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The Beacon, November 19, 2015

Florida International University

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University helps students develop million-dollar start-up ideas

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At 2476 startups per 100,000 people, the Miami metropolitan area has one of the highest startup densities in the nation, according to the Kauffman Index of Startup Activity. To encourage the spirit of entrepreneurship that already exists in Miami and the University community, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication is hosting the first annual Startup Weekend Miami in conjunction with the College of Engineering and Computing.

The three-day event aims to help student entrepreneurs pitch and develop their startup ideas and get critiques in 54 hours with the help of mentors and coaches who have extensive experience in their respective fields.

Saif Ishoof, vice president of FIU’s Phi Gamma Delta chapter, was unavailable for comment.

"My role as the entrepreneur in residence is to foster entrepreneurship at the SJMC," said Brown. "And to provide students and faculty access to the startup networks and [to] critical and immediate feedback on their ventures or entrepreneurial career goals and aspirations."

Brown said that 54 hours was the ideal time for the event because it would allow participants the use of their weekend hours.

"54 hours represents the typical weekend for many people. That’s when we sit down [to] Monday through Friday, nine to five routines." According to the event’s website, the event will commence Friday, Nov. 20.

On the first day, participants will pitch their ideas and form teams to work on developing pitched concepts.

During the second day, various speakers, including University President Mark B. Rosenberg, will be addressing the participants. Teams will also work with their coaches and mentors to polish ideas.

The event will conclude on Sunday, Nov. 22 with presentations of participants products or services to a panel of judges. The judges will then decide which of all the ideas is the best developed or executed.

"Very much like a competition, you will have the opportunity to show what you have developed," Ishoof said. "And then have your idea, which has now gone all the way to become almost like a mini enterprise, be tested and compared against other products and ventures."

Ishoof said that winners will have access to venture capitalists and angel investors who are looking for their idea beyond the weekend.

Bijon Brydson, a junior majoring in technology marketing, is one of six students who have been invited to participate at the startup event.

Brydson has an idea and hopes that participating in this event will help him bring that idea to life.

"I want to turn our student IDs into a digital form," he said. "Sometimes people lose their IDs, and it is expensive to replace them. But if our IDs were digital, we could store them in our devices and never lose them."

Brydson thinks that the future of this event comes from networking with industry experts who are willing to mentor newcomers.

"You will be meeting people who you might end up working with in the future," said Brydson.

Student dies after fraternity social event

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Kellie Fultuolle, 19, died over the weekend after attending a social event at the Baha Mar hotel in Fort Lauderdale hosted by Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity.

Kevin Dupree, the police department’s public information officer, said to Student Media that Fultuolle, a junior who earned her associate of arts and science degree from Florida Gulf Coast University, likely died because of a drug overdose.

He said the medical examiner has not finished an investigation.

"There’s no suspicious," Dupree said Tuesday. "There’s no indication of foul play."

Student Media knocked on the door of the Phi Gamma Delta house at the Modesto Maidique Campus seeking comment, but there was no response. Curtains were drawn over the front door.

University presents Cuban dialect lecture

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María Hernandez has a hard time communicating with her peers.

"As a Cuban-born person, I have a big accent when I talk English," she said. "I always have to say things a couple times. But, more than that, people tend to not understand me when I speak Spanish either because the Cuban dialect is so different than other types of Spanish."

The sophisticated business major believes that most people don’t understand the Cuban Spanish origin and are quick to dismiss it as something "ugly" or "unattactive."

"It’s a beautiful and fun Spanish," she said.

The Cuban Research Institute, under the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, will be hosting an event to discuss the origins of the Cuban dialect, the speech patterns within Cuba and the use of “Cubanisms” in different parts of the island.

"I think there’s a need to discuss popular attitudes toward the Spanish language spoken by various Latino groups in the U.S. and particularly in Miami," said Jorge Duany, CRI director and University professor of political science.

"There is evidence that many Spanish speakers have a strong bias against the Spanish dialect that prevails in Cuba and other Caribbean countries."

Juan Lopez, senior political science major, agrees with Duany and thinks that some people may even be discriminatory against Cubans.

"I feel like I’m a joke to some people," he said. "They don’t take me seriously. Nowadays, it’s all like “wow, you’re Cuban. Acero que bolas” or whatever. If this is happening now, I can’t imagine how it will be when I get into the workplace and people need to take me and my culture seriously."

