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GOT 109 PROBLEMS

New tower creates parking issues for students

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Without permanent parking space at the 109 Tower student apartment, University housing projects are facing a problem. To solve this, there have been several options for a not-so-easy solution.

Forced to park across Southwest Eighth Street at the University’s parking garages, some have refused to follow this rule. Instead of walking across the busy street, students park all along Sixth Street and Seventh Street, causing traffic in the area.

There are only 25 parking spots available, which are mainly used by the tower’s staff.

This was also done to avoid having non-FIU students and faculty from parking in the building, according to Davicia Williams, 109 Tower’s leasing and marketing manager.

This has seriously disturbed City of Sweetwater residents who live near 109 Tower, not to mention that students’ vehicles have been towed.

“How can it be that in a city so small as this one, they are going to build a [15-story] building when units are already so limited?” said David Borges, a Sweetwater resident who has lived in the city for more than 30 years.

Borges has identified that those who parked along the streets are FIU students by the University decals on the back of their vehicles.

The new high-rise building had been under construction since September of last year, and opened this fall to lease exclusively to the FIU community.

Borges contacted Student Media to say that he spoke with the city’s mayor, Jose Diaz, about 10 months ago when the Tower was under construction. He said Diaz did not offer much of a solution, but for residents to notify the City of Sweetwater Police Department.

“The people who live in this city are very humble, they don’t know how to defend themselves, they don’t know how to find information,” said Borges. “Then [those who govern] crush them as if they were giant cockroaches.”

Borges said he was asking a pedestrian bridge that would link the University to Sweetwater to be opened near the same time as the 109 Tower. Unfortunately, this wasn’t the case for Sweetwater residents and University students.

Lorena Rivera, a senior dual major in psychology and nutrition, said she fears crossing Eighth Street at night when she visits her best friend who lives at the University. “It is already horrible,” said Rivera.

Steve Sauls, the University’s Vice President of Governmental Relations, said 109 Tower is not an FIU housing project. It was designed and built by the private collegiate housing developer, Education Realty Trust.

Sauls has been a big influence on the University’s end to create a University City district in Sweetwater. The University and the city jointly applied and received a $11 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant to build the pedestrian bridge and other transportation projects with other partners.

“FIU is certainly supportive of the project because it satisfies an important housing need of many FIU students, thereby helping them be more successful in their studies at the University,” said Sauls.

He said that with the $11 million grant given by the government for the UniversityCity project plan between FIU and Sweetwater, there will be new streetscape improvements, a pedestrian bridge and a small scale bus service between the city and the University.

“It is envisioned that these improvements, and others over time, will help create a new urban destination for FIU students, staff and faculty to live near,” said Sauls.

Despite some negative feedback from residents like Borges, other city residents do not mind students parking near the tower.

“(Traffic) has been more present, but it doesn’t bother me,” said Ramon Matildo, a city resident who lives on Seventh Street. “They don’t have parking, and I know because my son also studies at the University.”

African and Indian dancers to step into Engineering Center

SOPHIE MORALES/Irene Fernández

The Engineering Center will soon be getting a sense of international dances.

The effort involves promoting cultural awareness and provide students with an opportunity to have fun, the Student Government Council at Modesto A. Maidique Campus will be hosting a multicultural dance event at the University’s Engineering Center.

“Blended: A Cultural Extravaganza!” will feature forms of dance from different parts of the world, namely Africa and India.

The event sprung out as a Campus Life contest entry, said Victoria Junkins, deputy chief-of-staff for the SGC-MMC, for residing students.

The contest called for student organizations to develop a proposal for an event. The contest was promoted by Jose Toscano, director of Campus Life,

“We all came together and gave out ideas,” said Junkins. “But we all went toward the idea of a multicultural event.”

In preparation for the event proposal, Junkins and her partner, Deputy Chief-of-Staff Adrian Ulloa, traveled to the Engineering Center to survey the student population to determine the type of event the students there would appreciate.

They surveyed students, and most said they wished that sections of their campus underwent repair; several stated that they weren’t interested in parties, but cultural education.

The student government’s commitment to promoting healthy activities, the event seemed like a great idea that would blend health and culture, said Junkins.

The proposal for this event was the contest winner, and Campus Life gave student government $1,000 to spend on their project. The Black Student Union will bring African-style dancers, while the Indians and Egyptian-style dancers will be provided by Belly Motions, a dance company in Coral Gables that specializes in Middle Eastern and Indian dances.

UpLight Miami, a disc jockey company, will be at the event to mix songs.

