

THE OBSERVER

Broward College Student Newspaper

Volume 36, issue 5

October 27, 2020

NEWS

HOW BC CELEBRATED
HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

PAGE 3

BC SPOTLIGHT

CLUB RUSH

PAGE 4

FEATURES

HALLOWEEN DURING A
PANDEMIC

PAGE 6

SPORTS

MIAMI HEAT SEASON
OVERVIEW

PAGE 7

FEATURES

THE VICE PRESIDEN-
TIAL DEBATE

PAGE 8

ENTERTAINMENT

KEEPING UP WITH THE
KARDASHIANS FINAL
SEASON

PAGE 9

OPINION

THE REOPENING OF
SCHOOLS

PAGE 10

Broward College celebrates 60th Anniversary

Arianna Allen

Online and Podcast Editor

Broward College is celebrating sixty years of contributing to South Florida's education, by reflecting on what Broward was, and how far it has come.

"It's been sixty years since we first opened our doors to serve the South Florida community with commitment and dedication." Broward College posted via Instagram.

On Tuesday, Oct. 20th, [BC Student Life](#) posted a video on their YouTube Channel titled, "Tour the Archives: Happy 60th!" Within the video there is a virtual tour of the Archives and Special Collections-- located on the fourth floor of the Library at the Broward College Central Campus.

Although the Archives and special collections are closed for in-person tours, students can indulge in the rich history of Broward College through this virtual tour and online websites as well.

Andrew Dutka, Archives and Special Collections Librarian, led the tour while highlighting key events that molded the college into the Broward College that we know today.

"...Up in archives, we've got lots of treasures and interesting items..." Dutka stated in the Student Life video.

From an Egyptian collection that includes a mummified falcon, to a dinosaur egg, to displaying the yearbook of 1963 that illustrates the segregated yearbook, to the freshman J.C.B.C beanie, to a 1965 "Broward Junior College" striped T-shirt to the Broward College nurses walkie talkie to typewriters-- the archives and special collections covers all of the BC history.

"The purpose of archives and special collections is to collect and preserve and make available the history of Broward College," Dutka stated in a separate interview with The Observer Podcast staff.

Broward College, originally named The Junior College of Broward County, first opened in Sept. of 1960 on what is now Ft. Lauderdale International and Hollywood airport at what was the Naval Air Station Junior High according to [Broward.edu/about](#).

Over the past several decades, the name of the college has changed. The Junior College of Broward County, was altered to Broward Junior College, then Broward Community College which eventually turned into

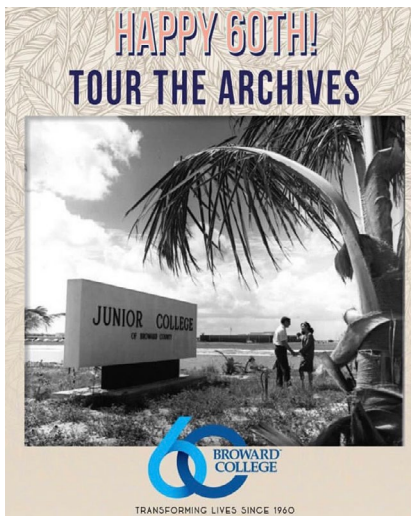


Photo Courtesy of @bccentralsl via Instagram



Photo Courtesy of broward.edu/library/archives



Archives & Special Collections room at Central

Photo Courtesy of broward.edu/library/archives

Broward College, according to Dutka.

Dutka shared that Broward's Central Campus was founded on Foreman Field, a World War II airfield.

"The planes used to come here during World War II (to) pick up boxcars of supplies and equipment and then fly off to the different theatres of war..." said Dutka.

The "History of Broward College" tab on the website shows the Broward College's progression over the years. Showcasing in the late 1950s the planning of Broward College to the 1960s where the school first opened to 701 students. Then in the 1970s, the North and South Campuses opened, as well as the Willis Holcombe Center and Tigertail Lake Recreational Center.

In the 1980's, the College celebrated the 20 year anniversary. While a decade later in the 90's, BC launched their first website. The early 2000's ushered the addition of baccalaureate programs. Today, 60,000 plus students strive to earn certifications, Associates and Bachelors degrees in a variety of fields.

When BC was founded in

1960, times were extremely different. Segregation was still prevalent.

"What people don't know is that during the early 60s Broward College was a segregated institution..." Dutka said.

He went on to explain that the College had an entirely different campus located at Dillard High School called the Branch campus that had separate administration, faculty and staff. In the Student Life video, the 1963 segregated yearbook is displayed.

"...It (the Branch campus) operated for about two years, and then there was an uproar by the students who didn't want to go to a segregated campus," Dutka said.

During that time, students came together to go against segregation. In the BC civil rights exhibit, there are primary source articles written from local newspapers that document the "efforts" that students took to "desegregate" Broward College, according to Dutka.

In a separate interview with Dutka, when discussing the Civil Rights era at BC, he said "...But this is our story, what I love about this story is that these people here laid the groundwork, they

were the founders, they laid the foundation for the integration process of the college."

Dutka went onto share how Broward College has progressed over the last sixty years stating, "What you have today now is really an amazing institution, that really shows how we reflect our population here in South Florida, and we work together here at the college in order to help all students..."

