BBC students report ‘peeping tom’ incidents

Vanessa Novoa left her class at 7:20 p.m. in Biscayne Bay’s Academic I building to use the restroom downstairs. She used a restroom on the third floor, one of the few in the building with a double door entrance. While she was in the restroom, Novoa said she heard the door open and someone else came in after her. She saw black Nike sneakers normally made for men, and blue jean shorts walk by and enter the second stall. Novoa said she knew something wasn’t right.

“I looked up and saw someone trying to look between the stall walls,” Novoa said. “I breathed deeply, and as I got up, he ran out. I ran after him, and when I ran down the right hallway, he was standing by the stairs and just stared me down.”

Novoa isn’t alone in her experience. The past few months have found a ‘peeping tom’ alienating female students on campus and peaking in on them as they use the restroom.

The individual has targeted four other young women in the past few months, but only two filed police reports right after it occurred. Three incidents occurred around the same time period.

Due to the small amount of reports filed, BBC’s Public Safety has yet to follow-up, though it did conduct a search of the area with negative results, according to the most recent police report filed by Novoa. Julie Costa, a senior majoring in premied, was taking a Summer A course when someone she described as a black male with short cropped hair watched her. It was around 4 p.m. when she entered the restroom across from the Honor’s College in AC I.

“Something caught my attention from the corner of my eye, and I saw something in the corner of the stall. I know it was someone’s forehead, but at the time I didn’t know what it was until I ducked down and saw the white of his eyes,” Costa said. “When he realized I saw him, he ran out.”

Costa said that in retrospect she should have run out of the restroom to get a description, but she said that she didn’t know what to do with herself.

“I was petrified and really scared after it happened initially and felt paranoid the rest of the day,” Costa said. Monique Mattiace, a senior majoring in journalism, remembers discussing the incident with Costa after it occurred. She later came into contact with a black male who resembled the suspect walking out of the same bathroom.

“I asked him, ‘Are you lost?’ And he kept walking,” Mattiace said.

According to Captain Michael Wright, commander of operations of Public Safety at BBC, this is the first time he has heard of any additional cases, besides the two that were filed by Costa and Novoa.

“When we get a description, we scour the area, though sometimes finding the individual is difficult by nature of a report,” Wright said.

“This fall there has only been one inci-

SMOKE OUT

Organization tackles tobacco hazards

Leslie Goldberg has been smoking cigarettes for four years and has no intentions of quitting.

“He’s been told that tobacco is one of the most addictive substances in the world, but he continues, smoking three to five cigarettes a day or half a pack when he’s stressed.”

“People tell me to quit almost everyday,” Goldberg, who is a senior at FIU, said. “I think I have an addiction. I’ve just made a choice not to quit.”

According to the Center for Disease Control, as of December 2005, 20.9 percent of all adults in the United States smoke cigarettes.

The study also mentioned that over 400,000 U.S. citizens die every year due to smoking and second hand smoke.

Goldberg said he doesn’t mind the health risks which come with chronic smoking – such as emphysema, various forms of cancer and heart disease – which is exactly why some campus groups have decided to campaign against smoking during November, National Tobacco Awareness Month.

According to Casandra Roache, a senior health educator at the University Park Wellness Center, smokers have to realize the effects smoking has on themselves and others.

In order to bring this awareness to campus, the Center has two events planned to help people stop smoking.
**Group tackles human rights issues**

MARIA CHERCOLES
Asst. News Director

Not many people have heard of the Bolivarian Youth, a small FIU club that has been operating as an official FIU club since Fall 2005.

However, the club has a ten-point program which includes to end capitalism as a system that perpetuates social and economic injustice, to have free healthcare and education, to give access to every human being to water, food and housing, and to turn the means of production in the hands of the people, according to a flyer the group hands out.

“I became interested in social injustices while growing up. I witnessed the different treatment Cubans and Haitians received, so I wanted to do something about it,” said Sonja Swanson, one of the club founders and current president of the organization.

In Cuban-dominated Miami, some members feel many oppose the club’s beliefs.

“We have been verbally attacked many times while having our table in [the Graham Center at University Park],” said club member Victor Maxwell. “Once, someone even suggested we go beyond the gate and throw them outside to fight.”

