10-27-2008

The Beacon, October 27, 2008

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OKTOBERFEST
Club offers beer, food tasting
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FIU football midseason grades
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UNLEASH YOUR INNER SHELL

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CENTER
Candidates’ foreign policy aides meet to persuade late voters
ELIZABETH NICKERSON
Staff Writer
Both presidential candidates’ Latin American policy advisors gathered to convince last minute voters on Oct. 22 at the Latin American and Caribbean Center.
Sen. John McCain’s Latin American Chairperson Fabio Arias and Sen. Barack Obama’s Western Hemisphere Senior Policy Adviser Dan Restrepo attempted to sell their respective candidates positions on Latin American policies.
Cristina Eguzibil, director of the LACC, was the moderator, who welcomed both by reading the first question, “What are both candidate standpoint on immigration?”
Obama’s vision was clear, according to Restrepo, when he pushed for immigration reform alongside Sen. Mel Martinez in 2006 and 2007.
In addition, Restrepo said, Obama is a strong supporter of amnesty and the construction of a wall border in the U.S.-Mexico border.
“Protecting our security within our borders and going after those employers who are exploiting immigrant labor in the U.S. is crucial to Obama’s commitment during first year in office,” Restrepo said.
Arias has worked closely with McCain for eight years to ensure security within borders.
“There are three pillars for immigration reform in a McCain-Palin administration: security, undocumented immigrant’s alteration and legalization,” Arias said.

MIDDLE EASTERN POLICY
Speaker discusses candidates’ possible strategies, policies
ANDREW CAJENES
Staff Writer
Former Ambassador and current President of the United Nations Association of the United States William H. Norris presented his view on how the presidential candidates would deal with Middle Eastern policy in a speech to students in Graham Center 243 on Oct. 23.
Norris gave an unbiased view on how Sen. John McCain and Sen. Barrack Obama would deal with the current issues in Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran. These issues, according to the Gallup polls, are second to the economy in the minds of voters.
When speaking about the candidates’ experience in regard to foreign policy Norris described them as “empty vessels” stating that traditionally many presidents have no foreign policy experience and rely heavily on their advisors.
“The advisers that Obama can refer to are basically Clinton’s former team,” Norris said.
He went on to speculate that the Illinois Senator is more pensive and would be more likely to take advice if an issue of national security would arise. When explaining foreign policy experience he referred to the construction of a wall border in the U.S.-Mexico border.
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MIDDLE EAST, page 2

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MIDDLE EAST, page 2

Football adds non-conference teams to future schedule
SERGIO BONILLA
Asst. News Director
After the Golden Panthers football team plays top tier opponent the University of Florida in 2009, they will have three new non-conference teams to play against from 2010-2014.
FIU and the University of Central Florida Knights have agreed to a four-year contract to play four games over five years starting in 2010, according to newsports.com.
Athletic Director Pete Garcia also announced on Aug. 31 that the Golden Panthers will make the trip down south for their first visit to FIU Stadium. By 2011, the FIU football stadium is set to have 45,000 seat capacity compared to the current 18,000-seat limit.
In 2011, they will also travel to Louisville Sept. 24 for the first of a four-game series, and then host Duke on Oct. 1.
FIU concludes the two-game deal with Duke in Durham, on Sept. 1, 2012 and hosts Louisville on Sept. 22.
POLICE NOTES

Oct. 18: Police were called at 12:50 a.m., in reference to the theft of a bicycle. The victim, an FIU student, said that at 11:30 p.m. he placed his bicycle on a bicycle rack on the south side of the Engineering Computer Science building and secured it with a lock. Upon returning, the bike was gone. The lock had been cut.

Oct. 19: An FIU victim had a seizure while in the library. The victim was unresponsive but breathing normally when police responded to the scene. Soon after, he was sitting upright in a chair and conscious. Fire Rescue was called to the scene though the victim denied treatment and walked out of the library and campus on foot. The victim has had two past seizures in the library.

Oct. 22: An FIU student complained of light headedness and stated she felt like fainting. She advised to police that she had given blood two hours earlier and had not eaten since. Miam I Dade Fire Rescue responded to the scene treating and releasing the student.

Compiled by David A. Barrios

Battling corruption is paramount

LATIN AMERICA, page 1

not sit down with the Castro brothers, according to Arias, until political prisoners are released and other civil liberties are granted to the Cuban people.

