STARTING WITH A BASH

Catherine Bermudez, accounting sophomore and Nadine Matas, English/Asian Studies senior, give out free lunch boxes and sandwiches at the CSO Welcome Back Bash.

Iran Nuclear Deal creates student divide

JOCELYN TALAVERA
Contributing Writer
jtalavera@fiusm.com

With much considered to be at stake, the future of a possible deal with Iran over its nuclear programs has been met with tensions from both sides of the political and social spectrum.

In Vienna, Iran, the US and the five global powers of Britain, China, France, Russia and Germany reached an agreement July 14. Now they face an uphill battle to gain support from their respective parties.

The deal is set in place for 10 to 15 years. It would require Iran to cut its stockpile of enriched uranium by 98 percent, reduce its existing centrifuges that process nuclear power by two-thirds and submit to a comprehensive inspection regime. In return, debilitating economic sanctions are to be lifted.

Those who support the deal say it is a way to help curb Iran from gaining nuclear weapons. But the voices of those opposed are getting louder and stronger, denouncing any negotiation with the Islamic Republic.

Many Republicans are vocal of opposing the deal, including House Speaker John Boehner, demanding for tougher sanctions and military force.

Instead of curbing Iran’s nuclear program, they prefer for them to not have one at all. Hardliners in Iran also do not like the deal because they feel the political balance they have created will be challenged.

Iranian-born Seyed Ahmad Mirtaheri, a politics and international relations graduate assistant, thinks that lifting sanctions can provide a good opportunity for Iranians.

“If it helps them to engage in economic activities by themselves,” said Mirtaheri. Mirtaheri said an ideal nuclear deal would be one that brings respect to Iranians after decades of tensions.

“This would promote a dialogue with the new [Iranian] generation who has been suppressed, humiliated and neglected by their own state and the rest of the world, only because of the things that happened before they were born,” said Mirtaheri.

SEE DEAL, PAGE 2

Former head of Jackson Health now FIU Health CEO

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Staff Writer
philippe.buteau@fiusm.com

ObamaCare says that after a child turns 26, they are no longer protected by their family’s health insurance. FIU is making sure that every student is covered by a health insurance.

Under the merger, Student Health has a new model to follow in providing medical care. It is a four-step process whose first two keep operations the same for SH.

Students visit the clinic and if they require more than what SH can provide, or need more than 30 days of monitoring, they are referred to FIU Health or a health care provider that has the specialists he or she needs.

Steps three and four are focused on health insurance enrollment and managing the health of students as a whole.

The University’s Collaborative for Health Economics and Strategic Solutions, in a model they created, suggested FIU use the student health fee to reduce the cost of health insurance.

The health fee is one of several mandatory fees charged to all students as part of their tuition each semester. Every student pays $93.69 as part of the health fee regardless of the number of credits taken.

Hodgkins-Beckley Consulting 1 Stephen L. Beckley and Associates gave the University the option of requiring health insurance as a condition of enrollment.

“That’s not for us to say,” Roldan said about whether FIU requires students to have health insurance.

Student Health’s clinical services - the doctors, nurses and pharmacists - were merged with the University’s healthcare provider, FIU Health, July 1.

“We work for the College of Medicine, as well for the community and the campus,” said FIU Health chief executive officer, Eneida Roldan. “FIU Health, Healthcare Network, the Faculty Practice in the eye of the consumer are all one.”

FIU Health is evaluating its new integrated services, according to Roldan the former president and CEO of the Jackson Health System from June 2009 to May 2011.

Between 2008 and 2011 the hospital suffered from financial losses that cost them up to $419 million.

Roldan submitted a volunteer resignation effective May 31, 2011 that coincided with the expiration of her contract, according to an email from Edwin O’Dell, JHS spokesman.

Roldan did not respond to requests from Student Media for a followup interview.

She was also president and CEO of Pan American Hospital and guided Pan American Hospital out of bankruptcy which it filed protection for in March 2006, paid $34 million for Pan American Hospital, converted it into a for-profit, and renamed it Metropolitan Hospital.

Roldan remained CEO during its transition of ownership.

Under a merged college health system, Roldan said FIU Health will stay the same and Student Health Services will have their “back up and support.”

“When you’re integrating services you’re enhancing services for your customer base in this case it would be students,” said Roldan.

Roldan develops collaboration and programs across the medical school with international and clinical partners as associate dean of International Affairs. She is also associate professor of Pathology.

Faculty from the College of Medicine see patients in the Ambulatory Care Center as part of their FIU Health workload.

“These are professors, but we all have had patients and we all have practiced before,” Roldan said.

FIU Health has some of the same clinical positions as SH but lacks a pharmacy.

Roldan said FIU Health is considered an outpatient clinic site. These provide care for patients whose ailments do not require overnight stays.

