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Florida International University

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IN MEMORY

MMC Wellness and Recreation hosts memorial for Ghiz



PETER HOLLAND/THE BEACON

During the memorial held for Alexander Ghiz, MMC Wellness and Recreation Director Charles Judkins welcomed coworkers and friends of Ghiz to speak and share memories.

PETER HOLLAND, JR.
Asst. Sports Director
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Alexander Ghiz was remembered as a positive person who never had a bad day at a memorial service held by the Wellness and Recreation Center at the Modesto Maidique campus on Thursday, Sept. 29.

The 20-year-old student was found dead in his Everglades Hall dorm on the morning of Thursday, Sept. 22. The junior supply chain management and logistics major worked as a lifeguard for the Wellness and Rec Center.

During the service, friends and coworkers were given the opportunity to share memories. One of the speakers was Ghiz's roommate, who fondly described Ghiz's positivity.

"There was never anything negative about Alex. He was just a positive human being. It's hard because every time you see him, there wouldn't have been any negativity on him," the roommate said. "To see him as a lifeguard, that shows the value he puts to life, and I

don't want to feel like he's gone because I will never forget him."

Ella Smith, one of Ghiz's friends, discussed how she first met him during his freshman year. According to Smith, she and a few other friends traveled to Charlotte, North Carolina last week to attend Ghiz's funeral.

"I met Alex last year. There was a place that we all used to hang out after school on campus," Smith said. "We all would just sit there do homework and we will just connect. I didn't know anyone when I first got to FIU. He was one of the first friends that I met. He was an amazing person."

Kali-Ray Skinner, a writer for Student Media and communication major was also in attendance and had prepared a poem dedicated to Ghiz.

"I wasn't super close to Alex, but every time I saw him, he was sunshine to me," she said. "We would often talk in the hallway just catching up like: 'hey how's it going.' They were very precious to me, and it meant a lot to me with his blond hair blowing into the wind. Running into him in weird spots, but he's always where he need to be, and right now, he's with us."

For Iren De los Santos, a senior and friend of Ghiz, his death came as a shock.

"I never seen him with a frown," said De los Santos. "He was a pretty jolly guy. The only thing shocking about the whole thing is that we never expected it to be Alex. He was always such a happy dude. I never see him having a bad time."

Christopher Grullon, a supervisor for the Wellness and Rec Center was the first lifeguard Ghiz met after he was hired. Grullon struggled to speak about Ghiz when his name was brought up. According to Grullon, Ghiz made quite an impression on him with his personality and attitude.

"He was always very kind and friendly once you got to know him," Grullon began. "He opened up a little and his sense of humor came out. He was enjoyable to be around."

Though details about his death have yet to be released, the Miami Dade Police Department has ruled out foul play.

BISCAYNE BAY

Diversity Day Schedule	
9:00 a.m. —	
10:00 a.m. —	9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater. FIU Police Department's Captain Alfredo Vega, Tory Heslop and David Sydnor will be discussing stereotypes versus reality.
11:00 a.m. —	
12:00 p.m. —	11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater. Yasir Billoo will present "Muslims in America: Between Terrorism and Apple Pie."
1:00 p.m. —	Lunch 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. —	12:45p.m. to 1:45 p.m. BDSM 101 will reflect on the entire view of bondage, dominance, submissiveness and masochism. Presenter, Elizabeth Davis will define every word of the acronym in the WUC ballrooms.
3:00 p.m. —	2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. "In Order to Live: A North Korean girl's Journey to Freedom" will take place in the WUC ballrooms.

DIVERSITY DAY RETURNS TO BBC

Diversity Day, an annual BBC event with guest speakers to discussing different topics that affect them, will feature a discussion about stereotypes, Muslim identities and BDSM.

The 15th annual event is free for students and faculty, and takes place Tuesday, Oct 4 from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Lunch will be provided for participants of the day's discussions

Students such as Marcela Ervolino a senior information technology major said, "I consider diversity very important because it allows you to explore and experience different cultures from around the world."

Diversity Day is a great way to learn and explore from other ethnicities said Ervolino.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

As Trump praised Putin, Russia cracked down on polling agency

Not long before U.S. presidential hopeful Donald Trump started talking this week about the qualities he admired in Russian President Vladimir Putin as a leader, Putin’s government demonstrated some of that leadership by classifying the nation’s oldest and only independent polling agency as, essentially, a spy network.

