Step on the Silence: University event to raise awareness

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
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Today men will take to the Graham Center Lawns...in heels.

In an effort to draw attention to sexual assault, the University’s Women’s Center, along with the Interfraternity Council, will host an event, titled, “Walk a Mile In Her Shoes.”

Jonathan David Cedeño, a senior women and gender studies major, is the head of planning for the event.

“It’s awesome that men are leading this effort, and with what happened over the weekend with the sexual assault case I believe it’s perfect timing to have this event and bring to light these conversations that are usually [swept] under the rug.”

According to Cedeño, the target audience is the general University community.

Although he encourages everyone to go, he admits that the event is ideally for men, and specifically to allow them to complete the message that the event’s name communicates: walk a mile in a woman’s shoes.

Although not a mandatory portion of the walk, men will be asked to wear heels as they complete the walk, which will start at the Graham Center Lawns in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, continue through the Green Library Breezeway, the Graham Center, and finish in the GC Lawns.

Cedeño admits that while women don’t usually walk in the event, several nonetheless will attend in order to see the walk and take part in the various activities that take place at the event.

He added that he intends the event to open people’s eyes regarding sexual violence.

“Gender stigmas are still very... apparent in our society and I want people to know that it’s not okay to sweep things under the table.”

Cedeño said.

Students shared their thoughts on the event.

“It’s a fun way of drawing attention to an important issue,” said Alexandra Duque, a junior health administration major. “I attended last year and I’m looking forward to seeing what the gentlemen have to put on this year.”

Other students also commented.

“This is the first time I hear about the event and I’m taking time off of my day to attend,” said Lisa Ferrer, a junior chemistry major.

“It’s awesome that men are leading this effort, and with what happened over the weekend with the sexual assault case I believe it’s perfect timing to have this event and bring to light these conversations that are usually [swept] under the rug.”

The event is just one out of a variety of events hosted throughout the month in order to provide information on sexual assault.

Titled, “Take Back the Night - Under the Same Moon,” the series’ intention is to promote awareness of sexual assault prevention and safety. It also aims to unify women, men and children in an effort to draw attention to these issues.

According to its flyer, the Take Back the Night march and rally provide a forum in which students can hear from guest speakers and share their experiences. The event will be held on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. on the University Green.

As part of CAPS, there is a sexual assault prevention and response team. In order to promote awareness of sexual assault prevention and safety, they are providing workshops and programming throughout the month in order to raise awareness about this issue.

According to Ralph Torres, who works with the Victim Empowerment Program, the trainings offer students and faculty a chance to learn more about sexual assault and how to respond in a positive manner.

“We’re trying to provide information to students and faculty on how to respond to sexual assault in a way that’s helpful to the individual who is experiencing it,” Torres said.

According to Torres, the program offers a variety of services, including counseling, education and support for survivors.

“We want to empower individuals to take control of their lives and make choices that are best for them,” Torres said.

In light of the recent sexual assault alerts on campus, Torres said the program has been receiving an increased number of inquiries.

“The demand for our services has increased significantly,” Torres said.

Torres added that the program is working to develop new programming and events to address the needs of survivors.

“We’re trying to provide a space where survivors can feel safe and supported,” Torres said.

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As part of CAPS, there exists the University’s Victim Empowerment Program.

According to its website, the mission of the Victim Empowerment Program is to provide confidential services to University students, faculty, staff and visitors who may have been victimized through acts of violence and to help guide them through the healing process.

In addition to providing these services, the VEP also hosts a variety of events in the University to provide students with educational tools that help them protect themselves from acts of sexual harassment and other forms of violence.

According to Ralph Torres, who works with investigations in the University Police Department, the investigation to find the perpetrator is ongoing.

Those who know of any information that may aid in the investigative efforts are encouraged to call FIUPD at 305-348-2626.

SEXUAL AWARENESS
Student thoughts on recent sexual assault alert

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Pause in bombardment urged in Yemen for evacuations, aid deliveries

As a Saudi Arabia-led air coalition continued to strike rebel targets across Yemen, Russia and the International Committee of the Red Cross on Saturday called for a pause in the bombardment to enable the evacuation of foreigners and the delivery of aid to people cut off for more than a week.

