Students weigh in on healthcare debate

JURO MENACHE
Staff Writer

As the nation wrestles with healthcare reform, students have a wide variety of opinions concerning possible solutions to the debate.

“The only way to make health-care cheaper, in my opinion, is to get government out of healthcare,” said junior Yonathan Amsellem, who is majoring in political science.

Amsellem, who comes from a family of lawyers, believes that the best way to reform America’s healthcare system is by “trying to fight the trial lawyers.”

“It’s the threat of being sued that makes doctors run patients through a battery of tests you really don’t need and raise the premiums for everyone else. When a doctor can be sued for $20-30 million, that raises the cost of insurance for everybody,” Amsellem said.

In a move to appease conservatives, President Obama said during his speech to Congress on Sept. 9 that he would open to tort, or medical liability reform.

“The health insurance industry does not need to be reformed, but it must be done in a way that unleashes the innovation inherent in all areas of the American economy. This, along with massive tort reform, will truly lower health care costs for all Americans without sacrificing that which makes us unique,” said Nick Antil- ello, president of FIU College Republicans.

“I don’t believe malpractice reform is a silver bullet, but I’ve talked to enough doctors to know that defensive medicine may be contributing to unnecessary costs,” Obama said during his address on healthcare.

He plans to work on demonstration projects across the country that would look for ways to reduce defensive medicine practices.

President Obama also gave Congress an outline of what should be included in the healthcare bill. He proposes to reform health insurance by preventing insurance companies from denying people with pre-existing conditions and setting a limit on out-of-pocket expenses.

In addition, Obama calls for the creation of a “one-stop” health insurance exchange, set to begin in 2013, where Americans can pick and choose low-cost private or public plans. All Americans would be required to have health insurance. Large employers would be given tax credits for offering their employees plans. The rest of the country would be covered by the exchange.

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Protesters call for spy liberation

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands of Cuban demonstrators are calling for the liberation of five men arrested 11 years ago for spying in the U.S.

Protest leader and painter Alexis Leyva Machado wants President Barack Obama to free the men because he said “they are anti-terrorism heroes, not villains.”

The so-called “Cuban Five” were convicted in Miami, Florida, in 2001 for being unregistered foreign agents.

Cuban officials say the men were heroes trying to avert terrorist attacks on the island and maintain they didn’t receive a fair trial because of strong sentiment in Miami against former Cuban President Fidel Castro. Three will be resentenced in October.
CUBAN PROTEST, page 1

The demonstrators began their vigil at eight Sept. 9 and continued throughout the morning Saturday, Sept. 12 in front of the U.S. mission in Havana. In January 2006, two University professors were indicted for espionage. Carlos Alvarez, then associate professor of the educational leader- and policy studies, and his wife Elsa Alvarez, counselor for the Psycho- logical Services Division, were discovered to be spies for the Cuban government. The Alvarezes revealed their affili- ations with the Cuban government in June 2005 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. According to Loyoan, the University hires an insurance broker that helps it find insurance that are comprehensive and low-cost.

Yet even those without insurance can still see a doctor. “If you don’t have insurance, your visit to the doctor here is free. The visit is not going to cost you anything except for, let’s say, a test for strep throat,” Loyoan said.

Senior criminal justice major Franz Benard says he was aware of the Gucci student who received the University, even though he has been without healthcare for eight years.

“If I worry about getting sick, but I am not sick,” Bernard said. “I’m healthy. The only thing I need to do is go to school, get myself a better job — then I can get health insurance.”

CUBANS aim to reassemble alleged spies

Marcelo Martinez

Martinez attended law school at the University of Florida. He then worked for a law firm in Miami and passed the Florida Bar Exam. “I took the exam because I had enjoyed my foreign studies and felt that my ideal job would combine travel, cross-cultural experiences, use of my legal training and experience, language skills, while keeping the security of working with one employer,” he said. “In the end, I real- ized that becoming an Amer- ican diplomat would fulfill these requirements … and after 23 years doing this, I was ready.”

