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Florida International University

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The College of Law has announced its new graduate degree, the Masters of Law. The degree is a one-year residential course of study for foreign graduate law students.

The Masters of Law or LL.M. Program, students will have a chance to study, practice, experience and understand the concepts of American law and legal institutions.

Matthew C. Mirow, associate dean of the International and Graduate Studies and LL.M Program, said Mirow. “He said we needed an LL.M program, so we began working on that.”

There are 24 credits: two required courses, one recommended course, and electives. The program’s electives will be subjective to the student. It will allow students to choose classes in whichever specialty they would like to study, with environmental, law, real estate development, international trade, and taxation being the most popular studies, according to Mirow.

“If you’ve got somebody coming in, who wants to do a lot of international courses, if they’re available in the curriculum, that student can do those,” said Mirow. “If they want to focus in business law, and they decide to take business organizations, corporate tax, securities regulations, all of the courses that are bundled around in that area, they can do those as well.”

A national survey from July 2012 shows that most LL.M students in the United States come from China, Saudi Arabia and South Korea. The program is open to all students from all countries around the world, but they are hoping to attract South American and Caribbean students in particular.

“The program is open to all students from all countries around the world, but they are hoping to attract South American and Caribbean students in particular. Being here in South Florida, we are hopefully looking to draw students from around the world, particularly from Latin America and the Caribbean, Miami, as a location, is a big draw for those students,” Mirow said.

Mirow said that many students from around the world are interested in practicing American law.

“It’s good to know something about U.S. Law, particularly if you’re going to be working with U.S. lawyers, but also for the legal English part of it.”

Matthew C. Mirow
Associate Dean and Director
International and Graduate Studies and LL.M Program
**WORLD NEWS**

Egypt's military signals impatience with president

Egypt’s powerful military is showing signs of growing impatience with the country’s Islamist leaders, indirectly criticizing their policies and issuing thinly veiled threats that it might seize power again.

The tension is raising the specter of another military intervention much like the one in 2011, when generals replaced longtime authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak after they sided with anti-regime protesters in their 18-day popular uprising.

The strains come at a time when many Egyptians are despondent after the heavy snows that blanket much of the country as buses stick to designated lanes.

NATO and Afghan forces kill 25 insurgents

NATO and Afghan forces have killed at least 25 insurgents and three of their commanders in separate operations around the country, Afghan and coalition officials said Wednesday.

The size and scope of the latest operations were an indication that the Afghan war is far from over after 11 years of conflict, even as U.S. and foreign forces begin rapidly withdrawing and handing the lead role for security to the Afghans.

Fighting is also expected to intensify as the traditional spring fighting season gets under way after the heavy snows that blanket much of northern and eastern Afghanistan start melting.

Serbia withdraws suspected toxic milk

Serbian officials ordered some brands of milk taken off store shelves Wednesday, despite earlier claims that they were safe and not dangerously contaminated with a potentially cancer-causing toxin.

The order came after widespread public outrage over allegations that health authorities have for weeks been hiding the results of lab tests which reportedly show that much of the milk sold in Serbia contains high levels of aflatoxins, a fungus linked to mildewed cattle feed that can cause cancer of the liver in high doses.

Authorities have not published a list of the brands that have been ordered out of shops, saying they were waiting for results of tests being conducted in the Netherlands.

Lima’s reformist mayor battles to stay in office

After becoming the first woman ever elected to run Perú’s capital, Susana Villaran did what no modern predecessor had dared. She tried to bring order and transparency to a metropolis plagued by widespread corruption and a chaotic, patronage-thick transit system swollen with aging, seemingly chaotic buses and taxis.

The 63-year-old career human rights defender didn’t flinch. She wrestled with powerful trackets smog-belching taxis and buses.

Villaran’s campaign to clean up the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market. And her campaign to relocate the city’s unsanitary, crime-hounded wholesale market.
The Beacon, delivering the ‘real’ news

LOURDES GINART
Staff Writer

What do headlines like “Artwork on MMC Campus to be Censored,” “CIO Uses Tech Fee Money To Build Office Out Of Pads,” and “Quiet Asian Student Still Waiting for Professor To Show Up” have in common? They are the hard-hitting investigative articles of FIU’s prestigious newspaper: The Beacon. Aside from The Beacon, a mere shadow for a newspaper compared to FIU’s other student media, there lies a newspaper one of a kind.

