Meyer addresses student body, touches on budget crisis outlook

DAVID BARRIOS
Senior Staff Writer

Acknowledging key issues concerning the student body including the University’s current budget crisis and noting accomplishments made by the Student Government Association, SGC-UP President Arthur J. Meyer addresses the student body.

Among other achievements that Meyer pointed out were his administration’s success in bringing Ivanka Trump, daughter of real estate mogul Donald Trump, to speak as a part of the Student Government Association’s Lecture Series.

“We have started limiting wasteful spending inside SGA and with activities and services fees. We’re also proud of our many accomplishments in getting the community involved with FIU students through our Team FIU lunchmeat and hosting SGA meetings in our northern municipality neighbor, Sweetwater,” Meyer said.

He also encouraged students to participate in “Relay at Talcy,” where students from all 11 state universities will meet to lobby against tuition increases, which will be held this Wednesday.

“We want to show them the accomplishments we’ve made during the past year – not that we’ve stopped working, we still have many months to finish up any of our goals. We wanted to provide everyone with insight as to what goes on,” Meyer said.

The event, the first of its kind, was open to the public and followed with a presentation by University Chief Financial Officer Vivian Dalrymple, director of the Center for Financial Aid.

Meyer said, “He made it his mission to research this history, make the facts known and locate the graves,” said Attyeh Rubin, director of Targum Shlishi, a foundation dedicated to providing a ballistics expert, a photographer and an nan historian, who has interviewed over 500 Holocaust witnesses.

“His work will ultimately change our notion of who died in the Holocaust, where and when and how many,” said Oren Stier, director of the JSP and associate professor and graduate program director of religious studies.

Desbois, with the help of a team composed of an interpreter, a ballistics expert, a photographer and an nan historian, who has interviewed over 500 Holocaust witnesses.

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Tuition increase to provide stability

This event was a mechanism to communicate with the student body about our expectations … there’s a tremendous amount of confusion.

Ronald Berkman
Provost

Students are welcome and are reminded to carpool. The Judaic Studies Program is even encouraging faculty to give extra credit when appropriate.

“A big part of the story that my students hear is that other people don’t know, it is the Holocaust was more than gas chambers and death camps,” Stier said.

As for what to expect, Stier said, “Expect a French-Catholic priest wearing a collar to stand in front of a blackboard; most likely talking about the work he does in investigating elderly, Ukrainian non-Jews on what happened in their towns and villages during World War II and the massacre of Jews in Ukraine.”

Religious dialogue and reconciliation are monumental; anybody who goes to his lecture is going to be moved in a profound way.

Berkman said Jones pointed increases in student enrollment and attendance at athletics events as another sign of improvement. “We planned this with the student body in mind. There’s a tremendous amount of confusion going around,” Berkman said.

Regulations force Relay to relocate

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true depth of mass executions retold

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FINANCE

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The state’s unemployment rate rose 2.1 percent since 2007, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In 2007, Florida’s unemployment rate was 4.1 and in 2008 it rose to 6.2 percent. Unemployment rates increased in 46 of the 50 states last year.

Florida, Nevada and Rhode Island were the only states with increases of two percentage points or more.

The national average unemployment rate last year was 5.8 percent.

Florida ranks third in identity theft cases

According to the Federal Trade Commission, Florida ranked third in the United States in the number of identity theft complaints filed. There were 57,472 identity and other complaints of identity theft, a 24,480 of those complaints were related to identity theft.

Nationwide, there were 1.2 million complaints related to fraud, identity theft and other consumer complaints last year. A 50 percent increase more than 2007.

Senior Associate Athletic Director Julie Berg said she doesn’t believe that food was mentioned at that meeting last year, which she was not present for.

Senior Associate Athletic Director Julie Berg said she wasn’t aware the committee moved the event out of the stadium until recently. Berg also thought all the issues with the practice were resolved.

“When from I was told, it was agreed upon with the relay folks that they would have everything set up before the practice and then gain complete access when prac- tice finished,” Berg said.

Paralyzed veterans believe that the practice problem should have been resolved with the football team practicing another day.

“We plan this with the relay folks that they would have everything set up before the practice and then gain complete access when prac- tice finished,” Berg said.

