DACA students now eligible for in-state tuition

MADISON FANTOZZI
News Director

Junior Paula Zamudio graduated from Coral Gables Senior High in 2007 and received her associate of arts degree from Miami Dade College in 2009. She has been enrolled at the university for four years, but still has three semesters to go before graduating.

The finance and economics major has paid out-of-state tuition for six years while maintaining Florida residency since she was 18 months old.

Beginning fall 2013, FIU will be the first public college to offer a non-resident tuition waiver to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals students, allowing them to pay in-state tuition that is one-third the cost of out-of-state tuition. “I have been paying out-of-state tuition, hence why I have taken so long to graduate,” Zamudio said. “But now I will have the chance to be a full-time student and graduate much faster with my degrees.”

Zamudio, a member of Students Working for Equal Rights, became “DACAmented” on Feb. 15, 2013 and has since then secured a job and received her driver’s license. “Both of these are huge milestones for me,” said Zamudio. “And now I won’t have to take out anymore family loans or use credit cards for tuition.”

She plans to apply for the waiver and enroll full-time for fall 2013.

The university began waiving out-of-state tuition for undocumented students in the spring.

Nicolas Wulff was one of the eleven students that waived the out-of-state expense. The junior political science major enrolled at the university in fall 2012 after a three-and-a-half-year stint at Miami Dade College. “It was a lot of money,” said Wulff. “But I considered myself one of the lucky few.”

Low APR scores cause consequences for Panthers

PATRICK CHALVIRE
Staff Writer

As the men’s basketball team begins their off-season workouts, one question still arises on campus: How will the men’s basketball team get through a postseason ban?

As expected for over a year, once the 2011-12 Academic Progress Rate scores were released, the NCAA will take the reigns at FIU in 2006, his first year but is ready to start over. It was always in the background, Anthony Evans, head coach of the basketball team, knew the repercussions going into the season.

Unfortunately for the Athletics program, it’s not the first time it has faced the wrath of the NCAA.

Once the dust settled in 2008, FIU was charged with a number of violations, as well as some self-imposed bans. Such bans included the loss of 11 sports scholarships, a four-year probation which ended in May of 2012, and vacating all wins and records where the 45 ineligible student-athletes participated in.

The NCAA Committee on Infractions also noted that as FIU’s athletics program was expanding, the compliance office and academic advising was not.

As the expansions brought 100 student-athletes during the first four years of the football program, personnel were using an outdated software system incapable of following NCAA bylaws.

APR, PAGE 10

New and improved WiFi network comes to campus

TIA TYNDAL
Contributing Writer

Bye bye, slow WiFi.

On Monday, June 24, a new WiFi network was launched that eliminates the hassle of logging into the FIU network repeatedly.

The new network will allow students to register their laptops, smartphones, e-books, game systems and wireless printers through their PantherSoft accounts.

The Division of Information Technology announced in an email to the University that it planned to launch its new WiFi network with “major enhancements” to the existing “FIU/SECURE/WIFI” network.

“The WiFi here is usually really slow and spotty,” said Eva Marin, a junior psychology major. “I have trouble with getting kicked off the network or suddenly losing signal in my own dorm.”

Robert Grillo, vice president of information technology and chief information officer, said IT has been working on this project for over a year to improve WiFi efficiency.

The new network plans to improve connection and speed, and students will remain connected without having to log-in on a daily basis. The network change is in effect at all FIU locations where WiFi is deployed.

Students can also stay connected on a network called “FIU_OtherDevices” for Kindles, Nook’s, gaming stations and printers.

“Hooking up gaming systems should be less of a hassle with this new network,” said Chris Nowell, sophomore computer science major. “The old network did not provide good support for my PlayStation.”

Student residents will also have the convenience to print wirelessly from their dorm rooms.

“Last year, I would have to print from my roommate’s room or the library, since I bought a wireless printer. Fortunately, this year I can put it to use,” said Adriana Avendano, junior biology major.

To connect to the network, students will select “FIU_SECURE/WIFI” and log in with their MyAccount credentials.

It said it is providing 24-hour support for students who may struggle with connecting to the two new networks.

APR, PAGE 9
UPD responds to high theft rate on campuses

BRANDON WISE
Edition-in-Chief

From the smallest cell phones to brand new iMacs, university thieves are getting their hands on just about anything.

Since 2011, theft has accounted for more than 60 percent of crimes at FIU, according to the school’s police data.

One of the victims of these crimes is Latoni Parris, a junior journalism major. In spring 2013, she had her Kindle Fire HD stolen. Parris said she accidentally left her Kindle underneath it, “said Parris.

“My heart sank into my stomach. I had a month’s worth of class notes, files and textbooks.”