Compared to sixty years ago, BC has made strides in continuing to create a diverse environment for students of all ages, regardless of race, religion sexual-orientation, and ethnicity to be successful academically, socially, physically, mentally, and emotionally.

"Broward College in the last sixty years has been responsive and innovative and a leader in higher education, here, in Broward County," said Dutka.

According to [collegefactual.com](#), it shows that BC ranks 502 out of over 2,500 schools in "Ethnic Diversity Rank." It goes onto state, "this very diverse school may be a great place for college students to get to know other students with different cultures and backgrounds."

On the "Awards and Rankings" tab on [broward.edu](#) it states, "In 2018, Diverse Issues in Higher Education ranked Broward College: First for degrees conferred to African-American students, and second for degrees conferred to Hispanic students."

"I think that Broward College is microcosm of the real world where we have all sorts of different people working together for a common goal," Dutka said.

Broward currently holds the following ranking per [broward.edu](#)

- "Top Ten Community Colleges in the Nation by the Aspen Institute."

- 21 Jack Kent Cooke Scholarships that consist of "\$40,000 scholarships to transfer to the university of the student's choice."

- "The most affordable online colleges in the state according to OnlineColleges.com"

- 2018 winner of the EAB Student Success Collaborative Citizenship Award

Merv Patrick, Broward College alumni, a former BC basketball player from 1993-1995, and founder of MVP Skills Camp, reflected on his years at BC. He said that it was a great school and the atmosphere was a positive one for him while at the North Campus competing on the court.

The sixty-year anniversary recognizes the huge accomplishment on how far we have come as an entire community.

To learn more about the history of Broward College you can visit <https://www.broward.edu/about/index.html>.

For more information on the archives and collections you can click [here](#).

allea@mail.broward.edu

Keep up with BC: what's going on around campus?



we're Hiring

Join Our Team

The Observer is a bi-weekly college wide newspaper produced by students of Broward College.

✓ Photographers

✓ Writers

✓ Video Editors

✓ Graphic Designers

✓ Artists

Contact us at:

theobserverbc@gmail.com

www.thebrowardcollegeobserver.com

BC celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with live dance class

Sebastian Suarez
Contributing Writer

Student Life hosted their first ever virtual Hispanic Heritage live dance class on Oct. 7. The event was held to give students the opportunities to move and get active during quarantine, and to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by exploring different cultures through dance.

The event was sponsored by Student Life Director Frances Fraser, and study abroad & global engagement Coordinator Violeta Rivera. Hervin Alvarez and Oana Novac, founders of latindancemovement.com led the small but enthusiastic class, teaching varieties of dances like salsa, bachata and merengue.

The class took about three months to plan, according to Fraser. She hopes to encourage students more to learn and celebrate Hispanic Heritage, as well as learn more about the Greene Institute of International Education and Study Abroad Programs offered at Broward College.

“When we were on campus, we hosted these types of classes for our students face to face,” said Fraser. “However, Student Life plans to continue to collaborate with The Greene Institute of International Education to continue to offer these events for students in the future.”

Students attending the event



Fraser and Rivera introducing the live dance class.
Student Life

Photo Courtesy of Youtube BC



Scenes from the live dance class.

Photo Courtesy of Youtube BC Student Life.

expressed their gratitude for the class and its effort to promote and celebrate Hispanic culture.

“I had a really great time practicing dancing for the first time, said Paul Pepin, sophomore at Broward College. “They did a great job of accurately describing the dance moves, and their passion for the dance and culture was really noticeable.”

It is the last of five virtual events hosted by Student Life in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, previously hosting History of Hispanic Heritage, Live with Jose Sarduy, a Facebook Live Latinas of BC chat and a Live Cooking stream. It was also the “First series of virtual events as part of the college’s response to keeping students engaged and active in an era of social distance,” said event Coordinator Rivera.

“I wanted to explore virtual collaboration opportunities with other departments,” said Rivera. “Almost all departments in the college will continue to host virtual events throughout the fall and in future terms if the interest and demand for virtual events remain from our students.”

Broward College will continue to work their way around the COVID-19 pandemic and give students opportunities to safely stay virtually engaged and informed.

suarez28@mail.broward.edu

Broward College Student Life presents “Who Are You?”

Mariana Vejar Alegria
Contributing Writer

Broward College’s, current seahawk and host Bertram King hosts a new series called “Who are you?” Throughout the series, he posts videos or episodes on the Broward College Student Life North Campus Facebook’s page, for puzzled students looking for some extra help relating to their career paths at Broward College.

King describes what the series is about and the topics that will be discussed during the episodes.

He explains, its’ “A career exploration series where students will be able to learn about the various types of career paths within their pathways, the educational path available at Broward College to get the students in those fields and you get to hear from working professionals and advisors within that pathway to learn about how to be successful in that industry.”

He continues to clarify the target audience, and who the series is intended for.

“This series is meant to help those who are currently thinking about school, enrolled in a school, or coming back from school to learn about the

different career paths you can take in Broward College.”

So far, King has posted four different episodes from the series. Each episode includes different individuals and the pathways that they have taken to get them to where they are now.

The series includes the following episodes, “Who are you? We are Leaders,” “Who are you? We are creators,” “Who are you? We are educators,” and lastly “Who

are you? We are innovators.”