Underscoring the appeals, new reports emerged of civilian casualties and of al-Qaida-linked militants executing dozens of soldiers.

Some in Israel question Netanyahu's strategy on bombardment to enable the evacuation

Committee of the Red Cross on continued to strike rebel targets across

him with no way to influence the accommodation with Iran had left raising concerns in Israel that experts around the world was also getting good marks from nuclear

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Iran's recognition of Israel wasn't "nor should it." Harf made clear that Netanyahu's

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steadfastness that the United States would take when negotiations resume to hammer out the agreement's final form.

Netanyahu’s strategy on Iran accord

prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned again on Friday that Israel would not accept the terms of a framework agreement reached with Iran to curb its nuclear program.

But Netanyahu’s defiance on a deal that was generally getting good marks from nuclear experts around the world was also raising concerns in Israel that his unrelenting rejection of any accommodation with Iran had left him with no way to influence the agreement’s final form.

Sexual Health talk comes to the University

FIORELLA CANTERO
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This week, the National Public Health Week begins.

In preparation for it, the University’s Health Services is planning five themed days to educate the community on different aspects of their health.

On Thursday, the theme will be sexual health -- which will include two sexual health presentations, one on the human papilloma virus, a group of viruses that affect your skin and the moist membranes lining your body, and the human immunodeficiency virus, an infection found in the body fluids of an infected person.

While HPV causes minor problems, like skin warts, HIV attacks the infection-fighting cells of the human immune system, which, overtime, can lead to AIDS -- where the immune system becomes unable to defend the body against viruses and bacteria.

Stephanie Caceres, coordinator for the event and senior health education at University Health Services, thinks it’s important for students and the general population to be educated on how to prevent these diseases.

“We feel that if students are more informed about HIV/AIDS and other STIs and how to prevent getting them, then students can stay healthy,” she said.

We also feel that it’s important for students to know about HIV and HPV because Miami-Dade ranks number one for most prevalence of HIV and AIDS in Florida and HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States.”

The event will be primarily based around HPV, which can cause genital warts, itchy sores and wounds.

“HPV can also cause abnormal changes to the cervix which could eventually lead to cervical cancer if not treated,” said Caceres.

“Cancers of the mouth and throat have also increased recently specifically in males.”

She added that the important thing to note about these cancers is that they can be transmitted by both males and females.

According to her, HPV does not only affect women.

The condition can affect anyone who has had a sexual encounter. The most common transmission is through skin-to-skin contact with another person’s genitals.

Juan Ovés, a graduate of the master’s of public health program at the University, and Sharice Preston, a doctoral student in health promotion at the University’s School of Public Health, will be speaking at Thursday’s event.

Ovés currently works for Latino Salud, which was founded in 2008 to create a safe space for Latino gay men and their partners to find support and resources.

“Juan has a passion for public health and for promoting HPV awareness,” Caceres said.

Preston’s dedication for public health and promoting awareness of the HPV vaccine for both men and women will be displayed at her presentation titled, “Get The Facts, Not HPV!”

Caceres thinks this is great news for all enrolled University students because it means that Sexual Health Services have many resources for everyone on campus, like the HPV vaccine for men and women.

As well as protective barrier methods like male and female condoms and dental dams.

Romina Angelelli, a junior majoring in digital media, thinks this is a necessary event to have.

“All students, especially those who are sexually active should be aware of one of the possible diseases and consequences,” Angelelli said.

Others also shared their sentiments.

Stephanie Gonzalez, a senior majoring in hospitality and tourism, believes she can get a lot out of attending.

“I don’t know much about HPV,” she said.

“This is a great opportunity for me to find out more.”

Caceres also feels that a lot can come of the event.

“These resources all significantly reduce your chances of contracting HPV,” Caceres said.

“We also provide free HIV Testing and STI testing at a discounted price at Student Health Services.”

The event will be held on Thursday, 9 to 9, at the Graham Center in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. Room 140 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

It will be free and open to the public, with complimentary food provided.

Event to shed light on sexual awareness

HEELS, PAGE 1

which to speak out against the silence that normally isolates survivors and hinders the healing process.