It was a move that in many ways explains Putin’s iron grip on power in Russia. At the same time, Trump was firm in his praise.

“Certainly, in that system, he’s been a leader, far more than our president has been a leader,” Trump said Wednesday during a candidate forum on NBC.

Vietnam, biggest hub for illegal rhino horn trafficking, little done to stop it

Vietnam has become the biggest hub in the world for trafficking in horns and other body parts of the rhinoceros, a critically endangered species that is being killed by poachers in South Africa at the rate of one every eight hours.

An estimated 1,300 rhinos are slaughtered for their horns across Africa annually – up from just 100 in 2008 – with the bulk of rhino horn smuggled by criminal gangs into Vietnam, according to surveys by international wildlife trade experts.

Yet Vietnam hasn’t launched a single successful high-level prosecution against illegal rhino horn traders.

The standing committee of CITES, the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species, meeting last week in South Africa, has warned Vietnam that the body will not tolerate the country’s failure to enforce bans on the rhino horn trade.

The warning suggests that possible trade sanctions could be in the offing as early as next year.

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Discussion series to address social media and politics

PATRICIA KATRI
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FIU Libraries and the Office of Global Learning Initiatives is offering discussions about Facebook politics, and how they shape online friends’ views.

The three-session “WorldView” Series, organized by librarian Holly Morganelli, is a series of pop-up discussions on timely global issues.

The series is centered around an article published in the Huffington Post on March 24, that breaks the types of users on social media.

According to the article, there is an Endorphin Junkie, who “[relieves] anxiety” by speaking up on troublesome political issues; an Iconoclast, who may not speak up in public but is eager to share political opinions online; and an Approval Seeker, who seeks approval by posting majority opinions.

The series will offer discussions about how these and other types of users may inform online friends’ political views.

The first session will be held on Oct. 10, at 12:30 p.m. in the Green Library, room 220, to discuss the ways political debates and global information received on Facebook and other social media outlets affects political views.

Eric Feldman, moderator of the first session, emphasizes

the importance of understanding how Facebook informs students’ and Facebook users’ political opinions.

“It does not matter what candidate you are for or how educated you are, at least something you have read online in the past month about the election has either been outright false or at least heavily misleading,” Feldman said. “Even when they are not lies, political memes are overly simplistic and cannot fit all of the facts into an image.”

Feldman says his presentation and discussion will address the critical thinking necessary to find motivation behind posts on Facebook.

“My presentation and discussion will cover how Facebook decides what posts you see and how their method is dangerous for democracy,” Feldman said. “It will show how people are using contractors from around the world to create memes and post political status updates for profit.”

The second session, “When is a Fact a Fact,” will be held in GC 150 on Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 12:30 p.m.

The third session, to be held Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 12:30 p.m. in GL 220, will feature a conversation with Shamoil T. Shipchandler, Fort Worth regional director for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, a government organization whose mission is to protect investors.

2016 FIU Cuba Poll reveals voter sentiments on Trump

PATRICIA KATRI
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In August, Donald Trump had the support of 35 percent of Cuban-Americans while Hillary Clinton had 31 percent from the same demographic, according to the 2016 FIU Cuba Polls. The polls also revealed that Cuban-Americans born in Cuba are more nine percent more likely to vote for Trump than those who were not.

Young Cuban-Americans however would prefer Clinton to Trump. According to the polls, though 30 percent of Cuban-Americans aged 18 through 39 identify themselves as republicans, 43 percent of those surveyed in the same age range would vote for Clinton.

“It seems as if [Trump] won’t want to help the Hispanic community if he’s president,” sophomore Melissa Gonzalez, a Cuban-American, said. “My family and I, being Hispanic, don’t support him because it feels as if he won’t care about us.”

This sentiment is echoed by many Hispanics of various nationalities, many of whom strongly object to Trump’s statements.

“Trump insults Latinos daily,” junior Karla Narvaez, whose family is from Nicaragua, said. “He is disrespectful, he doesn’t measure his words, and he offends Latinos constantly.”

