Obama addresses equal pay for women

ADRIAN SUAREZ AVILA
Staff Writer

Despite working diligently to acquire her degree, Tatiana Cardona fears the gender pay gap that she may be subject to in her field of study.

"Men working in physical therapy normally earn a higher starting salary than women, and this is for doing the same amount of work that a woman is doing," said Cardona, a senior physical therapy major. This is a fear faced by not only FIU students, but many women entering the workforce.

On April 8, President Barack Obama signed two executive actions designed to address the pay disparity issue that has been plaguing the country even after 50 years since the signing of the Equal Pay Act.

Of the executive actions, one blocks federal contractors from punishing employees who openly discuss their salaries, and the other seeks to produce regulations that motivate federal contractors to release voluntarily to the government employee payment data based on race and gender.

The executive actions preceded attempts to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, which aims to obstruct not just government employers, but all employers, from going after employees who discuss information about their salaries.

The act was struck down by Senate Republicans on Wednesday.

The president's executive actions were interestingly signed on National Equal Pay Day, a date that draws attention to the general idea of how far into the year a woman in the U.S. must work in order to receive the same amount of money that the average American male earned the year before.

While Obama declared in a press conference that women make 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man, the Pew Research Center estimates that the correct figure is 84 cents.

Secretly was an issue in the past, so forcing employers to let workers know what they’re making will actually improve women’s salaries.

Jaclyn O’Connor, president of the Women’s Law Society, also agreed that progress is being made.

"I think it’s a great move that’s going to help women and increase their pay overall," she said. "Secrecy was an issue in the past, so forcing employers to let workers know what they’re making will actually improve women’s salaries."

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Assistant Chief of Police Alphonse Ianniello said students shouldn’t believe the hype, however.

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“It’s just party stuff. I know people claim that they can stay more alert, but that’s all you want just drink a Redbull. Don’t use something that’s going to kill your body,” Ianniello said. “This is what I tell my own kids: tell me something positive that’s ever happened while abusing illegal drugs. I don’t know of anything. You either end up dead or you end up in jail. There are no positives.”

Despite information like this, students still find themselves in the library cramming for a final they may have in a few hours and in need of something they think will assure their success.

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University promotes healthy study habits for finals

JEFFREY PIERRE & Raul Herrera
FIUSM Staff

In the summer of 2012, the Pan American Health Organization and Cuban health authorities reported more than 700 cases of cholera, an infection of the small intestine caused by the bacterium Vibrioholerae.

The outbreak was traced to two food distribution centres, where since then, corrective measures were taken to combat the disease. Since then, public health in Cuba — both in infrastructure and medical practice — has become a common topic of discussion.

This ongoing discussion lead Dr. Jorge Duany, Director of the Cuban Research Institute and professor of anthropology in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies in the School of International and Public Affairs, to host an event titled “The Public Health of Cubans and Cuban Americans: A Symposium.”

Duany says cholera outbreak showed health providers — both abroad and Cuban — that the public health system was deficient in areas.

“How was it possible for Cuba to go back to an early period of time,” said Duany in reference to an infection thought to be manageable since the late 19th century. “Cholera is something directly related to the infrastructure and the drinking water. That clearly reflects the fact that those two areas have deteriorated over time."

“We just want to survey the needs of Cuba — Cuban Americans,” Duany said, pointing out that the forum will discuss basic issues such as healthcare delivery, mental health, HIV prevention,” but that the issues of discussion will largely be up to the participating medical experts.

“One of the issues that will be discussed at length will be aging,” Duany said. “The issue of aging I think is something that characterizes both the Cuban population here in Miami, and the Cuban population in Cuba, and that brings some kind of new challenges for health providers.”

“The Cuban population has actually been decreasing over the last 10 years or so. For the first time, the Census registered fewer people living in Cuba than before,” said Duany, attributing this to the high life expectancy of the Cuban population and the high percentage of individuals who are over 65 years old.

“Cuba has one of the largest percentage of people, senior citizens, in the hemisphere,” he said, clarifying that the proportion is similar to that of the US. “When you have a very significant population that is over 65, then you have to consider, you know, how best to deliver medical services.”

Other issues Duany cited included economic issues and what he calls the “export of medical services” to Venezuela.

According to its flyer, the symposium will “bring together leading FIU experts in health-related fields.” Some participants include Dr. Pedro Greer from the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and Dr. Lourdes Martin from the Robert Stempel
Iran official concerned for nuclear power plant

Iran’s nuclear chief has raised concerns for the fate of the country’s only operating atomic power plant amid talks with the West about a final deal to curb Tehran’s controversial nuclear program, a newspaper reported on Monday.