She said the type of specialty care a student needs will determine the service FIU Health gives them.

“We always decide on clinical, never on economics,” Roldan said. “We are first and foremost healthcare providers.”

The specialties of FIU Health’s 18 doctors include disorders of the joints and muscles, the female reproductive system, reproductive medicine, mental health and treatment of conditions with the intestinal tract and liver.

The clinic is an option for students, according to Roldan.

Student Health has doctors and advanced registered nurses who provide primary care and are specialists in the areas of mental health, women’s health, the heart, skin conditions and eating disorders.

“If the service could be done within Student Health it’ll stay in Student Health,” Roldan said.

Healthcare navigators are new positions the University created for the purpose of getting students to a healthcare provider and enrolled into health insurance.

There will be one at the Modesto Maidique Campus and one at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Counseling and Psychological Services, the Victim Empowerment Program and the Disability Resource Center still work for the Division of Student Affairs.

“That does not mean students are not getting the same services,” Roldan said. “Still the health factor will be provided to the student, and it’s seamless.”

The University will increase its promotion of wellness as being a part of the health of any person, college student or otherwise.

Roldan said “we have to educate individuals on what the definition of health is” and cited the World Health Organization’s definition for health which she said is a “holistic approach to making a person well.”

The WHO’s definition states health is “a complete state of physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”

Roldan said Student Health fits the WHO’s definition and that any health environment should be similar.

“Health is not just you’re unhealthy and the doctor needs to give you a prescription,” Roldan said. “A person has a brain and a spirit.”
NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Political differences could peak at Lake Tahoe summit

The lawmakers convening Monday for a major Lake Tahoe conference confront a Capitol Hill conflict over how best to protect the much-beloved mountain region. They differ over money, environmental laws, timber harvesting and more. For years, the unresolved differences have sunk efforts to renew the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, first passed in 2000. Some hope this meeting can help members of Congress finally start paddling in the same direction.

Uber is on growth fast track, leaked document shows

Uber, the ride-hailing company, is on a roll growing at an extraordinary rate even in the face of virulent opposition. National governments, local regulators, taxi companies, direct competitors. All are out to stop Uber or at least slow it down. Some of its own drivers have filed a class-action lawsuit against the company. But according to details from a leaked document published Friday by Reuters wire service, Uber is a global force.

Clues could link gunman to terrorist training

The gunman in Friday’s thwarted attack of a high-speed train bound for Paris flew to Istanbul from Berlin on May 10, following a path that has been used hundreds of times by Islamist militants seeking to join the Islamic State group. French authorities said German intelligence alerted them to the trip by Ayoub El Khazzani, who was subdued by three Americans before he could unload his loaded rifle and pistol he was carrying.

China’s Xi Jinping at center of concern as markets begin new week

In speeches and writings, Chinese President Xi Jinping often delivers the rhetoric of a Communist Party hard-liner. Yet more than ever, capitalists worldwide are depending upon this Leninist, one who is in the midst of a power struggle to prop up the global economy. Concerns about China contributed last week to Wall Street’s biggest one-day sell-off since 2011, and the slide could continue when markets reopen on Monday.

Alumni mark their paw print on University

According to an Al Jazeera America report, oil prices, foreign investments and payment of debts are some of the benefits expected out of this deal. As well, it can improve life for Iranians who have lived in a state of turmoil since the Iranian Revolution of 1979.

Isabella Prias
Contributing Writer

Panther alumni have marked their paw print on the University; now they’re being recognized for it. With music jams from the FIU marching Band, the cheerleading team, the Dazzlers dance team, the Student Alumni Association will honor four alumni who have well-represented the University for this year’s Trail of the Torch.

Along with Rosay, the University mascot, they will follow each alumnus with a torch from one point to another until they reach a final stop in front of the steps of Primera Casa. PC is the first campus building since 1969.

The event is FIU’s largest on-campus tradition that kicks off the fall semester. According to the SAA website, Mark Rosenberg, President of the University, is expected to give a school year commencement speech.

The Alumni Association hopes that FIU students will continue to be involved and connected to the University after graduation.

“We want to celebrate the new school year by lighting the torch of knowledge. We want everyone to celebrate and have all the organizations out there,” said Kandys Temes, President of the SAA.

The event will be hosted at the FIU Housing Quad near the campus residence halls where the alumni will be first introduced.

Stephanie Almeida, a senior marketing major and an FIU Dazzler, said the Golden Dazzlers love feeling the passion and excitement of the FIU community at Trail of the Torch.

“We always do our best to bring that Dazzling Panther pride and professionalism every time we perform,” said Almeida.

The torch represents knowledge, opportunity and service, which highlights the qualities of the selected alumni who were chosen by a committee of faculty. Those selected will not know they are chosen until Wednesday at the Graham Center Pit.

