Young students interact with the Tesla Model S electric car showcase at the FIU Engineering Center as part of a summer camp program component put together by Dr. Claudia Carnegie.

IT'S ELECTRIC!

By 2020, the University hopes to move forward with expansion despite veto from governor for more money

PHILIPPE BUTEAU & ESHRAF NIKROOYE-ASLI
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Although the people who voted in Miami-Dade County’s referendum said yes to the idea of FIU expanding onto Tamiami Park, a governor’s veto and terms in a lease agreement are essentially telling the University, not so fast.

University President Mark B. Rosenberg said in a May 2015 interview with Student Media that FIU administrators had “aggressive interviews with the University, not so fast. But by 2020, the University hopes to move forward with expansion despite veto from governor for more money.

A New English major may be excited to dive into the numerous literature courses listed in the FIU course catalogs, but may soon realize they’re slim pickings that only get slimmer.

By 2020, the University hopes to have more online classes to make the percentage for the type of courses to be 30 percent face-to-face, 30 percent hybrid and 40 percent online.

While some departments may benefit more by converting into the online-dominant model, English majors believe the department thrives on the style of each professor who might not translate well digitally.

“I don’t think that there should be any English classes online,” said Alexander Orta, an English major and senior. “Physical class discussions fuel English classes.” Orta puts an emphasis on creative writing and workshop type classes that he thinks would not translate well. The majority of what he’s learned in literature classes he’s learned in face-to-face classes. He’s experienced a hybrid class where he said it was “unorganized and forced.”

Orta is taking two independent study classes in the fall because of the lack of flexibility offered in the other classes. “The main problem with creative writing is that it’s all centered in BBC,” he said.

Dr. Jamie Sutton, associate professor and chair of the English department, hopes to accommodate the goals into a friendlier version for the English classes. With the approval of the dean, Sutton hopes to convert the umbrella model into 60 percent face-to-face courses, 20 percent hybrid and 20 percent online.

Sutton tried his hand at online courses for the first time, with the assistance of Dr. Kenneth Johnson, in spring 2015. He taught a Shakespeare: Histories course, a class he’s taught several times in person.

“If you would have asked me five years ago if I wanted to teach online, I would have said, ‘Are you kidding me?’” Sutton said, but after his eye-opening seminar, he’s more open minded about the potential of online courses.

Sutton understands they cannot ignore the school’s wish to grow online, and he will work with them to develop the University yet not risk the quality of the education.

“Let us offer more courses where people are excited and not forced,” he said.

If they’re forced, Sutton expects poor results. Sutton thrives on human contact, especially since he teaches theatrical literature.

However, with his first experience online, he’s seen the appeal of a student-run discussion board and how it compliments the thought-centered analyses the major invokes.

“I’m not willing to choose,” Sutton said. He feels a hybrid model might be beneficial overall and a more acceptable design for those who are skeptical towards a fully online class.

During the summer semesters, the online classes are more abundant than the face-to-face classes because there’s more budgeting for it. There were a total of 17 face-to-face and 28 online courses offered, with only four online courses that were cancelled.

Face-to-face classes have a maximum of 50 students, but it is susceptible to change since it depends on the classroom size.

University moves forward with expansion despite veto from governor for more money

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University President Mark B. Rosenberg said in a May 2015 interview with Student Media that FIU administrators had “aggressive conversations” with the State Legislators for more money that would help secure a suitable alternative site.

The influx of money was among $8.7 million Gov. Rick Scott denied from the University; $5 million of that amount would have been put into a reserve account to help move the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair, according to spokeswoman Maydel Santana-Bravo.

However, the organization that runs the Fair has a 90-year lease agreement with Miami-Dade County that still has 75 years left. Robert Hohenstein, president and chief executive officer of the Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition, Inc., said in a June 2015 interview with Student Media they are willing to move, but what has caused the relationship between the two neighbors to be “somewhat contentious” can be found in the terms of the lease that address relocation.

The Fair has to be reimbursed for money it spent to create the infrastructure to run and operate the Fair – buildings and underground electrical work. Hohenstein said a February 2012 appraisal valued their investments at $95 million.

“We expect to be compensated for that,” Hohenstein said.

Another relocation term is that the Fair has to be presented with a site that must be equal to or better than its current one at Tamiami Park.

Hohenstein after five years worth of conversations with FIU, reviews of 25 sites and a 2013 consultant report that reviewed three of those, the Fair’s board of directors are still waiting to present a site that meets their needs, which includes parking for 14,000 cars.

