The Equinox

Covering the days and knights... at FDU's Metropolitan Campus

March 10, 2016 | Vol. XXVII Issue X

Knights Punch Ticket to the Dance

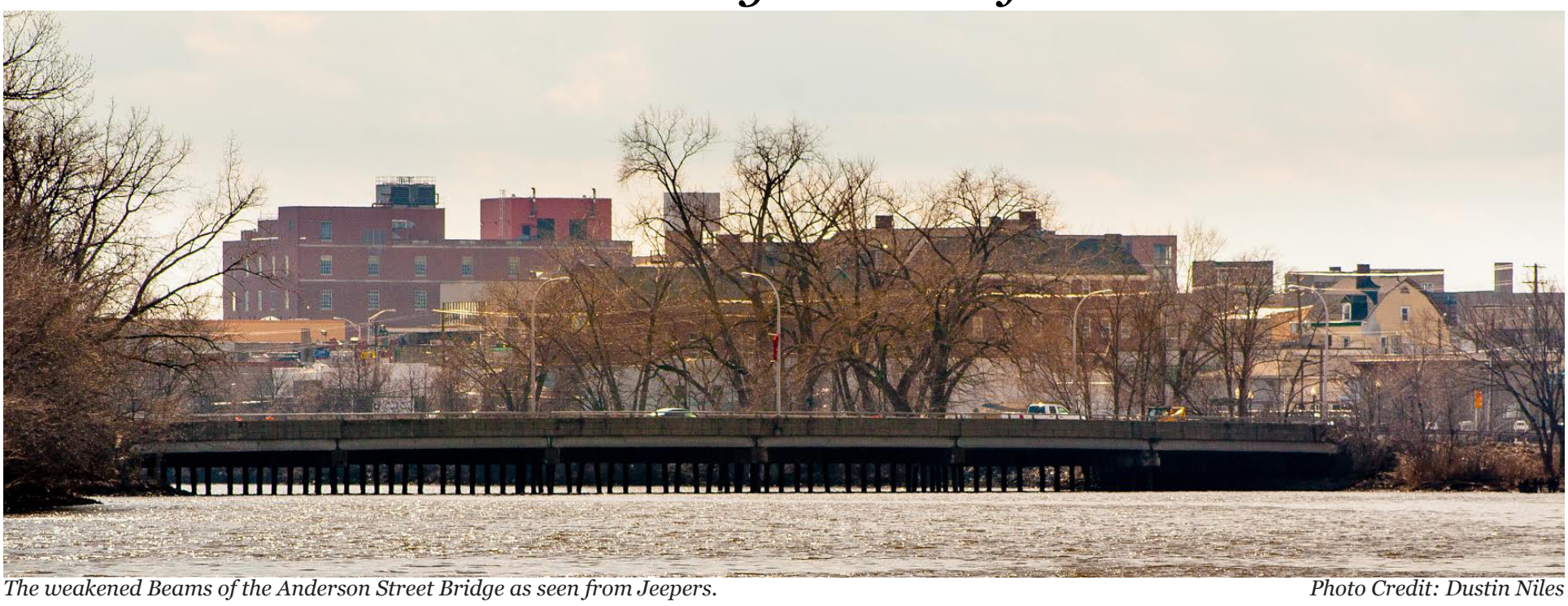
Men's Basketball wins NEC Championship, 87-79

Men's Basketball became FDU's second team this year to win the NEC Championship by defeating Wagner on their home turf on March 9, 2016.
Photo Credit: Larry Levanti

Story on Page 5

Decrepit Bridge Blocked For Repairs

Anderson Street Bridge closure forces detours



The weakened Beams of the Anderson Street Bridge as seen from Jeepers. *Photo Credit: Dustin Niles*

By Elizabeth White

(TEANECK) - Why is the bridge connecting Teaneck and Hackensack closed on one side, and why did no one tell us it was happening?

As many FDU students know, the fastest way to get into Hackensack via car is across the Anderson Street bridge, which lies at the western end of Cedar Lane.

Starting on Feb. 16, the eastbound lanes of the bridge going from Hackensack into Teaneck were been closed, forcing drivers to find other routes back over the river into Teaneck.

The Township of Teaneck released an update about the construction on Feb. 10 which said that interim repairs were being made on the Anderson Street Bridge and that the project should be completed by Jun. 28.

The update also said that the eastbound lanes will be closed first until May 16, then the eastbound lanes will reopen and the westbound lanes will close until the completion of the repairs.

The update also said, "The repairs are a temporary remedy until such time that either a permanent repair or bridge replacement is made."

The towns don't have the money to build a new bridge or make permanent repairs, so instead they continue to make temporary repairs.

According to NorthJersey.com, the Anderson Street Bridge was made to support two lanes of traffic in each direction. In 2012 inspectors found too many rotten beams, determined the bridge had structural deficiencies and forced one lane on each side to be closed.

In addition to the lane closures, a weight limit of 15 tons was put into place. This forced 11 bus routes to be detoured to nearby Route 4.

Rock salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice are what ultimately caused the demise of the Anderson Street bridge. Eating into the bridge's support structure, the bridge has slowly deteriorated over the years.

In the meantime, students and faculty can use other local bridges to get between Teaneck and Hackensack.

From the North, Route 4 provides access despite being traffic stricken often. From the south, Court Street and West Main Street bridges provide more convenient access across the river into Bogota and ultimately onto River Road.

If all else fails, Route 80 crosses the Hackensack river and provides yet another route to the other side, although it is quite out of the way.

