Now is the time for Panthers to turn around season

Mario Cristobal cannot be pleased. This is not how the season was supposed to go.

Before the season, there was seemingly realistic talk about making a bowl game. The building of the FIU juggernaut was to begin post haste.

It was easy to get caught up in it, especially after the Golden Panthers managed to hang with the Crimson Tide of Alabama for much of their first game.

If FIU was a stock, it would have been trending upwards with a little green arrow next to it.

And then it took a small step back against Rutgers, but even then, you had the defense step up and play pretty well against a tough offense. All you had to do was wait for the Golden Panthers to get into the part of their schedule that was at their level, and watch out, college football world. And then the stock crashed. The bubble burst.

First, there was the home opening loss against Toledo, in which the Golden Panthers showed an absolute inability to stop the run and were torn up for 566 yards and 41 points.

Then the Warhawks of Louisiana-Monroe again put it to the Golden Panthers on the ground, getting them for 304 yards and 48 points.

Engineering society recognizes dean

BLANCA MORALES
Staff Writer

The dean of the College of Engineering and Computing was recognized as the Engineer of the Year by the Miami-Dade American Society of Civil Engineers.

Amir Mirmiran was recognized on Sept. 23 for his contributions to South Florida’s engineering community. He has guided students through both teaching and his own achievements in the field.

He has been a part of Miami-Dade’s chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers since he moved to South Florida in 2004. His experience in the field and leadership, both at the University and in the engineering community, have been the key to the College of Engineering’s continued growth.

“I was elated that my colleagues have considered me for this award,” Mirmiran said.

Mirmiran, who became the college’s dean in February, has seen many constructive milestones at the college.

Just this past year, ABET, the accreditor for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and technology, awarded a full six-year accreditation to all of FIU’s engineering programs, including a new environmental engineering program.

The college also recently named the Titan America Structures and Construction Testing Laboratory after its benefactors, Titan America, LLC.

Mirmiran had worked to establish the lab shortly after his arrival to the University, when he was chairman of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Thanks to his efforts, materials, labor and service have been donated to the lab by leaders in the construction industry. The value of such support approximated half a million dollars.

“My goal for our students is to be exposed to an excellent education and problem-solving research that would prepare them for taking on challenges in the work place,” Mirmiran said.

He said he wants to continue building partnerships in the engineering community and to continue to build on research.

“I believe our college must help be the engine that propels research

DEAN, page 2

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Society to offer paid, volunteer positions

EMILY BELLO-PARDO
Contributing Writer

Students have been able to help raise funds to find the cure for cancer through the University’s Relay for Life event. Now, students can get involved with the American Cancer Society through employment and volunteering opportunities.

The ACS hosted a student infor...
Luncheon will be held on Oct. 15 and is by invitation.

According to The Miami Herald, the event will be

Two Florida residents plead guilty to illegal lobster harvesting

Two Florida Keys residents plead guilty to illegally harvesting 8,500 pounds of lobster.

According to The Miami Herald, 23-year-olds John Buckheimer and Nick Demauro poached the lobsters and sold them for $45,000. The market value of the catch is $155,000.

Former Miami mayor enters senatorial race

Former Miami Mayor Maurice Ferre officially entered the race for Florida U.S. senator on Wednesday.

Ferre is the latest candidate to compete for a seat that has attracted a sitting governor and a U.S. congressman. As a Democrat he will face U.S. Congressman Kendrick Meeks in a primary. Ferre’s Web site says he expects to get support from Independents and Republicans.

According to The Miami Herald, Meeks has raised 2.7 million as of June. Ferre served as Miami mayor from 1973 to 1985. This is not the first time Ferre has attempted a comeback, in 2001 he unsuccessfully ran for Miami mayor.

Mirmiran awarded Engineer of the Year

Amir Mirmiran, dean of the College of Engineering and Computing at FIU, and director of Diversity Initiatives in the Florida division.

He has also been elected fellow of both the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Concrete Institute. Mirmiran also holds two patents on innovative construction systems.

He has held academic appointments at the University of Central Florida, the University of Cincinnati and North Carolina State University.

“We certainly hope that our current students land in good engineering jobs and some tomorrow’s leaders in their engineering profession,” Mirmiran said. “It is my belief that our students are well prepared to take on the world and make it a better place through their engineering and ingenuity.”

