Sen. John McCain holds rally before crowded arena

NATALEE GIL-DESEL RIO
Contributing Writer

“John McCain! John McCain!” the crowd chanted during the Republican rally held at the Panther Arena last Friday, Oct. 17.

Although many might have thought the rally was not going to be much of a success after Barack Obama’s rally at the University of Miami on Sept. 19, the almost 5,000 seats that occupy the arena weren’t nearly enough to accommodate the thousands of people that attended.

“I have never been more proud of Florida than I am now,” said Charlie Crist, the governor of Florida, during his opening speech. “We didn’t think it was going to be this good of a turnout.”

Republicans, Independents, and even Democrats attended the convention in hopes that McCain would leave a lasting impact on Florida, while others went with an open mind to listen to what McCain had to offer as the Republican nominee for president.

“It’s going to make it or break it for me. I don’t know who to vote for,” said Katherine Bernardoni, a student at FIU. “I really like McCain but I want to make sure I’m making the right choice.”

FIU Students for McCain have also wanted to transport students to the polling stations, said President of FIU College Democrats Chris Cabral.

Cabral hopes to charter buses to get students to the polling stations. He is also pushing for students who volunteer their vans to drive other students to the stations to be reimbursed with a gas card. However, specifics of these plans have not been discussed.

“The logistics and the technical issues have not been vetted out as of yet,” said Hector Soco, member of FIU Students for Obama, who also wanted to transport students to the early voting polls.

The College Republicans and FIU Students for McCain have adopted similar initiatives to encourage students vote during the early voting period from Oct. 20 until Nov. 4.

“We hope to provide transportation and carpool students to the polls. It’s great since it saves people gas,” said Daniel O’Quinn, a member of College Republicans and FIU Students for McCain.

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Protestors bash, both candidates

CHARLIE GRAU
Editor in Chief

Republican and Democratic supporters protested outside of the Recreation Center while Republican presidential nominee John McCain spoke at rally inside the FIU Arena.

Protestors held signs that read, “A baby: born killer,” “McCAIN bleeds blue and Florida for Obama.” Along with the bold signage, supporters crouched under a railing that was typically used in the arena.

Rosario Caratala, a 46-year-old M.C.A supporter, said she was concerned that young people are not familiar with the issues at hand, making them understand why supporting Obama is the right decision.

“People believe that they are only voting for Obama because he’s black or a Democrat. They aren’t stupid enough to miss what [McCain] says,” Caratala said. “I’m not voting for him because he’s black or a Democrat. I’m not voting for him because he’s a communist and a socialist.” Why do you think [Fidel] Castro and [Hugo] Chavez want him to be president?”

“Eighty percent of the faculty are Democrats and is not a Republican campus,” junior Francisco Calzada said.

Members from both camps did agree that it was good to see people getting involved in the election and expressing their passion for the race.

Case pending investigation, employee involvement uncertain

ARRESTED, page 1

Oct. 11: Following the football game, around 10:30 that night, two officers detained an FIU student after he incited a crowd of five people and began yelling obscenities at one of the officers. After being arrested by officers, he continued and was then placed under arrest.

Oct. 11: An FIU student was ejected from the stadium after smoking in the stadium. He then began a verbal altercation with the staff members at the gate of the stadium and refused to leave the area. He was arrested and taken to Dade County Jail.

Oct. 11: An FIU employee reported that a golf cart was seriously vandalized at the entrance of the FIU arena by unknown suspect(s).

POLICE NOTES


McCain speaks amidst supporters

McCAIN, page 1

the right decision.

“Among the crowd were politi- cians, including Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman, Sen. Mel Martinez and Diaz-Balart. "Are you can say whatever you want about my brother but if there’s one thing I can say about is that he’s kept you safe," Jeb Bush commented during McCain’s speech. The crowd was ready and red pom-poms and chants such as “U.S.A! U.S.A!” to welcome Sen. John McCain and his wife Cindy as they entered the arena alongside Lieberman.

“arrest without violence counts: disorderly conduct, resisting arrest without violence and trespassing after being warned. According to the police report on the incident, Minau had been warned by police and told not to run on the field earlier during the game. The report charges that he had been inciting a crowd of more than 20 to run the football field. Minau denied this, saying that he was just following the crowd.