“We are very much going to abide by that lease,” he said.

Hohenstein said the board rejected possible sites near Sun Life Stadium and the Homestead Air Reserve Base. The former was considered too small and broken up, and the latter would
Story of Chinese ‘princeling’ shows limits of European leaders in a stalemate over Greece's bailout request

By Chris Rodriguez

European finance chiefs deadlocked Saturday over Greece’s request for another big bailout, leaving the already bankrupt nation’s fate as a Eurozone member hanging by a thread and highlighting growing divisions among its neighbors over how to deal with the biggest crisis ever to confront the euro.

In Japan it soon will be illegal to possess child porn — almost

In Japan, selling or producing child pornography has been illegal for 16 years. Possession of it has not. That’s about to change. Starting July 15, anyone in possession of any form of child pornography featuring real people will face fines and imprisonment for the first time.

Israel seeks release of 2 held in Gaza by Hamas

Israel’s decision to publicize Hamas’ detention of two Israeli citizens who crossed separately into the Gaza Strip in the past is likely a step toward negotiating their release. Israel’s defense minister confirmed Thursday that the two men were being held after authorities lifted a gag order at the request of new organizations.

Story of Chinese ‘princeling’ shows limits of European leaders in a stalemate over Greece’s bailout request

By Alexandra Mosquera

By the time she learned it, it was too late. After she filed her suit, according to Guo and her family, her apartment repeatedly was vandalized. She lost her job.

As Cuba and the United States begin to normalize relations, interest is keen on both sides to strike academic partnerships as well.

But amid the sensitive politics of the U.S.-Cuba breakthrough and the gulf between the countries over questions of academic freedom, American colleges and universities must tread carefully.

“Anything with Cuba can be controversial,” said Jorge Díaz-Canel, director of Auburn International University’s Cuban Research Institute. “The interest, however, is clearly there. Some 357 American students were in Cuba during the 2010-11 school year when President Barack Obama eased travel restrictions to allow Cubans to visit the island. Last week, nearly 400 American students and 25 faculty members of 20 institutions signed an academic exchange pact with the Agrarian Sciences, Public Health & Social Work, the

University needs money to expand

College see opportunity in US-Cuba opening

EMMA BACCELLIERI

Ths Staff

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University needs money to expand
Trump runs his campaign into the ground, gains support

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On June 16, 2015 Donald Trump announced his presidential candidacy for the 2016 elections. If the fact that Trump wants to run the U.S. as a business rather than a country when he’s filed for corporate bankruptcy four times didn’t turn you off, his public speaking should have.

However, as we move even closer to the election year, Trump’s support has waned. The recent national GOP poll placed him in the No. 1 spot for potential nomination.

Up until now, not only have Trump’s statements been vacant of all meaning, but many of them were outright offensive. This varies from flaunting his wealth to hypocritically defending “traditional” marriage when he has been divorced three times, claiming he was “in competition with” terrorists and calling undocumented immigrants from Mexico rapists.

For Paulina Vega, the Colombian winner of Trump’s Miss Universe pageant at FIU, these remarks were “unjust and hurtful.” Since her comments, Trump has called Vega a hypocrite because she has no made moves to give up her crown. Though it might be a strategic move for her to renounce her title, it hardly qualifies as hypocrisy to criticize racist statements made by the owner of the competition she was in - and won. What’s more, it’s hardlyorthy for Trump to accuse anyone of hypocrisy, especially with him having said commerce with a university with a 70 percent Hispanic and Latino population.

With a generation more and more war-weary, Trump’s belligerent attitude, especially toward the Middle East and his sense of entitlement to the oil there is unlikely to result in anything positive.

Trump also told a number of outright lies in his announcement speech, claiming that the country’s GDP was at zero and that the unemployment rate was at 18 to 20 percent. According to The World Bank, the GDP of the U.S. was over $16 trillion, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that our unemployment rate was at 5.3 percent in May 2015. You can find these numbers with a simple Google search.

As expected from any Republican candidate, Trump has called for the repeal of Obamacare. Of course, the irony of this is that Mitt Romney’s plan for health care in Maryland was the model for The Affordable Health Care Act as implemented by our current president.

After he finally cut to the chase, Trump called on those social programs “people with no incentive to work,” and just a few moments later he said he would be “the greatest jobs president God ever created.”