To volunteer in the FIU Relay for Life, contact Dr. Dalrymple in the Center for Leadership and Service at Beverly.Dalrymple@fiu.edu.

Contact the ACS regarding employment opportunities at www.acscreers.org or www.cancer.org.

Need extra writing help?

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Club shares coming-out stories to celebrate sexual diversity

MELODY REGALADO
Staff Writer

Rainbow balloons filled Panther Square, and colorful bracelets and pins were worn proudly to celebrate a day of openness for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

In honor of National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11, Stonewall 2 BBC hosted an event Oct. 7, featuring tables with representatives from local organizations, and a variety of events and guest speakers to celebrate the day.

“This event provides an outlet for students who aren’t comfortable coming out to know that they have support here,” said Vicky Owles, associate director of Campus Life and Orientation, and adviser for S2B. S2B, a student organization at the Biscayne Bay Campus, supports the LGBT community, wants to raise awareness, educate, and provide a safe space for students of the community.

Attendees received lunch, which they made rainbow bracelets. Participants got strings and made their way around each table collecting the multicolored beads that each organization had. Members of the club showed videos and read coming-out stories on stage.

Shane Windmeyer, a leading author on campus issues, hosted a “webinar.”

Former North Miami Mayor Kevin Burns, who is openly gay and also running for the U.S. Senate, spoke with the crowd during the lunch held in Room 159 of the Wolfe University Center, where he shared stories about his personal experiences both as an openly-gay public figure and a family man.

“As an openly-gay official, I want to show other people that we do exist in all walks of life and in all positions,” he told The Beacon. “Coming out is an everyday occurrence and isn’t going to make the world stop.”

Bronwen Barnes, S2B ally and BBC coordinator of the Center for Leadership and Service and the Women’s Center, was also present. She helps promote the variety of programs available on campus.

“I try to support as many students from as many different standpoints as I can,” she said, “to show them that there’s a place on campus where they can be comfortable.”

Among the organizations present were the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, SAVE Dade, Sunshine Cathedral, Aqua Foundation for Women, Equality Florida, Pridelines Youth Services, and YES Institute.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force aims to arm the LGBT community with ideas and empower them to fight for civil rights.

“I believe being here today is important because I wish I had known about an organization like this while growing up,” said Frank Cerado, development assistant for the organization, to The Beacon. “It would have empowered me to come out sooner and know I wasn’t alone.”

SAVE Dade, Safeguarding American Values for Everyone, is an organization focused on outreach programs and political advocacy for equality laws, said Joseph Mostroad, community coordinator, to The Beacon.

Sunshine Cathedral has a ministry that serves the LGBT community, with 80 percent of the congregation being gay while only 20 percent is straight. According to Reverend Michael Diaz, there is a strong sense of fear of the church from the LGBT community, and his ministry wants to teach the community about what the Bible says and doesn’t say about homosexuality.

“We don’t want to convert anyone. We are a progressive church that we are open to all sexual orientations and gender identities,” he told The Beacon.

The day’s events were created to educate and inspire the University’s pride, said Daniel Anzueto, S2B president and a senior psychology major.

“The day represents being proud of who you are and not being ashamed,” said Tommy Melis, a junior public relations major and historian of S2B. “As humans, we are all entitled to be respected as equals, and we’ve come far, but we have a long way to go.”

A question and answer session was also held at the end of the day in a teleconferenced forum between University President Mark B. Rosenberg and the faculty, staff and students of S2B. Anzueto asked Rosenberg what was going to be done to make the LGBT student body feel more included in the campus community, because resources and funding for both LGBT pride clubs, S2B and Stonewall Pride Alliance at the Modesto Maidique Campus, are very limited, according to Anzueto. But he didn’t get the answer or support he expected.

According to Anzueto, Rosenberg responded by saying that he doesn’t believe in a label system that separates students, and his main concern is student education and graduation.

“I’m devastated. I feel like I’ve been working for the past four years for nothing because the University doesn’t want to support me,” he said. “The event turned out amazing, but just heard that they don’t care. That’s what I got from him.”

MAUREEN NINO
Staff Writer

Members of the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus announced Sept. 30 three new ways they will monitor their moves, the launch of their new blog site and their moves, the launch of their new blog site and their new blog site.