Rick Torres, investigations commander and public information officer for the FIU Police Department, said it is common for thieves to enter FIU and find unattended items around Modesto Maidique Campus.

“Students leave things out everywhere, but those crimes are solvable,” said Police Chief Alex Casas.

There are 1,500 security cameras in total on FIU’s six campuses, according to Casas. The cameras are monitored at MMC Police Station.

Alex Redman, sophomore engineering major, said that when he has to use the restroom, he does not ask people to watch his belongings.

“1 wouldn’t ask a stranger to watch my laptop,” said Redman. “I don’t trust everybody.”

Torres said that the officers patrol areas where a lot of people gather to try to dissuade people from committing these crimes.

“People see us walking around and get nervous, but we’re just trying to gauge how everyone is doing and make sure everything is okay,” said Torres.

While 661 crimes occurred at MMC, UPD is also responsible for five other campuses.

The other satellite campuses are the Broward Pines Center, Wolfsonian Museum, FIU Downtown on Brickell and Miami Beach Urban Studios.

Zero crimes were reported at these facilities from 2009 to 2011, according to Clery Act statistics on the FIU Police Department website.

FIU police receives help from the police departments in those areas because of the size of those campuses, Casas said.

“We have Mutual Aid Agreements with those departments where we agree to assist during the time before exams when many students seeking a quiet place to study were frustrated by the noise,’’ said Breslin.

Similarly, only quiet conversation is permitted in study rooms and on the first floor in the Hubert Library. Whispering is permitted on the second floor and in the elevators. Silence must be observed on the third floor.

The libraries will begin enforcement of its new policies on July 1.

University Libraries will also renew its food and conversation policies.

“The library staff have done an analysis of the LibQual+ survey comments and the analysis notes that space, quiet and cleanliness issues loom large on patrons’ minds, underlining the need for the new policies,” said Breslin in an email to Student Media.

Food and beverages will not be permitted above the first floor except water in closed containers.

In the Green Library, only quiet conversation is permitted in study rooms and on the second floor.

Whispering is permitted on the fourth and fifth floors, and in the elevators.

The policy also states that silence must be observed on the third, sixth and seventh floors. Cell phone use is limited to the stairwells.

“The need for the [conversation] policy, on quiet and silence in the libraries, became even more obvious during the time before exams when many students seeking a quiet place to study were frustrated by the noise,” said Breslin.

Officials said Monday they were still investigatig whether hacking was responsible. The alert warns government and the public sector to be wary of the possibility of cyberattacks.

For more world news, check out www.FIUSM.com.
Immigrant students to pay in-state tuition at FIU

IN-STATE, PAGE 1

“Miami is the epicenter for issues on immigration,” said Roman. “And we want our insti-
tution to be at the forefront to set the record straight.”

Roman argued that the Board of Governors’ guidelines allows students with legal standing
to qualify for in-state tuition. The guidelines originally required that parents have legal status
if students are dependents, but that rule was deemed unconstitutional on Sept. 4, 2012 in
federal court.

Less than a year later, Roman has helped secure another victory for immigrant students.
“We want to be the spokesperson for the DREAMers and the young people,” said Roman.
After meeting with legal and immigration experts, the university determined the action
was allowed under state law.

“It was a unanimous feeling among the general counsel, enrollment services, President
Rosenberg and myself that this was the direction we wanted to go in,” said Provost Douglas
Wartzok.

Students and professors develop reading technologies for the blind community

DANNY RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

The colleges of business and engineering are developing innovations
to give back a level of independence to the world’s 285 million visu-
ally impaired individ-
uals, a number reported by the World Health
Organization.

The College of
Business’ EyeTalk team has developed a pair of glasses
that uses a high resolu-
tion camera, a mobile
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Texting ban won’t see desired results

LAUREN BANA
Staff Writer

Almost everyone has felt they had to send out that one text which determines whether or not you really “laughed out loud.”

Most of the time, it does not even need to be sent, especially if you were already on your way to see the person you were texting.

More often than not, the texts that I feel must be immediately sent can wait until I reach a stop or until the car is parked. Unfortunately, a dangerous amount of people my age and I continually decide to send unimportant text messages that could cost us our lives.

The Florida State Senate passed a bill on April 16 that bans texting while driving. Naturally, it is a great idea to ban something that puts people’s lives at risk, but placing a ban on something does not mean people are going to stop doing it.

According to Distraction.gov, even knowing of the dangers of driving while texting does not necessarily prevent it. In fact, people believe that “the statistics don’t apply to them, that they can defy the odds.”