“I enjoy learning about different cultures and this would be a great way to talk about that,” said Kelly Lin, a junior mechanical engineering major.

New group rises for women empowerment

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At times when she feels uncomfortable with her own skin, Betty Canto, a sophomore interior architecture major, said Smart Girls Group gives her a sense of belonging.

SGG is a new organization on campus that aims to provide girls with empowerment and a sisterhood focusing on philanthropic involvement and self-growth.

“I am too smart! Or too pretty? Too tall? Too fat?”

According to Canto, treasurer of SGG, girls with these kinds of insecurities will fit right in.

“I’ve always wanted to find a space where I felt comfortable and I’m definitely not alone in these feelings,” said Canto.

She said that even when others give words of encouragement, the lack of confidence is still there.

“It’s easy to accept a compliment, but it’s harder to actually believe it,” she said.

Wanting to help her younger sister make it through high school, Emily Raleigh, founder of the international group, wrote a survival guide-like book with ways on how to succeed.

The book is now the foundation of SGG and, for the first time, FIU will be a part of it.

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The Council for Student Organizations officially recognized Smart Girls Group this fall on Sept. 15. Anyone can join SGG through OrgSync; there are no GPA requirements, membership and no specifications for any major. They want to stand out from other organizations by making members an extension of the e-board.
Step in the right direction: SGA hosts dance event

**DANCE, PAGE 1**

“Besides, I need to learn to dance.”

Others shared similar sentiments.

“Nothing ever happens in the Engineering Center,” said Alexander Zhu, a sophomore environmental engineering major. “This will surely brighten up the campus and add to the educational atmosphere.”

According to Junkins, the event will offer students the chance to speak to the performers, and perhaps even encourage students to consider dancing as a hobby.

Commenting on the event’s theme, Junkins pointed out that the event aims to provide a chance to speak to the performers, and perhaps even encourage students to consider dancing as a hobby.

“We wanted something [dealing with] the other side of the world,” she said.

Nothing ever happens in the Engineering Center. This will surely brighten up the campus and add to the educational atmosphere.

**Alexander Zhu**

**Sophomore**

**Environmental Engineering Major**

The event will feature two mini shows, with the three dance performances being conducted in each.

Like that, Junkins, students who aren’t able to attend the first session will have the second one to look forward to.

The event, which will take place Thursday, Oct. 22, and last from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., will be located in the Panther Pit in the first floor of the Engineering Center on 10555 W. Flagler St.

Food will be provided by Chicken Kitchen, with options available for vegetarians.

**AMA Homecoming event bridges student-alumni relations**

**GIRL, PAGE 1**

With one chapter in Fordham, New York, and another in the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, SGG FIU is really trying to build up America. The organization as a whole has 4,000 girls in 50 different countries.

Nationally, they are focused on providing educational material for young girls in developing countries.

They will be pairing directly with a school in Kathmandu, Nepal. This will be giving other young girls the same opportunity in education that women of the University have.

Their local mission: to get involved with Sweetwater Elementary School students.

Montana MacRae, a sophomore political science major and president of the chapter, said it is important to teach bright, brilliant minds at an early age.

This can be done by mentoring them on how to deal with reality and future empowerment.

The event was open to all University students regardless of major. It featured an opening hour for networking which included food and drinks, and was followed by the presentation which featured multiple speakers from the University.

Featured speakers included the Dean of the College of Business David R. Klock, Executive Officer of the Office for Advancement of the College for southeast Florida, and Community Relations Chair for AMA South Florida Carlo Palazzese.

“We’ve been working on this for three months,” said Currie. “Basically what we’re trying to achieve here is to bring professionals and students together, specifically FIU students and FIU alumni and what better way than Homecoming?”

This was the first Homecoming event of its kind for the AMA and there’s hope this can be more than just a one-time event.

“We’re really grateful we’ve gotten a lot of help from the University, from the School, and Student Government,” said Currie. “This event is basically a merge of AMA FIU, AMA South Florida, and FIU alumni and what better way than Homecoming?”

We’re estimating that making this an annual event. So this is the first one and we’re hoping this can be the first of many.

The group has established an outline of days and times where they hope to visit and teach the students.

Canto said she believes in MacRae’s spirit of bravery and her devotion to SGG, along with six other girls that form part of the executive board.

MacRae has been connected to SGG’s national headquarters just over two years and decided it was time to start small at FIU.

So far, there have been over 130 official sign-ups, but more than 80 other girls have shown interest in joining.

She has created a very realistic accomplishment for the organization, according to Canto.