The council created three new committees: the Operational Review Committee, the Rules, Regulation, and Judicial Committee, and the Senate Communication Committee.

“It’s like a monitor over the monitors,” said Sholom Neistein, SGC-BBC president, to The Beacon, during the general meeting.

The Operational Review Committee will overlook the senate’s discretionary funds. Unlike the Finance Committee, which was developed to help students and organizations find funding or receive money from the Student Government Association, the Operational Review Committee will fund and monitor the senators.

“The Operational Review Committee will make sure each senator gets equal amount of funding, and it is being put to good use,” said Nickolay Chikishev, SGC-BBC lower division senator.

According to Neistein, the Operational Review Committee was developed to manage how the senate spends its money, such as funding food, buying goods and services for campus upgrades and housing improvements.

In order for organizations and Judiciary Committee was developed to make sure the senate follows proper procedures, according to Robert’s Rules of Order. SGA’s constitution, and SGC-BBC statutes.

“The committee is the liaison between the judiciary branch and the legislative branch,” said Robert Tassy III, SGC-BBC Mass Communications and Journalism senator and a reporter for The Beacon.

The committee will help students any way they can, said Tassy. “This will help students find out what is going on immediately.”

Currently, SGC-BBC has a Web site, which is currently being updated, a Facebook account and a new blog: The Daily Jolt.

“The Daily Jolt is a blogging site where University organizations can post flyers, updates and links to other sites.

“It is free, so it does not cost the students anything,” said Tassy. “It’s a better way to get out to the students.”

Students, however, can host events or make announcements through a University organization.

“As a student, you may visit The Daily Jolt and find weekly updates on SGA events being held within the campus.

If you want an insider look into our meetings and senator surveys, this is the perfect place to go check out as a student,” said Tanha Dil, SGC-BBC justice.

In an effort to go green, SGC-BBC is also in the developmental stages of setting up other Web sites in collaboration with The Daily Jolt to post flyers and help cut back on print flyers, Neistein said.

“We have cut back exponentially from previous years. We are now on a mission that we always print on both sides, which saves a ton of paper and money,” he said.

The Daily Jolt will help student leaders increase student engagement and conserve paper, Dil said.

Even though the Web site is fairly new, she said that with the right marketing strategies, SGC-BBC will have great success communicating with fellow members and encouraging students to get more involved with upcoming events, lectures and meetings.

“The Daily Jolt is in its early stage, and like all big projects, it takes time to see big results,” said Tassy. “If you want to know what is going on, that is where you need to go.”

For more information, visit: http://bhb.fl.edu/dailyjolt.com/
**Anti-smoking initiative unfair**

**FARISESCA COSTA** Contributing Writer

When I think of flying, I think back to a flight my mom and I took 10 years ago. It was an overnight trip and I was extremely cranky. The attendant, noticing my discomfort, offered me chocolate sundae which I could possibly imagine, cherry and all.

These days, however, I haven’t received anything but an air-pocked bag of peanuts. I solemnly stare at my bland snack and wonder what happened to the good times.

My father has been a pilot for various airlines, so if there’s anything I’m used to, it’s airplanes and flying. In recent years, I have noticed the comfort and thrill of flying has nose-dived. Flying experiences have become more tedious and strenuous than enjoyable. Instead of feeling excitement, you are dreading the long, delays and the boring, foodless hours to come. This is an issue many college students encounter as they often fly between home and school.

We constantly hear about on-flight incidents between passengers and the flight crew and it’s not exactly hard to figure out why. After Sept. 11, airlines, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Transportation Security Administration began implementing a series of new strict regulations and budget cuts.

American Airlines, U.S. Airways and United Airlines have done away with a large number of flights and decreased their scheduling, thus reducing the number of options available to flyers. As such, the number of time-consuming inspections you had little control over has increased, even free pretzel packets have been cut from most main airlines such as United. In the future, many airlines now make you pay if they are available at all for pillows, blankets and headphones.

Airlines should not be getting rid of anything that would help make the flight more comfortable and entertaining for a passenger.

With all the annoyances and burdens we must endure when flying, it is extremely easy for a passenger to lose their patience and become agitated. After all, there’s nothing more annoying than an empty stomach. I am all for safety, but I do think that part of keeping a secure environment is the skies to create a happy and comfortable atmosphere.