This man has no humility, no platform other than prejudice and no place in the White House.

Gender-neutral bathrooms advance inclusivity and safety

The boarded up bathrooms in GC, made unavailable to potential users, are bringing changes to make FIU students feel safer and more comfortable on campus.

Whether the user wishes to keep true their gender-identity, avoid potential danger by staying away from gendered bathrooms, change their child’s diaper in private or simplify the process of getting a wheelchair into the bathroom, the benefits of this new addition go farther than one might think.

FIU housing has already implemented changes to their bathrooms to make them gender-neutral; however, housing buildings are not available to those who do not live there or are guests of those who do. With the first gender-neutral bathroom on FIU’s campus open to the public, fewer people have to wonder if they are safe going to the restroom.

The University’s moves toward inclusivity are, once again, commendable. However, FIU has been rather slow on the uptake regarding the implementation of gender-neutral restrooms. Other universi- ties in Florida, over the past few years, have increased the number of available gender-neu- tral bathrooms much more quickly. According to an article published in the Miami Herald December 12, 2014, University of Florida has about 25; University of South Florida has 56; University of Central Florida has 17; Florida State University has four; and Florida Atlantic University has 22.

Despite the time it has taken for FIU to provide gender-neutral bathrooms, the Univer- sity is one of the first in the state to provide open housing. For those students in need of a safe place to express their gender-identity without worrying about what dangers or dangers of unfamiliar rooms may or may not understand what they are going through, FIU plans to provide dorms in existing residence halls that will be open to house all gender identities in fall 2016.

The changes being made to FIU are made by, are meant to exclude cisgendered or straight people from the University’s safety. Arguments are often made against gender-neutral bathrooms due to the potential for their abuse - that men might take advantage of women in bathrooms all genders are able to access. However, the point of opening gender-neutral bathrooms, or dorms for that matter, is to ensure safety - the facilities will be separate from the original ones, or only available to those of certain identities or accepting of those identities. What’s more, it is worth asking in gendered bathrooms and dorms by users of the same or other genders.

To say that this would be the only result of opening gender-neutral bathrooms is, however, to ignore a problem that already exists.

This editorial board commends the University for its strides toward LGBTQ+ inclusivity, and hopes that steps continue to be taken to keep FIU worlds ahead.

Vitamins: Healthier or a hoax?

MATTIE KRAMER
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With such a large variety of vitamins and mineral supplements offered that claim to be beneficial, one has to wonder if they really help anything at all.

Frank and Irene: Stuff to Do

SEVERAL WEEKS LATER...

Send us your letters

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MakerBot Innovation Lab just one of CARTA’s many innovations

ADRIAN HERRERA
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A $185,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and FIU’s College of Architecture and the Arts (CARTA) to create a 3,000 square foot MakerBot Innovation Lab on the campus of Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS). The facility will be home to thirty 3D printers and three workstations, with the purpose of making FIU’s CARTA the only arts/design school in the country to house a MakerBot Innovation Lab, according to CARTA dean, Brian Schriner.

With 30 printers, the lab will be able to serve up to 80 students at one time, with one printer between every two student workstations.

“The event was made complete

with involvement, as many of FIU’s organizations will be tabling at the event. Past Summer Fests have seen FIU Athletics, the Center for Leadership & Service, the Multicultural Greek Council, ShopFIU and many more organizations all come out to support the event and recruit incoming students. Recruiters may prove difficult however as there will be plenty of

distractions courtesy of a stacked line-up of DJs including Miami’s own Andres Fresko, Konflickt, and as the internationally-known, DJ Mag Top 100 ranked electro-house duo, Bassjackers - not to mention all the neon foam.

The event, located between the Blue and Gold garages at MMC, begins at 5:30 p.m. on July 16 and is free for FIU students. Guests can purchase tickets for $30 online at summerfest.fiu.edu or $35 at the door.

The event was made complete by MGs and DJs that lit the night with the hottest beats, Ms. Cheezious and Purple People Eatsy food trucks provided grub, and the audience got their drink on with free beers provided by Beck’s.

The news comes on the tails of an announcement appointing Brian Butler, Luis Berros and Marko Preus for gaining a popular vote based on the crowd and the aid of two neutral judges. Overall, both the dean Brian Schriner as co-builder of the data it needs to begin realigning its economy.

In South Florida, but can help fuel creative jobs are available and in demand. The goal is to create degree programs such as graphic design and animation, which are widely unavailable or unaffordable in South Florida, but can help fuel the economy.