However, the club consists of a diverse base, even some Cuban members.

Some people are surprised to find so many young Cubans, like myself, in an organization that supports the Cuban Revolution. The fact is that just as in Cuba, in Miami there are many Cubans that support the socialist social and Fidel Castro, although the media would have you believe that all Miami Cubans are ‘exiled,’” said co-founder Mike Martinez.

According to Swanson, the Office of Student Affairs once tried to cancel one of their events claiming they didn’t follow the protocol, but after meeting with them and the club’s faculty advisor, the event was held.

“I wouldn’t say all the times was intentionally, part of it has to do with FIU’s bureaucracy,” Swanson said.

The club defines itself as an alliance of young people who are anti-capitalists and who are engaged in revolutionary action, and it attempts to achieve its agenda by supporting immigrants’ rights, human rights, pro-choice campaigns, gay rights and women’s rights, among other issues.

The FIU Bolivarian Youth were active in pressuring the U.S. government to free Father Gerard Jean-Juste, a Haitian priest who defended human rights in Haiti and was detained by the Haitian government.

“We mobilized the necessary masses on the streets of Miami to garner enough support to free him. We are proud we were able to free him,” Swanson said.

Between lectures, protests and film screenings, the club is always working.
Other cultures honored at Latino heritage event

LATINOS, page 1

Maria Alvarado sang “Bidi Bidi Bom Bom,” a song from Mexican-American singer Selena. “It is always important to remember where we came from,” Alvarado said.

This was followed by another tango performance from Sin Rumbo, by dancers Jasmine Flores and Thomas Uriarte. “The event was better than what we expected, said freshman Mariela Mendoza. The performances concluded around 9:30 p.m. with a melody from Voices of Unity. The event was followed by a Latin themed dinner from Blue Sky, which included congri, sweet plantains and pork and again everyone was welcomed to the dance floor.

In her essay, Terberos highlighted what it means to be a Latina girl. Besides the number of people that attended, some felt that the time and day of the event affected the appeal and participation of FIU students.

It is very difficult to come to school on a Sunday night. Most of my friends couldn’t make it just for that reason, said freshman Mariela Mendoza.

The event that celebrates Hispanic culture and traditions with performances by students.
Event highlights African art

JAMELLE TUCKER
Contributing Writer

A two-day lecture and symposium looks to change the views of African Art and its impact on the world.

"FIU would like to inform the community about African art. In the South, a two-week event was held from Oct. 29 to Nov. 1, and it is the best preacher on black life and an expert on African art, life, culture," Ogundiran said.

Between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Friday Nov. 3, the symposium, entitled: “The Idea of Modernity in Contemporary African Diaspora Art,” will be held on the sixth floor of the Broward County Library.

It will continue addressing the issue of modernity within African art.

Modernism in art refers to a period between the 19th and mid-20th century where artists focused on color and form, not natural world paintings that were seen in the past.

Since most countries of African descent were not considered as "evolved" as European countries, art produced from African countries has not been categorized as modern.

"The event was organized to provide a modern rival against the European monopoly, and belief that only art from Europe during the modern period can be considered modernistic, and all other forms were primitive," said Baacar Mbow of the Broward County Library system and co-organizer of the events.

The event will feature speakers Legrace Bensen, director of Haitian Art Research Project at Cornell University in New York and Nkira Nzegewu, chair department of Africana Studies at the University of New York.

The library will also open the international exhibition featuring art from renowned Haitian painter, Philippe Dodard whose paintings will be on display for one month after the symposium.

The Florida Africana Studies Consortium and the A.C.T.I.O.N. Foundation, an organization created to promote Creole culture and tradition through the arts, are among those sponsoring these events.

Mbaw said that the public should attend the symposium in order to better understand the lecture.

For more information on the free events, contact FIU at 305-919-5521 or the Broward County Library at 954-387-7478.

No suspect found in ‘peeping tom’ incident

VOYEUR, page 1

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The event was organized to provide a modern rival against the European monopoly, and belief that only art from Europe...can be considered modernistic.

Central reported, but I’m not aware that this has been a consistent problem. There is no other response at this point, but the more people submit police reports, the better we can develop a suspect.