News

FDU Salaries on Par with Competitors

By Theresa King

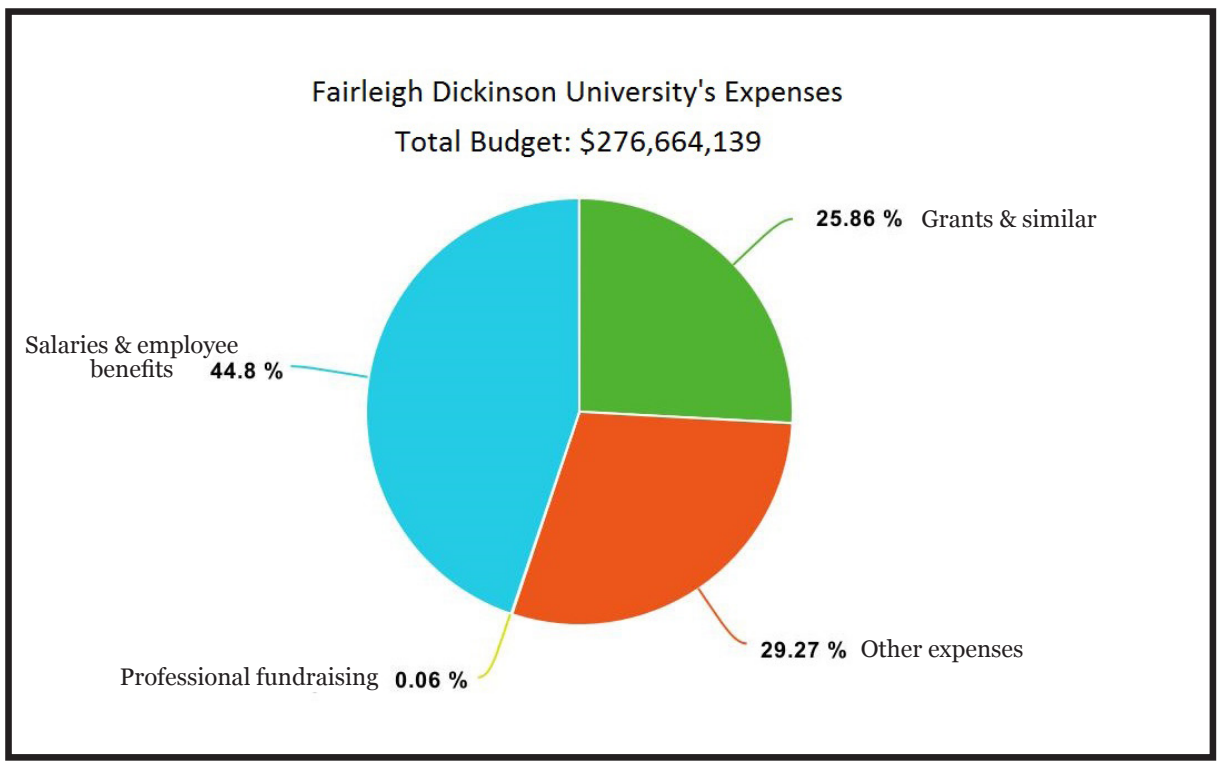


Photo Credit: Theresa King

(TEANECK) - For a university with more than $291 million in annual revenue, 44.8 percent for payroll might seem high. But a comparison of FDU's IRS Form 990 with those of Seton Hall and Monmouth universities revealed that FDU's employee costs are in line with other private universities in New Jersey. Additionally, salaries compose a reasonable, and common, percentage of the university's total expenses.

According to the software company Intuit, most tax-exempt organizations must file the IRS Form 990. These forms are public records, and contain information including total revenue, top employee salaries and more.

Fairleigh Dickinson University, with a total enrollment of 11,619 students, had a total gross revenue of $291,548,604 in 2013. In expenses, $123,953,310 out of its $276,664,139 total expenses was for "salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits," or 44.8 percent of the university's total expenses. Seton Hall's, whose enrollment totaled 9,627 students, added up to a total 43.7 percent of the university's total expenses, while Monmouth University's was 50.02 percent, with a total enrollment of 6,570 students.

The salaries of key employees are also available on the forms. Using this information, a comparison was done between university presidents and vice presidents of enrollment management, as these were positions all three universities employed. Again, the results were similar.

FDU President Sheldon Drucker earned a total $454,850 in 2013. In addition to base compensation, this number includes nontaxable benefits and bonus compensation. Monmouth's president, Paul Gaffney II earned $698,163 in 2012, while Seton Hall's, Gabriel Esteban, earned $595,716. Drucker's compensation is the lowest of the group.

The salaries for vice presidents of enrollment management were also similar. At FDU, Jonathan Wexler was paid $240,998, while Seton Hall's and Monmouth's vice-presidents of enrollment earned $304,746 and $238,971, respectively.

A striking difference was found, however, when examining highest paid employees. FDU and Monmouth's were observed to be university presidents, whereas Seton Hall's was its head coach of the men's basketball team, Kevin Willard, who earned $1,457,402 in 2012. FDU's highest paid, former university president J Michaels Adams, was paid $1,423,019 before his death in 2012, whereas Monmouth University's for the same year was current president Gaffney, previously noted as earning $698,163.

Monmouth University's head coach of men's basketball, King Rice, was paid $200,250 in 2012. However, the pay of FDU's head coach of men's basketball Greg Herenda is unknown, as it is not found on the university's IRS Form 990.

New Cancer Treatment Yields Successful Results

By Armand Butera

(TEANECK) - A new experimental cancer treatment hailing from Seattle is slowly gaining recognition for its new approach to combating the disease. Instead of injecting chemicals into the body like chemotherapy or other invasive treatments, the new process involves immune response cells, called T-cells, which are found naturally in the body.

The experimental technique was originally a product of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center based in Seattle under the guidance of Dr. Stanley Riddell.