In these episodes, he introduces guest speakers such as, Business Owner Elizabeth Garcia, one of Broward College’s academic advisors Mario Vasquez, educator Anthony Stanco, academic advisor Gina Joseph, a Broward college alumni and professor Eileen Santiago and Professor Amber Abels.

These guest speakers express their careers, history behind their stories and the process of

reaching their job goals.

Additionally, they include different tips and tricks that can help students along the way to their aspirations.

For instance, in the “Who are you! We are Innovators” episode, Professor of Biological Science Amber Ables explains how her career ambitions as a 5-year-old was to be a shark researcher and how she went to grad school for biology, but after contemplating if that’s what she really wanted to do on

a plane ride home, she realized her love for teaching and became a teacher instead. She explains how her journey “was anything but seamless” trying to figure out which pathway was right for her.

She finishes off her story by giving some students some advice.

“Keep your eye on the goal, but also conceptualize the fact that those really successful doctors, like Dr. Fauci, people that we look up to, they struggled, they had a long road, like it’s not like you just become a success,” said. “So there’s a huge mental load to it too.”

She concludes, “it’s a mental battle of you vs. you, like your goals vs. you putting yourself down. So, like the first time you say you can’t do it, you’re right, you can’t do it, because you just told yourself you can’t. So, like your attitude and your dedication is just as important to doing well in school.”

For more information on these episodes you can reach, Bertram King’s Instagram @meetmrking or visit Broward College sStudent Life North Campus Facebook page.

STUDENT LIFE PRESENTS:

WHO ARE YOU?

WITH OUR STUDENT LIFE HOST:
MR. KING

WE ARE LEADERS

BUSINESS PATHWAY

ELIZABETH GARCIA

“Who Are You?” Promo Ad..

@BCStudentLife via Twitter

vejam1@mail.broward.edu

2020 Presidential Election: Why students should care

Camellia Baki
Contributing Writer

The 2020 United States Presidential election is just on the horizon, with the next president of the United States slated to be announced sometime in November. However, with all of the tension surrounding the upcoming election, it is necessary to look at electoral issues within the United and what they mean for college students.

The United States has had a long, drawn-out history of voter suppression, dating back to 1869, when the Fifteenth Amendment was passed, enabling black men the ability to vote. This marked the beginning of the use of “literacy tests” in the U.S. voting processes, which unfairly assessed the reading and writing abilities of newly-freed enslaved populations that had no prior formal education. Those who did not pass were simply not allowed to vote.

Although discriminatory voting practices were outlawed in 1965 with the passage of the Voting



Election campaign pins for Trump and Biden..

Photo Courtesy of Forbes.com

Rights Act, it appears that suppressive voting tactics are still very much alive. Discussions surrounding voter suppression and election fraud have reignited over the issue of mail-in voting.

“We know that rejection rates of absentee ballots are significant. We are concerned about how the postal service will handle a massive volume across all these states of absentee ballots,” said Constitutional Law Professor Richard Pildes of New York University.

Divisions over the use of mail-in voting for this election

has now become an issue divided over political party lines, deepened by President Donald Trump’s reluctance to provide the USPS with additional funding that could help expand voting by mail.

“Republicans reported at a higher rate their intention to vote in person in this upcoming election, even though in the past two elections they had voted by mail,” said Law Professor Enrijeta Shino of The University of North Florida. She emphasized, “This shows how politicized this voting method has become.”

Why should this matter to college students? Well, a lot of students seeking higher education belong to the 18 to 25-year-old demographic, which is one of the largest voter blocks in the country. Many are also first-time voters, which according to Shino, places them at particular risk of having their ballot rejected.

“We find that young, 18 to 22-year-olds, minorities and first-time registrants were the ones mostly affected by having their ballots rejected due to a signature issue on the mail-in voter returning

envelope, or because their ballots were received late,” said Shino.

This emphasizes the potential issues many college-students can run into when voting by mail for the first time, but also the importance of citizens becoming familiar with the mail-in voting laws and regulations within their state.

“The best thing most voters can do to ensure a good election, that doesn’t collapse into some of the worst-case scenarios we worry about, is to vote in person so that any of these issues connected to absentee ballots are minimized,” concluded Pildes.

Although how people vote has become highly politicized, this issue is much larger than political divisions. If there is anything Americans can take away from the controversies surrounding the electoral processes in this country, it is to become more familiar and educated on ways they can mobilize their voices as citizens.

bakic@mail.broward.edu

Club Rush at Broward College goes virtual amongst COVID-19

Brittany Elmore
Contributing Writer

Regardless of a pandemic, we’re still here. Students were able to meet with club and organizations recently during Broward College Club Rush. The virtual event was free and exclusive to all Broward College students.

The goal of this Virtual Club Rush was to recruit as many BC students as possible to different student organizations, amid a pandemic and social distancing.

The BC Minority Teachers Association (MTA) is a student-centered organization that aims to increase minority representation in the teaching profession. The MTA works to advance change in teacher gaps and promote equity in the teaching profession. The MTA participated in the BC Club Rush and gained new members. Several students were able to stop by their breakout room and receive information. The MTA was able to present a PowerPoint presentation and communicate with students through the chat box feature in the breakout room on BB Collaborate.