“We usually set up at 8 a.m. and usually finish up by 5 p.m. so it’s a good few hours of setting up. Ending the set up at 1 p.m. is completely unheard of in the past couple years,” Dalrymple said.

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Biscayne Bay Campus commuters will soon face traffic caused by almost a thousand students making their way to class – but not to campus.

State School QQQ-1 Senior High will open its doors Aug. 24, across from the David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center – next to BBC – on 151 Street, with an expected 700 to 800 ninth and 10th graders.

Plans to build the school started as early as 2006, according to Sally J. Alayon, State School QQQ-1 principal.

"Every time you see a school being built, it’s to relieve crowdfunding from other schools," [Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High]. "Four miles from this school, it’s very crowded," Alayon said.

The construction of the school is estimated to cost $39 million, according to Luan Darder, senior project manager for Pavaria Construccions Co. Inc., the company in charge of the construction.

The school will have 160,807 square feet and will hold 1,614 students.

State School QQQ-1 is the generic name given to schools before an official one is chosen; community members will get a chance to propose names on March 12 at David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center.

As of November 2008, Alayon is a member of BBC’s Leadership Team, which meets every month to discuss issues that affect the campus. Vice Provost Joseph West asked Alayon and the principal of David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center to be a part of this team.

"We look at them as part of the FIU community," West said. "Their students will one day be our students.

Each board member gives updates on their area during the meetings, according to Alayon.

The team tries to see it as one big educational area," Alayon said. "You have kindergarten all the way up to college within a one-mile radius.

The opportunity to help students is the bottom line.

The high school’s curriculum will feature different learning academics within the school, including marine and environmental science, legal studies, information technology, mass communication and hospitality and tourism management.

Students will have the opportunity to select an academic area and take one class per year in that area as part of their electives.

The high school will also have a partnership with University in areas such as marine science, mass communication and hospitality and tourism management.

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Across South Florida and the nation, countless organizations have been preparing to hold what the American Cancer Society calls its signature event, Relay for Life. Across the country, groups hold Relay events in which teams of people, up to 3.5 million people in some years, come together to help raise money for cancer research.

In November 2008, FIU’s Relay for Life team had scheduled to use FIU Stadium for its fifth annual event. During an executive meeting with Relay for Life on Feb. 9, the FIU Athletics Department announced that they would be imposing certain severe restrictions which would make holding the event at the stadium nearly impossible. They declared that the Relay team would be prohibited from having food and beverages on the stadium’s field, and would have to cut four hours from the time allotted to set up the event.

The restrictions they cited: a football practice had been scheduled for the same day as the event. They didn’t say we couldn’t have the event. They just said we cannot have food, drinks or tents on the field," said Beverly Dalymple, director of the Center for Leadership and Service.

The money Relay for Life raises from concessions is part of the funds that go toward research. “That’s our entire event, feeding and providing beverages for 3,000 people to stay up for 18 hours,” said Barbie Erched, student director for Relay for Life.

With these restrictions in place, Relay for Life was obligated to relocate to the front of the Ryder Business Building, where the event was held last year. They now have to pay $5,000 for sound and light, which would have been provided by the stadium. The Student Government Association is the committee paying for these extra costs, but most of the money will have to come from the fund-raiser.

Due to the inflexibility of the Athletics Department, a charitable event is going to have to spend an additional $5,000 and scramble to move to a different location. A money that could have gone to fund cancer research now may be used to pay the electric bill.

The Beacon feels that the Athletics Department is in error for imposing the restrictions themselves, but that error was dramatically compounded by the department’s failure to inform the event organizers. It was almost four days ago that holding the event there could be a problem.

Did they just notice that an 18-hour fund-raiser would require food and beverages?

Do they do any research before approving the use of a greatly prized, newly renovated multimillion dollar stadium? When examining a situation such as this one, The Beacon feels it is important to weigh our University’s priorities. While winning football games is important, raising money to find a cure for cancer should take precedence, at least once a year.

At the very least, Athletics should not have led on the event organizers for so long. At this point, the cost of relocation is a huge burden.