According to a recent Huffington Post article Riddell "extracted a person's T cells in order to prime them to recognize the type of cancer that is affecting the patient, allowing those primed T cells to attack the growth while sparing healthy cells and tissues."

Riddell was not the only one to experiment with T-cells, however. The success of the treatment thus far was due to a decade-long collaboration with Dr. Michael Jensen of Seattle Children's Hospital. Jensen had been working to cure children with leukemia, much like Riddell who's patients had acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

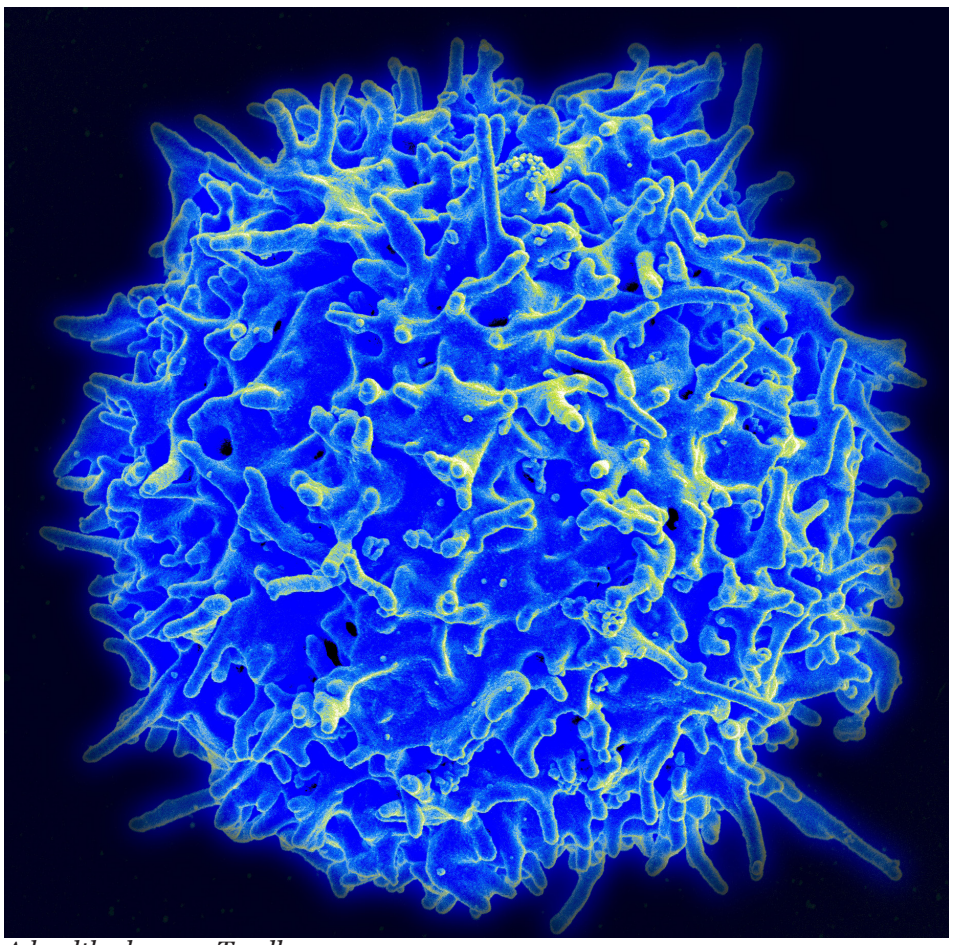
Leukemia is a form of cancer that typically attacks the body in a way that damages bone marrow. This causes the development of abnormal white blood cells that don't die when they should. This affects the immune system greatly, and although there have been full recoveries among patients, the average survival rate in the United States is still 57%.

However, Riddell and Jensen's results with the T-cell treatment had recently produced astonishing results with their patients, instilling hope and possibly leading to a brighter future in the quest to end the fight against cancer.

On Sunday, Feb. 14, Riddell traveled to Washington, D.C. for the annual meeting of a global event with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He announced his findings based on results from a group of 30 participants, all of which had terminal cases of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and another group of 29 with acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

The Huffington Post reported on Wednesday, Feb. 17 the overall results of Dr. Riddell. "93 percent of the small group of 29 participants with previously incurable or constantly relapsing acute lymphoblastic leukemia have gone into complete remission after undergoing Riddell's immune cell therapy," said Anna Almendrala.

Other reports of the non-Hodgkin's patients state that 65 percent of the group had gone into remission as well. A smaller, 15-patient group with chronic lymphocytic leukemia underwent treatment as well, however, the results remain too early to report. Riddell claims that the patients showed really high remission rates, but the testing is yet to be done.



A healthy human T-cell.

Photo Credit: Google Images

With patients having relapsed earlier even with the efforts of traditional therapy, it came as a welcomed change for Riddell and his participants to have more beneficial results.

"To take an experimental therapy and use it on patients that are this advanced, and to get these kind of results, is really encouraging," Riddell said. "This is really another demonstration that [shows] the immune system can be used to treat cancer."

News

Self-Driving Car at Fault in Crash

By Dustin Niles

Feb. 14 marked the first time Google's self-driving car caused a crash in over a million miles and six years.
Photo Credit: Google Images

(TEANECK) - However, Google's self-driving system isn't the perfect driver, at least not yet. On Feb. 14, a Lexus SUV outfitted with Google's self-driving system collided with a bus in Mountain View, California when it tried to merge into a lane at 2 mph, anticipating that the bus would slow down and leave room for the car, according to ExtremeTech.com.

