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The Beacon, December 3, 2015

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Fire at 109 Tower displaces students

Nicole Montero
Asst. New Director
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Nearly 500 University students were evacuated from their homes after a fire at 109 Tower, a 15-story building that functions as off-campus housing for students.

The fire started on the 10th floor of the kitchen on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at around 1 a.m., according to NBC 6 News.

“The tower’s sprinkler system put the fire out quickly, but caused damage to the lower floors. There was damage caused by flooding because of a ‘robust sprinkler system,’” according to Elizabeth Bejar, vice president for Academic Affairs at a faculty senate meeting Tuesday.

“Around 1 a.m., I noticed that there were a lot of fire trucks and ambulances outside the building,” said Chloe Antoine, a junior majoring in liberal studies and a 109 Tower resident. “I understood there was a fire and I called the [person] on-call and they told me that it had already been put out.”

But, at around 3 a.m., she was woken up by firefighters.

“I woke up because firefighters were knocking on the door telling everyone to evacuate,” Antoine said. “Everyone in the building was locked outside and spent the whole morning there. I was there from 3 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. until I finally went to my grandmother’s house.”

However, some students don’t have anyone in South Florida to stay with.

“I am an out-of-state student from Puerto Rico,” said Daniela Garcia-Rovira, a senior majoring in advertising and a Tower resident. “109 is the place I call home. I have some friends who have offered me a place to stay in case of anything, [but] I’m just anxious to know what will happen.”

However, Bejar said the University will house some residents and shuttle them back and forth to campus if needed. She also said that she can validate for faculty which students were affected.

Garcia-Rovira thought she would be allowed to grab her stuff before evacuating the tower, but they rushed her out.

“[I was] shak[ing] and scared,” Garcia-Rovira said. “They wouldn’t even let us be in the lobby. I sat outside in small steps in front of the building, hoping this would only be a couple minutes. Those couple minutes turned into hours.”

Hundreds of students who live at 109 Tower along Southwest 109th Avenue at 7th Street were displaced after a fire evacuation on the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 1. At the time of production, it was unknown when they would return.

At 10:30 a.m., police let students change their clothes and grab their laptops and books on a floor-by-floor basis. They were also given meal passes to buy breakfast at Fresh Food Company at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus Graham Center.

“I was on the last floor, so we were the last group to be escorted up to our rooms,” Garcia-Rovira said. “The building is now on lockdown until further notice, and I have not heard anything as to when it will re-open.”

The University released a statement saying that no one was hurt and that the building was going to be inspected later on.

“We ask faculty be patient and sensitive to this situation, as many of the evacuees likely will be unprepared for class today,” wrote External Relations in a University-wide email.

Hundreds of students were displaced by the fire in the building, located on the corner of 8th Street and 109th Avenue, according to NBC 6 News.

At the time of publication, it was unknown when the students would return to Towers.

“There are electricians inspecting plugs on each floor to make sure there’s no problem, and the firefighters will also inspect each floor to make sure it’s safe,” said Antoine. “Most of the students were just really upset because we were kicked out and weren’t allowed to go back in to get anything.”

The cause of the fire was still under investigation.

“I want my bed,” said Garcia-Rovira. “I want the 109 Tower officials to address this personally and explain everything to us. I want to get as much information as possible.”

Additional reporting by Philippe Bateau. Visit fiusm.com for continued updates as this story develops.

Sophie Herbut
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Alexander Orta developed a routine when he graduated from high school, preparing himself for college. One mistake, however, could not be dissolved all of his attempts to get an education.

“I was finally of age of a college student so I wanted to try the stereotype of college students,” Orta said. He found one way to do this was to recreationally use marijuana.

There has been an increase in the use of illegal drugs, with an estimated 80.6 percent using marijuana in 2013 according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

The use of “study drugs,” such as Adderall, Vyvanse or Ritalin, are also at staggering heights -- about 30 percent, according to a 2006 study by the University of Kentucky.

The most common reason to focus while studying, especially during the time of midterm and final exams.

Paola Silva said she tried Adderall because of the lack of time she had to do homework while handling a full-time job.

“I wish it didn’t come down to trying Adderall but it really did help more than I had expected it to,” the junior education major said. “When I would sit down to study I was so tired, and it was so easy to get distracted.”

She said she was able to sit

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Student stimulant drug use – on the rise?

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College students are reported to use marijuana daily, according to a 2014 study by the University of Michigan.