Cedeño mentioned that when dealing with men, particularly those with large egos, it’s sometimes evident that they don’t feel comfortable with stepping out of their comfort zones and seeing issues through a new perspective, said Cedeño.

He added that men need to know what it’s like to face the issues that women normally face on a day-to-day basis.

According to him, the University’s Interfraternity Council will require that 25 percent of the members in each respective social fraternity oversee the IFC be present at the event.

The fraternities that do not meet the 25 percent requirement will be fined.

Regarding the fact that the IFC is one of the sponsors of the event, Cedeño commented that he believes the council wants to demonstrate to the University community that men do care about the issues concerning women.

“Men do want to shed light on this,” Cedeño said.

The event will take place today, in the Graham Center Lawns in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus from 2 to 4 p.m.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned again on Friday that Israel would not accept the terms of a framework agreement reached with Iran to curb its nuclear program.

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JESSICA SOLER
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Love is a powerful force that many people dream about finding. However, the periods in between can be seen as me-time, not exile. From Prince Charming and Cinderella to Jack Z and Beyoncé, relationships have been treated like limited edition items: rare and valuable. The mentality persists that, if the opportunity to get into a relationship arises, take it, because who knows if another will come your way? While aspiring to have a great relationship is commendable, many young people put too much pressure on themselves to find “the one.”

Today, love has been marketed as a commodity necessary to a functioning lifestyle. Kids are getting into and ending their first relationships at younger and younger ages while twenty-somethings are jumping to get married. Today, if you’re single at 30, there is a good chance you will probably be alone forever and should look into adopting pets.

Of course, there are cases where young love is true love. High school sweethearts grow old together and the girl-next-door marries the boy-next-door. If it is real, there is nothing more to be said. But many love is not the norm, which makes people want it even more.

We are so invested in reading another person’s story, they neglect writing their own.

The problem with this concept, aside from causing unnecessary stress, is that people lose sight of themselves in the glow of love. We are so invested in reading another person’s story we neglect writing our own. It has become a romanticized notion that we can only find ourselves in another person and until then we are incomplete. However, in the words of RuPaul, “If you can’t love yourself, how in the hell are you going to love somebody else?”

Falling in love with yourself is sadly undervalued. Society has conditioned people only to see flaws to be fixed in themselves, which is nothing more to be said. And the ones they can’t be fixed can be solved by another person. This might be true, but until that person makes their grand entrance into one’s life it is important to figure out how to live with, and love, one’s shortcomings. Those who rock themselves, flaws and all, are the most beautiful people.

What happened to trusting in the magic of the universe? Where has the faith in the unknown gone? Timing is important, but stressing over it will not make the wheels turn any faster. If you are so focused on searching for our perfect match, chances are they will pass right by. It is important to slow down and take comfort that love will come when the time is right, so until then, enjoy what life brings.

Adolescence is the age of stupidity. It is when we are able to have fun and not take life so seriously; there will be plenty of time for that. Instead, individuals should try dating life itself - exploring the good and the bad in it. Now is the time to be free and self-invested. In the future, between a career and a family, when will you ever again have the time to paint yourself a million different colors?

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TOP LEFT: Carolina Fiol (left) is awarded the People’s Choice Award for her design with 90 percent of the vote. BOTTOM LEFT: The runway show highlighted diverse designs using recycled goods in order to promote an eco-friendly lifestyle.

Amber Ruiz, designer of Rene Ruiz couture; Jennifer Luis, architecture student; and last but not least Brian Schriner, the dean of the College of Architecture. The judges will determined a winner based on four categories; innovation, beauty, craftsmanship and recycled material. Amira Ajlouni, the director and FIU alumna created this fashion show last year in respect to her final thesis assignment, the topic was sustainability of recycled material.

“I have a passion for recycling” said Ajlouni. Ajlouni explained that in the beginning she never expected this to turn out into an annual event. This was a school assignment that reflected Ajlouni’s passion of promoting sustainability through fashion.

The event also became an educational platform to encourage and educate the community to recycle and maintain a sustainable lifestyle. Although this is just the 2nd year she hopes to continue for many years to come.