Though Wright emphasized that more details would help the case, Public Safety officers have not checked the tapes from cameras located in front of the bathrooms.

"Cameras are controlled and maintained by Facilities Management. We would get the tapes, if we had a person or a suspect in that area we would, but without a suspect it doesn’t do much," Wright said.

Wright also admitted the difficulty in finding an individual in such an incident with such a vague description.

The description currently on record is of a black male, 5’11, with black, low-cut hair, brown eyes and no facial hair.

He’s of average body weight and was wearing baggy blue jean shorts and a black shirt. Officials have still not verified if it was the same individual on all incidents.

Marva Palmer, a custodian at BBC, works the night shift from 3:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.

We do clean the bathrooms, but I haven’t seen anything," she said.

But if someone is peeping, there are cameras, so it should be visible.

The only bathrooms Palmer can think of were someone can get in without being seen are those located on the first floor of the Wolfe University Center, near the pool area.

If it’s about the bathrooms near the pool, they may get in through the back door," she said. “But we always keep an eye out.”

Senior Crystall Perman, also majoring in journalism, had heard of the peeping tom before and felt concerned.

Two weeks ago, when Perman was in the restroom, she said someone moved the trashcan in the stall next to her to cover their feet and watch her. She did not directly see the person.

Perman was in the same bathroom in which Costa and Mattiaci had their experience.

“I was in the second stall closest to the entrance, and the trash can was at the end of the other stall between the partition and the wall,” Perman said.

“Suddenly, the trash can moved by itself across that space. I just washed my hands and hurried out." Perman said she no longer feels comfortable on campus after certain hours.

“Parking lot lights are really dim, and you never see any security unless you call. You take the school’s word for it that it’s safe,” Perman said.

Novoa and Costa agree that something needs to be done.

“We need more security guards at night. Sometimes you walk in the hallway and there’s no one around. That’s just ridiculous,” Novoa said.

“It’s so isolated at night, it’s really disconcerting. They need more security at BBC,” Costa said.

Captain Wright hopes to find a suspect to pursue the situation further.

“We only go by what’s reported,” Wright said.

“We make sure to put out alerts to the community depending on what’s in the report.”
Registration for the 2007 Spring semester will begin Nov. 11, giving rise to that daunting question that burns in the minds of every FIU student before each registration period starts: Will I secure a spot in the classes my major requires?

As a student at FIU, you’ve most likely encountered difficulties in registering for your courses at some point during your academic career. A shortage of available classes and open sections, along with the administration’s failure to help students left without a spot in the courses required by their program, make the registration process a trial for students. This problem must be addressed in order to satisfy the needs of FIU students.

It’s a scene that almost every student has lived through: you’re sitting comfortably at home in front of your computer, clutching the schedule for the new semester, it should provide for more sections to be available during registration in order to assist the students.

Furthermore, department officials must ensure that a sufficient amount of sections will be opened to satisfy the needs of their students.

FIU enrolled 37,424 students during the Fall 2005 semester, with a student-to-faculty ratio of approximately 17:1. Clearly, shortage of faculty is not an issue.

Richards argues that the option of whether or not more sections are opened rests on three other principles: “demand, room availability and finances.” Richards went on to say that choosing what classes students will be taking the following semester is “hard to predict, but if the demand is great enough, they open up more classes.” However, there is never any certainty that further sections will be opened.

Furthermore, it may take several days for a new section to open up, and the schedule for the new sections is often not disclosed until the last minute. This causes conflicts in students’ schedules that then lead to even more problems.

The opening of additional sections, however, still relies on two factors that Richards mentioned: room availability and finances.

More effort should be invested into collaborating with other departments and determining how many sections should be opened for a class so that students are not left behind.

Moreover, administrators should find a way to give priority to students who need to take a specific class that semester in order to graduate or advance in their track.

Students at FIU are continually left struggling to meet their track requirements because of insufficient open sections and thus far, the University has done little to alleviate the problem.

Though these difficulties surrounding registration may stem from complicated funding issues and logistical snags within the University, the important thing to realize right now is that a serious problem exists and it must be resolved immediately.

The Beacon – November 2, 2006
To InfinINDIE and BEYOND!