The Beacon covers the scandalous, political, and day-to-day stories of the University – or used to, to keep reading for more deets.

The Beacon has reported news far more in-depth than The Beacon articles like the potential for zebras and leopards to be FIU’s new school colors, and the school’s new parking violation policy: vandalism.

The Beacon even surfaced information that The Beacon printed false and made-up information; found in an interview they had with the paper’s editor-in-chief, Lazaro Mercadante.

Funny, I’m a staff writer and never met the guy.

In its superiority, The Beacon has even found the funds to publish studies.

The latest study, “Most MDC Transfer Students Can Neither Read Nor Write,” showed the lack of education Miami Dade College students receive versus FIU students.

Not only did this study find MDC students obtain an extremely poor education, it also showed that MDC has resorted to hiring animals as teachers, like Assistant Professor Barky Henderson, a golden retriever who teaches algebra at MDC.

Apart from conducting studies, The Beacon also seems to have the upper hand on reporting stories; their writers have the luck to be in the right place at the right time.

Last year, one of The Beacon’s writers witnessed former football coach Mario Cristobal win a bar fight against three men.

You couldn’t pay for that type of coverage! The Beacon, delivering “FIU News So Hot, It’s Sizzling,” was founded in 2011 by the same students who conduct the MIEE Memes Generator, or better known as “those guys in morphsuits and Guy Fawkes masks.

But tragedy struck when The Beacon staff mysteriously disappeared after Spring 2012.

The Beacon’s website remains running not only to keep alive the memories of the missing writers, but to remind students that there was once a true newspaper on campus. The type of newspaper students could depend on for the latest news, outbreaks, or student life. Whether it be the measures students are taking to avoid old friends or the newest addition to FIU’s athletics departments, NFL star Brett Favre.

But seriously, The Beacon is a satirical newspaper that began last year by “those guys in morphsuits and Guy Fawkes mask.

This article is intended to be satirical.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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

OPINION

The Bacon, delivering the ‘real’ news

Vending machines, authorizing annoyance

AARON PABON
Staff Writer

Everybody, a handful of students at the University will make a gamble. That gamble: trying to make a purchase at the vending machine.

Many times, vending machines designed for our convenience rise up and decide to steal students’ money.

Sometimes the issue is the machine will simply eat your money, other times your prized snack is stuck hanging from a coil. But living in the 21st century, our “first-world problem” has evolved and transferred over to the card readers.

The use of the card was designed to make buying something from the vending machines easier, but even the card readers have been plagued with problems.

They almost never work.

The reader display will often say “cash only” and others are not even connected to a network to even read cards.

You will, however, occasionally find the one that looks like it will work.

Looks like you pull out your FIU One Card and swipe it. You then see the pack of Pop Tarts that will hold you over in your two hour class. You punch in the code to buy it, but the display tells you “make another selection.”

Dumbfounded by this, you make another selection, but it also doesn’t work.

After trying every code, you give up and hit the red button that will cancel your selection, but the display still says “to make another selection.”

Sometimes the machine will charge your card for all of the selections you made.

Recently, I tried to purchase a muffin from a machine in the Graham Center. I had the “make another selection”

If someone truly is having constant failed friendships with other women, they need to evaluate exactly what caused all of this.

CHELSEA KLAIBER
Contributing Writer

Lately I’ve been hearing so many different versions of the same idea: women make poor friends to other women, they’re always out to steal your boyfriend and most are conniving human beings out to get you.

I admit, I used to have these same thoughts... when I was 13.

Luckily, I’ve gained more wisdom over time, and realize that these thoughts are far from the truth, and only something we perpetuate because of internal misogyny.

The reality is that women make up more than half of the world’s population, and it’s just not fair to hold all 3.5 billion of them to this standard.

And oddly enough, I only ever hear other women saying these things, not men. Do they realize that if “all women are catty twosided backstabbers,” then they are also included in that stereotype?