Dr. Florida’s study, nearing its completion in the fall, will give FIU students whom may not be artists such as arts administration where they can learn the ins and outs of business without having to sit through the classes in order to make themselves and their work more economically viable - yet another innovation blending creativity and functionality in the 21st century.

“As an artist, your number one asset is yourself. So how do you market yourself? We hope to provide an answer to the question,” Schriner said, before laughing, “We are not seeking to take the arts out of CARTA. We are viewing the arts as another mechanism by which a student can earn a living. We believe that students can do well and do good at the same time.”

On July 16, FIU’s Campus Life is teaming up with Light Up The Night to host its fourth annual Summer Fest - a glow foam party thrown tight at home between the Blue and Gold parking garages on the very same FIU campus.

“Summer Fest was made to engage all the incoming freshman between summer and fall as their first real college event,” said John Parmenter, the Publications Supervisor at Campus Life.

More than a party, the event was created as a means to improve engagement and retention by mixing good times with involvement, as many of FIU’s organizations will be tabling at the event. Past Summer Fests have seen FIU Athletics, the Center for Leadership & Service, the Multicultural Greek Council, ShopFIU and many more organizations all come out to support the event and recruit incoming students. Recruiters may prove difficult however as there will be plenty of

"We live in a city that is currently

making money…" said Kelly Privat, a fourth year architecture major at FIU.

"A semester at MBUS, so everyone’s going to be having the time of their lives here. Unfortunately, the winning title was granted to Team One who consisted of RenezGambou, Brian Butler, Luis Berros and Marko Preus for gaining a popular vote based on the crowd and the aid of two neutral judges. Overall, both the dean Brian Schriner as co-builder of the art on canvas for Arts + Entertainment District’s Secret Walls art competition on July 11.

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Secret Walls full of creativity

VENESSA MARTINEZ
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Last Saturday, July 11 saw art and music come together for Secret Walls, an internationally renowned freestyle art competition in Miami’s Arts + Entertainment District: home to a number of mural artists active in the graffiti world today.

During the course of a decade, forty-seven cities, and over a thousand shows, Secret Walls is well-established in the urban art community.

This live illustration culture originally dates back to 2006 in Shoreditch, London. It consists of the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to the use of black paint, black markers and a fresh white canvas as spectators to

Summer Fest: foam and philanthropy

ADRIAN HERRERA
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Every week, the DJs at WRGP will be providing students with a list of the ten albums that have really been making waves over the past seven days from June 28 to July 4.

1. Jamie xx - “In Colour”
2. Vince Staples - “Summertime "06”
3. Froth - “Blak”
4. Sharon Van Etten - “I Don’t Want To Let You Down”
5. Braille - “Deep in the Iris”
6. Alabama Shakes - “Sound and Color”
7. Girlpool - “Before The World Was Big”
9. Chastity Belt - “Time To Go Home”
10. Creepoid - “Cemetery Highrise Slum”

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Warped Tour 2015 a sunny success

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Aside from the heat and dirt, this year’s Warped Tour in West Palm Beach on July 4 was one of the best yet. With talented and energetic headliners such as We Came As Romans, Attila, Blesthefall and Memphis May Fire it came as no surprise. There seemed to be an unspoken sense of unity among the bands as they delivered emotional lyrics, covering heavy topics like depression, suicide and addiction. Hearing these lyrics screamed out by hundreds of die-hard fans with tearful eyes and smiles made it an unforgettable experience.

Warped Tour also provided fans with a means of meeting their idols and hearing them perform acoustically. Almost every band had autograph-signing sessions. Some memorable signings this year were Pierce The Veil, Neck Deep, Beartooth and Black Veil Brides.

Neck Deep, known for their raw and hard-hitting lyrics, made sure to take photos with any fan that asked, assuring them it was okay if they began to get emotional. There was also an acoustic lounge which provided shade to fans as they listened to their favorite songs unplugged.

The last band to play was Set it Off, coming on a few minutes after Memphis May Fire. Although they were not considered a headliner, they gathered a large enough crowd to fill the Journey’s Left Foot Stage space beneath the actual amphitheater.

As the energetic band finished their set, they provided a heartfelt thank you. “Thank you on behalf of all the bands that have played Warped Tour so far,” frontman Cody Carson exclaimed, “This tour was created because of what we and you guys love: music.”