“I’m anxious to see what the students come up with, students always exceed my expectations and I think it’s amazing,” said Ajlouni.

The event was filled with architecture students, graduates and many of the contestants friends and family. There was an array of complimentary drinks such as beer, red and white wine as well as lemon water and finger foods with assorted dipping sauces. Classical music and embellished decor to look at while waiting for the show to start. Off to a very late start the show began with several non-competing recycled designs. They immediately hit the runway some were young children that Ajlouni had hired as models and some were teens. They modeled different recycled fashion designs.

Then there was a music change to more upbeat tone - the competition began. The music had contestant number 1, Shari Gayle, walking to the beat as she came out in her dress made out of recycled plastic umbrella bags. Twenty-eight unique recycled designs later Ajlouni encouraged the audience to go online and vote for their favorite pick for the people’s choice award. Then she welcomed all 28 contestants and their designers back on stage for the judges to see one last time while audience voted for people’s choice.

Finally it was time to announce the winners. 90 percent of the vote for the People’s Choice contestant went to no. 28 Carolina Fiol.

First place was contestant no. 5 Monica Cordera. Cordera was in shock once her name was called a friend of hers had to remind her to go on stage to retrieve her prize. Her design was named “Timeless Coffee”. Timeless Coffee was made out of a large 3ftx5ft 2012 calendar and the red belt was made out of espresso coffee capsules.

“My favorite part was watching Adrienne walk down the runway, it was so surreal.” The show concluded with Ajlouni joining the winners on stage for photos.

During this show FIU students were able to think outside the box and collectively create fashionable designs for the runway from an average person’s waste.

KRYSTAL PUGH

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Before you decide to throw a piece of trash away consider these facts: If every American recycled just one tenth of their newspapers we could save 25 million trees each year and recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to listen to a full album on an iPod. Over 75 percent of waste is recyclable, but we only recycle 30 percent.

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University hosts third annual SlutWalk

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The sun beamed on top of a crowd of over 200 participants, at Florida International University on Friday, April 3, as they yelled and marched their way around Modesto A. Maidique campus, fed up with the social construction of the word “slut.”

The crowd, organized by the National Organization for Women chapter at FIU or FUNOW, protested in its third annual rendition of SlutWalk, an international feminist movement. Ashley Aradanas, FUNOW’s current president, said despite the controversy of the word, SlutWalk is about empowerment and owning one’s body.

“Many women that came out here today felt so confident in their bodies, they did things which I don’t think they’d do everyday,” Aradanas said. “It’s one thing to do this today, but it’s another to carry out the message tomorrow and that’s what this whole thing is about. I stand here wanting to end the rape culture, not just today but for everyday after.”

So did everyone else who joined the protest.

Men and women came holding signs that read: “No means no!” and “Ni Putas. Ni Santas. Solo Mujeres,” which is Spanish for “Not sluts.

Not Saints. Only women.” As well as, “We will not change the way we dress because its more convenient for your lack of self control.”

The SlutWalk movement first sparked in 2011 in Canada, after a Toronto police officer told students at York University that if women wanted to avoid rape they should not dress like sluts.

Mrs. Bronwen, Bares-Palaez, associate director of the women’s center, first did a presentation about the walk in 2011, in part of FIU’s Tuesday Times Roundtable, a weekly series of moderated conversations about The New York Times articles from the multiple points of view of students, faculty, and staff.

Two years later, FUNOW wanted to host the movement on campus. Their first SlutWalk was 2013.

This year, organizers of SlutWalk held megaphones yelling: “Two, four, six, eight, my clothes are not an excuse for rape!” and “Join together, free our lives. No one will be victimized!”

Protesters wore everything from shirts with Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, to wearing nothing at all except for pasties.

Kristina McKay, a junior studying politics, said he wanted to join the movement because he felt men should also participate in civil rights issues.

“I think about the women in my life, my mother, my aunts, my cousins and my little sister, she’s 8 and I’m thinking I want to make sure she grows up in a safe world,” McKay said.

The protest started at the Betty Chapman Plaza at 3:30 p.m. and coiled it’s way through the Chemistry and Physics building, the Jennifer M. Mwaisela building, the Wertheim Conservatory Biological Greenhouse, the Engineering and Computer Science building, all the way to University Towers in the FIU Housing Quad in front of Panther Hall.

