 average. He would swing really hard at pitches and force something to happen, but would just be rewarded with an out. But in the month of April, Henry transformed. In just six games, he is hitting for a .333 average, with 11 hits, five homeruns and a whopping 17 RBIs.

“When I come to the ballpark,” said Henry with a cheek-to-cheek grin.

“there’s a little more pep in my step when I come to the ballpark,” said Henry with a cheek-to-cheek grin.

More importantly, his recent power surge just gave the Panthers (19-13, 7-5 SBC) a sweep over Troy (13-18, 3-9) in the opening inning.

The Panthers offense would continue in the opening inning.

The tall lefty allowed the entire Trojan lineup to bat in the first inning after allowing five hits, all singles, and a walk to give Troy a 4-0 lead.

Ray dominated the Panthers the first time through the lineup, with the only blemish being a single to freshman Oscar Aguirre.

Ray was not as fortunate the second time around.

FIU 11, TROY 7

If the Panthers wanted to win game one, they had to beat Tyler Ray, the reigning Sun Belt Player of the Year.

“I respect Tyler Ray,” said head coach Turtle Thomas. “He’s a really good pitcher.”

For the second start in a row, senior left-hander Mason McVay could not find a rhythm early in the game, constantly falling behind hitters and struggling to locate his pitches.

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Ray was not as fortunate the second time around.

“arrows,” head coach Jake Schumann said.

FIU scored a total of 20 runs in a span of two days as the Panthers completed a three-game sweep of Troy on April 7. It only took five innings for the Panthers to shutout the Trojans 8-0 at home.

The game was finished when Kelsey

Fresno State spoils two seniors final match at FIU

JONATHAN JACOBSKIND
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Stemming from a Jan. 27, 4-2 loss, the Fresno State Bulldogs (11-6) finally attained their revenge on the Panthers (8-14), as they defeated the Panthers 4-3 at home in their regular season finale.

After a season that highlighted contests against 12 ranked opponents, the Panthers ended their 2012 campaign with one of the worst records in program history. Despite the rough regular season, Coach Applebaum-Dallau remains optimistic about their future in the Sun Belt Tournament.

“I gave them an ambitious schedule...it was definitely a rude awakening in a sense that we have a lot of work to do,” Coach Applebaum-Dallau commented.“Overall, I’m not disappointed with the season. I think this is a great group of girls that I want to progress with. We have the Sun Belt Tournament coming up so were all really pumped for that.”

The 49th-ranked Bulldogs spoiled FIU’s senior day for Lisa Johnson and Christine Seredni, as they played their final home match in the confines of FIU Tennis Center.

Prior to the match, a 15-minute ceremony was arranged for both student-athletes. Seredni and Johnson each were given an image picture that featured a collage of photos taken throughout their years at FIU.

“I felt really good, I definitely enjoyed it,” Johnson stated. “I was a bit spacy today being that it was my last home match, but I still had a lot of fun, it was a great day.”

Seredni and Johnson struggled with their serve, resulting in a 8-3 loss to Bianca Modoc and Aishwarya Agrawal in doubles play.

“I think we were a bit nervous. We did not play our best in doubles and I know we’ve definitely played better,” Seredni said. “That’s one thing I would have liked to change about today’s match, because if me
Guttersmen stays hot, wins ninth straight singles match

and Tanya Murtagh, 8-7 (1) tiebreaker.

Scheredi, McLean and Boha all had their cardio put to the test in singles play. Johnson came out with a commanding lead going up 3-0, but couldn’t finish her opponent off and was beaten by Melissa McQueen 3-6, 2-6 in her final singles home match.

Guttersmen added to their team leading ninth singles victory with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Laura Pola.

Karyn Guttermen, Boha nearly capped a dramatic turn-around for the Panthers, but coughed up the opportunity allowing Jesse Sudof 7- 3, 6-3, 6-3.

Scheredi, notorious for having extended matches, capped her final home singles with a 6-1, 5-7, 6-1 victory against Tanya Murtagh in a tense, back and forth match.

Troy retaliated in the next inning, hitting a leadoff home run and a single to knot the score but FIU quickly regained the lead on another explosive round.

Henry notched a two-run double for his fourth and fifth RBIs, followed by a two-run double from Garcia to make it 10-6.

The teams traded blows one final time in the eighth inning to make it 11-7 and eventually win the game.

"Bottom line is we didn’t play well," said Thomas of the failed opportunities.

"I was not a happy camper," said Thomas of the failed opportunities. "Bottom line is we didn’t play well."

