Personality disorders linked to drug addiction, alcohol abuse

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Wire

Almost one in five young American adults has a personality disorder that interferes with everyday life, and even more abuse alcohol or drugs, researchers reported Monday in the most extensive study of its kind.

The disorders include problems such as obsessive or compulsive tendencies and anti-social behavior that can sometimes lead to violence. The study also found that fewer than 25 percent of college-aged Americans with mental problems get treatment.

One expert said personality disorders may be overlooked.

But others said the results were not surprising since previous, less rigorous evidence has suggested mental problems are common on college campuses and elsewhere.

Experts praised the study’s scope — face-to-face interviews about numerous disorders with more than 5,000 young people ages 19 to 25 — and said it spotlights a problem college administrators need to address.

Study co-author Dr. Mark Olfson of Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute called the widespread lack of treatment particularly worrisome.

He said it should alert not only “students and parents, but also deans and people who run long lines in the bookstore like in the past semester for Spring semester classes and students by allowing them to register for classes and purchase textbooks in order to detect breast cancer. The optical scanner also varies from other imaging systems in that it does not give off harmful radiation.

The new scanner costs less than a conventional MRI machine. Godavarty claimed she was currently restricted from giving specific details about the price of the machine due to the fact that the University is assessing the commercialization of a patent, however, she contends that the new device is not meant to replace very expensive, “The MRI has the highest resolution of current technologies, but it is not extensively used because it is too expensive,” Godavarty said.

However, Godavarty insists the new device is not meant to replace existing methods of detecting breast cancer. The handheld device would be used alongside other methods, such as X-rays and MRI scans.

Basically, the whole concept here is that we are trying to use light to make an image of what is inside the tissue,” Godavarty said.

One of the reasons Godavarty and her team are focused on diagnosing breast cancer is because it is the largest soft tissue without any bone structure.

“X-rays tend to fail in the early stages of cancer because the cancer is still soft tissue. Once the cancer tissue starts calcifying [hardening], the tumor becomes much larger,” said Dr. Jia Jia Ge and Sarah Erickson, a Ph.D student in biomedical engineering, working on the imager. The two graduates are among a group of five graduate students who play a crucial role in making the imaging work. According to Ge, the project follows a series of steps starting with working on instrumentation, then laboratory studies and finally human studies.

“Before the machine works, a great deal of preliminary studies must be done,” said Ge, whose primary role is to build up the optical and electrical equipment.

Both women are also in charge of laboratory studies using “phantoms” — substances designed to mimic human tissue — such as liposyn and chicken breast.

The project has recently begun to move toward the final stages, which involve human testing.

“We just started our human subject studies and later on we will lead toward clinical studies, in which we will work with patients from Sylvester Cancer Center,” Erickson said.

Aside from Ge and Erickson, the other three graduate students who helped in the project were Dr. Banghe Zhu, graduate research assistant Steven Legrand and Bhavani Jayachandran, who was the first master’s student to graduate under Dr. Godavarty.
T.Y. Hilton sets single season receiving yards record

Freshman wide receiver T.Y. Hilton became the program’s all-time single season leader in yards against Florida Atlantic University on Nov. 29.

He caught four passes for 99 yards and two touchdowns to give him a total of 969 yards surpassing former Golden Panther Cory McKinney for the top spot.

McKinney finished the football team’s inaugural season with 890 yards.

Gay rights group to protest Gov. Crist’s wedding

A gay rights group, Impact Florida, that wants all Floridians to have the right to marry, plans to protest Gov. Crist’s wedding.

Crist plans to marry his fiancée Carole Rome on Dec. 12 at the First United Methodist Church in St. Petersburg.

Disorders enhances mental problems

The study authors noted that recent tragedies such as fatal shootings at Northern Illinois University and Virginia Tech have raised awareness about the prevalence of mental illness on college campuses.

For many, young adulthood is characterized by the pursuit of greater educational opportunities and employment prospects, development of personal relationships, and for some, parenthood,” the authors said. These circumstances, they said, can result in stress that triggers the start or recurrence of psychiatric problems.

The study was released Monday in Archives of General Psychiatry.

It was based on interviews with 5,092 young adults in 2001 and 2002.