“I believe any opportunity to partake in a student life event is a great form of sharing awareness about the MTA,” said Angela Granados, the President of the MTA.

For students interested in joining MTA, you can email Granados at grana25@mail.broward.edu and express your interest. Students can also follow their Instagram page @minorityteachers_assoc for updates. The MTA’s next meeting will be held Nov. 5, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Many Club Rushes have happened in the past but usually in person, but due to Covid-19 social distancing, BC had to hold the event online through BB Collaborate. Through BB Collaborate, clubs and organizations had different breakouts to hold their own meetings with potential members. Students had the opportunity to engage and speak with club members and presidents to learn more about the opportunities, requirements and privileges from being involved in their clubs.

The Safe Space believed that it would be a difficult process participating in the virtual event but after experiencing an easy process they were able to gain many new members.

“The Safe Space is an organization that provides BC students an opportunity to learn about mental health, how to handle their own mental health, as well as create an environment where students can de-stress, and through relaxing activities alleviate some of the stresses of being a student,” said Arianna A. Williams, President of The Safe



Club Rush logo.

Photo Courtesy of Twitter @BCStudentLife

Space.

To get more information, students can follow @thesafespace_club on Instagram and join the WhatsApp group chat : <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KFZ5ZxKzyU27Y0Oi1PH-DIM>, or discord chat: <https://discord.gg/ySP9RMR>.

“I’m grateful that the event was a success and that it was smooth sailing,” said Williams.

The Club Rush was held so that students will still have equal opportunities to join clubs and organizations.

This event was the first of two. For each event there was a minimum of 100 students, and a couple hundred students attended the BC Club Rush from across all the campuses.

Stephanie Repaci, Campus Director of Student Life on Central Campus said that students had no issues navigating through the online event. The virtual event used the same tools that students use for remote learning.

“But there is a benefit of being in person and having a live audience that brings in more of a crowd,” said Repaci.

Logistically, Student Life was able to quickly adapt to online events when quarantine began in March 2020. It was a difficult process to set up the Club Rush. Twenty to 25 clubs and organizations participated in the BC Club Rush, and 50 participated across all the BC campuses.

Not all clubs and organizations were able to participate, as

some were inactive for this Fall Term of the 2020 school year.

“I am blown away with the determination and resilience in the student body in creating organizations and events during this Fall Term. Some have even hosted online activities already. They show great resolve despite pandemic circumstances,” said Repaci.

Students were able to sign up and check out many different organizations during this event, and thanks to the students and Student Life of Broward College, this was a successful event.

elmobn@mail.broward.edu



**REAL OPPORTUNITIES
FOR THE REAL YOU**

ONLINENOW.FIU.EDU/BC

FIU
Online

Broward County Public Schools plan on reopening its doors

Brittany Elmore

Contributing Writer

To be in school or not to be in school? These teachers may not have a choice. The Broward County Public School Board decided to reopen school doors for Pre-K through second grade students on Oct. 9, 2020 and third to sixth grade students on Oct. 13, 2020. Teachers were asked to return back to work locations on Oct. 8, 2020.

In the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic, which started in March 2020, the education system has been in an uproar with finding effective and appropriate ways to educate students while remaining safe, due to social distancing. Virtual learning was a new lesson for everyone involved.

There have been glitches with computer systems when signing on, lack of child participation, and lack of parental or guardian cooperation. These are a few reasons why school systems



Faculty and staff plan to ensure health precautions for students on campus

Courtesy of wlrn.org

are eager to get children back into public learning.

At a webinar where superintendents from Palm Beach, Miami-Dade and Broward County address the community, Superintendent Alberto Carvalho said, "It's our goal to restart physical schooling, even if it's in waves, with younger grade levels with fragile children as early as Oct. 3, 2020."

"Teachers' desire for children to get an education but aren't liking to be forced

back into the workplace, and if not willing to do so, will have to find another school or career to work in," said Lenja Lassegue, a third-grade teacher at Boulevard Heights Elementary.

"Schools should open when hospitals open," said Lassegue.

Teachers have many things to face this school year. Between keeping creative lesson plans, and grabbing students' attention, teachers are faced with

protecting the student's health and their own. BCPS is debating whether or not to have teachers dress in hazmat suits due to health and COVID restrictions.

Teachers are required to be present at their work locations from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. For teachers hired by contract, there is an extra hour in place to do planning.

Only 20 to 30 percent of students will be returning to school locations while

parents have the option of letting their children return to a physical location; many parents find themselves in an uncomfortable position with their children returning to learning in-person.

"I tried helping my son with his math homework, and I felt like I was learning math all over again myself," said Lisa Herring, mother of three children, each in elementary, middle and high school. "I would rather learn math again than to send my kids back into physical school this year."

Many teachers and parents find themselves in between a rock and a hard place during the pandemic this school year. What lies ahead is yet to be determined.

Elmobn@mail.broward.edu

Schools and students are preparing for Halloween

Mariana Vejar Alegria

Contributing Writer

With Halloween just around the corner, many college students are still trying to figure out plans for Halloween. As the pandemic is affecting individuals around the world, many schools are worried about tackling Halloween celebrations and possible spreads throughout the festivities.

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have released precautions about how to handle these Halloween events.

They advise the public to try to stay away from attending Halloween parties, haunted houses and the traditional trick or treating.