“Minau was redirected to the ground and subsequently placed under arrest,” said the police report. Written at 10:30 p.m. that night, some 30 minutes after the incident. There was no mention of an African student or any EC employee being involved during the incident in the report.

“I was jingled out and treated very differently from the other students. When I did nothing really happen to them, I was arrested and charged with several offenses when I did no more than the other students. We ran on the field and the officer had done.” Minau said.

Garcia says that he wishes things will “run smoothly in the future. A gain, my first priority is the students’ safety and everyone on that field’s safety and I, so we will investigate the whole situation, come up and reinforce our policies and procedure and educate everybody on how it’s supposed to be done and make sure what happened Saturday night after the game doesn’t happen ever again.”

A multiple attempts to contact Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jess, whose division oversees Public Safety, to comment on the incident were not answered.

For any questions contact: Daniella.bacilupio@fiu.edu

Provest talks about upcoming changes including international curriculum

A follow-up to my first column in The Beacon two weeks ago, I’d like to describe another way in which FIU is changing and adapting to make your experience here more positive and your degree more valuable.

We are working on an innovative initiative to weave international concepts throughout our curriculum, our student life and the very fabric of our university.

In 2009, FIU will be reviewed for reaffirmation of accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This is a process that all accredited universities undergo every ten years. A accreditation is important for many reasons, but one of the most relevant to students is that federal financial aid is only available to students at accredited universities. Given the importance of this project, appropriate resources will be allocated to ensure that the University is or will be involved in some way, including students. The accreditation report is being prepared by a team more than 50 strong, who will eventually produce six to eight such equivalent knowledge. More than 2,000 of our students come from nearly 120 countries around the world. Our QEP will take our diversity to the next level by providing all students with courses that provide knowledge about global issues. It is still somewhat premature to talk about the specifics of our QEP because much work lies ahead of us. The first pilot courses will make their debut next spring. However, the QEP is not just about taking a class. We will work to integrate the entire curriculum with a world view. As a new FIU alum, you will be able to sit across from a prospective employer and tell him/you have insight into global issues as they relate to your area of expertise.

The economic news of the past few weeks has illustrated beyond any doubt that we live in a global society, and we are embracing the challenge through our QEP to prepare you to be the best possible citizen of the world.

Send your comments to: provest@fiu.edu
Multiculturalism celebrated

JULIA CARDENUTO
BBC Managing Editor

For the ninth consecutive year, FIU will be celebrating South Florida’s multiculturalism with Diversity Day. The event was sponsored by BBC Student Government Council. This annual event is open to all students, faculty and staff, and will be held Oct. 21 in the Wolfe University Center.

Diversity Day will feature a range of different events throughout the day.

Starting at 9 a.m., coffee and Cuban pastries will be served in Panther Square.

Michael Fosberg, designated keynote speaker, will perform “Incognito,” a solo act, at the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at 10:45 a.m.

“Incognito” is an one-hour, autobiographical presentation, where Fosberg relates his story of believing he was white, then discovering he is actually black.

After the performance, the audience will have the chance to question Fosberg about the issues raised during his performance. After Fosberg’s act, professor Stephen Neal’s students from the Department of Theatre will be performing a scene from the play “Spring’s Awakening,” which will start at the University Park Campus on Nov. 6.

The scene will focus on issues faced by the homosexual community. The actors will portray two friends who fall in love, said Neal, who is the director for the play and will lead a discussion with the audience right after the performance.

“It’s an interactive show, which will hopefully awaken something in [the audience] to talk about,” Neal said.

A free Caribbean-themed lunch will be served in the WUC ballrooms right after the play. A discussion about the proposed Amendment 2 to the Florida Constitution will take place after lunch.

Amendment 2 is a proposed state constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage in Florida. It will appear on the Nov. 4 ballot and needs 60 percent of the votes cast in order to pass.

“Both sides of the issue will be presented,” Cunningham said. “It is the first occasion that [the speakers] will meet in person.”

