Team debuts black uniforms vs. Troy

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

For the first time in FIU history, the Golden Panthers will unveil black jerseys when they face Troy on Oct. 17.

In a “Blackout game,” the team is encouraging fans to wear black to the game as well.

Linebacker Toronto Smith recalls the first time he saw a team break out black uniforms, in a Louisiana victory over West Virginia University in 2006. Louisville, the home undergrad, came out on top in dramatic fashion.

Smith is excited for the perceived advantage his team will have against defending conference champion Troy.

“I like the idea,” Smith said. “It gave [Louisville] the extra confidence with all the fans wearing black. The crowd showed they really support their football team. I think it’s going to be the same for us and Troy is going to be intimidating by all the black jerseys flying around making tackles.”

Coach Mario Cristobal said the jerseys will not affect the outcome of the game, but is intrigued as well.

“That’s an Adidas thing. They provided us with a blackout jersey,” Cristobal said. “We felt it would be a good thing for the home crowd, and I think there is a nice buzz about it out there. It will be good to see the crowd decked out in black and bringing their best enthusiasm to the ballpark.”

Senators suggest unified student government

SGC-MMC

Two-council system to be revised, restructured

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff writer

The consideration of a resolution encouraging the restructuring of the University’s student government proposed by three senators was postponed by the Student Government Council senate at Modesto Maidique Campus on Oct. 12 meeting.

Senators asked for time to review the arguments that the current structure leads to two different views for the direction of FIU, which in turn leads to two different collegiate experiences and a lack of identity for the student body.

“When seeing what I’ve seen, and hearing what I’ve heard, it’s almost like it’s two separate organizations trying to go in different directions,” said sponsoring Senator Adam Johnson, from the College of Arts and Sciences, at the meeting.

“It leads to two different identities.”

When Senator Altanese Pentelus, from the College of Arts and Sciences, asked if there were surveys performed with the student body that revealed the lack of identity the resolution sought to be learned.

SGC-MMC, page 2

SGC-BBC

Council discusses removing presidency, addresses members’ meeting attendance

MAUREEN NINO
Staff writer

Senators at the Biscayne Bay Campus met on Oct. 12 to discuss a resolution that could remove the Student Government Council presidency. They also addressed the constant absence of one of their key members, which kept them from fulfilling the agenda.

During a Modesto Maidique Campus Finance Committee meeting on Oct. 7, Adam Johnson, SGC-MMC Arts and Sciences senator, said that a resolution may be presented on Oct. 19 to eliminate SGC-BBC’s presidency.

“They try to do it every year, so it is nothing new,” said SGC-BBC President Sholom Nenstein during the meeting. “I have a commitment from Anthony Rionda [SGC-MMC president] that if there is a resolution, he is not going to sign it.”

Nenstein also said that several SGC-BBC members were upset, and went onto their Facebook and Twitter accounts to voice their anger, a behavior he disagrees with.

“I just want us to be better people, being what the Student Government Association is supposed to be,” he said.

Senators expressed their concern about students’ reactions toward the comments made at the finance meeting, but Rafael Zapata, SGC-BBC advisor, said there is a lesson to be learned.

“We at times say ill advised things. We just need to get into the business of getting over it,” he said. “It is just one of those cases that is people say what they regret, and even though it was in a joking manner, it was still in bad taste. You should not say anything in a meeting that you are not willing to go on public record.”

According to Sunshine Law, all meetings and discussions are open and are subseqently public record.

Discussions at the meeting also focused on the absence of one of the members: Lily de la Calle, SGC-BBC speaker of the senate.

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Sanchez’s program aims to reconsider misconceptions

DAVID BARRIOS
Staff Writer

Hundreds of students surrounded the Graham Center Pit to watch CNN anchor Rick Sanchez broadcast live from there.

Sanchez, one of the hosts of CNN’s “Newsroom” program, spent much of the program discussing Latino Americans in preparation for CNN’s upcoming special “Latino In America,” which will premiere Oct. 21.

During the hour-long broadcast on Oct. 13, Sanchez brought on a panel of guests including FIU President Mark Rosenberg, FIU basketball coach Isiah Thomas and FIU Athletics Director Pete Garcia to discuss the University and its role in promoting diversity.