Martinez was the chief of the U.S. embassy in Lima, Peru, deputy consul in Belfort, U.K., and most recently the chief of a Regulatory and Compliance Unit he established to monitor inter- national exchange visits and programs in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

He speaks Spanish, French, Italian, Greek and English.

“I learned to read and speak Italian and Greek as part of being a foreign service officer,” he said.

Martinez came to FIU in 2006 and has impacted lives at the University for a few years. “I have been an enor- mous asset to FIU because of his excellent expe- rience and presence in the U.S. Foreign Service,” said John Clark, former chair of the former Department of International Relations and professor in the new Depart- ment of Politics and Interna- tional Relations. “He has served in many important posts around the world. Yet, he is very approachable and engaging down-to-earth.”

According to Clark, Martinez was assigned FIU for the years that he has been here. He has aided students win major national scholarships to top universities such as George Wash- ington University. He has also helped many students win internships in the State Department, either at U.S. embassies abroad or in Washington, D.C.

Student Abdel Perera met Martinez through his Diplo- macy class and from there many have had many opportunities through the guest speakers that Martinez brought to the class.

“Whether you are a political scientist or a busi- ness major, this is a must take class at FIU, this is a must take class with Mr. Martinez,” Perera said, a senior international relations and politics science major.

Perera was eventually awarded an internship in the consul section of the U.S. embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Perera said he was shocked when he learned the investigation of the internship. Martinez briefed him on the local population, the city, the culture. They continued to stay in contact throughout the internship experience.

“Something that has always impressed me about Mr. Martinez is his way of adapting to the younger generation, appealing to college students,” Perera said. “Whether it is his consular work abroad or his endeavors in South America, Mr. Martinez has never seemed to be afraid of a new challenge.”

According to prosecutors, the Alvarezes were accused of reporting U.S. political information and details regarding prominent Cuban Americans in the local community. It was also alleged that they divulged the iden- tity of a University student who was an aspiring journalist.

Additional reporting by Jorge Valenzuela.
Student delivers message of unity through art exhibitions

MELODY REGALADO  Contributing Writer

New York-inspired paintings created by a basic art class have now found temporary homes in the University, where they will be showcased for the next few years.

The artist is graduate student Jason Galbut, who enrolled the University seven of his paintings, six of which now hang on the walls of the Wolfe University Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus and one in the Graham Center at Modesto Maidique Campus since May.

Galbut, 31, began painting while he was on a summer away program in high school in Boston. He completed his undergraduate studies in fine arts from Slade School in London in 2002.

A Miami native, he is currently in his final year of his graduate studies in fine arts at FIU’s School of Art and Art History.

Galbut is also an instructor at the School of Art and Art History at Miami Dade College, where he taught 2-D Design, but he now teaches beginning and intermediate painting.

He describes his style as both “free and precise,” and said he has a clear idea of the message he wants to deliver through his paintings.

“I thought my paintings to reconcile all the different aspects of our lives to create a rich, meaningful world,” Galbut said.

Although completing his creations was a process that demanded a lot of patience, Galbut felt his work was worth the effort.

“With my paintings I try to reconcile all the different aspects of our lives to create a rich, meaningful world,” Galbut said.

Although completing his creations was a process that demanded a lot of patience, Galbut felt his work was worth the effort.

Galbut approached the University to have his paintings showcased at both campuses, and according to him, the school offered its full support.

The University paid about $2,000 for the artwork through the WUC’s auxiliary fund, which is the money collected from hosting events and activities not involving the student body, such as test preparation courses and business meetings. The $2,000 helps cover the insurance and installation of the paintings, according to Jennifer Cooper, associate director of operations and event planning at the WUC.

He chose a college campus as the site for his work because he sees academic institutions as places that foster knowledge and make people think.