Samantha Quinon
Staff Writer

If you don’t know what indie music is, don’t worry. There are radio DJs, record store owners and indie musicians who don’t know where the genre begins and ends. That’s because labeling an album “indie music” is like trying to define your major when you want to do everything. The most accepted definition of indie music is music that doesn’t get significant mass media recognition or get played on commercial radio. Beyond that, anything goes.

The following is an informal guide to the genre to encourage your exploration of indie bands and artists.

If you like...

TRIP HOP / DREAM POP

Such as...
- Boards of Canada – Music Has the Right to Children
- Massive Attack – Mezzanine
- Tricky – Maxinquaye
- Everything But the Girl – Walking Wounded
- Air – Talkie Walkie

You would probably like...
- Bjork, Thievery Corporation, DJ Shadow, The Chemical Brothers, Portishead
- Massive Attack – Mezzanine
- Tricky – Maxinquaye
- Everything But the Girl – Walking Wounded
- Air – Talkie Walkie

You might even like...
- Sneaker Pimps – Becoming X
- Bowery Electric – Beat
- Esthero – Breath From Another
- Morcheeba
- Who Can You Trust?
- Nightmares on Wax – Carboot Soul

If you like...

HIP HOP / RAP

Such as...
- The Fugees, Gorillaz, Talib Kweli, Black Eyed Peas, Gnarls Barkley
- Danger Doom – The Mouse and the Mask
- Buck 65 – Vertex
- Boom Bip – Seed to Sun
- The Roots – Phrenology
- Common – Like Water for Chocolate

You would probably like...
- The Roots – Phrenology
- Common – Like Water for Chocolate
- Arrested Development – 3 Years, 5 Months & 2 Days in the Life Of...

You might even like...
- Digable Planets – Reachin’
- Dipti – Fabriclive 24
- Public Enemy – It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back
- Arrested Development – 3 Years, 5 Months & 2 Days in the Life Of...
- The Fugees, Gorillaz, Talib Kweli, Black Eyed Peas, Gnarls Barkley

If you like...

BRITPOP

Such as...
- Blur, Oasis, The Libertines, Muse, Coldplay
- Pulp – Different Class
- Goldfrapp – Supernature
- The Kills – Orbit

You would probably like...
- Lush – Ciao!
- Catatonia – International Velvet
- Dogs Die in Hot Cars – Please Describe Yourself
- James – Laid
- Supergrass – Supergrass is 10: The Best of 1994-2004

You might even like...
- Pulp – Different Class
- Elastica – The Menace
- Spacetoys – Resident Alien
- Super Furry Animals – Mwng

If you like...

INDIE ELECTRONICA

Such as...
- Ladytron – Light and Magic
- Goldfrapp – Supernature
- Figure – Transportation + Communication = Love
- My Favorite – Love at Absolute Zero
- Architecture in Helsinki – Fingers Crossed

You would probably like...
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- Goldfrapp – Supernature
- Figure – Transportation + Communication = Love
- My Favorite – Love at Absolute Zero
- Architecture in Helsinki – Fingers Crossed

You might even like...
- Mouse on Mars – Niun Nigeng
- Broadcast – Ha Ha Sound
- Ms. John Soda – No P. or D
- Cornelius – Fastasia

If you like...

INDIE POP

Such as...
- Belle and Sebastian, The Shins, Of Montreal, Death Cab for Cutie, The Postal Service
- The Mendoza Line – We’re All in This Alone
- Papas Fritas – Buildings and Grounds
- Tiger Trap – Tiger Trap
- The Essex Green – Cannibal Sea

You would probably like...
- The Apples in Stereo – Velocity of Sound
- Stars – Set Yourself on Fire
- The New Pornographers – Mass Romantic
- The Cardigans – First Band on the Moon
- The Go! Team – Thunder, Lightning, Strike

You might even like...
- The Mendoza Line – We’re All in This Alone
- Papas Fritas – Buildings and Grounds
- Tiger Trap – Tiger Trap
- The Essex Green – Cannibal Sea

If you like...