Hedy Pena will represent Florida Red & Blue, a nonpartisan campaign dedicated to defeating Amendment 2.

On the other side, Paul Caraher will be representing Yes2Marriage, the official group campaigning for Amendment 2.

The speakers will have 10 minutes to present their views on the amendment issue, followed by a question-and-answer session with audience.

The winners of the public speaking contest that occurred Oct. 10 will be giving two to three minute speeches on the theme “My perception of my reception.”

After the speeches, the movie “Diversity Face to Face” will be shown, followed by a discussion about diversity in the workplace led by Diann Newman, an assistant professor in the Hospitality Management department.

Diversity Day will come to an end at 3 p.m. with “diversity circles,” which will provide an opportunity for everybody to share their experiences with diversity, according to Cunningham.

“The purpose is for the community at large to have a space where they can engage and embrace the diversity of each other and of themselves,” Almodovar said.

For more information go to VAL.edu.

LECTURE examines Everglades destruction, ecological issues

RENE BOURSIQUOT
Contributing Writer

A discussion concentrating on the impact of urbanization, metropolitan sprawl and expansion into the Everglades was among the topics addressed in “An Alligator Eating its Own Tail: Florida in the 21st Century.”

The lecture, the second in the series “The South Florida Coast: New Horizons in Science and the Humanities,” addressed ecological issues affecting South Florida. It took place on Oct. 16 and was presented by Alan Farago.

As president of the Everglades Defense Council, co-chairman of the Everglades Committee Sierra Club, and board member of the Everglades Foundation, Inc., Farago has dedicated his life to the restoration of the Everglades.

The dialogue explored private citizens’ rights to challenge corporations and incite the local government to take action to protect and restore the surrounding environment.

Other topics discussed were the pace of development in Florida and how it exceeds the natural ecological growth and restoration efforts currently taking place in the Everglades.

Many restoration projects are 20 years behind schedule. Such projects include cleanings of the Kissimmee Basin and Florida Bay. But the government is not flexible and knowledgeable enough on the key issues to meet the environmental needs, according to Farago.

One of the most hotly debated topics of the night was the Biscayne Landings project, a high-end condo and shopping project that is rising atop the old Munisport landfill, formerly on the list of the nation’s most polluted places for 17 years. Now, the first trickle of a projected 15,000 people are moving into what ranks as one of the largest residential projects ever planned on a former Superfund site.

The audience for the lecture was mostly composed of environmental activists and professors, and Farago wished more students had attended the lecture to help push for an expansion of the environmental studies program at the University.

“I wish there had been more students here because I think the subject of my talk was really about the economic crisis, and I think that is very important for students to pay attention to what is coming down the pipe,” Farago said.

The first lecture, “ Losing it All to Sprawl,” presented by Emmy Award-winning documentary filmmaker and nature writer Bill Belleville, debated the effects of development on community, neighborhood and Florida’s unique environment.

The third lecture, scheduled for Nov. 13, is titled “Spirituality Goes Green: Scientific and Spiritual Approaches to Global Warming”. It will include a multi-disciplinary panel of experts exploring the connection between spirituality and the environment. The panel will focus on ethical responsibility for addressing climate change.

On Dec. 4, the series will conclude with “Earthly Meditations,” where poets Robert Wrigley and Campbell McGrath will lead a discussion on the connection between nature, community, and a sense of place in the context of South Florida, focusing on literature as a means of shaping attitudes toward the environment.

All lectures in the series, which is being co-sponsored by the City of North Miami, take place at the Kennes Conference Center. This lecture series was made possible by a grant from the Florida Humanities Council, a private nonprofit organization.
Inaction prompts concerns regarding misconduct at last home football game

A student was arrested at the Golden Panthers’ home victory against Middle Tennessee on Saturday, Oct. 11. The student arrested, Gregory Mineau, rushed the field as the game ended and was immediately subdued by Public Safety.

Mineau claimed that, while being detained, he was struck by a University employee.

“As I was lying on the ground, I felt two hits to the back of my head,” he said.

Although The Beacon does not condone students rushing the field after football victories, under no circumstances should a University employee ever strike a student. Even if the charge is true, it is simply unacceptable.

