The Beacon, October 19, 2006

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Annual convocation ceremony honors FIU faculty

MARIÁ CHERCOLES
Asst. News Director

More than 200 faculty members and students attended the 2006 Faculty Convocation and Awards Ceremony in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center Oct. 13, including President Modesto A. Maidique, Interim Provost Ronald Berkman, Chancellor Mark Rosenberg and guest speaker Richard M. Freeland, former president of Northeastern University in Boston.

A number of awards were distributed during the ceremony, including the Council of 100 Outstanding Faculty Award, which each year recognizes a leading FIU professor with outstanding achievements in the areas of teaching and research.

This year Nancy Wellman, professor of dietetics and nutrition, received the award for her research and expertise on aging, nutrition screening and public policy, and her involvement in organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences, the United States Department of Agriculture and the International Food Information Council. In its sixth year, the award, founded by FIU’s advocacy group, consists of a $10,000 cash prize.

The other 35 awards were granted on the areas of teaching, research, service, undergraduate advising, librarianship, adjunct teaching, and for the first year, in graduate mentorship.

Also during the ceremony, Maidique was taken by surprise when Faculty Senate Chair Bruce Hauptli awarded him the FIU’s Distinguished Service Medallion for his 20 years as FIU president, celebrated Oct. 12, and for his many accomplishments at FIU.

The ceremony began with a performance by the Brass Ensemble of the School of Music, followed by a performance by organist W. Dan Hardin, while college deans and faculty members walked onto the stage wearing their academic regalia.

After welcoming everyone, Berkman gave a speech pointing out the three things at the top of his agenda.

“As an institution, we are working on improving the flow [of] knowledge between faculty and students,” Berkman said. “We are also trying to promote students’ international experience, and finally, we are working [on] creating an urban university which would allow a political, economical and social experience to the students.”

Maidique followed by citing FIU’s latest accomplishments.

“This past year was a year of milestones. After 12 years, we finally received approval on our medicine school,” Maidique said.

“Another accomplishment was moving the School of Law into a new building, which is one of the best law school buildings in Florida.”

Among the other things Maidique mentioned were FIU’s undergraduate business program, which ranks seventh in the nation.
Police arrest suspect In Miami-Dade and Broward sexual assaults

After a search that went on for several months, police said they arrested a man they believe committed more than a dozen sexual assaults in north Miami-Dade and southern Broward counties since January.

A Miami-Dade judge ordered no bail Oct. 15 for Troy L. Dunas, 29, who was charged Oct. 13 with two counts each of attempted armed sexual battery, armed burglary and battery.

Police said the registered sex offender is linked by DNA to two attempted armed sexual batteries.

Authorities believe he may also be responsible for more than a dozen other cases of intruder sexual assaults or break-ins.

Hawaii shook by 6.7 magnitude earthquake

A strong earthquake hit Hawaii during the early morning Oct. 15.

According to authorities, the 6.7 magnitude earthquake caused a landslide that blocked a major highway on Hawaii Island and knocked out power across the state.

Governor Linda Lingle issued a disaster declaration for the entire state. She reported that boulders fell on highways; rock walls collapsed and televisions had been knocked off stands.

No deaths or serious injuries were reported.

Suspect in student murder taken into custody

A man, authorities are investigating in the case of a University of Vermont senior who was found dead on highways; rock walls collapsed and televisions had been knocked off stands.

When an autopsy was performed Oct. 14, the cause of death has not yet been released.

Police arrested Rodney Friday on unrelated charges of sex abuse.

He was arraigned Oct 16.

World

Killings in Iraq continue while new council claims an Islamic state in six provinces

The Iraq government postponed the national recon-

Nations Council on Oct. 15 as the sprees of sectarian killings and insurgent bombings continued and left at least 86 Iraqis dead over the course of two days.

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**University organizations tackle spirituality on Coming Out Day**

**Maidique honored a faculty convolution**

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**Team suspensions may continue**

**SUSPENSION, page 1**

The conference originally handed down a one-game suspension to the following players, which include: Michael Alls, Scott Bryant, Roland Clarke, Michael Domínguez, John Ellis, Jeffrey Fleming, Reggie Leon, Samuel Lewis, Robert Mitchell, Quintin Newman, Luiz Pena, Jarvis Peterson, Julian Rea, Lionel Singleton, Samuel Smith, Brandon Strock and Chandler Williams.