They say, "There are several factors that contribute to the risk of getting infected or infecting others with the virus that cause COVID-19 at a holiday celebration."

Parties, and haunted house are events in enclosed locations with several amounts of people in a close proximity, causing the spread to be more attainable. Also trick or treating would require much needed



College institutions in Florida relayed safety guidelines for its students this upcoming holiday season.

Photo Courtesy of thefire.org

sanitation."

Celebrations of Halloween are very known to be celebrated by college students, and the CDC are likely to push local events back and advise organizers to cancel the celebrations.

Although certain occasions are being pushed back, some students have an idea on how they're going to be celebrating the holiday, despite the tedious pandemic.

Broward College student Ashley Palacio said she has some plans in mind.

"I might go to this socially distanced horror maze in Miami," she continues to describe the event. "It's a new kind of horror maze considering the times we live in now. You slowly drive around several spooky themed passages and people jump out at you as they would in a traditional haunted house."

Some schools are taking their own precautions and setting guidelines for students to follow regarding the holiday.

Florida Atlantic University

student Jadon Lewis said, "As of right now, I know with COVID and everything they're not allowing guests in the dorms so if students did want to have a party it'd have to be off campus."

Also, Florida State University has additionally set some rules.

Hayley Schwab, a student attending FSU said, "So right now FSU wants you to only have like 15 people max if you have a party and they want you to constantly get tested," she said. "Most of the Halloween stuff like

drive-in movies are now canceled. Clubs are open but I think it will definitely be a limited capacity for Halloween."

Individuals with high risk medical problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes, kidney disease, obesity, asthma or heart conditions are more recommended to stay at home then to go out.

vejam1@mail.broward.edu

The Miami Heat: Unrivalled culture this season

Curtis Michaud
News Editor

As the finality of the 2020 NBA Championship round was concluded, we look into a journey of success many would say for the runners-up Miami Heat.

The anticipated Los Angeles Lakers who many saw as one of the favorites to win it all with the addition of Anthony Davis via trade, were faced with an unforeseen foe.

Before the start of the 2019-2020 NBA season, odds makers had the Heat as one of the teams who was least probable to compete for the title even with the addition of Jimmy Butler in the offseason.

"We were never seen as favorites for anything," said Miami Heat Guard Jimmy Butler in an interview. "As a team we will find any way to get a victory. We don't care who gets the credit for it if we just play our brand of basketball, we can be unstoppable."

Butler came to Miami based on the previous reputation Head Coach Erik Spoelstra and Pat Riley established around the league.

"We brought Butler in because we thought he was the key piece we needed to compete for championships in the future and lead this franchise," said Riley in an interview with ESPN.

Heat fans were optimistic in the new direction the team heading after being five years since their beloved team has made the NBA Finals.

Vegas odds makers didn't have that same optimism, having the



Adebayo clinches the game for Miami with a prolific block against Tatum.

Photo Courtesy of Fox News

Heat a 75 to 1 underdog chance to win the Finals; making it almost mathematically impossible for that outcome to occur.

Unfortunately, if anything 2020 has taught us is to be wary of the unthinkable.

Butler and the young core of Bam Adebayo, Rookie Tyler Hero and Duncan Robinson were clicking on all cylinders in the beginning of the season making the Heat one of the surprise teams in the Eastern Conference.

"As a whole, we have a balance attack with many people that could have a big for us making it hard for other teams to guard us," said Forward Bam Adebayo.

Heading to the All-Star Break, the Heat had the third best record in the Eastern Conference. This caused other teams and coaches to become dubious on the fact that they might be a real threat to compete for a

championship behind their All-Star duo Butler and Adebayo.

Also, Hero and Robinson were also pivotal to the success of the team with their 3-point shooting being called by some NBA analysts as "Splash Brothers 2.0" referring to 3-time champion Stephen Curry and Klay Thomas in Golden State.

"Our coaches and teammates give us the confidence and the green light to shoot and make shots," said Hero on the success Robinson and himself has had thus far.

After the All-Star break, Riley saw an opportunity that this year could be his chance to raise another championship banner in the American Airlines Arena. He looked to try to obtain some veterans and championship experience to this Heat squad.

The addition of Andre Igduodala and Jae Crowder in the middle of season were moves Riley felt had t

be made.

"Iggy and Jae were huge for our team," said Butler who have also became a vocal leader on this Heat team. "Getting veterans who have been battle tested with some championship experience and toughness would rub off the young guys very well."

When it seemed as if the Heat were firing on all cylinders on the court, Covid-19 appeared and the suspension of the season was unforeseen by many.

A four-month hiatus was given to teams to resume play in a secured bubble to control the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

There's where the continuation of the season and playoffs to find a champion would be determined with the attendance of fans however, Heat players and coaches remained confident in their chances of being the last team standing.

"Why not us?" said Spoelstra. "Our mindset is to compete for a championship, with our talent we can compete with any team in the league."

The team rallied behind those words of its head coach and the leadership of Butler as they roll pass the Indiana Pacers in the first round and achieving an outstanding upset, neutralizing the MVP of the League Giannis Antetokounmpo and the Milwaukee Bucks to advance to the Eastern Conference Finals to play the Boston Celtics.

There is where they roll pass the Celtics with amazing play from Hero and Point Guard Goran Dragic leading the team in scoring.