PUNK

Such as...
- Green Day, Blink 182, Weezer, The Ramones
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You would probably like...
- The Buzzcocks – Singles Going Steady
- The Clash – London Calling
- Sex Pistols – Never Mind the Bollocks...
- Gang of Four – Entertainment
- X – Los Angeles

You might even like...
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- Broadcast – Ha Ha Sound
- Ms. John Soda – No P. or D
- Cornelius – Fastasia
If you like...

**INDIE ROCK**

You would probably like...
- Sleater-Kinney – Dig Me Out
- Dismemberment Plan – Emergency & I
- Ted Leo/The Pharmacists – Hearts of Oak
- Metric – Old Underground World, Where Are You Now?
- Sonic Youth – Daydream Nation

Such as...
- Interpol, The Walkmen, The Strokes, Arcade Fire, Jet, Spoon

If you like...

**ALTERNATIVE COUNTRY**

You might even like...
- Gillian Welch – Revival
- Magnolia Electric Co. – Fading Trails
- Katell Keiss – Jet
- The Sadies – Favorite Colours
- Liz Phair – Exile in Guyville

Such as...
- Ryan Adams, k.d. lang, Emmylou Harris, (early) Wilco, Neil Young

If you like...

**R&B/SOUL**

You might even like...
- John Legend – Get Lifted
- Me'Shell NdegéOcello – Peace Beyond Passion
- Alana Davis – Fortune Cookies

Such as...
- Macy Gray, Wycliff Jean, India.Arie, Lauryn Hill, Maxwell

If you like...

**SINGER/SONGWRITER**

You would probably like...
- Elliott Smith – XO
- Martha Wainwright – Martha Wainwright
- Jeff Buckley – Grace
- Nick Drake – Bryter Layter
- Joanna Newsom – The Milk-Eyed Mender

You might even like...
- Sun Kil Moon – The Ghosts of the Great Highway
- Chris Whitley – Rocket House
- Mia Day Todd – Come Out of Your Mine
- Mark Lanegan – Whisky for the Holy Ghost

Such as...
- Lucinda Williams – Essence
- Bonnie "Prince" Billy – I See a Darkness
- A Girl Called Eddy – A Girl Called Eddy
- The Jayhawks – Tomorrow the Green Grass
- The Mountain Goats – Tallahassee

If you like...

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Spring break program advocates charity

TANIA LEIPOLD
Contributing Writer

Helping renovate a clinic in Jamaica is not something an average college student expects to do on a typical spring break; however, some do take part in this life for an entire week as part of Alternative Spring Break. ASB is an international program that allows students every spring break, to travel within the U.S. and worldwide to do volunteer work at sites such as New York, Tennessee, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic.

Senior Gloria Bauta, who participated in ASB last year, went to Tennessee to partake in the building of a hiking trail that would ultimately connect various states.

“It was an awesome experience. You meet new people, form relationships. We even had a hoedown one night,” Bauta said.

Together with her group, she was able to build three miles of trail in five days. Every morning, they would get to the site at 9 a.m., work until noon, when they would eat and be educated with presentations on environmental issues, get back to work until 4 p.m., and later be shown a presentation, according to Bauta.

Bianny Fernandez, ASB graduate advisor and a site leader, helped in the excurs- ion to Jamaica last year and lived with the children of the community, even bathing in the river like the locals. For a week, she submerged herself in the lives of others, which she said made her experience life in a whole new way.

“For having participated so many times in these projects, it’s the cultural aspect of the whole experience that impacts me, as opposed to the service itself,”

The ASB program started with an organization called Break Away, which was founded on the Vanderbilt University campus where students developed a spring break volunteer program. Now the program works with hundreds of schools and associations across the globe.

The program director, Molly McCabe, believes that every college student should participate because “it can have a lasting imprint on finding who you are, what you are capable of, and how you fit into the world as an active citizen.”

ASB considers issues varying anywhere from HIV/AIDS, to creating model elementary schools in communities that don’t necessarily have proper aid. When students apply for ASB, they have to check-off the concerns that matter the most to them – without knowing what site they will be sent to. The sites are revealed in December, and an interview process is done to ensure commitment.

The 2007 spring trip will take place March 19-23, and issues and international sites are already posted, including issues such as community development in the Dominican Republic and disadvantaged children in Mexico and Nicaragua.