The government-run daily “Iran” quoted Ali Akbar Salehi, the Iranian negotiator in talks with six world powers, as saying that Iran needs 30,000 more centrifuges to enrich uranium and produce enough nuclear fuel to run its Bushehr power plant for a year. World powers negotiating a final nuclear deal with Iran want a reduction — not an increase — in the number of centrifuges Tehran is operating to remove concerns that the Islamic Republic may use its enrichment capabilities to build a nuclear weapon.

Police: Blast in Nigerian capital kills 71

Police say an explosion that ripped through a busy bus station in Nigeria’s capital has killed at least 71 people and wounded 124. Police spokesman Frank Mba says Monday’s blast destroyed 16 luxury coaches and 24 mini-buses. There was only believed to be one blast with secondary explosions as vehicle fuel tanks exploded and burned. There was no immediate claim for the rush-hour blast, though the Boko Haram terrorist network has been threatening to attack the capital.

Cost of keeping global warming ‘modest,’ says UN panel

The cost of keeping global warming in check is “relatively modest,” but only if the world acts quickly to combat the buildup of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere, the head of the U.N.’s expert panel on climate change said Sunday. Such gases, mainly CO2 from the burning of fossil fuels, rose on average by 2.2 percent a year in 2000-2010, driven by the use of coal in the power sector, officials said as they launched the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change’s report on measures to fight global warming. We try to provide tea instead of coffee, because it’s a lot healthier for you, and we also provide snacks, since there are a lot of people who come to school without planning their food options and end up eating whatever’s available instead of food that may help with studying.”

Recharge for Finals was held from April 21 to 25.

Students consider BBC parking garage

Whether or not a parking garage would be an eyesore to BBC was also discussed among students and faculty members.

Eddie Seigle, senior advertising major, agrees with Hernandez and adds that solving parking availability is more important than the structural look of the campus.

Seigle said that parking space is limited at BBC and a parking garage is essential. "We try to promote healthier behaviors when it comes to studying," Paris said. "We try to provide tea instead of coffee, because it’s a lot healthier for you, and we also provide snacks, since there are a lot of people who come to school without planning their food options and end up eating whatever’s available instead of food that may help with studying.”

Recharge for Finals will be held from April 21 to 25.

Vibrio cholerae returns to Cuba

Both the Wertheim College of Medicine and the Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work were represented at the event, along with the Latin American and Caribbean Center, and the Center for Research on U.S. Latino HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse. The symposium will be held on April 17 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Female grads face unequal pay in U.S. workforce

Although the legislation may not solve all of the problems we have right now...it’s allowing the country to have a discussion on the issue that women do make less for the same amount of work being done by a man.

Sherri-Gaye Powell

Director, Women’s Law Society

DEPARTMENTS SPEAK OUT AGAINST STUDY DRUG USAGE

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Sofia Pablos-Aguirre, senior English major and wellness assistant, had a list of brain foods that can aid in mental function.

“Blueberries are really good for memory function, fish and salmon are really good sources of Omega-3 fatty acids, and even dark chocolate in moderation has its benefits,” Pablos-Aguirre recommended.

But the study habit that is most important, and ironically the most overlooked, is sleep.

“Set a time to sleep and stick to it as best as you can. It’s crucial that your brain has the space to refuel and the time to rest,” Pablos-Aguirre said. “I would say that rest is just as important as actually studying.”

Sofia Pablos-Aguirre’s office is packed full of goodie bags ready to be given away at Student Health’s upcoming event during Student Government Association’s Recharge for Finals week.

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Protesting is not an efficient way to share information or reach Panthers

KIERON WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

I’ve never understood protests. The idea of holding up a large picket sign that displays your opinion, maybe even getting together in a group and yelling said opinion at random passerby, makes no sense to me.

I’m sure it comes from a good place though, and it makes sense to think that if a person is shown the right way to think about something, they’ll consider things they never have before – possibly start to think that way. I’m sure protesting has worked in this way maybe once or twice before.

Overall, this I think method of persuasion is utterly effortless for a wide variety of reasons, especially for one very recent and very ironic reason: the fact that protests activate the natural ad filter we’ve built to survive the Internet age.

Everyone knows about the Israel-Palestine protests that were happening on campus recently, but can any of us really say that we have become fully informed on the issue because of those protests?

