Pitino reportedly leaving FIU for Minnesota

FIU Online is also a part of University College Joyce Elam wrote in an email to Student Media. “The purchase would be recorded on the receipt so the store knows what product was sold, removing the product from inventory, and then inserting the $50 gift card as a credit or ‘waiver’ showing a balance due of $0.”

This method, Jessell wrote, is the appropriate way to handle waiving the waiver amount, or the total of what the students are not held financially responsible.

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The waiver is due to a Board of Governors regulation and Florida statutes which together make the cost of taking college courses free for high school students taking dual enrollment courses in any higher education institution in the Florida College or State University systems.

The statute says dual enrollment students are exempt from paying tuition and fees, and the Board of Trustees say each university’s board of trustees are required to waive tuition and fees for dual enrollment students.

Dual enrollment students are charged tuition and fees but the waiver needs to be applied so the students are not held financially responsible.

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Taliban attack Afghan courthouse, leaving 53 dead

A provincial governor says at least 53 people, including nine attackers, have been killed in a daylight gunbattle in western Afghanistan.

Officials say the fighting broke out Wednesday after suicide bombers disguised as Afghan soldiers stormed a courthouse in Farah province in a failed bid to free more than a dozen Taliban.

Provincial Gov. Akram Akhpeewak says those killed included 34 civilians, 10 security forces and nine attackers.

Ex-ambassadors urge US, Russia to mend rift

The U.S. and Russia should overcome their cold spell by focusing on their common economic and security challenges, former diplomats to Moscow and Washington said Tuesday.

The ex-ambassadors, who gathered in Moscow to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic ties, said the strains have been driven by emotions and misperceptions rather than fundamental differences.

For more world news, check out www.FIUSM.com.
A year later, speech policies unchanged

ALEXANDER ROSALES
Contributing Writer

On January 12, 2012, seven students and non-students were arrested for assembling at the Deuxième Maison pit located at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

As it stands, everyone who was charged with the second-degree misdemeanor of “disrupting school functions” has been cleared of such charges—even before an official trial commenced. The days following the arrests, Occupy FIU and other supporters remained united and determined to press for the dismissal of charges and demanded an end to the university’s conten-
tion policies regarding free speech and demonstrations.

Initially, University President Alfredo Gonzalez promised the students that the administra-
tion would “revise” current free speech codifications. Over one year later, however, the policies have remained unchanged. In fact, according to the Board of Trustees Regulations website (regulation number 110), the policy regarding assembly and demonstrations has remained the same since January 7, 2013.

On January 28, 2012, in what appeared to be a politically motivated, yet cynical maneuver, Rosenberg and a few of the administrative staff met with a group of students to discuss the grievances related to FIU. Chief among them was the issue of political intimid-
aton orchestrated by university police and administration in an attempt to politically disarm and streamline supporters towards feeling guilty about criticizing the university for its purposely vague and arbitrary regulations pertaining to “free speech zones.”

The GC lawn (north side) and the fountain are the recog-
nized zones.

This event is still important because since January of last year, the administra-
tion has been largely silent in responding to the concerns about its vague free speech policies.

They cannot continue to pick and choose what type of student assemblies they allow, that would be equivalent to repressive favoritism. Students should be able to come into accordance with a sensible policy that not only preserves the integrity of the academic learning environment, but enhances it by fostering a land-
scape of idea-sharing.

If there is an issue between students and the functions of the school environment no move should be approached by armed police either.

The test of democracy is the freedom of criticism. Bobby Joe Brady, a first-
year law student, sympa-
tizes with the notion that FIU students are sensible, respon-
sible adults capable of exer-
cising their democratic free-
doms without being relegated to “sext little spaces” under the watchful eye of armed campus police.

“A reasonable middle ground can be reached between student demonstrators and protect for the learning envi-
ronment. There are plenty of spaces in this university,” he

clearly states.

Many students who want to decry animal vivisection in front of the Campus Support Complex, they should be able to. If students want to condemn the disproportionate funneling of

funds towards administrative staff salaries versus those of teachers, they should be able to in front of the Board of Trustees building.

There is absolutely no excuse why a university should be exercising codified expres-
sion against any student group whatsoever.

The policies in place preemptively strike at margin-
alyzed groups, says Eric Rojo-
Dotel, a junior majoring in Political Science and Interna-
tional Relations.

“The university endorses free speech that is in line with the policy of the university contradicting the principles of democracy and freedom,” he said.