After the consistence of his schedule, his friends decided to relocate to a hidden location with unmaintained, tall grass. After a previous warning from a man who lived close, they showed up to the same location and found a police officer stationed and ready for suspicious activity.

“As soon as we turned our headlights off, a car turns theirs on and drives up to us,” Orta said. He said the officer immediately asked for the drugs and they complied.

“He asked us if we go to school and I think that’s when he pitted us,” Orta said. “A lot of cops have pitty of college students.”

David Navas, an officer within FIUPD’s Investigations and Compliance Division, said he understands the power the officer has on the future of a student that has been caught in possession of illegal drugs.

“It’s a very difficult moment in an officer’s life when that person’s future is in [his or her] hands,” Navas said. “And it’s that one decision that officer makes that can pretty much make it or break it for that person’s future, for a simple mistake.”

Orta was charged with a misdemeanor and was given a promise to appear in court.

During the next few months, Orta said he was living in fear of telling his parents and thought he would be able to keep it from them. In that time, he had to fill out his FAFSA, and it asked if he was ever convicted for drug-related crime.

“I didn’t know what to put,” said Orta. “That was my biggest fear. The fear that college would be taken away from me.”

Navas said he thinks it’s a shame that students put themselves in these situations.

“It’s a difficult decision when you have these students that could be honor students, that could be in the school of medicine, that could be a law student that have everything going for them, and they don’t realize the potential consequences of doing this,” he said.

Nicole Wallace, a junior environmental science major, has seen people in the University use drugs.

“There were people smoking weed in the common area and walking around with, like, blunts in their hands in front of the dorms,” said Wallace.

Navas said that as university police officers, they have several options for students who are discovered to be in possession of illegal drugs or contraband.

The officer has the alternative to send the student to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, give them a “promise to appear,” or an option to go home and set a court date instead of arrest. They are also exploring civil citations as an option to non-students.

The use of “study drugs,” such as Adderall, Vyvanse or Ritalin, are also at staggering heights -- about 30 percent, according to a 2006 study by the University of Kentucky.

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Nearly 50 students per day have used services offered by University Health Services this past week because of stress on final exams, said Camila Pham, University Health Services health promotion coordinator.

This week, University Health Services is hosting, “Recharge for Finals,” from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Green Library 220.

The event is a therapeutic break between study sessions with complimentary oatmeal, tea, aromatherapy oils and massage, according to Pham.

“We want to help students energize themselves in the healthiest way possible,” Pham said.

She said students often forget to eat healthy and to relax during time studying periods.

“We are here in the library where students spend a lot of time this week and next week during finals to offer them a chance to come get a healthy snack and clear their minds from the stress, which many students forget to do,” Pham said.

The event has been annual tradition for the past four years for the University’s Health Living Program, according to Pham.

Dr. Rachel Perez, a fresh man political science major, was on her way to the library for her five finals when she saw a “Recharge for Finals” sign and decided to stop by.

“It was awesome, they had relaxing music playing, the masseuse was really thorough and the oils they used were great. I loved the whole vibe,” said Perez. “It really is a good idea giving students something to look forward to in the middle of a study day.”

Attendees of the event can choose to take tea packets with them -- a choice between green and black tea.

“arjen the darker the tea, the more caffeine it has,” said Pham. “Students love drinking coffee around this time, but dark tea has just enough caffeine to be a better alternative.”

Vials of aromatherapy oils are also given to students to take with them after they’ve had their massage.

The oils are called, Energy and Study. Energy is a blend of peppermint and lavender that helps with focus, while Study is a blend of peppermint and lavender that helps with memory retention.

“We like to give out these oils because a little bit of ginger root, lemon grass, and lavender mix is a blend of peppermint and lavender that helps with focus, while Study is a blend of peppermint and lavender that helps with memory retention.”

The Healthy Living Program, part of Health Services, also works with the Student Government Association and the Graham Center to host other events, according to the Midnight Breakfast.

Midnight Breakfast is an event that offers students breakfast fresh Food Company during late night studying.

The event will take place Monday, Dec. 7 at the Biscayne Bay Campus Panther Square. The last day to participate at “Recharge for Finals” will be on Monday, Dec. 7 at the Graham Center Pit.

Stimulant drug use a trend among students

The use of Adderall or other prescription ADHD medications do not appear to change the chance of risks, said Daniel Castellanos, chair of the eighth grade students and the second year addition for high school.