Beyond this, the “partnership” between the student body and Athletics has led to numerous sacrifices for the sake of Athletics. FIU student government forfeited wins in the Activities and Service fee so Athletics could raise theirs, which meant less money for clubs and events such as Relay for Life.

Students were willing to give up hundreds of thousands for Athletics, and they couldn’t cancel a single off-season practice. The Athletics Department should be more of a team player.

“We’re a student organization and we have one of the largest philanthropy events… and we would have thought a football practice would have been able to be moved to another day,” Erched said.

Erched is correct in assuming that something as something as off-season football practice could have been rescheduled. Such a move would have cost the Athletics Department nothing, and it literally would have saved a non-profit organization $5,000 or more.

The Beacon is troubled by this turn of events and hopes that Relay for Life can still be a very successful event this year. We hope that lessons are learned from this mistake, maybe next year, when Relay for Life attempts to race for the cure, it won’t find the Athletics Department standing in their way.

Relay For Life charity event was handled unprofessionally by the Athletics Department

Andrew Zamora
Contributing Writer

Between class, studying and being involved on campus, it’s easy to develop stress. Stress is more than feeling anxious, annoyance and being stressed. It has both psychological and physiological effects and it can affect you in your body and in your mind.

Endocrinologist Hans Selye coined the word “stress” to identify physiological responses within animals in the 1930s. His research led him to discover that all animals show three basic reactions to stressors; he called this reaction general adaptation syndrome, or GAS.

Selye identified three stages within GAS. First is the “alarm” reaction. Alarming occurs when the body attempts to find a way to cope with the stressor, but the body’s resources are limited. Finally, “exhaustion” occurs when the body has been pushed to its physical limit and the body breaks down, unable of retaining normal function and even retarding the effectiveness of the immune system.

Though students may acknowledge a certain amount of stress in their lives, they may be unaware of how truly detrimental it can be to their health and well-being. Exercise can make someone feel fatigue, result in loss of concentration and, at worst, can even manifest itself in depression and cardiovascular problems, along with psychological as well.

According to the National Institutes of Health’s Web site, “Long-term stress can increase the risk of diseases like depression, heart disease and a variety of other problems.”

If you are wondering how to avoid these conditions, the NIH advises to take care of the underlying problem and then seek counsel. Seeking chronic stress persist, although medicines can help too.

FIU’s Recreation Services presents various avenues for students to relieve themselves of stress such as yoga lessons, morning spinning sessions or just getting a good workout. Some student organizations such as the Prekas Meditation Club provide unique and effective ways of stress relief. It is paramount that students be aware of how much stress they’re dealing with and how it can be managed or released.

In your own life, stress has been a large problem as I have eczema, a skin condition, on my fingers. Originally, my parents and I thought that it was an allergic reaction, but I tested negative for any allergies.

I soon realized that my eczema acted up whenever I got really stressed out. My skin would even peel off my hands. I literally really bad episodes, and I also noticed that I became more fatigued, irritable, less motivated and even depressed after moments of high stress. My grades would also suffer during these episodes.

I determined to make a change not only in my habit but also on my outlook on life.

Nightly meditation, which I still do, has had a dramatic effect on my stress levels; it puts me back to my center and lets me see the world clearly. The most powerful stress deterrent is the mind. Ultimately, we perceive and judge the external world is what leads to our mental representation. We actively decide what we find dangerous, stressful or challenging, and we then choose how to cope with these situations.

Finally, what people need to do is take a step back, assess the situation and take a deep breath. Confidence in your ability to act and get through the day can go a long way. Also, don’t forget that you have friends and family to talk to if you need to vent.

There are many opportunities on campus for students to not only get rid of stress but also gain a calmer and more positive outlook on life. Though it’s difficult for some to see how yoga, meditation, and a calm and good disposition can really help them, I implore that they at least give it a try before they doubt the benefits.

Andrew Zamora
Contributing Writer

Students can manage stress

Fidel Leblanc
Contributing Writer

Unless you’ve been living in self-imposed exile from American society, you know our economy is in the toilet.

Obama has made mending the economy his primary goal since becoming president. He wasted no time getting to work on an ambitious stimulus package. While there were not many surprised faces when House Republicans spoke out against it, calling it “too costly” and “slow-moving.”

