The Beacon, July 1, 2009

Florida International University
The move gave the department heads as well as President Modesto Maidique and President-designate Mark Rosenberg time to look for other ways to fund the programs through fund-raising activities and to come up with alternative plans. In the original budget reduction plan proposed in 2008, the Religious Studies Department was safe. However, after additional cuts for the upcoming fiscal year, which included complete elimination of visiting faculty lines, class size increases and additional cuts for next year’s summer program, CAS Dean Kenneth Furton and his colleagues concluded that the budget could not be balanced without departmental restructuring and even eliminations.

Furton then recommended the closure of the Religious Studies Department. “My decision was based on a variety of factors including comparisons to benchmark institutions of which most do not have independent Religious Studies Departments,” Furton said.

According to Furton, he and his colleagues concluded that there were no expendable programs in CAS, and any department closure would have many pros and cons.

Benchmarking with other institutions, or taking note of the budget reduction processes of other state university system schools undergoing similar hardships, was a way, Furton said, to maintain objectivity in the face of difficult decision making.

The department cut would not have eliminated religious studies from FIU completely, but would have instead eliminated its bachelor’s degree and converted it to a smaller, less diverse program within the new School of International and Public Affairs.

The proposed cuts would have also eliminated half of the current faculty and saved roughly $600,000 per year ($2.4 million over four years).

The proposal to close the Department of Religious Studies garnered...
Students contribute to traffic solution

"The Palmetto Expressway in morning rush hour is an area that especially sees a lot of problems," said doctoral student Patricio Alvarez, who contributes in the lab. "Having this facility allows for us to better analyze the data and quickly diagnose what is causing the problem and decide the best course of action.

Using communication and information technology, students collect data of traffic patterns and behaviors in order to create simulation models of traffic accidents and evaluate alternatives to reduce delays on a congested roadway.

The researchers will participate in local and state projects in collaboration with the Florida Department of Transportation, which contributed some equipment seen in the research facility, according to Mohammed Hadi, professor of civil and environmental engineering and director of the research lab.

"The solution might not be just to add a lane to ease congestion," Hadi said. "We look to implement technology to optimize highway operations."

The research center will also serve as a back-up traffic management center as researchers and students provide feedback to the Transportation Management Center.

"We will devise ways to improve their operations, we really try to make their job easier," Alvarez said. "I see it as my way of helping society by making their trips quicker and more reliable."

Halit Ozen, a visiting researcher from Turkey said he likes seeing the effects of his ideas and decisions immediately when traffic conditions clear.

After three years in FIU, he hopes to take his knowledge to Turkey.
The first day of classes for Summer B students not only included new syllabi and professors, but free burgers, music, and a chance to meet new classmates who were laughing at their own portraits.

I had a great time meeting other Panthers and enjoying the hamburgers and hot dogs,” said Shannon Haughie, a junior international relations major.

The Office of Campus Life and Orientation welcomed new and returning students with the Campus Life Welcome Bash on June 24 in the Wolfe University Center’s Panther Square.

Starting at noon and lasting until 2 p.m., the event boasted an estimated 200 students, who all got free potato salad, macaroni salad, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, corn on the cob, cookies, lemonade and fruit punch.

The Campus Life Welcome Bash also featured free caricatures by artist Al Rodriguez, a “Create your own sand pen” station, and representatives from the Alumni Association, who told incoming Panthers about the benefits of joining the organization.

The Welcome Bash was organized to bring students together, according to Ivy Siegel, coordinator of Campus Life and Orientation. But the event also brought more awareness about the various BBC Student Government Association councils students can join.

Student Government Council at BBC President Sholom Neistein said he wants students to know the purpose of SGC-BBC, and what it has to offer.

“In the future, I hope students can join,” Haughie said. “This was very generous of Campus Life to put on for the students.”

The facilities and space give the kids a lot more opportunities than if they were at a normal camp,” Camp counselor Elise Withers said.

Camp activities include kayaking, basketball and soccer, as well as drama and arts and crafts. But the camp emphasizes on instructional swimming, according to Christina Reddick, Aquatic Center coordinator.

“Learning to swim is a critical need in general,” Reddick said.

“Even on this campus, there are college students who can’t swim.”

More than one out of four drowning victims is under 14 years old, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site.

“Our program is designed to teach basic swimming skills to students of all ages,” said Reddick.