I don’t think anyone could say they have, and I think it’s because we have trained ourselves not to pay attention when somebody puts their opinion on a sign or a banner.

That’s because online ad campaigns and news stories have taught us that those people are either crazy or they’re trying to sell you something.

Following this line of thinking, there is really no definite difference between the Israel-Palestine protests that occurred on campus a few weeks ago and the angry preacher who spews hatred at the students passing him by.

When you boil all the details down, both people are simply yelling, “think like me!”

We are living in the most media-saturated age of all time. All the information in the world is literally at our fingertips, but at the cost of getting every advertisement just as close.

In order to make it through this culture without losing our minds or our bank accounts, we have had to develop a thick skin that advertisements can rarely break through. This filter that we have built has taught us to immediately close any pop-up ad without reading it, to not glance at any of the bright pictures on the sides of web pages, or to not even glance at any of the bright pictures of getting every advertisement just as close.

Having a special someone in your life works.

There’s no need to keep track of who pays for what, but if turns are taken in spending money, it shouldn’t be that much more expensive to have a girlfriend or boyfriend.

In my opinion, the type of girl or guy in the relationship, is very cheap for Alemno, yet developing since the start of the Internet age. Maybe if they talked a little more about the issue and not their opinion on it, people wouldn’t raise their defenses so quickly. Meanwhile, no such luck.

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Relationships: Do they break the bank or save money

ARIEL WEINSTEIN
Staff Writer

Having a boyfriend or girlfriend is always exciting. Taking them out on dates, spending time together, showing them off to friends, and just being around them.

Having a special someone in your life however, also means having to have money to be able to go on dates and do all of the activities that boyfriends and girlfriends do with each other.

My question is, then, is it more or less expensive to have a boyfriend or girlfriend in college?

In my opinion, it all depends on the type of people in the relationship, and also the way the relationship works.

Obviously when you’re in a relationship, there are going to be more activities and dates to pay for. This doesn’t necessarily mean that it has to be more expensive for one person though. If the guy or girl is always the one paying for dates, of course it will be more expensive.

However, if they alternate who pays for the date or dinner, it would not be so expensive or such a burden for each person.

The only idea on this is that sometimes, maybe when you’re going out with friends to a casual restaurant, or maybe buying popcorn at a movie, you will share one plate or one bag of popcorn, each paying for some of it, therefore saving money.

There’s no need to keep track of who pays for what, but if turns are taken in spending money, it shouldn’t be that much more expensive to have a girlfriend or boyfriend.

Jonathan Guerra, a freshman majoring in political science, stated that “relationships are expensive in general.” Guerra explains no matter how you look at it, there are automatically more expenses to be paid for, making the situation expensive.

Maria Alemno, a sophomore majoring in public relations, also had a comment on the idea.

“My opinion is that having a boyfriend is definitely cheaper because he pays for everything, especially since we have been together for the past six years,” Alemno said.

Alemno explained that the background her boyfriend comes from is very generous, so she never has to worry about paying for anything.

Both Guerra and Alemno have very good points on the matter. It is normal in this society for the guy to pay for the girl, which in Alemno’s relationship, is very cheap for Alemno, yet seems very expensive for her boyfriend.

Guerra also makes a point that in any way the situation is looked at, because there is a relationship, there is going to be money spent, whether it is for a date, birthday, Valentine’s present, gas money to go visit the other, or anything really.

In conclusion, I think it all depends on the type of girl or guy in the relationship. Girls don’t necessarily need materialistic things like diamonds, shoes and jewelry to be made happy, and guys don’t always need the latest video game or whatever other expensive new item that just came out.

If you are in a relationship that has a financial balance between the two involved, yes it will probably cost more money than being single, but at the same time, you will be able to be happy with that special person while having the luxury of going out on dates and little things to do with each other.

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Pi Kappa Phi continues to raise awareness on carbon monoxide

GISELLE CANCIO
Staff Writer

José Manuel Ballester’s “Concealed Spaces” is a truly innovative collection showcasing the deconstruction of famous paintings throughout history. Through digital manipulation, Ballester managed to remove all traces of life from every painting, allowing the original artist’s intended setting to be the sole and main focus. The narrative is, therefore, not shown and the use of background and foreground are able to become the center focus. Franceline Bitrbragher, the exhibit’s curator, praises this by saying, “Ballester’s series ‘Concealed Spaces’ presents a unique interpretation of western art history.”