As a student in an increasingly hostile economic environment, the first question I would ask myself is, “How will this affect me and my education?” The original plan, which cost $819 billion, was trimmed down by the House to reduce what they felt was reckless and ultimately pointless spending. The final amount that was supposed to go toward education was a whopping and eagerly-welcomed $150 billion.

This is a huge sum but much more legislation will be required for education to be one of the prime ways to maintain the future economy, given that current problems are sorted out in time.

The onus of this plan needs to be directed toward the creation of jobs and education to facilitate the ability of the next generation to receive a quality education. I was lucky to have parents in a financially stable position, which helped me toward the creation of jobs and education to different aspects of education should be a huge burden.

The $83 billion is a good start but much more legislation will be required for education to different aspects of education should be a huge burden.

Finally, what people need to do is take a step back, assess the situation and take a deep breath. Confidence in your ability to act and get through the day can go a long way. Also, don’t forget that you have friends and family to talk to if you need to vent.

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As I was listening to the book club, they were discussing the famous American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright’s murder... it was frighteningly fantastic.

David Skip, deputy officer, Wolfsonian Museum

First-time visitors can join the book club for free but membership is required for subsequent visits. FIU faculty, guest speakers usually lead the meetings.

Members are also allowed to suggest books for the group to read.

In 1997, the Wolfsonian became a department of FIU offering an education and research database to quench the thirst for learning.

In 2005, the Wolfsonian Book Club was created at the Wolfsonian Museum to provide participants with a rich literature environment. Deputy officer for the museum, David Skip observed one of the meetings and hopes to be able to attend club meetings soon.

“As I was listening to the book club, they were discussing the famous American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright’s murder... it was frighteningly fantastic,” Skip said. Due to budget constraints, it is necessary for participants to become members.

Annual membership for FIU students and staff membership is $30.

Membership for those who are not part of the FIU community starts at $50 annually.

Membership to the Wolfsonian Book Club grants visitors access to the exhibitions, lectures, tours, and documentaries for the year.

To join the Wolfsonian Book Club, visit www.wolfsonian-fiu.edu/membership and complete the application. The club will provide you with a subscriber list of members throughout the year to keep in touch with the Wolfsonian’s activities.

The museum is located at 1001 Washington Ave.

For more information on how to become a member, join the e-mail list at http://www.wolfsonian-fiu.edu or call (305) 535-2622.

Creating art about childhood is an exceptionally difficult task. By the time we are old enough to truly reflect on it, we realize what a fleetingly small amount of time it truly was. We have a tendency to oversimplify it, and sometimes, we forget what a transformation it had on us. This simple line encapsulates everything the band is about. It is a sentiment adults and children share, but in extremely different ways.

While children express fears of the dark, for the fear of what they know isn’t there, there is an anxiety growing older that is perfectly captured within those 12 words.

Their second album, The Laws of the Playground, due for a U.S. release April 14, continues what was successful about the first and doesn’t strip too far from it. The music is more well put together, with more layers and different sounds being thrown in, but if anything it serves as an older brother to the first album.

In fact, it would seem wrong if their second album was a grand departure from the first. For a band that epitomizes the term “arrested development,” both musically and lyrically, you can’t expect them to grow up too fast.

Just think about how much you can learn if you grow up too fast.

Pop & Circumstance is a weekly column discussing all things pop music.
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© Florida Department of Health
Seniors end careers with dominant win

MEN’S, page 8

healthier. Every scholarship player is active. This is the same team that in late December had just five scholarship players. That is a big reason why the Golden Panthers feel they are better than their 12-19 record indicates.

“We have so much talent with Freddy and it’s so easy to play with him because he can pass, he can post you up and he’s strong inside,” point guard Josue Soto said. “I think our shooters are going to be a lot better. It’s a new beginning for us, and I think with everybody back, everybody healthy, we’re going to be a threat.”

In that 90-73 loss against ULL on Feb. 5, the Golden Panthers led 37-31 against the Owls, who were without Asprilla.