“The parents were expecting a normal camp,” she said. “It was a challenge to have that reputation of programs for students.

“Campus Life is here for the students, no matter what,” Neistein said. “The same goes for SGC.”

Neistein got acquainted with the incoming students by helping serve their food.

“I love FIU, meeting people and socializing. I love these events; they are great,” said sophomore Sarita Jailal, a marketing major who got her caricature drawn.

“We have one of these events every semester,” Siegel said. “We want students to get to know other students.”

Although Haughie hoped for different music, the event staff made her feel welcome, she met new people and enjoyed the food.

“I really enjoyed socializing and seeing what everyone did over the summer,” Haughie said. “I do wish that they played different music though.”

The Campus Life Welcome Bash featured a mix of hip-hop tracks and Top 40 hits.

“I would like to have heard more variety. Other than that, I loved this event and I would really like to see more like this one,” Haughie said. “This was very generous of Campus Life to put on for the students.”

SUMMER CRAFTS

The EcoAcademy is a pilot program that teaches middle and high school students about marine science, and will be continued based on its level of success. The program also incorporates swimming and kayaking, along with conservation and recycling projects.

“Hopefully it will be well received, and the students will appreciate the educational component,” said Reddick. “It’s always a challenge getting young people excited about learning during the summer.”

Proceeds from the BBC summer camps are used to maintain the recreation facilities, and ensure the availability of programs for students.

“People don’t realize that Campus Recreation runs completely on student dollars,” Reddick said.

Activities such as the Islands of Adventure trip are made possible by this additional revenue.

“The summer camp programs are one of the programs that bring us money to supplement what the students aren’t able to give us,” Reddick said.

“The FIU summer camps serve as an opportunity for students to get to know the University better, according to Reddick.

“What our program does is that it brings 4-, 5-, and 6-year-olds to FIU, and they feel they are already part of the University,” she said. “When the time comes to apply to college, they remember FIU. They are familiar with it and have that warm fuzzy feeling. It is not something out of reach, and they are willing to fill out that application.”

Registration for the LEGO camp and EcoAcademy is still open, but spaces are limited.

The Recreation Center would not disclose the amount of money generated from the camps, despite several attempts.

For more information, contact Reddick at (305) 919-4549.
Students deserve less administrative apathy

RICK MARTINEZ
Online Director

FIU sure has a lot to be proud of, just check out its new achievements board at http://www.go-ifs. Some key ones to mention: top 100 business school, one of the largest public universities in America and a brand new collegiate-style logo (which I love, by the way).

However, there is one thing missing in that list of achievements: the respect of the FIU student body. It’s hard being reminded of the bureaucracy, the politics and the closed doors all around campus. I hate thinking that this is the university I once dreamt of going to. I hate hearing, “Welcome to FIU,” whenever I have a complaint about the way things are run. I hate knowing I’ve caught myself saying that phrase to others more than once.

The administration can manufacture the image it wants, but the administration must work for the students, not for itself, in order to make that image a reality. It makes me wonder: Does anyone in the higher-ups care about the students? Unfortunately, if they do, it is not apparent. People have tried to make them care — or at least show it — but too often faculty and staff are afraid to come forward and talk, and the students’ voice is small, because when an administration treats its student body like trash, its students will never care.

President Maimique certainly hasn’t earned the respect of the University’s student body, which is apparent in the online rallying against the renaming of University Park campus in his honor. Although he was the University’s leader during the period of most of FIU’s growth, I’ve met many who feel like they can’t credit Maimique for it. Why? Because Maimique, along with his administration, built the structure with no foundation, an image with no basis.

Fortunately, people are finally starting to look at what’s happening here. The students are craving to have that school pride, and they are realizing that in order to be proud of FIU, things must first change.

When students expressed their support for President-delegate Mark Rosenberg, they called for change, just like they’re doing rallying against the naming of the Moderato A. Maimique Campus along with the cutting of the cheerleading program. This student passion is something new for FIU: the student body has been notorious for being apathetic.

I’m sure the president will argue that cheerleading is just one small part of the budget, but why does it have to be? Why can’t the administration cut the bottom line by making other easier cuts? Athletics needs to cut up to a million dollars from its budget, eliminating the most expensive program which revolves around the life of a family, including the challenges and adventures that come attached to raising eight children.