Ofson said it took time to analyze the data, including weighting the results to extrapolate national numbers. But the authors said the results would probably hold true today.

The study was funded with grants from the National Institutes of Health, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the New York Psychiatric Institute.

Dr. Sharon Hirsch, a University of Chicago psychologist, was not involved in the study, praised it for raising awareness about the problem and the high numbers of affected people who don’t get help.

“If more than 75 percent of diabetic college students didn’t get treatment,” Hirsch said, “I just think about what would be happening on our college campuses.”

If book buying system succeeds at UP, north campus will follow suit

A new registration integration system has been implemented at the University Park campus.

Once a student has purchased their books through the system they have two options: wait until the Spring semester starts and pick up the books with a valid student I.D. at the Bookstore or have the books delivered to their home.

A shipping and handling fee must be paid, however.

The new registration integration system is not available for Biscayne Bay Campus students just yet. Since UP’s Bookstore is much larger than BBC’s, the University decided to try it out at UP first.

If successful, the system will be available to BBC students for the next Summer semester. However, for it to work, students need to return their books before the next term begins, according to UP Bookstore Manager Maghan Connelly.

She stated how important it is for students to return used books back before the end of the semester. In return there would be more used books available for the new and returning students every semester.

Only 10 percent of students return their books before the semester ends and then there are those that try to return them in the beginning or middle of the semester; they don’t get back half of what it cost them in the first place,” Connelly said.

If the book is needed, the Bookstore will buy it back unless there is a new edition for it.

According to Connelly, the registration integration system has been implemented in over 100 universities around the country.

Those students who did not select books when they registered should not worry. They can still go back into Panthertext and add them to their shopping cart. The due date for the payments will be around the time Spring semester starts and when the books are in stock.

“By students purchasing used books through the integrated system, it will make not only their lives easier but ours as well. We will know what books need to be purchased and ordered for them,” Connelly said.
New journalism course focuses on environment

BRITON ALONSO
Contributing Writer

This spring semester, students will be able to attend a new M other Nature and her relationship with the media. The School of Journalism and Mass Communications will start offering envi ronmental journalism, a course focusing on environmental issues faced by both the local and global ecosystem. The class will be taught by Julie Pinto, SJM C assistant professor with a master’s degree from the University of Miami. “I have always been passionate about this subject and wondered how we could bring it to the SJMC,” said Pinto. “The school is beginning to focus on special topics such as health and new media, so I thought this would be a great time to start.”

The course is listed in Panthersoft as Special M (MC 4936 sec. B54). Its prerequisites are Writing Strategies (MC M 3104C), but it can be waived for students outside SJM C who wish to enroll. Although there will only be one section of the class, which will take place M andays from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., more sections will be offered in the future if interest grows.

The course is currently not a graduation requirement for journalism majors, and students from different areas within SJM C can benefit from the information this three -credit elective will offer. “Avertisers will be selling green products, and public relations specialists will be dealing with eco-companies and interested organizations,” said Pinto. “A lot of stuff will be happening in this area, and it will be imperative that journalists have an understanding of this subject.”

Various environment-related issues will be discussed, beginning with those topics closest to home such as the preservation of the Everglades, the sugar company buy -outs and beach access. The course will also tackle international issues such as energy conservation, natural resource consumption, species preservation, green products and eco-friendly companies, among others. “[The course] would be great for anyone who is interested in being informative on environmental issues,” Pinto said.

Marine Science will also participate in the course’s offering, although according to Pinto, their specific involvement has yet to be determined. “[The Marine Science Program] focuses on the coastal environment, and we will too,” said Pinto. “It is all combined.”

The course is also meant to bring the two departments closer together, according to Allan Richards, SJM C associate dean. “Science students don’t particularly know how to write, and journalists do not know much about science, so it should help everyone,” Richards said.

Pinto also stated that nobody will be left behind. Both SJM C students and students from other schools within the University will be able to take the class.

“We are definitely going to find a middle ground between the students outside SJM C without writing experience and the writers with no science background,” Pinto said.

A娜 Alvarez, a journalism major or minor -ing in environmental science, plans to take the course. “I wanted to take from the class a better understanding of our local ecology, which will help me understand all environmental issues better,” Alvarez said. “I also really care about problems such as the deforestation going on in Southern A sia. The people there do not have a voice and nobody defends them.”