Interested students can apply by simply picking up an application in the Graham Center, room 242, at the Center for Leadership and Service; the deadline is Nov. 17. Students pay $100 for domestic trips and then cover the rest of the trip’s cost by fundraising. More information is available in GC 242 and online at fi u.edu/~asb.
RICHARD CASSVAN
Contributing Writer

When most people think of domesticated household pets, the usual suspects come to mind: cats and dogs. For freshman Marco Lora, however, a monkey would be the ideal pet. They can take care of themselves and are almost as smart as people," Marco said. There are an array of exotic animals that are legally obtainable for your household. For those tired of seeing Lassie and Garfield running around their houses, here is a list of alternative pets that could turn the average house into the most exotic of jungles or forests.

RABBITS
A rabbit is a domesticated animal that can be bought at any major pet store. At Petco, they can be bought neutered, which helps eliminate unpleasant sexual behaviors of male rabbits and reduces the risk of health problems in female rabbits.

Sophomore Nicolas Acúna has owned four rabbits in the past and says that eating is one of their favorite hobbies. "They pretty much just sit there and eat and run around sometimes," Acúna said. He also says that chewing is one of their favorite hobbies. "Keep them away from Nintendo cables; they used to chew mine all the time," he said.

These animals can be bought at stores such as the Petco located at 1635 NW 107th Ave. in Doral for $99.99.

FERRETS
According to employees at the Pet Supermarket, ferrets are extremely intelligent and social animals that are very playful. They are cool animals, and social animals that are very playful. According to employees at the Pet Supermarket, ferrets can be bought at any major pet store. At Petco, they can be bought neutered. Ferrets can be bought at Pet Supermarket on 1950 SW 8th St. for $120.

HEDGEHOGS
Hedgehogs are known for their spines and according to freenachofaceroos.com, they jerk their body when defending themselves, which drives these spines into the skin of the unsuspecting. If you're a fan of video games, like sophomore Jonathan Mojena, then this animal might interest you. Mojena, however, was a bit let down when coming across a hedgehog for the first time. "They pretty much just sit there and eat and run around sometimes," Acúna has owned four rabbits in the past and says that eating is one of their favorite hobbies. "They pretty much just sit there and eat and run around sometimes," Acúna said. He also says that chewing is one of their favorite hobbies. "Keep them away from Nintendo cables; they used to chew mine all the time," he said.

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Winless season doesn’t seem that unlikely now

On ESPN’s Bottom 10, by David Duffey, FIU is ranked as the third worst football team in the nation. Next to FIU’s ranking he wrote, “Stay Away: The Golden Panthers return to the field this week. Let’s hope they stay away from any fights.”

So who’s worse? 0-8 Stanford and 1-8 Temple, but I can’t imagine for how long. The Golden Panthers haven’t known what it takes to win a game since Dec. 3, 2005. Only Stanford (with a 10-game losing streak) and Duke (with a 16-game losing streak) have been searching hard to look for their first victory.

A winless season can’t be blamed due to lack of talent because the defense has surely shown it has the talent to match up with almost any offense in the country. There have even been whispers that senior tight end Samuel Smith and wide receiver Chandler Williams being chosen in the NFL draft.

So how low will this season go before any drastic changes are made? I don’t know, but it will be long before this team ever finds Nirvana, let alone their first win this season.

ALMOST BOOTED: UCF’s win over Marshall puts FIU in Conference-USA tournament.

UCF win sneaks FIU into conference tournament

SOCCER, page 12

tackle that sent midfielder Two-Boys Gumede face-first onto the pitch after he nearly flipped over. Both players remained on the ground for a few minutes, but the match referee presented Fisher with a red card as soon as he got up from the field.

UCAB gave FIU several scares afterwards, earning five shots in the second half, including two beam ing attempts by sophomore defender Dejan Jakovic that veered inches wide of the left goalpost. The Blazers took 12 shots in the match. And Golden Panthers both

For senior forward David Hope, the loss was disheartening. A win would have secured a spot for FIU in the C-USA Men’s Soccer Championship, but the loss threatened to end his collegiate career.

“It’s an emotional time for me. I’ve spent four years of my life playing for this team and I love this university,” Hope said after the game. “If this is my last game, it’d just be hard to get in. We don’t fear anyone in the conference because we’ve played every single team very, very well and we’re capable of beating anyone.”