Earlier in his campaign, Obama received criticism for stating that he would like to “pursue direct diplomacy, with friend and foe alike, without preconditions.” The debate moved forward, with representatives speaking about Haiti’s food crisis reformation and both Colombian American Speakers agreeing in the development of assistance on Haiti’s Food crisis.

Corruption was indeed the highlight of the evening. Arias said, “fighting to end corruption in both parties” is key to ensure independent leadership by cutting America ahead of politics and self-interest.

Obama’s adviser mentioned the importance of corruption, by stating that in an Obama administration will “shine the light on corruption.”

During the questions and answer session, an audience member wanted a thorough explanation on the Obama campaign’s commitment to “shining the light on corruption.”

Retrepo referenced Obama’s May 2008 speech.

While students found the debate insightful, senior Daniella Pinero said the public discussion did not influence her opinion on the candidate she was going to elect.

“I enjoyed some aspects of both candidates on their standards in Cuba,” Pinero said.

Overall, from the standards reiterated by Mc Cains representative she was “sold” by McCain’s policies.

The public forum was a continuation of a debate at the America’s Conference held two weeks ago, where both representative spoke on topics regarding Latin American policies.

Speech impacts voters in attendance

MIDDLE EAST, page 1

on how Sen. Obama would deal with an extreme issue of national security he said:

“The problem with any democratic president and particularly Obama, is there will be so much skepticism about his alleged liberal temperament that will be very touchy feely with dealing with the pentagon.”

A bout M C C i n the ambassador said: “I think Mc C i n is spontaneous, he is a maverick and as we know from his campaign he comes up with a new idea everyday.”

Several students in attendance were influenced by Norris speech. “Personally as an FIU student I’m very glad to have the ambassador here, his opinions are very well taken and the information he gave us is very good,” said Rafael DeVarona, a junior. However, DeVarona felt that Norris was biased toward Obama.

“But at the end of the day you have to look beyond not only the words that they say but look at who they are. It is obvious to me he’s voting for Obama,” he said.

Senior Afroza Kashar summed up what she felt students should have taken from the presentation. “I think this [event] will have an impact on how I vote because the War on Terror is a huge deal in this election,” Kashar said.

NonViolence In Business

Yes! Money can be made with Nonviolence!

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Dr. Dipak C. Jain
(Jean of the Kellogg School of Management)

Samani Charitra Prajna
(Jain Nun)

October 27, 2008 * Mon. 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Graham Center (GC) Ballrooms * FIU University Park

RSVP by Oct. 21 to prajna108@gmail.com Contact number 305-220-539. Jain Vegetarian Dinner will be served

Sponsors: Jain Center of South Florida, FIU Religious Studies Department, Center for the Study of Spirituality, Preksha Meditation Club, The Eugenio Pino & Family Global Entrepreneurship Center

NEWS FLASH

FIU

Provost separates research and graduate positions

Professor George Walker was both the vice president for research and dean of the University Graduate School two years ago, but Provost Ronald Berkman is now separating both positions. Former Associate Vice President for Research Development Andres Gil will now be the vice president for sponsored research and will report to Walker.

In an e-mail to the FIU community, Berkman said he hopes the restructuring will keep the connection between graduate education and sponsored research. The University’s research growth will require more development of those two departments, according to Berkman.

The Research department consists of the vice president for sponsored research and associate vice presidents for budgets & finance, research integrity and compliance and sponsored research and technology development.

FIU Cares hosts Halloween activities for adults with developmental disabilities

The Association for the Development of the Exceptional, a private, non-profit agency, is planning a series of Halloween activities servicing adults with developmental disabilities.

The ADE is creating a haunted house, organizing a costume contest and showing a horror movie. Festivities run at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 31. ADE is trying to organize a carpool system that would take students from FIU to the event located on 2601 North Miami Avenue.

The Organization is asking for volunteers to help build the haunted house. It will be built on Oct. 30 beginning at 10 a.m. and a maximum of 24 volunteers are needed.

Compiled by Sergio Bonilla

GATHER ‘ROUND

THINKING GAPS: Freshmen from a First Year Experience course (SL5 150) will work on a group assignment for developing a budget.