By removing all references to action from iconic works by Bosch, Botticelli, Da Vinci, Géricault, Goya and Velázquez, among others, he rediscovers their magnificent landscapes and architectural backgrounds. The exact artistic process is a bit complex and meticulous, but in short, Ballester photographs the images, digitally removes all life, and then proceeds to use Photoshop to fill in the voids brought upon by the elimination of portions of the paintings. He then prints them in their original size. The Photoshop process of restoring the painting’s background after the removal of all life is an art form in it of itself. Ballester shows his immense talent by recreating the brush strokes, coloring and textures and filling in the blank spots using a computer. By doing this, he creates a new work of art of his own through the works of other famous artists.

“For an art historian, ‘José Manuel Ballester: Concealed Spaces’ is a ‘dream exhibit’,” said Bitrbragher. “Not only does it introduce to the public the works of one of the most important Spanish contemporary artists but it also presents the works of art history’s masters in an interactive way through the use of QR codes.”

“The dialogue between the old and the new is particularly enriching from an educational perspective.”

The inspiration behind this concept came along with the loss of Ballester’s close friend. In order to honor her memory, he removed all signs of life from her favorite work of art, Fra Angélico’s “La Anunciación.” He has also manipulated and deconstructed other famous works such as Leonardo da Vinci’s “The Last Supper,” Diego Velázquez’s “Las Meninas,” and Sandro Botticelli’s “The Birth of Venus.”

In a video interview conducted by the University, Ballester explains that his collection “spans history and, in some ways, is a reflection on art and how it’s understood in each historical period.”

This is the first time Ballester’s “Concealed Spaces” will be on display in the United States. It will be open to the public at the Frost Museum until June 23.

How do you feel the garage rock scene is doing here in Miami?
Arminio: I think it is doing better. I see more bands of that style coming out, emerging.

Sunghosts speak with student media on Miami

GISELLE CANCIO
Staff Writer

In collaboration with WRGP Radiate FM’s program Local Radiation, FIUSM has had the pleasure of interviewing the Sunghosts, a well-established act on the Miami scene. Some of these artists include Panic Bomber, Smurfpho from the local electronic funk band known as Afrobeta, guitarist Arminio Rivero and drummer Luis Estopinan.

You’re always really excited both on stage and off. Where do you get this energy from?
Arminio: It’s how I live. Arminio: It’s the friendship band.
Nikolas: That’s the current project.
Nikolas: It’s a ‘dream exhibit’!

Tell us a bit about your
Nikolas: It’s an educational perspective.

In terms of garage rock, are you inspired by a specific era of garage rock?
Arminio: I’d say more
Nikolas: But all the modern bands are influenced by the 60s, and so we get indirect influence. modern but I really like the 60s stuff too.

How do you feel the garage rock scene is doing here in Miami?
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The Undertaker for the first time has been taken under in “WrestleMania”

The Undertaker, the one and only, maybe not the best but the best, has been defeated for the first time in his career. The Undertaker has been a mainstay in the WWE for over 30 years, and his match against Bray Wyatt at WrestleMania 31 was no exception. The Undertaker had gone 21-0 at WrestleMania and had never been defeated at the prestigious event. That belief was ultimately dismantled by Bray Wyatt as he executed his finisher, the &-Lock, and pinned the Undertaker to win the match. With this loss, the Undertaker’s unbeaten streak at WrestleMania ends, and he leaves the ring for the last time.

Easter weekend ‘brings out the big guns’ in shoes

Easter Sunday is one of the biggest weekend for shoes because of not only the different styles of shoes that come out, but the amount of brands that release shoes. Just this weekend you will see shoes from Lebron, Durant, Kobe, Reebok and Jordan all with the easter green color theme.

Big three all must buys this weekend

Normally, when Lebron, Durant and Kobe shoes come out we can rank them from best to worst but not this weekend. For this weekend all three brands are a must buy because of their limited edition status and popularity.

To begin the Lebron 11 “Easter” will be a low top model and will be selling for the retail price of $170. This special Easter edition takes inspiration from wearing your Sunday’s best, in a clean white upper with a paisley pattern inspired by the tropical palm trees of Miami.