“The paintings fit in perfectly at FIU. What could be better than a university?” he said. “My works are meant to function in an intellectual dialogue and inspire thought.”

Galbut feels a connection with these paintings because they reveal how he works with the world, he said. He strives to make sense of the information and images that people are faced with, and sort them out to see how he fits in with them.

“I honestly believe health care is a right, not a privilege. That’s my philosophy. Consequently, I believe we should provide services to students,” said Velez.

“We have enough time for interaction, instead of five minutes and out of the room. I am a user of the health service, and I can tell the difference.

“Clinic offers inexpensive medicine, services to students

DAIANA KUCAWCA  Staff Writer

While the White House looks to pass a bill on universal health care, the majority of Americans have had to cope with the issue at hand: being uninsured or underinsured.

University Health Services at the Biscayne Bay Campus can help in both cases. The clinic offers medical services for free or reduced prices compared to those in other clinics. Services include physical examinations, health screenings, vision screenings, HIV testing, STD testing, vaccinations and a pharmacy.

To access the clinic’s services, students simply have to be enrolled for classes.

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., for more information, call 305.919.5307.

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The vicious cycle of teenage unemployment

Give student workers a chance

DENISE RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

Teenagers are constantly persuaded to join the armed forces to sacrifice their lives for the freedom of others, but when it comes to our employment needs, we aren’t persuaded to be hired.

This year’s teenage unemployment rate has been the highest it’s ever been at 25.5 percent, a significant increase since 1948 (10.5 percent).

Even the number of teenagers working this year reached a new low: according to The New York Times, an estimated 1.64 million people between the ages of 16-19 were unemployed.

Not only is this number worrisome, it’s disheartening. From personal experience, I have faced this competitive job market, and was lucky enough to land my first book store job – after applying at other places and not receiving any callbacks – and left of the day in a busy building.

With our energy and willingness to work, employers should be eager to hire us. With all that we have to offer, we are shunned rather than given the opportunity because we do not have “enough experience,” as many students would believe.

Well, in order to gain experience, someone has to give us a shot. Young adults like us need to acquire necessary skills in order to become productive individuals.

As job hunting within our age group wasn’t competitive already – since we’re the last to be hired and first to be fired – we have to make it through numerous obstacles during this recession.

The New York Times said, “Congress set aside $1.2 billion for jobs and training for teenagers in February’s stimulus bill.”

If the resource-oriented by the stimulus, we should be aware of where that money is going and take ownership of those funds.

Experts speculate different reasons for which teens aren’t hired. One of the reasons includes the increase in minimum wage from $6.55 in July 2008 to $7.25 in July 2009, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. This may influence the high percentage of unemployed teenagers.

As a result of this unemployment, students have returned to or begun in order to become more competitive in the job market. The New York Times also stated that teens “are choosing to attend college, which could help them increase their earning potential later in life.”

There may be evidence of students turning back to school, re-entering, or staying. Some students as fall of 2008, according to FIU’s Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness.

This problem becomes an endless cycle. If we are not choosing to go to college, we are back at square one: in order to afford college, we must be able to afford it.

In order to afford it, we must have a financial source, bringing us back to unemployment.

We should, therefore, take the chance to break this endless cycle of wasted resumes. We should not be left behind simply because of our age. The future of our country is in the minds of these young people being turned away. We are the building blocks of this country, forming the foundation which will hold up subsequent generations. For this we need one thing – experience.

Students too dependent on loans for tuition

MARGARET CHEBAT
Contributing Writer

As the Fall semester commences, it carries with it a myriad of new activities, familiar faces and new beginnings. Along with all of these stressful and exciting experiences, the most difficult burden to bear at the inception of each semester is tuition.

Each year, many students scramble to find new ways to pay for their education.

Some students turn to scholarships, grants or funds from a job; however, many students look to loans for aid.

Although this may not be the best form of payment, student loans are the most common form of payment for tuition. Each year, the number of students seeking aid increases; this year, the amount of money students borrowed increased to $75.1 billion, according to The Wall Street Journal.