There are some scary statistics on accidents caused by texting while driving, with quite a number of them having been fatal. Florida Senator Nancy Detert, for example, said that as many as 11 teenagers are killed a day in the United States because they were texting while driving. Distraction.gov further reports that one in 23 times more likely to crash if texting while driving. Despite such statistics, people who text while driving will always find a reason to send a text that does not need to be immediately sent.

The dangers of texting while driving do not seem to faze us as a whole, which can easily make it a habit. I do not believe that it can end, despite the presence of a ban, at least not until we come to truly understand how dangerous it really is.

I think that the only foolproof way to eliminate this problem is by starting at the root. By this, I mean showing the dangers of texting and driving to teens before they start driving. Doing so could implant the necessity to be cautious behind the wheel so that it can stay with them beyond their first time driving.

I know that really would have stuck with me when I was getting my license. English major Christopher Moffett believes the only possible way to end texting while driving in someone’s life is by being directly affected by it.

“If you had a family member die from driving and texting, then maybe that will stop you from texting, but people are still going to do it,” said Moffett.

What seems like an easily solved problem has actually been, and probably will always be, very difficult to eliminate. The recently passed ban on texting while driving might convince a handful of people to stop, but, for the most part, people are going to drive with their thumbs on the keys, ready to send that text.

I recently went to Green Library to check out a laptop, but upon approaching the circulation desk, I was greeted by a notice sign.

It read: “As of May 13, 2013, the library will require two forms of identification for the checkout of laptops, iPads and e-readers: A valid Panther ID Card and State Issued ID Card. No exceptions.”

As I am a curious patron of the Green Library, I asked why such a change was implemented.

“There were a rash of thefts of electronic equipment, where students would use a lost ID to check out a laptop or iPad,” said Jude Cobham, circulation manager at the Green Library. “I began to understand why this change was necessary, but I had two main thoughts after I saw the notice: 1.) I’m an international student and 2.) I only have a passport and Panther ID as my forms of identification.

I asked Cobham whose idea it was to implement such a rule and he informed me that Public Safety suggested the change.

“We check the picture on the IDs, however, certain people look like certain people and mistakes can happen,” said Cobham.

I am not pleased with this new rule because I would not like to walk around with my passport everyday, although I happen to be working on getting my license. Ami Nakagawa, senior international business major and international student, agrees that carrying one’s passport around campus is not a good idea.

“I think it’s not safe to walk around with your passport, as it [is] not safe to carry your social security,” said Nakagawa.

Sheni Kathymoon, senior, believes it makes the new rule a bit redundant.

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

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to janette.reyes@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.
New requirements inconvenience internationals

MOISES FUERTES Contributing Writer

Walking around campus can sometimes be frustrating, but notice that the vast majority of FIU students use Macintosh computers. It is this increase in the usage of the Mac operating system found in X:YZ which I see as a slight issue for students today.

By primarily using Macs, FIU are losing their knowl- edge and level of comfort with the operating system found in most computers throughout the world: the Microsoft Windows OS.

I remember that around four years ago, most people used computers that housed the Windows OS. Even in businesses, computers that housed the Windows OS were primarily used over Macs simply because of a lack of software found in Macs.

That is drastically changing today.

In the multimedia production courses offered at FIU, computer labs are populated with Macs. As a result, all the equipment used in these labs have to be compat- ible with Macs.

Apple’s success has happened because of their genius simplicifica- tion of computers and the working world. Using a Mac, iPhone, or iPad is extremely user friendly and easy. Add that to the stability housed in these devices and we can see why Apple has become so successful.

If the Apple decided to close itself to any tweaking of its devices, computers housing the Windows OS or the less popular Linux OS are the only computers that can be tweaked by the user, with Linux being the only open source operating system between the three.

One of the most attractive things I find in computers housed in Windows is that I can build them myself.

I can purchase each hardware component on the Internet and put it together, such as the CPU, GPU, motherboard, etc., in many ways making this computer feel completely mine in a Mac will never be. To me, a Mac will always be the prop- erty of Apple, even after it is pur- chased.

It is here where I see

MOYES FUERTES Contributing Writer

Edward Snowden, the young computer whiz who works for the National Security Agency (NSA) and leaked project PRISM, is no traitor. He is hero. He also happens to be one of the few whistle-blowers that has revealed his identity at the height of the leak.

Justified as a neces- sity to catch terrorists, project PRISM has given our government the tools to spy on everyone more effectively than ever before. According to Kyle Becker in “NSA leaker steps forward,” project PRISM has given the government access to the details of phone calls on a silver platter, such as the duration, location, and this information is called “meta-data.”