The nominations took place through an online application where each candidate applies for different representative categories — Greek Life, Athletics, academically excelling and student that has a desire to mark a paw print at FIU.

According to Temes, the Student Programming Council highlight the main slogan of the event: “Will you carry the torch?” The slogan asks what it really means for the individual to carry the torch. Temes said, “...how [you will] leave your paw print at FIU. [and] what do you make your year special, she said.

There will be live entertainment and food. With a swipe from a student OneCard at the SAA tent, students will receive giveaways.

Students will also receive a passport and a wristband as they trail through the main campus. With ten stamps from different tents at the event, they will receive exclusive anniversary FIU890 t-shirts at the end of the trail.

Student organizations like the Student Government Association, the Student Programming council and the Student Ambassadors will be present. The event will be held Thursday, August 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and is free of charge.

Students and both sides of political spectrum divided

DEAL, PAGE 1

According to an Al Jazeera America report, oil prices, foreign investments and payment of debts are some of the benefits expected out of this deal. As well, it can improve life for Iranians who have lived in a state of turmoil since the Iranian Revolution of 1979.

Jorge Salazar-Carrillo, an economics professor, said the lifting of economic sanctions will not benefit the Middle East.

“The price of oil is already going down so that really doesn’t matter there,” said Salazar-Carrillo. He said that it will create more conflict between the Shiites and Sunni Islam groups.

The Saudi Arabia Sunnis and Iran Shiites are regional rivals. Many critics, but primarily Saudi leaders and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyanhu, worry that lifting economic sanctions could influence Iran to support proxy groups such as the Houthi rebels in Yemen, Hezbollah and Hamas.

Tortes, a sophomore biomedical major, said that Iran should be allowed to continue producing uranium. He said that with economic sanctions on Iran, surrounding countries would be safe.

“The safest, I guess, would be if they produce more uranium and [if] they were to continue threatening us,” said Torres. “Economic sanctions would be something that would be placed against them... [It] would be more beneficial to us,” he said.

“A big part of the deal is that if Iran doesn’t meet its obligations, a “snap back” provision—United Nations’ sanctions—would be slapped back on the country.

The landmark deal could signify the first steps towards improving relationships with Iran and easing tensions between the country and the rest of the world.
Is DAESH really in the U.S.? 

JUAN SALAMANCA
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

The drums of war play a steady beat. It’s that old tune you know all the words to; the one about the vicious enemy in the Middle East that must be annihilated, the barbaric force of nature that’s making a beeline straight to your backyard.

Yes, that’s right; you’re not safe. Look around, your picket fences and impeccable lawns and other artifacts of whiteness won’t save you now. The caliphate’s coming to America, baby, and there’s only one way to stop ‘em: unadulterated violence.

Don’t see you, as our lovely friends at the FBI tell us, the army of homebrewed jihadists that are ready to blow something in the homeland sky high?

If you were to base your entire understanding and knowledge of DAESH on FBI reports and other government sources (and you probably are doing just that) you’d think that we live in a world of terror, an Islamic menace always waiting to attack across the US-Mexican border in a politically convenient manner.

Yet that begs the question: does this terrifying picture reflect reality?

The answer is a solid “no.”

We are all familiar with the lurid campaign on the part of the United States government to predict the likelihood and severity of a terrorist attack, as if terrorist attacks could be quantified in much the same manner that weather forecasts are.

The stated purpose of such “terror warnings” is to ensure that if people “see something” and to mobilize law enforcement and other branches of the American security apparatus to defend the homeland in the event of an attack.

Thus far, none of the “elevated threat warnings” and other scaring-upon predictions by the establishment commentariat have actually resulted in stopped attacks, or indeed evidence at all that such attacks were to occur.

Of 40 warnings issued in the past fifteen years, not one of them made an accurate prediction.

What of all the members of DAESH, the new adopted name for ISIS, sleeper cells that the FBI arrests every week?

These stories are often uncritically parroted by the media as evidence of the growing DAESH threat in America, usually presented with slick graphics that with each passing day grow indistinguishable from Stephen Colbert’s “Doom Bunker.” Yet a close reading of all these stories reveal a pattern: an angry, poorly adjusted American male youth, usually black, converts to Islam and draws the attention of the FBI through his Internet browsing activities. He is then contacted out of the blue by a mysterious man claiming to be an operative in a terrorist cell and pressuring the Jihadist-to-be to buy a weapon. Guided on by the operative and often socially isolated, the individual then arranges to meet with his new contact with the weapon, only to find their new friend is an FBI informant and that they’ve fallen victim to a sting operation.

This practice has been criticized by U.S. judges presiding over these cases as far back as 2010, with District Judge Colleen McMahon arguing that “I believe beyond a shadow of a doubt that there would have been no crime [in the case of four men on terrorism charges in Newburgh, NY] except the government instigated it, planned it and brought it to fruition.”