**The comfort of air travel has disappeared**
Sports Grill offers tasty wings, hot dogs

When the playoffs begin, the living room television and a bowl of ramen noodles just won’t cut it. Sports Grill, on 11481 S.W. 40th St., offers a much-needed nod to the concept of sports bars in the Miami area. This 100-seat haven is bent on serving up classic game food in a fun atmosphere.

The hunter green walls are home to 12 plasma screen televisions which are tuned in to sports bars channels and various games going on across the country, making it a perfect spot to bring a group of devoted sports fans to watch the big championship while the kids play on one of the few arcade games in the room. Furthermore, a self-seating policy and digital jukebox with everything from The Jackson 5 to Lady Gaga adds to the casual vibe.

I was particularly impressed with the row of picnic table-style seats in the middle, which makes it possible for one to watch the game without straining their neck for a second. Sports Grill has been renowned for its chicken wings in years past, and for good reason. My personal favorite was the classic Buffalo Style wings: the sauce had just the right amount of kick without clearing my sinuses.

For the more daring among us, make it a point to try the Miami Heats, which combines the flavors of cayenne, jalapeno and scotch bonnet peppers for a truly high-temperature experience. For a milder experience, the Glazed Teriyaki or smoky Bar-B-Q wings are notable contenders. Another Sports Grill specialty that should be taken into consideration is the Rocky Balboa. This dish contains a grilled Italian sausage topped with grilled onions, green bell pepper slices and melted mozzarella sandwiched between a toasted sub roll. The large portion is definitely suited for a big appetite and the combination of the flavorful marinara with the creamy mozzarella really complimented the savory sausage.

If, however, simplicity is your style, then the Smokin’ Joe sausage is the same as the Rocky Balboa, but without the bells and whistles of the marinara and mozzarella. What I admire about Sports Grill is its perks, attention to detail and specials. On the table, a roll of paper towels and a confinement bottle of hot sauce are at your disposal for when the wings arrive.

In addition to the well-organized, sociable service, the staff also made sure to provide a recommended, pre-calculated tip within the receipt to help the diner forgo this necessary hassle.

Sports Grill also offers a work week happy hour from 4 to 7 p.m. with domestic draft beers that cost $1.25 and premium drafts for $2.50. They also have a daily lunch special menu that stays in effect from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Even so, most entrées can be had for under $10 with fries being a dollar extra. Most side dishes of fries, fried onion rings and mozzarella sticks cost under $5 by themselves. A 10-piece wing meal costs $8, with bleu cheese and celery costing an additional dollar.

So, what if your team suffers a crushing defeat? At least you got a great meal out of it with Sports Grill. Food for thought is a weekly column reviewing restaurants in the FIU area. Beacon reviewers receive no free food or services in exchange for positive reviews.

Active Minds aims to promote mental health

“Psych CAPE was an organization that tried to make a difference,” said psychology major and graduate student, Catherine Rincon, a former member of CAPE. At the end of the 2008-09 school year, the club and Meca were recognized by the Council for Student Organizations. Active Minds was originally started in 2001 at the University of Pennsylvania. It was founded by student Alison Malmon after she lost her brother to suicide. She decided to start the organization because of the lack of resources for those dealing with mental illness and the stigma that kept many from speaking out about it.

The organization now has over 200 chapters on campuses all over the country, according to its Web site, Activeminds.org. The FIU chapter of Active Minds seeks to spread understanding of mental illness and to promote mental health, according to Meca. The club aims to inform students that they can be completely free of mental disorders but lack a positive mental health.

“Living a mentally healthy life is one area where the individual is happy, is able to work and function well with others, deal with the different stresses in their lives, live more in the now, and enjoy the different moments in a mindful way and see themselves in positive ways,” said Meca, a psychology major.

Meca decided to be a part of the organization after having a personal experience with mental illness. “I have been able to take control over my life, but it was not until much later that I was able to freely talk about what I went through,” Meca said.

The organization also serves as a support group for people close to those with mental illness. “I joined Active Minds because I have a friend who has bipolar disorder, so it is very close to my heart. I love the club’s idea of promoting mental health,” said Courtney Johnson, the club’s community service coordinator.

This year will prove to be a very instrumental one for Active Minds at FIU, according to the officers. One of the main projects planned for the Fall semester is the Out of the Darkness Community Walk, which raises money for the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention. It will also work with the Counseling Center to plan more workshops, screenings and a “Finals Oasis” to help students deal with the stress of finals week. It plans to encourage students to make use of the services provided by the Counseling Center.