Secretary of SGG Cecilia Pablos-Aguirre, a sophomore history major, supports the idea that all programs and events should be simultaneously pretty and smart.

“We advocate you can be both, said Pablos-Aguirre. “You can be whatever you want to be – the best version of you.”

“It’s nice to have a base group of people you can rely on and be yourself around, being better together.”
Understanding the difference between curriculum & standards

MCT STAFF

Fanning the firestorm over Common Core State Standards is the fear that by adopting common standards, states are signing onto a national curriculum and thus undermining the decision of local school boards and educators.

But before going too far down that road, an important distinction needs to be made between standards — which outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level — and curriculum — which is what happens day to day and week to week in classrooms. Standards remain constant, but curriculum can be altered yearly or to classroom to ensure students are meeting the learning goals.

Let me illustrate with examples from three high-performing, high-poverty schools in three different states.

I asked them to share with me lessons they had developed to meet three of Common Core’s reading and language arts standards, which say that fifth-graders should know how to:

— Use a dictionary and other reference materials.
— Identify the main ideas and supporting details of a text.
— Cite evidence to support an answer.

The first lesson, from George Hall Elementary in Mobile, Ala., is on the human circulatory system, a part of a larger unit on major body systems, including the respiratory, excretory and reproductive systems. During the lesson, the teacher introduced particular terms the students would encounter in their reading, such as capillaries and white blood cells and asked the students to look up and record the definition of those terms in their science journals.

The second is from Finlay Elementary in Miami and is part of a three-week literature unit on “Hatchet,” a story of wilderness survival. The teacher discussed the genre of realistic fiction with the students and then introduced vocabulary words such as hatchet, vibration and rudder. Students read along as the teacher read aloud, modeling fluent and expressive reading. Every couple of chapters, they wrote an analysis of the main ideas of the chapters along with the supporting details and an analysis of how the chapters fit together.

The third is from De Queen Elementary in southwestern Arkansas and is part of a large interdisciplinary English and science unit on the environment that has as its question, “Why is it important to protect and preserve the Earth?”

Before the students read “The River Ran Wild” by Lynne Cherry, a non-fiction account of the pollution and subsequent restoration of the Nashua River, they introduced vocabulary that students would encounter, with a focus on multisyllabic words with prefixes, suffixes, root words, and affixes such as conditions in which the “Hatchet” protagonist found himself.

The idea behind the standards, which are in place in 43 states, is that no matter where students live or what their life circumstances may be, they should all have to meet the same expectations for learning — such as being able to use a dictionary and cite evidence from a text. Those common expectations can be met in a whole variety of ways, leaving all the most important decisions about curriculum, lessons and classroom activities in the hands of local schools and districts.

But by having a common set of expectations to measure their decisions against, school boards and educators will have a lot more information about how well they are serving all their students. That doesn’t undermine them; it supports them.

Great Depression, and other environmental effects of industry and farming. Students were then asked to write essays using complex sentences about Marion Stoddart, the woman who sparked the restoration of the Northeast’s Nashua River in the 1960s. This is just a taste of these lessons, which are much more nuanced and sophisticated than there is room to describe. And I should note that these are not the only lessons designed to help students meet these standards; kids don’t learn complicated skills from one lesson.

But the point is that Common Core standards merely provide goals or benchmarks for learning to be filled by science, history, and literature lessons — all determined by local educators.

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Theatre presents ‘The Hampton Years’ at The Biltmore Hotel’s GableStage

SAMANTHA DAVIS
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On Monday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m, the Department of Theatre, Exile Studies program, Center for Humanities in an Urban Environment and the Department of English at FIU in collaboration with the Coral Gables Museum will be presenting a stage reading of “The Hampton Years” at the GableStage in The Biltmore Hotel. The reading is directed by Phillip Church, chair, artistic director and head of community engagement.

The play tells the story of Jewish painter Viktor Lowenfeld who escaped Austria and came to the United States in 1938. After declining an offer to teach at Harvard University, Lowenfeld chose to take a position at Hampton Institute, an all black college in Virginia. It was there that he met African-American artists John Biggers and Samella Lewis and helped them become renowned artists.

The planning for the reading on Monday, Oct. 20, has been in the works for about a year and a half. Michael Gillespie, English professor and director of the Center for the Humanities in an Urban Environment, approached Lawton in the early 2010, Lawton developed an interest in the relationship between blacks and Jews. She then became inspired to create a play about it; two-and-a-half years later, “The Hampton Years” was born.

Lawton has held stage readings of “The Hampton Years” in other locations, one of which includes the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia in February 2013.