On June 23, a highly publicized episode aired in which Jon and Kate explained on camera that they and the kids have doctor’s visits. On June 22, they have to make breakfast, they have doctor’s visits. On June 21, they have doctor’s visits. On June 20, they have doctor’s visits. On June 19, they have doctor’s visits. On June 18, they have doctor’s visits. On June 17, they have doctor’s visits. On June 16, they have doctor’s visits. On June 15, they have doctor’s visits. On June 14, they have doctor’s visits. On June 13, they have doctor’s visits. On June 12, they have doctor’s visits. On June 11, they have doctor’s visits. On June 10, they have doctor’s visits. On June 9, they have doctor’s visits. On June 8, they have doctor’s visits. On June 7, they have doctor’s visits. On June 6, they have doctor’s visits. On June 5, they have doctor’s visits. On June 4, they have doctor’s visits. On June 3, they have doctor’s visits. On June 2, they have doctor’s visits. On June 1, they have doctor’s visits.

Jon and Kate have shaken things up for TLC with this episode, which aired just in time to keep ratings high. The hubbub surrounding the Gosselin family only affirmed that any press was good press, because 10 million viewers tuned in to watch what signaled the end of a 10-year marriage.

Did anyone forget that divorces happen every day? Never mind Anywhere, USA’s Jones and Jones splitting up — the ones that really matter have cameras to capture everything. For some reason, we like to obsess with failure. But what makes Jon and Kate so gripping is the fact that they are the most like us, compared to celebrities like Brad Pitt or Megan Fox; they pay bills, they make breakfast, they have doctor’s visits.

The only difference is their lives are recorded on DVRs by millions of people. It’s unfortunate that eight kids are caught in the middle of Jon and Kate’s mess. What’s worse is that the world will watch (and has been watching) as their family unravels.

But I guess it’s true: “Money makes the world go ’round.”

TLC stars’ announcement has too-perfect timing

IRIS FEBRES
Opinion Editor

The “dissolved” marriage of Jon and Kate Gosselin is an American tragedy. Okay, that’s a bit much — just like everyone involved on The Learning Channel’s show “Jon and Kate Plus Eight,” a program which revolves around the life of a family, including the challenges and adventures that come attached to raising eight children.

On June 23, a highly publicized episode aired in which Jon and Kate announced the “life-changing decision” that gripped America for days, through tabloid covers and slogans of their (expected) separation.

Kate explained on camera that she and Jon decided to separate in order to “keep the peace for the kids.” Unfortunately, this announcement will only prevent peace from happening.

Parents who are in their right minds should realize that what’s private is private. Even if you do have your own television show, why make a big-to-do about separating, touting it in a one-hour special? Oh, that’s right: cash.

Jon and Kate have shaken things up for TLC with this episode, which aired just in time to keep ratings high. The hubbub surrounding the Gosselin family only affirmed that any press was good press, because 10 million viewers tuned in to watch what signaled the end of a 10-year marriage.

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But I guess it’s true: “Money makes the world go ‘round.”

Send us your letters

Get a problem with parking? Want to give thanks to faculty? Do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com and drop by our offices at either GC 240 or WUC 104. We love to hear from you, so be sure to include your name, major and year.
Local theater challenges convention

Ensemble, Experience, Engagement

That’s Unhinged Theatre’s motto, according to FIU alumni Michael Leon, the company’s founder and artistic director.

Unhinged Theatre is a theatrical company based in South Florida where actors (mostly FIU alumni) and students come together to express their artistic abilities and give the audience a new take on theatrical performances.

Michael Leon started the company in August 2008.

“I had wanted to work with a group of artists that I felt comfortable with and I respected their work. I felt that as a group we could work together in order to put up productions that we cared about and wanted to put our own take on them,” Leon said.

Unhinged Theatre just produced their first classical play called Gaslight, which ran from June 26 to the 28.

For Isobelia Duran, who graduated from FIU in 2004 with a bachelor’s in theatre, this was her first performance with Unhinged.

Duran heard about the company through a fellow actor who went to school with the company members.

“I wanted to be a part of this endeavor because I found it exciting, I love the fact that this company has ‘out-of-the-box’ ideas and goals,” Duran said.

She is excited to be among hardworking individuals who work together with a common goal: producing great theater.

“The energy is charged and goes through many changes throughout the play, keeping the audience engaged,” Duran said.

Duran played the role of Elizabeth in Gaslight, which she found challenging her to become a better actress since the character appeared to be duplicious and was very complex.