After reviewing the films, we felt that those who were here following the necessary steps to stop. Their suspensions have since become indefinite and all of the players involved were referred to FIU's Student Judicial Affairs.

The players will be required to complete 10 hours of counseling, plus and after-school counseling, will be placed on probation for the remainder of the academic year. The suspension is due to fulfill 50 hours of community service projects.

García went on to add that every FIU-student athlete will be affected some-how by this incident.

"We are going to do what is in our power to make sure that our student athletes in every single sport at FIU behave in an appropriate manner. We are going to use this as part of the orientation for every freshman that comes in for us. For us, one incident is one too many.

"Every student that comes into this University will be taught what is and isn't acceptable behavior. There are choices in life for everything and there are consequences that you have to accept with these choices.

The brawl commenced following a scuffle after UM took a 14-0 lead with nine minutes to play in the third quarter and lasted about five minutes before officials, coaches and officers from the City of Miami Police Department broke up the two teams.

Some fights were also reported among fans.

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**McDuffie, page 1**

The country, the graduate business program, which ranks in the country's top 25, and the recent collaboration between the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and FIU to host the NYU Student Journalism Institute at FIU next January.

In planning for the event we noticed that students have a hard time spiritually coming out with their families and churches, so we decided to address that.

Gisela Vega, assistant director of Residential Life, said, "One of the benefits of today is that it puts this community and it puts this organization at FIU, in the forefront."

But agreed.

"The best thing is that we were able to provide a safe zone for people to come out," she said.

Students who participated in the day's festivities also mentioned the amiable atmosphere they found.

"I think today was really successful; I had a lot of fun doing it," said freshman Patrick McCaul.

"I'm from Detroit, and people aren't nearly as accepting there as they are here in Miami."

Sophomore Jenny Ruiz felt it was important for all students to show support.

"I'm not gay, but I here to give my friends moral support," she said.

Organizers are currently planning a second even larger celebration in the Spring semester that will feature national speakers and more community collaboration.

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**SMITH**

Among Friends, in the Panther Suite in GC, and a potluck dinner in the Everglades Lounge followed by a drag show. Among Friends, I, graduate assistant for LGBTQ Initiatives in the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, led the organizational effort.

"We really wanted this to be a chance to come together and celebrate NCOD," she said. "The goal is visibility of support for the LGBTQ population on campus, and the University of Miami organizations plan to show greater support this year."

Last spring, when a religious organization openly criticized the LGBTQ community on campus, StoneWall Pride Alliance, in conjunction with the National Organization for Women, held a petition drive and submitted a proposal to Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones to request that FIU acquire a LGBTQ resource center.

As a response, a new position was created, within the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, which Costa currently fills.

"I think we really got to grow this year because we actually have a University staff member who can devote their time and energy to these initiatives," Costa said.

At the end of the day, over 40 students came together with organizers to enjoy the drag show, which featured a drag king and queen who performed at local clubs.

As the music to play and the drag king to appear, they looked back to the day's success.
Sailing class relaxing, educating on the high seas

ALEXANDRA MACANARNEY JR.
Contributing Writer

COURTESY PHOTO

Students dance night away at Latin Fusion Concert

EVER CRUZ
Contributing Writer

The organization offers many classes open to students as well as residents of the Miami community.

Contributing Writer

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A SAILOR'S LIFE: A sailboat makes its way across the water guided by a group from Shake-A-Leg charity.

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FIU football rivalry lacks sportsmanship

ANDREW KAMEKA
Staff Writer

I have to hand it to the Bush family – no other political clan has mastered the art of distraction quite like them. The Kennedys may be a more popular brand, but the Bushes are, by now, synonymous with unwavering spin.

That’s why I must applaud Florida governor Jeb Bush for his ridiculous attempt to spin and improve the education of minorities in this state.

Bush recently addressed a crowd in Orlando and told himself and the people of Florida “we are making progress” Florida’s Blacks and Hispanics have made in his administration.

He cited a academic study – which just happened to be funded by two Republicans who donated to his gubernatorial campaign – to support the claim. According to them, Bush is a “trendsetter” and his administration has made a mistake as athletes, and he has yet to write about our student body.

An apology won’t help when there are few players’ momentary lapses adhere to a maximum of 300 words. Letters must include an apology won’t help when there are few players’ momentary lapses and a valid phone number for verification purposes. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints.