The University’s football program will be featured in the upcoming special. It is the only Football Bowl Subdivision NCAA team to have an athletics director of Hispanic origin; Peter Garcia and Mario Cristobal, respectively.

During one portion of the program, Sanchez showed footage of FIU’s Sept. 12 game against the University of Alabama during which the Golden Panthers held a respectable lead against the No. 1 team in the country.

Garcia to discuss the University and its role in promoting diversity.

“Newsroom” program, spent much of the program discussing Latino Americans in preparation for CNN’s upcoming special “Latino In America,” which will premiere Oct. 21.

Sanchez also went on to discuss what he felt the significance of his show to be.

“I’ve gotten to know some of the folks in the administration here and it seems to me that their commitment to being an international school and taking in a global perspective is very serious,” he said.

Sanchez is a South Florida native and was a former anchor at WSVN-7 News. He currently hosts his show from CNN headquarters in Atlanta, Ga.

“This is my hometown. This is where my heart is. This is where it will always be. As a Cuban American and as a Hispanic, I feel like Miami has been the gateway for other Hispanics in the United States,” Sanchez said.

CNN anchor highlights Hispanics in the U.S.

Rionda supports current system, refuses divisive resolution

SGC-MMC, page 1

tion describes, sponsoring Senator Vignesh Doraiswamy, from the Honors College, cited information collected in the past.

“Everybody knows that the experience a student receives at the primary campus, MMC, is completely different than the one they experience at BBC,” Doraiswamy said. “And that does lead to a lack of identity as an FIU student.”

The resolution states that, “A system with one unified student body leader can help fix such issues, while representing all Florida International University students. The SGC-MMC senate encourages the student government leadership to look into creating a more unified student government to provide better results for FIU students.”

Doraiswamy told Student Media the resolution intends to find a more unified student government.

“We did not call for a unified student body leader,” Doraiswamy told Student Media. “The resolution intends to find a more unified student government.”

One of the other ideas presented to implement completely independent councils.

The resolution uses the University of South Florida as an example of the independent governments for each campus. It also lists the University of Central Florida as an example of a university with one united student body leader.

The resolution language, however, does not endorse one more than the other.

The resolution’s sponsoring senators said they will send information packages on the subject to their fellow senators.

As of time of printing, no information had been sent to the senate. Doraiswamy told Student Media that the sponsoring senators wanted to get everything in order before they presented their case.

SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda later told Student Media that he is a firm believer that the current system works.

“I think it is something that is necessary,” Rionda said of the two-council structure. “I’m not going to sign anything that leads to division of the students,” he said.

Rionda said that now is not the time, nor is the resolution the way to address the concerns brought up.

He wants a united front when it comes time to fight for Bright Futures Scholarships or better student representation.

“We are one University,” Rionda told the senate.

I’m not going to sign anything that leads to division of the students.

Anthony Rionda, president
Student Government Council-Modesto Maidique Campus

SGC-MMC, page 1

In your opinion.

The Beacon office is located in the Graham Center, room 210, at the Modesto Maidique campus. Questions regarding display advertising and billing should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 348-200-292. Mailing address: Eagle Center, room 210, Miami, FL 33199. Fax number: 348-2487. Student Ray Campus is 348-548-212, Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. E-mail: beacon@fiu.edu. Visit us online at www.beacon.com.

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Beer, cheese fries, Cuban flavors make up for lost weekend

A fter a weekend of taking the GRE, studying midterms and other random events, I could think of only one thing on Monday: I need a break. I refuse to believe that a weekend has to take place between Friday and Sunday. My book, if you miss a weekend, you are allowed to have a makeup day.

Now, sometimes I just get the craving for comfort food, and for me, that means anything with eggs and a side of fun conversation. So for my weekday weekend, I wanted to incorporate both those things.

I started off my weekend by going out with my good friend Christina on Tuesday night. We first went to a Cuban restaurant called Little Havana, located at 12277 Biscayne Blvd., North Miami. If you are anything like me, you have driven past this place a million times and promised yourself that you’d go in one day. Well, let me tell you: totally worth it – well kind.