Elizabet Santana Cepece, professor and researcher of linguistics at the Autonomous Metropolitan University in Mexico, will be lecturing at the event.

"These lectures offer an opportunity for students and faculty, as well as members of the greater Miami community, to engage with prominent Cubanists," said Duany. "The subject of the Spanish spoken in Cuba is important in academic circles because it represents an ideal situation in which to study the differences and similarities among various dialects of the Spanish language."

The CRI is “taking advantage” of Santana’s visit to bring her expertise in Hispanic linguistics and speech patterns of Cubans, said Duany.

According to him, the institute is interested in exploring areas of potential collaboration between the respective institutions.

"It’s a real problem because there are so many biases for Cubans," said Lopez. "We deal with a lot of stuff and, at least for me, I’m always someone that people look down on. And I’m not less than they are. We are the same and these biases need to change."

The event will take place Thursday, Nov. 19 at 12:30 P.M. in the Monduso A. Maidique Campus, GL 220.

It is free and open to the public.

"It’s time that I am able to feel at home or feel comfortable in places that aren’t Hialeah," said Hernandez. "It’s time that people get educated on the Cuban language, is on why the Cuban dialect is so different. I’m glad FIU is taking steps to help these biases."
**NATION & WORLD BRIEFS**

Lyft on track to bring in $1 billion revenue this year, exec says

Like the tortoise and the hare, on-demand transportation company Lyft is slowly but steadily gaining ground on its biggest competitor, Uber. The San Francisco company, known for its glowing pink mustache, is on track to bring in $1 billion in gross revenue by year’s end, according to Lyft co-founder and President John Zimmer. It’s also claiming an impressive amount of market share in some of the country’s most-savy cities.

Speed rules didn’t apply to train in ethanol spill

The train that derailed earlier this month in Wisconsin and spilled 20,000 gallons of ethanol into the Mississippi River didn’t have a sufficient number of cars carrying flammable liquids to meet lower federal speed requirements. The government set the new requirements this year in response to safety concerns about transporting crude oil by rail. According to railroad shipping documents, the train had 15 tank cars loaded with ethanol, five fewer than would trigger speed restrictions set by federal regulators.

France calls for US, Russia to unite to fight Islamic State

Three days after declaring that France was at war with the Islamic State, French President Francois Hollande called Monday on the rest of the civilized world to join in turning up the heat on “these despicable cowards.” Whether other nations would join his call was uncertain. In a speech delivered at the same time in Antalya, Turkey, President Barack Obama told reporters at the conclusion of the G-20 conference that the current U.S. strategy against the Islamic State had been successful.

G-20 leaders skirt issue of Russian bombing in Syria

At the first summit with President Vladimir Putin since he ordered Russian forces into Syria, Group of 20 world leaders Sunday said little about Russia’s controversial war tactics, which include bombing hospitals, using cluster bombs against civilians and causing thousands of civilians to flee from their homes. According to a United Nations report citing local humanitarian agencies, Russian and Syrian government bombing displaced at least 90,000 civilians from south of Aleppo in the past week alone.

**MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS**

**Mergers could increase BBC enrollment**

**MERGER, PAGE 8**

“The through faculty governance input from them to address concerns and see if challenges can be overcome,” Furton said. If Furton were to move forward with the merger—a decision he said he would likely make by the end of 2015—he would create a committee tasked with determining the process of and the timeline for a merger, and the larger committee for the mergers as a whole, would help determine how faculty would play a role in the new colleges and what their structure would be.

Furton said the names, structure and constitutions of the colleges would change and he will discuss them and additional details with the school’s faculty during upcoming meetings.

There are currently two committees, comprised of faculty based on recommendations from their peers, that are evaluating whether the mergers are capable of being done.

Though Furton said students will experience no impact from the mergers, the same can’t be said of faculty in the academic units.

Furton said during the Oct. 27 Faculty Senate meeting the goals of the merger include reducing the size of administration – without doing so for faculty – and increasing BBC’s enrollment.

Arts & Sciences has courses at both BBC and the Modesto Maidique Campus, and under a merged unit with Education, there could be specific degrees only offered at BBC. Adding courses taught at BBC wouldn’t affect the College of Education, but if there are opportunities to do so administrators would explore them, Furton said.