Send us your letters

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

True pride takes responsibility

The FIU football team’s total lack of restraint and professionalism has been well documented in all media outlets, including our very own Beacon. Yet, perhaps a more discomforting account has yet to be written about our student body.

The players’ actions that day were at best immature and irresponsible, but the fact that so many students are actually taking pride in it seems to point out that the incident is merely a representation of the quality of students within our educational institution.

People need to understand that there is a difference between popularity and notoriety; between recognition and infamy. By celebrating the actions of those players, students are rejoicing the latter rather than the prestige of our school – a far worse mistake than the one-committed last Saturday night.

Patricio Mendez
Senior
Political Science

Suicide problem more complex than it seems

Bobbie Joe Bracy’s article, “Education can save a boy’s life,” in the Oct. 12 issue of The Beacon makes a compelling argument about the possible [correlation between] education and suicide among young males.

However, if one looks at high school dropout rates in the United States, one sees that they are slowly decreasing, not increasing, along with the suicide rate among adolescents – this highlights the complexity of the matter.

There is also another important factor to consider: according to a 1996 study, it is girls that are more than twice as likely as boys to report a suicide attempt – this element might explain why reports show higher rates of suicide attempts among females, and less in males.

There is also another important factor to consider: according to many sources, about 60 percent of suicides involve firearms, and according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, firearms are seven times more likely than females to use a firearm in completing a suicide.

The story behind suicide is very complex. Current investigations provide comprehensive analyses that include a history of aggression, physical and sexual abuse, substance abuse and psychosocial problems as better predictors of suicide.

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Education gap widens for black students

LENNY RIEL/THE BEACON

Despite what a small minority of students think, the Oct. 14 fight at the Orange Bowl between FIU and the University of Miami football players is not the black problem.

FIU and UM players punching, kicking, stomping and body slamming each other isn’t the type of publicity the UM football program: new athletic director Pete Garcia was on the way to establish a football program. Now, its hopes for a successful future have been compromised by a few players’ momentary lapses and a valid phone number for verification purposes. Letters must include an apology won’t help when there are few players’ momentary lapses and a valid phone number for verification purposes. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints.

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OPINION

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Student deaths highlight motorcycle dangers

CHARLIE GRAU
Asst. Sports Editor

Within a month, FIU has lost two students to motorcycle fatalities. On Sept. 3, Lance Preston died after his motorcycle hit a concrete wall on the Florida Turnpike and Interstate 595. Then on Sept. 30, prodigy Derek Jacobs passed away when he lost control of his bike, slid across the guard rail and hit a wooden pole.

It's stories and experiences like these that caused junior criminal justice major Anthony Agular to give up his "adrenaline rush," as he likes to call it. "Riding a bike in South Florida is horrible. It's very dangerous and it's not worth it," Agular said. "People barely see you when you're in a car, so imagine a bike."

Due to consistently driving over patches of oil on Pines Boulevard that caused junior criminal justice major Anthony Agular to give up his "adrenaline rush," as he likes to call it. "Riding a bike in South Florida is horrible. It's very dangerous and it's not worth it," Agular said. "People barely see you when you're in a car, so imagine a bike.

Despite consistently driving over patches of oil on Pines Boulevard that cause would him to lose control momentarily, the final straw came when Agular was at a red light on Sheridan Street and A1A and a woman in a van hit him from behind knocking him to the ground. "She said she didn't see me," he said.

That is often the case with most motorcycle accidents: many riders come up fast behind automobiles, and the drivers switching lanes don't often see motorcyclists before it's too late.

In 2005, the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported that there were 43,200 deaths on the nation's highways, 4,315 of those deaths were motorcycle related fatalities. This is a 7.7 percent increase from 2004 totals. This is the eighth straight annual increase in motorcycle fatalities.

At age 39, David Williams admits he knows the dangers he will encounter every time he straps on his helmet and takes off on his Suzuki GSX-R600. He learned firsthand at a young age the risk associated with riding a motorcycle.

"[Then] I happened to see Saturn with its rings, and I was hooked on astronomy," Webb said. "I didn't know you could actually do this for a living. I don't feel like I've worked a day in my life because I'm always doing what I love."