You walk in, and there are cute brown rocking chairs, stuffed roosters and photos of Cuba. In short, this place is freaking adorable!

They even give you a free cup of water and Cuban bread with butter right when you are seated.

Since Christina and I both like fries and seafood, we ordered a shrimp cocktail for $8.99, and a tortilla for $7.50, which is sort of like an egg omelet with potato.

This was my first time eating tortilla, but anyone who knows me will tell you that I have a weak spot for eggs. It is about the size of a personal frozen pizza, and tastes like eggs with soft potato on the inside. There are no strong flavors in this. It is not spicy whatsoever – just a perfect blend of food.

The shrimp, on the other hand, was delicious. The shrimp cocktail also comes with a side of salsa, which I mixed with the sauce from a side of white rice. No flavor.

Yes, these people found a way to ruin shrimp. Heck, they didn’t even finish taking out the feta matter from it, ew! But I promise, it is still worth going to. Just don’t order the shrimp.

I was still not ready to head home and back to reality after my makeshift visit to Cuba, so we did the only logical thing: We went to a bar called Billy Pub Too, located at 132 NE 125th St., North Miami. Just like Little Havana, I have passed by this place and told myself that one day I would go in, and it was totally worth it.

There was an oval shaped bar, high-top seating and pool tables. And yes, the lights were dim, and UFC and bull fighting were on TV – a typical bar.

We ordered two Sam Adams and an order of cheese fries, and the bill came out to $10.86. I was in shock. A pint of Sam Adams for $3, and crispy cheese fries? Come on, how great is that?

But, I would not recommend going to this place for the beer or the food. That stuff you can really get anywhere, but the atmosphere makes it worthwhile. I also made it there too late to take part in happy hour, which is from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and from 10 p.m. to midnight daily.

It was clear everyone there were regulars. They were yelling across the bar to one another, and randomly commenting on the UFC fight or the bull fighting.

I would definitely go back there for a football game.

Sadly, my weekend came to an end shortly after I finished my beer. But hey, a three-hour weekend is better than none at all.

Read Weekends with Paradise every other Friday for more tips on places to go in the North Miami area. If you have any suggestions, e-mail paradise.afshar@fi usm.com. The columnist pays for all food and experiences.

Weekends with Paradise

BY PARADISE AFSHAR

PAM DUQUE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senate speaker’s absences raise concerns among members

SGC-BBC Graduate Senator Tanya Williams was elected by the senate earlier this year as speaker pro tempore. Tanya has been to the senate meetings for a really long time. Tanya has been the chair for the past few meetings, and Vacancies, a meeting that only De la Calle, SGC-BBC Vice President Christin “Cici” Battle, or the speaker pro tempore could chair the meeting to make it official.

According to the SGA constitution, the time should be temporarily made by MMC members. MMC members are allowed to have a makeup day.

“Senators, the time is not so much. As Christina said to me, that means anything with eggs is a personal frozen pizza, and tastes like eggs with soft potato on the inside. There are no strong flavors in this. It is not spicy whatsoever – just a perfect blend of food. The shrimp, on the other hand, was delicious. The shrimp cocktail also comes with a side of salsa, which I mixed with the sauce from a side of white rice. No flavor. Yes, these people found a way to ruin shrimp. Heck, they didn’t even finish taking out the feta matter from it, ew! But I promise, it is still worth going to. Just don’t order the shrimp.”

Nickolay Chikishev, SGC-BBC lower division senator, asked who is keeping track of senator attendance.

“I have not heard about the attendance issue until now, which is unacceptable in my part. Now that I am seeing this, I am compelled to do something about it,” Neistad said.

Georgia Bedou, SGC-BBC chief justice, said that according to the SGA constitution Article 4, section 5 Terms and Vacancies, a meeting cannot be held without a chair or speaker of the senate present.

“The SGA constitution states that a quorum must consist of 50 percent of the total members plus one. In the senate meetings, there must be nine members in attendance. There were nine members present at the meeting, but there was no chair, which aggravated some members because they couldn’t get any business done.”

“Now we officially have quorum, and we can’t even have a meeting,” said Andrea Cruz, Honors College senator.

According to the senators, this is not the first time attendance is an issue.