There, participants gathered and listened to WGRP, student media’s radio station, who invited two other universities to set up booths for students to inquire about women health provided by House and Residence, and FIU’s women’s center.

“Sexual assault doesn’t have one face, it’s not just girls in short dresses, sexual assault can happen to anyone,” Aradanas said. “We all know the statistics but we don’t talk about it and that’s what we need to address.”

Participants walk around the GC Fountain as part of SlutWalk. The event began at the Betty Chapman Plaza and ended at the housing quad on April 3. Organized by National Organization for Women chapter at FIU or FUNOW, the walk is a movement to end rape culture, victim blaming, misogynist attitudes and slut shaming.

Carrie & Lowell is stunningly beautiful

Nearly a decade ago, Sufjan Stevens released “Illinois” to massive critical and public acclaim. The album made its way to various year-end lists and was considered one of the best albums of 2005. It is heralded by many as Sufjan’s magnum opus. The album was instrumentally vibrant with themes of Christianity, Chicago/Diabetes history and other more abstract concepts.

Ten years and several releases later we have “Carrie & Lowell”. Steven’s first full studio release since 2000’s “Age of Adz.” In many ways “Carrie & Lowell” is the polar opposite of what “Illinois” was. It is instrumentally stripped to the bone with lyrics that confront the harsh realities of life in a very direct manner.

At its core, the album revolves around the death of Steven’s mother Carrie. While Steven was still young his mother abandoned him. He has few memories of her outside of the couple of summers that he spent with her and her husband Lowell in Eugene, Oregon. Her death took a huge toll on Stevens which is apparent in his music.

The process of grief and acceptance is one that can take a long time and the recording process for this album mirrors that. The tracks were recorded across several studios, some of which were originally recorded on his phone in a hotel room in Oregon. It shows that the album was slowly pieced together as his emotional journey progressed.

As deep as this album sinks into misery, it shows signs of acceptance and hope. The very act of releasing an album as intimate and revealing in this is a step toward overcoming his loss. In the song “Death with Dignity” Stevens utters one of the most powerful lines he has ever written: “I forgive you, mother”. “Carrie & Lowell” is an album that interrogates haunting sadness with beauty in a way that captivates from beginning to end. It is one of Steven’s greatest artistic accomplishments and serves as the ultimate tribute to his late mother.

STANDOUT TRACKS: “Death with Dignity,” “Should have known better,” “Drawn to the Blood,” “Fourth of July,” and “No Shade in the Shadow of the Cross”

OVERALL RATING: 4/5

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Ishmar, Eliphar lead at Pepsi Florida Relays

PETER HOLLAND
Contributing Writer

Junior Jaylaan Slaughter competes in hurdles at Hurricane Invitational on March 21. The Panthers competed in the Pepsi Florida Relays from Thursday, April 2 until Saturday, April 4, where Slaughter ran a 1:00.27 hurdle race. The Panthers will travel to Tampa this coming weekend for a meet held by the University of South Florida.

This past weekend, the track and field team was one of 280 schools participating in the 76th annual Pepsi Florida Relays bringing the number two ranked University of Florida Gators in Gainesville.

The Panthers began last Friday, April 3, competing against the top schools in the nation.

On the women’s side, after finishing in first place twice the UCF invitational, Senior Raquira Ishmar scored a career-mark of 54.57 meters in the women’s hammer throw.

During the long jump, Philiicia Fluellen led the team with a mark of 5.94 meters.

On the 100 meter dash, Cam’ree Jackson has beaten her team’s best by two seconds with the time of 11.69 seconds.

The Panthers’ top performer was Jaylaan Slaughter, who clocked in at 1:00.27 at the 400-meter hurdles.

This season during the women’s 400-meter relay the team was clocked in at 3:47.30.

The men’s side was led by Alton Eliphar, who ran a season best in the 100 meter dash with a mark of 10.71 seconds.

In the men’s 400-meter relay, the Panthers finished the day with a time of 3:14.36.

The next day was more active as the Panthers finished strong at the invitational.