Next comes the KD 6 “Easter” edition that will also be a low-top model. The KD 6 finishing maneuver, the F-5, for a third time and pinned Undertaker for a three-count. That same story, but now with a different twist. Average guy can achieve his dreams by winning the world title to close the show. For Undertaker, it was a night of shock and disbelief. The Undertaker had gone 21-0 at WrestleMania and had never been defeated at the prestigious event. That belief was ultimately dismantled by Bray Wyatt as he executed his finisher, the &-Lock, and pinned the Undertaker to win the match. With this loss, the Undertaker’s unbeaten streak at WrestleMania ends, and he leaves the ring for the last time.

The Undertaker was a great legacy. With the crowd recognizing the significance of this match, Undertaker’s final match was a fitting farewell to one of the greatest professional wrestlers of all time.

The Undertaker will be missed, but he will always be remembered as a legend in the wrestling world. His matches were seen and his memories were created. The Undertaker will always be remembered as one of the greatest professional wrestlers of all time.

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Easter will be out there so people can understand the message. It’s a way to bring people together and celebrate the beginning of spring.

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Easter weekend ‘brings out the big guns’ in shoes

Easter Sunday is one of the biggest weekend for shoes because of not only the different styles of shoes that come out, but the amount of brands that release shoes.

Easter will be a low top model and will be selling for the retail price of $130. The traditional Easter egg hunt influenced the custom camouflage pattern featured on this special edition KD 6. Finally comes the Kobe 6 and the neverending battle of high-top vs low-top. For me I’ve always preferred the low-top model and thankfully the Easter edition is just that a low-top. Selling at a retail price of $160, the Kobe 9 “Easter” is inspired by the Easter tradition of dying colorful eggs, the Kobe 9’s upper portion makes a splash with its green and blue dyed aesthetic.

All three models of shoes will be released on Friday, April 18 and should be available throughout the weekend.

Not to be outdone, Jordan brings out the big guns

As the big three begin to release their models it was up to the Jordan brand to come out with a shoe that could compete with the fire of the big three, and that is exactly what Jordan did. We all know that when Jordan pulls out a retro model it’s a must buy however, the king of the Jordan retro models has to be the 11’s and what better way to surpass the big three than with a Jordan retro 11 Easter edition.

Continuing with the top-low theme, the Jordan retro 11 “Easter” will be a low-top model and will see a clean white and aqua colorway. Inlaid in the aqua is a faint safari print that adds depth and design to the overall appearance of the shoe.

The Jordan retro 11 Easter will be sold this Saturday April 19 and will be available at a retail price of $115 making this shoe the deal of the week.

The candid thoughts of Miami entertainment

People seem to be leaning towards that music style rather than before we would see a lot of post-hardcore. Now there’s more garage rock.

Would you say there’s an audience for an under-ground scene?

Arminio: There’s an audience, there’s definitely an audience.

Nikolas: There are so many people out here who love indie-rock in general. The Arctic Monkeys, that played at that concert. There are not that many bands that play that down here so you know there’s an audience when you go. To the Fillmore and it’s completely sold out and there are kids that are crying

because of Alex Turner. So there is the audience. They live here. It’s pretty much like a strange secluded sector of the U.S. because it’s like another country but it’s in the country. But we all grew up with the same American media, we grew up watching the same movies and T.V. and listen to the same music but we don’t get to see the same types of scenes or the same events going on because Miami is so different and kind of governed by different people. That’s something that is slowly building up and it’s always been a tough journey, but I feel it.

What do you think about the music scene in Miami as a whole?

Nikolas: It needs improvement but there are some good bands. Nikolas: There is a lot of good talent down here, a lot of kids that like good music.

Arminio: There’s talent but not enough people that appreciate it. It’s frustrating when you have great talent here, it doesn’t happen naturally. It’s like “I need to leave Miami,” and they go because they want to succeed artistically somewhere else. But if you don’t try hard here, when is that big bang going to happen in Miami? That’s actually what are songs “Till the City Goes Under” is about. Miami youth have a lot of potential and the whole song in metaphors talks about us having magic in us but how we’re detainted by evil warlocks, a lot of conser- vative parents that are stuck in their ways and don’t want their kids to become their own person and do what they want. It’s really a record for the kids and the kids that are here. So that song is about that and I just felt like that message needed to be out there so people can understand the current state of Miami so we can help it break out.
FIU increases C-USA standing with series victory

YOVANIS RODRIGUEZ  
Staff Writer

The FIU softball team (27-16, 9-5 C-USA) continues their Conference USA success, with another three series against the University of Texas at San Antonio (20-23, 7-8 C-USA).