Castellanos said the five-third-size drug in eighth grade students and the second most used among twelfth grade students, according to the study by the University of Michigan.

The study also showed the common source for these drugs are from a friend or relative.

“Some people call it a misuse so they don’t call it an addiction,” Castellanos said.

Castellanos also said Adderall is a schedule-2 drug, meaning it’s highly monitored because of its potential for abuse and addiction.

“I didn’t take it all at once. With the instant release 30 mg capsules, I only took half of the dose, which still was able to wake me up and do the trick,” she said.

She also applied tricks a friend gave her for managing the side effects.

Castellanos mentioned the steps to prescribing a drug like the physical and tests to make sure a person is healthy to take the drug.

“When it’s not supervised and monitored, you have all these potential risks,” Castellanos said. He also cited a study that showed that dosage didn’t appear to change the chance of risks.

Navas mentioned these drugs are harder to find because of their casual, prescribed use, but they’re still prominent.

“It’s definitely a major challenge for us to find these drugs that are being used illegally. Because unlike marijuana you can smell it, you can test for it [more easily],” he said.

He said a usual investigation starts from a simple encounter, like an official violation, and the officer could see a pill container and he’ll start questioning.

“It’s a shame to even hear that students are doing this to take a test,” he said.

Navas also mentioned that the use of these drugs while putting others in danger.

“Safety for everyone else is paramount,” he said.

healthservices.hosts.rechargeforfinals.

THE BEACON

Health Services hosts recharge for finals

Recreational drug use a trend among students

A stimulant drug use a trend among students

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

The Beacon – Thursday, December 3, 2015

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Planned Parenthood shooting controversy

Every individual has a different predicament and who are we to admonish their freedom of choice!

Planned Parenthood has been a heated topic of debate among Republican presidential candidates. It has fractured Congress and according to the NY Times. Planned Parenthood “was expected to be prominent in the debate for legislation to finance federal operations, which the Republican-controlled Congress must pass before Dec.11 to keep the government open.” Anti-abortion conservatives want Republican leaders to let the government shut down unless President Obama agrees to end reimbursements to Planned Parenthood for health services to “low-income patients.”

Planned Parenthood has been investigated by an anti-abortion group called the Center for Medical Progress for “trafficking in ‘baby parts.’” They have denied these allegations.

Planned Parenthood has dealt with their fair share of controversy ever since abortion became legal nationally in 1973. Incidents have occurred where “many abortion clinics and staff members across the country have been subjected to harassment including death and bomb threats,” according to the NY Times.

The Colorado Spring Center has been exposed to many anti-abortion protests after videos surfaced of Planned Parenthood officials speaking about using fetal organs for research and profit.

Abortion is a polemic issue that continues to cause great dissent and unrest in America. The ethics of human life are contested and scrutinized in the hopes of determining who has the right to set a value on someone’s existence. However, as a woman, I believe that right to have an abortion should be reserved to the women who are struggling with that decision. These examinations of the morality of abortions paint a viewpoint of only having two options, which places an enormous amount of pressure on women. This issue is not black and white. Wanting an abortion could be attributed to a number of factors. It is a complex matter with many layers underlying it, undergoing critical assessment before it is deemed as final. Victims of rape and incest should be given the option of abortion. We must set aside our preconceived notions of what we hold true in order to look through an objective lens. We must ask ourselves how it is like to live in their circumstances; experiencing all of the suffering they have endured. Every individual has a different predicament and who are we to admonish their freedom of choice?

Panther Buzz is a commentary that raises awareness for important issues. Fabienne Fleurantin is a Contributing Writer for FIU Student Media. For more commentary, contact her at opinion@fiusm.com.

Writing benefits mental and physical health

Do you remember the first time you wrote a story, poem or essay? How did it feel to write words on a single sheet of paper to create something expressive? Writing is known as a great activity for students to express their opinion on a topic or to craft a creative piece. Not only is writing fun, but it can also be beneficial towards one’s physical and mental health.

Sometimes the hardships and responsibilities of life can make a person feel like gravity is weighing down heavily upon them which leads to stress and bad health. Most people have trouble communicating with their friends or family about how they really feel. Instead, they prefer to keep those feelings of depression and worryment bottled up without realizing the consequence it will have on their health.