Keeping the audience engaged is one of the main goals of Unhinged Theatre.

Dixon Gutierrez, an original member of Unhinged Theatre who will be graduating with a B.A. in acting from FIU, says the show was an experiment to see if they could keep an audience in suspense like they do in movies without the luxury of editing.

“We don’t really have that luxury in the theater. What came up through rehearsals was we had to make sure that we were feeling that suspense and anxiety and hopefully pass that on to the audience,” Gutierrez said.

Unhinged Theatre has offered challenges to the actors through the roles they play in the performances.

For Gutierrez, the challenge of his role as the detective in Gaslight was the language of the show.

Unhinged Theatre has offered challenges to the actors through the roles they play in the performances.

At the absolute worst example is the single “Blame it” by Jamie Foxx, which gives me road rage when the radio continues to play it over and over (CD player in the car broke down, tough times). That stupid attempt at music sounds like elementary school kids beating on the lunch table and stuttering over the background of the others during recess.

I am glad, but more relieved, to say that one of the most obnoxious phenomena in pop culture is done. Probably because Jay-Z decided so. The horns in the song, which references Steami’s “Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye” has made noise around the nation. “D.O.A.” or Death of Auto-Tune, is Jay-Z’s newest joint as he sets to release another album (Blueprint 3, but that’s a topic for another day). Jay goes in and takes a jab at Auto-Tune, which distorts artists voices, and voices his displeasure over the overuse of the device.

“You bent jeans too tight, you colors too bright, your voice too light.”

What Jay is trying to do is bring balance back to hip-hop in a time where light talking rappers have now overstayed their welcome.

Sure, it is a breath of fresh air to have different artists with different styles and concepts on the scene. Hip-hop is a way to express yourself, in whatever way that may be. But lyricism has been overtaken by the corny. Auto-Tune assisted melodies that you hear on the radio all day.

It isn’t necessarily a shot at Kanye West, though. In an interview with New York radio station Hot 97, Jay alluded to Kanye being one of the only artists who has successfully incorporated the vocoder into his songs – even though Kanye is best when he is rapping, which he has bounced back into of late. D.O.A also calls for a return of some of the darker music that used to be a staple in hip-hop.

“I might wear black for a year straight, I might bring back Versace shades.”

Take a look at what two of the most promising artists at the beginning of the decade have become. Wayne and 50, both more inclined to their darker roots at the start of their careers, have become pop stars.

Both are smart and talented individuals, but this was not their music evolving over time, it was a gradual change to fit trends that have made them popular which has lost them respect.

The death of Auto-Tune is in the best interest of music and should only be used sparingly by those who can use it well, like T-Pain and West.
In the past week, four titans of the entertainment world passed away. TV personality Ed McMahon was 86, Michael Jackson, legendary recording artist and one of the biggest stars the world had ever known, died at 50.

Earlier that same day, Farrah Fawcett, 70’s icon and star of the hit show “Charlie’s Angels,” succumbed to a long battle with cancer at 62. Finally, Billy Mays, the king of late night infomercials, breathed his last breath. With this unusual rash of celebrity deaths, the FIU campus was abuzz with chatter regarding the loss of these four stars.

“It’s creepy all the celebrities are dying,” said Ben Badger, FIU senior and SGA press secretary. “They’re all four stars. It’s too creepy to mention whether to feel this way or not.”

“I’ve thought a lot about this,” said Carrie De Leon, one of the actors in the theater program.

“It’s unfortunate because he was at the peak of his popularity ... he was such a positive and exuberant performer,” said Ephraim Perez, one of the actors in the theater program.

Students who spoke to The Beacon agreed that the deaths of Jackson, Mays, McMahon and Fawcett were terrible losses.

The Beacon joins the rest of the student body in expressing our sadness regarding their untimely deaths.

-Compiled by Chris Cabral and Rachael Congdon.

**Theater professor tries to create thoughtful individuals**

**DAVID BARRIOS Staff Writer**

It would be to say that Professor Philip Church’s table is a mess. On top of his desk lie several stacks of papers: teaching plans, assignments for class, advertisements for an upcoming production of Reeder Madness, etc. According to Church, he will follow the lives of an ensemble cast through their time at FIU and is still in its early development stage.

“It’s coming in the Fall. It’s really an exciting project. We’ve already got directors lined up,” Church said.