Early on, the Golden Panthers led 37-31 against the Owls, who had lost 16 consecutive road games coming into the contest. It was in the first two minutes of the second half when the Golden Panthers turned up the intensity going on a 6-0 run to lead 37-31 against the Owls, who were without Asprilla.

“The intensity of the first half was not there,” Jenkins said. “In the second half, we turned it up and hit the Owls from the outside.”

Jenkins said the Owls won a time and worry about the first half, “I think we had moments where we played really good defense but then there were also times where we let things slide. But overall, we didn’t play our best defense,” Jenkins said.

However, Galindo said he will not let Hicks shoot a 3-pointer during the tournament.

“No, I’d be the first one to tell him, ‘No,’” Galindo said. “It’s my last game at home and I’m glad that we all finished with a win.”

AWESOME!
Cancer Killers, Heart Healers, Mindmenders and Holistic Wellness Works

A Symposium of Science and Spirituality in Medical Research and Therapy

Florida International University
College of Law, Moot Courtroom, 1st floor
University Park Campus
Thursday, March 5, 2009, 5 P.M.

Welcome: Leonard Strickman, Dean, College of Law

Moderator: Nathan Katz, Ph.D., Director, Program in the Study of Spirituality

Principal Speaker: Jack Wolfsdorf, M.D., Chairman, Miami Children’s Hospital, Medical Ethics Committee: “New Challenges of Genetics and Ethics”

Spirituality Rx: Rev. Guillermo Escolona, M. Div., Director, Pastoral Education, Baptist Health South Florida Pastoral Care Services, “Spirituality, Religion and Health Care”

The Business of Research: Regina Behar, PharmD, Pfizer – Wyeth Representative, “Pharming Progress and Breakthroughs”

Panel Members:
Fernando Valverde, M.D., Associate Dean for Community and Clinical Affairs, College of Medicine
Romeo A. Majano, M.D., F.S.C.A.I., F.A.C.C., South Florida Center of Cardiology
Daniela Cuevas, The Law Center and Institute of Compassionate Leadership of Miami – Dade College

Closing: Javier Torres, Program in the Study of Spirituality

For further information please e-mail Alporro314@aol.com

Game slips away in second half

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throughout the rest of the half, however, ball handling would be the difference for the Golden Panthers as they headed to the locker room down by two points, 19-17, and already in double digits with 10 turnovers.

FAU came out strong in the second half, shooting at almost 60 percent compared to just under 35 percent in the first half.

They dominated the first 11 minutes with a 27-11 run to take an 18-point lead over FIU which, in return, went on a 11-0 run to cut the Owl’s lead to 48-31.

Unable to claw closer, the Golden Panthers wouldn’t cut the lead to less than seven points, their offense much too stagnant for the intense defense the Owl’s brought in the second half.

“We played much better offense in the first matchup with FAU, but much better defense tonight,” Jenkins said.

FIU held the advantage on second-chance points with 14 compared to 9 and dominated the boards 36 to 34.

Meanwhile, the Owls won the fast break column with six points compared to two for the Golden Panthers and they shot a remarkable 90 percent from the charity stripe along with 22-of-47 shooting for the whole game (46.8 percent) compared to 18-60 (30 percent) for FIU.

“I think we had moments where we played really good defense but then there were also times where we let things slide. But overall, we slackered off on offense,” Jenkins said.

Although they end their regular season with a 6-23 record and 4-14 in conference play, the Golden Panthers will hit the road for the first round of the Sun Belt Conference Tournament on March 4.

“I expect us to go there and win some games, but we won’t get carried away,” said Jenkins. “We’ll just take it one game at a time and worry about the first one.”

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The Business of Research: Regina Behar, PharmD, Pfizer – Wyeth Representative, “Pharming Progress and Breakthroughs”

Panel Members:
Fernando Valverde, M.D., Associate Dean for Community and Clinical Affairs, College of Medicine
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## Baseball Series: FIU 1, Brown 1

**the Jacksonville Dolphins.**

**displayed in the season opener vs. Brown.**

**continued the dominance he showed earlier this season.**

However, a poor shooting effort from most of the Golden Panthers, particularly the team’s leading scorer Monika Bosilj who went scoreless on six attempts, would be too much to overcome as FIU dropped to FAU, 57-48.