The caliphate’s coming to America, baby, and there’s only one way to stop ‘em: unadulterated violence.

ADHD medication: Good or bad?

GABRIELLE GARCIA
Staff Writer
gabrielle.garcia@fiusm.com

Recently, an 8-year-old Kentucky third grader with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder was allegedly handcuffed by a sheriff’s deputy at his elementary school. The deputy, who works as a school resource officer at the school is now facing a lawsuit for handcuffing the boy.

The incident, recorded on video, has gone viral and has inundated the nation with debate over the disorder.

The NIH Mental Health Office states that the average age of onset for ADHD is 7 and that the disorder affects nine percent of children from ages 13 to 18 years old. The disorder also affects 4.1 percent of American Adults ages 18 and over.

Because the causes of ADHD are basically unknown, and because a child’s behavioral habits in early childhood can simulate ADHD symptoms, proper diagnosis for children is difficult.

ADHD symptoms tend to appear early in life, beginning as early as age 3. Because of this, a child’s impulsivity and distractible nature can be mistaken for ADHD symptoms, which often results in misdiagnosis.

For adults, diagnosis is difficult because symptoms may not be as obvious in comparison to those of a child with ADHD.

According to the NIH Mental Health Office, various types of psychotherapy, behavioral therapy and education training serve as treatments for ADHD, but the most common form of treatment is medication. Given that many children and adults face ADHD, medication seems to be the “quick and easy” choice to treating the disorder.

The NIH explains that a stimulant is often used for treatment because it has a calming effect for hyperactive children - however, there are non-stimulant medications available and are also used for treatment. Although there are many medications with short-acting, long-acting or extended release varieties that assist those with ADHD, these medications can have negative side effects.

For the full story visit fiusm.com.

Send us your letters

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop off our offices at GC 210 in WUC 1/4.

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.

Disclaimer

The opinions presented within this page 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.

Editorial Policy

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

Back to business means back to business

It’s that time again. Time to arrive on campus two hours before class to find parking. Time to dodge flyers from the many organizations lining the halls of GC. Time to wait in line at the bookstore for three books that total $1000. Time to be intimidated and excited by new classes and professors.

It’s also time for this editorial board to get back to work.

The job of this paper and this editorial board is to provide the student body, faculty and staff with university news. Among the stories we have taken the responsibility of covering in order to keep students updated, are developments of the fairgrounds. This paper will also keep the student body updated on hurricanes that may affect classes.

The Beacon will keep the student body informed about issues regarding the use of their tuition, the changes happening in the health centers, the additions of fees and other changes on campus that are pertinent to the FIU student lifestyle.

But, like all newspapers, The Beacon is changing. FIU Student Media made a commitment to multimedia and online content in recent years, and the push this year will be even stronger than before.

Our commitment to the student body is to continue providing content that matters in media that students can readily and easily consume. Accessibility is just as much our goal as reliability and relevance.

So, in between joining clubs and studying, pick up a copy of The Beacon every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday to stay updated on what’s going on around campus.

If you’re on the go, FIU Student Media will make sure to keep you informed on Twitter and Facebook, as well as on our website, FIUSM.com.

This editorial board promises the students it serves that it will investigate and report the things that matter to them, and to do an outlet through which their voices may be heard.

Get ready for a great year, Panthers - we already are.

DOOF!

NOW HIRING WRITERS

Apply at GC 210, WUC 124 or fiusm.com.
University Radio Station to host Welcome back BBQ

MARIA SOLEDAD LORENZINO
Editor-in-Chief
maria.lorenzino@fiusm.com

Ask students about WRGP, and most won’t know much about it. FIU’s student-run radio station hopes to change that at a welcome back barbecue for students Wednesday, Aug. 26.

“We’re still not a big known factor or resource at FIU and we want to make apparent the resources we have to offer,” said Amanda Rabines, WRGP’s general manager.

At the WRGP Welcome Back BBQ, students will meet the people behind the music and talk shows.

“It’s going to allow students to have a chance to interact with the DJs at our station,” said Rabines.

At the entrance, two DJs will take turns playing live music.

Inside, students can meet the DJs and talk-show hosts, and listen to samples of their shows. After interacting with two DJs, students will get free food, refreshments and giveaways.

Students will also get a chance to see local band SunGhost perform.

The Barbecue is from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum.

WRGP FIU Student Radio was known as Radiate FM until spring 2015, when it rebranded and at FM 96.9 in North Miami.

Students can listen to WRGP at FM 95.3 or 88.1 in Miami, and at FM 96.9 in North Miami.

As for the barbecue, Rabines has one guarantee.

“Expect really good music,” said Rabines.