The first astronomy department at FIU is technically under the umbrella of the physics department, and there is no astronomy major offered because of lack of faculty and staff. Interested students, however, can still acquire an astronomy minor with their physics major at the undergraduate level, or an astronomy concentration with their physics M.S. at the graduate level.

Students who may be intrigued by the galaxies, but not enough to study them for a full semester, can attend one of the department's "Star Parties." Orchestrated by Webb, five of these free events are held each semester, and they appeal to anyone who has a "twinkly eye." They've been going on for 12 years, and Webb calls them "one of the best kept secrets on campus."

Several of these parties, such as the ones opening and closing the semester, include refreshments, music and looking through the 12-foot telescope on the observation pad by the Chemistry and Physics buildings. Others include specific lectures, such as Webb's "Mayan Astronomy" talk on November 3 at 8 p.m. in the Chemistry and Physics building, room 145.

One recent event featured live guitar music, $200 worth of astronomy books raffled off and a discussion on Plato's recent "demotion" from planetary view.

Members of the Society of Physics Students, for which Webb is the sponsor, often find him putting these evenings together, as well as in other work within the department.

Charis Ceron, Vice President

LIFE!

October 19, 2006

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Starry Nights

Department's 'star parties' help students look to the skies

SARAH RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

James Webb's office is covered with posters of constellations and colorful individual stars. As he demonstrates the telescopes he uses to teach students, Webb asks eagerly, "Have you ever seen Saturn through an astronomical telescope?"

Webb's answer, he shakes his head and concludes, "Oh, I feel very sorry for you."

It's because for the skies that first led Webb, one of the four astronomy faculty and staff at FIU, to pursue this field as his career. He traces his childhood interest in astronomy back to watching Neil Armstrong's walk on the moon.

"People will always ride bikes no matter what," Agular said. "If someone has a need for speed, they're most likely been in an accident."

Though he admits that the fastest he has gone is 178 mph, Williams only rides his bike three times a week because he is an expectant father.

He also said the price drops in gasoline allow him to drive his car to work. "Most of the time I ride to clear my mind," said Williams.

Besides the unintentional accidents that occur, riders have to be wary about the occasional desire to race, which can result in a fatal accident.

Williams remembers one time while on Interstate 75, a BMW M5 started chasing him for no reason just to see if he could keep up with him. His friend who was riding with him at the time was almost knocked down by the BMW during the ordeal.

"I don't understand why people do some of the things they do," he said.

According to the US Department of Transportation, motorcyclists are 16 times more likely to die in an accident than a motor vehicle occupant.

Experimental theater takes students out of the classroom

ANGELINA ESPOSITO
Copy Editor

Students at FIU were in for quite a show when nine theater students took over three locations in University Park.

Visiting professor Judy Bauerlein takes her Directing 1 (TPP3010) class outside of the restrictions of a classroom. In an attempt to teach her students to explore the possibilities of space, she asked them to use already established areas on campus and create a scene around it. The scenes were performed Sept. 27.

The three scenes were adapted from Naomi Iizuka’s Polaroid Stories, which has loose roots in Ovid’s Metamorphoses. The students took the short scenes and converted them into movement-based pieces with only six lines of dialogue, meaning the story was expressed mostly through body language and their environment.

“I think it’s fascinating how we take a moment to see nature and structure from a different point of view,” said Jackie Martin, one of the student directors.

The fountain behind the Graham Center, the area around Ramon Lago’s statue “Silent Cry” and a small pond behind Deuxieme Maison were the performance spots.

First up was the typical boy-chase-girl scene, directed by student Matt Mur. The boy, played by David Solomon, quietly stalked POLAROID STORIES, page 8

experimental theater production, and the girl, played by student Angie Espinosa, quietly observed.
Actors makes most of campus locales

THEATER, page 6

the girl – Emily Frail – from DM to the fountain where his courtship began. As students watched, the couple flirted in an innocent, childlike manner. The two wove through students and even incorporated a man sitting on a bench – who was reading rather than watching the performance – into the scene. Frail gave the man the flower Solomon had just given her, as a sign of rejection. The scene ended with a monologue by Solomon describing how he loved the girl and traveled through Hell for her but in the end lost her.