Pinto plans on bringing several guest speakers and using multimedia to enhance the class experience.

“Environmental conservation is one of the biggest issues facing us all,” Pinto said.

Taking the stress out of gift-giving with homemade treats

The end of the semester is here and it’s time to celebrate. We celebrate being able to sleep in late on Sunday and not having to worry about homework, but there are other celebrations happening. It’s, of course, the most wonderful time of the year: the holidays.

It is the time of year that we think about those who are important to us. We think about who we will see over the holidays. The same goes for anything else we want to do with the ones we love during the holidays. It’s the time of year that we think about who we will see over the holidays.

Another fun thing to do is mix together all the dry ingredients in a large airtight container. You will have a variety of different types of chocolate to choose from.

The ultimate choco -holics gift is when you make your friends a variety box, dipping each different thing in different types of chocolate from white to milk to dark.

For an art effect, once the first dipping of chocolate has hardened, take melted white chocolate and tap into your inner Jackson Pollock by creating splashes of color on the cookies or fruit of choice. It will take your friends and family members back to the day they wandered through a museum of modern art, maybe with you.

Another fun thing to do is mix together all the dry ingredients in a large airtight container. You will have a variety of different types of chocolate to choose from.

I personally give out a box of chocolate every year to the people who really care about me. I give them a beautiful box and let them know that I care. It’s a great way to express your love to someone who matters to you.

In the end, anything you’re good at in the kitchen can be made into a great holiday present. When you think about it, getting someone a gift card or a body wash really only says, “I don’t know you.” But surprising them with your homemade and handmade treats will be a hit. I “say, I listen to you,” and “I put my time into this because I care.”

This season is for celebrating, not for a competition over who can spend the most money or for worrying about spending it.

Don’t stress yourself out with the gift-giving process. Make something full of love for those people who support you throughout the year. The holidays are supposed to be fun – don’t ruin it.

So when someone asks you what you’re getting your aunt, cousin, sister, boss, teacher or nephew, just tell them – you are getting them food-gasms. Happy holidays! See you next term.

Need a help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Blanca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or food-gasms ideas to blanca.rosales@fiusm.com
In the few decades FIU has been around, it has managed to grow into one of the finest research universities in the country. With few exceptions, the credibility of FIU and its students is above reproach. That is until the emergence of Juicycampus.com, a malicious Web site designed to spread falsehoods.

On Nov. 24, the Student Government Council (SGC) passed a resolution to help protect our prestigious University; a recommendation to the administration to ban Juicycampus.com from our online network. (Meaning that the site could not be accessed while logged on to the Internet from FIU.) We recognize that asking the University to ban a Web site is an extreme measure. However, it is a representation of how extreme the situation with the site has become. It started off as a small insidious attack on Juicycampus.com but has morphed into a ceaseless barrage of lies and accusations. Some of which are as extreme as rape.

The Student Senator’s de-bouncing our final decision makes several strong arguments. However, we do not feel that the banning of the site would infringe on anyone’s First Amendment Rights.

I would like to reference an article by Robert S. Barker, a University Distinguished Professor of Law at Duquesne University. In the article Baker gives a concise rundown of free speech.

“First, ‘freedom of speech,’ like almost all other rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, is a limitation only on government conduct. Private individuals and institutions, when not acting in concert with government, are free to set and apply their own standards of speech in matters of private life.”

Essentially FIU would fall into this category. As an institution, it can restrict activities related to free speech on its grounds. For example, in the past, the university’sNickname of highly conservative Christians would preclude at FIU. However, these demonstrations were filled with hate speech and intolerance. So in accordance with student wishes, these demonstrations are no longer permitted. Even when they were, they were only allowed in specifically designated areas.

Furthermore while on FIU grounds, everyone’s Second Amendment Rights are negated as clearly stated in the Student Code of Conduct. Only police officers are allowed to carry firearms while on campus.

Even housing students aged 21 and over are not allowed to possess alcohol in their dorms. The reason for these restrictions is simple; safety.

It is our hope that the FIU administration will follow our recommendation. After all, other prestigious Universities such as Yale University, Duke University and Ball State University have taken similar actions toward the site.