"It feels good to advance to the finals when so many people counted us out and didn't give us a chance however, the goal is to win a championship, so we aren't satisfied yet," said Adebayo in a post-game interview after Game 6.

In the Finals, the Heat played up against LeBron James and the Lakers where it seemed that they were overmatched because of heartbreaking injuries of key players like Dragic and Adebayo.

Even so, heroic efforts from Butler and Robinson kept the matchup between the two squads competitive until finally the Lakers took control of the series and were named Champs.

However, many say that the Heat proved various doubters wrong this passed season, making the future of the team to be intriguing.

michc38@mail.broward.edu

Shortened season does wonders for the Marlins

Noel Cabrera
Editor in Chief

The Miami Marlins have done the unthinkable this year. It was not supposed to play out like this. They weren't supposed to make it this far. They weren't supposed to make the playoffs.

The Miami Marlins were not seen as true contenders back at the start of the season. If they were to miss the playoffs this year, nobody would've been truly surprised. With little to no expectations and a rebuild still in progress, Marlins fans would likely have sighed in slight disappointment and dreamt of the brighter future that has been promised to them.

But the Marlins defied all odds this season, culminating in clinching a playoff berth for the first time in 17 years and advancing to the National Division Series.

Pre-pandemic, the odds of the Marlins winning the World Series were 1,000-1. After the shutdown ended, they were a much better bet at 300-1. Respect wasn't going to come easy. In fact, Marlins more than earned it the hard way.

When the shortened 2020 schedule was announced, news of an expanded playoff bracket followed soon after. For most



Miami Marlins young core of talent shines in MLB playoff showdown.

Photo Courtesy of the Miami Herald

teams, this added a great deal of pressure. Contenders who missed out on the more widespread postseason would face immense pressure to add pieces in this offseason.

"We had a core group that stayed tighter there," Miami Manager Don Mattingly said. "Even when we lost a bunch of guys, we knew we had some guys coming in and some guys we didn't know. It was good group of guys with the leadership there: even the guys on COVID, they stayed talking about what they believed in and what they wanted to do."

An early-season COVID-19 outbreak got the Marlins down but didn't knock them out. Ac-

cused of breaking health protocols, they pushed back on the narrative, which was never proved. They bused their sick players home from Philadelphia while the rest of the team played on.

They overcame a week-long quarantine following their first series of the season after 18 players tested positive for COVID-19. They used 61 players, 18 of whom made their MLB debuts, and maneuvered around nearly 175 roster moves.

The quarantine and postponed games resulted in the Marlins starting the season a 23-day road trip and closing the regular season with 28

games over 24 days.

Instead, the Marlins played relaxed baseball this season, knowing that they were playing with house money. If their calm and easygoing demeanor could manage to stick, then that bright future was there before we knew it.

They still finished 31-29, posting their first winning season since 2009 and reaching the playoffs for the first time since 2003 due to the expanded playoff bracket. They swept the Cubs in the best-of-3 wild card round to keep the magic going for a few more days, but soon ended after losing in the following series to the Atlanta

Braves.

The opportunity for the 2020 season ended but it set the stage for what is to come in 2021.

It may come as a surprise to hear that only one Marlin has managed to hit over .300 this year: Thirty-one-year old short-stop Miguel Rojas. While rare for a playoff team, the Marlins lack of .300+ hitters this season points not to underachieving, but to a wealth of consistency solid hitters. The Marlins have proven this year that a team full of MVP candidates is not the only route to success.

"I'm always asked, 'Does winning come first or does culture?'" Jeter said in a statement to the press. "In my mind, everyone has to have a winning mindset. And that's what I've been preaching to our group since Day One when we took over. Somebody thought I was kind of crazy when I said it. But every game you go out and play, you need to win. That's the mindset and culture that we have. It's a culture from competition."

cabrn9@mail.broward.edu

First Vice Presidential debate raises questions by some viewers

Jacqueline Bird
Contributing Writer



Vice Presidential Candidates have a tense discussion on the pandemic.



Photo Courtesy of the latimes.com

on payroll tax, property tax,” which is public record for the American people. Pence said to Harris, “You are entitled to your own opinion but not entitled to your own fact.” As he doubled down on the Biden/Harris administration to ban fracking, increase taxes, abolish fossil fuel, regulations and surrender to China,” Pence referred to Biden as “China’s cheerleader.”

Harris was adamant that Biden will not ban fracking, that he has plans to create 7 million more jobs through their clean and renewable energy initiative. She discussed student loans being cut by \$10,000, and families earning under \$125,000 per year getting two years free of community college.

She also discussed not raising taxes on anyone who earns less than 40,000 per year. She warned strongly on the loss of insurance coverage for children under 26 and on parents plans and for everyone with preexisting conditions on the plan.

Harris who repeatedly said to Pence, “I am speaking,” accuses Trump of being racist and spoke of the presidential debate where he refused in front of 70 million viewers to denounce racism and plant the idea of a rigged election through mail-in votes. She accused him of telling the “White Boys” to “stand back



Harris displays her plan if elected for the Covid-19 pandemic

Photo Courtesy of CNN.com

and stand by” for calling Mexicans racist and criminals, to defending the KKK by saying both sides have fine people. She also talked about the President referring to the soldier’s mental injuries as headaches, the fallen soldiers at Arlington Cemetery as suckers and losers, while not addressing the bounty Russia placed on the heads of American soldiers.