Through the many events and activities Active Minds hosts on campus, it remains true to its mission.

“While we aspire to change the world, we aim to change it one person at a time,” Meca said.
Organization attempts to help ‘invisible’ children

Isabel Maza
Staff Writer

For the past 25 years, the people of the African Republic of Uganda have been living through one of the longest wars in Africa’s history. The government of Uganda has been fighting against the Lord’s Resistance Army, and despite the government's efforts, the two million citizens of Uganda have been caught in the middle.

Since the start of the war, the Lord’s Resistance Army has been abducting children from their homes and turning them into soldiers. Ninety percent of the Lord’s Resistance is made up of abducted children, according to InvisibleChildren.com.

Invisible Children was started in 2003 after three young filmmakers from southern California traveled to Africa. There, they discovered the tragedy and horror of the war in Uganda and turned their findings into a documentary titled “Invisible Children.” Once the documentary was shown in the United States, an overwhelming amount of people wanted to get involved and help. From this sprang the nonprofit organization.

Invisible Children seeks to help the child soldiers in Uganda by telling their story and raising funds to help them. The organization also works with the Ugandan government to improve the quality of life for the children and families affected by the war.

The organization was started by college students and has continued to thrive on countless college campuses throughout the nation.

“I choose to start Invisible Children at FIU because there is very little awareness about this problem in South Florida,” said president and founder, Dorian Santos. “FIU is a perfect place for people to get involved and continue spreading awareness.”

At FIU, the club focuses on fundraising and raising awareness of the suffering and troubles of the Ugandan children.

“My favorite part about Invisible Children is that, as the founding PR Chair, I’ve been able to shape the image of the organization from scratch and turn it into an event driven organization that has been recognized around campus in the mere one year since we started it,” said Lianunavw Dasulandu, a communication major.

Many of the major events the club hosts are related to the Invisible Children national events. One of these events was the Rescue, in which participants abducted themselves in place of the Ugandan children and wrote letters to the American government. The FIU Invisible Children club made all the preparations and organized the event.

Another major event that will take place this semester is a visit by the Invisible Children “roadies.” These roadies are people selected from all over the country to travel from city to city for three months spreading awareness about Invisible Children. The roadies will be building a stage at FIU outside the Student Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. They will be showing a new Invisible Children film at 8 p.m. in GL 100. Free food and drinks will be provided and official Invisible Children merchandise will be sold at the event.

Members of FIU’s Invisible Children range from those who have been involved with the organization since high school to those who had never heard about the war in Uganda before, according to Santos.

“Before I joined Invisible Children, I never knew what was going on in Uganda. I had seen things in movies but I was never aware that it was real and 10 times worse,” said member and hospitality management major, Amanda Fraga.

The members are united by their passion and commitment to the cause.

“My favorite part about being a part of Invisible Children is working with people that are just as passionate and motivated as I am,” said Santos, a psychology major.

All FIU students are encouraged to attend the Invisible Children events, even if they are not members. The club will continue to raise awareness and funds for the cause as long as the war in Uganda continues and the children are subjected to this tragic lifestyle.

Is It Worth It? will be back next Friday.
Coaches need to make adjustments to save season

TOWERS, page 1

Can it get any lower? Can Cristobal manage to salvage anything from a season that is quickly looking lost? MUST WIN

FIU’s opponent for tomorrow’s game is the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers, a team making their debut as a Football Bowl Subdivision team, and the game represents WKU’s first ever Sun Belt Conference game.

The Hilltoppers are among the weakest teams in the conference and indeed the country, allowing 41 points per game while scoring just 12 per game, and this is the first time this season FIU is facing a team they are clearly more talented than.

This has to be a statement game for the Golden Panthers. They absolutely have to win this game, and it should be emphasized that the team needs to start building some confidence.

So far this season, they’ve shown an inability to run the ball with any kind of consistency, and the Hilltoppers allow almost 300 yards per game on the ground. If Darriet Perry, Darrian Mallory and Daunte Owens aren’t able to get it going this week, offensive coordinator Bill Legg might as well abandon the run now.