The playwright, Jacqueline Lawton, first wrote the script in 2011. After attending a reading series called “Backstage at the Lincoln” in the fall of 2010, Lawton developed an interest in the relationship between blacks and Jews. She then became inspired to create a play about it; two-and-a-half years later, “The Hampton Years” was born.

Lawton, first wrote the script in 2011. In the new version, the time span is two years instead of seven. A few characters have also been taken out such as American artist Charles White.

The reading at the GableStage will focus more on the three main characters: Viktor Lowenfeld, John Biggers and Samella Lewis.

“This newer version will place more emphasis on the impact of World War II, racism and the ways in which art can advocate for social change in the community,” Lawton said.

Some of the actors in the reading are from the Department of Theatre. Aaron Alpern, adjunct professor, will be playing as Viktor Lowenfeld; Rebecca Covey, assistant professor, as Viktor’s wife; Margaret; Wayne Robinson, Jr., associate professor and head of performance, as President Bridgesman; and Stephen Neal, adjunct instructor as Dr. Malcolm Shaw MacLean.

One of the actresses, Madeleine Escarne, a junior seeking her second degree in Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance, has dove deep into her character, Samella Lewis.

In the play, Samella is in her early 20s and has just transferred to Hampton Institute, after having been under the tutelage of Elizabeth Catlett, a sculptor and printmaker.

“Samella is such an advocate, not just for blacks, but for the equal treatment of all people,” Escarne said.

“You can compare the racism against the Jews to the racism against black people. Jewish people have been thrown in chambers, tortured and burned while black people have been lynched and beaten. It’s important to understand the persecution of the Jewish people and the fact that black people are still being persecuted today,” Escarne added.

Samella Lewis faced unbelievable racism in her fight to be recognized as an artist, and when Escarne took on her character, it reminded her of the racism she has faced in her own life.

“When I was in the production of ‘Intimate Apparel’ in Gainesville in 2011, someone got upset and said, ‘Get these ****ers off stage!’” Escarne said.

“I’ve experienced racism while out shopping at Aventura Mall, and many other places,” Escarne said.

“People don’t see me as Haitian, they only see me as black and although people may not understand what I go through, I want to open lines of communication between people by playing Samella’s character.”

Admission to the reading is free and open to the public, so anyone can take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the story of John Biggers and Samella Lewis. All who are interested in attending are encouraged to arrive early, as seating is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis.

“These people [Lewis and Biggers] are amazing. I want everyone to know the names of these extraordinary artists who used their art for social justice and the uplift of the community,” Lawton said.

There was also a panel discussion, “Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow: Lessons and Legacies” before the reading, on Sunday, Oct. 19, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
CUT CLASSICS

Released in 1960 by Shintoho and directed by Nobuo Nakagawa, “Jigoku” (“Hell,” or “The Sinners of Hell”) is a disturbing, creepy and frightful horror film that works on both a fantastical and psychological level. Having committed a hit-and-run against an individual, Shiro (Shigeru Amachi) harbors guilt that only grows with time, while suffering and pain await the people he surrounds himself with.

The film provides an ancient Japanese view of hell, which is where the final act of the film takes place; it is here where we see the torture and anguish that plagues the sinners for all eternity.

This final act is easiest the best, providing scaring imagery, unique lighting and excellent acting. The simplicity of effects, to create a version of hell where redemption is hard to come by. The acting by all involved is great, whether they’re being bad people on Earth or being eternally damned in hell.

Yoichi Numata, who plays Tamura, or deserves special mention as a strange entity who follows Shiro everywhere he goes and knows everyone’s secrets. He’s the best character in the film, as far as acting goes, but much of this has to do with the character’s nature. Tamura is the type of individual who has already given his soul to the Devil, so he would rather revel in the misery of others. The film never really addresses the sort of “thing” he is, and it’s my opinion that Tamura represents the bad side of Shiro, either literally or metaphorically.

While the film works on a fantastical level, it’s the psychological element that really impressed me. A film like this almost has a mandatory duty to have both elements; considering this film was one of the first of its kind, it doesn’t come as a surprise that later horror films implemented these components.

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Seeing Shiro suffer mentally is a great precursor to him actually going to hell, as we see him struggle with friends, family and also enemies. There are moments where one wonders whether what they’re seeing is actually happening or whether it’s being imagined by Shiro, especially any moment involving Tamura.