Expressive writing, a common therapeutic method, is recommended by psychologists to guide people towards writing down their feelings in order to improve their moods and their well-being. Research by Professor Laura A. King of the University of Missouri revealed that writing about future goals and dreams aids in making people feel happier and develops better health.

Stress is a common problem we all have when it comes to balancing school and work. Stress leads to poor eating habits, lack of sleep and our nervousness. Writing has been recommended to help reduce stress levels and ease our minds by writing each day. You can write short stories, daily observations, poems and even ideas for school assignments to guide you towards feeling at peace.

Writing is not only good for the mind but it can be good for the body too. Studies have shown the physical benefits of writing have been linked to improvements of lung function, liver function and of the immune system. One common physical benefit of writing we all know is the development of our arm muscles in which the more one writes, the stronger one becomes in being able to withstand the pain of writing for more than an hour.

Academic and creative writing are both beneficial towards our mental and physical health. Writing an article, a story or poem, class notes and writing essays guides us toward discovering new information to inspire us. Most significantly, it reduces stress and sharpens our minds.

If you are inspired by an experience or you just feel the need to express your feelings, try writing to show your thoughts and creativity. The more you write every day, the better writer you will become.

The Panther’s Eye is a commentary on interesting things here in the U.S. and others around the world. Ana Barrios is a Contributing Writer for FIU Student Media. For more commentary, contact her at opinion@fiusm.com.

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‘The Good Dinosaur’ is a ‘mature children’s movie’

Pixar is a force of large magnitude, which is certain to the average moviegoer. Much like its timeless grand master, the stories Pixar tells hit close to home and has a little bit of its own magic that makes it unique and clever.

Simply put, “The Good Dinosaur” is no different. Following on the curtails of Pixar tales hit close to home and has a little bit of its own magic that makes it unique and clever.

In truth, “The Good Dinosaur” is actually a very wonderful movie. At its surface, it’s about dinosaurs, so there’s that. At its core, it’s a true coming of age story. In an alternate timeline, the scientifically famed asteroid that destroyed the dinosaurs millions of years ago, well, never hit.

A young green brontosaurus named Arlo helps his family on their corn farm somewhere in the American farm lands, presumably well after Pangea. After discovering a human boy has been stealing their food before the winter is set to arrive, Arlo and his father set out to find him and kill him. It’s not a well kept secret, even from the audience.

Unfortunately, a deadly hurricane hits and terrifies the mountain path they’re on and causes a devastating flood that sweeps Arlo’s father up and kills him. In pursuit of the human boy he blames his father’s death on, Arlo becomes quickly lost and goes on a tiring journey to return home and face his fears.

If this story sounds a bit out of the ordinary, you wouldn’t necessarily be wrong. The movie is targeted for children, and respectfully has collective gags and moments for the kids to enjoy. However, take caution because the movie is intense; not gory, violent, or risque.

As a Pixar movie with a young target audience, the experience just might be a little too much for the little ones to absorb. Arlo is beaten and bruised many times, and many times it looks like it hurts. He witnesses some horrifying things from the film’s antagonists and there are moments where Arlo has to digest things that wouldn’t really be registered by a child. Instead, it is most likely to resonate with the adult that they’re with.

This isn’t to say that the movie wasn’t very much a children’s movie, it merely just featured more mature storytelling to take in than was even displayed in “Inside Out,” “Up,” and “Toy Story 3.” This is also not to say it was a bad movie. The film was very somber and wholesome. It was definitely slow paced, but ultimately it was a nice follow-up to a movie about the permanent effects of psychological and emotional development.

“The Good Dinosaur” provides something new to the coherent message of all the Pixar films in its catalog, if handled a bit off-paced. The film was a very long time in the making and suffered many reported script and casting changes. This made Pixar fans a bit skeptical of its performance.

“The Good Dinosaur” was released last week, marking the first time there has ever been two consecutive Pixar releases in the same year. Joseph Cardenas is a contributing writer for FIUSM. To offer suggestions on movies and pop culture for Joseph to write about, email life@fiusm.com.

Annual music concert benefits local schools

The National Association for Music Education is preparing for their eighth annual “Music in Need” benefit concert.

The concert will take place Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Since 2007, the benefit concert has been organized to help fund music programs in Miami-Dade schools one at a time.

According to Rodriguez, by coming to this event, students will open doors to new opportunities for those musical groups to grow because it is a good cause and a night with free admission and is open to anyone interested. People who attend the concert for Rockway or to support music programs will be receiving the donations from last year’s benefit concert.