Attendees shared similar feelings. “I go to Warped every year even if it does have bands I don’t know. I love the atmosphere of it and the collective adrenaline of the people. It gives me the opportunity to discover new bands,” said Emily Wong, an Environmental Science and Sustainability Junior at FIU.

As if on cue, as Set It Off walked off to backstage and the fans began to disperse, fireworks from nearby Fourth of July celebrations began to explode in the sky.

Everything together emitted an excellent, fulfilled summer evening feeling.

FIU DJs featured at LMNT’s Pancakes and Booze event

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On Friday, July 17, The Pancake and Booze Art Show will touch down in our very own backyard at LMNT, a venue that comfortably fits 3,000 attendees; doors opening at 8 p.m. and continuing until 2 a.m.

Founded in 2009, The Pancakes and Booze Art Show has become one the country’s largest underground art shows featuring 50 local, emerging artists, musicians and everything in between come together for the love of their respective crafts.

Located in Midtown Miami, LMNT is the perfect place to host an event where people can expect to see local artists, listen to live music and watch body painting performances.

Two of Florida International University’s very own are part of the musical lineup that features Enzymatique, DJ Codie Bell. Amman who’s currently a DJ for WRGP, FIU’s student radio station and Nigby, also an FIU student.

A 20-something, Miami-based underground DJ and producer, Nigby. Producing for almost two years, Nigby has been influenced by French House music, Chicago House, Baltimore and New Jersey club music.

“Initially, I became involved with producing, mixing through French house music, influenced by artists like Thomas Bangalter, Le Knight Club, The Phantom’s Revenge. After that time, I explored all types of underground electronic music. Today, I would describe my sound as global. I usually combine both the sounds I was exposed to in the past and present in both deejaying and producing,” Nigby says.

Always covering his face with a mask, Nigby is hopeful to debut a new mask and new songs this year even if it does have bands I don’t know. I love the atmosphere of it and the collective adrenaline of the people. It gives me the opportunity to discover new bands,” said Emily Wong, an Environmental Science and Sustainability Junior at FIU.

As if on cue, as Set It Off walked off to backstage and the fans began to disperse, fireworks from nearby Fourth of July celebrations began to explode in the sky.

Everything together emitted an excellent, fulfilled summer evening feeling.
Women’s volleyball season preview

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Needless to say, a record of seven wins and 23 losses for a women’s volleyball team is not a very good one. Yet the worst part about the record is not that record itself, but the worst part is knowing during the offseason that there is nothing you can do to change the score from people’s minds until Friday, Aug. 28.

Next season’s schedule is out and every woman on the volleyball team should have only one game circled. Aug. 28 is the day for redemption, the day to wipe away mediocrity and take the first step towards their first winning season since 2011, when the Lady Panthers dominated the Sun Belt Conference by going 20-10; the only day that can change people’s mind is opening day.

Since entering Conference USA, it seems like the team has had their misfortune set on loop, having endured three straight losing seasons. Recruiting class after recruiting class, coming and going, not making an impact.

There is, however, an air of optimism in the locker room heading into this season. An air beingushed by the returning seniors that made huge impacts on the team last year in terms of statistics, but, this year, have their sights set on that elusive “W” they were not able to catch much of last year.

The two leading scorers of last year’s women’s volleyball team will don the blue and gold for the last time when this season comes to a close, and we can only hope that is during the C-USA Championships.

Yes, Lucia Castro and Gloria Levorin can score, averaging 3.26 and 2.44 kills per set last year, respectively. Castro, in fact, ranked in the top 10 in kills in the CUSA as a junior last year.

With a full year under their belts, what was once youth that set Castro and Levorin back, is now experience that gives our women’s volleyball teams an advantage heading into this season.

With the new season’s schedule released, there are three key dates for our Golden Panthers to demonstrate this.

Aug. 28: Opening day against the University of North Florida, a young team that only went 13-18 last season and an opportunity to prove that this year’s Women’s Volleyball Team is going to be a threat. This is the day the Golden Panthers must start their season strong.

Saturday, Sept. 27: West Kentucky University. Need I say more? This team bullied the rest of C-USA last year by going 15-1, on route to becoming Conference Champions. These Hilltoppers are aptly named. But this day, win or lose, will be a great measuring stick to see how far the Golden Panthers have grown.

We might even be able to kick those

FOOTBALL

Florida native becomes ninth verbal commit

PETER HOLLAND, JR.
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The verbal commitments keep on coming even though this football season has not yet begun.