Once the eighth inning rolled around, however, deja vu struck. Just like in the second inning, Martinez hit a single to get on base. Henry then followed it with his second two-run homer of the night, breathing life into the crowd that had been lulled by the unusual cold wind-sweeping the stadium.

"I don’t know if you noticed but I was going nuts around the bases. I was freaking excited," said Martinez. "I was even doing the Kirk Gibson fist pump.

Jabari Not has been following a double to left field to make it 5-3, with closer Michael Gomez notching the save.

FIU 4, TROY 2

With senior left-hander RJ Fondon (4-3) taking the mound on Sunday, the Panthers were poised for the sweep.

FIU struck first in the third inning on a sacrifice fly and a single by Pablo Bermudez to make it 2-0.

Errors and a wild pitch cost FIU a run, as they allowed Troy to chip away at the lead and make it 2-1 in the fourth inning.

The Panthers added two more runs on a sacrifice fly and a fielder’s choice to eventually hand it over to Gomez for his conference-leading eight save of the season.

"When you play a team like Troy, any win is big, especially to win the series. A sweep in conference, you can’t describe just how big it is," Martinez said. "It feels like no matter what we’re going to win the game."

FIU completes first sweep of season against Warhawks

Grabiak singled home the eighth run, clinching FIU their mercy rule victory.

While FIU’s offense took control early, starter Mike Ellis was stifling as she pitched 5 innings giving up just one hit and striking out 5 giving FIU a 4-0 lead by the end of the third.

Dawson still leads the Sun Belt in strikeouts.

FIU 8, ULM 5

The Panthers got the best out of the Warhawks in the second game of the April 7 doubleheader, defeating ULM 8-5 in a back and forth affair.

Right out of the gate the Warhawks got their first run of the series on the opening pitch from Jen Gniadek, as
two runs in the fifth inning on a sacrifice fly to score Garcia and make it 6-4.

"I really didn’t know…it was good (being one home run away from the record) but it felt even better to bring my team back and win the game" McClain said.

Dawson who came in relief ended up winning both games of the doubleheader giving her an overall 13- 8 record. She also notched two strikeouts in game two extending her Sun Belt leading strikeout total to 128.

"It couldn’t have come at a better time for us as we set up to face Lafayette," McClain said.

"That was the key for us as they have three girls there that have double-digit steals and we were able to keep them off the base paths" Schumann said.

The Panthers will now host No. 8 Louisiana on April 10 for a three game set that can very well dictate the remainder of the season. FIU is only two games behind Louisiana in the Sun Belt standings.
WORKING HARD OR HARDLY WORKING FOR CASH

SYLVIA SIMIONI
Staff Writer

By accessing the MyFIU portal, curious students can click on the Financial Aid tab and find out how much it really costs to live as a college student at the University.

Tuition is currently at an average of $2,500 a semester, and with planned state increases for the 2012-2013 year, students can expect the price to hike up an additional $250. Then, there are books and supplies for $2340, and personal expenses that are sure to break the bank. At $200 a month for food, said Valerie Regis, a sophomore majoring in marketing, “I don’t think there is anything wrong with getting help from your family while you get your- self set up.”

Other students argue, from a moral and sometimes prideful standpoint, that it is perhaps too childish to depend on their claimant for their cost of living.

“My parents are helping to put me through college, but I also work and sometimes help pay utilities. They give me about $200 a month for food,” said Valerie Regis, a sophomore majoring in marketing. “I don’t think there is anything wrong with getting help from your family while you get yourself set up.”

“My parents are helping to put me through college, but I also work and sometimes help pay utilities. They give me about $200 a month for food,” said Valerie Regis, a sophomore majoring in marketing. “I don’t think there is anything wrong with getting help from your family while you get yourself set up.”

Necessity aside, some students that live at home have given thought to moving out. Jessica Pintado, a sophomore majoring in biology, “I’ve been working since I was 16 so they don’t have to worry about minor things like my own clothes or spending the night out with friends.”

“Necessity aside, some students that live at home have given thought to moving out. Jessica Pintado, a sophomore majoring in biology, “I’ve been working since I was 16 so they don’t have to worry about minor things like my own clothes or spending the night out with friends.”

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Sophomore, Marketing major

Working hard or hardly working for cash

SPC Glow Jam sets up for UPRoar

Students gathered by housing quad to party with a lot of bright colors, finger foods, and loud booming music on campus.

As the sun began to set, students started gathering by the housing quad, surrounded by booming music, finger food and night-friendly glow objects. DJs stationed themselves by their equipment, on their toes, ready to battle each other for a position at the upcoming UPRoar concert.