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The concert will be at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center at Miami Dade College-Wolfson, located at 5959 N.W. 2nd Ave., Miami, FL 33127. Doors open at 7 p.m. Donation of $5 or more are suggested at the door.

The concert will feature students from Miami-Dade schools, children, adults, and groups.” Rodriguez said.

People should attend the concert not only to improve music programs in Miami-Dade schools one at a time.

Daniel Rodriguez, a junior music education major and president of NAfME quoted Malcolm Bane to explain the goal of the annual benefit concert.

He explained that NAfME is hoping to improve music programs in the local area little by little by helping a different school’s music program every year. Every year, one Miami-Dade school is chosen to receive the concert’s proceeds, Rockway Middle School was chosen this year.

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For more information, contact the Wertheim Performing Arts Center Events Office at 305-348-0496 or wpac@fiu.edu.

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Erykah Badu’s new mixtape
‘an assertive statement’

Erykah Badu, known for her eclectic and soulful sound, has released her latest mixtape, ‘But You Can’t Use My Phone.’ The mixtape is an ode to the artist’s personal experiences and societal commentary. Here are some highlights:

**On the Stand-out Track**
- The mixtape starts with the powerful single “But You Can’t Use My Phone,” opening with a statement that Badu is asserting her right to independence and self-control.

**Badu’s Style**
- Badu’s style is characterized by her playful and sometimes ironic approach to topics. She uses her music to challenge societal norms and relationships.

**Critical Reception**
- The mixtape received mostly positive reviews. It was hailed for its raw and honest depiction of relationships and personal growth.

**Conclusion**
- ‘But You Can’t Use My Phone’ is not just a mixtape; it’s a statement that Badu is here to claim her space, her voice, and her agency. It’s a reminder that assertiveness can be a form of empowerment and a celebration of self.

**Listen Now**
- You can stream ‘But You Can’t Use My Phone’ on platforms like Apple Music or your favorite streaming service. It’s a must-listen for fans of Badu and for anyone who seeks the power of assertive self-expression.

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**BASIL ON A BUDGET**

**Frost Art Museum at FIU:**

Breakfast in the Park
Complimentary breakfast at the University’s sculpture garden, Sunday, Dec. 6 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

**Mana Wynwood:**

Mana Contemporary Art Week
Three unique exhibits during Art Basel: Admission is free. Saturday, Dec. 5 to Sunday, Dec. 6.

**The Spinello Project: Littlest Saints’ Fair**

A charity event for Moms’ most prominent women in the arts. Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4.

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**BASEL ON A BUDGET**

**STEFANIE ESPAILLAT**

Staff Writer
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**BASIL ON A BUDGET**

**Adam Bernstein, junior, marketing major.**

My Chanukah Break plans are spending time with my family who are coming in from Connecticut. I want to get ahead in my work at SOA I’m the graphic artist, so I want to plan for the spring semester.

**Geraldine Gascon, junior, psychology major.**

I’ll be working at my family’s store in Wynwood. And going to the gym, too. I’m just trying to keep my head up.

**Yvensan Fievre, junior, biomedical engineering major.**

I’m going to Masonic for a religious conference, URBANA, it only happens one time every four years.

**Meredith Marseille, sophomore, public relations major.**

I’ll be looking for a new job, I just got a new car so I’m going to go drinking!

**Stephanie Espaillat**

Staff Writer
stefanie.espaillat@fiu.com

**Panther Thoughts**

**Jasmine Felix, senior, nursing and sociology major.**

I’m so excited for the break! I’m traveling to Ghana for vacation.

**Adam Bernstein, junior, marketing major.**

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I’m going to Masonic for a religious conference, URBANA, it only happens one time every four years.

**Stephanie Espaillat**

Staff Writer
stefanie.espaillat@fiu.com

**Panther Thoughts**

**Jasmine Felix, senior, nursing and sociology major.**

I’m so excited for the break! I’m traveling to Ghana for vacation.

**Adam Bernstein, junior, marketing major.**

My Chanukah Break plans are spending time with my family who are coming in from Connecticut. I want to get ahead in my work at SOA I’m the graphic artist, so I want to plan for the spring semester.

**Geraldine Gascon, junior, psychology major.**

I’ll be working at my family’s store in Wynwood. And going to the gym, too. I’m just trying to keep my head up.