The number of students searching for aid within the past year has increased dramatically as well.

Undoubtedly, the suffering economy has played a significant role in the increase of the amount of students requesting financial aid. Since many students cannot afford to pay for college out of pocket, a loan is the next best option.

Loans have become something of a detrimental quick fix for tuition costs. Students are becoming more accepting of the idea of taking out a student loan in order to fund their education.

Most students understand and accept that they will be in debt after graduation. According to The Wall Street Journal, “Two-thirds of college students borrowing to pay for college will have an average debt load of $23,186 by the time they graduate.”

Because student loans are easy for students to acquire, many students think taking out several loans is acceptable as long as they graduate and pay back what they owe.

However, this is not such a simple concept. Many individuals searching for jobs are directly out of college find themselves in difficult situations. Many companies are looking to hire experienced workers who will be able to expand the particular business, if they are hiring at all.

Unfortunately, students who are graduating into the current state of the economy are finding it nearly impossible to attain the job they had hoped for during their graduation.

The problem lies in the excise in which these loans are available as well as in the absurd costs of a good education. Many students are so focused on getting a degree that they do not consider the financial consequences when pulling loans in order to fund their studies.

Although loans can be the only source of payment for some students, there are other avenues to acquire money for college.

Applying for scholarships and grants can help take the burden off of having to rely on loans. It is up to the student to act wisely when taking the steps to deciding your future, because in order to be successful, you may end up having to pay for it later.
Among many other interesting plants in the conservatory, there are vanilla orchids and cacao trees, from which chocolate is made. Dr. Zona has student volunteers who help him take care of all the plants.

“As a biology major, I thought it was a good idea to get involved with the University and give back. Apart from it being educational because I learn about the different plants and what moss to use for each plant from Dr. Zona, it’s also a workout because being out there planting is hard work,” said Javier Corea, a junior who just recently began volunteering with Zona.

That hard work pays off though because some of those plants are then sold to benefit the conservatory. Zona is currently planning a sale for some time later this semester.

“It’s there so anyone can go and see what the University has to offer. Everything is labeled so if you don’t know about plants you can see their names and you’re not just looking at unknown plants. It’s a great start for anyone who wants to do more research on their own,” Corea said.

Zona wants students to know as much as they can about the conservatory.

“Other than the fact that it’s there,” he joked, “there are some really wonderful plants in there and it’s a great quiet little respite from the frenetic campus life.”

The conservatory is free to visit and is open to all visitors, not just FIU students. The conservatory hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For questions about the conservatory or for a guided tour, Dr. Zona’s office is in OE 241 or he can be reached at (305) 348-1247.

Sigma Tau Delta gets members outside the classroom

The English department has a club that enables students to hit the ground running both socially and academically.

Sigma Tau Delta is an English honors society with the purpose to provide English majors and minors the opportunity to engage with fellow students in a more social environment.

Make no mistake, it is still an honors society, and consequently, it requires members to meet a minimum of a 3.3 GPA within the department, and a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

“My goal as president is to extend our passion for literature from inside the classroom. Unlike a lecture, the professor comes in and gives a brief introduction and then takes part in a reading of his/her own work or just a simple reading of a piece of literature the professor might find amusing,” Davalyn Suarez, a first-year graduate student really cherishes her time spent as a member of Sigma Tau Delta.

“When you’re involved in a community that brings together the best your college has, it gives you the opportunity to learn from each other,” she said.

Sigma Tau Delta provides students a creative and social outlet at FIU.

For those thinking about joining, the organization is currently accepting applications. More information is available in the English department located in DM 453. Their first event, a bake sale, was held Sept. 9 and raised funds for the organization.