Having been a Beach House fan for about six years now, “Depression Cherry” is the album I’ve been waiting for. When I discovered them in my freshman year of high school, their sound was entirely new to me - warm, yet chilling, dreamy and dark. I would’ve never thought music could be so comforting. Yet again, their music could be so comforting. Yet again, their sound was back. The song didn’t wanna know/beyond love” on a rainy day. “We really reach, complementing the slow-rolling drops of water on a window would happen. The lullaby-like lyrics, chanted with sweet fervor, send me falling into a daze, the way the slow-rolling drops of water on a window would happen. “Space Song” stood out to me as one of their more whimsical tracks. It retains a playful element while still retaining an overall serenity - achieved by beautifully flowing lyrics. The keyboard is almost “beeping” in the background and reminds me of a toy U.F.O. flashing lights. This is my second favorite song.

“Beyond Love” is the classic Beach House song on the album. It hit home as a gentle but exciting reminder of how therapeutic their music was to me in high school. This one welcomed me with open arms back to their nurturing sound. The lullaby-like lyrics, chanted with sweet fervor, send me falling into a daze, the way the slow-rolling drops of water on a window would happen. “Space Song” stood out to me as one of their more whimsical tracks. It retains a playful element while still retaining an overall serenity - achieved by beautifully flowing lyrics. The keyboard is almost “beeping” in the background and reminds me of a toy U.F.O. flashing lights. This is my second favorite song.

“Levitation,” the first track off the new album, actually sounds like a slower version of “Wishes” from their album “Bloom” in the beginning, but takes a slightly different direction during the second half. It is invitingly eerie and cosmic, as Victoria Legrand repeats “There’s a place I’d like to take you.” This song wraps up in a shimmering bubble and seeps into your mind, echoing as it ends. It is another great portrayal of a deep, intense love.

“Levitation,” the first track off the new album, actually sounds like a slower version of “Wishes” from their album “Bloom” in the beginning, but takes a slightly different direction during the second half. It is invitingly eerie and cosmic, as Victoria Legrand repeats “There’s a place I’d like to take you.” This song wraps up in a shimmering bubble and seeps into your mind, echoing as it ends. It is another great portrayal of a deep, intense love.

“Levitation,” the first track off the new album, actually sounds like a slower version of “Wishes” from their album “Bloom” in the beginning, but takes a slightly different direction during the second half. It is invitingly eerie and cosmic, as Victoria Legrand repeats “There’s a place I’d like to take you.” This song wraps up in a shimmering bubble and seeps into your mind, echoing as it ends. It is another great portrayal of a deep, intense love.

“Levitation,” the first track off the new album, actually sounds like a slower version of “Wishes” from their album “Bloom” in the beginning, but takes a slightly different direction during the second half. It is invitingly eerie and cosmic, as Victoria Legrand repeats “There’s a place I’d like to take you.” This song wraps up in a shimmering bubble and seeps into your mind, echoing as it ends. It is another great portrayal of a deep, intense love.

“Levitation,” the first track off the new album, actually sounds like a slower version of “Wishes” from their album “Bloom” in the beginning, but takes a slightly different direction during the second half. It is invitingly eerie and cosmic, as Victoria Legrand repeats “There’s a place I’d like to take you.” This song wraps up in a shimmering bubble and seeps into your mind, echoing as it ends. It is another great portrayal of a deep, intense love.

“Levitation,” the first track off the new album, actually sounds like a slower version of “Wishes” from their album “Bloom” in the beginning, but takes a slightly different direction during the second half. It is invitingly eerie and cosmic, as Victoria Legrand repeats “There’s a place I’d like to take you.” This song wraps up in a shimmering bubble and seeps into your mind, echoing as it ends. It is another great portrayal of a deep, intense love.
ANDREA SANMIGUEL
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

Art may ooze from the plenty of art galleries in Wynwood and even its warehouse walls, but one local artist has dominated Wynwood’s sidewalk floors.

Robert Macias, better known as R.M. Drake, has gained a momentous amount of popularity from his poetry often seen in black courier print on the floor and on his Instagram account.

In little less than over a year, his account on Instagram gained over two million followers and attracted celebrities like Ludacris, Jermaine Dupri, Sophia Bush from “One Tree Hill” and even Wu-Tang.

After years of taking risks in the art industry, the poet sat down with FIU Student Media to talk about his early years attending FIU, his sudden success and the dark creative places he visited within himself to produce his work.

His Early Years

Macias, 32, was raised by Colombian parents in South Florida. He was the first generation American in his family and admits growing up in Miami wasn’t always paradise.

“There was a lot of drugs, fighting and bullying going around when we were kids,” Macias said. “But I think it was meant to happen so that I could reflect and grow to what I am now.”