**Yvensan Fievre, junior, biomedical engineering major.**

I’m going to Masonic for a religious conference, URBANA, it only happens one time every four years.
Barry Bonds may join Miami Marlins as hitting coach

Barry Bonds – Major League Baseball's all-time home run king whose legacy was tarnished by links to steroids – could be joining the Marlins as a hitting coach.

Sources said Bonds is under consideration for a coaching position under new manager Don Mattingly and would likely pair up with Frank Menechino in helping Marlins hitters.

Bonds, who holds the major-league record for home runs with 762, has never had a full-time coaching position before. He has served as a special hitting instructor for the Giants during spring training.

In 2007, Bonds broke Hank Aaron's all-time home run record in what was his 22nd and final season in the majors. He set the single-season home run record with 73 in 2001, and he also set the league's all-time leader in walks.

Bonds, 51, was a 14-time All-Star and was voted the Most Valuable Player seven times.

If Bonds joins the Marlins, he would not be the first former slugger whose reputation was tainted by steroid allegations to become a big-league hitting coach.

Mark McGwire, who has admitted to using steroids, is hitting coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers after serving in the same role with the Cardinals.

Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria has always had a liking for them. For suggestions or commentary, email sports@fiu.edu.

DRUCKER’S DIGEST

Barry Bonds may join Miami Marlins as hitting coach

CLARK SPENCER

The Miami Herald

11/27/2015

The Celtics have been a maddening mess of multiple personalities through the first month of the season – which is about the only way to explain beating Brooklyn by 25 and losing to the same club by 11 two days later. And beating Washington by 23 last Friday before falling by 19 in Orlando Sunday.

Fortunately for Brad Stevens’ blood pressure, the pendulum always swings back. Here on the second night of a back-to-back, that meant turning the mathematical tables on the Heat, 105-95.

Miami had the second-ranked defense in the NBA, giving up just 91.7 points a game. It had also been good with the ball, turning it over just 13.8 times per contest, the best in the league.

So the C’s put six players in double figures, led by Avery Bradley’s 25 points, and forced the Heat into 19 turnovers, from which the visitors extracted 24 points. The Bostonsians started this one out sluggishly, but steadied out of the skid and were allowed their better selves to win.

Dwyane Wade (30 points) and Chris Bosh (21) put on a legends’ performance, but the Celtics stayed the course and held the line at the end. After leading beat up by the Magic, this was a welcome result for them.

“They played their game from the start,” said Thomas. “We didn’t get the job done, that’s a good sign of our cohesion and it’s a good sign that we have a chance to win.”

With a Thursday game in Mexico City against Sacramento and exams in San Antonio and New Orleans still left on this trip, the Celtics put some desperation to good use last night.
Zac Taylor to take over play-calling duties

CHRIS PERKINS AND OLLIE KELLY
Sun Sentinel

Zac Taylor, who has served as the Dolphins’ quarterbacks coach since 2013, will take over play-calling duties for Miami after the team fired Bill Lazor on Monday, less than two years after Lazor took the job.

Taylor, the 32-year-old son-in-law of former Dolphins offensive coordinator Mike Sherman, has a vision for this disadvantage that the Dolphins “don’t have numbers in mind,” said Taylor after he was reminded that the Dolphins were 11th in scoring last season at 24.3 points per game, but are 27th this year at 20.5 points per game.

I think Lazor was right: We need to be balanced.

Taylor said he doesn’t have any specific ideas on how he’ll improve the Dolphins’ offense so that he is ready to reveal publicly. But he did make a pledge.

“I’m going to run the ball,” said Taylor, who joined the Dolphins’ staff as assistant quarterbacks coach in 2012. “I think it’s important our players have that mindset.”

In a corresponding move the Dolphins promoted Phil McGeoghan, previously the assistant receivers coach, to receivers coach.

The Dolphins (4-7) are 26th in total offense at 335.9 yards per game, and 27th in rushing offense at 91.7 yards per game.

All too often this season the Dolphins’ offense has followed a trend of abandoning the run, especially when facing a deficit early in games. That’s a major reason they’re last in the NFL in rushing attempts (218) despite running 12 yards per attempt (4.6).

Interim coach Dan Campbell, who never had a head coach before being promoted and now has offensive and defensive coordinators in their roles for the first time, said he felt he needed to make a change after Sunday’s 38-20 loss to the New York Jets, a game in which the Dolphins ran the ball a season-low 12 times.