She [De La Calle] has not been to the senate meetings for a really long time. Tanya has been the chair for the past few meetings, and Vacancies, a meeting that only De la Calle, SGC-BBC Vice President Christin “Cici” Battle, or the speaker pro tempore could chair the meeting to make it official.

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Friday, October 16, 2009

Don't ask, don't tell
Obama must repeal policy

JUlio Menache
Staff Writer

Feeling a bit overwhelmed, President Obama feels you. You tried your best to bring the 2016 Olympics to Chicago, only to lose in the first ballot. Your opponents applauded your failure to bring the Olympics to your hometown.

You won the Nobel Peace Prize and instead of celebrating with you, critics from both sides of the political spectrum would like to remind you that you have done nothing, except make promises. Even Saturday Night Live lampooned you as not keeping up with your agenda for change.

So why not prove them wrong, Mr. President, by fulfilling a campaign promise? Replace the military’s “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy.

Under the policy, homosexuals are allowed to serve in the military, as long as details about their sexual orientation are not made public, in which case would lead to the soldier’s discharge from the unit.

When former President Bill Clinton enacted this policy in the 1990s, it was meant to be a compromise between the White House and members of Congress and the armed forces who largely opposed integration of homosexuals into the military, arguing it would ruin morale and unity for those who wished for the ban to be lifted.

But let’s be honest, this was just a way to side step a complex issue. It’s time for a real solution to the issue: allow gays to serve openly in the military without fear of being discharged. And while I have no personal stake in this as a heterosexual who has never served in the armed forces, I believe this is a step in the right direction.

It’s been 16 years since the policy has been enacted, and nearly 13,000 troops have been discharged from the military for being suspected homosexuals. In a time where our war in Afghanistan is escalating, it would be unwise to let go of some of these hard working and brave men and women who wish for the ban to be lifted.

Before we bring this country with honor, only to be let go because of their sexual orientation, like LT. Dan Choi, an Arab ingrate who was let go because he came out of the closet on national television.

Attitudes within the military have also changed. A Zogby International poll conducted three years ago found that most military servicemen who knew of an openly gay soldier in their unit reported no problems with cohesion or morale. John M. Shalikashvili, who was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for President Clinton from 1993-1997, has recently called for an end to the policy, citing more studies that debunk any belief that these men and women will do nothing to deter morale or cohesion in the armed forces.

And just as we’ve lagged behind our allies in healthcare, we’ve also taken a back seat on this issue, too. Britain, France, Israel, as well as 22 more countries allow gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military, with little or no reports of discord among troops.

Now I know what you’re thinking, Mr. President: if the Republicans can’t even support me in my Olympic bid, they most certainly won’t support me on this issue.

I would take the time to remind your conservative critics of another opponent of the policy, Barry M. Goldwater, who is considered as the father of the modern Republican party.

“Government governs best when it governs least - and stays out of the impossible task of legislating morality,” Goldwater wrote in 1993. “But legislating someone’s version of morality is exactly what we do by perpetuating discrimination against gays.”

Now Mr. President, I know that this issue will cause an uproar in the public discourse, but let me just point to the fact that when President Truman made the decision to integrate African-Americans to the military, 82 percent of the country was against the move. Yet his bold decision would become the first step in greater civil rights for a group that has been constantly marginalized in American history.

It is time for bold action, President Obama. The question is: are you up for the task?

DENISSETTA BROWN
Assistant Editor

“Whatever the individual says, they may have a true concern about the impact of a policy, but the fact remains that the individual is just voicing an opinion”

The Beacon – 4
www.fiuasm.com

SPACE CRED

Eric M. Feldman
Staff Writer

Just when I thought there were no more social issues out there – ethnic inequality, gender bias, educational disparity — I am informed of another one: the socioeconomic divide between social networking sites.

If your reaction is one of confusion and intrigue, you have the same response I did when I read a recent CNN article reporting on the issue. Apparently, there is a statistic that highlights a demographic difference between Myspace and Facebook users, the latter signing up more affluent users.

While this shouldn’t be a big deal — after all, they’re only Web sites for leisure — according to the article, a potential problem is when politicians go online to get feedback or colleges go online to recruit, and only head to Facebook — the lower class losses.