Google released a statement on Monday, Feb. 29 regarding the incident. They acknowledged that the self-driving car was at fault, marking the first time that the self-driving system was at fault in over a million miles, six years and 17 other incidents, according to USA Today.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration had only legally recognized Google's self-driving car as a driver on Feb. 4., according to Reuters. The process started when Google sent a letter in November to the NHTSA inquiring about the application of many NHTSA laws and regulations for a self-driving vehicle, according to CleanTechnica.com.

The NHTSA responded in another open letter, interpreting the laws and regulations and suggesting that current regulations were not sufficient for upcoming driverless technologies.

"As self-driving technology moves beyond what was envisioned at the time when standards were issued, NHTSA may not be able to use the same kinds of test procedures for determining compliance," the NHTSA said.

The questions were raised when Google chose to move forward with a radical design for its driverless system, including a lack of features such as a steering wheel, throttle pedal and brake pedal. This design brought to light questions on NHTSA policies that relied specifically on those parts or on conventional driver functions that involve those parts.

Google's design was one of the first of its kind that sought to reach the top level of driving automation, as set forth by the NHTSA in a policy released in 2013. It defined 4 levels of driver automation.

The top level of driving automation is described by the NHTSA as when a vehicle is, "...designed to perform all safety-critical driving functions and monitor roadway conditions for an entire trip. Such a design anticipates that the driver will provide destination or navigation input, but is not expected to be available for control at any time during the trip. This includes both occupied and unoccupied vehicles."

This statement by the NHTSA lays the groundwork for further automated driving designs to follow in Google's footsteps.

"NHTSA will interpret 'driver' in the context of Google's described motor vehicle design as referring to the (self-driving system), and not to any of the vehicle occupants," the NHTSA said in its response to Google.

Credit Union Caves

By Dustin Niles

The sign still hangs above the deserted Teaneck Branch of FDU's Federal Credit Union.
Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

(TEANECK) - The Teaneck branch of the Fairleigh Dickinson University's Federal Credit Union has closed. Located in Alumni Hall above Jeepers, the branch was one of two locations, the other being at Fairleigh Dickinson's Madison campus, according to the credit union's website. The website also said that there are also "six ATM's across both campuses." However, the "locations" link lists only the Madison location.

An information sheet is available outside the closed Teaneck location that lists a lot of what students need to know about the closing. It states that the Teaneck location was closed because the University chose not to renew their lease, and the credit union is "unable to find an alternate space in that location that will be in the best interest of our members or the Credit Union."

The credit union decided not to work with the University to add more ATM machines on campus because the University demanded too many payments, and the credit union did not want to raise fees for credit union members, according to the information sheet.

However, despite the closing of the Teaneck branch, the credit union states it is "in excellent financial condition" and "is adding more electronic services for banking at home convenience."

Sports

Baseball Welcomes New Bleachers

By Dustin Niles

(TEANECK) - Several hundred students and fans filled the new bleachers on the sunny 70-degree baseball home opener against the St. John's Red Storm on Mar. 9.

The bleachers were waiting for action since they were completed this summer, according to FDU's website.

David Langford, Director of Athletics at the Metropolitan Campus said in his February 2016 newsletter, "The bleachers will dramatically improve sightlines and improve the overall fan experience at our baseball games."

The baseball team ended their season last year by qualifying for the NEC Tournament for the second time in four seasons and winning 10 out of their last 14 games. According to David Langford's newsletter, Coach Gary Puccio "believes that his team is poised to compete for the NEC Championship this year."

The baseball team's new bleachers wait patiently for opening day.

Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

SCORE BOX

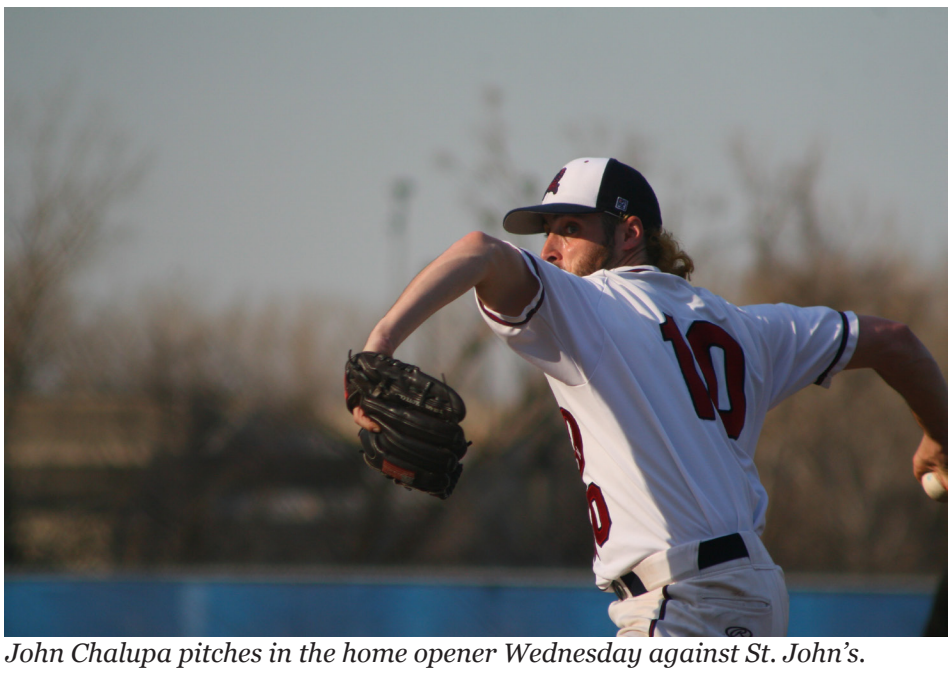
Women's Basketball

3/6/16	Robert Morris	L	59-68
3/7/16	SIU Edwardsville	W	4-0
3/8/16	Lafayette	W	7-6

Men's Basketball (NEC Tournament)

3/2/16	Saint Francis U (quarterfinals)	W	74-72
3/5/16	Mount St. Mary's (semifinals)	W	80-75
3/8/16	Wagner (finals)	W	87-79

Puccio's Team Ready for 2016



John Chalupa pitches in the home opener Wednesday against St. John's.