Since Sept. 11, 2001, we have been a Draconian in the militarization of infor- mation. The first blow to our Constitution and our privacy was the Patriot Act of 2001 which made it easier to collect private information on any individual and was justified necessary to protect Americans. This justification, which we believe is the culmination of our rights to feel safe, is un- covered for.

I believe it is these types of affairs our forefa- thers attempted to stop by crafting our Constitution and Bill of Rights. We are meant to be a free people, yet there is nothing free about being spied on.

I believe about all the types of abuses this can lead to.

The minute this massive data pool on anyone’s personal life is accessed by another person, any theory of who that person can be crafted, based on phone calls and data from his or her past.

At best, we can strangely prevent terrorist attacks. At worst, it can silence any minority movement. "NSA leaker steps forward," shows that 54-41 percent of Ameri- cans surveyed are in favor of criminally prosecuting Snowden, with 51-41 percent commending the program for preventing terrorist attacks.

This type of thing has been happening for a while now, even since Sept. 11. But I’m seriously starting to

MOYES FUERTES Contributing Writer

The amount of debt students face is now in the trillions, according to Stephanie Mayes, a staff writer for the Tampa Bay Times.

The government should show more concern regarding the student debt issue by mandating public universities to have specific advisors for loan-related concerns. The National Student Financial Aid Department should provide the services of loan advising to students struggling to pay for college.

Financial aid advisors should be able to meet with students, seeking advice, to discuss if loans are required, alternate solu- tions to financial short- comings, loans or grants, the interest rates of loans, loan repay- ment and even the chance of defaulting on a loan.

Everyone should have the right to pay their educa- tion through whatever method they want, but for the sake of our students’ futures and finances, universi- ties should find ways to help their student body finance their education through more practical and less-risky methods.

FIU should embrace this concept started by USF.

MOYES FUERTES Contributing Writer

The freedoms we give up for national security

MOYES FUERTES Contributing Writer

The freedom we give up for national security
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Frost Art Museum awarded best in Miami

The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum was named the “Best Art Museum for 2013” by Miami New Times.

Daniel Uria
Staff Writer

While some students may not even notice the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum as they make their way across campus, Miami New Times certainly did, naming it their best art museum for 2013.

Since it opened in 1977, the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum has steadily made its way to becoming one of the most highly praised art museums in Miami. Now, in 2013, the museum is being praised by Miami New Times for its beautiful facility, top-notch programming and permanent collections.

The museum’s staff is “ecstatic” at the news of their best art museum, according to Communications Assistant Dindre Gabriella Portela.

“Everyone was extremely happy, especially since we all worked very hard to make it happen. It was a great feeling. It was also great that Patricia Frost and Carol Damian received countless emails congratulating the museum,” said Portela.

This award marks the second time that Miami New Times has chosen the Frost Museum as their best art museum, the first time being in 2009. It is also the second straight year an FIU museum has been named the best museum. The Wolfsonian-FIU won the award in 2012.

While both museums have received similar accolades, the Frost Museum lacks the advantage of the Wolfsonian’s trendy Beach location. Portela explains that the Frost on-campus location does come with it’s own benefits.

“I vantages of being on a campus are that we have 50,000 people around us. We are lucky to be at such a large university with essentially a built-in audience. It is very accessible for students and we love to encourage the University to come by in between classes,” said Portela.

Although the built-in audience is a major plus, Portela says the on-campus location does create a difficult situation for the museum to come out. “The museum is a little far—especially with essentially a built-in audience. It is very accessible for students and we love to encourage the University to come by in between classes,” said Portela.

With a combination of positive word-of-mouth reviews and the exposure from the praise in Miami New Times, the Frost Museum should be primed to improve on the already-stellar reputation. “We are lucky to have had a great year of strong exhibits,” said Portela.

“Perhaps eight cans of diet soda a day is not the best idea. You want to reduce the quantities in that,” said Christine Teller, registered dietitian at the University’s Student Health Services.

In general, soda is not beneficial to anyone, but for people trying to quit it, it is not as difficult as it may seem. “Neither of them is good for your teeth,” said Teller. “Ideally, you wouldn’t drink soda [regularly]. You would drink it on a special occasion. It’s going to be less harmful if you’re drinking it every day. I would recommend gradually weaning off soda. Instead of soda, try to drink water and milk, or a milk substitute. If you are going to drink soda, or other acidic drinks like coffee or tea, try and brush your teeth afterward, or swash some water around to get rid of that acid. Adding fruits and vegetables to your diet is a way to ensure that your teeth remain healthy, as well as dairy products."

For heavy diet soda drinkers, all is not lost. Healthy teeth can be regained through a solid diet of calcium, which can remineralize damaged teeth. Most habits cannot be kicked in a day, however. Sipping diet soda through a straw is recommended, so as to prevent the soda from contacting the teeth.