Furton said to Student Media that the larger committee will also determine which of the deans of the four academic units will become department chairs. Kathleen Wilson, chairwoman of the Faculty Senate, said to Student Media that she thinks the provost has a very good reason for why he thinks the merger is a good idea. “He’s not talking about downsizing those areas,” said Wilson, who represents the University’s faculty as the leader of their governing body. “He’s talking about leveraging resources and possibly applying for more grants together.”

However, she did acknowledge that there is anxiety from professors in the affected colleges and school. “It’s always hard on the faculty. But change is hard; even good change is hard,” Wilson said. “People don’t like change; it’s uncomfortable. I’m not saying it’s bad, but it’s uncomfortable.”

She said faculty members are nervous because of the University’s new strategic plan approved in 2015 and a state funding model in existence since 2014, which the Board of Governors voted to amend at their Nov. 5 meeting. “People are worried. People are not sure. ‘How do I fit in? Will this affect my tenure?’ I am going to have the same chair?” Those are big anxiety producing questions,” Wilson said.

“It’s not that they disagree. They have a lot of questions they feel have not been answered yet.”

Furton said the possibility of any additional professors depends on student demand, and he added “we anticipate growth at BBC and we need faculty additional.”

It’s always hard on the faculty. But change is hard, even good change is hard. People don’t like change, it’s uncomfortable. I’m not saying it’s bad, but it’s uncomfortable.

Kathleen Wilson
Chairwoman
Faculty Senate

Professors in the College of Education are trained in teaching and learning, and adding them to Arts & Sciences’ faculty, “would change the culture in terms of student learning outcomes,” Furton said.

Though there are no issues concerning the current culture, Furton said the University’s strategic plan, “FIUBeyondPossible2020,” calls for continuous improvement of the performance metrics the Florida Legislature uses to determine the amount of money to give universities in Florida’s university system.

As per the plan, University administrators want to increase the second-year retention rate from 75 to 90 percent and the six-year graduation rate from 54 to 70 percent by 2020.

First and foremost we want to make sure the new colleges that we create in the are the best interests of students, that we’re offering 21st century state-of-the-art courses that offer students the most opportunity for success and we’re not negatively impacting students,” Furton said.
Media perpetuates misconceptions about Islam

For quite some time, the amount of people that choose to remove meat from their diets has grown considerably over the years. The Vegetarian Resource Group conducted multiple surveys in 2008 and 2011, which led to the realization that meat is not as popular as it once was.

The survey found that five percent of Americans never eat meat, including seafood. The Huffington Post has also claimed that the number of vegans has essentially doubled over the last three years.

While the number of vegans and vegetarians has grown, many people are also choosing to incorporate more vegetables and less meat into their diet instead of cutting it out completely.

Multiple celebrities such as Bill Clinton and even Beyoncé continue to come out, praising their change in diet as the cause for the turnaround in their overall health. The idea that the people who stop eating meat are usually animal lovers has been left in the past. Eating less meat has been linked to numerous health benefits, such as weight loss and lowering of the risk of heart disease. Consuming less meat is considered to be better for the environment as well.

This brings to question that if consuming little to no meat has become more mainstream, why don’t we see more meatless options on college campuses? After all, Florida International University has a huge student population with people coming from all walks of life. Surely there has to be a need for such restaurants.

However, when you take a look around the Modesto A. Maidique campus, the closest thing you see to a reduced meat option is Salud Creations, Juice Blendz and Jamba Juice. While these restaurants have some options that are devoid of meat, their menus are usually centered around meat. As for the Biscayne Bay Campus, you’re better off cooking for yourself or leaving the campus altogether.

Why do you think that is? Why is money not being devoted to fulfilling the needs of those simply don’t eat the same way a lot of others do? While I do love meat, I do see a need that is currently undervalued. In my opinion, we need a growing market segment that isn’t considered. With a campus as diverse as ours, a restaurant that caters to those who want to avoid meat would undoubtedly thrive.

Perhaps there isn’t a university that has such an option for its students, so it’s much bigger than just only our campus. Those who don’t eat meat are being left to fend for themselves. Having a restaurant that is geared towards little to no meat would make FIU stand out tremendously.