By Dustin Niles

(TEANECK) - Coach Puccio is tentative. His team started the season out 2-5 and faced a tough opponent in St. John's on Wednesday, Mar. 9.

The previous weekend, the Knights played a series in Virginia, where they went 0-3 against the Longwood Lancers.

Tentative, but not worried.

"I think every game was tied in the eighth inning," he said.

They were tenacious opponents, but the Knights kept it close.

The team returns eight of nine starters from last year, but hasn't been on the field much together due to weather and schedule.

"School started a week later and our games started a week earlier," Puccio said. "So basically, we lost two weeks of practice and that makes a difference. I can just tell, like the fact that some of the kids don't even know our system. I really believe it's just because we haven't practiced enough."

But Puccio is confident in his returning players. He noted reliable athletes like junior pitcher Joe Flack, senior catcher Pat McClure, junior outfielder Ryan Brennan, senior third baseman Joel Roman, and of course, junior pitcher Logan Frati.

"He's my Matt Harvey, honest to God," Puccio said. "Every game when I go to take him out, it's always a fight. I'm like 'Logan, you're at 110 pitches, that's it.' His response: 'I can get one more!' And he's such a smart kid, he always comes up with a good reason. I can't win an argument with him."

Puccio also has high hopes for the freshmen on this year's team.

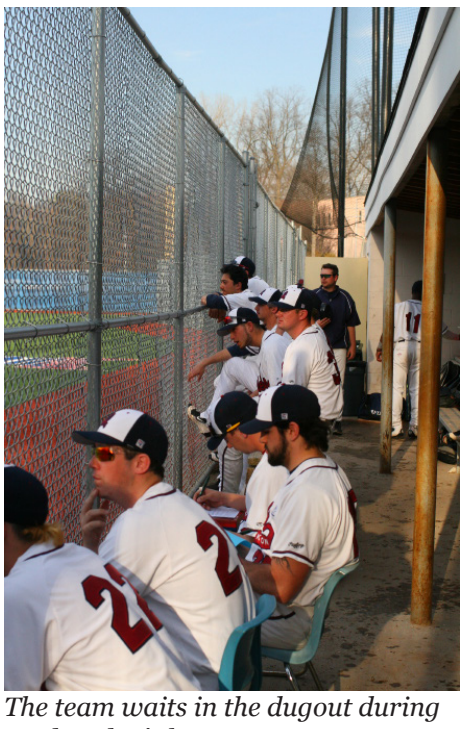
"My freshman catcher [Evan McDonald] hit a home run in the second at-bat of his career," Puccio said. "You just know he's going to be a player. His at-bat made me say, 'this kid's going to be legit,' you could just see it."

The Knights have been to the playoffs in two of the last four years, and Puccio says that puts a lot of pressure on freshmen, especially coming from high school teams where they did so well.

"I tell freshmen, you hit over .250 as a freshman, you've had a great year," said Puccio.

Overall, he has a great feeling about this year's Knights.

"Momentum will build once these guys get to the number of pitches I want them to be at," Puccio said, "because then the better players will be playing, too. I honestly believe this team is a 20-win team, at least."



The team waits in the dugout during Wednesday's home opener.

All Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

Joel Roman steps up to the plate.

Sports

NEC Champions!

By Carly Edelman and Rebecca Fischer

(TEANECK) - Picked to finish ninth in the Northeast Conference, the FDU men's basketball team proved everyone wrong as they punched their ticket into the NCAA tournament on Tuesday, Mar. 8, winning the NEC Championship for the first time since 2005.

The No.1-seeded Wagner Seahawks took a big lead over the second-seeded Knights to start the championship game. The Knights fought their way back in the first half with a series of three-pointers from freshman Ghassan Nehme and sophomore Earl Potts Jr., and ended the half only trailing by two, 35-33.

Herenda felt confident addressing his team at halftime.

"The key was to play better defense," he said, "because we thought we would be able to score enough points to win the game."

The Knights came out strong in the second half, with sophomore Darian Anderson and Potts, leading the way 18 points and 16 points, respectively. Potts, who was named tournament MVP, said they were ready for the challenge.

"Going into the game we knew Wagner was a very strong opponent and we had to play tougher than them," he said.

The final score was 87-79, with the Knights claiming the NEC Championship title.

"It feels great to be a part of history," Potts said, "and I'm glad I could help our team get a championship. The big dance is everything we worked for all season. The feeling is surreal and we are ready."

Marques Townes celebrates winning the NEC Tournament trophy.
Photo Provided by Marques Townes

Sophomore Earl Potts Jr. drives against Mount St. Mary's on Saturday, March 5.
Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

Sophomore Stephan Jiggetts at work against Mount St. Mary's.
Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

Freshman Mike Holloway is the man in the middle for the NEC Champion Knights. Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

Herenda Hops into The Big Dance

Head Coach Greg Herenda during Saturday's game.

Herenda mid-hop.

Herenda assumes the position.

All Photo Credit: Dustin Niles

By Rebecca Fischer and Leandra Cilindrello

(TEANECK) - They shoot, they score... and he hops!

If there's one move FDU Men's Basketball Head Coach Greg Herenda never fails to perform each game, it's his signature move, which has earned the moniker "The Herenda Hop."