“Both the minerals calcium and phosphorus help rebuild enamel and protect your teeth,” said Teller.

Calcium filled foods include dairy products, dairy substitutes and teeth rich in phosphate such as cheese, nuts, broccoli, turkey and chicken.

Holly Mccoach
Staff Writer

Study shows dangers of drinking diet soda

For those who want to improve their health, substituting a can of diet soda for the calorie-pumped version may not be the best idea.

Diet drinks lack regular soda’s calories and high-fructose corn syrup, but they’re full of acidic ingredients that can wear down the protective layer on your teeth. As a result, teeth may become more prominent than the occasional diet soda consumer.

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Holly Mccoach
Staff Writer

University student to release her first poetry book

Holly Mccoach
Staff Writer

Anyone can follow their dreams, but who better to tell you than Wieslande Letang? This University student has a poetry book hitting the shelves at the beginning of the school year.

Wieslande Letang, a senior broadcasting journalism major, will be releasing her first book titled, “Bare,” written under the pen name WES L. Lotus.

Letang’s book is brimming with encouragement and positivity. “It allows me to rest myself. In my own little world, I see how it is. I think it is very therapeutic,” said Letang.

Letang has always loved writing, which feels she inherited from her father’s side.

She began writing poems in the eighth grade when her cousin got into a relationship – the poem stemmed from their love and the writing came naturally. From then on, Letang knew her passion and was compelled to write a book.

She entered college where she met a Miami-Dade English professor who really stepped it up. He gave her that extra boost,” said Letang.

Letang’s book speaks about love, wisdom and how to obtain a better life. Her poems have been influenced by the life of her friends and family, but also Maya Angelou, LeBron James and Paul Brunson.

“I feel like everybody can relate to the book. That’s what the whole book is about: keep going and eventually you will make it,” said Letang.

Brunson, a modern day matchmaker and life coach, was particularly helpful on her journey to write. After messaging him,

University student to release her first poetry book

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Staff Writer

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Honors College donates Jose Marti statue

POETRY, PAGE 8

On Facebook, Letang was sure he would not even bother replying to her, but he proved her wrong. "I reached out to him to read my manuscript and he didn’t turn me down," said Letang.

After his feedback, Letang realized that you should not think that you are not deserving of someone else’s time. She was further motivated to go the distance and do what made her happy. After Brunson read the manuscript, Letang did her research and sought out a publishing company, despite the doubt and uncertainty she had faced to have it published. "I think this is a pretty big deal for [me] and Haitian culture. It's important to highlight someone who represents FIU and says, 'I made it,'” she said. Letang said, “Letang will not stop there. She plans to write both fiction and poetry until old age, and hopefully work in the film industry. "In the epilogue, I introduce a fiction story that I hope will turn into a movie one day," said Letang.

According to Letang, “Bare” will be available sometime between July and August, under the name Wes L. Lotus, in the Barnes and Noble website and Amazon.com. -holly.mccoach@fiusm.com

Frost Art Museum presents new exhibits on identity

The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum opened its doors to the public November 2008. Since then, there have been more than 20 different exhibits each year. Now two new exhibits have been opened, which have been catching the attention of the Panther community since June 8.

The two exhibits, “Six Degrees of Separate Nations: Ebony G. Patterson and Peterson Kanwathi” and “Borders of Paradise: In the Eyes of Explorers,” feature travel as a tool to establish identity. For the artists Patterson and Kanwathi, their work shows how they view themselves and how we perceive others. “Six Degrees of Sepaarte Nations” features the art of two distinctly different artists, one from Jamaica and one from Kenya. Independent curator Claire Brunel mixed both artists in this one exhibition because both countries share a history of colonial influence and are in the journey of evolving and establishing their own identities in the late 21st century.

Like many artists, they convey this message using different techniques. Patterson focuses on young Jamaicans from Kingston’s own dancehall, with their flamboyant clothing through the 19th century, satisfying the appetite of Cameroon and Europeans hungry for tales of mysterious lost paradises and evocative primitive worlds. Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications Emmanu Young. says it’s the first time the artists meet. Young also explained that 150 people showed up for the opening event, and that if any indication of the turn-out of these exhibits will bring, they have a good reason for their continuance coming from the public. “Because the focus of the two exhibitions are on such different time periods and such different social environments, I think both will have their audiences, depending on the focus of the viewers. Both have a lot to say about the world and the identity of people over the past 500 years,” said Young.