Macias said he’s grown a lot from the past and that his experiences have allowed him to channel and process emotions into a creative field.

It was around the age of 10 when Macias first discovered his love for art.

He said he was younger, his parents couldn’t afford video games or action figures so they would buy him clay, but not the commercial Play-Doh most kids his age had.

He said his parents bought him clay from Navarro. But Macias never complained.

“They would probably buy it for like a dollar,” said Macias jokingly.

He said he would build his own action figures with the clay, which lead him to experiment with other forms of art, like painting, drawing and creating his own comic books out of sketches he drew in college rule paper to show to his friends.

“I didn’t have the luxuries certain kids had so I had to form my own means of entertainment,” said Macias.

During his early years, Macias lived in Sweetwater and attended Miami Coral Park Senior High School. In 2010 he attended Miami Dade College and later transferred to Florida International University where he graduated with a degree in computer design.

When speaking about his experience at FIU, he said it was something that he misses.

“When you’re in school, you are dying to get out and then you let a few years pass -- you end up missing that learning environment,” said Macias. “School is something that will continue to challenge you and motivate you to become something better.”

His Creative Process

Macias’ manner is old fashioned, but with a modern twist. A typewriter is usually his weapon of choice when it comes to portraying his deepest thoughts. Which in turn, counter balances the fact that he is spreading his work throughout social media.

His poetry book “Beautiful Chaos,” landed Amazon’s best-selling poetry books list, amidst writers like Edgar Allan Poe and Sylvia Plath.

With two new books coming out, Macias said he’s excited to see how far he can take his art, especially because he said he considers himself more than just poet.

Some of his many attributes include sculpting, painting, drawing and producing music.

“I’m in the works with of building something big a group of artist, one of the being M.V. Ducklight and the other Ziamricochet- these guys are geniuses,” said Macias. “I’m talking huge -- music, art, painting, writing and sculpting -- we are just trying to take the whole genre by storm.”

But when it comes to writing, Macias focuses on every aspect of human emotion, particularly, love and a lose.

“Art is pain and pain is the art in which we find ourselves,” Macias said.

He said he believes people go through certain emotions, like the feeling of being lost, heartbeat and despair in order to become stronger.

“I think people are afraid of that because it can be depressing. But that’s because they are not seeing beyond the words, you find a lot of power in these certain emotions,” Macias says.

Photo Courtesy of R.M. Drake.

The response from his followers are in the thousands when it comes to comments and messages about his work.

“It’s like a recharge being able to read what people post and see how my work motivates them to keep going,” Macias said.

And for an artist who is known to stay under the radar, Macias attributes his successful social media presence to the growing open mindedness to art.

But with pieces of his work being displayed in places like Avant Gallery in Miami’s EPIC Hotel and an international fundraising event in New York’s Yankee Stadium – anonymity may not be an option for very long.

“I’m anonymous to a certain extent, but I think that adds to it,” said Macias. “It leaves the image and persona of myself to the reader. I actually feel like I don’t have to show my face because [by reading my poems] fans are getting to know me more regardless.”

Robert Macias, a local Miami writer, has over 2 million followers on his Instagram account.
**WOMEN'S SOCCER**

Women's soccer remains undefeated

**LOUIS DIAZ**

Women's Soccer team of FIU has, this season looks to be something special.

**High expectations for new and returning talent**

**LOUIS AGUDELO**

Here at Florida International University, winning is a short-lived experience for many and most sports. This is exactly why the swimming and diving team has quite the task on their hands as they look to repeat as Conference USA Champions.

With as much returning talent as FIU has, this goal is seemingly easier to achieve. Sophomore diver Rebecca Quesnel was in fact just named Burlington Athlete of the Year after posting five first-place finishes her freshman season and landing just behind first in the top three at least eight other times.

On the swimming side of things, they'll have to replace top talents like captains Madison and Courter Vander Schaaf and former FIU Female Athlete of the Year Johanna Vander Schaaf, who won three gold medals at the Small Nation Games this summer just after being named C-USA Swimmer of the Year.

The school record-holder in 100 freestyle, 200 freestyle, 200 breaststroke and 200 IM leaves behind a legacy that head coach Randy Holmer is confident his team will be able to follow in the footsteps of and keep FIU at the top of the swimming world.

Junior Karin Tomceckova and Sophia Trujillo, the junior goalkeeper who transferred this summer to FIU from San Diego State, was flat-out a beast in front of her net. In the 11th minute, Sophia made three consecutive dives to save it in just a matter of a few seconds.

FLU was not just knocking on Dayton’s door, they were banging on it and were finally able to kick it down in the second half. Less than ten minutes into the first half, freshman Lyrik Fryer set up fellow freshman Jacky Byers with a beautiful pass and Byers was able to tie the game up with her first NCAA goal coming in the 54th minute.