On the women’s side, Ishmar once again didn’t disappoint, standing out against several athletes from power conferences like the ACC and SEC programs as she finished third in women’s shot put with a mark of 15.89 meters.

Ishmar also set a new team-best during the hammer throw with the score of 54.57 meters.

Tikiera Relaford represented in the women’s long jump as she finished with a jump of 1.68 meters.

The javelin competition was led by Tiffani Hernandez as she finished with the mark of 40.98 meters.

Desmika White, Symone Lindsay, Shauqita Smith and Isolda Montiel represented during the 1600-meter sprint with an early season bench-mark of 4:16.40.

On the men’s side, Pablo Espitia, Jamal Derylvier, Daniel Neptune and Eric Knott participated in the 110-meter shuttle hurdle as a team. They finished with a flashy time of 1:04.29 even with Knott tripping up during his leg of the race.

Debuting in the 1600-meter sprint medley, Manuel Gonzalez, Tyler Seaton, Todd Jackson and Brandon Ballard finished with a time of 3:25.02.

Laktar Mastaric finished the day in the shot put with a 16.60-meter mark, making it his third best toss of the season.

FIU hopes to keep the momentum going as they compete in Tampa at a meet hosted by the University of South Florida Bulls this coming Saturday, April 11.

TENNIS

Tennis wins final match-up before C-USA tournament

DAVID DRUCKER
Staff Writer
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The women’s tennis team (11-7, 5-0 in Conference USA) defeated the University of Alabama Birmingham Blazers 4-0 on Saturday.

Now that the 2015 regular season complete, the Panthers will travel to Houston to compete in the C-USA Tennis Championships on April 16.

Carlotta Orlando and Valentina Briceno kicked off the action for the Panthers by defeating the Blazers duo of Amy Espitia and Catherine Ragon 6-1.

FIU captured the doubles competition when Yana Koroleva and Nina Nagode took down Caroline Faught and Paula Castro 6-2.

The Panthers headed into singles competition up by a point.

The Panthers also dominated the singles competition to complete the sweep of the Blazers. Yana Koroleva defeated Rachel Danieli of UAB 6-2 and 6-0.

Nina Nagode claimed FIU’s third win when she topped Elaine Simon 6-2, 6-0.

To wrap up the FIU sweep, Nermia Calak defeated Paula Castro 6-3 and 6-0.

The other three games did not need to be played as FIU took the match 4-0.

Next up for the Panthers are the C-USA Tennis Championships.
Details surface of Donovan contract extension with Florida amid rumors of jump to NBA

EDGAR THOMPSON
Orlando Sentinel
TNS

The Florida Gators’ run to the 2014 Final Four paid off nicely for coach Billy Donovan. Donovan parlayed UF’s fourth Final Four appearance and sixth SEC title with him as coach into a one-year contract extension through the 2020 season that will push his average annual salary to $4 million.

UF athletic director Jeremy Foley and Donovan agreed to the deal last summer, and Donovan signed it in December, according to UF. The Gainesville Sun reported the extension late Wednesday.

Donovan received a $250,000 signing bonus to push his salary to $4,208,334 this past season, when the Gators finished 16-17.

No player of particular renown, Calipari first went to UNC Wilmington. When that level proved too daunting, he transferred to Clarion State. "I did not play for one of the great coaches in the history of the game," he said. "I was a Division II basketball player." His first college head coaching job came at Massachusetts, which could claim Dr. Julius Erving as a former player and little else in terms of basketball history. "I was lucky to get the Massachusetts job," he said. "No one else wanted it. Which is the only reason I got it."

"Now, I'm sitting at this table. What? What just happened?"

He grew up next to the high school baseball team, the ball boy for Spencer Haywood, Dikembe Mutombo, Jo Jo White, Dick Bavetta, Tom Heinsohn and Louie Dampier. Throughout his life, Calipari has been the underdog, the overachiever who once made refuse-to-lose his signature catchphrase. Now, Calipari carves up the turkeys as his Kentucky teams come up against the needle. "We are needle," he said. "But you were at the little table. "Where do I get the knife," he asked.

"The impact of an NBA coach?"