The Beacon – October 27, 2008 www.fiusm.com

NEWS

PHOTO EDITOR

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CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Oct. 22, 2008, the News article titled “Greek’s new payment policy affects credit” identified Beta Theta Pi fraternity as Beta Omicron Pi. The same article stated Beta Theta Pi members pay $450 a month. Members pay $450 a semester.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BCC at 305-919-4722.
Students enjoy homemade beer at Oktoberfest

BRITON ALONSO Contributing Writer

The Friends of Wine club took a break from its usual drink of choice as they hosted "Oktoberfest - Beers of the World." The event was held in the Hospitality Management Building dining room at the Biscayne Bay Campus to celebrate Oktoberfest, and was open to anyone over the age of 21.

While this was the club’s third tasting of the semester, it was the first to showcase beer.

Samantha Newton, a senior hospitality management major and Friends of Wine president, said the variation was due to requests from members. "We asked people what they wanted, and they wanted a beer tasting," Newton said. "So we gave it to them."

Participants were offered a variety of beers and foods to taste. There were 17 beers representing six countries, with four from Germany, and nine home-brewed variations.

Dennis Gebken, a senior finance and international business major, presented three beers he brewed. He used a home brewing kit called "Mr. Beer," which can be purchased online at MrBeer.com. "[The kits] make it so easy. All the ingredients and tools are there. Anyone can do it," Gebken said.

This time around, he brewed a lager, a pilsner and a stout. Lagers are one of the most common beers in America and have a light flavor. Pilsners have a bitter taste, while stouts, such as Guinness, are thick and nutty. Gebken said that Weihenstephaner, a German brewey, comes in 1040 and is the oldest functioning brewery in the world.

A thrum “A.J.,” Mendirmann, a senior hospitality management major, also donated his home-brewed beer. One was a Kaffir lime pilsner, which is flavored with Kaffir lime leaves, a common ingredient in Southeast Asian cuisine. "Kaffir lime is usually an ingredient in curry dishes," Mendirmann said. "It is a very experimental flavor for beer."

Mendirmann is the Friends of Wine secretary, but his main priority is the food. "Yes, I'm the secretary, but what I really do is make sure the food is great," Mendirmann said.

I'm the chef," Mindermann said. "Yes, I'm the secretary, but what I really do is make sure the food is great." Mendirmann said.

In full celebration of Oktoberfest, Mindermann prepared sauerkraut and bratwurst, staples of German cuisine.

Cellar, Wine and Spirits in Aventura and Republic National Distributing also donated some of the beers.

All sat at one long table with the beers placed in the middle. With Allman Brothers classics playing in the background, the tasters learned more about each other and the beers they were sampling.

"This is exactly what I want the club to be: people getting together, sitting around a table and having fun," Newton said. "This is the best turnout we've had this semester."

The 22 tasters spanned a wide range of ages. Jake Campbell, 26, does not attend FIU, but heard about the tasting through his stepbrother, who is a club member. He really appreciates that FIU offers these things to the public," Campbell said.

He also made it a family affair by bringing his father, John Campbell, 58, to the tasting. "I can see me and my dad buying a case of 'Mr. Beer,'" Campbell said. "I think we just found our new weekend hobby." The club will host two more tastings in October. For the first tasting, Friends of Wine will team up with Club Africa on Oct. 27 at 6 p.m. for a South African food and spirits tasting. South African regional food will be served, and the cost will be $5.

The second tasting, on Oct. 29, will be free, and co-hosted by the South Beach Wine and Food Festival Club at 5 p.m.

"We are already thinking about what to do for the next beer tasting," she said. "I think we just found our new weekend hobby."

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"We are already thinking about what to do for the next beer tasting, but the rest of the semester is already booked up with wines, so it will have to wait," Newton said.

Both tastings will take place in the Hospitality Management Building dining room at BCB. For more information, contact fiufriendsofwine@gmail.com or contact us at thebay@fi usm.com.

GOING CLUBBING

SOMETHING NEWTON/THE BEACON

GO TO THE BAY

Students enjoy homemade beer at Oktoberfest

Students enjoy homemade beer at Oktoberfest

Students enjoy homemade beer at Oktoberfest

Contact Us
Julia Cardenuto
Contactus@fi usm.com

GO GREEN

IF YOU ARE COLLECTING GARBAGE

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WILL FILL SPACE, ACCORDING TO THE

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OPINION

Vote ‘yes’ on Amendment 8 to help fund community colleges – but be wary

The Beacon believes in focusing on issues that directly affect higher education. As such, of all the amendments on Florida’s ballot this general election, the one that we found most relevant to college students and the state of higher education is Amendment 8 to the state constitution.