I had never considered that something this trivial could amount to a social issue.

The divide does make a bit of sense: Facebook, after all, was originally started as a site only for college students (and even then, only Harvard students) while Myspace began as a haven for music junkies. Though Facebook has certainly started to get cluttered with flashy spam as it grows, it is still far more professional than its competitor.

While Myspace is home to profiles with hot pink backgrounds and music, Facebook has a professional (or quiet) look.

Some people might downplay these sites as unimportant, I have always believed in them as a means of modern communication. Seldom now do I sit in front of a computer on Facebook, but it is a daily part of my routine and how I get information about events, my friends and often school-related news.

I guess the lesson to be learned here, if there is one, is that social communities are communities like any other and the same rules of segregation, self-imposed or not, can occur.
LIFE!
Christopher Cabral
Like Editor
olivia.cabral@fiu.com

Contact Us

We may have different dispositions and tastes, but we of the sunbathing city of Miami can agree on one thing: we like to boogie to the bass.

Watching the jazz band on stage at Churchill’s, located on 5501 NE 2nd Ave., I specifically wanted to boogie with the bassist. He grooved stoically, sometimes winning as he heaped his solo, and when it was over he sheepishly accepted applause while falling back into the ensemble.

I cannot resist those talented wallflower types, and jazz music is such a great way to express those feelings that have the trajectory of a cloud of butterflies. I am also shameless about my inability to resist a place with cheap beer.

Every Monday, Churchill’s hosts a $5 Jazz Jam night if you want a no-frills sort of place to sit back and groove. The neighborhood is sketchy, the food is English (ergo, bad) and the bathrooms will probably have you updating your status on Facebook in horror. Although its dusty shell might intimidate you, Churchill’s is still a gem for college students who want a lively place to kick their feet up and jam.

I entered the pub and noticed people were focused on the saxophone – not too many graffiti artists, but we of the sunbathing city of Miami can agree on one thing: we like to boogie to the bass. Miami can agree on one thing: we like to boogie to the bass.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

When it comes to pasta, Nunzio’s does no wrong. But, what if she’s on vacation?

Nunzio’s Ristorante located at 11433 SW 40th St., serves up acceptable Italian cuisine that will, at least temporarily, satiate your need for such comfort food. Upon stepping into the 84-seat dining room, it looks as if the restaurant is the home of a large Italian family, complete with wine bottles lining the shelves, old family photographs filling the walls and traditional operettas softly playing on the stereo. The small but efficient wait staff and complimentary warm Italian bread also makes for a hospitable experience. This would also be a prime spot for an intimate dinner. Their lunchtime offerings include sandwiches such as the veal parmi-giana, the meatball sub and the Italian sub, all around or just over $8. However, their limited lunchtime schedule (Monday through Thursday only) and their ban on ordering the sandwiches after the dinner hour could make trying one a bit of a hassle.

For dinner, one dish that stood out to me was their rendition of gnocchi, small dumplings of potato-based pasta topped with melted mozzarella cheese and marinara meat sauce. The gnocchi had a soft, slightly chewy consistency to it, unlike any pasta I had tried before. The tomato sauce had a fresh, homemade quality; the notes of oregano and basil really stood out. I found it refreshing that the portion that I received didn’t resemble the monstrosity familiar to most restaurants today. Instead, it was just enough to fill my plate — and my stomach.

Jazid is a great option if you want to hear live music but are not too fond of staying off into bushes while falling back into the wall of sound coming from the speakers. The neighborhood is doing shows on Tuesdays while the DJ spins deep house upstairs. The mural on the upstairs wall is a great example of the graffiti art that Jazid caters to.

The last time I was there, graffiti artist Arthur Baute was painting on nude models — not too many people were focused on the B-boys that night.

“We of the sunbathing city of Miami can agree on one thing: we like to boogie to the bass.”

Nunzio’s prices aren’t the most wallet-friendly. Although lunch can be had for just shy of $10, most dinner entrées start at the $15 range. As for their daily dinner specials, all of those cost $16. But, if this is the price for decent, old-fashioned Italian food, then no expense is too great. Despite the minor need for improvement, I can honestly say that Nunzio’s Ristorante is still a viable option for Italian food in Miami.