According to donaldjtrump.com, Trump’s immigration plan, a cornerstone of his platform, entails three core principles: “[First,] a nation without borders is not a nation. There must be a wall across the southern border. [Second,] a nation without laws is not a nation. [Third,] a nation that does not serve its own citizens is not a nation. Any immigration

plan must improve jobs, wages, and security for all Americans.”

Trump goes on to indict Mexico’s leaders, who, he claims, “have been

Cuban-American nationwide support for the Republican Party has declined over the past decade, however, as less than half of

“From the beginning of his campaign, [Trump] has talked negative about the Hispanic population in the U.S. by saying, for instance, that Mexicans should leave because they are criminals.

Melissa Gonzalez
Sophomore

taking advantage of the United States by using illegal immigration to export the crime and poverty in their own country (as well as in other Latin American countries) ... Headlines have been covered with cases of criminals who crossed our border illegally only to go on to commit horrific crimes against Americans.”

Some object to this platform, pinpointing it as a source of low Trump support among Hispanics.

“From the beginning of his campaign, [Trump] has talked negative about the Hispanic population in the U.S.,” Gonzalez said, “by saying, for instance, that Mexicans should leave because they are criminals.”

A preference for Trump remains strong among older Latino voters —65 and older— who in Miami-Dade County have traditionally favored the Republican Party. Miami-Dade’s Cuban-American population, in particular, has historically been comprised of anti-Castro Cuban conservatives who fled the island in search of political freedom and identified with Republican politics.

registered Cuban voters now identify with the Republican Party —down from 64 percent a decade ago, according to 2013 survey data cited by the Pew Research Center. The preferences of younger voters account for these figures: more than half of Cuban-Americans aged 18 to 49 identified with the Democratic Party, as compared to 39 percent of those 50 and older.

“In my opinion, as a Venezuelan and Cuban, his ideas and approach remind me of Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez,” senior Alexander Durant said. “His approach is very divisive. [Trump] tries to find a scapegoat for the issues, which makes the majority rally toward his cause. [Similarly,] Castro united the Cuban people by blaming American intrusion.”

While 10.7 percent of Hispanics nationally support Trump, Miami-Dade County registers high Latino support for the Republican nominee, at more than 20 percent, according to the New Latino Voice voter poll. The figure for Florida, nine percent, hovers below the national average.

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Students: Take advantage of free software

M TALK



MICHELLE MARCHANTE

Microsoft's program family, which includes Word, Excel and PowerPoint, is one of the most essential and useful programs ever created but it can also be expensive. Luckily, when it comes to computers, software or just technology in general, students can get a lot of discounts, deals and

perks, especially if they take advantage of the free softwares FIU provides.

Purchasing the Home & Business package of Microsoft Office 2016, for example, would cost \$229.99 with the Home & Student package costing \$149.99 but if you log in to panthertech.fiu.edu, students can access the latest version of all Microsoft programs including Word, Excel, Powerpoint, OneNote, Outlook, Access and Publisher for free through Microsoft's cloud based service, Office 365.

Normally, a subscription service for Office 365 would start at a price range of \$69.99 a year for individual use, with that price going up to \$99.99 yearly for home — with optional monthly purchase plan options — so you can imagine how much money is saved in the long run by taking advantage of this free service.

According to José Lopez-Varela, the associate director of computer store operations at PantherTech, FIU was using the technology fee students pay every semester since 2008 to provide them access to Office, but now that they converted to Office 365 back in January, the service is completely free and is no longer using the tech fee to provide it.

"It's a standard software for the business world so it's a great thing for students to have and be able to use while they're here and not have to pay for it because it is an expensive software," Lopez-Varela said.

According to Lopez-Varela, even though PantherTech does their best to get the word out about this free service, from attending every orientation, displaying it in the store and using social media to promote it, word of mouth is the most effective way Panthers find out about this freebie.

It's important to know though, he said, that this free service is only valid as long as you are a currently enrolled student and PantherTech makes sure students are aware of it.

"Once you graduate, it stops working," Lopez-Varela said. "[W]e do a big campaign around graduation telling people that 'it's graduation time, come see us' because there are things you are going to lose so we can try to help them replace or get while they're still eligible for student pricing."