Amendment 8 would authorize counties to levy temporary sales tax increase for the purpose of giving supplemental funding to community colleges in that county.

The approval of this amendment itself does not create a tax, but it does have the potential for greatly affecting Miami-Dade County’s fiscal relationship with Miami-Dade College.

The Beacon recommends a vote of “Yes” on Amendment 8.

First and foremost, we, as benefactors of publicly funded education, strongly believe in its importance on the primary, secondary and postsecondary levels.

A “yes” vote on Amendment 8 is an affirmation of the important roles that community colleges play in our state.

There are a number of reasons that community colleges, and specifically Miami-Dade College and Broward College, are the two institutions most closely related with our own university – could use an extra couple of bucks.

The recent cuts to degree programs deemed less profitable to the University – such as the College of Education have FIU seeing a decline in new students for the first time since 1992. We have nothing to lose by a complementary institution being a mechanism to lose by a complementary mechanism to produce teachers for the future.

There have been no new students for the first time of the College of Education, since 1992. We have nothing to lose by a complimentary mechanism to produce teachers for the future.

We have seen in our state with the Florida Lotto, which promised additional money for public schools, but the state ended up using money that was originally for education for other purposes.

If the state saw that monies raised by county sales taxes went to Miami-Dade College, it might be compelled to cut its own funding to the College, citing the need to pay for other expenditures.

The success of this Amendment is contingent upon our trust in our county governments.

Since every county would be responsible for writing the wording of the referendum that would actually put the sales tax into place, they should word it in a way that stipulates without a doubt that all of the money collected would go to community colleges – and programs of interest.

Then they have to actually do it.

If Miami-Dade residents are right to weary of increased taxes after approving a 2002 penny tax to fund bus in rail project, only to have the county later admitted in 2005 that it could not live up to the promises of the People’s Transportation Plan that the tax was supposed to support.

Vote yes on 8, but with caution.

KEVIN CASTRO
Staff Writer

Many of you are lifeless zombies, shuffling about in starvation – that is, until you enter Fresh Food Company in the UP’s all-you-can-eatery.

A student who dines at Fresh Food Company is FIU’s most affordable food option for the highest quantity of food.

All restaurants, regardless of location, have their pros and cons; Fresh Food Co. is no exception. For the price of a Subway combo, which is not infinite, you are given access to a limitless amount of a wide selection of food choices, all of which are prepared and cooked in front of you. That is the pro.

The con would be that the Fresh Food Co. menu can sometimes feel monotonous and boring to regular customers, especially students with meal plans.

Probably about 85 percent, the majority of students that we feed are on a meal plan,” said Henry Ward, director of Residential Dining.

Luckily for us, Fresh Food Co. has found an ingenious way “to give students a break from the cycle itself,” according to Ward. The answer is themed meals.

“They are a monotony breaker that is not on our regular menu,” Ward said.

Between Sept. 24 and Oct. 15, Fresh Food Co. hosted weekly themed events.

I attended these theme events and I can tell you that the quality of the food was both superior and more enjoyable than that of a regular day.

A marzingly, there is no extra cost, according to Ward, in hosting the themed events.

We need theme events to occur much more frequently than they have in the past and they have planned.

“Bringing multiple themes per week would not cost the students more,” Ward said.

“If we did multiple specials it would not be a situation that it would raise prices,” Ward said.

If there is no extra cost and the menu is greatly improved, then why don’t we have at least two themes per week?

Most likely, Fresh Food Co. is awaiting the results from the themed events that have been planned for the remainder of the semester.

So far, “the counts are the same every week,” Ward said when asked if the themed events brought in additional students.

Why hasn’t Fresh Food Co. received more customers? Simple: their marketing is lethargic. Placing a couple of signs in front of Fresh Food Co. is not promotion.

In order to draw more students to the cafeteria, including those who are not on meal plans – which would bring more revenue and then would enable more investment in events – Fresh Food Co. would need a very active marketing team, which seems to be lacking.

Fresh Food Co. will be hosting seven more themed events during this semester.