The Panthers have been on a roll of late winning seven of their last 10 conference games. FIU was able to win their third consecutive C-USA series by defeating UTSA in the first two games of the series, before coming up short in the final game.

Sophomore Corinne Jenkins (14-7) would get the nod in game one of the series. Jenkins walked three Panthers in the first inning. Her fourth shutout of the season gave Jenkins win number 14 on the season, a new career high.

The Panther bats would give Jenkins all the run support she needed in the bottom half of the first inning.

UTSA freshman pitcher Nicole Merrill, who has allowed the third most walks in C-USA, walked three Panthers to load the bases, with two outs. Sophomore Aleimia Lopez was able to knock two runs in with a single, to give FIU a 2-0 lead.

FIU would score three more runs throughout the game, giving them a commanding 5-0 victory over the Roadrunners.

Game two of the doubleheader saw junior Shelby Graves (12-6) take to the pitcher circle. Graves would allow two earned runs, on six hits, while striking out six, in five innings of work.

Jenkins would close out the final two innings, allowing one unearned run, on one hit. Jenkins would pick up her team leading and career high fourth save of the season.

The Panther’s offense was led by freshman Gabby Spallone, who went 2-3 with two doubles and three RBI.

FIU was once again able to draw first blood in this game, scoring three runs in the home half of the first, two of which came off a Spallone double. The Panthers are nearly unbeatable when they score first, 20-3 to be exact.

This game would be no different as FIU was able to hold on to a 4-3 victory.

The Roadrunners, who came in to the series leading the conference and nation in home runs, were held to just three runs and one homerun in their first two games.

However, they would erupt for three home runs and eight runs in the final game of the series.

“We just didn’t hit our spots,” Head Coach Jake Schumann said. “They made their adjustment and we left some balls really fat and when you’re a team that leads the nation in home runs that’s what happens. We’re still happy to get the series win, even though we felt we should get a sweep out of this. Twelve hits today that encouraging for our offense and well just get back to work on Tuesday and get up to Marshall and try to take the road series.”

Jenkins would once again get the start in game three. She only pitched one inning, giving up four runs, on three hits.

Graves would finish the game giving six innings, giving up four runs, on six hits.

The game got ugly quick for FIU. In the first inning Jenkins gave up two doubles and a homerun in the first inning to put the Panthers down 5-0.

FIU does not fare well when they’re down in a ball game, they’re 7-13 when the opponent scores first.

UTSA would extend the lead to 8-1, but FIU would rally back to make it a three run game going into the bottom of the seventh inning.

“I was really happy with our effort today,” Schumann said. “When we were down 8-1, 8-2, and we make it 8-5 and we load the bases up in the seventh inning and we get a loadoff double in the sixth I thought that’s showing some guts, that’s showing a team that’s not going to give up. Our hitters can’t really control whether the ball goes over the fence, all they can control is their approach at the plate.”

Junior Kryszal Garcia got the seventh inning started with a bunt single. Lopez would then fly out. Senior Rachel Slowik singled to give FIU runners on the corners.

Next up was freshman Matisa McGregor who reached an error to load the bases with just one out.

Up to bat was senior Bre Kaye who struck out swinging. With two outs and the tying run at first came junior Rebekah Sanchez, but she too would strike out swinging.

The Panthers are back in action this Friday, April 18, take on conference opponent, Marshall University (17-26, 6-9 C-USA) for a three game series in West Virginia.

IN WILDCARD

ALEJANDRO SOLANA  
Staff Writer

The FIU Baseball team finished their four game road trip in the state of Louisiana with two wins and two losses, pushing their overall record to 26-10 and their Conference-USA record to 10-8.

After falling 12-6 to former Sun Belt Conference opponent University of Louisiana-Monroe in a midweek contest on Wednesday, April 9, the Panthers continued on to face conference foe Louisiana Tech University for a three-game weekend series. For the first time since their sweep of the Marshall University Thundering Herd back in March, FIU was able to win the series taking two of three from the Bulldogs.

Friday’s first game against La Tech was a no-brainer as junior right-handed pitcher Mike Franco threw complete game number 11 for FIU this season en route to a 7-2 Panther win. Franco retired 18 of the last 19 batters he faced, striking out six earning his fifth win this season, lowering his era to 1.03.

Junior catcher Arismas Garcia hit his sixth home run of the season in the top of the fifth inning, number 19 of his career at FIU. Junior third baseman Josh Anderson, who has been struggling as of late, also had a nice game with three total RBI’s.