To suggest that providing a clear framework to allow for the facilitation of greater engagement among the student community in respect to the school they pay to attend is irre-
responsible would be extremely dishonest.

It is high time to have a university-wide discussion about the expansion of student rights.

-OPINION@FIUSM.com

Can we learn unity from our politicians?

REBECCA STERLING
Contributing Writer

In a time when political grandstanding, harsh rhetoric and partisan aggression all characterize our political process, it is easy to lose faith in the possi-
bilitiy of bipartisan compromise and progress over our country’s future political challenges.

However, there appears to be at least one issue over which even the most bitterly opposed U.S. politicians do unite. It’s so apparent that the whole world can see it. For what issue have President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner both pledged full support, cutting past their heavy political differences? What is it that our often-at-
 odds politicians and their representatives have worked so hard together to strengthen?

Members of the student organizations, College Democrats and College Republicans, know that the answer to these questions is the U.S.-Israel relationship.

They recognize that Americans, Israelis and the rest of the free world need to work together to stop the threats posed by rogue nations, fundamentalist terror groups and those who violently oppose free and open societies. They understand that the U.S. position on this issue united, with the clear example of the House of Representative’s impres-
sive bipartisan action to sanction Iran with H.R. 1195, and the Senate’s unanimous vote for the bill, which Obama signed into law.

That is why the students of the College Demo-
crats and College Republicans have come together in a statement of support. This unity demonstrates that it is possible to reach across the aisle in a bipar-
tisan effort to accomplish what is good for our country, our friends around the world, and for those who seek free democratic governments.

FIU’s Student Government Council recognizes Israel as a country that shares our values of democ-

cy, women’s rights and freedom of religion. They rose to the occasion by passing student resolution 1343 acknowledging their recognition. Well Done!

At FIU, we have a community of student leaders who care enough about these shared values to stand with Israel. They are constantly seeking to enhance their knowledge about our ally and the region in order to make a positive difference when the opportunity arises. I can say with confidence that there is a diverse nationwide community of student leaders, representing every campus in the country, which embraces this positive and proac-
tive outlook.

With events on campus like Israel Peace Week and with Obama’s momentous trip to Israel, there are plenty of opportunities to learn more. All my friends across the political spectrum have come together to understand the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Despite vast possible differences, there is hope that our political leaders will be part of the same model of progress which students are employing to reach this common understanding today.

-OPINION@FIUSM.com

EDITORIAL 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.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon’s editorial board. They are the opinions of the individual writers and/or members of the University community.

Cautious encounters with a crush

JENNIFER SANS
Contributing Writer

As you’re walking to class, carrying all your books, worrying about tests and grades, you look up and you are caught in an awkward moment with a crush. The next day, you’re walking to the cafeter-
teria to go grab lunch. You look up, and again, your eyes are locked with this same stranger.

Do you make a move? Or do your eyes find this stranger’s eyes semester after semester, and neither party makes a move? Why are people so extremely intimi-
dated to approach whomever they’re inter-
ested in? I’m terrified and I’ve never even tried it, but how do I know it’s so awkward? It’s like there’s this stigma that if I do approach the guy, I’ll get rejected. My whole body will just erase in on itself. I’ll feel a nose-
bleed, and I’ll throw up, all simultaneously, you know, common phobias.

Yes, there are the days I fear my future is the life of a lonely spinner, but it will be the modern day spinner. The spinner that owns a company, like looks Tina Fey, enjoys night chess, has 15 bats, by choice.

Some of us are extremely shy. And to the guy I keep making eye contact with, you’re beautiful, but this staring “thing” has been going on for a year. I’m definitely not going to approach you, but again, the common phobias come up. Please refer to the list of common phobias.

Every worst-case scenario comes to mind when I think about approaching a cute stranger. I don’t just think of one scenario happening at one time, I think of every single horrible thing that ever happened in history repeating itself in that one moment as soon as I approach him; Pearl Harbor, genocide, gulags, World War III.

Some people are just gifted aren’t they? They approach someone with ease and all of a sudden Barry White comes out of the opening song ‘Can’t Get Enough of Your Love, Babe,” and birds suddenly appear, indoors.

Then try you approach someone and you all of a sudden develop this combina-
tion of a tip and a stuffer that you didn’t previously have.

Why are people so extremely intimidated to approach whomever they’re interested in?

How does a person prepare himself or herself to approach a cute guy or girl? What do they say?