On the night of April 5, the University’s Student Programming Council hosted a glow jam party by the dorms. A mock paintball course was laid out on the fields for students to play laser tag.

Students would pair into teams, position themselves behind “barricades” and shoot at the opposing team; blue on red, red on blue. No money was needed, so bad sportsmanship was not an issue. Over 25 students were laughing and mingling with one another.

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Jump from BB
C goes here

DINNER, PAGE 8

of flavor, the dark and heavy taste of the beer blended together with a creamy and soft texture of the ice cream followed by the hot fudge brownie.

“The highlight of the night had to be the warm brownie with the Guinness ice cream. Can’t get better than that,” said Manuel Cedeno, a junior in public relations.

After dinner we moved to the living room for some Frank Sinatra on Pandora and a few glasses of white wine.

The driver passed out on the couch and the rest of us who were still alive resorted back to where the night began: the kitchen.

Here, we danced and ate all the left over steak milanesa until there was no more.
Lockett Pundt's multiple album trajectory might have gone unnoticed to the general public; to the casual listener, he's one of the driving forces in "Deeather," the seminal shoegaze ensemble from Athens, Georgia. Yet, his solo work under the name of Lotus Plaza presents an early look at his influences and the direction "Deeather" will go in the future, but his musical evolution on a personal level.

"Spooky Action at Distance," his second solo album, presents a further refinement of Pundt's work with white noise, spaces and reverb, creating a lush pop driven album that strikes a perfect balance between guitar driven rock and carefully crafted love songs.

"Lotus Plaza," as well as all other related projects such as "Deeather" and "Atlas Sound," has undergone meticulous refinement from their earlier sounds.

Fans of the bands earlier work may have preferred their approaches to sound landscapes and "art rock" approaches to their music such as "Cryptogram's White link," to more melody driven tunes like "Desire Lines." (one of Pundt's individual contributions to Halsey's "Deerhunter" and easily a highlight of an already great record), yet this in turn is a logical change considering Pundt's and Bradford Cox's continuous move towards experimental pop and rock and roll. "Spooky Action" in turn sounds much like an extension on the themes and structures presented in "Desire Lines," presenting more traditional structures and his own take on a lot of elements already present in his main project. Yet it is in this "extended" nature of the album, where perhaps the general audience might not be as attracted to the album, while this in part is quite tragic in this writer's opinion, it's understandable. It's not an easy listen, much to the detriment of the Pundt's efforts, as the early bootlegs of his live shows demonstrate a certain added element that makes the songs come alive.

Yet the beauty still remains; tracks such as "Strangers," "Out of Touch" and "White Galactic One" ooze a certain je ne sais quoi that ultimately makes the listener utterly happy.

The buzzing guitars riffs, drowned under reverb and echoing vocals, often create a certain dream like quality to the tunes. "Strangers," in particular, maintains a very similar chord pattern reminiscent of tracks found in "Microcascades," and "Weird Era Continued," which provide an interesting twist to a previously known formula, giving the sensation of these songs being an alternate, much more light-hearted version of songs such as "Back space Century" and "VHS Dream."

The simple love song melody of "Out of Touch," heavily pushed by a simple yet effective tambourine and bass syncopation, demonstrates a much simpler approach to lyrics in Cox's "Deeather" penmanship, yet this becomes secondary to the already lush already taking place. While it is certain that Lockett Pundt's efforts are often compared to that of his main project, "Spooky Action at a Distance" feels anything but a side effort; his personal approaches and influences are greatly displayed, and shows a fantastic breadth of talent and ability that will surely leave its mark not only as Lotus Plaza, but also any other venture he decides to undertake.

This album, while great in itself also serves as a guide on his current ideas about music, much like Cox's "Parallax," released late last year. It's exciting to see such great music come about, and look forward to what comes next from him.

Radiate Reviews is a weekly music review column. Michael Hernandez is DJ Mike Machnold on Radiate FM.
Next week, students will be voting on the difference between federal and student loans so students can make an informed decision when it comes time to borrow money for school.

Furthermore, the bill would require the school to assess the borrower’s enrollment status, cost of attendance and federal aid package, if any, before their private student loans are approved.

Durbin and Harkin hope that the passage of this bill will free students from unnecessary high-interest debt while making a way for college affordability.

I cannot see how one can argue against signing this bill into law. As of 2011, student debt reached an all-time high of $1.13 trillion, which surpasses credit card debt, according to an [DATE] article in the Sun Sentinel.