Students might even be motivated to consider the school as a viable school choice, since they know it would meet the often forgotten need for diverse cuisine options. Our school is one of the best and largest in the nation.

It is only right that we set the standard for how a university should be, whether it be our top of the line gym facilities or wide range of food choices (since we know that college students love to eat, right?).

What better way to do this than to have a significant amount of meatless options available? It’s a decision that would show that no part of our student body is left behind.

All are Panthers and we deserve to be treated as the premier students we are.

“Tea Time” highlights social issues affecting upcoming professionals. Alix Bennett is a contributing writer for FIU Student Media. For more commentary, contact her at opinion@fiusm.com.
**University hosts Study Abroad Fair**

**KRYSTAL PUGH**
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Seventy-four percent of students study abroad during their academic college careers, according to a study by the Association of International Educators. The number makes up about 10 percent of the country’s college graduates and is expected to increase significantly in the next years, according to the association.

Post graduation employment competition is increasingly competitive, and it has become highly encouraged to consider a study abroad program by the Association of International Educators. The University has nearly 25 study abroad programs and international student exchange programs.

The Office of Study Abroad will host a study abroad fair Thursday, Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Graham Center ballrooms. Students are welcomed to ask questions regarding study abroad programs at the fair.

A representative for each program will participate at the fair, according to Laura Boudon, Office of Study Abroad program administration director.

The fair is hosted by the Office of Study Abroad every semester, especially during the months of November, in honor of International Education Week.

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the Department of State and the Department of Education to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment.

“The event will be informal in a sense that we have no order. We plan to treat this event as an informative session for students,” said Boudon.

Former students will be at the fair to share their experiences with the program, according to Boudon. They will provide insight to interested students, and they will show pictures of their past trips.

Faculty will be available to answer questions and concerns students may have about the different study abroad programs.

Melanie Velasquez said she would like to study abroad to Japan and immerse herself in another culture.

“The idea that this is something that attainable is crazy to me,” said Velasquez, a freshman exploratory major.

An intensive language and culture program in Kyoto, Japan is offered during the summer to introduce the Japanese language and culture, according to the Office of Study Abroad website.

Sulacila Hodgson said she would like to travel abroad to Spain, but she is fearful to leave home. “I am too afraid to leave home, but if I ever had the courage, I would like to study in Spain. It’s such a beautiful country, but I don’t think I would get any work done,” said Sulacila, a freshman exploratory major.

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication offers a study abroad course in Seville, Spain, according to the website. Students works on multimedia projects with mass communication students in Seville for clients.

**Wolfsonian to honor designer Mark Hampton**

**SAM SMITH**
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Mark Hampton, the interior designer responsible for much of Miami’s design aesthetic today, will be honored Saturday, Nov. 21 by FIU’s Wolfsonian Museum at Washington Ave in Miami Beach.

Between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m., the Wolfsonian will host a brunch reception with its director, Tim Rodgers, along with a brief talk by architect Rene Gonzalez.

The talk will be followed by a dialogue among Gonzalez, architecture critic Beth Dunlop and Micky Wolsfon, founder of the Wolfsonian Museum regarding Hampton’s work and as a memoir of his life.

Nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism, Dunlop is the editor of Modern Magazine, writes for multiple publications and was previously the Miami Herald’s architecture critic.

Gonzalez has been featured by multiple publications, including the New York Times and in critiques by Dunlop herself.

Hampton, who died in 1998, wrote two books: Mark Hampton on Decorating and Legendary Designers of the 20th Century. Apropos designer, Hampton’s work can be found in a number of U.S. government interiors, including the commissions by the White House during the presidencies of Bush Sr. and Clinton.

A limited number of tickets are available for students to attend the event free of charge.

**Committed to success of students at University**

**From the Dean of Students**

The Dean of Students Office, in the Division of Student Affairs, creates a culture of care for students, their families, faculty and staff by providing proactive education consultation, resources, and response to distressed students or students in crisis. The Dean of Students will provide a monthly column in the Beacon, to acquaint students with some of the important campus resources in place to support their success.

**Supporting Your Success**

The University is committed to student success...your success. We want you to have an amazing FIU experience that is enriching, educational, enjoyable and transformative.

While much of that experience happens in the classroom, and through your engagement within your academic program, a major component of your educational experience is accessed outside of the classroom.