While it's recommended students act right before they graduate so they are still technically eligible for student pricing, students shouldn't worry about losing complete access to their documents upon graduation or transfer as the service would just convert to "Read-Only."

This means that until you purchase either the one-time-only download or the monthly subscription, you would be restricted to only see the documents you had previously created and would be unable to edit or create new ones.

Office 365 isn't the only software freebie Panthers can take advantage of though, as PantherTech also began providing a virus protection software since the last term called

LiveSafe. According to Lopez-Varela, unlike the Office 365 that only lets users use it in up

“

[W]e do a big campaign around graduation telling people that 'it's graduation time, come see us' because there are things you are going to lose so we can try to help them replace or get while they're still eligible for student pricing.

José Lopez-Varela
Associate Director of Computer Store Operations
PantherTech

”

to five different computers at a time, students have unlimited LiveSafe device downloads.

"[LiveSafe] is a \$90 a year product that you get for free while you're here," Lopez-Varela said.

While Office 365 is provided for free to faculty, staff and students, he said, LiveSafe is currently available only for students.

"Faculty and staff can buy [a virus protection product] at a discounted price from our website but it's not the LiveSafe product," he said.

Another freebie students and faculty can take advantage of is the free website options Panthers are eligible for through the school's IT

Department. Under the Web Services section on it.fiu.edu, Panthers will find FIUnix and MyWeb under Web Creation Tools. FIUnix is a tool that allows faculty, staff and students to create their very own html-based website from scratch.

MyWeb, on the other hand, gives them access to a Wordpress-powered website which has a user-friendly interface, pre-designed themes and plugins so no coding knowledge is required. Students, faculty and staff are only eligible for these website services as long as they are currently enrolled in FIU and upon graduating or leaving, they may lose anything they've posted.

As students, we naturally struggle between attending school and working so we're always trying to find cheaper deals because of it, yet when the school offers us free, expensive software, we ignore it.

The free LiveSafe software, for example, which is still relatively new on our campus, is currently being used by 2,250 students, according to Lopez-Varela and we have a student body of almost 54,000.

While you're free to select and purchase whatever product you wish, faculty, staff and students should take the time to find out what our school offers before they take out their wallet, you may find yourself not having to spend anything at all.

Michelle Marchante is the Opinion Director for FIU Student Media. Her column, M Talk, focuses on new and innovative events and ideas. For suggestions or comments, please email Michelle at michelle.marchante@fiusm.com.

Letter to the Editor: FIU has failed to be #WorldsAhead



DANIEL CAPOTE

Monday, Sept. 26, I, on behalf of my student group Stonewall Pride Alliance, attended our student government's meeting addressing a resolution to recognize Columbus Day as Indigenous People's Day at Florida International University.

After a presentation claiming Columbus's historical and cultural significance to European-Americans, and several senators

expressing concern for European-American student's feelings if they "lost" Columbus Day, the resolution failed to pass.

This maintains a status quo where indigenous people are erased, ignored, discriminated against, and destroyed. A lot of conversation was made about creating a separate day for indigenous people instead of taking away Columbus day from others, but it failed to understand that the continued celebration of a mass murderer is actively antagonistic to indigenous people.

Equality can only be achieved if we put effort toward repairing and uplifting the disenfranchised, and if we worry too much about white people feeling guilty about their history of oppression, we will never achieve progress. If we continue trying to avoid the process and if no one wants to rattle the cage and create change, we'll never move forward.

Why celebrate a man that "discovered" a land that already had people on it? And who then proceeded to murder and rape the people that he found? Our relationship with the indigenous people whose land we live on is irreparably damaged and the small gesture that abolishing Columbus day would have provided was denied today.

This is in the face of so many student groups coming out to support the resolution and having our coalition be compared to the frivolity of a popularity contest.

I'm aware that it's completely possible that there may be another article spouting the benefits and virtues of Columbus day written by a very well-meaning student who is ignorant of the complexities of this argument. But unfortunately, this argument has two sides, and one side is severely at a disadvantage to speak on its own behalf because most of them, thanks to people like Columbus, are lying dead in the ground.

Even today there are those who are being denied the final right of resting in peace because of the construction of an oil pipeline. We are not surprised, we are outraged.