As of press time, Athletics has not denied or confirmed the involvement of an Athletics employee.

However, if one was involved and other Athletics’ employees saw the incident, he should have been arrested immediately by law enforcement on the field, fired and denounced by the University.

At a Panther Rage meeting on Oct. 15, Senior Associate Athletics Director Julie Berg answered questions from students concerning the events at the game.

Berg was asked, “How did [Athletics] become aware of the situation with the accusations of an Athletics employee assaulting a student?”

Berg responded, “It was seen. Most of us saw something going on. We didn’t see exactly how the whole thing started, but we saw it.”

What exactly is “it?” The answer provided by Berg neither confirms nor denies if the person who struck the student is an Athletics employee.

The answer also does not confirm exactly what “most of them” saw.

Additionally, in a video of the incident obtained by Student Media, Mineau can be seen being taken to the ground by Public Safety and then struck by the alleged Athletics employee.

But Athletics Director Pete Garcia has said to Student Media that “the incidents that happened at the end of the game are being thoroughly investigated, and when we come up with our findings, the appropriate actions will be taken.”

In not already making some sort of statement, the University further damages its reputation, especially if the person who struck Mineau is an Athletics employee.

Nonetheless, if he was not an employee, some sort of statement should have been made denouncing this behavior.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Abortion issues do matter, will make difference

I am disgusted the article “Bye, Bye, Baby.” The title alone is a horrendous phrase for an article about abortion. I am appalled that that title got by the editors and that someone actually came up with that title. As for the article itself, it is an important issue in general and concerning the candidates. George W. Bush nominated three justices. It is very likely that the next president will have to nominate at least three justices during their first term. Roe v. Wade hangs in the balance as it is, how can you say it doesn’t matter in the upcoming election? Each candidate’s position on abortion has to do with one character.

Abortion is murder. You said that women will get abortions whether or not they are legal. What kind of logic is that? You said, “If a woman wants to get an abortion, she will.” You don’t think making it illegal would cut down on abortion numbers? Think again. Abortions not only kill babies, they have deep, negative psychological effects on the mother.

Your most horrifying logic comes in the second to last paragraph when you say that the candidate who opposes the “controversial” or “debatable” is the one to vote for until the Supreme Court says otherwise. “I couldn’t believe my eyes. Something isn’t controversial or debatable until the Supreme Court says otherwise?”

Joel Edward Maliskas Sophomore Journalism

McCain visit fires up supporters

Blue and gold met red and white on Oct. 17 when FIU Arena became the stage for Republican contender John McCain. Before McCain’s arrival, rival supporters united at the arena with posters, flags and pom-poms as they waited for their favorite. The dimmed lights announced his entrance as attentive reporters and videographers stood behind me.

We all watched as various Republican officials and representatives lauded McCain’s efforts and experience both in office and as a veteran. It was, I suppose, a “great day to be a Republican,” as chairmen Jim Greer of the Republican Party of Florida called it. But I am sure Florida McCain supporters are feeling pressure right now as they eye current polls.

In a crucial period before the election, polls indicate Sen. Barack Obama has a slight edge over McCain in Florida. In a survey CNN conducted from Oct. 11-14, 51 percent of 765 likely voters said they were more likely to support the Democratic ticket. McCain has not had a fantastic past two weeks; reception of his performances during the presidential debates has been mixed, especially in regard to the second debate. Calling Obama “that one,” Time magazine noted, “probably jarrs some viewers.” Because of Obama’s lead, McCain was forced to turn to “aggression and antagonism,” a tactic with a clear possibility of backfiring.

McCain is a passive politician. In fact, he addressed his slumping numbers during the rally, and assured his supporters that “we have them where we want them.”

His “we’re not down and out” attitude impressed me. McCain the Underdog is striving to come back from a visibly difficult campaign season.

This rally, I think, may have been to many Florida Republicans as movies, games and other distractions are to some – a form of escapist entertainment. Is this not only about support for McCain and the Republican Party – it was entertainment. It was fun. The crowd celebrated together, as one united group, with hope and laughter to the tunes of country music.