Well, after talking to students in the Wolfe University Center at Biscayne Bay Campus and making them feel extremely uncomfortable with my personal questions, I even hated to ask people. I’ve never even tried to

But it is possible to go up to him or her like you own FIU and be yourself. And if you’re interested in someone, just go up to him. I could tell how nervous he was around me too and I didn’t want to deal with an awkward situation.”

“I approached my current boyfriend when I met him. I thought he was beautiful!” said Gianni Barcos, freshman art major.

“I was a friend of his sister and I would just come through and say “Hey.” Chances are you won’t simulta-
niously get a nosebleed and throw up. You’ll live through it.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our office at 6170 SW 112th. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter from a month from any individual.

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Friday, April 5, 2013

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University mascot is also an endangered species

FIU Magazine wins annual district award

GLOWS workshop discusses climate change and adaptation
Clothing is more than it seems: students dress to express

“I dress how I feel, and I feel deeply and often.”

This is a quote that I’ve held very close to my heart ever since discovering it on Tumblr by an unknown author. For me, clothing has never been something that I just had to put on to meet society’s standards, but something that was an outlet of artistic expression.

Through clothing, I was suddenly able to find empowerment, fantasy, escapism and realism all at the same time. My passion for clothing goes deeper than frivolous and trivial materialism, it is a way for me to discover and express myself; it is a way for me to give a tangible representation to intangible things.

As I have been continuing this street style project at FIU, I have become fascinated with the students that really seem to be using clothing not as a way to look “fashionable” or “cool,” but to genuinely express their unique identity.

When I asked liberal studies student Nicholas Hoffman how his outfit made him feel, he paused for a moment before responding, “I feel confident in my own convictions. I finally got this shirt after eyeing it for two years because it reflects my social values.”

Another student who used their clothing to express their political and social beliefs is senior Remmy Rivera who was spotted wearing a camo printed snapback with an American flag patch on the front of it exclaiming “SCREW IT!” When I questioned him on why he was wearing such an unapologetic clothing piece, he quickly rebutted saying it was his way to express his issues with politics and create his own political warfare.

Although clothing can be used as a way to express the unique and individual “you,” it can also be used to do the complete opposite. Last week, I ran into fine arts student Stephanie Farokhnia after her final photography critique for the year. She was dressed in a delightful floor length vintage polka dot dress with a vibrant green cardigan layered on top of it. As I sat down to join her outside, I inquired as to why she chose to wear that particular outfit that day.

“I wanted to wear something new that would go with my new hair. I’ve been wearing more dresses to go with my short hair; I guess it’s sort of like compensation for my femininity. I don’t remember how I felt earlier today but now I feel [bad] after my critique,” said Farokhnia.

Upon first glance I would have never predicted her response to be anything like that. It really surprised me that what I was seeing didn’t match up to how she was feeling, thus making the power of clothing all the more complex of a subject. We dress how we feel, and sometimes, we dress to make ourselves feel a certain way.

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Every single game is just pandemonium. It's always going to be a close, back and forth game, and the fans are going to be in each other’s faces. There have even been some fights in the past.”

Last semester, PIKE defeated SigEp in the championship football game during the last seconds of play. SigEp, a week later, defeated them in thesoftball championship game to get their revenge. SigEp and PIKE are also considered rivals when it comes to recruitment. They live by similar philosophies when it comes to finding the right guy to recruit. PIKE uses the motto of finding scholars, leaders, athletes, and gentlemen, also known as SLAG. “They’re competitive just like us,” said PIKE’s vice president of recruitment Javi Morales. “Even when it comes to the guys that we recruit, we both want to make sure we get the best guys and they have to fit the standards of our motto.”

PIKE’s on campus house proves to be more attractive for recruitment, as well. With that, they are able to throw parties and localize their recruitment. SigEp, on the other hand, does not have a house which makes them more of a social outcast since they have to go out looking for guys to recruit. While both fraternities have enjoyed much success in sports, PIKE was able to bring home the 2012-2013 Sports Cup after their win in the soccer championships over Tau Kappa Epsilon.

The winner of Sports Cup is sport. PIKE was able to edge past SigEp as they were tied with 55 points apiece before PIKE won the Soccer Championship. It’s been a long time coming for PIKE as they were suspended for an entire year, which eliminated them from Sports Cup for two years. “Before I got to FIU, PIKE wasn’t even allowed to compete in the Greek League for a couple of years so we were in probation which then led to suspension for an entire year,” Morales said. “That’s why it feels gratifying to win Sports Cup in our first year back on campus. The Sports Cup is a stepping-stone to what our full potential could be.”