Any student who dines at FIU should attend for two reasons.

First, the overall quality and variety of food is superior to that of an ordinary Fresh Food Co. day and it outshines any other food establishment’s menu.

Send us your letters

Letters to the Editor can be sent to opinion@fi usm.com. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 300 words and include the writer’s full name, year in school, major/department and a valid phone number for verification purposes. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints.

In order to draw more students to the cafeteria, including those who do not have meal plans, Fresh Food would need a very active marketing team.
Strolling through the halls of the University Graham Center, you may have seen posters or easels inviting you to visit the Porter Davis Game Room.

Located directly before the entrance to Gracie's Grill in GC 155, the game room is a quaint place where individuals of all kinds can gather to escape the daily grind of life. Within, you'll find people playing the popular card game "Magic: the Gathering" or contemporary video games like "Super Smash Bros. Brawl."

One may even find some students enjoying a game of table tennis or chess.

"I enjoy the wide variety of available games," said sophomore and chemistry major Khalid Dubey. At reasonably inexpensive prices, students with a Panther ID or a driver's license, whether they attend the university or not, can partake in any game of their choice.

Seven billiard tables are available to rent for a student hourly rate of $5 and a $5 rate for non-FIU students. Table Tennis is also available for a student hourly rate of $3 an hour and a $4 rate for non-FIU students.

Special deals are also available to recurring customers. By signing up for a loyal customer card, after the seventh game of pool you are granted a free eighth game.

Every Friday from noon to 2 p.m., a free game of billiards is available to anyone that comes in. For fans of online gaming, a Panther ID will allow you to create an account to play a variety of online games such as "Halo," "Counter Strike," "Day of Defeat," and "World of Warcraft," for $2.50 an hour. Board games such as Backgammon and Chess are available for free. Arcade games range from 50 to 75 cents a pop.

Employing a chess club, billiard club and table tennis club, the Game Room sponsors campus tournaments where winners can then represent the University at the Association of College Unions International, which has produced first place winners in these games.

Monday night is known as football night, and anyone is free to join the crowd and celebrate the beloved sport while watching Monday Night Football.

The Game Room offers opportunities for students to receive hands-on training in customer service and budget management through one of their numerous clubs.

"I've learned lots about accounting and customer service by interacting with people of all ages and races," said junior and interior design major Adriana Ares, who is in charge of marketing for the Game Room.

For more information on the Porter Davis Game Room, visit the Room in GC 155, or call the front desk at (305) 348-2189.
Singer spreads the Fred after Culture Room gig

ROSAHYN DELGADO
Coordinator Editor

Lead singer of The Color Fred, Fred Mascherino, sat down with The Beacon for a Q & A session after the band’s show at the Culture Room in Ft. Lauderdale on Oct. 19.

**The Beacon:** Thank you for taking the time to talk to us today. The crowd was really good to the band tonight.

**Fred Mascherino:** One of the best shows we’ve ever played, I honestly think. It’s awe-inspiring to be in Ft. Lauderdale.

**The Beacon:** How is the fan response been, and how have Taking Back Sunday fans responded?

**Fred Mascherino:** There were always things that I wanted to do that I wasn’t being able to do when I was in [Taking Back Sunday]. One of those things was to be singing more, deliver...
OFFENSE, page 8

Three of FIU’s five remaining games are at home. One of the road games is at Louisville-Lafayette, who ranks second from the bottom in the Sun Belt in passing offense. Comeback Anthony Gaibor and safety Marshel McDuffie are tied for third in the conference with three interceptions each.

SPECIAL TEAMS KICKING: B*

Dustin Rivest has yet to miss an extra point, but has made just two of four field goal attempts this season, when you consider that FIU has had good job scoring touchdowns on the offensive line in that game.

“There were moments where we were blocking pressure from the team with the best offensive line really well,” Cristobal said.

If FIU can find some continuity through the injuries this year, it’ll be able to build a base for next season, and if it can keep McCail’s jersey clean, it could mean a top-three finish in the Sun Belt.

PUNTING: A

If the season ended today, Carlos Munera might be a first-team all-conference selection. 69% of Munera’s punts, 34-0f-49, have started FIU’s opponent at or inside the 20 – or have been unreturnable.

RETURNS: A+

There really is no discussion about who would be named to the first team all Sun Belt as a return man. T.Y. Hilton leads the conference in kickoff and punt return yardage and average.