“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.
Controversy aside, Diaries a worthwhile road trip film

DAVID BARRIOS
Staff Writer

Road movies are a staple of the Hollywood tradition. From It Happened One Night to Bonnie and Clyde, a road picture allows for great creativity from the filmmaker, a bevy of supporting characters with great variety in locations and the ability to show the characters grow or discover some greater message or purpose.

And, in that respect, 2004’s The Motorcycle Diaries is a very potent example of what a road picture should be.

A chronicle of Ernesto “Fuser” Guevara’s (pre-“Che”) four-month journey through South America in 1952 with his close friend Alberto Granado, this is a simple and honest story about the evolution of a young man into one of the most loved and reviled men of the 20th century.

The film picks up in March of 1952 as Guevara (Gael Garcia Bernal) and Granado (Rodrigo de la Serra) decide to travel more than 5,000 miles from Buenos Aires north through the Andes before taking jobs in a leper colony in Caracas, Venezuela. Mounted atop Alberto’s rickety old motorcycle, the men search for new sights and adventure.

Hedonism is the order of the day for the two youths until their travels reveal to them the disparity in class and wealth throughout the continent. Coupled with the beautiful, sparse deserts and fog-shrouded mountains are images of the poor, impoverished natives of the areas.

Take one instance, as Guevara is traveling down river on a river ship on the Amazon. He looks onto a smaller boat kept in tow with two youths until their travels reveal to them the trials and tribulations they witness and experience, their friendship goes nowhere. It is one of the few critiques one may have of this film.

It’s essential to divorce the history and facts of who Ernesto Guevara was before entering the book of the same title written by Guevara, as well as Granado’s Back on the Road – which presented his perspective of the real life events. It’s a personal and intimate film made on an epic scale. Your eyes glaze slightly in awe as you see the ruins of Machu Picchu, courtesy of Eric Gautier’s cinematography. Coupled with Gustavo Santashall’s soundtrack, you become transfixed on one of the most beautiful pairings of music and cinematography in recent memory.

Not enough is made of the friendship between “Fuser” and Alberto, however. Through all the trials and tribulations they witness and experience, their friendship goes nowhere. It is one of the few critiques one may have of this film.

It’s essential to divorce the history and facts of who Ernesto Guevara was before entering the film. I, for one, can’t begin to unravel who he was. Rather than enter the moral quandary of this issue, this film takes a more traditional approach, a bevy of supporting characters with great variety in locations and the ability to show the characters grow or discover some greater message or purpose.

Verdict: A Must See. “Is It Worth It?” is a weekly feature rating the relative quality of films screened by SPC. “Motorcycle Diaries” is playing in GC 150 Friday at 5 and 8 p.m.

The Motorcycle Diaries is a very potent example of what a road picture should be.

**MOTORCYCLE DIARIES**

WHERE: Eden Roc Resort & Spa
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Yuca

**CHINESE CLUB - MOVIE**

Enjoy a film with this movie screening.
WHERE: WTO
WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 150

**MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Spend the beginning of this weekend with a Friday prayer.
WHERE: WTO
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 305

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009**

**WOMEN WHO LEAD**

Learn from successful, professional women at this event by the Women’s Center.
WHERE: 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 1205

**MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Enjoy a performance by Gustavo Santaolalla.
WHERE: WTO
WHEN: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 100T

**CHINESE CLUB - MOVIE**

Enjoy an open mic night at this lounge!
WHERE: 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Literary Cafe & Poetry Lounge

**MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Enjoy an open mic night at this lounge!
WHERE: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 305

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HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Literary Cafe & Poetry Lounge

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Spend the beginning of this weekend with a Friday prayer.
WHERE: WTO
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 305

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009**

**MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Enjoy an open mic night at this lounge!
WHERE: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free with RSVP
WHERE: Edson Ben Resort 45pa

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HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 305
**Defense still a concern; Tomic has team ready**

**DELGADO, page 8**

The team, however, is ranked in the bottom half of the conference in blocking. Their lack of success up front has led to some problems, such as Florida Atlantic constantly challenging the FIU front line during their match, but not enough to lead to many losses.