"Maybe it does. I don't know." Calipari spoke with affection of UMass, his first love as a head coach. He noted how ESPN’s Marc Stein wrote two weeks ago that some people in NBA circles believe Donovan will give “rewined consideration” this offseason to coaching in the NBA.

"Now, I'm sitting at this table. What? What just happened?"

He talked about the satisfaction proving about being a NBA coach. "I always said, 'I wonder what would happen if I got one of those jobs.'"

"Donovan has an urge to coach in the NBA, a strong desire to coach in the NBA, would like to try it."

Donovan’s buyout remains $500,000.

Kentucky’s John Calipari makes Hall of Fame

JERRY TIPTON
Lexington Herald-Leader
TNS

INDIANAPOLIS - When the call came telling him he had been voted into the Hall of Fame, Kentucky coach John Calipari had an immediate reaction. He steered his car to the curb, and let the reality of basketball’s greatest honor soak in.

"To be honest, got emotional," Calipari said Monday. "My dad always said, 'it's OK to feel phony. Just don't be phony.'" Following that advice, Calipari acknowledged his surprise at making the Hall of Fame. Processing this news seemed ongoing as he met with the media Monday after the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame officially announced inductees into his Class of 2015.

Among college basketball coaches, only Kentucky’s John Calipari, Duke’s Mike Krzyzewski, Louisville’s Rick Pitino and Kansas’ Bill Self earn $4 million or more annually, according to USA Today.

Donovan, who turns 50 on May 30, will earn an annual base salary of $220,000, $2,970,934 from television, radio and public relations, and $400,000 from the school’s deal with Nike. He also has a longevity incentive to miss the postseason for the first time since 1998. Donovan’s second season in Gainesville.

Donovan’s total compensation will remain $3,958,334 the next four seasons before reaching $4,000,334 in 2019-2020. Donovan’s average annual compensation was around $3.7 million prior to the new deal.

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Now, we know. Calipari achieved what sounded outlandish at his first Big Blue Madness: Making the Wildcats a dynasty feared by others, desired by every prospect. Not moving the needle. "We are needle," he said.

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Students Abigail Morales (right), a political science freshman and Raiesa Ali (left), a junior studying International Relations, practice Salsa moves with Salsa instructor Yoli Gonzalez.

**Student investigates effects of Everglades restoration**

**COLUMNIST**

University senior Valeria Paz often goes on trips to the Everglades. She heads to Florida Bay and takes off the shore to delve deep into nature.

However, her purpose is not necessarily to observe Florida’s natural wonders. She is a student researcher who’s analyzing the effects of the restoration of the Everglades on wildlife.

According to her mentor the Interim Dean at the College of Arts and Sciences, Michael Heithaus, she is taking the lead on a part of Everglades research that has yet to be fully explored.

Paz deals with how the Everglades restoration is affecting the water flow and the predators that inhabit the areas. During the past century, the Everglades was subject to a series of projects that deteriorated the natural habitat for much of Florida’s wildlife. The combination of growing agriculture and canals and levees that were built throughout the national park, caused a dramatic change and drainage of many areas of the park.

In the past few years, there has been a collective effort to restore its sustainability. However, this has helped stop the deterioration of the Everglades, it has also created new problems with its flora and fauna.

Paz has worked with dolphins in the Everglades, given that their high metabolism as mammals give a better insight to the ecology surrounding them. She works on the field and in the lab, studying biopsies samples taken by biologist Jenny Kiskia whom she also works closely with.

According to Heithaus, Paz has achieved much during the few years of her undergraduate career.

“She has done work that is going to be able to be in a paper that will be in a peer reviewed scientific journal. And that is something we aim for in master’s students,” Heithaus said.

Before working with Heithaus, she had looked through different labs until she became interested in his work. She approached him, seeking an opportunity to work in a project with him and was surprised when he gave her the lead in an important topic of study.

“She has helped [me] out with the writing and putting together part of the research. He set me in the right track and has helped mold my way of thinking,” Paz said.

Depending on the season, she heads out to Florida Bay between two to five times a month, where she and Kiszka take out a boat and observe the dolphins and their behavior and do biopsy samplings. They begin their trips at 4 a.m., the time at which they meet up in order to arrive to the Everglades by 8 a.m., and doesn’t end until sundown.