Upcoming events include a bowling night, meet your professors breakfast and beach cleanups.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

“QUITE RESPITE”: The Wertheim Conservatory, located between the Red Garage and Owa Ehan, features an array of plant species from all over the world. It is free and open to all visitors and visitors can use the self-guide map or arrange for a guided tour.
**Cudi’s uniqueness makes him a valid player in hip-hop game**

**K**id Cudi burst onto the scene with a record that grew into a radio-friendly track in “Day N Nite.” The track is different and its scores with simplicity. We were introduced to him as an odd character.

Kanye West’s endorsement will always turn heads, but now I am beginning to see why Mr. West believes in Kid Cudi’s style, which had me guessing if he was going to sing, rap or be some type of experimental artist.

He doesn’t even have tremendous rap skills, or a melodic voice that shakes your speakers in debut album *Man on the Moon: The End of Day.* But Cudi shares emotional verses with his audience and goes deeper into thought than most artists have done recently.

The result is an album that covers his feelings over well constructed beats that incorporate space rock and electro into a nice alternative project. It’s growing on me.

Projects that are not only different, but execute in their distinctiveness are a rarity in the commercial-driven market listeners have created for hip-hop.

I will not mention this record with any classic right now, but a hip-hop fan can feel like they took their first bath in months when they are refreshed with a project like this.

“Make Her Say” with Common and West is a song I had to listen to more than once while writing this column.

The highlight track is not alone on the unique record. The album features 15 songs split into five acts, which according to Cudi, detail the phases of his life and journey so far. The approach is fresh.

Cudi was even featured on Jay-Z’s latest album in one of the best tracks on “The Blueprint 3” in “Already Home.”

Rap is supposed to be a forum to express yourself, and touch on any subject matter you like.

The struggle of many artists leads to a demonstration involving violence in their upbringing, or bragadocio about themselves. That is common and there is nothing wrong with it. Kid Cudi is one of those artists who brings a change of pace though. His struggles can relate more to the average person.

Being broke, losing a family member and searching for companionship are all tackled by Cudi as he doesn’t hold back a line.

His album could be viewed as an experimental one, but he executes it like a Larry Bird free throw.

Most songs are impressive, and he rarely misses.

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**F.R.E.E.: FOR RIDICULOUSLY EXCITING ENTERTAINMENT**

**Online physics game gets the red ball rolling**

My high school physics professor had it all figured out when he announced on the first day of class the key to understanding the universe and our humble place within it: “Physics is life, life is physics.” Andrew Guillen, the man behind Magic Pen, clearly understands.

Magic Pen is a puzzle game that challenges you to use the rules of physics to propel a little red ball through one or more flags.

To do this, you use your mouse as a drawing tool to create shapes. Triangles become ramps, rectangles become bridges, circles launched from above will help push your little ball forward. You can draw virtu-ally any shape and there is more than one way to solve each of the puzzles.

You can also attach shapes to each other with pins and hinges, all of which makes for some pretty intricate puzzles in later levels. If you make a mistake or get stuck, you can use the eraser tool to try and patch it up or, if you’ve made a mess of things, you can reset the level and try again.

There are 26 levels and it will probably take you around 20 minutes to get through them all but, once you’re done, you can relive the fun by watching all your friends struggle with the same seemingly obvious puzzles.

Or, if you’re not the type to openly ridicule your friends, try solving the puzzles together. You’ll be surprised by how unexpectedly smart some of your friends are.

The puzzles are hard enough to give you a really great sense of satisfaction each time you solve one, but the concepts are simple enough to make the game accessible to everyone.

The crayon-inspired look adds a heavy dose of charm and the song really never gets annoying – in fact, it’s pretty catchy.

Also, the actual physics is implemented really well. The shapes behave exactly the way you expect them to.

The only minor gripe is that if your mouse is unruly at times, like mine is, it can get frustrating trying to draw these shapes, especially when certain puzzles require swift action.

But, the game does a good job of guessing more or less what shape you were going for and smoothing out the edges. If you don’t have 20 minutes set aside to see the whole game through, no worries. Assuming you can pull yourself away, you can always pick up right where you left off. Reaching a level unlocks it in the level select at the main menu, so you don’t have to replay all the puzzles you already did.