If someone truly is having constant failed friendships with other women, they need to evaluate exactly what caused all of this.

Girl hate, a misleading stereotype

CHELSEA KLAIBER
Contributing Writer

If someone truly is having constant failed friendships with other women, they need to evaluate exactly what caused all of this.

CHELSEA KLAIBER
Contributing Writer

My best female friends and I share the same hobbies. We bond over our love for geeky stuff – video games, anime, and attending conventions.

I am grateful to have these amazing, smart, talented women as my friends, and I can’t imagine not having them in my life because I was too narrow-minded to even give them a chance.

As for the common “I’m just one of the guys” mindset, I find this unfair to both men and women.

Why do we need to put down women who we may not have much in common with?

The truth is, a good friend will love you despite your differences.

Open-mindedness is the key to creating and maintaining friendships with all people, men and women alike.

You never know what you’re missing out on if you refuse to give someone a chance.

Chelsea Klaiber
-Opinion@fiusm.com

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EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.
Music helps ADHD students to concentrate

EDWIVE SEME
Staff Writer

New research by the University’s Center for Children and Families shows that listening to music might help students with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder concentrate more.

According to William E. Pelham, researcher and director of the CCF, lab experiments have failed to show that ADHD students are more distractible than normal students.

“Teachers, however, often say the opposite, claiming that they are terrible students who have difficulty focusing,” Pelham said. “So we decided to conduct a study that would observe students in a classroom setting.”

Television and music theoretically being the biggest distractors to kids, the CCF decided to use those as their distractors in the experiment.

Pelham explained that the group consisted of ADHD students and normal students.

Some days there would be no distractions present, or there would be a TV monitor in the front of the class, and other days speakers would play rock music in the classroom. Students were instructed to do their work and not get distracted.

As the CCF expected, television distracted everyone – however, it distracted the ADHD students more.

Other students were able to cope and get work done while glancing at the monitor frequently, whereas the ADHD students got much less work done.

The center expected music to have the same effect because of everything teachers said.

“According to Pelham, music distracted the group and its accuracy. Only a few kids, both normal and ADHD, were distracted.”

Playing rock music, however, didn’t decrease the work done by the group and its accuracy. Only a few kids, both normal and ADHD, were distracted.

On a vast majority of the ADHD kids, compared to the other kids, music had no [bad] effect at all,” Pelham said. “In fact when we looked at individual patterns, some of the ADHD students actually did more work and were more accurate when there was music playing.”

According to Pelham, about 15 percent of the ADHD students completed about 20 percent more work when music was playing in the classroom.

“So really, it was a pretty significant effect,” said Pelham.

While music might not be used as treatment, the CCF is doing other studies on intervention treatment, a method that involves setting rules and having positive and negative consequences to create behavior modifications.

Intervention treatment might be better than medication in the long term.

According to Pelham, medication has commendable short term effects and long term benefits, but behavior modification can last longer.

However, it’s a harder and longer process; behavior modification has to be done consistently at home for the child to learn new behavior patterns.

“You can give a child medication for 10 years, but if you stop and compare him [or her] to a child who was never on medication, they’re technically the same,” Pelham said. “Behavior modification could and should be used instead of medication.”

According to Pelham, if music can help ADHD students it might be able to do the same for college students although it might vary from individual to individual.

“If you’re wondering whether or not music distracts or helps you in your studies, you should try and experiment on yourself,” advised Pelham.

JUNETTE REYES
Staff Writer

Leon Botstein, conductor and president of Bard College, will present the next lecture in The Center for the Humanities’ Spring 2013 series, “Exile, the Arts and Patronage.”

CHUE and the Exile Studies Program have partnered with the lecture series Exile, the Arts and Patronage of Spring 2013. Botstein’s lecture, “The Exiled Intellectual and the American University,” will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 25 in the Graham Center in Room 243.

Botstein will discuss Bard College’s role as patron of the arts, particularly of exiled artists.

Botstein was born in Zurich, Switzerland and is the son of Polish refugees. He is described as a “highly acclaimed conductor and impresario,” in addition to being an educator and writer.