According to Hernandez, while PIKE was sidelined with sanctions, SigEp felt like it had lost its toughest competition. Even though PIKE and SigEp have had their share of Sports Cup victories, Morales believes this most recent Sports Cup win gives the edge to PIKE as to who has fared better in the rivalry. “I think PIKE winning the Sports Cup provides more recognition compared to SigEp in the sense that one of the external criterias in being the best fraternity on campus is winning Sports Cup.” Morales said. “Although, I don’t think Sports Cup determines the best fraternity on campus, usually the best fraternity on campus wins Sports Cup.”

Fresh start for special teams coming this fall

RHY'S WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Placekicker Jack Griffin, punter Josh Brisk and long-snapper Mitch MacClugage are all gone from the football roster due to graduation, which means the gate is open wide for young players to step in and take hold of their positions this fall.

Freshman punter Chris Ayers, the only scholarship player at his position, is the clear frontrunner to be punting in the fall. The work that he is putting in this spring has only been giving this new coaching staff promise to keep that job come this fall.

The punting for last season under former head coach Mario Cristobal was something of a group effort with Brisk, Griffin, and even quarter back Jake Medlock each booting it off on fourths down for at least one attempt a piece, with Brisk having the most at 47 attempts for 1989 yards.

“Going out on a Friday night under the lights felt like a game,” said Ayers of the March 29 scrimmage. “It basically was a game for me having it as the first live-action I have faced since coming here after redshirting under Josh [Brisk] last year.”

Sergio Sroka, who backed up Griffin last year, is also excited about his role in this new form. “I am looking forward to being the main man,” said Sroka. “I am excited to start having chances to kick.”

New to the kicking game this spring is long-snapper Ryan Halter, coming in as the starter after redshirting last year. Halter has shown some promise in the spring as he averages 46 yards per punt with 37 punts. He has also averaged 62.5 yards per punt on those punts which is a big change from last year, where all I did was stand on the sideline most of the time. I hope to be a main factor for this team and help us win if I can.”

Backup punter Ryan Halter boats a punt down to the three yard line in warm-ups on March 29. He had no attempts for placekicking, extra points, or punting during the scrimmage.

Backup punter Ryan Halter boasts a punt down to the three yard line in warm-ups on March 29. He had no attempts for placekicking, extra points, or punting during the scrimmage.

Jeffrey Hernandez
Soccer Captain
Sigma Phi Epsilon

The strongest part of special teams is definitely the kick and punt return game. With 843 total return yards in the 2012 season, cornerback Richard Leonard is the leader of the group, and only on the way to improving those numbers this coming fall.

Brandon Taylor, the main long-snapper this spring, is the only one on scholarship for his position and he is taking all of the reps with the first team punts and field goals. The starting spot is his to lose with this team before the trip up to play the Terps at the University of Maryland on Aug. 31.

Taylor’s backup is newly converted, former wideout, Chris Sullivan who medici-redshirted this past fall with a broken hand. The freshman from Cocoa Beach High School in Cocoa Beach, Fla. last long-snapped in high school, along with playing wideout, some quarter back, and some safety on the defensive side of the ball. There is more question concerning though as during the live scrimmage on March 29 three out of four field goal attempts were blocked with a fourth barely making it through the uprights after being tipped by the interior of the defensive line.

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The Beacon – Friday, April 5, 2013

SPORTS

Pitching key to Panthers’ recent success

FRANCISCO RIVERO
Staff Writer

Before winning five in a row through April 2, the baseball team ranked near the bottom of every pitching statistic category in the Sun Belt Conference.

However, over the last five games, the Panthers’ starting pitching has only allowed six earned runs topped by Tyler Alexander’s complete game shutout that earned him SBC pitcher of the week.

“I just think our starters are coming totally focused, and that’s something that they haven’t done the last couple of weeks,” said catcher Aramis Garcia. “It’s taken them awhile for them to get going but once they do, they are on.”

From March 24 to April 2, starting pitching racked up 30 strikeouts with most of the lift coming from pitchers Mike Franco and Alexander. Their combined numbers come out to a record of six wins and four losses while collecting 65 strikeouts and generating an earned run average of 3.16.

“We’re always here about an hour or two hours earlier before a game, but yes, my last two starts they said that I didn’t have that focus,” Alexander said. “I felt I did have it and I wanted to prove them wrong, so I came out with as much intensity as I could.”

This increased need in focusing and preparing hours before the first pitch is something that even caught Head Coach Henry Thomas off guard.

“Honestly, I didn’t know that [Alexander] was here two hours early,” Thomas said. “That just shows how much of a competitor he is and just how much he wants to win.”