COACHING: A

This has been one of the most unheralded great coaching jobs in college football this season, when you consider that FIU had serious opportunities in the fourth quarter to beat both South Florida and Troy. Mário Cristobal will get the bulk of the credit, and deservedly so, but a good portion of the accolades deserve going to the strength and conditioning coach Rodrick Moore, who has really pushed the team and gotten good results – to the point where FIU is just holding up better down the stretch.

OVERALL GRADE: B+

Better than expected, with an opportunity to make a fairly serious run at a bowl game. If this is a bowl team though, it will have to win a tough road game (@ Louisiana-Lafayette), be able to beat up-tier conference opponents at home (Arkansas State), and survive the emotion of a rivalry game (FAU). 3-2 theretofore the way will make FIU bowl eligible, but it might take for us to get the kind of necessary consideration, not to mention jump ULL and ASU for the extra bid if it becomes available. With four more wins, FIU may still be able to find its way to the top of the league with a little help.

FIU FOOTBALL: DEFENSE

Excellent special teams likely to be key for team down the stretch

DEFENSE, page 8

FIU’s rise has been the result of a solid defensive play by FIU third baseman Raiko Alfonzo. He barehanded a bunt and sailed it over to first, beating the runner to the bag.

“We’ve just got to work on the offensive side of things. We do have very capable hitters. We just have to put it together, find the right spots in the batting order, the right guys in the positions, and I think sooner or later we’ll be ok offensively,” said Thomas.

“We didn’t have much depth in our pitching staff, so we went out and signed 15 pitchers. We lost a couple in the draft and things like that, but I think we came up with 12 pitchers, and probably three of them are two-way guys, meaning they pitch and play a position.”

FIU’s offense was able to generate only two hits throughout the game. Greg Waddell scored the only FIU run of the night in the first inning on an RBI groundout by the senior, Ryan Mollaca. Waddell had been anticipating his first score as a Golden Panther, after smacking a double down the left field line and moving over on a passed ball. Mollaca’s grounder between first and second was just enough to plate the winning run.

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FIU is scheduled to face Jacksonville for their final three game series of the regular season. It will take place from Feb. 20-22.

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SPORTS

OFFENSE

Improved quarterback play drives offense, speed at receiver helps too

QUARTERBACK: B-

The biggest issue concerning the FIU running backs is that the offensive line has continued to have injury issues. Amid the week, Julyans, and suddenly Daunte Owens have, between the three of them, speed and some breakaway ability. But they aren’t home run hitters. What they are, however, is a competent stable, and that means depth. Each of the three backs has had a solid game or two this season, and on the day that more than one of the Golden Panther backs can find some space, FIU will have an opportunity to control the offensive tempo on the ground.

RUNNING BACKS: B-

While depth has been a boon for FIU in its backfield, it’s had trouble finding consistency, and that will have to change if FIU wants to make a run at finishing at or above 6-6.

WIDE RECEIVERS: B-

T.Y. Hilton is having the type of season that will give Sun Belt defensive coordinators a headache.

DEFENSE

Stellar play from the back seven creating scoring opportunities

LINE: C+

At times, there has been pressure from the front four, but not enough to control games when necessary. The biggest issue is one that can’t be totally fixed this season: size. FIU, because of the lack of beef that can be rotated in up front, will have some issues consistently stopping the run. The Golden Panther’s lack of size, however, translates to good quickness, and that’s where all the tackles for a loss come from.

It will be a battle that gets a little easier as the year continues, as FIU has faced the best offensive lines that it will see all season, so the potential for more consistent impact from the defensive front is there.

UNLINEBACKERS: B-

It has been said that consistency is victory, and this unit has been one of the more consistent all season. That has plenty to do with the fact that there are no first year players in the top six line backers in the FIU rotation. There have been some issues controlling spread option-type offenses, but for the most part, the linebacker corps has been even all year, and pretty solid at that.

DEFENSIVE BACKS: A-

FIU has a +3 turnover differential for the season, and +8 ratio in its three wins. Simply put, if FIU is going to be successful, it needs takeaways, and it’s gotten them from its secondary. The pass defense held Todd Reesing off of Kansas to his lowest output of the season (and I was there, he played the whole game), and has been almost impossible to throw on at home.