“Bard College itself has been a shelter for exiles, especially academic exiles, intellectual exiles, for decades,” said Dr. Michael P. Gillespie, director of CHUE.

Gillespie said the majority of people who come to the events are exiled in Miami or have direct experience with exiles.

“What we are doing together is keeping the discussion of exiles in the forefront of people’s consciousness,” said Gillespie.

This is one direction Gillespie is taking CHUE.

“Our aim is to foster conversations on the humanities in South Florida,” said Gillespie. “We are here to talk to people from South Florida, who already have a very great sense of the Humanities, to let them know how we feel about certain issues and to learn from them on other issues.”

CHUE was certified in April 2011 and has featured lectures that touch upon issues such as the importance of the humanities as well as opposing views, the business side of medicine in terms of the complications of health-care costs, the representations of violence in cinema in terms of its usefulness and whether it is unnecessary or art and the racial tensions and changes in cities.

“What we try to do is have a range of lectures that would appeal to different student constitencies here,” said Gillespie. “It has been really gratifying and very enlightening, very illuminating, to me, to learn as much about different perspectives of the humanities as I have and learn it from people who, without the center, I never would have been in contact with.”

In many ways, FIU is a traditional university with a traditional student body but it is also, I think, an extremely important resource for the City of Miami, for Miami Dade County and for South Florida,” said Gillespie.
Oscars might just turn out to be as predictable as usual

With the Oscars riding in this weekend, everyone’s into award shows and movies has the same question on their mind: who’s taking home the gold?

It is doubtful that most people know who any of themselves or any of these films nominated this year, as there are a grand total of 53 nominees in these 24 categories. It’s an overwhelming number for anyone to keep up with, but with how challenging it is to watch some of these considering their lack of a wide US release. This year’s Best Picture nominees were fairly popular and widely shown. There’s an abundance of American history films this year, with “Argo,” “Django Unchained,” “Lincoln,” and “Zero Dark Thirty” rounding out the nominees.

While some of these seem to be in the lead, it wouldn’t be tough for a technical beauty like “Life of Pi,” the purse-sea musical “Les Misérables,” the indie darling “Beasts of the Southern Wild,” or even the mental illness romcom “Silver Linings Playbook” to steal it out of their hands.

There’s a clear frontrunner in the race for Foreign Film and it’s name is “Amour,” which is up for five nominations this year, including Best Picture. Everyone is gaga for Hanke’s depressing tale of old age and death, and it’s currently playing at the Tower Theater this month. Another impressive nominee from Chile is “No,” which will be having its Miami premiere next month at the Miami International Film Festival.

Nobody ever pays much attention to the short film nominees, but there’s a prime cut of shorts this year that are easy to watch if you know where to look. Those who missed the beautiful animated short “Paperman” in front of Disney’s “Wreck-It Ralph,” can find that tossed into the mix, and those interested in the live-action and documentary shorts will find that “Curfew” and “Monday’s at Racine” are likely to win and worth watching at the Cosford Cinema or Miami Beach Cinematheque.

The actors and actresses are easy predictions this year, with Daniel Day-Lewis and Tommy Jones up for the male wins for “Lincoln,” and Jennifer Lawrence and Anne Hathaway for the female wins in “Silver Linings Playbook” and “Les Misérables,” respectively. There’s a slim chance that Emmanueluelle Riva, Robert DeNiro, or Christopher Waltz may be able to sneak their way into winning, but it’s unlikely.

If “Lincoln” seems like it is gaining an overwhelming amount of possible love, it’s because it’s the likely winner for Best Adapted Screenplay, and seven time nominee Steven Spielberg is the current frontrunner for Best Director. Ben Affleck may have won the Globe, the BAFTA, and the Academy excluded him from their nominees, making for a disappointing bunch.

While Best Picture nominees “Django Unchained,” “Amour,” and “Zero Dark Thirty” all have a shot for Original Screenplay, Ang Lee’s technical genius for “Life of Pi” will likely go unrewarded as it falls under the boring, predictable steamroller that is “Lincoln.”

The minor categories aren’t on too many minds and are unpredictable as can be, so a quick look at documentary and animated will serve to close this off.