Many studies have shown that student engagement outside of the classroom has significant impact on student learning and success.

In fact, many of the skills employers are looking for are acquired through co-curricular experiences.

It is your responsibility to access these experiences to ensure you have the most comprehensive FIU education.

The Division of Student Affairs has created a wide array of programs and services that provide opportunities for students to be engaged and to gain knowledge and skills that will aid them in their future.

Students learn through their involvement in leadership roles, by performing service in our local community, when working part-time on campus, or when accessing services such as through Career Services, Counseling, Multicultural Program and Services, or the Disability Resource Center.

Students learn when they attend lectures or organizational meetings, or write for the Beacon.

They learn when they are making decisions as part of Student Government, or engaging in conversation with others at residence hall programs.

Students learn when they attend leadership development sessions, or receive information about their health and wellness. The fact is, we all learn through social interaction with others. At FIU, we have the benefit of a large, diverse community, where we are able to experience this out-of-class learning alongside others who bring different backgrounds, perspectives and experiences.

So, what are you doing to maximize your FIU experience? Attend a program. Join an organization. Sign up for a service project or AB Trip. Go to the Wellness and Recreation Center. Apply for a leadership position. Participate in a student philanthropy project. Join a Greek organization.

The possibilities are endless. The important part is that you are strategic about finding those opportunities that will enhance your educational experience and prepare you for your future.

The good thing is you are also likely to have some fun.

If you need help getting connected on campus, stop by one of our Student Affairs offices. We’re committed to your success.
What’s hot this weekend

FIU Music Showcase: Student Stars

On Thursday, Nov. 19, at 3:30 p.m. the Wertheim Performing Arts Center will be hosting a free concert showcasing rising stars in the FIU School of Music.

29th Annual Festival of Trees

On Thursday, Nov. 19, the Florida International University’s College of Architecture + The Arts (CARTA) will be hosting their annual Festival of Trees featuring some of “the region’s premier design professionals.” The event will take place at the Moore Building at 191 NE 40th Street (between NE 2nd and NE 1st Avenues) in Miami’s Design District at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at festivaloftrees.net

Jazz at the Wertheim series: Jazz Vocal Ensemble

On Thursday, Nov. 19, the Wertheim Performing Arts Center will be hosting a jazz performance directed by Lisanne Lyons at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $5 for the jazz performance directed by Lisanne Lyons at 7:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center will be hosting a festival of trees at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at 1st Avenues) in Miami’s Design District place at the Moore Building at 191 NE

A showcase of music from Renaissance to modern as well as music from the world. The event will take place in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center and admission is free.

Ballet for Young People

On Saturday, Nov. 19, at 6:30 p.m. the Miami City Ballet School Ensemble will be performing a show dedicated to showcasing the history of ballet and how one gets to become a professional ballet dancer. The event will take place in the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center.

Old School Saturdays

Saturday night is filled with music and general dating ability.

FIU Music Student Showcase: Miami Guitar Orchestra

On Friday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m. the FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra will be doing a showcase of music from Renaissance to modern as well as music from the world. The event will take place in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center and admission is free.

FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra will be doing a showcase of music from Renaissance to modern as well as music from the world. The event will take place in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center and admission is free.

‘Hunger Games’ goes out on a feel-bad high note

RENE RODRIGUEZ

The Miami Herald

TNS Staff

Grain, relentless and immediately satisfying, “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 2” sends out the dystopian sci-fi franchise on a feel-bad high. Readers of Suzanne Collins’ source novel, who already know what’s coming, will be pleased by the movie’s merciless fidelity to the source material (or perhaps, considering the book is the least popular in the trilogy, will just be annoyed all over again).

For the rest of us, who only know “The Hunger Games” through its wildly uneven movies, “Mockingjay – Part 2” is proof that there really was more going on here all along than derivative allegories, shallow cultural commentary and trite young-adult angst. Filmmaker Francis Lawrence, who has gradually deepened the series over the last three installments (and made you forget the chintzy first picture directed by Gary Ross), doesn’t forget the somber aura that has seeped into the films, hinting at grave things to come. Civil war and fascism aren’t subjects you can wrap up with a shiny bow and glitter. Even a presumably happy ending would bear melancholy footnotes, which is the case here.