That goal was just a testament to what this team has been preaching over the summer. This is a team that is looking for anyone and everyone in Blue and Gold to step up and make plays for this team. It’s only fitting two of the youngest members of this team, giving the FIU fans a taste of what this team’s future looks like.

The score would remain 1-1 into overtime, but not much longer after that. Just two minutes into the extended play, junior Alyssa Robinson reminded the fans that there are still some savvy vets on this squad. And just as the crowd was running out of nails to bite, senior Weinhardt set Robinson up for a goal that was definitely worthy of being the game winner as it sailed right past Dayton’s keeper.

After an intense game with some new names being created on the pitch, this season looks to be headed in the right direction. This mix of young and experienced women now knows what it takes to win at this level. And this being the only game number one on their road to the conference title.

The Golden Panther’s continually attacked Dayton’s goalkeeper and they get off the field. This is a man that embodies practicing what he preaches.

As Chestnutt is never too proud to point the blame on himself and does so after an 8-8-2 record last season. But with a new team ready to learn his philosophy and way to play this game in a way that has earned Chestnutt multiple conference titles, the proper spelling of team has been evident throughout the offseason as opposed to the “I” last year’s team finagled into the word. Practice can only say so much when new players are still unproven. Also, according to his head coach, the advancement of this next woman up mentality won’t be properly measured until this team gets on the pitch and plays some games.

“Yes, everyone is going to be a go-to player, all those things come out in games. Some players rise to the occasion and some people shine up come game time,” Chestnutt said. Under the helm of a man who’s won two conference titles in the last six years and has produced plenty of players who move on to play for their home country’s national soccer teams, when Thomas Chestnutt says his team will compete for the Conference USA Trophy, there had better be a spot open in the trophy case when Thomas Chestnutt says his team will compete for the Conference USA Trophy, there had better be a spot open in the trophy case.
FOOTBALL

PETER HOLLAND JR. Contributing Writer

It’s no secret that the Panthers are confident this year now that the majority of starters are back, including their top players on offense and defense — starting cornerback Richard Leonard and starting tight end Jonnu Smith.

Leonard had a breakout year in his junior year, finishing the season with 40 tackles (32 solo), five interceptions (two for a touchdown), which ranked him No. 2 in Conference USA and No. 18 nationally. He was selected first team all conference as a defensive back and return man.

C-USA predicted him to be defensive player of the year this season and is on the Jim Thorpe watch list for best defensive back. To top all that, he just graduated with a degree in sports management and is also a proud father.

So what’s next for Leonard and what do we expect from this season? Leonard is pumped up for this season that he’s been counting down the days until Thursday, Sept. 3 - their first game against University of Central Florida. Being able to start and have the team while balancing being a father could prove to be a challenge for the Miami native.

“I just focus on the task at hand. When I’m on the field, I focus on my teammates, when I’m at home, I focus on my son and my family. Just trying to keep it one day at a time, take it easy, and not putting too much on my plate,” Leonard said.

Leonard, known for his press coverage skills, tries to imitate current NFL corners like Darrelle Revis, Joe Haden, Richard Sherman and Tyrann Mathieu. When it comes to play making decisions, Leonard prefers the play that will pump up the crowd.

“I love making pick 6 because I want to spark the crowd and change the game around with a pick 6,” Leonard said.

FIU’s defense was ranked 38th overall in defense and number 2 nationally in creating turnovers.

“That’s all we focus on right now, getting the ball out,” Leonard said. “When we do a tackling circuit, we focus on getting the ball out.”

Smith made his mark last season as a sophomore. He started all 12 games finishing last season with 61 catches for 710 yards and eight touchdowns. He broke T.Y. Hilton’s record for most touchdowns. He also set a school record for most catches and receiving yards for tight ends.

He was selected All-American honorable mentioned from both CBSSports.com and SportIllustrated.com. Smith was selected first team All-CUSA and is on the John Mackey award watch list for best tight ends.

Right now, Smith is focused on leading his team and getting more wins.

“Everyone’s mind is in the same place, everybody has the same mindset and that’s just to win games. We all have a good attitude on the field, in the weight room, film room, even classroom. Everybody is being held accountable, and that’s what we are striving for,” Smith said.

“I just want to put this team in the best situation to win. If the opportunity is given to me I’ll take advantage of it and that’s what I’m continuing to do.”

Off the field, Smith takes pride in giving back to his community. He is on the Wueffel watch list this season for best in community service. Smith visits police departments, elementary schools, and children’s hospital in his spare time.

“We do a great job with community service, we play a big part in our community in order to support as we must support them,” Smith said.

Smith is looking forward for this season, which is around the corner and he sees different team than last year.

“A lot of our production is back and the team is going to be more explosive. Everybody knows what’s going on and the young guys are picking it up too,” Smith said.