In terms of documentaries, the important look at sexual abuse in the military, “The Invisible War,” will likely be snubbed this year for the pretty but aimless “Searching for Sugar Man.” As for the animated features, it’s a fairly strong category, but Pixar’s weak “Brave” looks to be in the lead instead of the stop-motion wonders “ParaNorman” and “Frankenweenie.”

It’s impossible to tell what could happen with the Oscars, as voters tend to ditch their usual predictability at times, but these are just some simple predictions and helpful tips to knowing where to watch a few of the lesser known flicks this year.

Juan Barquin is a junior FIU English major. For the past year and a half, he has written more than 80 movie reviews for YAM-Magazine and is pursuing a certificate in Film Studies at the University.

Juan Barquin<@fiusm.com>
New coaching staff brings loads of experience

JOHNATHAN JACOBSON
Staff Writer

If there is one thing Head Coach Ron Turner and his newly appointed coaching staff don’t lack heading into their first year at FIU, it’s experience. Each member of Turner’s staff has at least a decade’s worth of experience and boasts a combined 30 years of NFL experience.

Aside from experience, there won’t be a need for icebreakers with this coaching staff as Ron Turner went the familiarity route when hiring his staff.

“I choose guys that I know what kind of people they are, what kind of character they have, and what kind of teachers or communicators they are. That’s what’s most important to me,” Ron Turner said. “These guys have a great mix of experience, youth, and high-energy guys that can relate to the players.”

Ron Turner turned over a new leaf for FIU football, keeping only one position coach -- running backs coach Apollo Wright from Mario Cristobal’s staff. Wright, however, left FIU on Feb. 18 to reprise his role in the University of New Mexico.

With South Florida being a hotbed for high school football talent and Cristobal’s former staff knowing the area real well, it begs the question as why not keep some of Cristobal’s coaches in order to reel in some of the area’s finest athletes.

“I didn’t want to necessarily just come in and clean house. I wanted to find the best people that where the best fit for the direction that we’re trying to go,” Ron Turner, university president.

“I had an open mind and spoke to everyone on the staff. As if Ron Turner could not surround himself enough with guys that satisfy his niche, the former Super Bowl participant hired two of his sons to his coaching staff. Cameron Turner, who is coming off a year stint as an assistant to head coach of the Minnesota Vikings will coach quarterbacks and receivers, while Morgan Turner, a former offensive assistant for the Stanford Cardinals, will coach the offensive line and tight ends.

Getting his sons to FIU was actually a difficult task, according to Ron Turner. He had to do his best to pry them from their previous jobs.

“They both had great jobs where they were, I had to fight to get them,” Ron Turner said. “We have been sitting in some of the meetings talking termi- nology and talking football and I enjoy listening to them and hearing all their great ideas. They have done a great job of preparing for this.”

As soon as Ron Turner was hired on Jan. 4, it wasn’t the smoothest of transitions. Upon getting the call from athletic director Pete Garcia, he had been hired, Ron Turner was faced with daunting task of compiling a recruiting class while hiring his coaching staff, all at the same time.

“It’s part of the job. It was non-stop and tough, but in a good way,” Ron Turner said.

FIU STAFF TURNOVER

Cristobal Staff

Alex Mirabal: Offensive Line
Todd Orlande: Defensive Coordinator
Tim Crasemy: Offensive Coordinator
Jeff Popovich: Special Teams Coordinator
Cedric Calhoon: Defensive Line
Juan Navarro: Jr. Outsidelinebacker

Turner Staff

Ron Turner: Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks
Steve Shankweiler: Offensive Line
Josh Conklin: Defensive Coordinator
Kevin Wolsenhauser: Special Teams Coordinator
Andrew Hayes-Stoker: Running Backs
Morgan Turner: Tight Ends/Offensive Tackles
Cameron Turner: Quarterbacks/ Wide Receivers
Tom Williams: Linebackers
Andre Patterson: Defensive Line

While the Panthers’ rocky start to the season continued after their trip to Mobile, Ala., pushing their losing streak to five straight after losses.

Unlike their trip to the northeast in early February, which were blowout losses, the trip to Alabama saw results of smaller margins in both matches. Still, FIU found itself on the short end of both matches.