By now, the story has grown so complicated that Lawrence doesn’t try to help newcomers catch up. “Mockingjay – Part 2” picks up where the previous movie left off: Peeta (Josh Hutcherson) has been rescued from the clutches of the tyrannical President Snow (Donald Sutherland) but is brainwashed to fight against Katniss (Jennifer Lawrence), Gale (Liam Hemsworth) and the rest of the underground rebels.

Finnick (Sam Claflin) is preparing to wed Johanna (Jena Malone) is still preparing to wed. President Coin (Julianne Moore), the leader of the rebellion, and her assistant Plutarch (the late Philip Seymour Hoffman, who died during production) debate Katniss’s value as a symbol. She may be worth more than ever now.

The bulk of “Mockingjay – Part 2” is a war movie, albeit on an intimate scale, with a small group of soldiers trying to achieve an impossible military mission, beset by enemies in the form of monsters (extremely well rendered with a mixture of real actors and CGI) and less describable things, such as a giant wave of black goo that seems to be alive. Their objective is simple – take Snow down – and Katniss, armed with her iconic bow and arrow, finds new uses for her versatile weapon.

The heroes suffer big losses, as all soldiers in war do. But the movie never generates the rush of a straightforward action picture. A sense of dread permeates the movie, a feeling that this story may not be as predictable as it appears. Despite the series’ monumental success, “The Hunger Games” hasn’t permeated popular culture the way superheroes or even “Twilight” did.

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TNS Staff

LIFE!
Postseason hopes depend on WKU showdown

All season long, I’ve been writing about whether or not FIU would be able to win six games and become eligible for a bowl game for the first time in four years. At first I thought they were a shoo-in, but after inexcusable losses to the University of Massachusetts and Florida Atlantic University, my optimism began to disappear. Now, there’s no more debate or question as to what the Panthers need to do; they either reach bowl eligibility by winning their final game or go home for the holidays without an invitation to a bowl game. This crucial game between the Panthers (5-6, 3-4) and Hilltoppers (8-2, 6-0) will take place this Saturday, Nov. 17 at 2:30 p.m. Led by their high-powered offense, WKU is the only undefeated team in Conference USA. This means that FIU will need to bring every thing they’ve got if they want any chance of knocking off the Hilltoppers. Arguably the biggest advantage that FIU has going for them is certainly this game is being played at Ocean Bank Field at FIU Stadium. Despite extremely low and often embarrassing attendance, the Panthers are 4-0 at home this season. The two games WKU have lost this season have been played on the road. Saturday’s game is also significantly more important for the Panthers than it is for WKU. Regardless of the result, the Hilltoppers must defeat Marshall University, which defeated FIU 52-0 last week, to win the CUSA East division. For the Panthers, on the other hand, this is their final chance at making a bowl game. If the Panthers can use that extra motivation to fuel their play against WKU, an upset is very possible. However, it will take a lot more than being motivated to take down a team as talented as WKU. Even though they lost their star running back Leon Allen early in the season to a season-ending knee injury, the Hilltoppers offense hasn’t missed a beat. WKU ranks tied for 10th in the country in scoring; averaging a ridiculous 41.8 points per game. FIU’s struggling defense will need to find a way to slow down the dangerous connection of quarterback Brandon Doughty and receiver Taywan Taylor, who was recently named a semifinalist for the Biletnikoff Award. I could see each of those stars being play makers at the next level, which means that the Panthers need their NFL-caliber defensive backs Richard Leonard and Jeremiah McKinnon to step up in their final game at FIU Stadium. It will be very interesting to see whether Leonard or McKinnon will spend more time guarding Taylor and how effective each will be at containing Doughty’s top target. On offense, the Panthers will need to move past a horrible performance against Marshall and get on the scoreboard early and often. Now, there’s no more debate or question as to what the Hilltoppers need to do; they either reach bowl eligibility by winning their final game or go home for the holidays without an invitation to a bowl game. This is a true test for sophomore quarterback Alex McGough. McGough has been playing like a superstar all season long. Now, we’ll see if he has what it takes to prove himself against the Hilltoppers and bring his team into the semi-final round of the C-USA Conference. Prediction: WKU defeats FIU 45-34. Unless WKU head coach Jeff Brohm elects to sit his star players in preparation for their C-USA East “championship game” with Marshall, I don’t think FIU is equipped to keep up with the Hilltoppers. I expect McGough and soph omore running back Alex Gardner to bounce back and lead the Panthers to a great offensive performance, but the FIU defense under coordinator Matt House hasn’t shown me any reason to believe they can slow down WKU’s offense enough to win this game. “Jake’s Take” offers commentary on the University football team with predictions or recaps of gameplay. For commentary, email Jacob at jacob.spiwak@fiusm.com.