The seven runs FIU posted are the most the team has scored since bringing in eight runs in the fifth inning, number 19 of his career at FIU. In the first inning Jenkins gave up two doubles and a homerun in the top of the fifth inning ending a scoreless streak of 25 innings held by Mourelle.

Junior Krystal Garcia got the second game of the series against La Tech, it was another shutout for the Panther’s pitching staff as they took down the Bulldogs 3-0. The 11th shutout of the season is a Conference-USA single-season record and was led by freshman right-handed pitcher Cody Crouse. Coming into the weekend, the Panther pitching staff was ranked third in the nation behind a team low 0.59 ERA.

The Bulldogs managed to score three runs in the fifth inning ending a scoreless streak of 25 innings held by Moulere. The three run deficit would prove to be too much as the Panthers only managed to score two runs the rest of the game. FIU will be back at it this weekend when they host conference rival Florida Atlantic University in a three game weekend series. The first game will be Friday, April 18 with the first pitch set for 6 p.m.

The final game of the series saw La Tech end a nine game losing streak that dated back to March 25, topping the Panthers 4-2. It was a tough loss for freshman right-handed pitcher Chris Mouroille, who coming into the game had a 6-0 record and a team low 0.59 ERA.

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End of Spring Football leaves bittersweet taste

The definition of quarterback battle was seen in the four weeks of Spring football practice for the Panthers.

Going into his first season as head coach, Ron Turner had a player on the roster who started for the majority of a season with Jake Medlock. Granted those Panthers, in the final year under the majority of a season with Jake Medlock.

The offense had a decent game, except for the running backs, who had only a single play of more than 20 yards - a run by junior DeAndre Jasper. The Panthers had some impressive plays together on the day.

The defense, showed some promise, with guys like T.J. Lowder and Alex McGough. The Panthers' defense was a couple of steps behind the offense in the scoring system for the spring game.

All the Panthers have had to overcome homes in Europe. Samoday across from Gluchowicz said, "I really wanted to go. My parents didn't even believe me when I told them that I wanted to go to America," Gluchowicz added. "There is more opportunity here."

The journey to America always provides a story. Living in Miami we see all the time people escaping communism, cold weather, poor countries and war. Trying to find their American dream. Gluchowicz and Samoday could not believe how much her teachers cared about her here. It's some thing never experienced for them before.

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Students consider possibility of BBC parking garage

PAOLA MOLINI  Staff Writer

Arriving late to class, lack of parking spaces and walking long distances from the parking lot into the school facilities is an ongoing issue for students at the University, leading students and faculty members to discuss the idea of building a parking garage on Biscayne Bay Campus.

“I think it’s the only thing that makes sense,” says journalism professor Neil Reznor. “As it is now, I’ve been late to class because I couldn’t find space to park—not because I’m late, because I can’t find a place to park.”

The idea of a parking garage is not new to the university. The Modesto Maidique Campus is home to several parking garages due to its high volume of students. What MMC lacks but BBC has to its advantage, is surface parking space.

Aimee Martinez, Assistant Vice President of Business and Finance, says that a viable reason to build a parking garage would be a lack of surface parking, the most important factor in relations to maintenance and cost per space.

According to Martinez, at MMC, little land is available for surface parking and the university is “forced” to build parking garages – this is not the case with BBC just yet.

Sandy Amparo, a junior biology major says that a parking garage would be beneficial because it would provide students with more parking spaces, especially students with afternoon classes.

“I see there’s always a fight to get a parking spot,” says Amparo. “I got here early enough that I could find a spot, but for some kids, if they come here at a certain time, there’s no parking.”

Prosper Surgon, a freshman business administration major, already finds parking to be troublesome at BBC. He says the situation gets worse when there is bad weather.

Taking classes during the afternoon and on a rainy day, means having to walk into class soaking wet, says Surgon.

Whether or not a parking garage would be an eyesore to BBC was also discussed among students and faculty members.

Nicole “Kat” Stevens is the teaching assistant for Barry Gump’s beer class, a position she fell into after taking a beverage management class.

For Stevens, creating craft beer and discovering delicious alcohol is the best part of being a Hospitality Management graduate student at the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

“Among the things that you did at parties; it was normally really bad beer that was super cheap,” Stevens said. “I didn’t realize that alcohol could actually be tasty!”

Stevens said alcohol has been around for centuries of human history, and has been an important icon of human civilization, from the ancient Egyptians’ system of beer and bread, to the origins of vodka—which is literally Russian for “water.”