I believe that last week FIU failed its Worlds Ahead motto, and instead let itself be #WorldsBehind

Daniel Capote
President
Stonewall Pride Alliance

SAM PRITCHARD TORRES/THE BEACON

UNITED OPENLYE



SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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How To Beat Commuting

ALONDRA BODDEN
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FIU, known for its large number of Hispanic students, Panther pride and lack of parking, ranks high among commuter schools..

According to an article on USNEWS.COM, titled "10 Universities Where the Most Freshmen Commute to Campus," FIU ranks No. 1 with 76 percent of first-year students living off campus or commuting, and a whopping 3,149 total first-year commuters.

"I spend about \$30 a week commuting to and from school and my house," said Joanne Scott, a senior majoring in psychology.

With 15 weeks in a typical college semester, the cost of gas could cost the average student roughly \$450 per semester. Per academic year, that racks up to \$900.

Living on campus at FIU can cost up to \$4,250 per semester for housing alone. This makes commuting seem like the more cost-effective alternative for many students.

"A lot of my friends sort of pity me because I'm a commuter and they live on campus, but I just can't justify spending \$10,000 more just to live the 'college experience,'" said Gabi Mocombe, a junior majoring in psychology.

Being a commuter doesn't mean you should miss out on becoming involved on campus, there are so many opportunities

and clubs the University has to offer.

"I'm on the homecoming committee and I'll be a frat pledge next semester. It [commuting] doesn't really affect my ability to be involved, just makes me have to be mindful of traffic and parking when I'm planning when to leave to campus" said Simon Plummer, a freshman majoring in marketing.

Students who have classes or club meetings on both the Modesto Maidique campus and The Biscayne Bay Campus can use the Panther Express shuttle. This way, students can help minimize the high amount of money spent on gas for their cars.

The shuttle arrives at the bus stop in front of the Academic Two building at BBC and in front of the Golden Garage at MMC. It arrives every half an hour and the trip time ranges from 50 minutes to an hour between campuses. The cost for each trip is \$2.50 and requires a FIU OneCard for the charge.

In addition to this, carpooling is an alternative to riding the bus and driving your own car. To begin this process, students can access <http://www.get2fiu.com/services/carpool/> to find a carpool match, and register their vehicle.

In a final word of advice to students who are new to commuting, "Add 30 to 45 minutes into your travel time for parking and traffic just as a precaution. It's always better to be early than late" said Plummer.

FALAFEL FUN



GUETHSHINA ALTENA/THE BEACON

Yoel Rotterman, a junior studying mechanical engineering and Leandra Alonso, a senior studying international relations help host shalom FIU's Falafel eating contest to raise funds for Israid.

FIU's football intern seeks future position with the NFL

CIARA BAKER
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While most little girls spent their childhood going back and forth to cheerleading practices and competitions, Afia Amfo spent her days in the stands, watching the football games and learning stats on all of the players.

"It's so exciting that it makes want to cry. It keeps you on the edge of your seat and if it's good, the ending is almost never predictable," said Amfo.

Traditionally, American football is not a part of her Ghanaian heritage, but according to Amfo, the sport is a part of who she is.

"Football runs through my veins. I bleed green and white," Amfo said. "My favorite team is the Eagles."

The communication arts major found her love for the game at an early age.

"My dad was a huge football fan while I was growing up," she said. "Every Sunday, he would watch the games and I would be right there beside him, unlike my brother who was always glued to either his comic books or video games."

Amfo says she would always be the one bringing her dad new information and stats on the newest players in the league.