The second scene was inspired by several of FIU’s artworks including “Silent Cry,” Jacques Lipchitz’s “Our Tree of Life” and William Tucker’s “The Rim.” The scene was a composition of images directed by Maritxell Carrero. The girl, played by Toinette Ravelo, shocked students into stopping as they watched her crawl along the ground from one art structure to another. The boy, Jose Grau, in turn surprised everyone as he appeared from “Our Tree of Life,” which he used to camouflage himself. The scene implied a sad but romantic connection between the two.

The third scene used the pond near the Housing Quad. The girl, played by Liz Ferrer, sat at the pond like any other student looking for a quiet place to have lunch. Ferrer began by eating pretzels, and then she hooked a piece onto a paper clip and began to fish. Ferrer – along with those watching – was startled when, from across the lake, another girl – Yamarys Salomon – began to echo her.

Onlooker Milton Carrero felt it was creative and innovative. “[The students] created a world within the outside space that they shared with the regular people that walked by,” Carrero said, who was present for all three scenes. “It was an innovative thing to be in [the scenes’] world while people [are] in their own world.”

At the end of the Fall semester, the directing students’ work will be showcased. The date has yet to be announced.
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MODEL BEHAVIOR

STRIKE A POSE: Senior Insiya Jariwalla (above) gets her makeup done by Orlando Casallas, a makeup artist from Beauty Schools of America, for the Student Programming Council’s “Style in Exile: Fashion Comedy Showcase” that took place Oct. 16 in the Graham Center Ballrooms. (From left) Freshmen Jessica Padilla, Claudia Serrano and Annette Hernandez practice posing backstage.

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Physics department aims to acquire funds for observatory

STARS, page 6 of SPS, spoke of hard but rewarding work he did this summer.
“The job consisted of hours upon hours of going through star images and using a computer program to clean them up,” Ceron said. “It can get a bit tedious but … the data you [work] on leads to some pretty cool scientific research.”

Being an officer in SPS, he said, has also been worthwhile.

“There is much work involved, but it never feels like a burden,” Ceron said. “If anything, my experience with SPS has shown me that there are things in life worth doing that are also enjoyable.”

Gregory Azarnia, Senior Physics major and former SPS president, has worked with Webb for the past four years and calls it a “fruitful experience.”

“He is … a great mentor [who] really cares about students,” Azarnia said.
Azarnia said he first chose to pursue astronomy because of cosmology, the study of the universe.

“For me, astronomy was a catalyst in finding a new way of thinking about the world around me,” he said.

One of the department’s primary goals in past years has been to acquire funding for an observatory, without which they can never offer an actual astronomy major. In addition, the pad will eventually be displaced by the new medical school building, according to Webb. All universities that teach astronomy, as well as Belen Jesuit Preparatory School, have observatories, and some feel that FIU students are being cheated.

Walter Van Hamme, chairperson of the physics department and occasional lecturer at the star parties, explained that there is about $22,000 in the bank for this purpose, $17,000 of which was donated by the Student Government Association. However, a total of $500,000 would need to be raised.

“This is a very small seed,” Van Hamme said. “The idea is that we have to raise private funds and the state would match it … It’s not because of lack of trying.”

“We’re always told it’s right around the corner and it never is,” Webb said.

However, the department affirms it’s not giving up anytime soon.

Chris Cutro / THE BEACON
Friends of comatose student raise funds for charity

For the sisters of the Delta Phi Epsilon sorority, the mission to help those hurt by drunk drivers began when one of their sisters, Molly Orahood, was in a near fatal car accident due to a drunk driver in May. After the accident, Orahood was left with damage to her brain and is currently on the slow road to recovery.

"Molly was an extremely vibrant and happy person," said Delta Phi Epsilon sister Giselle Gutierrez. "No matter what was wrong she could lift your spirits."

In response to the accident and Orahood’s condition, the Delta Phi Epsilon sorority founded an organization called Keep S.O.B.E.R. (Subsidizing Others By Expediting Rehabilitation).

The goal of S.O.B.E.R. is to raise money for those in similar situations as Orahood and to raise awareness of the effects drunk driving has on others.

The first official event of S.O.B.E.R. was a co-venture with the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity called A Night for Molly, a fundraising dinner party held Oct. 13 in the Graham Center Ballroom.

"We started planning for the event around August," said Melissa Gonzalez, the Delta Phi Epsilon member in charge of the event. "We plan to do one every year from now on."

"It’s amazing how much has been done in such a short time," said Student Government Association President Alfonso “Alfi e” Leon.