We are confident the actions taken by the Senate will help maintain the integrity of our University. It’s not only important to us, but to the future of our students.

Lastly the SGC-UP calls for all students and individuals to boycott the site. Even if FIU follows our recommendation, the Internet is accessible from countless coffee shops, malls and bedrooms. Only by a joint effort can the site ever truly be stopped.

Jenni Fuentes is Senator-at-Large for SGC-UP

Learning English vital, should be required for citizens

CHRIS GREEN
Staff Writer

Imagine this. You’re standing in line trying to renew your auto tag. It’s Friday, it’s hot and you’re last in line of what seems like a million people.

You’re frantically in line, but the person in front of you doesn’t speak Spanish! What happens if they speak a different language, perhaps German or Portuguese, or the teller doesn’t know his or her multiplication?

Someone has to be found to translate, and the process is held up.

It has been widely debated lately whether or not American citizenship tests and drivers license exams should be administered solely in English. Not only should these tests be given in English, but all other exams and tests and applications should be as well. In addition, the policy of knowing the most commonly spoken language in the country has been a practiced worldwide. And, as if that weren’t enough, it’s a practice that could just simply save us all a ton of time and aggravation.

America would hardly be the only nation to follow such a policy. Many European countries around the world require new citizens to know the national language before they move there. Take the Netherlands for example. In order to move there, it is required that all potential citizens become fluent in Dutch.

“We had to learn the language before we moved there,” said Jarod Rosello, a former local high school student who is now studying at Penn State. “It made life a lot easier for me and my at-the-time fiancé. A job finding was also easier.”

Learning the language is also becoming increasingly popular in other nations in the European Union, as numerous countries are debating the idea, some even putting the idea up to vote during national elections.

Perhaps one of the most dangerous things about this is the fact that people are more prone to accidents if they aren’t able to read and comprehend warnings.

Giving these tests in English could potentially save lives.

Now while the idea of a country with no defined national language, in which everyone can still speak their native languages is indeed a noble one, it is not a reasonable one.

While one might believe that they are being slighted by having to learn a new language in order to get a license or apply for a loan, it is in the best interest of the whole country.

Not only can learning the most commonly spoken language be beneficial to you in terms of finding a job and getting certain licenses, it can also improve safety.

In addition, learning another language has proven to be beneficial to a person’s mind. And in the end, it just saves us all a lot of time and energy.

Send you thoughts about this article (preferably in English) to opinion@fi usm.com.
Novel highlights negatives of sorority life, ignores positive

CHRIS TOWERS
Asst. Life! Editor

Looking back on the best music of the past year, I think the most striking thing is how normal it all sounds. This list is littered with bands whose influences sound firmly grounded in the music of the past, involving comparisons of everything from the Talking Heads to AC/DC and even some gospel. You won’t find much genre-bending here, just the best albums of the past year.

10. KANYE WEST – 808S & HEARTBREAK
It is really easy to hate on Kanye West with his massive ego and his, at times, perplexing musical and personal decisions. Unfortunately for those who do wish to, the man is also extremely talented, and on his fourth album, he takes a step to the side, moving away from standard rap, and a giant step forward, creating the most densely layered and atmospheric hip-hop record since DJ Shadow’s Endtroducing.

9. THE DRIVE BY TRUCKERS – BRIGHTER THAN CREATION’S DARK
This Minneapolis hip-hop duo move toward a more three-person story telling style, and live sound the music has paid off huge dividends on their sixth album, as it is both their best and most sold album to date.

8. THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM - THE ’59 SOUND
The Bruce Springsteen comparisons come early and often with this punk group, and it fairly suits them. Borrowing the riotous roar of Springsteen’s early album vocals and lingual style while mixing in the thrash of punk music makes this the best punk album since Against M e’s New Wave.

7. MY MORNING JACKET – EVIL URGES
Stripping away the echo and shine off of their previous albums, Evil Urges finds a more mature group of duties, White is the star of this album. Whether it’s incredible guitar work on the harrowing murder tale, “Carolina Drama,” there is no mistaking who the spotlight shines on here.