According to a team source, Lazor and Campbell, the third ends coach, have a contentious relationship because of their previous roles, where Campbell answered to Lazor. When the dynamics of those roles shifted after Joe Philbin was fired and Campbell became head coach, there was a period of discomfort.

Campbell struggled to get Lazor to buy into his commitment to the running game, according to a source.

Campbell said he didn’t sleep much Sunday night. He said when he decided to make the change he talked to Mike Tunnemann, the executive vice president of football operations and owner Steve Ross. But Campbell said the decision to make the change was his, and his alone.

“I looked at everything,” Campbell said while explaining how he arrived at his decision. “I feel like the offensively we’ve been anemic for five weeks now.”

Taylor, a college teammate of defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh at Nebraska, has never called play in an NFL game. He didn’t seem concerned.

“I’ve called a thousand games in my head,” I’ll tell you that,” he said.

“I always [said] to him was going to be a future head coach,” Dolphins offensive tackle Branden Albert said of Taylor. “He’s very detail-oriented when he’s planning stuff. He’s real professional.

“I know he’s going to do a good job for us.”

Taylor, who has worked closely with quarterback Ryan Tannehill since Tannehill was drafted in 2012, expressed sympathy and appreciation for Lazor.

“I feel awful for Bill,” he said. But Taylor said something must be done to breathe life into the offense.

“We just have to find ways for our players to play with confidence,” he said. Interestingly, Campbell said there would probably be personnel changes heading into Sunday’s game against Baltimore, but he declined to get more specific.

Campbell, who took over after Philbin led the Dolphins to a 1-3 record, has been in that quarterback room for four years now, so he seems his living a dream so far.

“AS a player you dream about playing in a Super Bowl,” Taylor said. “As a coach you dream about calling a Super Bowl.”

FOOTBALL

Canes close to choosing next football coach

CHRISTY CABRERA
CHRISNOS AND DAVE HYDE
Sun Sentinel

The Hurricanes could be inching closer to naming their next football coach. Sources familiar with the team ended Friday with a win over Pittsburgh, Miami officials have been busy interviewing several candidates who are in the running to become the school’s permanent coach, its fourth since the Hurricanes won a national title in 2001.

One of the candidates meeting with Miami was the man who put together that championship roster, former Hurricanes coach Butch Davis, a source said the Sun Sentinel. Others that have interviewed with Miami, the source indicated, include former Rutgers and Tampa Bay Buccaneers coach Greg Schiano, a former Hurricanes assistant, and Mississippi State coach Dan Mullen.

Rich, a former standout quarterback at Boca Raton High, horsepower Hurricanes coach, said during his final news conference at Georgia that he was still interested in coaching and would like to be more hands-on with play calling and quarterbacks coaching than he had been of late with the Bulldogs.

He could have those opportunities at Miami, which returns a talented young signal caller in Brad Kaaya, but the Hurricanes are not as deep as he was with the Hurricanes’ only two Caucus. Maryland, South Carolina and Virginia could be among the school’s competing with Miami for Richt’s services, and the coach himself said Monday night during his weekly radio show he’d be contacted by “about five” schools seeking to fill open jobs.

Richt, 55, was fired Sunday after 15 seasons at Georgia, where he had a 145-51 record with two SEC championships. The Bulldogs played in five conference title games during his time as his coach, but his resume and four straight wins to close the season weren’t enough to convince Georgia athletic director Greg McGarity to keep Richt in Athens.

But Richt has public support from at least one Hurricane, running back Mark Walton who blogged on Twitter: “I will love to see Mark Richt in [an] orange and green coaching uniform in 2016 as a Hurricane.” Walton, Miami’s second-leading rusher, was recruited by Georgia coming out of Miami’s Booker T. Washington High School.

For his part, Davis has been mum about his meeting with Miami during his weekly radio segment with 790 The Ticket on Monday. The former Hurricanes coach, who has been vocal about his desire to return to Coral Gables, declined to comment about the interview saying it was presently “inappropriate” to discuss the situation.

“I think it’s public knowledge that I’d love to be the head coach at the University of Miami. I’ve stated that pretty much emphatically for about half a month,” he said told the radio station. “But I think making any comments at this particular time is just kind of inappropriate. People are just going to have to live with rumors for the time being and we’ll see how it plays out.”

Over the weekend, FootballScoop.com reported that the 64-year-old Davis, who coached the Hurricanes from 1995-2000, had an “extremely positive” meeting with Miami and the site cited an anonymous source as saying that meeting “cleared some hurdles” for Davis to return to Miami.