Church, 60, is a veteran of the theater department. A professor for almost 30 years, he is the head of the performance track in FIU’s theater program, often directing multiple shows a year and educating thousands of students during his tenure.

The program offers students the chance to pursue acting or directing. There are plenty of teachers whose aims are to present dramatic material during the summer and give opportunities for more actors to perform on stage. Many faculty members and students within the department.

Marina Pareja, manager of the department’s costume shop, says Church is an inspiration to herself.

“I’m a costume designer but I also direct. But my direction skills could do better,” Mena said.

“I’m a costume designer but I also direct. But my direction skills could do better,” Mena said.

Church starts all of his acting classes straight with as little effort as possible and without research. “He’s very big into research. Even what [the character] ate for breakfast, if he helps you,” said Kat Moreno, one of the actors in the theater program.

Michael Mena, another actor in the program says that Church’s direction has pushed him to be a better actor.

“He looked at me in class and told me, ‘You’re doing good but you can do better.’ I realized that he was right and I wanted to prove to him that I could do better,” Mena said.

Church, who is from Britain, describes himself as a professional actor as well as a director, though he admits that he does not act much anymore.

However, he’s played many roles in theatre productions throughout Miami including Sidney Cockrail, class friend to playwright George Bernard Shaw in Best of Friends and Lady Bracknell in a production of Oscar Wilde’s The Importance of Being Earnest.

Today however, his lead role is teaching prospective actors and non-major students in the middle of the summer term.

His next directorial effort will be The Cherry Orchard, an adaptation of the Anton Chekov play about an aristocratic Russian family returning to their estate before it is foreclosed.

“I can’t talk about the play too much right now, but I just like the idea that it’s about ... this house and having to leave it. It’s so interesting that we’re doing it on this particular holiday,” Church said.

The Cherry Orchard is set for production in Spring of 2010.

While Church is excited about his role as teacher and director, he feels his ultimate responsibility as a professor is much deeper than that.

“It’s not about creating actors. It’s about creating human beings,” Church said.

Church agreed that the deaths of Jackson, Mays, McMahon and Fawcett were terrible losses.

The Beacon joins the rest of the student body in expressing our sadness regarding their untimely deaths.

-Compiled by Chris Cabral and Rachael Congdon.

**After LIFE! Celebrity deaths rattle FIU students**

**Jorge Valens Arts News Director**

Most 11-year-old boys are busy fighting off cookies and playing video games, but Fin Keleher is striving for something more. The ambitious young Keleher, a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah, has decided that he wants his name in the record books, the Guinness Book of World Records to be exact, as the person with the most snails on his face.

According to the Guinness Book, the current record for this particular feat is an astounding 37 snails. In order for the snails to be officially counted they must stay attached to the person’s face for at least 10 seconds.

Keleher said in an interview with the UK’s Daily Star that a copy of the famous record book he had received for his 10th birthday was his inspiration.

Keleher said in an interview with the UK’s Daily Star that a copy of the famous record book he had received for his 10th birthday was his inspiration.

The Kelehers will, per the guide-
Volleyball star in high spirits after win

ROSÁ, page 8

That’s even more challenging to me because I know I have to do my job to stay there [on the court] and not go back to the bench; I like it.

Yarimar Rosa
FU/Puerto Rico Outside Hitter
on being relegated to the bench

Baseball team’s APR fix is a long time coming

APR, page 8

single-year score for the 2008-09 academic year, the team had the lowest APR score of any intercollegiate sport in the University. The team’s regular season was reduced from 55 to 54 games and limited its playing days to 125, according to the 2007-08 report. The team accumulated a 925 score for the 06-07 academic year, but that followed a horrendous campaign in 05-06 that saw the Golden Panthers finish with a 725. All Division I baseball teams averaged a 946 APR score, according to the 2007-08 report. Garcia said FIU was very active in seeking relief from the NCAA.

“We applied for a waiver, but we kind of self-imposed our own penalties just from the history of FIU baseball and what we are trying to fix,” she said.

“We went ahead and asked them, we won’t ask for relief from this, we want partially relief from that, but we do want full relief and want our scholarships back because we have made such drastic improvements.”

Over the last three years, the University lost 17 scholarships due to contemporaneous penalties, yet no program lost any scholarships this past academic year. Contemporaneous penalties restrict the number of initial scholarships and scholarships renewals a team may award. These penalties occur when programs do not obtain an APR score of 925 over a four-year period and have at least one athlete leave the institution while academically ineligible. The four-year rolling average takes into account the previous four academic years, and the University will still have to wait a few seasons before getting the 06-07 season off the books and improving their multi-year score. The baseball team was the only FIU program that had a worse single-year score than last year.