6. CONOR OBERRST AND THE MYSTIC VALLEY BAND – CONOR OBERRST
Turning his attention toward the after party, lead singer Craig Finn examines the effects of the kind of hard partying detailed in his previous books and songs. A collection of 11 stellar songs and not a weak moment among them.

1. VAMPIRE WEEKEND – VAMPIRE WEEKEND
Work your way through all of the hype and backlash surrounding this album, and you might find yourself wondering what all of the fuss is about.

There is nothing offensive or groundbreaking about the band to inspire that type of reaction. In fact, all you’ll find is an unassuming four piece group, singing songs about their hometown and making references to Peter Gabriel and vampires over 11 perfectly crafted pop songs. That’s enough for me.

**GUARDIAN OF THE WORLDS**

Asst. Life! Editor

Life! Editor

Counting down the top albums of 2008

While this book is definitely an interesting and entertaining novel, Robbins views sororities in a completely one-sided way, and she doesn’t even mention any of the positives in joining a sorority.

Robbins goes undercover at certain southern universities. She never mentions the actual university names or the actual sororities and the members who she followed throughout her investigation for her book.

Throughout the novel, Robbins discusses issues such as hazing, where pledges have to lie on the floor in their bra and panties and let fraternity men come in and draw circles with a sharpie around the areas that these girls need to work on: where they are out of shape.

She also mentions eating disorders and issues where some of the sorority houses have to change their pipes every year because the acid from the vomit eats away at the pipes. Robbins also mentions date rapes and, in short, every negative stereotype that comes with the term “sorority.”

So why are so many girls at the University worried about what is mentioned in this book?

I guess because it’s true.

No matter what we sorority girls say to defend ourselves, we cannot ignore the fact that these things happen. Maybe it doesn’t happen with our own particular chapter at FIU, but it happens in another chapter of our organization in another state.

“Books like ‘Pledged’ are always only about the worst things that happened in the book ‘Pledged,’ but the most important thing to always remember is that nobody can ever force you to do anything you are uncomfortable doing.

If you are pledging a sorority and are unsure of something you do not want to do, or feel uncomfortable doing, say no. If your so-called ‘sisters’ want you to do something that would make you uneasy, it is really that simple.”

That is not an organization you really want to be a part of.

And for those out there who think some forms of hazing are okay because it teaches responsibility, remember, you are not mothers, or fathers for the fraternities out there. You are sisters or brothers, and sisters do not stand over you. They stand beside you.

Turning his attention toward the after party, lead singer Craig Finn examines the effects of the kind of hard partying detailed in his previous books and songs. A collection of 11 stellar songs and not a weak moment among them.

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First semester’s reflections

For my last article I wanted to fully express my opinions on my first semester of college.

It’s kind of hard to sum it all up in a couple of words. This semester has been the most stressful, most exciting and most memorable time in my life, and I know that it won’t be the last. There are several things that I have learned as a freshman here at the University.

For one, the transition from high school to college is not exactly an easy one but it can be if you do it the right way.

The best part about the University is that there are so many activities and organizations that one will never be bored, that is, if one knows how to correctly manage time. With the fraternities and sororities, football games and parties, student governments and programming councils, there is always something to do on campus, all of which are beneficial to all of your development as a student and as a leader.

Of course, there are always a few things that we do not like about school.

Some things never change. I hate waking up in the morning to go to school. Trust me when I say that next semester, I will not be picking classes at the crack of dawn.

Next semester I will be waking up to warm coffee and a decent breakfast, as opposed to the ringing of my alarm clock and a pop tart on the way out.

One thing that did change was the workload.

Back in high school, I never had to study.

I was able to balance five Advanced Placement classes, varsity sports, and several honor societies, and still manage to pull off a great GPA. However, that all changes in college.

In order to be involved on campus and pull off a decent GPA, you have to put most, if not all, of your efforts into studying.

That’s where I think one can learn the most. I learned that the hard way.

That’s one thing that you will never be able to avoid at school, which is kind of disappointing because, in my opinion, school would be so much better without the going to class part.

As for myself, I’m in it for the campus activities.

That’s where I think one can learn the most about oneself and how to do things in life.

Don’t think one can gain any life skills by sitting in a classroom and listening to the rantings of a professor.

This first semester at the University has taught me a lot.