With 33 years of coaching experience under his belt, Herenda has developed a unique coaching style. He communicates with his players during games by jumping up off the ground, tucking both feet under his butt and then slamming them down on the floor repeatedly.

"When I was an assistant coach at East Carolina, the players couldn't hear my voice in the big arenas, but they could hear me stomp," Herenda said. "So it started there and it has evolved since I've become a head coach."

During practice, Herenda can move a round, use his whistle, and go wherever he wants, but during games, he is more restricted. The players can't look at him or talk to him, so he uses the "Hop" in high-intensity situations to get in their heads.

"I only do it during games, in key moments," Herenda said. "Usually we're on defense and we need to stop, so I get in a defensive stance and use the bottoms of my shoes to make noise."

Redshirt junior forward Tyrone O'Garro has learned to heed the signal.

"It really makes us more aware," O'Garro said. "It's a distinct sound. We all know it's him."

But the "Herenda Hop" is not purposely done, programmed, or choreographed at all.

"I'm aware that I'm doing it," Herenda said, "but it really is just a byproduct of not being able to scream loud enough or coach hard enough."

According to Herenda, who was born on Easter in 1961, the hops on the court are simply an extension of what happens behind the scenes.

"I'm hopping around all the time to build this program back to where it is a championship program," he said. "There's activity all over the place."

That activity is not going unnoticed. The Knights went 11-7 in Northeast Conference play this season and won the NEC Championship game on Tuesday night, earning them a spot in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in more than 10 years. So there are more hops in store for FDU players and fans.

"I'm a very passionate person," Herenda said, "and the Hop is an amplification of my drive and my excitement to push my players to play their best. I believe that if you're not passionate and enthusiastic about whatever you do, you're probably not going to be good at it."

The Equinox Speaks

After 11 years, the FDU Men's Basketball Team can finally say once again, 'We are champions.' The last time the Men's Basketball team called themselves champions was on March 9, 2005. Tuesday, the FDU community witnessed history as they defeated Wagner 87-79 on ESPN2, in front of family, friends, FDU supporters and in Wagner's College Spiro Arena. This is a great opportunity for us to grow as a community because we all felt that win. We share not only the weight room in the Rothman Center with these guys but the classroom too. And these past few weeks we've had the pleasure of watching them work their way up the ladder. We watched them transform into a cohesive, strong team that makes the clutch shots to win.

David Langford, our athletic director, sent out an email to the FDU community yesterday. "The Knights players, coaches, staff and administrators want to thank those in attendance last night for their spirited support of our basketball team," he said. "In the stands were students, faculty, staff, administrators, family members, alumni and many loyal fans. Here were supporters at the game from both the Metropolitan and the Florham Campuses. By the end of the game the cheers from the FDU fans drowned out those of the Wagner supporters. Last night showed that FDU has great spirit and when we need to we can come together to support one another."

The Equinox would like to give kudos to Head Coach Greg Herenda, Associate Head Coach Bruce Hamburger, Assistant Coaches Dwayne Lee and Winston Smith for putting together a dynamic team. We congratulate the players for staying focused, persistent and stepping up in incredible ways throughout the NEC tournament. Sophomore Earl Potts Jr. was named the NEC Tournament's Most Valuable Player. He scored 27 points, 17 of them in the second half, had seven rebounds and four assists. Sophomore Darian Anderson was named to the All-Tournament Team, scoring 28 points with 13 of them in the final two minutes of the game. He also had six rebounds, five assists and two steals.

Wagner came out of the box hot with a 13-2 run over FDU but the team never gave up. Now, they have become the second FDU team this year to become NEC Champions, with Women's Soccer earning the title in the fall. Players, staff, faculty, and students could be seen on ESPN2 and it shows how support comes from all members the community.

This is a historical win for FDU. Go Knights!

From the Desk of David Miles

Director of Public Safety, David Miles

Recently, the Department of Public Safety has been investigating some incidents where social media was used inappropriately.

As someone that did not grow up in the social media age, it is very disappointing to have to investigate these types of incidents. Many times the incidents are done by someone anonymously so the investigation is much harder. Social media should be something that is to be used by each individual to post positive information and not negative or hurtful information.

In the past day, there was a news article about a Kean University student. Back in November of 2015, this student posted some threats to the University on Twitter which were traced back to her. In recent court proceedings, the prosecutor in the case is recommending a six month jail sentence for the student. I could almost guarantee that when this student posted the threats she never thought that she could be caught but also that she may face time in jail. She may now be regretting her decision to send those tweets, but once she hit the send button, it meant she could not take them back and now has to face the consequences.

I hope that one day people will only use social media for the good that it was intended for.

The Office of Residence Life started a social media and civility campaign that encourages students to THINK before they post negative messages. THINK stands for True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary, Kind.

I believe that if everyone THINK's before they send anything on social media we will all be better off, not just as a university but as a society.

Please remember to like the Department of Public Safety on Facebook at FDU Metro Department of Public Safety or follow us on Twitter @ FDUMetroPS.

If at any time you have any questions or concerns regarding Public Safety, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Public Safety Blotter

2/18/16 – Controlled Dangerous Substance found in trash in University Court 2.