This will be FIU’s ninth verbal commit in the recruitment class of 2016. Byrd is an interesting one. Judah Byrd, from Jacksonville, FL, who has played all three years at Ed H. White High School, will be playing his final season at Cedar Creek Christian as a starting cornerback.

Byrd originally committed to Oregon State until a recent switch to FIU. It won’t be surprising if Smith tries to sign him from Oregon State.

Byrd also, as a defensive back, will refuse to let any receiver pass or go over him. He is the type of corner who does not need safety help during a pass.

He is also someone to watch on special teams because he is not afraid to take out a player that stands in his way by laying them out.

This head-hunting term is known as a “crack back.”

Byrd will be the third commit to come out of Jacksonville, after Doug and Dallas Connell. He will be making his on-campus visit Saturday, July 25.

FOOTBALL

Make or break season for starting tight end

It was last season

FOOTBALL

on Friday, Nov. 14 when the Golden Panthers faced Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders, and starting tight end

PETER HOLLAND, JR.

Jovana Smith had her last game of the year, finishing the game with eight catches for 140 yards and three touchdowns.

That game alone not only showed how great the junior is, but it is also his signature game of being voted honorable mention All-American from different sporting networks such as ESPN, CBS Sports and Sports Illustrated.

It’s easy and safe to look at other good tight ends from elite football programs like University of Miami, Florida State University, University of Florida, University of Alabama, University of Southern California, just to name a few, however, there are some players who could be a great NFL prospect from a diamond in the rough like FIU. It worked out for T.Y. Hilton and Jonathan Cyprien, who both were drafted high in the 2nd round to NFL teams. Is Smith next in line?

Smith finished the season with 61 catches, 710 yards and eight touchdowns. He led the nation for most catches, receiving yards and touchdowns as a tight end. He also broke the school record for most receiving yards, touchdowns and catches as a tight end. His eighth receiving touch
down broke the school record for the most touchdowns that was held by Hilton in 2008 and Corey McKinnon in 2002. He was selected first team All Confer
cence USA and was selected Honorable Mention All-American from both CBSSports.com and Sportstul
trated.com. Recently he was selected as Pre-Season First Team All Confer
cence USA and is on the John Mackey Award watch list for best tight ends.

So why not Smith? What’s keeping him from being a great tight end? He has the size at 6’5 255 lbs, he’s a defen
sive mismatch because you can line him up anywhere from his tight end spot, at slot or outside as a wideout. Either or he’s very effective; not to mention he is Alex McGough’s secu
rvity blanket that bails him out when
tany Smith needs him. Better competi
tion could elevate his NFL draft stocks, and he’s in luck because the panther’s first two games are away at UCF and at Indiana. The team really needs him to be at his best if they want to attempt to start the season 2-0 for the first four years before playing their first home game against North Carolina Central.

Consistency’s also important. Every player has a bad game most of time, however if it happens often, then that might be a problem for the Golden
titive. He is also someone to watch on special teams because he is not afraid to take out a player that stands in his way by laying them out. This head-hunting term is known as a “crack back.”

Smith will be the third commit to come out of Jacksonville, after Doug and Dallas Connell. He will be making his on-campus visit Saturday, July 25.

FOOTBALL
FIU baseball club looks to rebound, build a winning team

MICHAEL JUMENEZ  Contributing Writer sports@fiu.com

After a challenging past year, the Baseball Club is determined to improve, thereby building a winning team. Club President and senior David Weiss joins his fellow players in the same reason why many do: love of the sport.

“We joined the Baseball Club two years ago, during my sophomore year at FIU. I joined because I love baseball. I love everything about it. All the guys on the team were friendly and provided great positive energy,” Weiss said.

Now, his love of the game has put him in a position to lead and coach the club for the upcoming year. He wants to see the players and club grow next season and believes it can happen.

So what does the club do?

Weiss said, “We participate in two different leagues, the NCBA and the AUBL. The NCBA is where we play three game series every weekend against different universities. The table and teach each other.”

Weiss is optimistic about the team’s upcoming season and plans to initiate incentives to lure or retain returning members.

“Some goals for next year include playing more games and having more fundraisers to reduce costs per player. We want to provide the best experience the NCBA and AUBL can offer. I believe we have a great shot. Our players are more experienced and know what the competition is.”

Weiss emphasised the social aspect of playing for the team as well.