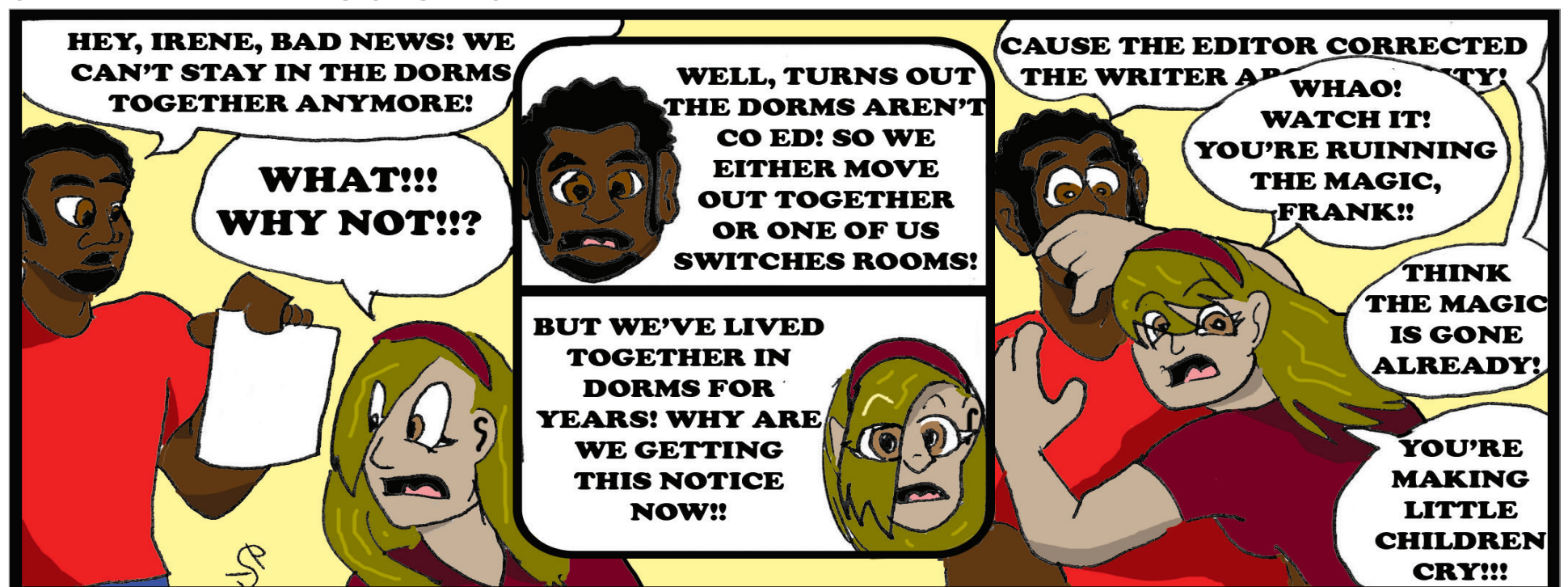
Jazmine Jackson, Amfo's longtime friend asserts that Amfo is a die-hard football fan.

"Me and the other girls always joke around with Afia because while we're watching shows like 'The Real Housewives,' she's always watching football."

With a desire to build a career connected to the NFL, Amfo began interning with the FIU football team to get the hands-on experience she's always wanted and knew she would

SEE NFL, PAGE 5

SHATTERED ILLUSIONS



SAMUEL PRITCHARD/THE BEACON

Professor pioneers Women in STEM

STEPHANIE CASTRO
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The national average of women in the workforce is 48 percent, meaning women comprise almost half of the workforce. However, only 24 percent of women are a part of the STEM field.

Over the course of her years at FIU, Yesim Darici, who holds a doctorate in Physics, always tried to increase the number of women and minorities in STEM.

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and has been a passion project for Darici over the last 25 years.

“I have been fighting for equality and diversity all my life. It is human rights. The rights of women, LGBTQA, the rights of everyone.”

Darici is a well-known figure around FIU. In 1987, she started her career at the University as a physics professor and since 2007, had held the title of director of Women’s and Gender Studies.

“There has never been a scientist as the Women’s and Gender Studies director. There weren’t women physics professors in the state of Florida at all,” explained Darici.

Darici’s list of accomplishments is nothing

short of impressive. She was a member of the

Committee on Minorities in Physics in the American Physical Society where she was invited by Yale University to evaluate their working conditions for women.

In 2011, the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies received a grant worth \$573,000 from the National Science Foundation to advance women faculty through fostering the recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in science and math.

In addition, the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies department received an additional \$3.3 million from NSF for the institutional transformation of FIU which Darici says is meant to make FIU a welcoming environment for everyone.

In 2016, Darici received the President’s Access & Equity Award given to her by our own President Rosenberg. Through motivating a group of women faculty, Darici was able to create a plan cultivated to improve institutional planning for women and minority faculty. An honor she lists as one of her greatest achievements besides her constant fight for the empowerment of women.