Pence blamed news reporting for these ideas and spoke of this bias against minorities and that the President has the greatest respect for the military and to suggest otherwise was a great “insult.” It’s exactly at this time that the black uninvited guest, “the fly,” pitched on the perfectly groomed silver hair of Pence.

The uninvited guest was as much a distraction as the overtime consistently taken by Pence, who repeatedly went overtime and returned to questions instead of moving forward with questions asked. The ground rules of 90 minutes, 9 segments, 10 min each with 2 minutes undisturbed to each candidate and 6 minutes for discussion was a challenge for moderator Page to maintain.

Pence was clear that he was pro-life, and he was honored to be VP to a President who “believes in the sanctity of life.” He warned the American public that it was Biden’s/Harris’s intention to pack the Supreme Court if they did not have their way

and they would increase taxes, jobs would be lost by stopping fracking, and the Paris Accord would all be at a great cost to the American economy.

Harris held firm that the decision of a woman’s body is her right. She believes respecting the American people is having the courage to speak on things they need to hear. She strongly believes the Supreme Court seat should be filled after the election and said of the 50 nominees presented by President Trump, not one candidate was black.

Then questions ended on a Brecklynn Brown’s question, a grade 8 student from Springville Junior High in Utah, who noted all she sees on television is “leaders from the Democratic and Republicans fighting and the citizens on either side fighting their example could make all the difference.”

Both Pence and Harris ended with encouraging words to Brown, that it’s not always as it seems and there are friendships and bonds beyond the politics, and the future is bright and through votes the voice of the Americans will be heard.

The Fly pitched as the VPs hovered on their debate Q&A at the Vice President debate on Oct. 7, with Vice President Mike Pence and Senator Kamala Harris, at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City with moderator Susan Page of USA Today. The debate was sponsored by The Utah Debate Commission.

The moderator started with questions on the pandemic, which Harris going first stated the facts of 210,000 deaths and 30 million Americans filing for unemployment. Failure to disseminate information of this airborne virus received from China on Jan. 28 but was not released to the American people until March 13 because Pence said, “the President wanted the people to remain calm.”

Pence accused the Harris administration of “plagiarism” as all her outlines for improvement of the pandemic were already in play within his administration. Pence told Harris when he insisted on going back to a question and the moderator did not stop him as he went off talking about swine flu and the potential possibility of deaths and told Harris to “stop playing politics with people’s lives.”

Harris said she would be first in line for the vaccine if the drug was approved by Dr. Fauci or the public health professionals, not by the President. Pence was further accountable

when asked to comment on the event at the Rose Garden 11 days prior, where no social distancing was practiced, very few wore masks, and a super spreader was in attendance.

Harris expressed the President’s disdain for masks saying, “The President places you on one side of the ledger for wearing a mask and on the other if you do not.”

Both Pence and Harris discussed the possible succession due to age and full transparency on health issues as they would be VPs to the oldest President, Biden 78 and Trump 74. Harris diverted the conversation to taxes where she spoke on the President paying only \$750 in taxes and being in debt to the amount of \$400 million, Harris alluded that this debt may affect the decisions of his presidency.

Pence defended him by saying the president is a businessman, a job creator paying “10s of million



Harris stares down Pence as she disagrees with his views on political matters.

Photo Courtesy of abcnews.go.com

KUWTK Is Coming to an End

Arianna Allen

Online and Podcast Editor

The Keeping Up with The Kardashians dynasty is officially coming to an end in 2021 after season 20, according to multiple reports.

Kim Kardashian posted [via Instagram](#) on Sept. 8 stating, “It is with heavy hearts that we’ve made the difficult decision as a family to say goodbye to Keeping Up with the Kardashians.”

Ever since 2007, when KUWTK first aired, the Kardashian and Jenner family have arguably become one of the most well-known families across the globe.

The Kardashian and Jenner sisters continue to reign in several aspects of society.

From the make-up industry, to several articles published in [architecture digest magazines](#), to having multiple Vogue covers, to the famous Kris Jenner Christmas Eve parties, to the New York Fashion week and the Met Gala, to California’s battle with homelessness to Kim Kardashian pushing criminal justice reform-- and everything in between.

The show has helped establish and grow the sisters’ names.

[Entertainment Tonight reported](#) that although the family did not provide a specific reason for the ending of the long-time E!, a source for ET stated that “it was a mutual decision” reiterating that “there was no big reason why the

family decided to end KUWTK.”

Khloe Kardashian posted a statement put together from the family [via Instagram](#), showing a heart of gratitude giving thanks to the various people, groups and corporations for being alongside their longtime, documented journey.

In Khloe’s caption she went on to state, “...Change is hard but also needed at times. I love you all. Thank you for the memories!”

[Forbes](#) states, “The family’s five sisters and their mother, Kris Jenner, will walk away with more than \$2 billion between them—and no shortage of future earning potential.”

“All of the Kardashian-Jenners are considered top-dollar influencers, who can earn up to \$500,000

for every social media post that promotes a product,” [Forbes](#) went on to say.

Besides the success of the show, each individual sister has been able to grow their name separately through their brand while being successful in their respective businesses.