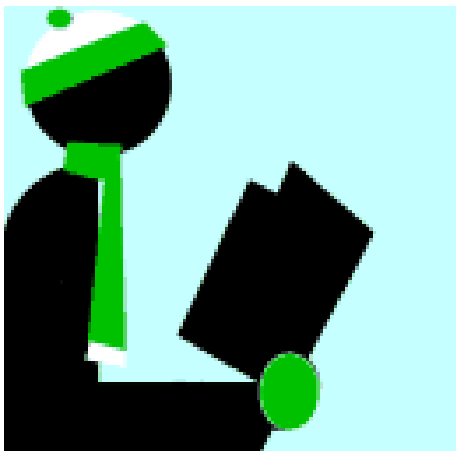
2/20/16 – Arrest for assault under domestic violence laws in Linden 5

2/23/16 – Noise complaint in Northpointe

2/27/16 – Students received inappropriate e mails

2/29/16 – Student reported harassment

Periodically Speaking - News from Giovatto Library



Kathy Stein-Smith, Associate University Librarian and Director of Public Services, Giovatto Library

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Kathy's Picks

- Indie Bookstores Are Back, with a Passion (http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/13/opinion/indie-bookstores-are-back-with-a-passion.html?_r=0)
- Study Skills in College (https://campushealth.unc.edu/health-topics/academic-success/study-skills-college)

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World Book Day 2016: 43 Books to Read before You Die – Our Favourites http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/features/the-40-best-books-to-read-before-you-die-a6909206.html

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Italian Language Table –Thursday, March 10th @ 1 PM -- Paul

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Independent Self-Directed Learning @ the Library

The Great Courses @ Giovatto Library – It is always a wonderful time to enjoy a "Great Course. The Giovatto Library collection includes many of "The Great Courses" on DVD and/or CD!

Giovatto Library Reader's Advisory Service -- If you would like to develop a plan for independent self-directed learning, please contact the reference librarians for assistance. We will be happy to help you to find the best reading and research materials for your needs.

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For Alumni Only – Welcome December 2015 Graduates!

FDU Alumni Library Privileges -- As an FDU Alumnus/a, you are entitled to lifetime Library privileges. Borrow books, magazines, DVDs, language CDs, and more from the Library. Attend Library events and programs. Use Library spaces.

To get your Library card, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations @ fdualumni@fdu.edu or at 201-692-7013.

If you would like more involvement with the Library, consider joining the Giovatto Library Alumni Advisory Board.

New Books This Week

- 1001 Movies You Must See before Your Die
- Android Malware and Analysis
- The China Study: Startling Implications for Diet, Weight Loss, and Long-Term Health
- Cook It in Cast Iron: Kitchen-Tested Recipes for the One Pan That Does It All
- Driven by Difference: How Great Companies Fuel Innovation through Diversity
- Launch the Intruders: A Naval Attack Squadron in the Vietnam War, 1972
- Playing to the Edge: American Intelligence in the Age of Terrorism
- Thoughts on Teaching Desktop Computer and IPad Forensics
- The Widow, a novel
- The Works of Henry George

New DVDs This Week

- Making Mao
- Spotlight
- Steve Jobs
- Women as Political Leaders: Studies in Gender and Governing

Giovatto Library Hours Spring Semester 2016

Monday – Thursday – 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM

Friday – 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Saturday – 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Sunday – 12:00 PM – 10:00 PM

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Closed March 17th and 18th for Spring Break

Closed March 27th, Easter Sunday

New Video Games This Week

- FIFA 16
- Kinect Sports Rivals
- Zumba Fitness: World Party

Opinion

America's Favorite Doll Gets a Makeover

By Tyonna Goweh

Mattel is changing the image of the ideal woman. Barbie has launched a new line of Barbie dolls, and they aren't like the dolls we're used to seeing. These dolls come in a variety of body shapes, skin tones and even new hairstyles.

"This is the first time the doll will be available in body types beyond its original stick-thin frame," said USA TODAY.

The creators of Barbie want consumers to be able to find a doll that looks like them. The typical image of a Barbie doll has long blonde hair, a thin body, and an average height. This idea is not being done away with, but remade.

With various hair colors, body types, and skin colors, any buyer of Barbie can now find a doll that resembles their appearance, helping young girls to embrace and acknowledge girls who look different than they do.

The original Barbie doll gives unrealistic expectations of what a female should look like. In fact, there has been many cases of people even going to the extremes of plastic surgery to look like these Barbie dolls.

Couple Anastasia Reskoss and Quentin Dehar spent over $200,000 in cosmetic surgery in order to look like Barbie and Ken dolls, according to Daily Mail. Reskoss said, "At one point, I had over 100 Barbies in my collection and I played with them all the time. I loved them. They were so beautiful."

But if they owned these new, more diverse selection of dolls, would they still have that preconceived idea of beauty?

These dolls will give both young girls and boys a better sense of a realistic image compared to the past. Instead of giving off a concept of what beauty is, a girl who is thin and blonde, it will let young girls realize that they're beautiful the way they are, whether they have brown hair or blue hair, green or gray eyes, and curvy or petite bodies.

Mattel is helping young girls realize looking different doesn't mean not beautiful. These dolls have been available for purchase online since Jan. 28, but will not be sold in stores until Mar. 1.

A variety of Barbie dolls now sold by Mattel. *Photo Credit: Google Images*

Candidates' Ads Not Made in America

By Elizabeth White

In this day and age, it's hard to hide anything from the Internet-savvy generation that is ruling the upcoming presidential election. Just ask Donald Trump and Marco Rubio. They learned this the hard way when the Internet discovered that both candidates' campaign ads featured footage of other countries, claiming to be filmed in America.

In a Donald Trump campaign ad, the narrator said, "He'll stop illegal immigration by building a wall on our southern border that Mexico will pay for." During this, a blurry clip of people scrambling over a border is played in the background.

Through some investigative work, Politifact.com was able to trace the footage back to RepubblicaTV, who posted the video on May 3, 2014. Translated from Italian, they said that the video showed the onslaught of hundreds of migrants to the wall that separates the Spanish enclave of Melilla from Morocco.

So why did Donald Trump use the footage and claim it was the Mexican-American border? After publishing the article about Trump's campaign ad, Trump's campaign manager released a statement saying, "No sh-- it's not the Mexican border, but that's what our country is going to look like. This was 1,000 percent on purpose."