The Golden Panthers have already struggled to stop the run, and this might continue to be a problem this week. The Hilltoppers run with a power game about half of their yards on the ground, and will look to do that again this week to keep pressure off their redshirt freshman quarterback Kawun Jakes.

COACH CALL OUT

It is time for the Golden Panthers to live up to the preseason promises. You have to question how the team has managed to take such a big step back from the 2008 season, and some of the blame has to fall on the coaching staff.

The same problems that have plagued the Golden Panthers from the beginning (an inability to run the ball, or stop the run, or protect the quarterback) have not been fixed through four games, and while some of it goes on players not executing, some also has to be on the coaches.

If FIU can’t beat WKU, not only do you have a team taking a massive step back by losing to a team they are supposed to be better than, but you are then looking at a very tough three game stretch facing tough conference foes Tiny, Arkansas State and Louisiana.

It is entirely possible the team could lose their first eight games if they don’t take care of the Hilltoppers, and that would be massively disappointing.

Forget thoughts of bowl games and postseason glory, we’re at the point where FIU just needs to win a game before the bottom completely falls out.

Recent play has team optimistic about season

CHRIS GREEN Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers women’s soccer team is coming off of the best start to their conference season since 2004.

Whether the team is satisfied with their current 2-1 conference record is debatable.

At this point last season, the team was 0-3-1 and still searching for its first win.

However, defender Katrina Rose’s recent play has her coach and players believing they can have its first winning season under coach Thomas Chestnutt.

“When we came into conference play really hard,” said forward Thaisa Moreno. “I think we’re beginning to check them off one by one.”

Chestnutt also sees the award as a way for the team to show what they can do on a national stage.

“It’s great that the team got a little attention for their hard work. We’ve got to keep pushing forward,” Chestnutt said.

Rose earned her first career Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week nod.

The award comes after Rose tallied a goal, her third of the season, and an assist during the Oct. 4 game vs. North Texas.

“I think we’re beginning to check them off one by one,” said senior midfielder Amy Jackson.

“Doing anything from a season that is so well, if the coaches can get it going this week, offensive coordinator Bill Legg might as well abandon the run now.”

The Golden Panthers have already struggled to stop the run, and this might continue to be a problem this week. The Hilltoppers run with a power game about half of their yards on the ground, and will look to do that again this week to keep pressure off their redshirt freshman quarterback Kawun Jakes.

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FOOTBALL PREVIEW: FIU VS. WKU

Golden Panthers face weak run defense

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

Golden Panthers Coach Mario Cristobal has repeatedly reiterated throughout the season that establishing a running game is critical to their success.

Quarterback Paul McCall has echoed the same sentiment for an FIU team that is ranked last in the Sun Belt Conference in rushing yardage.

Against Western Kentucky (0-4, 0-1 SBC) on Oct. 10, the Golden Panthers (0-4, 0-1) will take a shot at the worst rushing defense in the SBC when they look to get their first victory of the season.

“It starts up front with the offensive line,” Cristobal said. “They did a great job protecting [against ULM on Oct. 1] and we threw the ball 46 times, which is more that you want to throw in a game.

Sometimes it has to be like that and you have to use the pass to set up the run but when you go against a defense like that you have to run the ball. They have a good secondary, just like Western Kentucky this week.”

The Golden Panthers found success against Toledo on Sept. 26 on route to a season best 148 yards, but have averaging less than 100 yards per game on the season.

“They have to get a push up front to be successful,” Cristobal said. “For us to be a good defense, guys have to be able to control the line of scrimmage.

For us to be a good offense, our offensive linemen have to control that as well. We spend countless hours with them working on technique and explosion.”

Cristobal is hoping the work will begin to pay bigger dividends against WKU, who is playing its first season in the SBC.

Senior running back Daunte Owens received a season-high six carries in the loss to ULM, which is the most significant role he has had this season.

“STEPPING UP”

Owens only had 17 yards vs. ULM, but he had 7 and 12-yard runs. After the ULM contest, Cristobal said Owens played his way into the rotation and is healthy from offseason injury.

“It’s nice to see him stepping up,” McCall said. “I would like to see him get a lot more carries. He’s got to have a great game and we have a lot of guys back there between him (Darrell Perry and Durrain Mallary).”

McCall said that Owens is a threat to break big plays, a change of pace from the capable but different Perry.

Owens has just 62 career carries, joining an inexperienced backfield that is still searching for consistency.