Jose Torres, a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, thought of A Night for Molly.

"Originally we were planning something for breast cancer," said Torres. "It just worked its way to being this."

The event was a huge success according to sorority members. Every ticket to the dinner had been sold and special $5 tickets were sold at the door for people who at least wanted to experience the night even if they could not eat.

"Almost everything was donated," Gonzalez said. "The only things we really had to pay for were the plates and the food which we barely paid a fraction of the normal price for."

According to Gutierrez, the event helped raise between $15,000 and $20,000. The exact amount is not available because some donations were made with credit cards.

There were many on campus organizations that contributed to A Night For Molly including the Waves Spa, Santi’s, and SGA.

“There won’t be too many fundraisers done by SGA, [for S.O.B.E.R.] but there will be events to promote awareness,” Leon said.

However the night was a bittersweet occasion.

Spirits were generally high until the tribute video to Orahood was played. During the presentation various photographs and videos of Orahood were shown, including the more graphic ones of her accident and her hospitalization.

Behind the sounds of the music playing one could hear many members of the audience weep.

"Molly had a great future ahead of her and she might not have it anymore," said Caroline Yera a Delta Phi Epsilon member and close friend of Orahood. "I’m jealous of her brothers that I’m not there with her."

Yera was the representative for Orahood’s brothers in Indiana where she is currently receiving treatment. In a letter, Orahood’s brothers expressed feelings of gratitude for those in attendance. They also expressed that as a family, they are still in the grieving process and to them it’s like they lost another family member.

When Orahood was 7-years-old, she was in a plane crash that killed both her parents and left her in a coma for six months.

“We just want to continue growing and promote awareness,” said Veronica Luna the president of Delta Phi Epsilon. “The support and love we have received is amazing.”
RENALDO SMITH
Contributing Writer

Riding a giant wave of momentum from nine consecutive wins, with the promise of one of their more lethal outside hitters returning from injury, the Golden Panther women’s volleyball squad was brimming over with confidence going into their two road games last week.

However, all of that optimism somehow resulted in disappointment, and even the return of freshman power hitter Yarimar Rosa to the lineup couldn’t stop two consecutive loses to conference powerhouses, the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers and the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders.

The Golden Panthers fell in a tough 3-2 loss to the Hilltoppers on Friday (17-30, 30-27, 29-31, 35-33, 11-15), and followed that up with a dismal performance as the Blue Raiders made it look easy with a 3-0 (30-26, 30-21, 30-28) sweep on Sunday.

According to Golden Panther Head Coach Danijela Tomic, her team has to bring the same intensity on the road that they display at home.

“It’s always easier to play at home with the fans behind us. This season we have had great attendance and our fans have been loud and supportive but also must learn how to win on the road,” Tomic said. “They are down a bit because it is not easy to lose, especially with all the success we are having. We have to bounce back, refocus, and work on our weaknesses.”

WKU 3, FIU 2
The loss to the Hilltoppers snapped the schools Division I-era record nine match winning streak, but the Panthers did deliver some strong performances. Rosa made a solid return with a team-high 19 kills and 15 digs. Freshman Olga Vergun continued her strong play of late with a 15 kill, 7 block effort, and Arasay Guerra was also a factor with 13 kills. Junior setter Keila Oliveira had a double-double with 45 assists and 13 digs, while junior Mina Spasojevic had a career and team season high 10 blocks.

The Hilltoppers may have caught the Panthers off guard early on as they wasted little time asserting their dominance. They jumped out to a 6-1 lead in the opening game, en route to holding FIU to under 20 points in a game for the first time all season. Although the Golden Panthers did win two games, they had to fight from behind every single time and that fatigue was evident in the final game.

After coming out strong en route to an 11-10 lead, the Golden Panthers appeared to run out of gas when they needed it most and the Hilltoppers ran off five consecutive points to take the match.

Julia Noe had a strong all-around game for the Hilltoppers with 60 assists, 15 kills, and seven blocks and All-American Megan Argabright was deadly with 21 kills and six blocks of her own.

MTSU 3, FIU 0
Following that blow, the Golden Panthers delivered a sub-par performance against Middle Tennessee as they suffered just their fourth sweep of the season, and their first in over a month.