Perhaps it was done on purpose, but it still leads viewers to believe that it was footage from our southern border when it actually wasn't.

Donald Trump's campaign implied a Moroccan border video was of the Mexican border.

Photo Credit: Google Images

Marco Rubio's campaign ad titled "Morning again" also features footage from a country that isn't America. In the opening scene of the ad, a tugboat can be seen meandering across a harbor in the early morning hours with the skyline of a city in the background.

BuzzFeed was the first to question the skyline featured, and after some more investigation, they discovered that the skyline was not an American city, but the Vancouver skyline.

According to the site, the clip was stock footage. CNN confirmed this with Guy Chavasse, the videographer behind the footage. He said he recorded it last August before putting it on stock video sites, where campaign ad-makers often go for clips. Chavasse said the footage was "pretty recognizable as Vancouver."

Oops. A spokesman for Marco Rubio responded, telling BuzzFeed News, "Ha! Nice catch by BuzzFeed — we hadn't noticed that. We are not going to make Canada an issue in this election."

Have something to say? **Write to us**!

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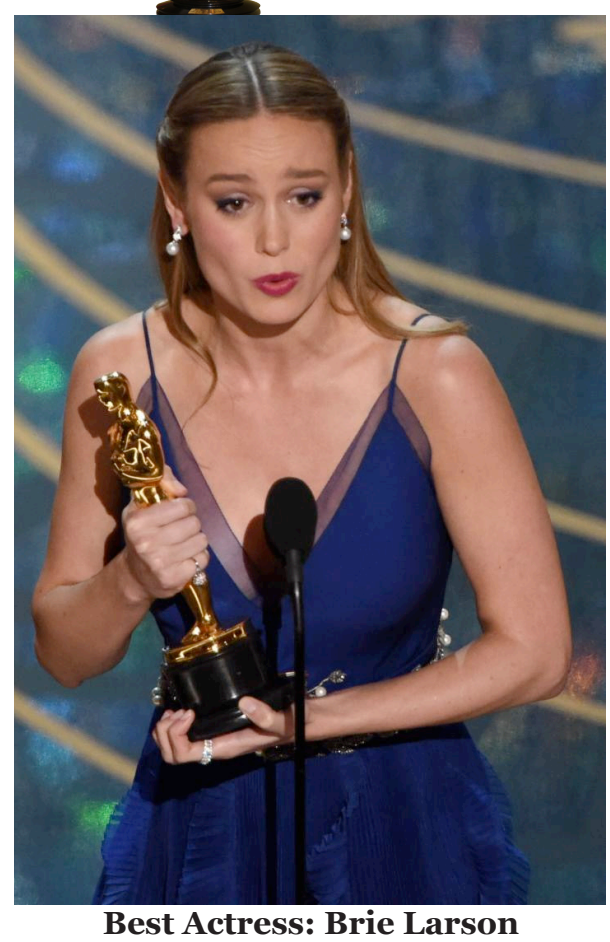
Entertainment

Oscars 2016

Best Actor: Leonardo DiCaprio
The Revenant

Best Picture: *Spotlight*
All Photo Credit: Google Images



Best Actress: Brie Larson
Room

Student Lifestyle

Mel's Meanderings

The historical Stonehenge structure in Wiltshire, England.

Meandering Mel at Edinburgh Castle.

By Melanie Perez

(WROXTON, ENGLAND) - According to the "Ancient Aliens" documentary that I saw, the show presented the argument for aliens being the force behind the creation of not only Stonehenge, but also the pyramids in Egypt. Stonehenge was more ruined than I expected it to be and was roped-off from the public (possibly due to alien abductions), but it was interesting to be able to stand only a few feet away from one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

In that moment, I felt that largest cliché - the sense of being part of something bigger than myself. It's the same feeling I get every time that I travel, a sense of solidarity and oneness with the world.

I was lucky enough to experience that feeling two weeks in a row - once at Stonehenge, and again in Edinburgh, Scotland, at the top of a dormant volcano known as Arthur's Seat. Arthur's Seat is at the center of Holyrood Park and takes 40 minutes to climb while walking.

My friends and I took the challenge to climb to the top, but of course, not without some hiccups on our journey.

First off, we were so directionally challenged that we could not find the path. Then when we finally did find a path, it was not the path that the majority of the public took. We ended up taking a steeper path, which only the most devout joggers took. It was so steep and muddy that I slipped with every step, causing me to fall three times. We hadn't even gotten halfway up the mountain and I was already covered in mud.

For whatever reason, I thought that since Arthur's Seat is such a popular attraction, that there would be a paved path to the top. I wore Toms - the worst shoes possible. They had absolutely no traction and my feet were soaked through and muddy within minutes. I'm always preaching about assumptions, and there I was assuming that there would be a path up a volcano. Hindsight is always 20/20, but unfortunately, I wear glasses.

A beautiful view of Edinburgh Castle. *All Photo Credit: Melanie Perez*

There was no seat at the top, but the view was fit for a king. Maybe that's how the top got its name. We could see the city, the ocean, fields, and a seemingly endless skyline. Not only did we feel a sense of perseverance, accomplishment, survival (somebody spelled R.I.P. in rocks on the bottom hills), and female empowerment, we found one of the most beautiful views we'll get in our lives.

It almost seems like the rest of the weekend in Edinburgh (seeing Edinburgh castle, the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the National Museum of Scotland) was inconsequential because nothing could top climbing a volcano- except maybe climbing a bigger volcano and having it erupt and running to safety and surviving.

But, who knows? I haven't been to Disneyland in Paris yet or the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, one of those could take home the cake.