It seems that this rebirth of the starting rotation has also given spark to the Panthers’ offense that scored 30 runs through April 2. Players such as shortstop Edwin Rios have taken notice of this and now look to take advantage of this new spark.

“This game is a game of concentration and focus. I just try and tell my teammates to take a deep breath and everything is going to be OK,” Rios said. “I try to tell them not to overthink things and just go out there and do what you do best.”

Veteran players such as second baseman T.J. Shantz can also start to feel the change in the air.

“We have just been working really hard on our off days and practice,” Shantz said. “We’ve been focused on offensive, defense and fundamentals and now that we have some confidence, people are just gaining off one another.”

Shantz also understands just how important it is for the team to get consistent starting pitching day in and day out.

“If we pound the zone and we get ahead of hitters, that’s when we start to pitch with confidence,” Shantz said. “These last couple of weekends, all our guys really attacked hitters and gotten ahead in counts with that big thing getting the first out in the inning.”

FIU looks to extend its great pitching performances tonight at 7:30 p.m. against South Alabama (22-8).

Left-hander Tyler Alexander won the Sun Belt Conference pitcher of the week award after pitching his first career shutout against Arkansas State. He struck out 10 batters and now leads the pitching staff with a 2.84 ERA.
Housing and food troubles brought up in elections forum

Students at Biscayne Bay Campus came to the student government elections forum to enjoy food and listen to their fellow students voice their questions to the candidates running for Student Government Council at BBC. The student government candidates that were present were Fuzhou Wu, running for SGC-BBC president; Ishmail Hassan running for Arts and Sciences senator, and Emerald Nesbitt, running for Housing senator.

The candidates all have different plans on how to make the atmosphere on campus more vibrant and tried to offer different solutions for the problems that were expressed by the students at the forum. Nesbitt is advocating for better programs at Bay Vista Housing.

"I want to find a way to have more programs for the students at BVH because it’s a small campus and there isn’t much to do here right now. I want to make the programs available to the students who don’t live on campus, as well," Nesbitt said.

Students who live in BVH who don’t have access to a car rely on either public transportation, the housing shuttle that runs on Wednesdays and Saturdays, or rides from friends. Wu wants to find a way to have longer hours of operation for food options on campus for students and said, "BBC could be the next MMC!"

There are students who disagree because "there is a benefit to having two different campuses with two different atmospheres," said junior psychology, is currently living at the Bay Vista housing and said she likes having the convenience and closer community.

Emerald Nesbitt, junior in psychology, is currently a resident at the Bay Vista housing and said she likes having the convenience and closer community.

Nesbitt said she feels renovations to the housing are necessary as the building has enough problems as it is.

"Most people don’t stay on this campus anyways; we usually have a lot of rooms open so it’s not like we’d be losing space necessarily," Nesbitt said. "But I just think that they’d have to take that into consideration if they do decide to do that, because some students, if it fills up too quickly on [Modesto Maidique Campus], they have to move here. So as long as they take the space into consideration and remember that this is a dorm and things kind of do get rowdy, it’s fine."

Another student coming from Bay Vista housing, sophomore business major David Gagne, said he enjoys the convenience of living there as well and does feel that renovations are necessary.

As far as the RCCL facility being built, Gagne said, "They’re not really doing this facility that mean they’re bringing money to the campus and it really needs it so there’s no doubt that it’s a good thing I guess.

Moll stated that the facility would provide many opportunities for students, particularly those in the College of Architecture and the Arts, such as scholarships, internships and possibly even classes for students in the College of Architecture and the Arts at BBC.

"There could be partnerships with the professional entertainment people and students who want to be singers, dancers, actors," said Moll.

"Having that real world, experiential type of learning is invaluable for our students, so that was the real driver of the plan; it was a real consensus decision, it wasn't a financial decision," said Jessell.

The candidates ended the forum by discussing their main reasons for running:

"I am really passionate about helping students. This is such a large school and we all need to be heard," said Wu. "There needs to be a person who’s going to speak for the students."

Nesbitt has lived in BVH for the past three years and feels attached to the students residing there and their issues.

I honestly didn’t even know about this position until a friend told me about it. I know what the students in BVH want because I've lived there for the past three years," said Nesbitt. "I know that a lot of students don’t live on campus here at BBC, but if I’m elected, I’ll make programs at BVH available to not just the students who live on campus, but the students who commute here and have to stay late.”

"I’ll do my best to make sure I am the best in my position," said Hassan.