Just as Palin re-energized the GOP base after her nomination on Sept. 4, McCain reached out and electrified Floridians, both young and old. “I am not afraid of the fight, my friends,” McCain declared, followed by a flurry of cheers. “I’m ready for it.”

I feel confidence. I heard confidence in the whispers, the calls, the cheers of excitement. I read it in the signs supporters panted. It displayed on the shirts they wore.

The enthusiasm was rekindled, as I am constantly surrounded by apathy demonstrated by individuals within my age group. As a young voter, I was proud to be surrounded by so many Americans and fellow FIU students who were ready to act for America and strive for change through their ballots.

ERIC M. FELDMAN
Opinion Editor

“It’s a great day to be a Republican in Miami,” said Republican Party of Florida chairman Jim Greer, the first official to speak at a packed FIU Arena the afternoon of Oct. 17 for a John McCain rally announced just a couple of days before. Looking at the amount of people lining the walls of the venue and the volume of the crowd when notable GOP figures ranging from Gov. Charlie Crist to U.S. Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart could not appear more correct.

It was a great day for FIU that we were able to provide the venue for this candidate that espouses strong views on issues so important to the surrounding community: national security, promotion of entrepreneurial spirit, a free Cuba and immigration reform.

A University is really an appropriate place to rally around fiscally conservative values. Many students are here to gain skills in order to succeed in a variety of fields and eventually achieve the American dream of being financially secure and owning a home.

The American dream is not capped at $250,000, and attempts from the left end of the spectrum to redistribute wealth of small business owners and other entrepeneurs are an affront to our economy.

Florida’s most recent past governor, Jeb Bush, who also happens to be the brother of the current president, outlined four reasons that Sen. McCain is the right choice for America this election.

They were that McCain is a president that would keep the country safe, would not meet unconstitutionally with dictators, would lessen the partisain divide in Washington, and that he understood that “the greatness of this country lies in dreams only who go to “pursue dreams as they see fit, and not have the government tell them what to do.”

All of this is not to say that the rally was flawless or that the candidate is perfect. It was quite ironic, for example, to see the same crowd cheer when Jeb Bush proclaimed, “Say what you will about my brother, he has kept our country safe” that also cheered when John McCain distanced himself from Bush by criticizing how the last eight years have been run.

“If Barack Obama wanted to run against George Bush, he should have run four years ago,” McCain said at the rally.

McCain is not the political candidate that I have been most enthusiastic about in my lifetime, but he is the one in this election that will do least to take our nation down the irreversible path of a permanent welfare state.


IT’S A GREAT DAY TO BE A REPUBLICAN IN MIAMI,” SAID REPUBLICAN PARTY OF FLORIDA CHAIRMAN JIM GREER, THE FIRST OFFICIAL TO SPEAK AT A PACKED FIU ARENA THE AFTERNOON OF OCT. 17 FOR A JOHN MCCAIN RALLY ANNOUNCED JUST A COUPLE OF DAYS BEFORE.
HEALTHY DIET

Nutritious, affordable food near campus

You are running late for class and with so much to do, you forgot to eat your breakfast. During class, you get hungry and as soon as the clock marks the end of the period, you run out and make the line at Starbucks or Burger King. This is all very tempting, but once you start making a habit out of it, you might see a decline in your health and the size of your wallet.

Most of us are aware of the dining options that surround us on campus. We are also aware that some may be cheap, but with that, we may be sacrificing our health.

In any case, there’s hope if you own a car, bicycle, skates or simply walking shoes. Around campus, we are surrounded by places to eat that are relatively cheap and are not a terrible burden on our health.

So if you are going to spend money, make sure you spend it on the right things. Consider this list before opening your wallet:

ALMAZAR
This Middle Eastern restaurant combines flavors of the region along with affordable prices. It is a popular spot for students who enjoy new and exotic saviors.

“I personally love the platter with chicken. But if you really want to give your taste buds a rush, try the falafel sandwich,” said Patricia Fontaneda, a photography student.

The menu offers some reasonable prices, with most expensive dish being $10.

1665 SW 107th Ave Miami, FL 33165

ESSENTIALLY APOTHECARY

For those students who love everything that is organic, there exists Essentially Apothecary, an organic tea house and café that offers all kinds of healthy and affordable foods.