EMERGING

WKU quarterback Kawaun Jakes has taken over the position following an abdominal injury to Brandon Smith, and has completed 33 of 45 passes.

The versatile Jakes has also run for 95 yards for the Hilltoppers.

ULM quarterback Trey Reveill acquired 52 yards on the ground while passing for 273.

“We have to play assignment football. It really showed up in the first quarter [against ULM] when we played assignment football and were disciplined in that and made the tackles that we’re supposed to make,” Cristobal said.

In the second quarter, the exact same play, exact same defensive calls, time to make a play and we didn’t. We have to and that’s very clear. Even though there are a lot of young guys playing, part of getting better is being in those situations and making a play.”

Tight end Dudley LaPorte is out for the season with a broken foot. He played in two games and caught one touchdown pass vs. Louisiana-Monroe.

• Tight end Dudley LaPorte is out for the season with a broken foot.
• Eric Kirchenberg is out for the season with an abdominal injury.
• Junior Meritle is expected to make a return sometime in November.

MEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Mon, Nov 09  North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC
Fri, Nov 13  Mount Union at West Long Branch, NJ
Sun, Nov 15  Tulsa at Tulsa, OK
Sat, Nov 17  Florida Memorial Home
Fri, Nov 20  North Carolina Central Home
Sun, Nov 22  James Madison Home
Mon, Nov 23  Murray State at Richmond, KY
Sat, Nov 28  Western Kentucky at Bowling Green, KY
Mon, Nov 30  Bowling Green at Tallahassee, FL
Thu, Dec 03  Florida A&M at Tallahassee, FL
Sun, Dec 06  Florida State at Fort Myers, FL
Sat, Dec 12  Florida Gulf Coast at Denver, CO
Thu, Dec 17  Denver * at Denver, TX
Sun, Dec 20  North Texas * at Huntsville, TX
Tue, Dec 22  Sam Houston State Home
Thu, Dec 31  South Alabama * at New Orleans, LA
Sat, Jan 02  New Orleans * Home
Thu, Jan 07  ULM * Home
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Thu, Jan 14  Middle Tennessee * at Murfreesboro, TN
Sat, Jan 16  WKU * at Bowling Green, KY
Thu, Jan 21  Arkansas State * Home
Sat, Jan 23  Arkansas Little Rock * Home
Sat, Jan 30  Florida Atlantic * at Boca Raton, FL
Thu, Feb 04  Louisiana Lafayette * at Lafayette, LA
Sat, Feb 06  North Texas * Home
Thu, Feb 11  South Alabama * at Mobile, AL
Sat, Feb 13  Troy * at Troy, AL
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VOLLEYBALL: FIU 3, FAU 0

Golden Panthers stay perfect vs. conference

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Staff Writer

It wasn’t exactly the way Coach Danjelja Tomic and the Golden Panthers (15-2, 5-0) expected their match against rival Florida Atlantic (3-11, 2-4) to unfold, but it was enough to get the job done.

“The Golden Panthers were able to extend their win streak to eight games and remain undefeated in conference play with a three-set sweep over the Owls on Oct. 6.”

“This game was harder than we expected,” Isadora Rangel said. “We thought we were going to win more easily than we did. We had to focus and do our job.”

The Owls were able to get off to a fast start in the opening set, jumping out to an early lead due to sloppy play by FIU.

“We didn’t show up to play,” Tomic said. “We came out so flat. They played the way we expected them to play. Once we started serving strategically we started winning. It was just up to us to play.”

FIU got back on track and finished strong, dominating the rest of the first set and carrying their strong play into the second set. Sabrina Gonzalez, who had nine kills on the match, had a strong performance that helped her team climb out of their early struggles.

“We were too relaxed,” Gonzalez said concerning the team’s play at the beginning of the first set. “Coach told us we needed to regain ourselves and play our game.”

Both teams were locked in a back-and-forth battle in the third set that went down to the wire, taking extra points to decide the set.

But the Golden Panthers proved to be too much for FAU, sending the Owls back to Boca Raton with their fourth consecutive loss.

The match featured a more balanced attack from FIU with Yarimar Rosa leading the way with 13 kills in addition to Rangel’s nine kills.

Natalia Valentin, who leads the conference in assists, had team-high in assists (35) and digs (18).