On Feb. 15, the Panthers narrowly lost to University of South Alabama 4-3, and on Feb. 16, in their first meeting since last season’s Sun Belt Championship game, University of North Texas took down FIU 5-2.

“It was a good win for us to go out and get out of our zone and try to get back to playing at the level that they need to,” Arrastia said.

“I’m very happy that I won in doubles with Giulietta. We improved a lot since our first doubles match,” Orlando said. “We can still improve a lot, and I feel if we keep playing like our last match [against South Alabama] we have a chance to win all our other matches.”

“Then after falling behind 3-2, junior Giulietta Boha tied the match at 3-3 with her singles win to put the whole match in the hands of senior Rita Maisak.

The senior was unable to deliver the win for FIU. In Maisak’s singles match, she split the first two sets by winning the first 6-1 and losing the second 6-3.

In the decisive third set, Maisak had two match-point opportunities but was unable to capitalize. Maisak came up short 7-6 in the final set, costing FIU the victory in their Sun Belt Conference opener.

“The score was 3-3 and it’s always tough when a player is in a position where her match is for the whole thing.

FIU tennis’ losing streak, woes continue

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

The Panthers’ rocky start to the season continued after their trip to Mobile, Ala., pushing their losing streak to five straight after losses.

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Against South Alabama, singles victories by freshmen Carlotta Orlando, and Aleksandra Trifunovic knotted the contest at 2-2 after FIU trailed 2-0.

“Wushu is a contact sport which is derived from traditional Chinese martial arts techniques.

Squash is a racquet sport played by two players or four players on court at a time, in a four-walled court with a small rubber ball. The sport is a sport of men and women who use hand power vehicles, such as roller blades, which move by either gravity or pushing methods.

The sport of wushu is an exhibition skill and a full-contact sport which is derived from traditional Chinese martial arts techniques.
Tennis still struggling as conference play opens

I thought since [Maisak] being a senior I thought she could win it, but unfortunately wasn’t able to,” Petrovic said. “When she had match point at up 6-5 she made a bad decision on the serve, but I already talked to her about it.”

Against the Mean Green of North Texas, the Panthers took care of business in doubles. Battling windy weather conditions, the duo of Maisak and Trifunovic, along with Boha and Orlando earned victories to clinch the doubles point.

In singles however, the Panthers faltered. Out of the five matches, Orlando was the only one on the winning side defeating North Texas’ Kseniya Bardabush in three hard fought sets 4-6, 6-4, and 10-5.

With the stretch of four straight road games in the books, the Panthers now have 11 of their final 13 matches on their home tennis courts.

FIU will need to regroup as its quest for win number one the season continues on Friday Feb. 22 at home against intra-state opponent Florida State University.

“Now I can only continue to encourage the girls, and building more mental toughness,” Petrovic said. “I will continue to stress to give 100 percent. These girls work really hard in practice, it hasn’t completely shown in the matches yet, but it’s not something that happens in one day.”

Freshman Carlotta Orlando is one of the few bright spots so far this season, winning all but one of her singles matches for a 4-1 record.

No football coaches leftover from Cristobal era

Turner said, “A lot of things were going on, a lot of balls were in the air but we finally were able to get together a great coaching staff and recruiting class.”

With those priorities now in check and finally settling into his reins as head coach, Ron Turner is looking forward to doing what he came here to do: coach football and contour the minds of young student athletes.

“When I first got here my main focus were on recruiting and getting my staff together, so I told our guys that they’re the most important part of program because for the next three weeks I’m going to be gone,” Ron Turner said. “We’re just anxious to finally get back out there on the field with the players and get to know them as people.”
Larry King comes to FIU for lecture

KARLA REYES Contributing Writer

Larry King is a name that should be familiar to anyone who has paid attention to the news in the past 30 years. A journalist, radio and television host, it is fitting for King to speak at the Biscayne Bay Campus where the School of Journalism and Mass Communications is located, as a part of the Student Government Council’s lecture series.

SGC-BBC creates a lecture series every year with the aim of enticing students to participate and learn from different distinguished figures.