**GRADE: B**

**EFFICIENCY**

The Golden Panthers had some issues with consistency early on in the season, allowing opponents to inch their way back into matches and made closing out matches more difficult. But it appears those problems have disappeared as the team continues to dominate opponents on a regular basis. Of their 17 victories so far, 12 of them came in three-set sweeps.

They have more attack errors and service errors than their opponents but not by a large margin and have limited their receiving errors to less than one per set.

Tomic has helped build a team that has a winning mentality and overcome major obstacles this season.

The overall offensive production could have faltered without Yarimar Rosa in the lineup, but instead the team flourished. As the season progressed, many of the issues the team may have had at the beginning of the season subsided. Tomic’s main concern now is keeping her team focused.

If she can do this, the squad can reach new heights, including a Sun Belt tournament championship and a deep run into the NCAA tournament.

**FOOTBALL, page 8**

A day-by-day basis after spraining a knee against WKU in the first quarter, He will be a game-time decision, according to Cristobal.

**BEAST**

The Trojans boast four receivers with at least a dozen catches, led by Tebiarus Gill’s 23 grabs for 280 yards. Chip Reeves and Zack Marcum give Brown options to throw to as well, but the biggest weapon in the Troy offense is the versatility of First Team Sun Belt Conference performer Jerrel Jernigan.

“They have a very high powered offense. He is a beast,” linebacker Toronto Smith said about Jernigan.

The 5-foot-10 athlete had 77 catches in 2008 but also carried the ball 33 times for the Trojans. Through five games in 2009, Jernigan has over 100 yards receiving and rushing, while acquiring nearly 300 yards on kick returns. The wildcat formation gives the Trojans options. “They run it out of a couple of different personnel groupings,” Cristobal said of the wildcat. “Sometimes they run it with a quarterback, with Dantavious Parker. He has proven he can throw the football but he runs the ball extremely well. At the same time, they’ve got Jerrel Jernigan in the game, who provides a threat of the sweep and the sweep pass like they threw last year.

When [Jernigan] is in the game at the quarterback position in their wildcat, around those athletes, he poses the same kind of issues. He’s a guy who can run it and throw it.” Parker broke out against Middle Tennessee on Oct. 6, running for 83 yards in the Trojans 31-7 win.

“We have different adjustments depending on the quarterback that comes in,” Smith said. “We’re pretty much going to send people keeping up with Dantavious Parker. He has proven he can throw and run the ball extremely well.”

**WATCH ME RUN IT BACK AGAIN!**

**The Beacon – Friday, October 16, 2009 www.fi usm.com**

We’re fresh off a big win and we want to share the next one with YOU, our loyal Panther fans!

**THIS SATURDAY, October 17**

7:00 PM at FIU Stadium against Troy

**WEAR BLACK TO THE GAME TO CHEER US ON AS WE UNVEIL OUR NEW BLACK UNIFORMS.**

You could win one of several scholarships (approximately $5,000 value), or one of four parking upgrades. Make sure you’re inside the stadium by the end of halftime to be included in the raffle.

For more information, call 305-FIU-GAME or visit FIUSPORTS.COM

Students get in FREE

Must show student ID at gate 5

(1 guest ticket per student $15)

First 5,000 fans receive an FIU football poster

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**FOOTBALL, page 8**

The Golden Panthers offense did not skip a beat after Hilton left the game in the first quarter against the Hilltoppers, as FIU had a season-high in points and rushing yards, and receiver Greg Ellington had a season-best 132 yards. Quarterback Paul McCall is quietly leading the SBC in touchdown passes with nine, and is third in passing yards per game (240.8). For the Golden Panthers, the defense will have to improve and contain a potent Troy offense.

During last season’s 33-23 loss, the Golden Panthers recovered from a 13-point deficit to come to within three at the half. Key turnovers put the game in Troy’s favor as the Trojans ripped FIU’s three-game winning streak.

“Last year we lost a tough one,” Smith said. “We could have really beaten them. We kind of walked into this game with a bad taste in our mouth, and knowing that we could have got them last year makes us want to get them even more this year.”

Rivest kicks his way to award

**BLACKOUT, page 1**

**KICKER AWARDED**

Kicker Dustin Rivest had one of the best games of his career in the win against WKU on Oct. 10. He is being rewarded for it.