“Baseball Club is like a family. You make friends for life with everyone. We are almost like our own baseball. It’s great!”

Those who want to join the team can email David Weiss at dwweiss09@fiu.edu or text/call him at 7864224810. He encourages others to support the club and follow them on Instagram @fuchiobaseball.

FIU Equestrian club aims to grow and compete

MICHAEL JUMENEZ  Contributing Writer sports@fiu.com

FIU offers a large variety of clubs for students looking for productive and engaging activities to take part in. One such club that students may not be too familiar with is the Equestrian Club or Equestrian Team, despite their founding in 2010.

While knowledge of the sport is a plus, President and Team Captain, Courtney Frost, insists that anyone can join.

Frost said, “The Equestrian Club’s main goal is to share our passion for horses with the FIU community. I was a freshman when I joined and, to be honest, I knew almost nothing about horses or horse riding competitions, but you don’t have to know a lot about the sport to join.”

So what are the differences between the team and the club?

Simple: The Equestrian Team competes in various Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association events throughout Florida and Georgia, whereas the Equestrian Club offers “a more relaxed approach” for beginning riders to learn about horses and the sport in general. For those beginning riders, lessons are offered twice a week.

“The Equestrian Team is led by Head Coach Daniela Roy, Frost said. Frost, a Swiss-born Roy, a “world class rider” who has trained and competed in Europe, South America, the Caribbean and the United States.

The team and club regularly train on Roy’s 10-acre facility in Broward County’s Southwest Ranches. This training helps the riders get familiar with the horses and ready to compete at a high level.

Frost treasures the amazing relationships she has made - not only with the other riders - but with the horses themselves.

Frost said, “After a while, you start to look at the horses as your equal,” noting the emotional bond that grows through taking care of the horses.

Once in the club, new members will learn how to ride a horse, compete in collegiate equestrian sports and form friendships with other riders that extend well beyond the club.

While the club and team are looking to boost their numbers fall semester, Frost encourages potential members to get a head start.

“It’s good for people to start joining during the summer so they can learn how to ride and get a head start for the fall,” Frost said.

Anyone interested in joining the FIU Equestrian Club or Team should email them at three@eques- trian@gmail.com.

Boxing Club’s biggest fight is out of the ring

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The FIU Boxing Club is known for tearing through its competition. In last year’s National Championship, which was held at the University of Miami, FIU left the competition with Malaki Harris who spent all year getting bigger, faster and stronger.

But for their biggest challenger, the Panthers won’t be walking out with Jay King and the battle will not be taking place in the MGM Grand. No, the Boxing Club now has its sights set on expanding not only their team, but the sport itself with the end goal of having the NCAA recognize boxing as a sport.

Kitty Harris, president of the Boxing Club, is leading this expansion with the help of other boxers by getting involved with activities on and off campus. You are likely to find the Boxing Club tabling and fundraising in GC or hosting boxing demonstrations in the pit.

This program has also joined with the University of Miami to host a boxing tournament in South Florida, which will pit Florida’s finest collegiate boxers head-to-head right here in Miami.

If you’ve seen “Rocky” enough times to think you have what it takes, Harris has extended an invitation to join the Boxing Club in their training, as they offer classes three times a week to learn how to box and get in shape.

While the club and team are looking to boost their numbers fall semester, Frost encourages potential members to get a head start.

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PHILIPPE BUTEAU
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While students who commute to BBC wonder if they will ever be able to use Northeast 135th Street, and as the game of politics is played throughout Miami-Dade County, one man decided to help answer an age old question of the human race when it comes to road making: how do we get across? Mechanical engineering adjunct professor Dr. Claudius Carnegie, proposed an alternative to building a bridge. Carnegie has suggested a culvert, a large wrinkled-looking steel pipe, to span a gap on Northeast 135th Street. Rather than a bridge, Carnegie said in a recent interview on WRGP, FIU’s student-run radio station, a culvert is viable, durable and only 30 percent of whatever it would cost to build a bridge. “The other thing is bridges can be washed out,” Carnegie said. “A culvert can never be washed out.” Before he can put on his hard hat on, others must suit up to resolve the politics that usually come with planned construction. Around the time University President Mark Rosenberg began his presidency at the University, administrators decided it was time to revisit the idea of another access road for BBC, which Rosenberg described as a “major challenge” for FIU as it attempts to expand its northern campus. “We’ve already received complaints from our students, our faculty and our professional staff that you can’t get out of that campus,” Rosenberg in a May interview with Student Media. He suggested it would be irresponsible of the University to expand BBC without also addressing the issue of a second access road. Rosenberg also said it would be a misuse of University money to add or move programs that exist at MMC to BBC, or vice versa. “We don’t have the facilities, we don’t have the wetlands, we don’t have the space,” Rosenberg said. He added that the three programs at BBC Rosenberg says are “thriving.”