You can find Magic Pen at www.bubbleblox.com. Search for it under the puzzle tab.

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The Beacon – Wednesday, September 16, 2009

PERFORMERS OF THE WEEK

Greg Ellingson was catching nearly everything Paul McCall was throwing at him vs. Alabama. His five receptions for 92 yards and one touchdown put him near the top of this week’s performers.

As soon as he touched the ball, he took a 96-yard return for a touchdown. T.Y. Hilton made Nick Saban’s press conference look like a prophecy instead of a rant. T.Y. said goodbye on that return.

The men’s soccer team lost its leading scorer entering the season, yet Sebastian Frings has filled the void by scoring five goals in five games, including three this week vs. Stetson and Howard.

The women’s soccer team had some trouble finding offense the last couple of weeks. Katrina Rose provided two goals this week to give the Golden Panthers their second win of the season.

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The women’s soccer team had some trouble finding offense the last couple of weeks. Katrina Rose provided two goals this week to give the Golden Panthers their second win of the season.

She missed all of last season, but Olga Vergun stepped it up during the FIU/UM Invitational, especially with the absence of Yarimar Rosa. Vergun led the team with 44 kills in three games.

She’s part of the Puerto Rican tandem that’s helped propel the volleyball program the last three years. Natalia Valentin racked up a staggering 145 assists over the span of three games.

Eketebi believes team can produce more points

Tomic says the team has performed great so far. “I think this is good for the rest of the team to learn how to play without her. Everyone needs to play better.”

Even so, Tomic stressed the importance of having her back in the line-up as soon as possible. While the team has managed to play well, Rosa’s absence during games against ranked opponents Kentucky and Florida State was felt. The team’s two losses this season were against two top-25 teams.

“It’s huge,” Tomic said. “She’s a player that you go to. When you need a point, when you need something, she makes those points. She’s the leader of this team.”

Eketebi believes team can produce more points

MEN’S SOCCER, page 8

by Nicholas Chase

“I did a lot better because I wanted it more today and I want to be part of a winning team,” Frings said. “That is why I try my hardest and I also have passion for the game.”

Howard ended the Golden Panthers’ shutout with a goal inside the box. Seven minutes later, Frings scored his second goal of the game.

With five minutes left, Howard’s Matt Marshall headed a shot, marking a goal on the scoreboard against the Golden Panthers to make the score 3-2.

Diego Tamburus ended Howard’s chances of a comeback with an unassisted goal in the 88th minute of play.

Despite the highest scoring display of the young season, Eketebi thought his offense could’ve had more opportunities.

“Their game, basketball or baseball, we got a few points against us,” Eketebi said. “We should have had more shots on goal.”

The Golden Panthers will travel to Ohio to play Saint Louis on Sept. 18.

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VOLLEYBALL

LEADER DOWN

VICTORIA EYHUE/THE BEACON

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

Rosa out 1-2 weeks with dislocated pinky

Everything seemed to be going according to plan. The Golden Panthers volleyball team was up 2-1 over crosstown rival Miami and got off to a fast start in the third set, poised to send the Hurricanes home quickly on Sept. 10.

But an attempted block on a Hurricane attack midway through the set changed all of that. The expression on Yarimar Rosa’s face when she clutched her hand after the play said it all. The festive and spirited crowd at the U.S. Century Bank Arena held their collective breath and became silent as she was helped to the locker room by a trainer.

Initially, there were fears of a possible fracture but Coach Danijela Tomic confirmed that Rosa’s injury was a dislocated pinky. She will see a hand specialist, but Tomic is optimistic that her return may be sooner than originally anticipated, possibly within the next week or two.

We think she might be ready to play next weekend. It depends how her stitches heal, but it’s her non-hitting hand, which is good. It’s just a matter of how her body heals.