The senior was named the Sun Belt Conference Special Teams Player of the Week and was tabbed as an Honorable Mention Place Kicker.

Rivest made all four of his kicks but nailed all three of his field goal tries against the Hilltoppers. Rivest made all four of his field goal attempts.

“It just heard about it and it’s based on stats and not based on popularity or what school you go to,” Rivest said. “I like it a lot.”

Rivest is hoping to remain consistent in the conference schedule for FIU after starting the season by converting just one of his first three field goal attempts.

“It’s been five years here, and I have been trying to be as consistent as I can,” Rivest said.

“This year is no different. It’s time to come together for my last year and it feels good to finally put it all together in one game.”

Wide receiver Greg Ellington was also named the Sun Belt Conference Special Teams Player of the Week with objective scientific rankings that are based upon meta-algorithms derived from differential equations, statistics and probability.
Football

Panthers face best team in Sun Belt

JOHNNIE RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

Trent Richardson, Joe Martinette, Dajuan Collins, Frank Goodin and Bobby Rainey have all shared one common attribute. The five running backs have all accumulated over 100 yards against the Golden Panthers this season.

Against Troy (3-2, 2-0 Sun Belt) on Oct. 17 at FIU Stadium, FIU (1-3, 1-1) will look to finally solidify the defense against the defending Sun Belt Conference champions.

On the flipside, FIU will also look to showcase an improved rushing attack that pounded WKU en route to over 200 rushing yards on Oct. 10. The breakout game was led by Daunte Owens and Darriet Perry, who both attained season high yard totals.

Troy, however, will display an offense with wrinkles that include formations in the wildcat, a popular scheme that has recently been picked up by NFL and college teams, that involves direct snaps to skill position players that present mismatches for opponents. Led by quarterback Levi Martin, the Trojans are averaging more than 30 points per game.

“We are still not out of the season,” Coach Mario Cristobal also mentioned that Troy feels it has the best receiving corps in its history.

“They do a nice job blocking downhill,” said Cristobal.

FIU’s leading receiver T.Y. Hilton is still being evaluated on a sprained ankle.

Men’s soccer: FIU 1, JU 0

ANA DIAZ
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers’ men’s soccer team ended their five-game losing streak by having the highest roster on the field so far this season vs. the Jacksonville Dolphins on Oct. 12.

“I am really happy tonight. For the first time we have a roster of 18 legitimate healthy players, but we are still putting band aids. We found a way to win,” said Coach Munga Ekechi.

Coming off a 7-1 loss vs. Alabama in their previous game, the Golden Panthers managed to fill in the holes on defense against the Dolphins, limiting them to a 1-0 win and huge relief.

“I am so glad we won. Going into the next game, I now know we can win, confidence was down but now it’s back up. We’re going up to be happy and ready to play, we needed it,” said freshman defender Anthony Hobbs.

In the last 10 minutes of the game, the Golden Panthers headed the ball, but Jacksonville’s goalkeeper Johnny Foley saved the ball. He then allowed the ball to rebound and Golden Panthers freshman defender Joseph Dawkins took control of the loose ball and was fouled.

The foul gave the Golden Panthers a vital opportunity to score on a penalty kick.

Forward Steven Jair Cabas made the penalty kick for his fifth goal of the season, giving the Golden Panthers a 1-0 lead.

“I think we need to put a hard 90-minute performance together and I think if we do that then we can play the best teams in the conference differently,” said Ekechi.

Less than three minutes after FIU’s goal, Tyler Williams tried one last shot for the Dolphins and it was saved by senior goalkeeper Phillip Lamarr.

“There were a couple of big saves I had to do back there, at the end of the day that’s my job and the defense played well. I am there to make the stops,” Lamarr said.

In the 87th minute, Jacksonville came close to a tie when Stefan Runeman had control of the ball at the top of the box and found an opening to fire on goal. However, Lamarr was there to make his eighth save of the season.

“Whenever you win a game, it gets you going for the next one,” Ekechi said.

The Golden Panthers earned a win, as well as confidence.

“We are still not out of the conference, we have a chance, we just have to get those four wins,” Cabas said.