Schiano, who had been mentioned as a possible candidate at Rutgers, where he coached from 2001-11 leaving the college ranks to coach the Buccaneers. The former defensive coordinator at Miami was 68-67 at Rutgers, leading the Knights to only 1-1 mark his first season there to a pair of nine-win seasons and an 0-4 start in season before leaving for the NFL.

Campbell said he promoted Taylor over offensive assistant Al Saunders, who Lazor requested be brought in to help with the passing game, because he knows him and trusts him.

“The 2015 season was the best season in his coaching career, I think it’s going to be a team effort, and we’re all going to come up with the best plan we can for Baltimore,” he said.

Taylor seems OK with that. After all, this is his first time in such a high-profile role, but he seems he’s living a dream so far.

“As a player you dream about playing in a Super Bowl,” Taylor said. “As a coach you dream about calling a Super Bowl.”
Florida Panthers know they must solve power-play woes on road

JOCELYN TALAVERA
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Nearly 250 students are expected to come to the Biscayne Bay Campus Midnight Breakfast, according to Pamela Castillo, Campus Life graduate assistant.

To help ease stress from finals week, “Now that’s What I Call Midnight Breakfast Y2K” is one of BBC Campus Life’s signature events.

The event is held twice a year every Monday of finals week, according to Andres Bermeo, BBC Campus Life account manager.

“The purpose of serving breakfast at that time is to have a presence during finals week, while showing support to our students studying until late,” said Bermeo.

Students are encouraged to come de-stress with free food, giveaways, massages and entertainment, said Castillo.

Breakfast options include eggs, pancakes, sausages and bacon.

A lot of students stay at the library or at BBC late at night, so we try to have midnight breakfast the first day of finals to help them relax,” said Castillo.

National Campus Midnight Breakfast is a tradition on many college campuses meant to provide some light distraction from studying.

“The common idea was music. We were throwing around ideas, the nostalgic games like the ‘Light It Again’, Backstreet Boys’ “It’s free from distractions that I have at home and if I get too stressed, I take breaks from studying,” said Bermeo, a senior advertising major.

Jorge Carmelo said he looks forward to massages provided during the event.

“Can the world’s coral reefs be saved?

DAVID HELVARG
Sun Sentinel
TNS Staff

Two Steps is a perfect snorkeling spot on the Big Island of Hawaii. Black lava rocks step down twice into the clear waters of a small bay where, on a good day, you’re guaranteed to see brightly colored fish and green sea turtles shooing through myriad forms of coral in shades of brown, green, yellow, pink and purple.

But if you happened to visit last month, you would have found about 30 percent of the corals bleached wedding-cake white.

It’s a sure sign that the ocean is heating up. Overly warm water causes living coral polyps to expel the photosynthetic algae, called zooxanthellae, that give their varied colors and they act as a food source for the corals.

Island of Hawaii. Black lava

With the return of a

All of Hawaii’s coral reefs are especially fragile in the face of ocean acidification, overfishing and climate change.

Unfortunately, they are likely to be exposed to conditions that can cause bleaching.

Tropical coral reefs cover less than 1 percent of the ocean, but they are home to more than 1 million species; billions of fish, mollusks and other creatures rely on reefs for their food and shelter.

They beauty generates tourism dollars, and they act as providers of such protection for millions of coastal residents.

There is some hope. Emerging science suggests that some corals that are fully protected from pollution and overfishing are more resilient to the impact of climate change.

That’s one reason a coalition of Hawaii-based groups is calling for an emergency moratorium on the collection of aquarium-trade fish off their reefs.

Some December and the U.N. climate summit in Paris, our choices for the future will become starkly black and white as Levin’s photographs of Hawaii’s bleached corals. It can start on our present paths of multiplying disasters or adopt that most basic of survival axioms: If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging. Past themes have centered around music like the “90s,” “rave” and “Björk on the Beach.” The basis behind this year’s theme is meant to bring good vibes for students and to bring some life to campus with music and games from the 2000s, according to Castillo.

With many born in the ’90s, the graduate assistants of the north campus met every week for two months to help plan midnight breakfast. They plan to release some tension for students with nostalgic games like the “Light Bright” and “Skip-It” and “Bop-It,” according to Castillo.

When we all sat together throwing ideas, the common idea was music. We

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