From the start, the fantasy and psychological are mixed and, even during the final act where it seems fantasy is overwhelming, the psychological is just as present as ever, if not more so. Hell serves as another form of mental torment for Shiro, and it probably best represents his fears and the juxtapositions we see between what is real and what is in the mind.

Even though it’s over 50 years old, “Jigoku” feels fresh and terrifying, a film that was doing and showing things no one had ever done or shown before its time.

The film’s depictions of hell are nightmare inducing and its display of psychological guilt-driven paranoia is excellent. While it’s not the sort of film I would recommend to every single person, it definitely should be seen by all fans of horror. It mixes themes of tradition, sin, fear and of course guilt to create a nightmarish masterpiece of horror.

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LA PALAPA HONDUREÑA: AMERICAN DREAM A REALITY

La Palapa Hondureña is one of many Hispanics who came to the United States looking for “the American Dream.”

The restaurant came into the market several years ago through the efforts of a Honduran woman. It began as a very small hole-in-the-wall kind of cafeteria. Through hard work, good food and loyal customers — the majority Honduran — she garnered enough money to expand.

She bought the other half of the restaurant to make it what it is today, and a small property next to it, which her clients use as parking. Since then, the restaurant continues to sit on 2699 Biscayne Blvd.

I discovered La Palapa Hondureña last year, and have frequented it many times since then. I try to vary the plates I order every time I go, but it’s difficult to stay away from my favorites.

My typical orders include pupusas de quesillo, carne asada and sopa de caracol. Pupusas de quesillo are tortillas with melted cheese inside, usually accompanied with repollo — cabbage mixed with tomatoes and a special sauce, which varies a little depending on the restaurant. Carne asada is roast meat topped with onions and served with your choice of rice, french fries, plantains or salad.

Sopa de caracol is literally translated as “snail soup”; however, it tastes better than it sounds. Served in almost any seafood restaurant and several Latin American ones, sopa de caracol varies in flavor depending on who makes it and how it’s made. The one La Palapa Hondureña offers, however, is one of the best I’ve tried.

Apart from the traditional Latin American dishes, La Palapa surprised me in that it offers great seafood as well. Following the sopa de caracol, they also have a great plate of camarones al ajillo (garlic shrimp) and pescado frito entero (whole fried fish).

The shrimp come bathed in a rich, buttery-garlic sauce. The dish also comes accompanied with a side of your choice, and I typically go with either french fries or rice and beans.

As for the fish, I have to admit it wasn’t me who ordered it. The person I’d gone with that day decided to go for something really different, and went for the fish. If you decide to go with this plate, be prepared — for both the fish and the check. It comes whole — head, tail, teeth and everything — topped with tomatoes and a side of rice.

I tried a piece of it and it was definitely delicious, but when the check came, both our opinions began to waver a bit. Since it goes on market cost, the price for the pescado frito entero varies depending on the day you go, so if you want to save your wallet unwanted trouble, ask before ordering it.

The best thing about the restaurant, though, is that it reminds me of home. You guessed it, I’m Honduran, and there’s nothing better than being able to go to La Palapa and ordering a nice baleada.

It is a tortilla topped with many, many things. At home, I used to have them with fried beans, a cream similar to what sour cream is in the United States, scrambled eggs, avocado and sausage. I know it sounds strange, but I’ve heard weirder combinations.

While in La Palapa, I can’t go as crazy with my baleadas as I do at home, I take what I can get. The place in itself is nothing out of this world. It has modest tables and chairs, a long tile bar, a couple of booths and two pool tables that rent out for about $5 per game.

Overall, this restaurant is a great place to go. Not all the plates are as expensive as what the pescado frito entero can go for; in fact, most of the food served has a decent price tag to go along with it.

So if you find yourself looking for a place to eat before a good day or night at Wynwood, stop by La Palapa Hondureña. It’s just a few blocks away and I promise you won’t regret it.

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Grad student brings experience to team

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This year, the FIU women’s tennis team welcomed senior Yana Koroleva as a new addition to their team. Koroleva was born and grew up in Moscow, Russia. At the age of 15, she moved to Florida to train and finish her schooling. She then went on to Clemson University, where she played tennis and graduated this May with a degree in communications.

Since she did not play her freshman season at Clemson, she still had a year of eligibility, and that is why she decided to continue her college career. She is currently in graduate school and is studying sports management.

Koroleva decided to become a Panther because it’s a great location for tennis.

“I love the weather here,” she said. “The conditions for practice are perfect, so I can go run anytime I want, go practice and have the courts available any year round.”

Koroleva and her team recently played in the Bedford Cup in Jacksonville, Florida. Since it was new competition for her — new schools, new players and new coaches — she had to adjust her way of playing the matches.

As a student athlete, Koroleva believes that being a student athlete has helped build her discipline and perseverance for going forward in life.

“For example, if we have a group assignment, I’m usually the one to take the lead and get it done as soon as possible because I know I have time frames,” she said. “I have to manage my schedule and I’ve always seemed to have a busy schedule. So I think being a student athlete helps a lot in life after you graduate. It prepares you for grown up life, especially here in Miami because this is like the real city, the real world, so you have to manage yourself and being a student athlete really helps.”

As you can see, Koroleva is an exemplary student athlete that keeps on impressing us. At Clemson, she was the Atlantic Coast Conference Scholar Athlete of the Year during the 2013 and the 2014 seasons. And on the court, she was All ACC during those two years as well as concluding with 21-4 in the ACC and 28-16 against nationally ranked competition.

We look forward to having such a great talent here at FIU for this season. Hopefully, her leadership and exemplary attitude can rub off on her fellow teammates as they continue with their careers.

Finally, Yana had a message to share with fellow student athletes at any level, “Just stay focused, no matter how many obstacles you may have in front of you, overcome them, and just stay focused.”

Greek flag football postseason soon to begin

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On Tuesday, Oct. 14, the fraternity flag-football regular season comes to an end, several teams have managed to stay atop of the standings and keep their winning records.

On Tuesday, Oct. 14, the fraternity teams competed against each other in one of the final nights of competitive action before the playoffs. This is an important time for the teams because these last couple weeks are the last opportunities to improve as a unit.

If such improvements are not made, the teams face the threat of an early departure from the playoffs and an end to their flag-football season.

With that being said, the teams that played on Tuesday night not only focused on getting the victory, but also focused on possible improvements that can be made to put themselves in a better position to advance past the first round of the playoffs next week.

Two teams in particular have managed to extend their winning streaks and establish themselves as the teams to beat heading into the playoffs.

The team at the top of the standings is Pi Kappa Phi with a current undefeated record of 5-0-0.

After beating Sigma Alpha Mu, Zeta Beta Tau and Alpha Epsilon Pi, Pi Kappa Phi has proved to the league that they are the team to beat. When taking a closer look at the scoreboard throughout the regular season, it is notable that not only have they won every game, but each victory has come through sheer domination, winning by an average of 37.5 points per game.

Their last victory came on Tuesday night from defeating Theta Chi 42-0. This win allows Pi Kappa Phi to enter into the postseason with some momentum. I think we are ready. Our entire team is making an effort to get better each and every day. All we have left to do is a little fine tuning and we will be ready to go,” said Pi Kappa Phi wide receiver and safety Fernando Trillo.

The other team that has emerged as a team to beat in the league is Sigma Phi Epsilon. With an undefeated record of 5-0-0, the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon have proven that they understand what it takes to win, especially in close game situations. Furthermore, their victories came against Tau Kappa Epsilon, Theta Pi and Divine 9, handing them their only loss of the regular season.

Their last game of the regular season was played on Tuesday night where Sigma Phi Epsilon defeated Beta Theta Pi 42-0. This was the first game that the team scored over 20 points and the encouraging victory came in a well time as playoffs are soon to begin.

Pi Kappa Phi and Sigma Phi Epsilon have put themselves in a good position heading into the playoffs and the consistent push for improvement. Although these two teams are considered some of the favorites, at the end of the day, each team gets a fresh start when the playoffs come around. So, in reality, the championship is anyone’s for the taking.
Golf
Alumni creates Gear Sweat, product of healthy alternatives
RAYMOND SIXTO
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Monday, Oct. 20, the Panthers will continue their season by playing in the Old Waverly Bulldog Invitational at East Carolina University. The Panthers have played in four tournaments so far this season. They’ve only had two top five finishes as a team, one of which was a victory in their last tournament. The team is led by sophomore Tara Liebert whose best finish as a team, one of which was a victory in their last tournament. The team is led by senior Meghan MacLaren who won the Mary Spang who leads the team with a 73.17 stroke average and individually won the Minneapolis Invitational.

East Tennessee State University: The Buccaneers have only played in two tournaments so far this season. Their best finish was 7th place at the Mary Spang Invitational. They are led by senior Vittoria Chim who has a team best 76.3 stroke average and has placed as high as twentieth this season.

Florida International University: The Panthers have been in two tournaments so far this season. They finished in the top five during both tournaments. The team is led by junior Meghan MacLaren who won the Mary Spang Invitational to begin the season. She also has a team best stroke average of 72.17.

University of Memphis: The Tigers have been in three tournaments this year. Their best finish as a team was eighth place at the Lady Pirate Intercollegiate. The team is led by junior Julie Hutton who won the team with a 75.89 stroke average in three tournaments.

University of Minnesota: The Tigers have played in three tournaments this year but only finished two of them since the Cincinnati Fall Invitational could not be completed due to rain. In the two tournaments that they have finished they have finished in second place. They are led by freshman Michaela Fisher who has a team best 72.3 stroke average. Her best finish came in the Cardinal Cup when she finished tied for second.

Mississippi State University: The Bulldogs will be hosting the tournament. They have played in three tournaments so far this year. They’ve finished tied for fourth, third, and first place in their three tournaments so far. The team looks to get another top five finish on their home course to continue their early season momentum.

Murray State University: The Racers have been in four tournaments this season. They have two top five finishes including their first place finish at the Deh Creek Invitational. Their other top five finish came at the ASPU Intercollegiate when they came in second place.

University of South Alabama: The Jaguars have played in three tournaments this year, none of which have resulted in top five finishes; their best finish was a sixth place finish at the JSU Chris Banister Classic. They are led by sophomore Elisa Axelsen who has a team best stroke average of 77.6 and has on top twenty finish this season.

University of South Florida: The Bulls have played in one tournament this year. They finished in seventh place at the Johnnie Imes Invitational. It is a very young team which is looking to continue to improve and get better as the season goes on.

Southern Miss University: The Golden Eagles have been in two tournaments this year. They have finished towards the bottom in both of their tournaments this year. The team is led by sophomore Devon Spridelle who has a team best stroke average of 78.0 and has on top twenty finish this season.

Sigma Chi tops fraternity volleyball rankings
REBECCA CHARU
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This fraternity intramural season has brought about numerous opportunities for exciting and competitive action between the sports of frisbee, flag-football and softball. On Wednesday, Oct. 8, Volleyball was added to the mix when some of these fraternities went head to head in competition.

Sigma Chi currently sits at the top of the standings with a record of 1-0 after defeating their opponent, Theta Chi, in two sets. Although we made some mistakes on the court, we came out with the victory. We plan on fixing the mistakes over practice, but other than that I believe we have a solid team,” said captain Joe “Jey Jey” Rodriguez.

After setting the bar high last season with a record of 5-2 and making it to the third round of the playoffs, the players of Sigma Chi are confident in what this season has in store for them. In particular, there is excitement surrounding some of their newer players including outside hitter Hector De Castro, who they believe will contribute significantly to the team.

The only other team without a loss this season is Pi Kappa Phi, who in their first two games have defeated Sigma Phi Elson in three sets and Theta Chi in two. This undefeated start to the season is surprising to the returning players of Pi Kappa Phi who expect nothing short of a championship from their team this season.

“Last season we took first in our volleyball league and we intend to do the same this year,” said setter and libero Robert Calderon.

Both Theta Chi and Pi Kappa Phi will play PHI GAM in their next game on Oct. 22 and Oct. 29 respectively. PHI GAM landed at the bottom of the standings after losing their first game to Sigma Phi Elson in two sets.

Sigma Phi Elson, on the other hand, currently stands in third place in the league, with a record of 1-2 after losing their first game, and PHI GAM to be 0-2 after two weeks of play.
President hosts town hall meeting

**FIUSM STAFF**  
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University leaders head up to Biscayne Bay Campus for a Town Hall meeting.

This is a crucial time for the University, with elections coming up in November. President Mark B. Rosenberg will update students on Tuesday, Oct. 21 about the direction the institution is taking in regards to growth, engagement, opportunities, graduation rates and internships.

Rosenberg’s vision for the University depends on the decisions Miami-Dade County voters take on the Nov. 4 ballot. With the 86 acres of fairgrounds, growth and expansion can continue at the rate it’s been going. The University has about 54,000 students and more than 200,000 alumni, who are quickly outgrowing the space in the main campus, while the BBC campus is slowly giving way to partnerships.

The Town Hall meeting will be held at the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 21. The meeting is open to the public.

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**Panthers football player receives praise**

**MCT STAFF**

Florida International University features a do-it-all tight end who can line up everywhere and do almost anything in the Panthers’ offense.

That’s perhaps the most challenging task Marshall (6-0, 2-0 Conference USA) faces as it prepares for its game Saturday in Miami against the Panthers (3-4, 2-1).

Jonnu Smith is the tight end in question, and the sophomore’s accolades are growing by the week. The 6-foot-3, 230-pound native of Ocala, Fla., was selected this week as a second-team Midseason All-American by CBSSports.com.

“In college, you really don’t see too many tight ends who are go-to guys,” said Marshall safety A.J. Leggett. “This guy’s a nice athlete, great hands, a good player. His team has to trust him a lot with the ball in his hands.”

The Panthers have trusted Smith from the minute he stepped on campus. His 39 catches as a freshman last were about a quarter of that compiled by a struggling passing team, as were his 388 receiving yards and two touchdowns.

This season, his production is about a third of the team passing total – 34 receptions, 411 yards. He has scored four of the Panthers’ eight passing TDs.

“I’m split out a lot. Sometimes I’m in the slot,” Smith said. “I am attached to the line as a true tight end. I’m also in the backfield as a fullback, H-back, wing.”

It has been awhile since the Thundering Herd defense has seen such a versatile, dangerous weapon at the position. The last one? Gator Hoskins. Yes, the Marshall receiver who caught 50 passes a year ago, with 15 going for touchdowns. He who plays across town from FIU, with the Miami Dolphins.

“I think Gator was about the best tight end in the country,” Leggett said. “Coming in practice every week, sticking Gator, that relieves a lot of stress on touchdowns.

Perhaps just a little easier.

Smith’s best game came against Wagner, as one might guess, in which he caught nine passes for 127 yards with a TD. But he also caught seven for 62 against Pittsburgh and Florida Atlantic, and scored on a 75-yard pass against Alabama-Birmingham.

He has caught a pass in each of his 19 games, leading his team in receiving 13 times. He had a team-high three receptions for 46 yards in last year’s 48-10 loss to Marshall.

Covering Smith, in and of itself, isn’t all of MU’s task Saturday.

“They line up in multiple formations, what other people do by changing personnel, by putting an extra receiver in, two extra receivers,” said Chuck Heater, MU’s defensive coordinator.

“They do it out of one personnel group, which means you’ve got to adjust your grouping, adjust your personnel. That adds some complications to it.”

The Panthers have run about 60 percent of the time, with freshman Alex Gardner (112 carries, 478 yards, one TD) and junior Anthon Samuel (56-178, three TDs) leading the way. That doesn’t leave many receptions to spread around – only one other had double-digit receptions (senior Glenn Coleman, 18-334, two TDs). E.J. Hilliard faced the Herd last year at quarterback and was sacked seven times. Now a junior, he has been benched in favor of freshman Alex McGough.

“It doesn’t matter, sophomore, junior, freshman,” said FIU coach Ron Turner, himself an accomplished quarterbacks coach. “We’ll play the guy who gives us the best chance to win.”

Heater sees promise in McGough, especially with a target such as Smith to help him out.

“He’s got some ability to make plays with his feet,” Heater said. “You don’t think that initially, then you watch him more, you watch him more, you realize he’ll make some plays with his feet, so you’ve got to deal with that. He’s getting better.”

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**ANIMAL CRACKERS**

In college, you don’t really see too many tight ends who are go-to guys... This guy’s a nice athlete, great hands, a good player. His team has to trust him a lot with the ball in his hands.

Rebecca Merek, (left) junior hospitality management major, Valerie Rieger, (center) communication arts senior, and Lauren Ramos, (right) a junior studying marine biology, host a fall-themed bake sale for Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary.

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**BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MONDAY, OCT. 20**

**H ave you thought about it?**  
WHERE: 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
WHERE: AC I 393

**TUESDAY, OCT. 21**

**SPC DANCING WITH THE WOLFE: SALSA & BACHATA**  
WHERE: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
WHERE: Rec Center

**SGA SENATE MEETING**  
WHERE: 1:30 p.m.  
WHERE: WUC 221

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22**

**WEBINAR: HOW TO BUILD MEANINGFUL CONSUMER BRAND RELATIONSHIPS IN TODAY’S DIVERSIFIED MARKETPLACE**  
WHERE: 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
WHERE: AC I 161

**THURSDAY, OCT. 23**

**UNIVERSITY WAKE-BOKE FUNDRAISER**  
WHERE: 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
WHERE: Panther Square

**FRIDAY, OCT. 24**

**W E B I N A R: U S I N G T H E D A T A T A B**  
WHERE: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
WHERE: AC I 161

**P AN T H E R S P A C K E D F R I D A Y**  
WHERE: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
WHERE: Panther Plaza

**PANTHERS (S P C D )**  
WHERE: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
WHERE: Rec Center