UCF defeated Marshall 4-2, which allowed FIU to sneak into the tournament, hosted Nov. 1 - 5 at Tulsa. The Golden Panthers are the eight and final seed, and we’re capable of beating anyone in the conference to get in. We don’t fear any team ever finds Nirvana, let alone their first win this season.
Women's volleyball gets mixed results with SBC foes

RENALDO SMITH

Locked in a three-way race for supremacy in the Sun Belt East Conference, the Golden Panther women's volleyball squad faced their most familiar foes this past weekend at the Pharmed Arena.

With a ruckus home crowd backing them, the Golden Panthers played arguably their best game of the season Oct. 27 with an impressive 3-0 (30-20, 30-22, 30-19) win over the then-third place Western Kentucky Lady Toppers.

Unfortunately, they could not build on that momentum Oct. 29. As the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders took over with a 3-0 (30-21, 30-25, 31-21) win. Golden Panther outside hitter Yarimar Rosa, assessed her team's performance against two elite opponents.

“The big difference was consistency. We played so consistent on Friday and I thought that we made very few errors,” Rosa said. “On Sunday against Middle Tennessee we were very inconsistent and we started good but then they made a rally and that made the difference. We have to play better and be consistent to get ready for the conference tournament.”

FIU 3, WKU 0

It was just two weeks ago when the Golden Panthers had their program record nine-match conference winning streak come to an end, thanks to a 3-2 (17-30, 30-27, 29-31, 35-33, 11-15) loss to the Lady Toppers.

With that disappointment still fresh in their minds, the Golden Panthers aggressively attacked the Blue Raiders and took them out of the game from early on. Junior setter Keila Oliveria had yet another brilliant game with a match-high 45 assists and seven digs, leading her team to a scorching .406 clip for the contest.

Even sophomore All-American Megan Aragbi struggled as she finished with just nine kills on the night. Kelly Hofmeyer had nine digs and Julia Noe contributed a match-high 29 assist in the tough loss for the Lady Toppers. The win marked the first victory over the Lady Toppers since the 2001 Sun Belt Tournament.

“We played one of the best teams in the country and we played (unbelievably). We ask our players to come and challenge each other everyday. We have three more matches at home and we cannot overlook anybody because everyone that comes in here will play their best,” said Golden Panther head coach Danijela Tomic.

PACKING A PUNCH: Freshman Yarimar Rosa (no. 3) recorded 15 kills as the women's volleyball team beat Western Kentucky 30 in straight sets.

Loss leaves women's soccer out of Sun Belt tournament

MAGALY ESTRELLA

Contributing Writer

The women's soccer team's season came to an end Friday with a 3-0 loss to Florida Atlantic University (10-7-2, 7-4 Sun Belt) in the Women's Sun Belt Conference play finale. FAU scored once in the first half and added two goals in the final five minutes of the match.

The loss eliminates the Golden Panthers (5-12-0, 3-8-0 Sun Belt) from Sun Belt Tournament contention. FIU could have secured the eighth and final tournament position with a win plus a win or loss against the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.

Tessa McGarrity got it started for FAU off an assist from Susanna Lehtinen. Lehnten duelled against two FIU defenders and pulled the goalie out before passing the ball to McGarrity making the score 1-0.

The match remained 1-0 until the second half, when McGarrity scored her second tally of the game in the 86th minute with an assist from Meredith White and Devon Romak. Just two minutes later, Crissina Chang was fouled in the box, awarding her a penalty kick followed by a goal helping the Owls go up 3-0.

Senior Valerie Patrick accounted for both of FIU's two shots of the game, including a header which was cleared off the line by FAU midfielder Natalie D’Oria before halftime. Junior Madeline Gannon made three saves for the Golden Panthers.

Typically, a soccer team will have 25 players on their team, but FIU played with only 15 this year, mostly due to injuries.

Plans for next year include trying to reduce the number of injuries by incorporating the help of more players on the squad, allowing active players to rest more during the 90-minute matches.

“The team is better and it is a more cohesive unit. However, the misfortunes of injuries didn’t help us,” said coach Everett Edwards. “On a normal human being, one game every four days is enough; for us to play two games in three days is a tough task. However, every other team has to do it, so we have to get more numbers as far as players.”