“The historical penalty waiver is when you are way behind. Baseball did not suffer any further losses because they did not suffer eligibility issues,” Garcia said.

“Their number still was technically low at 917, because you need a 925 single-year to maintain a 925 multi-year. With everything that was going on, it was still a drastic improvement.”

Despite numerous requests, Athletic Director Pete Garcia was unavailable to comment.

Baseball team’s APR fix is a long time coming

Baseball team’s APR fix is a long time coming

He’s a professional, and will do whatever it takes to turn his team into a winner as long as he’s here.

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Yarimar Rosa
FU/Puerto Rico Outside Hitter
on being relegated to the bench

Baseball’s leader may be noticed by other programs

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That’s even more challenging to me because I know I have to do my job to stay there [on the court] and not go back to the bench; I like it.
The Golden Panthers’ volleyball star and three-time All-American, Yarimar Rosa, found herself in unfamiliar territory on the bench. In the second round of the 2009 VIII Pan-American Women’s Volleyball Cup match, Puerto Rico vs. Mexico, Rosa did not play until the score was 16-15 in favor of Puerto Rico.

This is something she is not used to at FIU, where Rosa has started all 92 of her matches played over the last three years.

She earned her team a point as soon as she entered the game, and Puerto Rico had no problem putting away Mexico in three sets (25-18, 25-15, 25-21).

Starting from the bench did not insult Rosa; it gave her more motivation to earn playing time.

“That’s even more challenging to me because I know I have to do my job to stay there [on the court] and not go back to the bench; I like it,” Rosa said in the post-game conference.

Coming off a record year in which she led the volleyball team to season-record 28 wins, Rosa is now representing her home country of Puerto Rico.

She finds herself on a team ranked 19th in the world.

When the time came for the national women’s volleyball team of Puerto Rico to fill the slots for their team for the Pan-American Cup, Rosa was selected for the second consecutive year.

Her team finished in fourth place in last year’s games. That is the best finish for Puerto Rico in the tournament’s history.

Rosa hopes she can be a difference and help lead her country to a better result.

SAME SUCCESS, DIFFERENT TEAM

For Rosa and Puerto Rico, their second round challenge was the Mexican national team. Playing in front of an equally balanced crowd at the BankUnited Center, Rosa played the majority of the match, but came off the bench unlike previous matches for FIU.

Puerto Rico coach Humberto Rodríguez said Tatiana Encarnación, the player who started ahead of Rosa, was not performing at her full potential.

“For a moment, I got the impression that Tatiana was playing under her normal level. It seemed like an appropriate time to let Yarimar play, who had been training well; the switch worked out for us,” Puerto Rico coach Rodríguez said during the post-game press conference.

And work well it did, as once Rosa entered during the first set, Puerto Rico went on a 9-3 run to capture the first win and set in motion the second postseason turnaround.

She earned 11 points for the match, which was a tie for the second best mark on the team.

Team captain Vilmarie Mojica assessed her team’s performance.

“We had a better game collectively,” Mojica said.

“We attacked well from the middle and the corners of the net. Little by little, we’re getting a better and more of an established team.”

Puerto Rico then defeated Peru 3-0 (25-17, 25-19, 25-23) the next day. Both teams entered the match undefeated, and Puerto Rico improved to 3-0.

“Peru came out strong and battled back,” Puerto Rico captain Mojica told teamusa.org.

“However, we prepared a lot for this match with a great scouting report.”

Rosa’s journey continues as Puerto Rico battles for their first Pan-Am Cup title at the BankUnited Center. The tournament winds down until its conclusion on July 4.

LOVE OF THE GAME

For Rosa, the championship provides experience.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS

• 35 years of recruiting for college baseball programs
• Asst. coach of 1999 University of Miami national championship team
• Asst. coach of Louisiana State national championship team
• 14 College World Series appearances
• Signed MLB stars Chipper Jones and Alex Rodriguez

In two full seasons he compiled a 54-57 record, but the team did see a two win improvement from last season. Also, his recruiting class was ranked No. 15 in the nation, according to Perfect Game Crosschecker.

Head coach Turtle Thomas was unavailable for comment at the time of publication.