SPC at BBC collaborates with Rapids Water Park to host off campus event

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If ever an extra incentive to be an involved Panther were needed, the Student Programming Council at BBC is providing one in the form of a much needed summer cool down.

In collaboration with Rapids Water Park, the SPC is hosting its first ever annual water park event for students at FIU. Since this summer event takes place off campus, it includes more than would normally be expected at a regular SPC event — at a low price. This would be the fourth in the series of summer events hosted by the SPC at BBC.

SPC Marketing Coordinator Joshua Carrasco is expecting a big turnout for the water park event that SPC is hosting this week for the very first time.

“As of right now we already have almost 70 to 80 students who already RSVP’d. We’re expecting more and it should be closed this week,” he said.

Over the last few years, summer water events hosted by SPC usually took place at the BBC Wellness and Recreation Center pool or at the Bay with activities such as kayaking and paddle boarding. Since the pool and bay activities didn’t seem to be working out as hoped, this summer SPC decided that taking students off campus would enable them to get more involved and active with campus life events.

“The theme this year is ‘Panthers in the City.’ It is an idea of taking students off campus for events. We know that things are strained right now due to there no longer being housing for students at the BBC campus, however we want to reach as many of those students as possible and also be able to provide transportation to these events”, said Catreece Ancion, President of SPC.

Summer Splash at Water Rapids will take place on July 16th from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Rapids Waterpark. Admission is $20 for students taking the shuttle round trip from BBC to the park. If students decide not to take the shuttle, they have the option of driving on their own and paying $15 dollars instead of 20.

“We want students, especially the in coming students, to know that FIU is the University to partake in, especially Biscayne Bay Campus, to do activities that engage—not just MMC. We have fun too. Everyone should be excited and expect a big splash at Rapids,” said Carrasco.

Offensive explosion gives USA Women’s World Cup victory

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You couldn’t step away for the action packed first sixteen minutes of this Women’s World Cup Final in Vancouver. If you did, you might’ve missed the first four goals of the game, three of which were from USA’s Carli Lloyd who never held back and ended with a hat trick.

Team USA came out of the gates firing on all cylinders with an offensive explosion. Lloyd scored the fastest goal in a Women’s World Cup Final history at around the three-minute mark, striking in a goal from a corner kick. The next goal came at the five-minute mark, Lloyd once again scoring after hitting the ball perfectly between the legs of a Japanese defender.

And so the euphoria began from American fans in Vancouver all across the nation. But the early onslaught wasn’t over. On a poor decision by a Japanese defender who tried to head a low ball, the ball ricocheted into the air and gave Lauren Holiday a clear shot from close range. Just like that it was 3-0 after fourteen minutes.

In a match that was both daring but done with such perfection that one can’t be frustrated with the decision, Lloyd launched a shot from midfield. It was such an audacious goal that couldn’t have been able to go in. But the Japanese goalie Ayumi Kaihori wasn’t able to react in time to stop the ball as it sailed over her head for the fourth goal in sixteen minutes. Lloyd’s hat trick was also the quickest hat trick in the history of the Women’s World Cup.

But Japan was in the Final for a reason. They are a proud team who never gives up. At 27 minute mark, the perseverance of the Japanese showed. After a show of craftiness, Yuki Ogimi scored Japan’s first goal. Team USA had a comfortable three-goal lead at this point.

After halftime at the 52nd minute, Team USA accidentally scored in it’s own goal. Then it was just a two-goal lead against a Japan team that can score quickly. As close as it became, Team USA were just the better team on both sides and they still weren’t done scoring. In the 54th minute Tobin Heath dissected the defense with a good move and scored once again.

The victory was for the taking for Team USA. Japan may have won possession but barely did a percentage compar of 48 to 52. Team USA’s shutout of opponents ended with those two goals in the Final but Hope Solo had been the best goalkeeper of the entire tournament. She ended up winning the Golden Gloves, which is awarded to the best goalkeeper.

The final score was 5-2. This is Team USA’s third World Cup victory, the first two in 1991 and 1999.