I have learned how to study, how the hard way. I have learned not to exceed my workload unless I want to be pulling my hair out by the end of the week, and I have learned to try to balance social activities with school work.

That way, I’ll be able to have a life but not be failing all of my classes at the same time.

I will most definitely apply these techniques for the next semester, although I know that I am not done learning.

Flu still has much to teach me.
Mighty Gators and Crimson Tide in titanic tilt for SEC

**BIG MAN DOWN**

Starting center and pre-season Sun Belt conference 1st-teamer Russell Hicks fell to a stress fracture in his right ankle versus the Bruins and is expected to be out of action for 8-10 weeks. The senior, who set an FIU record for blocks last season, is the latest of injuries that head coach Sergio Rouco has had to deal with. Guard Josue Soto (wrist), forwards Alex Galindo (ankle) and J.C Otero (knee), and center Badara Endiaye (knee) have been out all season and will not be on the court in the foreseeable future.

The Niagara Falls native felt discomfort during practice before the game and played just 19 minutes against UCLA. Hicks is averaging 8.1 points and nearly five rebounds per game this season.

**COLDEST WINTER**

M ichael Dominguez has gone from being 10-17 from three-point territory his first two games in a Golden Panther uniform to hitting just three of his next 28 attempts. The junior swingman has managed to keep his scoring average at 10 points, but has endured a tough slump in part because of opponents’ awareness of his ability. Rouco believes Dominguez is getting extra attention from foes.

"Guys being in your face all game," Rouco said. "Opponents are keying in on him." Dominguez is shooting 37 percent from the field and 88 percent from the foul line.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK**

Team back from west coast trip; Hicks injured

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TOURNAMENT TIME

Panthers selected to compete in NCAA championship

JONATHAN ALPERT
Asst. Sports Director

Following a school record 28-win season, the FIU volleyball team will make its first trip to the NCAA Volleyball Championship since 2002, when FIU won the Sun Belt tournament and earned the automatic berth.

FIU won the Sun Belt eastern division, and was the top-seeded team in the conference tournament before falling in the semifinals to New Orleans.

"It’s a thrilling feeling," said Head Coach Danijela Tomic, with a hint of excitement in her voice. “I feel satisfied because I feel like we earned to be selected among the 64 teams. You know, the season that we had, we broke all kinds of school records. We didn’t really have bad losses. Our only bad loss (was) against Memphis [and New Orleans], University of Alabama-Birmingham is in the tournament, Iowa State is in the tournament, and of course, Western [Kentucky] and Mideast [Tennessee]." The Golden Panthers (28-6, 15-2 SBC) were buoyed by a top-25 RPI ranking (21st) and the FIU vacation. Bosilj hit six threes, one shy of the FIU single-game record.

SHARPSHOOTER: sports@fiusm.com

Sports Director
Contact Us
www.fi usm.com

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Women’s basketball beats NC State, falls to Auburn

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

FIU 58, N.C. STATE 42

Marquesa Ailey may sound a bit overconfident, but North Carolina State (5-2) probably would agree with her after FIU (1-4) defeated the Wolfpack 58-42 on Nov. 28 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

"Not to be cocky, but I think when we are going, we’re unstoppable," said Ailey.

The junior forward compiled 10 points and 13 rebounds for the Golden Panthers as they dropped a very formidable Wolfpack team from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The Golden Panthers were able to handle NC State in the first half, despite a 10-0 run by the Wolfpack to start the game. NC State shot 32.8 percent from the field in the first half, but the defense forced 18 turnovers and held the Wolfpack to 31.2 percent shooting.

Auburn 66, FIU 51

A smiley Smalley scored 21 points to lead No. 15 Auburn past Florida International 63-52 on Saturday to win the FIU Thanksgiving Classic.

Smalley earned tournament MVP honors as she averaged 15 points through the tournament games, and DeWanna Bonner added nine points and 12 rebounds for Auburn (7-0), which beat N.C. State 66-51 on Sunday. In the opening-round game of the three-team event.

Monika Bosilj led FIU (1-5) with 12 points on 4-of-15 shooting and five rebounds. The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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Monika Bosilj led FIU (1-5) with 12 points on 4-of-15 shooting and five rebounds. The Associated Press contributed to this report.