“In the store, we offer veggie wraps, tuna melts, all kinds of teas, alternative medicine, even vitamin drinks. We have happy hour without the hangover. From 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., we serve vitamin martinis and other drinks that are helpful to your health,” owner Denise Credle said.

Everything in the store ranges from just $2 to $13. The inside of the store is very cozy with a lounge known as the “Shaman Lounge,” where students and teachers often take a break from the day’s hassles.

Apothecary is located next to Winn Dixie shopping center on 8th St.

12226 SW 8th St Miami, FL 33184

100% NATURAL MEXICAN FOOD AND BAR

Located at the entrance of Dolphin mall, this place is recognized by its fruity shakes and smoothies.

“I think it’s worth going and trying the fruit smoothies. They actually taste like fruit and they are big enough to share. My favorite is the Oasis fruit smoothie and I definitely recommend the veggie burger,” junior Tania Santiago said.

100% Natural Mexican Food and Bar is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, serving baked goods as well as fresh fruit and fruit drinks. Equipped with a juice bar, whole grain bakery and natural international Mexican cuisine, this place is definitely worth a visit.

Most of the plates are under $12 and they are worth every penny. On Mondays they have a two-item lunch special that is only $7.95.

Dolphin Mall between Texas De Brazil and TGI Friday’s.
The poll finds that employers have yet to accept the unique work habits of Generation Y-ers, a population that is 28 years old and younger.

Generation Y-ers receive a 20 percent job approval while the baby boomer generation, ranging from ages 43 to 62, got a 63 percent job approval from job recruiters. Generation X-ers, ages 29 to 42, earned a 58 percent job approval.

Bob McGovern, CEO of Jobfox, believes that the current problem is the fault of corporate leaders and not the Gen-Y professionals.

"Businesses must shake negative perceptions and learn new ways to incorporate Gen-Y views into the work force," said McGovern in a press release.

"The companies that succeed over the next two decades will be the ones that can most inspire Gen-Y. This is the most educated and technologically savvy generation ever."

Students at FIU, however, disagree with that poll and feel that it doesn’t properly represent the majority of the ‘Millennials’.

"Weak! I think that is completely insane," said Karin Martinez, a junior hospitality management major. "I work hard and I have friends that have multiple jobs so that they can make ends meet. Other students and I feel the same sentiment as Martinez.

"I believe our performance ability is, in some ways, a lot better than other generations," said Carlos Flores, a junior.

"We are a lot more creative and have an ability to think outside the box, unlike older generations."

According to McGovern, the newer generations of workers that are making up a large percentage of today’s work force have some core motivators that employees should keep in mind.

One of the motivators is keeping “flexible schedule hours” because they are highly coveted by younger workers.

Providing them new learning experiences and keeping them in cutting edge is also a plus because it will keep Gen-Y workers from seeking other work opportunities that continuously challenge them.

Another important motivator according to McGovern is that new employees in the workforce don’t like being called “junior anything.”

A recent survey by JWT, an advertising agency, states that 60 percent of Gen-Y-ers agree that an employee owes loyalty to their employer.

According to a Jobfox press release, the reason behind this is because “Gen-Y workers are loyal team players as long as they can balance work and life goals, gain new learning opportunities and feel a part of company goals."

“Generation Y lives in a world of ‘code orange’ and constant news alerts crawling across the bottom of their flat screen televisions," said McGovern in a press release.

“They have a different view of the American dream. I think we’ll see major workplace changes in the decades ahead, led by a new generation of leaders and by companies that want to win by attracting and keeping the best people.”

Soles for Haiti, a group of graduate psychology students in Dr. Shepard’s Community Psychology class, has started to do something more than collect money and food. They are collecting shoes.

The shoes are being donated to the organization Food for the Poor, Inc. for distribution in Haiti to the victims of this hurricane season’s fierce storms. Soles for Haiti researched and found that church organizations are the best way to ship donations overseas.

“A benefit about this organization is that donors are provided with a detailed follow up report of the services that were done,” said Sabrina M. E. Mendoza, a second year master’s student at the Mental Health Counseling Psychology Program and outreach coordinator for Soles for Haiti.