Senior cornerback Richard Leonard, with the help of tight end Jonnu Smith look to put the football team back in conference USA contention and help the program enter another bowl game.

FOOTBALL

Freshman receiver compared to alumnus

PETER HOLLAND JR. Contributing Writer

T.Y. Hilton was arguably the most dominant play to ever play for FIU. He set records, won ball games and attracted thousands of fans.

Now being true freshman wide receiver Anthony Jones, his name might have popped up here and there at FIU and just last week during the Panther’s scrimmage, he caught a key catch out of bounds from sophomore Alex McGough. Get used to the name Anthony Jones, a former 3 star receiver out of Miami Central High School, or his 5’11 stature winning pedigree at Miami Central, or his 5’11 stature with breakaway speed nor is it the fact that he plays the same position Hilton does. It’s simply because he has a humble heart that’s bought in to Coach Turner’s system to bring back their winning ways and putting the team first. “It’s not really me, I just think we gonna have a big year,” Jones said. “We trying to turn this thing around, get it back like TY when he was here and much even better,” he then replied.

Opening game is around the corner and expect Anthony Jones to all over the field and make something out of nothing in his first year. In the end he just wants to win ball games like the rest of the team.

SPORTS

The Beacon – Wednesday, August 26, 2015

PETER HOLLAND JR. Contributing Writer

T.Y. Hilton was arguably the most dominant play to ever play for FIU. He set records, won ball games and attracted thousands of fans.

Now being true freshman wide receiver Anthony Jones, his name might have popped up here and there at FIU and just last week during the Panther’s scrimmage, he caught a key catch out of bounds from sophomore Alex McGough. Get used to the name Anthony Jones, a former 3 star receiver out of Miami Central High School, or his 5’11 stature winning pedigree at Miami Central, or his 5’11 stature with breakaway speed nor is it the fact that he plays the same position Hilton does. It’s simply because he has a humble heart that’s bought in to Coach Turner’s system to bring back their winning ways and putting the team first. “It’s not really me, I just think we gonna have a big year,” Jones said. “We trying to turn this thing around, get it back like TY when he was here and much even better,” he then replied.

Opening game is around the corner and expect Anthony Jones to all over the field and make something out of nothing in his first year. In the end he just wants to win ball games like the rest of the team.
Barbecue kicks off the semester at BBC

ALEXANDRA MOSQUERA NETZKARSCH & GABBY ARZOLA
FILMS Staff
bbc@fiusm.com

The Week of Welcome events at the Biscayne Bay Campus started off on Monday with the barbeque hosted by Campus Life and about 600 students attended.

“Food always brings people together,” said Henry Zelaya, production assistant at FIU BBC.

That was exactly the goal Campus Life had, aside from “having a good time,” said Andres Bermeo, the account manager of Campus Life.

The line to get food was long, but students didn’t mind, “many were able to get food twice,” said Bermeo.

“For most students it is their first day of school at a university or the start of their last semester at FIU,” said Joshua Carrasco, master’s in higher education administration, who waited in line quite some time. “What better way to kick off the school year?” said Carrasco.

Food, such as salad, burgers, sweet beans, rotisserie chicken and different fruits, besides refreshments and music were offered between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Panther Square having tables set up for students to sit down and eat their meals.

This set up was meant to “encourage interaction between students and get to know each other while enjoying their meals,” said Bermeo.

The food wasn’t the only hit among students.

“The music is vibing and the atmosphere is great,” said Bendji Calizte, senior in political science studies.

The band playing during the event, “Steel Away” made up by Gail Clarke-Alleyne, her husband Fitzroy “Fox” Alleyne and their son Kwesi.

“We’ve been performing at this event for the past four years,” said Clarke. “And every time it is a pleasure to be here because the atmosphere is very positive, you can feel it.”

The band was playing Caribbean inspired music, but they also play jazz and contemporary music around the U.S. and at an international level.

In addition there were giveaways such as t-shirts for students.

“We had 300 t-shirts and they were all gone before the event ended,” said Bermeo.

There are four more events taking place at BBC throughout the week organized by Campus Life and one organized by the Spirit Council on Friday.

“I think it’s a great opening for meeting new people and taking the early stress off from everything,” said Jasmine Avery, senior in broadcast journalism.

International junior hospitality majors Wu Nan (front left), Zhang Dongbei (far right) and Chen Lin (middle) enjoy the meals given out at the Welcome BBQ.

Students crowd Panther Square for free food and music, where the Welcome BBQ took place from 11 a.m to 2 p.m.

GEAR UP FOR COLLEGE

GREAT BRANDS. GREAT PRICES.

We're really close by! Visit stores.officedepot.com

$10 off your qualifying purchase of $30

For details & to print your coupon, visit officedepot.com/college