**Starting guard for the FAU Owls, Carla Stubbs, led all scorers with 18 points on six attempts, leading scorer Monika Bosilj who went scoreless on six attempts.**

The Golden Panthers’ 4-1 lead quickly turned into a 7-4 deficit that the team would not recover from. FIU would not score another run in the game.

Townsend had another good offensive performance as he reached base four times.

### Men’s Basketball: FIU 80, FAU 53

**As seniors Alex Galindo and Russell Hicks played their last game in front of an FIU home crowd, freshman center Freddy Asprilla helped send them off with a dominant 80-53 victory over rival Florida Atlantic University on Feb. 28.**

The Golden Panthers lost the team with every player healthy for the 80-53 win over the FAU Owls in its last game before heading into the Sun Belt Conference Tournament on March 4 vs. University of Louisiana-Lafayette. The team’s health is something Rouco hopes will prevent the Golden Panthers from losing to University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

**Rouco said. “After a tough loss the other night when the ball just didn’t fall for us, this one gives us good momentum heading into the tournament.”**

Heading into the SBC Tournament, the team has never been healthy for the 80-53 win over the FAU Owls in its last game before heading into the Sun Belt Conference Tournament on March 4 vs. University of Louisiana-Lafayette. The team’s health is something Rouco hopes will prevent the Golden Panthers from losing to University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

**Rouco. “To finish like that at home, against rival Florida Atlantic University, who won the first matchup between the two teams earlier this season.**

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### Golden Panthers split doubleheader with Brown

**The Golden Panthers baseball team split a doubleheader against Brown University on Feb. 27 in Myrtle Beach, S.C.**

A dominant pitching complete game by Scott Rembisz led the Golden Panthers to rally back from a 2-1 deficit in the seventh inning.

However, the pitching would not hold up in the second game of the series as Brown exploded for two runs in the top of the seventh inning.

**Senior forward Alex Galindo stares down an FAU defender in the last home game of his FIU career. He finished the night with 15 points.**

The Owls took the lead first with back-to-back layups by Andrea Taylor and Breana Turner.

Seeking the same momentum, FIU responded with six points to go in the first half.

Both teams exchanged baskets in the second half.

**Starting pitcher Scott Rembisz led the Golden Panthers to rally back from a 2-1 deficit in the seventh inning.**

He pitched his first complete game as a Golden Panther.

**Outfielder Pablo Bermudez provided the offensive support for Rembisz going 4-for-4, including a key two-run home run in the top of the seventh inning.**

Bermudez missed most of the previous series against the Dolphins due to a hamstring injury suffered in the beginning of the season opener. He went on to miss the next two games.

As the lead off man, he got the offense going by getting on base four times and recording two RBIs. Outfielder Tyler Townsend provided the other RBI with a line drive to centerfield. He went 1-for-4.

Rembisz allowed just three hits during nine innings of play. He did not walk a batter, and he gave up two earned runs.

**R.J Fondon made a stellar debut for the Golden Panthers until the sixth inning.**

He had shut down the Brown University hitters for the first five innings of the contest.

But back-to-back hits and a walk opened the flood gates, and Brown tacked on six runs to take control of the game. Once Fondon exited the game, the FIU bullpen could not keep Brown hitters from getting on base or scoring.

The Golden Panthers’ 4-1 lead quickly turned into a 7-4 deficit that the team would not recover from. FIU would not score another run in the game.

**The Golden Panthers continued the dominance he displayed in the season opener vs. the Jacksonville Dolphins.**

Starting pitcher Scott Rembisz continued the dominance he displayed in the season opener vs. the Jacksonville Dolphins.

**Senior forward Alex Galindo stares down an FAU defender in the last home game of his FIU career. He finished the night with 15 points.**

The women’s basketball team played their season finale at the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Saturday night with hopes of defeating rival Florida Atlantic University, who won the first matchup between the two teams earlier this season.

However, a poor shooting effort from most of the Golden Panthers, particularly the team’s leading scorer Monika Bosilj who went scoreless on six attempts, would be too much to overcome as FIU dropped to FAU, 57-48.

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