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SUSPENSIONS prove to be too much in loss to Tide

with their two touchdowns. Alabama, who struggled offensively early on, turning the ball over at the FIU 1-yard line on a fourth and goal, found their wings with 10:11 to play in the first half as Wilson found Le’Ron McClain for a nine-yard touchdown. Kicker Jamie Christensen made the kick.

With the score 10-3 coming out of the half, the Golden Panthers looked one offensive drive from making the game interesting. However they struggled, something that has plagued them all season long, and just over five minutes into the half Alabama punt returner Javier Arenas returned a Chris Cook punt 65 yards for a 17-3 lead.

Following an Attaway fumble that was returned to the FIU seven by defensive back Simeon Castillo, it took the hosts just four plays to make it 24-3. Tailback Tim Castille rushed up the middle on fourth down for a 1-yard score as the crowd that had boosed Mike Shula’s team earlier in the encounter found confidence in their squad.

With 10:18 to play in the fourth quarter FIU’s fears of a blowout became reality as Paddock overthrew Dickens and the tipped pass was intercepted by defensive back Ramzee Robinson and returned for a 34-yard touchdown. Following the Leigh Tiffinn extra point, the Golden Panthers trailed by 28, 31-3.

Wide receiver Matt Caddell who came in relief added the final points of the game, making up for two earlier drops, when he caught a 6-yard pass in the end-zone from Barnes 3:06 to play.

The Golden Panthers managed to convert just one third down following the breakdown and started with an average field position at their own 16-yard line, much the opposite of Alabama, who, courtesy of FIU’s offensive struggles, saw their drives begin on average at FIU’s 45-yard line throughout the second half.

The Golden Panthers will close out their schedule with three home games out of four, starting with a Nov. 11 meeting with conference foe Louisiana-Monroe following a bye week.
CRIMSON TIDE ROLLS OVER FIU

ANDONI GONZALEZ-RUA
Staff Writer

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Following a bye week, FIU knew they’d have to be prepared heading into an Oct. 28 showdown at Bryant-Denny Stadium. For a half, it seemed as though the 92-138 that showed up on Alabama’s homecoming might be in for a long afternoon.

Unfortunately for the Golden Panthers, the 18 suspensions stemming from the infamous Miami brawl accompanied them there, and showed as they gave up 28 second-half points.

“We obviously came in short-handed dressing only 52 players, but I was proud in the way they hung in there, especially in the first half,” said coach Don Strock.

The Golden Panthers (0-8), playing in front of a record crowd at the University Park for the second week in a row, were handed a 38-3 drubbing in a 38-3 win.

“I’m just so upset right now,” freshman midfielder Oli Birgis said after the game. “We’ve had an unlucky season,”

With leading receivers Chandler Willliams and Sammy Smith sidelined through suspension, quarterback Josh Padrick relied on four freshman wide receivers and was easily tapped into the left of the first quarter when he found Jeremy Dickens for a 69-yard gain.

“Making those kind of mistakes, especially on the road, is not conducive to winning,”

Despite controlling the pass game, giving up just 117 yards in the air, the defense struggled to stop the run from the Crimson Tide senior Kenneth Darby.

“Tide senior Kenneth Darby led the way for a half, allowing 127 yards on the ground.

Defensively, the Golden Panthers were led by preseason Sun Belt Defensive Player of the Year Keyonvis Bouie who now finds himself 10 tackles short of the 100-tackles mark with four games to play, thanks to a first drive 33-yard carry, finishing the afternoon with 70 yards on 10 carries.

Both units’ split personality has kept them on the sidelines nearly every game. As Drake tried to control a bouncing back-pass, Caporaletti scored his fourth goal of the afternoon.

“Would anybody be surprised if this was the time FIU went an entire season without winning a single game?”

My concern in the second half,” Strock said, “was getting worn down and Alabama made some plays—an interception, punt return and a fumble recovery at the 10. Making those kind of mistakes, especially on the road, is not conducive to winning.”

Alfredo Tentori scored the second FIU goal in the 41st minute when he found Jeremy Dickens for a 69-yard gain.

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