Soles for Haiti decided to donate shoes because a pair of them is something often overlooked.

“Many of us take for granted that we are able to have more than one pair of shoes and that is not a stress factor when we think of going to school or work. That, however, is not the case for most people, and we decided to put them in shoes,” said Mendoza.

The organization is collecting new or gently worn shoes of all sizes and styles. There are drop-off boxes located in different places around campus – in the Graham Center across from GC 140, in the Psychology Department in DM 256, in the dorms of Lake View North and in the education building – where donated shoes can be placed.

People throughout the community have been participating in this drive, from University students and professors to local high school students and faculty. One of the group members, Luane Levy, is a teacher at Ferguson High School.

"Ferguson High School is currently doing a schoolwide drive for Shoes for Haiti. The students have been very successful thus far in donating shoes and every day, the shoes are pouring into my classroom from teachers and students," Levy said.

Several other public and private schools in the area have been contacted to see if they could lend a hand.

Those interested in donating a pair of shoes must hurry. According to Mendoza, the last day to donate shoes will be Oct. 31, but it is the group’s vision to keep this project going. They are currently discussing ways to do so.

"Out of our efforts are going to focus on the students of Ferguson High School and with [Levy’s] help, we want to make this an ongoing activity with them," Mendoza said.

Mendoza also encourages students interested in giving a helping hand to not only donate shoes, but to try and become active within the organization.

“We can be assisted with shoe donations, monetary donations, outreach, manpower, support and anything at all,” she said.
SUN BELT FOOTBALL STANDINGS

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*All records up to date as of Oct. 19*

INDIVIDUAL SEASON STATISTICS

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FOOTBALL, page 8

TOWERS, page 8

Troy defense takes advantage of Golden Panthers O-line injuries

**FOOTBALL**

- A six-yard scoring strike from McCall to Jeremy Dickens with 9:27 remaining in the contest, and although FIU had three possessions after that one, they could not come up with a score.

- Coach Cristobal did see some positives in his team’s first loss in 28 days.

- "Daunte Owens can still be a good player for us," Cristobal said.

- Owens, who split carries with A’mod Ned, in place of the injured Julian Reams, rushed for 69 yards and a score in his first significant college playing time.

- FIU will have a week off before hitting the road for its final game outside of South Florida this season, at conference co-leader Louisiana-Lafayette.

- Troy's defense was keying in on him, penalties in the third quarter, and that Troy's defense was keying in on him, and was recovered at the FIU 9.

- By the Trojans.

- And was recovered at the FIU 9.

- Defensive end Jonathan Jackson, Troy punt that touched FIU de-

- Field position battle.

- However, Glusman did a terrific job, faking his arms and legs and falling on top of an FIU defender drawing a roughing the keeper penalty that setup a 15 yard touchdown from Levi Brown to Cornelius Williams that put Troy up 6-0.

- Nobody likes it when people compl-

- Acting job, flailing his arms and legs, ignoring every single coach he's ever had, and falling on top of an FIU defender drawing a roughing the keeper penalty that setup a 15 yard touchdown from Levi Brown to Cornelius Williams that put Troy up 6-0.

- Some blame can be put, however, on the special teams, which cost the team some valuable field position and a turnover.

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- Another play that can be attribut-

- Plain bad luck.

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FIU unable to solve Troy, falls 33-23 in conference play

ANDREW JULIAN
Sports Director

The Troy Trojans (4-2, 3-2 Sun Belt) defeated the FIU Golden Panthers (3-4, 2-3) 33-23 to knock the Golden Panthers out of their short stay in first place tie for the Sun Belt.

The home victory for the Trojans was their fifth against the Golden Panthers in as many tries over the duration of the six-year series, although FIU has vacated the first three of those losses due to violations of NCAA rules during those seasons.

Despite the loss, the Golden Panthers received the most-efficient performance of quarterback Paul McCall’s tenure at FIU.

The junior from Hollywood Hills completed 22-of-33 passes for 266 yards and two touchdowns, setting career benchmarks in both yards and completions.