“Our hope is that the student body will learn from these speakers and thus create an invigorating debate,” said Pablo Haspel, SGC-BBC president who is earning his master’s degree in public administration.

For these lectures, student government reaches out to various public speaker agencies in order to see whom they are offering and evaluate how it would be beneficial to have them speak at the University.

However, students had the final say when Larry King was the highest ranked in a survey of which speakers they would prefer in the lecture series.

In the past, the lecture series has brought Common, Dan Savage and Adrian Grenier, and they hope to continue the tradition with Carl Hiaasen and King. “[Bringing Larry King to FIU] is an educational experience that will allow the student body to interact and learn from an individual that has had the honor of interviewing many of the most distinguished people in the world,” said Haspel.

From 1985 to 2010, King hosted the popular and self-titled TV program “Larry King Live” on CNN. Throughout his run on “Larry King Live,” King interviewed many prominent figures from politicians to celebrities. The lecture will be based around an evening with Larry King, in which students will hear about his experiences starting as a journalist in Florida and becoming one of the nation’s most watched TV personalities.

With someone who has such an extended resume as King, SGC-BBC hopes that students will be inspired by his experiences in order to achieve the same success he has achieved. Students are encouraged to attend and to take away life lessons from these lectures that will help them on their path to finding careers.

The SGC-BBC Lecture Series Presents Larry King will take place in the WUC Ballrooms on Thursday, Mar. 28 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A “Hoot” of an evening with Carl Hiaasen

ALFREDO APARICIO Staff Writer

An Evening with Carl Hiaasen promises to be a “Hoot” as the best selling author and journalist for The Miami Herald visits the Biscayne Bay Campus on Monday, Feb. 25 where he will give a lecture on Florida’s environment and its natural resources and will be available for a Q&A session and book signing afterward.

The evening with Hiaasen is free and open to the public and will take place in the Wolfe University Center at the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hiaasen is the second guest lecturer in the Student Government Association – BBC lecture series that began with The New Normal. For these lectures, student government reaches out to various public speaker agencies in order to see whom they are offering and evaluate how it would be beneficial to have them speak at the University.

In the past, the lecture series has brought Common, Dan Savage and Adrian Grenier, and they hope to continue the tradition with Carl Hiaasen and King. “[Bringing Larry King to FIU] is an educational experience that will allow the student body to interact and learn from an individual that has had the honor of interviewing many of the most distinguished people in the world,” said Haspel.

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Hiaasen’s lecture will be co-sponsored by the School of Environment, Arts and Society. “We looked at different topics or areas such as politics, journalism, etc.,” said Rafael Zapata, the assistant director of Campus Life at BBC and SGC-BBC adviser. “We were looking at partnering up with an academic department to bring someone to the campus.”

Hiaasen, who was born and raised in Florida, was hired by The Miami Herald in 1976, where he still works as a columnist, and began his career as a novelist in 1981 with “Powder Burn,” which he wrote with Bill Montalbano. Hiaasen wrote his first solo novel, “Tourist Season,” in 1986. His 1993 novel, “Strip Tease,” was adapted into a film starring Demi Moore and Burt Reynolds in 1996.


Since then he has written three other young adult novels—“Flush,” “Scat” and “Chomp”—and over 10 adult fiction novels, eight of which have been national bestsellers that have been translated into more than 30 languages. Because of how well-known and liked Hiaasen is, SGC-BBC decided they had to bring him in for the lecture series.

“The end we discussed awards the speaker had won or their visibility as well as the time of the year,” said Zapata. “We also surveyed 200 students to get an idea based on our budget and they came pretty close to our original idea.”

The partnership with SEAS also made Hiaasen an ideal candidate for the lecture as his novels always touch upon themes of the environment and natural surrounding of Florida’s landscape and the corruption of politicians.

Hiaasen has even published two collections of his newspaper columns, entitled “Paradise Screwed” and “Kick Ass” respectively, to prove that the stories he writes aren’t all fiction.

“SEAS was looking at the environmental portion and because of SGC’s location it seemed to be the best fit. We wanted the lecture to tie into SEAS and what they do in their department. Larry King is one of our most watched TV personalities. We’re hoping the lecture is a learning and engaging experience for our students.”

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