Visitor Services employee Britanyセンター, “Six Degrees of Separate Nations” is what the buzz is all about. She told us the crowd at the opening event was more of an older crowd and that the turnout was really good considering it was summer time and there were some on vacation. “Six Degrees of Separate Nations” is located on the ground floor and “Borders of Paradise: In the Eyes of Explorers” on the third floor. Admission is free to everyone.

DANIEL URIA
Staff Writer

It’s no secret to any Panther that art maintains a tight grip with Miami’s Latin American community. This relationship was on display as the University recently donated a statue of national hero José Martí in honor of Cuban Independence Day.

The late Tony López sculpted the life-size statue of José Martí, an influential writer and champion of Cuban independence. López, also Cuban, was a renowned artist responsible for a handful of other South Florida landmarks such as the Holocaust Memorial, the Torch of Friendship and St. Mary’s Cathedral.

On May 20, 2013, members of the FIU community, residents of Sweetwater and even López’s former assistants gathered for the unveiling of the statue in celebration of Cuba’s 111th year of independence. Following López’ passing two years ago, the Honors College Board member and friend of López, Leonor Anthony, requested that López be honored on behalf of his estate. López’s son obliged and the statue became property of the Honors College until it was donated to the city of Sweetwater.

The statue presently resides in front of the Jorge Mas Canosa Youth Center in Sweetwater. This location was chosen because the Center has large Cuban American consistency and they liked how it would look there,” said Luli Szeinblum, coordinator of student programs and art education at the Honors College.

Sweetwater Mayor Manny Marlo told The Beacon, “It’s an honor to have it here.” The partnership between FIU’s Honors College and Sweetwater is long-standing.

“We have student interns placed at the Mayor’s office and volunteers at the elementary school, the L1’Abrer Community Center. We have an annual day of service during which our student volunteers clean sections of the City. Additionally, we provide student volunteers for special events in the City. All of this is part of our Annual Thanksgiving Bash and last year’s fundraising SK Hallows Run. We do work with UM students on immigration, financial literacy and nationalization, and we have an Annual ‘Evening with the Arts’ where both our students and the elementary school show their talents in the visual and performing arts,” said Szeinblum.

The statue of Jose Martí is an exhibition of FIU’s active relationship with Miami’s Latin-American community. Among them are programs and arts education at the Honors College, Sweetwater Mayor Manny Marlo told The Beacon, “It’s an honor to have it here.” The partnership between FIU’s Honors College and Sweetwater is long-standing.

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Jerica Coley continues to strengthen legacy

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

Senior point guard Jerica Coley has earned numerous awards and honors in her FIU tenure, and now she will have to make room for yet another award.

Recently the native from St. Petersburg, Fla. was named the Sun Belt Conference Female Student-Athlete of the Year becoming the second FIU athlete ever to earn the honor.

“I feel honored to get that huge award, and there were a lot of people who obviously had a hand in me getting that award, so thanks to all those people I couldn’t name them all though,” Coley said.

Coley has earned the Sun Belt Conference Female Student-Athlete of the Year in each of her four seasons at FIU. In total, Coley has received numerous awards and honors in her FIU tenure, including the WNIT Tournament MVP, the Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year, the Sun Belt Conference Freshman of the Year, and the Sun Belt Conference Second Team All-Conference honors.

“Coley is coming off a remarkable season where she averaged 26.3 points per game and was the nation’s leading scorer and helped lead the Panthers to the WNIT tournament for a second consecutive year. Along with the consecutive WNIT appearances, Coley racked up back-to-back Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year honors becoming the second FIU athlete to do so.

With the breakout season came HolyColey.com, a website created by the FIU athletics department dedicated to the star point guard. Though the site was a bit much to handle at first, Coley credits her teammates for helping her cope with all the hype and attention.

“It was a fun year of course, and I didn’t really expect any of it,” Coley said. “I love teammates as they made it easy for me on the floor, and they were cool about me receiving all these extra things and recognition.”

It has become a trend in male college basketball with star players usually attend a university for one year at least and then forgo the rest of their eligibility to become professional athletes. Though Coley has the talent of these athletes, her attitude and goals are much different. For Coley, the decision on whether to forgo her senior season and enter the WNBA Draft or to play her final season in college seemed like a no brainer for her.

“I definitely would come back, and stay here in school to finish. That’s what I came here for, which is for school,” Coley said.

Despite all the awards, recognitions and the accolades the senior has earned, she is still hungry and even though she is on pace to break almost every all-time offensive record next year during her senior campaign, Coley’s goals remain team oriented.

“The only thing we really look forward to doing next year is winning in the Conference USA Tournament and going to the NCAA Tournament,” Coley said. “And definitely need to have others step up so when the seniors leave the younger players can take over so that we can continue to have better seasons even after we leave.”