However, Darici’s success



COURTESY OF THE CENTER OF WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES/THE BEACON

didn’t come easily. The male dominance involved in STEM fields

discourages women to take part, something Darici had to deal with.

“At the beginning, it was frustrating because my colleagues told me they had never worked with a woman, and in any field when it doesn’t reach the physical mass, there are problems. I faced discrimination,” said Darici. “It

was not easy, but you boil an egg and it gets hard. You boil a carrot, it gets soft. I think I was like the egg; I got harder. I feel powerful and strong and I didn’t let them take me down. I fought back and won all my battles.”

The Women in STEM Initiative will provide education on the issues faced by women in STEM fields and resources for enhancing their involvement. These efforts, Darici said, will

propel the University to succeed in recruitment efforts and applications for available grants that will strengthen both our faculty and our students.

“We still have a long way to go in order to increase the number of women in STEM disciplines, but through targeted outreach, recruitment, and retention efforts for students and faculty alike, we can open the doors for more women.”

Intern has ‘promising’ possibilities with NFL



NFL, PAGE 4

need.

“I want to be the communications director for the NFL so whatever I had to do to get my foot into the door with football, I did.”

Volunteering for the team, Amfo started off working with equipment. This was not her favorite job, but in time, she would eventually work her way up to jobs more in line with her interests, in addition to an internship.

Amfo now oversees and

maintains practices, handles equipment necessary for practices and games, as well as conducts public relations for recruitment.

“My future with the NFL is very bright and promising. There are so many routes I can take so the possibilities are endless.”

Amfo hopes to work with the Philadelphia Eagles or the Miami Dolphins doing anything that involves communications.

ADULTING DISASTER



SAMUEL PRITCHARD/THE BEACON

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SOCCER

Miami FC victory against Ottawa Fury FC improves team's standings to second place



Midfielder Ariel Pedro Martinez dedicated Miami FC's win on Thursday, Sept. 29 to Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez, who died in a boating accident on September 25. Fans in the stands also honored Fernandez by holding a large portrait of his jersey in the stands.



ALEX TOLEDO
Contributing Writer
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Miami FC, which finished its spring 2016 season in last place, is now ranked second in standings for fall 2016 after defeating Ottawa Fury 2-1.

Before the match began, Miami FC midfielder Ariel Pedro Martinez, took a hat and jersey with the No. 16 on it and laid it on the field in honor of Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez who died in a boat crash. Both teams also came together for a moment of silence.

In the first half, both teams struggled to advance up the field. After two missed shots by Ottawa, Miami FC midfielder Michael Lahoud, (fifth on the team in total passes), broke the ice when he scored the first goal of the game at 34:05, and his first goal of the season. At 43:31, forward Giuseppe Gentile of the Fury tied the game up at 1-1 with his goal.

After a couple missed shots from each team, officials added five minutes of stoppage time. Both teams went back and forth, struggling to gain any leverage on the other. Miami FC forward Vincenzo Rennella, on his second shot attempt of the game, scored what would be the game-winning goal at 94:07.

After the game, when asked what he thought about playing in another state in a potential playoff matchup, Coach Alessandro Nesta said "no, we want to play here. This stadium is beautiful."

"It's a big win. I didn't realize how big of a game it was until I found out we were sitting second in the Fall," Lahoud said. "It's a great feeling, you know? Alessandro told us before the game how big of a game it was. You could just feel that it was a big game atmosphere."

Rennella was also quite pleased with the results after the game.

"There are only six games left, and we know they are all going to be difficult games, but we have a nice game next against Tampa Bay," he said. "I feel like the team really feels like we can do something in the league this year. It is going to be complicated, but we're going to try it."

Miami FC is getting closer to playoffs, standing at 8-4-4, with 28 total points. The team is trailing

the New York Cosmos, who stand at 10-4-3 with 34 total points.

To get into the four-team playoffs, Miami FC would either need to beat out the Cosmos for first place of the fall season or get into fourth place of the spring and fall combined season standings.

Currently, Miami FC trails fourth place in the combined season standings by one total point to Minnesota United FC, and is tied in points with the

fifth-place Tampa Bay Rowdies, but trail by one goal, which puts Miami FC at sixth place in the combined season standings.