Rosa once again led the Panthers with 15 kills, and Oliveira added 37 assists and six kills at a .385 clip. Leslie Clark was a monster offensively for the Blue Raiders with 38 kills, and six blocks. Quanshell Scott had eight kills, and Ashley Adams was good for 15 kills on a scorching .636 hitting in the win.

After never giving themselves a chance in the first two games, the Golden Panthers had a 26-20 lead in the third and looked poised to contend. However, it wasn’t meant to be as the Blue Raiders closed the match on a 10-2 run.

The Golden Panthers will look to get back on the winning track this Oct. 20 in another road game against Arkansas State.

SERVE’S UP:
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Coach Karl Kremser: ‘We have to win out’

MEN’S SOCCER, page 12

shut-out in back-to-back losses to Tulsa and South Carolina, the Golden Panthers have scored five goals in their last two matches.

“It gives everybody’s confidence a boost and helps quite a bit,” said Kremser of the rejuvenated offense. “If we fall behind, we can still always find some goals. Everybody realizes that we’re able to put some points on the board, and that takes pressure off of the defense instead of them feeling like they have to shut everybody out.”

The defensive unit, however, did manage to shut-out Memphis. Kyle Thomas earned his 1st victory of the season, notching a game-high four saves. Kyle Thomas faced a major test in the 24th minute when a defensive miscue nearly sent a headed back-pass into the net. He dove and knocked the ball away to prevent an own goal.

FIU took six first half shots, capitalizing on a similar spark of offense that led to a 3-1 victory over Marshall (4-7-1, 1-3) in an Oct. 11 match. Senior defender Chris Handy started the attack with a floating 40-yard shot that caught Thundering Herd goalkeeper Greg Walter by surprise in the 12th minute. Hope added to the score with a 20-yard blast in the 25th minute, and freshman forward Christian Caporaletti capped the win with a curling free kick in the 39th minute.

FIU will try to continue its current form when the team travels to face Kentucky (9-4-1, 2-2) Oct. 21. Both squads, along with Memphis, are locked in a three-way tie for fifth place in C-USA. The match winner will likely have the best chance of securing a home game in the conference tournament.

“We have to win out. We just have to,” Kremser said. “We’ve positioned ourselves to get into the conference tournament, but you want to position yourself to get a good seed and avoid playing one of the better teams early on.

“The higher up we move, the better it for us come tournament time.”

WOMEN’S SOCCER, page 12

goalkeeper into the upper right corner of the goal, making the game 5-0.

Durrant’s third tally of the night came in the 59th minute as the Golden Panthers completed the shut-out at 6-0. After receiving a cross from Gualdron, Durrant sent the ball airborne and went in just below the crossbar.

“The last couple of weeks we got beat 5-0 and 5-1, it’s good to be on the other side of that, winning 6-0 … we decided to play a little bit more simple; we tried to pass the ball, spread the ball out and use the width of the field more than we’ve done in the past,” said coach Everton Edwards.

USA 3, FIU 1

The Golden Panthers failed to win their last home game of the season as they fell to the South Alabama Jaguars (5-11, 3-5) 3-1 Oct. 14 in a Sun Belt Conference contest. Although FIU (4-10, 2-6) held an 11-9 edge in shots for the game and had eight corner kicks without surrendering any to the Jaguars, it proved not to be enough as the Jaguars scored two goals within four minutes.

Tara Smith got South Alabama on the board with an unassisted strike in the 14th minute. Smith managed to get around the goalkeeper but was blocked. Perseverance paid off, however, and she scored her second time around as the ball rolled into the back of the net making the match 1-0.

Jenn Edgar helped seal the victory for South Alabama with a pair of assists. Edgar crossed to Samantha Stocker who completed the play by shooting the ball into the right corner of the goal, in the 54th minute for her seventh tally of the season as the Jaguars took the lead 2-1. Four minutes later, Edgar added to the damage when she setup a goal opportunity for Amanda Douglas who caught the goalkeeper off guard. Douglas scored from 30 yards out on a long high curving shot that dropped into the net making the score 3-1.

The Golden Panthers will travel to Arkansas as they prepare for more Sun Belt Conference play against Arkansas State Oct. 20 at 4 p.m., followed by a 1 p.m. game Oct. 22 with Arkansas-Little Rock.

MY BALL: The women’s soccer team lost its final home game of 2006 against USA.

Women’s soccer drops last home game of ‘06 season

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