Coley said.

Scores cause post-season ban, limit practice time

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Since the infractions in 2008, FIU has added resources to the Student-Athlete Academic Center. Such as increasing the center’s operating budget to $195,000, doubling the number of tutors to 14, as well as purchasing 20 personal computers and 25 laptops for students’ use. A request to athletics for the latest budget was not provided by the time of press.

No program was banned from any post-season play at the time of the violations. However, if the football, men’s basketball and/or baseball teams did not meet an average APR score the next year, a ban would have been imposed. APR scores came back into students’ use. A request to him being fired.

This had the biggest effect on the Panthers, 19 out of the 21 student-athletes was not the only thing to go into the firing of Thomas, his players to stay with the program even before hiring a new coach. Though only winning 26 games in three seasons did go into the firing of Thomas, a low number of graduating student-athletes was not the case. During Thomas’ time with the Panthers, 19 out of the 21 players under Thomas graduated.

Isiah Thomas, who Garcia praised by saying he would “take the basketball program to the highest level.” Garcia also stood by Thomas when he attempted to take on a consulting job with the New York Knicks while still working at FIU. The Panthers’ scores during the first two years under Thomas’ eyes were 910 and 909, just above the NCAA’s minimum average of 900.

Big concerns came after the 2011-2012 season, when the APR score hit a low 858, a score Garcia also stood by Thomas when he attempted to take on a consulting job with the New York Knicks while still working at FIU. The Panthers’ scores during the first two years under Thomas’ eyes were 910 and 909, just above the NCAA’s minimum average of 900.

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Cyprien making a splash early in Jacksonville

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The 2012 college football season, not too many people outside of the Sun Belt Conference knew then the name Johnathan Cyprien. The FIU standout increased his stock despite having played his senior season during one of the worst ever for the young football program. The squad finished the abysmal season with a 3-9 overall record, including a 2-6 record in their final season in the conference. Cyprien continued to shine during the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., in late Jan., and at the NFL Combine in late March. Cyprien is one of the most decorated Panthers of all-time, his name shows up countless times in the FIU record book. Some of the records he holds include: total tackles (365), solo tackles (213) and forced fumbles (6). Cyprien also logged in 45 starts at safety, the most at that position. The 45 starts are third all-time regardless of position.

While at optional team activities, Cyprien expressed his excitement about representing FIU at the professional level. "As of right now I’m working with the first team defense," Cyprien said. "I am going to make sure that I don’t let myself be involved with that kind of season because I will be doing whatever I have to, to help my team win." Cyprien added. "All I can say to the guys who are still there [at FIU] as they go into a new conference with a new coach is to buy into what the coaches are selling. That is what we did with Coach Cristobal when I was there and we were winning and with Coach Turner and his staff coming in with the experience that they have it just adds to the fact that they have to buy in to the system that they have brought to the University."

RHISS WILLIAMS@fiusm.com

James puts emphatic end on 2nd straight title

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James and Maverick Carter have been inseparable since they were little kids. Extremely close friends, James trusts Carter with virtually every aspect of his life.

For the last few days, they were not on speaking terms.

"I told him he’s got to be great," Carter said. "And the way he’s playing, there’s nothing wrong with a great player playing great."

Carter received a message.

Championship delivered.

With a cigar in his mouth, and champagne and beer dripping off his T-shirt, James celebrated a second straight NBA championship Thursday night.

He scored 37 points, grabbed 12 rebounds and simply controlled everything down the stretch, as the Heat won the third title in franchise history with a 95-88 win over the San Antonio Spurs in Game 7.

"This team is amazing," James said.

And the Miami Heat had when I decided to come here is coming all together.

Two days after helping the Heat survive a wild Game 6 in overtime, James’ final numbers went like this: 12 for 23 from the field, 5 for 10 from 3-point range, 8 for 8 from the line.

And in a season where he was the league’s MVP for a fourth time, he’s now added a second ring to the collection. Suddenly, his resume is looking as complete as some of the other all-time greats. Here’s a club: He joined Michael Jordan and Bill Russell as the only players in league history to win back-to-back Finals MVP and regular-season MVP awards.

"Listen, I can’t worry about what everybody says about me," James said, as confetti fell around him. "I’m LeBron James, from Akron, Ohio, from the inner city. I’m not even supposed to be here. That’s enough. Every night I wake up looking at the anxiety level and the 2-6 with James on the back. I’m blessed. So what everybody says about me off the court don’t matter. I ain’t got no worries."