Panthers to play UTSA in C-USA tournament

STEFANO RIVERA Contributing Writer sport@fiusm.com

On Saturday, Nov. 14, the Florida International University women’s volleyball team defeated the University of North Carolina at Charlotte 49ers; clinching the seventh seed in the Conference USA Tournament. The Panthers are set to face off against the University of Texas at San Antonio Roadrunners, who enter as the second seed. The tournament will take place in San Antonio and begins on Friday, Nov. 20, at 12 p.m. FIU (15-12, 9-7 in C-USA) enters this match on a two-game winning streak, defeating Louisiana Tech University before the 49ers. After losing their final match of the regular season, the Roadrunners now have a record of 22-8, 13-3 in C-USA. Earlier this season, the Panthers squared off against the Roadrunners, falling in four sets with scores of 17-25, 27-25, 9-25 and 17-25. The team struggled offensively; nearly committing as many errors as kills and finishing with a hitting percentage of .020. UTSA didn’t allow any Panther to reach double-figure kills. They held senior outside hitter, Lucas Castro, to only four kills. Castro has consistently been FIU’s threat offensively throughout the season. Junior outside hitter Dajana Boskovic finished the match with 21 kills. Sophomore outside hitter Marjuta Runjic added 15 kills in a UTSA offense that was clicking on all cylinders. The Roadrunners are at the top of several statistics in the conference. They are third in hitting percentage (.247), second in opponent hitting percentage (.162) and service aces (1.44 per set), and fourth in blocks (2.32 per set) and digs (15.73 per set).

Meanwhile, the Panthers are leading the conference in blocks (2.51 per set), fourth in service aces (1.35 per set) and fifth in opponent hitting percentage (.183). Boskovic has been the engine driving this UTSA team. She is second in the conference in total points (5.16 per set) and third in kills (4.53 per set). Boskovic has won her fourth-straight C-USA Offensive Player of the Week award, giving her five for her career. This past week she finished with 42 kills and a hitting percentage of .315. Freshman setter Amanda Gonzales has also been winning weekly conference awards the past month. Gonzales was named C-USA Freshman of the Week, giving her four this season. She posted 47 assists against the University of Southern Mississippi as she surpassed 40 assists for the ninth time this season. The Panthers will need to contain UTSA’s potent offense if they wish to advance to the semi-final round of the C-USA tournament for the second time in three years. They will play the winner of Rice University and Southern Miss.
The men's basketball team defeated Florida Memorial College on Monday, Nov. 16 in a 67-51 victory. The Panthers improved to 2-0 on Lime Court as they prepare for their first road trip of the season.

At tip-off, Florida Memorial was able to keep the contest close. In the first 10 minutes, the Lions kept the game within reach.

However, the Panthers stepped up and outscored the Florida Memorial 15-6 in the last 10 minutes of the half. At halftime, FIU commanded a 35-18 lead.

The second half provided opportunity for the Panthers to play their reserves. Although the Lions would outscore the Panthers 33-32 in the second half, most of those points were added once the game was already out of reach. At the final buzzer, the Panthers took the contest 67-51.

FIU's veterans got the job done during the game. Senior forward Davion Draper led in scoring with 19 points. Senior center Adrian Diaz was dominant on the boards against a smaller Lions team with 14 rebounds.

Head Coach Anthony Evans used this initial soft stretch of scheduling to play his newcomers. Junior Donnie McGill played 27 minutes on Monday, recording nine points and six rebounds. Freshman seven-foot-one center Nate Brown Bull saw action for the first time.

Next up for the Panthers is the James Madison University Men Against Breast Cancer Classic in Harrisonburg, Va. Their first opponent will be JMU on Friday, Nov. 20 at 3:30 p.m.
University Provost Ken Furton said plans to merge two colleges and add a department to a school will have “no impact on students,” and he would like to make a decision by the end of the year.