Despite Rosa’s departure, the Golden Panthers were able to finish off the Hurricanes to advance to an NCAA tournament game for the first time in program history.

“We think that she might be ready to play next weekend,” Tomic said. “It depends how her stitches heal but it’s her non-hitting hand, which is good. It’s just a matter of how her body heals.”

For Rose, scoring the game-tying and game-winning goals gave her and her team some confidence.

“I was really excited,” said Rose. “During halftime, freshnest Kaylin Savage replaced Raimo as goalkeeper, but was not able to stop Cici Kobinski as Cal Poly notched their final goal of the game.

The Golden Panthers came out shooting, though, as Katrina Rose, Madeleine Hijorth-Stalgren and April Perry all took shots at the net, only to come up empty. “We just seemed to be playing like we were panicked,” Perry said.

However, it was Cortney Bergin who put FIU on the board with her first career goal in the 67th minute. That would be FIU’s only goal for the rest of the game as Cal Poly notched the win, 3-1 on Sept. 11.

FIU 2, UNF 1

Play began with Jackson missing her first shot count as she beat Savage with a header into the upper left corner of the net.

“I felt we played well in the first half,” said Coach Thomas Chestnut. “They had one shot and it went in.”

Entering the second half, FIU came out shooting, with Rose scoring the equalizer less than five minutes after play resumed. Rose sealed the deal with yet another goal 30 minutes later, giving FIU a 2-0 lead.

“The women’s soccer team began a three-game home stand after tying South Florida and losing to Central Florida.

Having scored only once since their first game of the season, the Golden Panthers (2-3-2) were hoping to gain some momentum before Sun Belt conference play begins on Sept. 25. Eleven of the next 12 games will be against conference opponents.

CAL POLY 3, FIU 1

The scoring for Cal Poly started right from the beginning as Morgan Miller beat Golden Panthers goalkeeper Melanie Raimo for a wide open goal side six minutes into the game.

Optimistic that her return may be sooner than originally anticipated, possibly within the next week or two.

We think that she might be ready to play next weekend,” Tomic said. “It depends how her stitches heal but it’s her non-hitting hand, which is good. It’s just a matter of how her body heals.”

Despite Rosa’s departure, the Golden Panthers were able to finish off the Hurricanes to advance to an NCAA tournament game for the first time in program history.

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For Rose, scoring the game-tying and game-winning goals gave her and her team some confidence.

“I was really excited,” said Rose. “During halftime, we had a discussion and we realized that we all needed to step it up. Now we know we can win.”

FIU’s men’s soccer team produced more than a winning scoreboard against Howard on Sept. 13. In its previous game, the team had rapid last-minute changes in its lineup. Multiple players were injured, such as defender Anthony Hobbs, who sustained an injury against Stetson.

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The Golden Panthers set the pace for the match when Steven Jair Cabas assisted Sebastian Frings for the first goal of the game.

“Everything has been getting more organized from what I’ve seen at practice,” said defender Jahbari Willis, who’s had to play a bigger role on defense. “We have a couple of things to work on, but overall we have a nice solid group and when everyone is back and at 100 percent you are going to see we are going to have good results for FIU and be ready for those big games.”

The team’s improved communication led to a 4-2 victory over Howard at FIU Stadium.

“We are getting used to each other, more and more,” Willis said. “At the end of the game, we gave each other constructive criticism in the locker room and everyone is trying to get to learn each other’s habits so down the road, in those big games, we are gelling.”

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FIU 4, HOWARD 2

Entering the second half, FIU came out shooting, with Rose scoring the equalizer less than five minutes after play resumed. Rose sealed the deal with yet another goal 30 minutes later, giving FIU a 2-1 victory.

“We went with a different system in the first half,” said defender Jahbari Willis, who’s had to play a bigger role on defense. “We have a couple of things to work on, but overall we have a nice solid group and when everyone is back and at 100 percent you are going to see we are going to have good results for FIU and be ready for those big games.”

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