“All these stories that I researched on my own all have these ties to alcohol,” Stevens said. “Alcohol is huge in Rome, in Italy, in Egypt.”

Stevens visited craft breweries in Boca Raton to learn more about the history of craft beer-making and fell in love with it.

“All of a sudden, beer wasn’t just this amber, light liquid that tasted like nothing; it was this rich, in-depth drink,” Stevens said, describing her commitment to beer science when she started to take classes.

“I was getting [to class] early, I was staying late. I was helping everyone do their projects; I was like a little bee hovering everywhere,” Stevens said.

After being offered a teaching assistant-ship, Stevens immediately accepted the challenge.

“I remember the first time I walked into Total Wine, it was like walking into Disney World!” Stevens said. “I really started going to different breweries and seeing what’s out there.”

Stevens said the industry of craft beer is one of the most interesting careers you can be a part of, especially since beer pubs are popping up everywhere.

In Stevens’ opinion, beer-making is more approachable than wine or alcohol, and she has noticed a growth in home-brewers in the industry.

“One beer is the more dynamic alcohol that you can produce; there’s so much more you can do with it,” she said.

According to Stevens, working with people in the beer industry is much more laid back and there is a lot less pressure in the industry.

“It’s a little bit easier and the people are different. It’s not this snobby ‘I have to wear a blazer for a tasting’ atmosphere,” Stevens joked. “It’s a little bit easier and down-to-earth kind of people who just want to hang out and have a home-brew.”

The beer industry is great for people who don’t want to sit in a cubicle all day and don’t want the average nine to five experience.

“You’re not restricted by the same rules of other industries—it’s casual Friday every day,” Stevens said.

chaplin graduate student has a brewing passion

ALEX BLENCOWE  Staff Writer

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Faculty publishes research from turtle cameras

MARIA BRITOS  Staff Writer

Two University science researchers, Michael Heithaus and Jordan Thompson, traveled to the waters of Shark Bay, Australia in 1997 as part of an extensive study on sea turtles and their behavior in the seagrass ecosystem.

Lasting over 10 years, the study focuses on the impact sea turtles have on the seagrass ecosystems and how the endangered species relate to the importance of having healthy ecosystems.

“Endowed two days of travel [to Australia] because it’s really about the last untouched seagrass in the world, so it’s a place where we can go and get an idea of how an ecosystem worked before people were heavily involved,” said Heithaus, executive director of the School of Environment, Arts and Society. Heithaus said they wanted to find a balance between human use of the marine environment and maintaining a healthy marine ecosystem.

During the research, the team used all kinds of equipment and tactics to best capture the living style of the turtles. With special instruments, Heithaus and Thompson were able to see the turtles’ emotional and health status, whether happy, depressed or close to starvation.

Video cameras also played a major role in their understanding of their behavior and environment. With GoPro cameras programmed to be released on their own, the turtles traveled with them attached to their shells and after a 24 hour period, the camera removed itself from the turtles and floated back up to the surface.

With these procedures, Heithaus and Thompson were able to compare the behavior of the turtles right after they were released and a day after.

Heithaus explained that the video cameras were useful in understanding the turtles’ behavior after being captured and then released is not as huge as expected. Instead, the animals also seemed to go back into their normal lifestyle in a matter of minutes with no sudden state of shock or confusion.

“They will swim to a new spot and they will spend a little more time kind of resting in the bottom, probably just sitting there, and then less time feeding; but by the next day they spend a fairly more amount of time feeding,” said Heithaus.

With these procedures, Heithaus and Thompson were able to compare the behavior of the turtles right after they were released and a day after.

Another problem that the study has been able to conclude is that in areas where the shark population is declining due to fishing, sea turtle populations is beginning to increase greatly because of the lack of their main predator, the sharks.

“By removing the top predators in the ocean, we may be destabilizing the whole ecosystem, which is why it’s important for these studies of turtles in these ecosystems and how can we restore the balance,” said Heithaus.

Having funded made possible initially by the University and now by the National Science Foundation as well as the Professional Association of Dive Instructors, Heithaus and Thompson have been able to publish their latest sea turtle research in the Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology.

Inspired by the same research, a second year PhD student, Elizabeth Whitman, has also begun efforts to continue the study on her own in Abaco Island, Bahamas. “I’ve always been really interested in what the sea turtles doing in different habitats, when they’re there and why,” said Whitman.

“This is important because of the human-turtle interaction.”

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