While the majority of journalism and mass communication courses will remain at Biscayne Bay Campus, Furton said the University will offer more communication arts courses at BBC if the merger goes through as planned.

If it does, the College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Education could merge and the College of Architecture + the Arts’ communication arts department would be added to SIMC.

Under the latest plan, integrating SIMC into CARTA would result in a new college, Furton said. A similar plan is in the works for Arts & Sciences and Education.

Furton also said full tracks within communication arts could also be offered at BBC.

The department currently has three: organizational communication studies, art + performance and design studies. “There are opportunities to share courses,” Furton said. “There could be efficiencies in that regard.”

Furton, who is also the executive vice president of academic affairs, said he expects degrees to remain, and administrators could add interdisciplinary degrees for two or more fields of study.

Furton said merged academic units would allow the University to offer its students accelerated master’s degrees, which gives students the option to start taking graduate courses early.

He said SIMC and Education have accrediting organizations whose requirements do not separate forms of accreditation, a certification which says all formal official requirements of academic excellence, curriculum, facilities, have been met.

If merged, the College of Education will become a school within the College of Arts & Sciences, and the academic unit will have a new name.

At the Oct. 27 Faculty Senate meeting Furton said the “College of Education declined” a merger with Arts & Sciences when the idea was brought up previously, but he said to Student Media it was the decision of the University president and provost.

Catherine Rodriguez, Diplomat in Residence, U.S. Department of State, talking about work opportunities outside of the U.S. during the International Students Panel Monday, Nov. 16 in WUC 155

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Eight women join 2016 roster

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The Department of Interior finally decided on a uniform for all in 1911 and in 1920, the National Park Service Uniform Regulations were created, which would lay out what rangers would wear as well as what it would be made out of and included all articles of clothing from head to toe. Another carryover from the army was the rank system of hierarchy leading to officers and rungs wearing differentiating colors and articles of clothing.

“Who knew who the Ranger is,” said Ranger Shawn Bawden, Everglades Volunteer Program Manager and former Archivist at Yellowstone. “That’s somebody you go to for help. That’s why the uniform is distinctive.”

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The uniform will continue to change throughout the decades but some articles of the uniform are still very much in use. The hat, shirt, pants, and shoes, and some articles were added and kept like the badge, belt design, name tags, and the arrowhead patch. The arrowhead is the “place of resistance” featuring everything that is vital to the park service: a bison for wildlife protection, a bear for safety protection, the Department of Interior finally decided on a uniform for all in 1911 and in 1920, the National Park Service Uniform Regulations were created, which would lay out what rangers would wear as well as what it would be made out of and included all articles of clothing from head to toe. Another carryover from the army was the rank system of hierarchy leading to officers and rungs wearing differentiating colors and articles of clothing.

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But all this only applies if you were a male. Women, who have been known to work in the park since 1920, were only hired as temporary or seasonal rangers and therefore wore different uniforms. Like men, the uniforms varied from park to park. Some wore the regular men’s uniform simply tailored differently, and some wore something different altogether. In 1947, they finally addressed the issue and women were given a standard uniform-albeit in the “Special Uniforms” section. “I like the fact that everybody in the park service wears a uniform,” said Ranger Guerra. “No matter what you do, you’re wearing it, whether you’re in the maintenance or interpret. Everyone dresses the same and I like that. I like that it also pays homage to the military that first took care of the national parks.”

In 1978, over a century after the creation of Yellowstone and 60 years after the first woman worked at a park, we came to the most modern form of the uniforms. Women are allowed to wear everything that a man is as well as some clothing specifically designed for women. There are still many variations according to working conditions and occupation whether you’re a firefighter or even a lifeguard.

As we look forward to the National Park Service Centennial this upcoming year, it is as important to look back as it is to look forward. The past 100 years have seen many changes and there are sure to be many more. What is important is that we continue our mission to keep the public in our best interest.

“Wear your uniforms well, and wear them with pride. The uniform commands a certain respect that we are great stewards and we are providing extraordinary experiences for the American public,” said Guerra. “It will be set aside over the next 100 years to come, change; it’s uncomfortable. I’m not saying it’s bad, but it’s uncomfortable.”

For the full story, visit fiusm.com.