“I work with Jeremy everyday. He is my go to man for basic questions,” Paz said. They tend to travel through Shark River, Whitewater Bay, Joe River and Florida Bay.

“We want our researchers to be passionate, curious and be willing to work long hours. [Valeria] has shown the passion [and] she was really interested in the dolphins. We wanted to give her something to be a leader in,” Heithaus said.

However, studying marine biology wasn’t her first choice when she came to FIU.

She began as a biology major her freshman year aiming to study medicine; [I just wanted] to be more towards ecology, I love the ocean,” Paz said.

Paz also took the Ecology of South Florida class, which allowed her to connect with the Everglades and South Florida’s natural environment in general. As part of the Honors College, Paz also took part in the Advanced Research and Creativity in Honors program, where she sought after a research project to present at the yearly conference.

According to Paz, being able to lead the research project has been a unique and rewarding experience. “It is the most eye-opening and the core of why I’m going to pursue this career. It’s such an experience you wouldn’t get in the classroom.”

In the field, things can go wrong at any moment, such as the weather, Paz said. And you need to do the tedious work with the proper skills. She’s confident she has earned a lot of experience she wouldn’t have gotten elsewhere.

Paz doesn’t interact as much with Heithaus given his full schedule; nonetheless, they still have time to talk about her project, work on the paper and do data analysis. He is very enthusiastic to help provide students with research opportunities and is glad with Paz’s work and her opportunity to get two different perspectives, from himself and Kiszka.

“I’m most excited about seeing her writing really improve, and that takes up most of the work for all of us [researchers]. She’s made great strides and that’s what’s going to get the paper in the journal,” Heithaus said.

University presents film on gay pride

**CARLA TRIVINO**

Staff Writer
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Edwin Serrano, a graduate assistant for the Multicultural Programs at the Biscayne Bay Campus, said that people around the world are persecuted for being gay.

As part of FIU Pride Month 2015, the University will host a screening of the award-winning documentary “Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride” to understand the relevance of gay pride in different countries.

The event continues the University’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Ally Program 3D Series where students and faculty discuss issues in the gay community.

“We want people to think about equality, this will be neat because we’re watching a documentary,” Serrano said.

The film leads to the Miami Pride Parade & Festivities at South Beach Sunday, April 12.

“We have over 300 students marching for us that Sunday,” Serrano said.

According to the Miami Beaches website more than 80,000 people have attended the South Beach event.

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“A big part of the film is on gay pride. We’re not just here to party and have fun, but to celebrate the accomplishments,” Serrano said.

“From Russia, gay clubs are illegal. It also says that countries like Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Iran, LGBTQA communities are punished with a death penalty. “In Russia, gay clubs have ultimate security for shoot outs,” said Rolando Cobo, a junior pre-pharmacy major student.

In 2012, Moscow courts enacted a hundred-year ban on gay pride parades. “I kind of expected. I don’t want to feel uncomfortable for being myself. I can kiss who I want to and no one will look at me weird,” Cobo said.

The film argues that the pride parades in the United States have become popular and is even commercialized by attracting tourists and entertainment.

Ken Coolen, the president for the Pride Society in Vancouver, Canada, reveals how marchers are arrested and often beaten by police in countries like Sri Lanka and Poland. Coolen says pride is a vehicle to promote human rights around the world.

Student like Laidely Mendoza, a senior biology major, said it is important to recognize diversity in society.

“It is good to show people how diverse our society is. I believe that variety and respect is a good mixture in need in today’s society,” Mendoza said.

Mendoza also said that she enjoys watching gay-themed movies from time to time.

“Personally, I’d like to know a little bit about everything. I have watched great gay movies that of course as heterosexual stories, have love stories in them. They are respectful to all sexual orientations,” she said.

Lunch and screening will be held on Thursday, April 9 at BBC from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Wolfe University Center in room 155. The film will also be presented Wednesday, April 8 at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. It will take place in the Graham Center room 314 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

“We bring students together. Gay, straight, whatever,” Serrano said.

Serrano said he wants people to begin thinking about equality, which is what he tries to do.

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