Dwyane Wade scored 23 points and won his third NBA title. The man who wears No. 3 on his uniform insisted that he wanted to be called "Three" afterward, for obvious reasons. Shane Battier — benched earlier in these playoffs — had 18 on six 3-pointers and said “it’s better to be timely than good,” afterward. Mario Chalmers scored 14 for the Heat, who won despite poor performances from Chris Bosh, who was struggling with the three-pointers. The radius, was there and we were winning and with Coach Turner and his staff coming in with the experience that they have it just adds to the fact that they have to buy in to the system that they have brought to the University."

"I am at a loss for words," James said.

"I put a lot of work into it and am able to come out here and see the results happen out on the floor is the ultimate, the ultimate," James said.

"I am at a loss for words."

Two years ago, James probably wouldn’t have taken that shot. Now, there’s no way he wouldn’t. And he drilled it, too, the ball going through with a soft whish for his 34th and 35th points.

"What he brings every night is unbelievable," Wade said.

James arrived at the arena in a convertible on Thursday, waving to the fans who were waiting to take a photo. An hour or so later, standing at his locker, he tried to insist that Game 7 was obviously huge but would have to be treated really like any other game.

In short, that was his way of saying that he cannot change the way he plays now.
Royal Caribbean expected to lease Bay Vista

BRANDON WISE, MARISOL MEDINA

Royal Caribbean expected to lease Bay Vista for spring 2014 completion.

Anyone who has ever tried to study at the Wolfe University Center has become acquainted with the lack of space in the center, especially the pounding noise produced by custodial carts being pushed over the brick floor. This summer, students at Biscayne Bay Campus will endure another loud clatter. This time, however, it is construction aimed at remodeling WUC and finding a solution for the rattling bricks.

Renovations will include an all glass front entrance, new tiles on the ground floor, carpeted hallways and a new lounge area replacing the computer lab with see-through panels and new furniture. “I am very excited not only for how it is going to look, but because we are also going to have a replica of [Modesto Maidique Statue],” said Rafael Zapata, student government council advisor.

Zapata said the renovation will change the way people view the campus, helping students who are unfamiliar with BC. “If you were walking around campus and you didn’t know where the Wolfe Center was, it was pretty easy to get lost,” said Zapata. “Because [of] how it is currently set up, it doesn’t stand out.”

The renovation is SGA’s largest funded project, according to Zapata. “Last year, a plan for an expansion of the Wolfe Center was submitted, but President Rosenberg actually wanted a bigger scope, which is what you will see now was proposed,” said Zapata.

The total cost of the renovations is about $3 million. Two and a half stories is being added to the building from student activities and service fees that were not spent throughout the year.

The funds are intended for emergency situations, but both MMC and BBC SGA councils voted to approve the allocation of the money to the renovation project specifically.

Scott Jones, the recently appointed director of the Wolfe Center, is eight weeks into the job but has extensive experience dealing with a variety of renovations. Jones had previously worked as MMC’s residence life coordinator and residence assistant at Bay Vista Housing.

According to Jones, the primary objective of the renovations is to activate the space differently, tearing down large concrete structures that were added over time to a building that was originally designed to be an exterior exposed facility. “This is going to be the spot to see or be seen,” said Jones. “It will be a comfortable place to students for hanging out between classes or during different events and activities.”

The demolition phase of the renovations is set to begin June 20, followed by the construction phase that will involve installation of ceiling surfaces, glass railing, wall surface, paint and furniture. Jones expects to carpet the floors to reduce the noise produced by the bricks. This first phase of construction, called Project I, is planned for June 21 through October 24.

Project II will begin immediately after phase one and will include installing flooring, ceiling work and work on outside WUC areas, which will involve new window panes, relocating the Bag poles and new landscaping. This phase will tentatively end in December.

This is an opportunity to redefine Wolfe and Panther Square,” said Jones. "If you were walking around campus and you didn’t know where the Wolfe Center was, it was pretty easy to get lost,” said Zapata. “Because [of] how it is currently set up, it doesn’t stand out.”

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MARISOL MEDINA

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ESTEFANIA JARAMILLO

Senior journalism major, said she is trying to cope with the noise and disorder of construction. "When I came on first day of summer class, it was horrible because there were areas I could not get to, some areas were closed and it was hard to find my way around," said Jaramillo.

Jaramillo said she would be happier understanding the noise if she knew about the project and had been informed of the limitations in transiting through WUC.

Donaldy Salvant, a junior international relations major, works at WUC’s administration office. “The noise is sometimes a bother but besides that it’s no big trouble, and I am excited about the construction. I saw the new design and it looks pretty cool,” said Salvant.

For now, students will experience the construction site until spring 2014, when ribbon cutting is scheduled to introduce the renovated Wolfe University Center.

WUC renovations set for spring 2014 completion.

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