On a local level, Florida’s student debt is at 8.5 percent, surpassing the national average of seven percent.

Unlike credit card debt, which can be purged via bankruptcy, student debt is a permanent fixture on one’s credit report until it is paid off or, the more morbid option, the debtor passes away.

At our University, though, we are ahead of the curve. When I took out my first student loan, I had to go through a virtual presentation that educated me on my borrowing options.

It clearly stated the benefits and disadvantages of each option; with this knowledge, I have since been able to borrow wisely.

However, other states do not have this luxury, thus students vulnerable to the pressure from private lenders to borrow from their establishment.

Ultimately, this results in high-interest debt that takes a small miracle to pay off, especially in such a broken economy where jobs are sparse.

By making it mandatory for students to undergo loan counseling before they borrow money to pay their tuition, students will be better equipped to make wiser borrowing choices by choosing low-interest options, choosing plans that allow for deferred payment, reducing the temptation to over-borrow and become more aggressive in applying for grants and scholarships, which students are not obligated to repay.

Students have a right to know before they owe. Signing this bill into law will allow them to exercise this right and relax their wallets.

Eric Feldman
Graduate Student
Mater of Science
in Higher Education Administration
University uses national grant to employ more women

Filip Panovski
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Near the start of the 2011 Fall semester, FIU was awarded the National Science Foundation ADVANCE grant, a $573,000 grant aimed at making institutional changes within the framework of FIU and its hiring process.

The grant is being overseen by the School of Integrated Science and Humanity and four principal investigators, spearheaded by Dr. Suzanna Rose, Director of SISH. The grant is aimed at reducing the unconscious bias present in the hiring process at FIU and nationwide in order to recruit and retain more female faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics fields.

The grant will be utilized as planned through the ACE partnership which pertains to the Awareness of, Commitment to and Empowerment of Women Scientists at the university.

In 2010, a climate survey was conducted at FIU to establish an accurate picture of the activities, interests and priorities of faculty which showed that while both men and women were dissatisfied with salaries, women are underrepresented and have less influence than their male counterparts in most departments.

While there are many variables that affect the number of women in STEM fields, Rose noted that “There’s 20 to 30 years of research that shows that there is a difference in the salaries women get [in comparison with men].”

In addition, according to a recent study from 2010, four to 30 percent of female PhDs in various STEM fields are not considered for tenure track positions.

“FIU is definitely missing some good candidates,” Rose said.

Gender issues are not tied to any specific institution or country. A study in Sweden showed that women had to be at least 2.5 times more productive than men to be seen as similarly competent, which in turn meant that men were twice as successful with no additional qualifications.

Rose noted past research where identical resumes were given to different individuals of different gender: unapologetically some, the resume with a man’s name received higher evaluations.

Getting ready for a cake baking face-off...

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Get ready for a cake baking face-off... The Perfect Paw Dessert Challenge will be tomorrow at the Wolfe University Center Panther Square from 12-2 p.m.

Now in its second year, the PPDC along with the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management came up with the concept of FIU spirit incorporated with Cakes!

“This challenge was established to show off the students’ baking skill but also to strengthen their leadership ability. Students will be placed in groups of three, with each group having a manager. That student will be judged on his/her managerial skills.”

“I decided to join the challenge because I love to get involved in campus activities,” said Maria Reynaga, a junior Hospitality Management major. “I love to bake and cook. Even though I’m no professional baker, I enjoy baking.”

In order to participate in the dessert challenge, students must be registered with the University. There are no restrictions to students who are not a part of the CSHTM.

The CSHTM and the SAA will provide the ingredients for each group, the teams will prepare their cake beforehand, which will be videotaped for judging as well. The students will be judged on the following: preparation, presentation and the deliciousness of their cake.

There’s 20 to 30 years of research that shows that there is a difference in the salaries women get [in comparison with men].

Dr. Suzanna Rose
SISH, Director

The winner will be selected by the judges; and each participant of the winning team will receive a $125 scholarship. For 2nd place, each participant will receive a $75 scholarship.

“This is a perfect opportunity for students to win a scholarship and enjoy themselves while showcasing their talent,” Arbabi said.

Guests get to partake in this feast as there will be treats for everyone. “This is a great opportunity to meet new people and get noticed also,” Reynaga said.

“You never know, you might actually win.”

I was going to go out, but hey, the night chose otherwise

Manuel Cedeno, junior public relations major, and Rafaela Dulanto, a graduate hospitality student, toast to a successful night of food and good company.