Miami FC will play against Rayo OKC on Saturday, Oct. 8 at 8 p.m. at the FIU Stadium.

FIU WRESTLING



The FIU wrestling team is currently recruiting for the '16-'17 season. We are especially interested in wrestlers in the 125-140 lb weight class. Both Men and Women are welcome to join! Come meet the team on Friday October 7th at 3PM in the GC pit!

FOOTBALL

CONFERENCE CONFINEMENT

With no non-conference wins, Panthers seek first win of season



Top Left: Sophomore running back Anthony Jones runs down field to get a first down.

Bottom Left: True freshman wide receiver Tony Gaiter IV completes a catch to keep the drive going.

Bottom right: Freshman Quarterback Maurice Alexander scrambles the football up the middle

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SLOAN/ THE BEACON



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The Panthers began their Conference-USA games after struggling against non-conference teams in the first four weeks of the season.

The team failed gain a win against the University of Central Florida Knights; Head Coach Ron Turner was fired after the game. The team is now working to improve under Interim Head Coach Ron Cooper.

“We just got to keep fighting,” starting tight end Jonnu Smith said. “Every goal we set out is still there. The C-USA title is still there.”

But the battle won't be easy for the Panthers; they need to figure out who will be their quarterback for the remaining season. Junior Alex McGough is having a down year, completing only 53 percent of his passes for the season. Freshman Maurice

Alexander made his first career start against UCF, but offense struggled to make plays when on the field.

On defense, stopping the run against high-tempo offenses has been the achilles heel for the Panthers. They have seen the field more than the offense has, going three and out almost every series.

“Whether we [defense] are there for three plays or 15 plays, football takes alot out of you,” Anthony Wint, starting linebacker said. “That’s completely on us.”

Cooper has made a few adjustments to the coaching staff during his first week.

Cooper says he will give the play calling duties on defense to secondary coach, Bobby Babich. Special teams Coach Kirk Doll and tight ends Coach Jason Brooks will also be involved coaching on defense as well as keeping their current coaching duties.

“We made a couple adjustments,” Cooper said. “I sort

of step back and go in between everything with all three right now.”

On the offensive side, coordinator Steve Shankweiler will call all the plays full-time. Both Turner and Shankweiler shared play calling duties when Turner was head coach.

“Coach Turner did a good job. I wouldn’t be here without him,” Cooper said to Student Media. “He did a good job putting this team where it needs to be. I wish he was still here but that’s the nature of the business. We all been in it for a long time, it’s going to happen to everybody in coaching one time.”

The Panthers will begin their two-game road trip against University of Texas El-Paso on Saturday, Oct. 8 at 8 p.m. Their next home game will be on Saturday, Oct. 22 against Louisiana Tech at 7 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Former football player dies after battle with cancer

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Former offensive lineman Kenneth White died Thursday, Sept. 22 at the age of 26.

White graduated in spring 2013 with a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

“I was very proud of him because he overcame a lot to get that degree,” Marcus Bright, former academic coordinator told

Student Media. “He was excited about his future.”

According to friends and family, White was diagnosed with cancer about two months ago after he became very ill.

Former players were in disbelief that they’re teammate and longtime friend has passed away.

“Every moment with Kenny was good, whether it was on the field or off the field,” Demarkus Perkins, former defensive back,

told Student Media. “He was just an overall great guy to be around, very positive.”

Johnathan Cyprien, former football player and current strong safety for the Jacksonville Jaguars, also expressed his condolences on Twitter, sending prayers to the White family.

White was well known around the Student-Athlete Academic Center, mostly for the hard work he applied toward his academics.

“When he’d get a good grade

on a test we had studied for or a task we’d worked on, he’d make a big show of bringing me back the grade or taking a picture of it to share the celebratory moment,” Lisa Edmunds, a learning specialist with SAAC told Student Media. “We would often work on writing assignments, getting his ideas organized, processing the materials from the class. If it took all afternoon, he was in it for the long haul.”

During his time at FIU, the

Miami native played on the football team under former Head Coach Mario Cristobal. White was a part of the 2010 bowl champions, the first and only bowl win FIU has.

White’s funeral was held on Saturday, Oct. 1 at Christ Community Church. His former teammates were his pallbearers.