Kylie Jenner is the majority owner of [Kylie Cosmetics](#). Kourtney Kardashian has created, a website named [Poosh](#). Khloe Kardashian is the owner of clothing brand, Good American. Kendall Jenner, a global supermodel-- and highest paid supermodel according to [Forbes](#). Kim Kardashian is the owner of [SKIMS](#), [KKW Beauty](#) and [KKW Fragrance](#), and studying to become a lawyer. According to [buisnessin-](#)

[sider.com](#), Kris Jenner manages all five sisters and her son, Rob Kardashian’s, professional careers.

Besides filming for the show, and being successful entrepreneurs, four out of the five sisters are also mothers.

Over the nearly decade and a half, the world has gotten to see nearly every aspect of the Kardashian-Jenner life. From marriages, to break ups, to friendships, to sister fights, to family vacations, to having children, to pranks, to giving back to the community... and so much more!

The family highlights success, love and happiness while being vulnerable about the challenges that life can throw.

The show originally aired on

Sunday nights on E, however, recently it switched days to Thursdays-- and one thing for sure is Thursdays will definitely miss Keeping up with The Kardashians.

To soak up the rest of season 19, it is currently being aired Thursdays on E! at 8 p.m.



Photo Courtesy of @kimkardashian. via Instagram



Photo Courtesy of abc.net

allea@mail.broward.edu

We're Hiring

Join Our Team

The Observer is a bi-weekly college wide newspaper produced by students of Broward College.

- ✓ Photographers
- ✓ Writers
- ✓ Video Editors
- ✓ Graphic Designers
- ✓ Artists

Contact us at:

theobserverbc@gmail.com

www.thebrowardcollegeobserver.com

County School Districts, including Broward County, opened schools

Noel Cabrera
Editor in Chief

Large school districts across the country are reopening campuses to students, a slow-moving reversal driven by fear that students are falling behind and early evidence is showing that schools have not become the coronavirus super spreaders as once feared.

Broward School District is one of those larger districts that opened up schools.

Students in pre-K, kindergarten, 1st, 6th and 9th grades, as well as those centers for students with special needs, started Oct. 14, under a plan the School Board developed during an eleven and a half hour meeting.

I truly do not think this will be a good idea. Broward school officials said they were ready to open Oct. 4, but employees and School Board members disagreed. Many employees suggested waiting until January. But Chief Financial Officer Judith Marte said the district has only been approved by the state to operate virtually

only through Oct 16. Anxiety and fear about the pandemic persists. In many cities, coronavirus infection rates are rising, which could prompt school leaders to reverse plans.

Of the 50 largest school districts, 24 have resumed in-person classes for large groups of students, and 11 others plan to in the coming weeks, according to a Washington Post survey. An additional four have opened, or plan to open, for small groups of students who need extra attention.

This seems like it could be really good or actually extremely bad. The district staff of Broward County looks to have their have full.

As of most recent, 32 percent of 5,000 teachers who responded to a district survey said they planned to take leave instead of returning to school. About 10,000 have yet to respond.

Nearly 104,000 students have said they intend to return to in-person classes, but more than half have not responded to a district survey.

School officials are attempting to contact parents



What classrooms in 2021 will look like

Photo Courtesy of Reuters

and students and are finding waves of phone calls about in-person classes according to school officials.

Anna Fusco, president of the Broward Teachers Union, implored the district to stick with its Oct. 20 target to resume in-person class, noting that a circuit judge had ruled that the state lacked authority to force schools to reopen. That lawsuit, filed by the Florida Education Association, is still playing out in appeals court.

Superintendent Robert Runcie acknowledged that

the earlier reopening poses “significant challenges” for teachers and staff. But the alternative - losing millions of dollars in funding during a pandemic - is too big of a risk he told the board.

“This decision was reached with extensive parent, staff, and community input as well as multiple public health professionals,” Runcie wrote in a statement to the press.

Bus transportation is one of the largest issues facing Broward County and its 269,000 students as they prepare for a rapid

reopening. Due to the lack of survey responses and the short turnaround, the district cannot guarantee busing will be available for everyone on the first week of in-person classes.

cabrn9@mail.broward.edu

COORDINATOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
Jennifer Shapiro

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Noel Cabrera

NEWS EDITOR
Curtis Michaud

ONLINE EDITOR
Arianna Allen

SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR
Arianna Allen

BUREAU CHIEF
Ryan Marin

STAFF
Ashley Brittanica, Kayla Rodriguez, Dolores Vil, Ken Fisher

2010-2013 FCSPA General Excellence Award

The Observer is a bi-weekly college wide newspaper produced by students of Broward College. Our office is located on South Campus bldg. 68, room 268, 7200 Pines Blvd, Pembroke Pines, FL 33024. The newsroom can be reached via email at TheObserverbc@gmail.com. Letters to the editors are encouraged. The writer’s name must be included, although request for anonymity can be honored at the editor’s discretion. Emails must not exceed 300 words. The Observer upholds the right to edit for style of length or to reject publications deemed inappropriate. For information regarding editorial policy or advertising rates, call (954) 201-8035. Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of BC students, staff, faculty and administration, and the content has not been reviewed or approved by the College.

Broward College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, genetic information, national origin, marital status, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities