New tower creates parking issues for students

GORT 109 PROBLEMS

African and Indian dancers to step into Engineering Center

The Engineering Center

NEW GROUP RISES FOR WOMEN EMPowerMENT

At times when she feels uncomfortable with her own skin, Belle Canto, a sophomore in 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'm always hungry 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 hard to actually believe it,” she said.

Wanting to help her younger sister make it through high school, Emily Ralston, a member 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.

“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 University City project plan between FIU and Sweetwater, there will be new streetcape 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 nearby,” 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 Matilde, a city resident who lives on Seventh Street. “They don’t have parking, and I know because my son also studies at the University.”
AMA Homecoming event bridges student-alumni relations

BRYAN PALACIO
Asst. News Director
bryan.palacio@fiusm.com

Michael Kappitt, chief marketing officer at Bloomin’ Brands Inc. and University alumnus, hadn’t returned to his alma mater in 22 years and was stunned.

Kappitt came to the University as the guest speaker for the American Marketing Association’s Homecoming event at Modesto A. Maidique Campus, on Wednesday, Oct. 15. The association has weekly meetings and invited the guest speaker to help commemorate Homecoming week.

“It just is such a source of pride when I walked onto campus and saw all the new buildings and students,” Kappitt said. “There weren’t facilities quite this nice and technologically advanced. In general, it’s an incredible amount of progress that has been made in 22 years.”

Kappitt gave a presentation on his dream-breaking life, working with companies such as Outback Steakhouse, Bonefish Grill and Burger King.

Following his speech, he met individually with students who were eager to hear any words of advice from the marketing director of a multi-billion dollar company.

The event was hosted and funded by AMA, which generates its own funds by making partnerships with local brands and companies by designating itself as a non-profit organization with separate student and professional affiliations, AMA FIU and AMA South Florida. These partnerships allow students to gain valuable work experience, helping the organization to throw large events for important networking opportunities, and allowing companies to cut costs while meeting potential employees.

“A lot of people just go to class and get it over with,” said Giano Currie, senior marketing major and vice president of Professional Development and Alumni Relations for AMA FIU. “The AMA made me realize that you don’t want to pass your college career like that. We put students in a classroom with other students and it’s for students-by-students, and that’s when you see beautiful things happen.”

The AMA strives to make partnerships with as many FIU alumni as possible. With the University marketing major, working with the country was the perfect opportunity to bring in a former Panther to give some inspirational Homecoming advice.

“I’m incredibly proud to be able to come here and share my life and my work with the students,” said Kappitt. “I look forward to doing it more in the future.”

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 Communication and Media, and Community Relations Chair for AMA South Florida Carlo Palazzese.

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

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 especially from the student group,” said Currie. “This event is basically a merge of AMA FIU, AMA South Florida, and Community Relations. We’re thinking about making this an annual event. So this is the first one and we’re hoping this can be the first of many.”

Step in the right direction: SGA hosts dance event

DANCE, PAGE 1

“Besides, I need to learn to dance.”

Others shared Lin’s excitement.

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

Commenting on the event’s theme, Jenkins pointed out that the event aims to provide students in Miami a chance to learn about cultures that aren’t just Hispanic, as they’re used to seeing.

“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, Jenkins, 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 Friday, 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.

Campus group provides a safe place for women

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 the other side of the world.

Internationally, they are collaborating with an organization called She’s the First, which provides 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. Montanna MacRae, a sophomore political science major and president of the chapter, said it is important to teach bright, brindled minds at an early age.

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

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

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, said Canto.

Secretary of SGG Cecilia Pablos-Aguirre, a sophomore history major, supports the idea that all future students will 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 yourself.”

“It’s nice to have a base of 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 decisions 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 year to year or classroom 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, part of a larger unit on major body systems, including the human circulatory system, part of a larger unit on major body systems, including the human circulatory system, part of a larger unit on major body systems.

During the lesson, the teacher introduced particular terms the students would encounter during 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 journal.

Students then read “The Circulatory System,” the fictional “A Journey through the Digestive System with Max Alexander” and consulted other non-fiction books. At the end of the lesson, students were asked to describe the function of the circulatory system in three to five sentences, citing evidence from the text.

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 aloud as the teacher read aloud, modeling fluent and expressive reading.

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 central 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, teachers introduced vocabulary that students would encounter, with a focus on multisyllabic words with prefixes, suffixes, root words, and affix-rich endings such as industrial and migration.

After reading the book, they read about the Dust Bowl, which helped bring about the Great Depression, and other environmental effects of industry and farming. Students were then asked to write essays using complex sentences about Marion Stockard, 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.

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 wide 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.

Fund should not have allied with Koch brothers

MCT STAFF

The United Negro College Fund has compromised itself shamefully in aligning with the Koch brothers.

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) was founded in 1944 to aid black men and women in attending historically black universities and colleges. It was once a creator of African-American intellectual and economic growth. Now it has happily received $25 million from one of the most right-wing outfits in the country.

“We are enormously grateful to Koch Industries and the Charles Koch Foundation for their longstanding support of UNCF and for helping create new opportunities for earned success and a better future for our students,” Dr. Michael Lomax, president and CEO of UNCF, noted in the July newsletter for Koch Industries.

Wow! Where to begin?

Well, for starters, Charles Koch, who is now 78 years old, was a member of the John Birch Society in the 1960s, and his father was on its national council. The John Birch Society was one of the most rabid opponents of the civil rights movement in America.

When UNCF took $25 million from the Kochs, it didn’t ask for an apology.

Dr. Lomax, a literature professor and former university president, whose compensation is now an eye-popping $5.5 million, does not seem to have brought up the awkward business of the Kochs’ support for ending the desegregation of a North Carolina school district in 2009.

What are Koch Industries and the Charles Koch Foundation buying with their donation to a noted civil rights organization?

Two things: Cover and cadre.

In supporting a far-reaching right-wing agenda, the Kochs are involved with some repugnant characters and repulsive ballot initiatives. When their candidates say outrageous things about racial minorities or women, the taint of it wends its way back to Wichita, the home of Koch Industries.

So the Kochs cover the bad smell by buying some good public relations.

The grant also serves as a recruiting device for the Kochs’ ideology.

According to the UNCF, $18.5 million of the grant will go to fund “scholarships at the undergraduate and graduate levels and is focused on how entrepreneurship, scholarships, economics, and innovation contribute to well-being for individuals, communities, and society.”

In other words, the grant will help nurture more Libertarian, free-market, anti-government, Ayn Rand acolytes.

These scholarship winners will find the doors open to them in the right-wing think tanks and lobbying groups the Kochs also fund.

The Kochs are creating an internshp factory for their brand of political and economic ideology.

It’s an ideology that seeks to privatize schools, destroy trade unions, trash the social safety net and do away with government regulation of industry.

It’s an ideology that denies climate science.

It’s an ideology that coddles the most repellent social conservatives and perpetuates culture wars.

That’s not an ideology the United Negro College Fund should be supporting.

Send us your letters

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either G6, 210 in Weidner.

With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter per month from any individual.

Disclaimer

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and members of the University community.

Editorial policy

Editorials are the united voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding in or response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.
Theatre presents ‘The Hampton Years’ at The Biltmore Hotel’s GableStage

Samantha Davis
Staff Writer
samantha.davis@fiusm.com

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 external and 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.

This play creates a link between the Jewish people and the African Americans. From Lowenfeld’s emigration from Austria, where he experienced the unspeakable ways in which Jewish people suffered, to the Jim Crow South of the United States, where he saw firsthand the racism and suffering African-Americans faced.

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 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 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 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.

The play features a cast of actors including Madeleine Escarne, Rebecca Covay, assistant professor, as Viktor’s wife; Margaret; Wayne Robinson, Jr., associate professor and head of performance, as President Bridgegman; and Stephen Neal, adjunct instructor as Dr. Malcolm Shaw-McLean.

One of the actresses, Madeleine Escarne, a junior following 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 n*****s 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.
La Palapa Hondureña: American dream a reality

The foodie

Nicole Zummara

La Palapa Hondureña is one that resonates clearly with 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).

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. I 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 sour cream 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.

Nicole Zummara
fiusm.com
**Greek flag football postseason soon to begin**

**REBECCA CHARUR**
Staff Writer
rebecca.charur@fiusm.com

As 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 their 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. Both teams have proven that they would have won the defeated records 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.
**Alumnus creates Gear Sweat, product of healthy alternatives**

**Ariel Weinstein**  
Staff Writer  
ariel.weinstein@fiusm.com

Walk into any Walgreens, Publix or CVS, and you are guaranteed to find at least five different brands of protein bars, protein shakes, and other weight control and workout supplements.

Nestor Diaz, a University graduate who earned his degree in dietetics in 2013, and his business partner Jose Diaz, Florida Gulf Coast University graduate with a degree in business management, created a new protein product called Gear Butter, and they’re ready to go.

"The name G Sweat – is Gear Sweat and was the name of my personal training company. We thought of the name Gear Sweat, because we view our body as a machine...if you give it good fuel, you’ll definitely feel the difference," said Nestor Diaz.

With his knowledge of dietetics, Nestor Diaz knows the true effects of these supplements to the body and wanted to form a new product that provides better results without the negative ingredients that may be contained in others.

Nestor Diaz and Jose Diaz started the company called G Sweat in 2010. Based out of Miami they were able to supply various bars, CrossFit gyms, and shops throughout Florida and the New England area.

**Sigma Chi tops fraternity volleyball rankings**

**Rebecca Charur**  
Staff Writer  
rebecca.charur@fiusm.com

Although it might just be Gbutter to others, Nestor Diaz claims why he wanted to create such a product.

"What pushed me to create this product was my love for sweets and nutella. During my lifestyle change, I went from 264 pounds which was my highest weight. I was 42" waist. When I was diagnosed with pre-diabetes, I knew I had to make a change. I started eating healthy – oatmeal, chicken, broccoli. But to keep sane, I needed something that was healthy and didn’t backtrack for my workouts yet felt good. So I created Gbutter, and used a sweetener that wasn’t metabolized by the body and instead came naturally from a leaf (Stevia)" Nestor Diaz explained.

G Sweat is also partnered with Serena Sol, a catering company which infuses G Sweat ingredients into some of their products.

Nestor Diaz explained that “there are 60 ‘boxes’ from Miami to Boca that hold the product and we sponsor them when they work out in the gyms because it’s not like a gym where you go and don’t know anybody. You go and you know everybody.”

The products G Sweat sells are similar to a healthy Nutella. G Sweat currently has two flavors of Gbutter, chocolate and cinnamon bun. One of the biggest health differences is that instead of adding sugar to their product, G Sweat adds an ingredient called stevia, which according to Nestor Diaz, is sweet but doesn’t have any macros and is more like fiber. It also has 10 grams of protein in two tablespoons.

"At first it was slow but whenever you put hard work into something...since you build a business plan and stick to it, it works," Nestor Diaz said.

As of now, G Sweat has four employees, but the company plans to have to times this number next year. The company is also planning to incorporate more food products into the business, hoping to sell more than just Gbutter. One such product for example is black rice from China, in addition to a natural supplement line.

Nestor Diaz focuses on a few unique characteristics of Gbutter, that make it different from other health products. “We use genetically modified organism products. Most brands of nuts use GMO plans.”

Evan Gregorius, a freshman majoring in music business, says that “Gbutter combines the best of both worlds. It is rich and creamy and flavorful, but it also is healthy and high in protein. You can’t go wrong with Gbutter.”

**Golf**

**Raymond Sixto**  
Contributing Writer  
sports@fiusm.com

Monday, Oct. 20, the Panthers will continue their season by playing in the Old Waverly Bulldog Invitational in Starkville, Mississippi. They will be part of a field of eleven schools.

Here’s a small preview of each team in the tournament:

**University of Cincinnati:** The Bearcats 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 was at the Cardinal kickoff when she finished tied for 16th.

**East Carolina University:** The Pirates have already participated in three tournaments so far this season. Their best finish as a team came when they won the Minnesota Invitational to begin their season. The team is led by junior Frida Gustafsson Spang who leads the team with a 73.17 stroke average and individually won the Minnesota 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 Fossum Invitational. They are led by junior Vivienne Chin 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 MacAren who won the Mary Fossum Invitational to begin the season. She also has a team best stroke average of 72.17.

**Florida State University:** The Florida State Seminoles have been in three tournaments this year. Their best finish as a team was eighth place at the Lady Pirate Invitational. The team is led by junior Julie Lee who finished tied for fourth.

**University of Memphis:** 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 Fletcher 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 further their early season momentum. The Jaguars have played in three other tournaments this year. They have two top five finishes including a third place finish at the DeCoker 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 other 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 Axszen who has a team best stroke average of 77.56 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 who 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 Spradille who has a team best stroke average of 78.0. He competed in the Johnnie Imes and at the Beatric Classic when she finished tied for 12th.

**Intramural**

**Sigma Chi tops fraternity volleyball rankings**

**Rebecca Charur**  
Staff Writer  
rebecca.charur@fiusm.com

This fraternity intramural season has brought about numerous opportunities for exciting and competitive action between the sports of flag football and softball. On Wednesday, Oct. 8, Volleyball was added to the mix when some of the fraternity houses 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 Jose “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 have nothing but to look forward to as they see 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 defeated Sigma Phi Epsilon in both sets and Theta Chi in two. This undefeated start to the season is seen as a surprise 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," he said. "We’re working hard, and we’ve had a lot of practice which has helped us get better."

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 Epsilon in two sets.

Sigma Phi Epsilon, on the other hand, currently stands in third place in the league, with a record of 1-0, ahead of Theta Chi who is 0-2 after two weeks of play.
President hosts town hall meeting

FIUSM STAFF
bbce@fiusm.com

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 make that the Nov. 4 ballot. With the University has about 54,000 students and more than 200,000 alumni, who are quickly overcrowding 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.

CMC 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, 250-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 year were a quarter of that compiled by a struggling passing team, as were his 388 receiving yards and two touchdows.

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 the tight end. Gator made that a little easier for us."

Perhaps just a little easier.

Smith’s best game came against Wagner, as one might guess, in which he caught nine passes for 132 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 has 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 worry. Mirroring Smith in the slot, 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."

Turner 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, you had Heater said, "He’ll make some plays with his feet, so you’ve got to deal with that. He’s getting better.”