Despite the solid individual numbers, McCall was disappointed in the fact that the loss a fumbled and threw an interception.

“In the second half I had two turnovers, and that falls squarely on my shoulders,” McCall said. “I have to do a better job of getting the guys set up in the right positions, and managing the game a little better.”

Troy helped its own cause by coming out roaring on its first drive, picking up three first downs and getting the ball to the FIU 20 yard line.

A Quentin Newman sack, however, was the catalyst for forcing a fourth and 15, and when Troy kicker Sam Glusman missed a 47-yard field goal, but FIU was flagged for roughing the kicker, giving the Trojans new life, and Troy took advantage getting a Levi Brown touchdown pass two plays later.

That penalty set a negative tone for FIU from there, as the Golden Panthers were flagged 10 times for 72 yards in the game.

FIU’s first possession was a three-and-out, and after a good Carlos Munera punt that pinned Troy inside of its own 20, one of five Munera punts that did so, Troy went right back to work, quickly.

On second-and-five from the 14, Jerrell Erjigon caught a slant pass from Brown, at the 20 yard line, and did the rest of the work himself for an 86-yard score, and just minutes into the game, Troy led 13-0.

FIU got its first points after another quality Munera punt left Troy’s offense near its own goal line, and reserve center Steven Adams, snapped a shotgun snap over his quarterback and out of the end zone for a safety.

FIU’s offense responded with a five-play, 62-yard drive capped by a Junior Mettle eight-yard touchdown reception, his first of the season, cutting the lead to 13-9.

Troy was able to add two field goals, to take a 30-point lead with just under four minutes remaining in the first half, before FIU was able to strike again.

This FIU drive was another long one, nine plays and 80 yards, and included a 40-yard T.Y. Hilton reception, which gave the standout freshman five consecutive games with at least one reception of 37 or more yards.

Dante Owens ended the drive with a one-yard touchdown run, and the Troy halftime lead was just three, at 19-16.

Coming out of the intermission, FIU looked to keep the momentum rolling, but it was short lived, as Paul McCall was sacked by Cameron Sheffield, and fumbled. Troy recovered at the 16-yard-line, and was able to quickly score, thanks to a Jerrijmian two-yard pass to Justin Bray.

The pressure was an issue for FIU all evening, which were without two of their regular offensive linemen.

Troy sacked Paul McCall seven times, and hurried him two others. “Protection wise, we probably took a little bit of a step back, now, they are a great defensive line. We thought so all week long, we thought could be an issue,” said head coach Mario Cristobal.

In FIU’s three victories, the FIU offensive line allowed just two sacks.

The Golden Panthers were not able to get closer than 10 the rest of the way, and Troy opened up a lead as large as 37 points, at 33-16, with a one-yard Dantavious Parker touchdown.

FOOTBALL, page 7

Three game win streak caused fans to expect too much

CHRIS TOWERS

Over the past month or so, FIU football fans have been riding pretty high, and with good reason.

Three straight convincing wins for a program that hasn’t won many games since 2005 does that.

Such a sudden turn around has maybe inflated expectations for the rest of the season.

Expectations went from “let’s just win 4-5 games” to “let’s make a run at the conference title” pretty quickly.

Of course, the Golden Panthers probably played three of the weakest teams on their schedule in that stretch, so perhaps it might have been wise to temper expectations a bit going into this weekend’s first place showdown with the Troy Trojans, who are annually the class of the Sun Belt.

What you saw in Saturday’s 33-23 loss to the Trojans was a pretty good indication of where this team is right now: still trying to build off of a shaky foundation.

There were flashes of brilliance in the game, notably Paul McCall’s 22-of-33, 266-yard, two touchdown performance, inarguably the finest of his career. McCall showed poise in the pocket amidst a relentless pass rush that toss his offensive line around and swallowed him for seven sacks.

I’ve pretty consistently doubted his abilities to lead a Division I football team, despite recent success, but in his first game where the reins were really taken off and he was allowed to throw it more than 15-20 times, he looked fully prepared.

It would also be a crime to forget to mention T.Y. Hilton, though it might begin sounding like a bro-

FOOTBALL, page 7