SPOTLIGHT

TAKEN DOWN

Delegates gear up for conference

Model UN hopes to create six straight years of greatness

ALEXANDER MILLER
Contributing Writer

Members of the FIU Model United Nations are preparing for their national conference in New York this spring.

FIMUN boasts a five-year winning streak at the National MUN Conference and has been past recipients of the Outstanding Delegation Award, the highest award a delegation can win.

The organization also won the Best Model Delegation award at the Harvard National Model UN Conference in February 2009.

“Don’t worry about being recognized or not recognized. You can only worry about your effort and doing your best, and that’s what the program strives to teach,” said Ray Hernandez, political science major and head delegate of the FIU chapter.

FIMUN is a part of the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship Studies and is partially funded by the Student Government Association.

The program is paired with a three-credit international relations course, INR 4900, held in the Spring semester. Students must go through an interview process for entry into the course and program.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Senate bill aims to unify budgets

DAVID A. BARRIOS
Staff Writer

Senators proposed a resolution to support a restructuring of the University’s Student Government Association during the most recent SGA finance committee meeting at Modesto Maidique Campus on Oct. 7.

The resolution, sponsored by Senators Adam Johnson, Vignesh Doraiswamy and Danny Ybanez called for the SGC-MMC senate to encourage SGA’s leadership to look into creating a more unified student government.

It states that the current structure of student government, with two different councils at the Biscayne Bay Campus and MMC, “can lead to unequal experiences, budgets and representation.”

According to numbers obtained by Student Media, MMC’s finance committee is budgeted $26,524 from Activities and Services fees.MMC’s finance committee, in comparison, is allotted $25,000.

MMC currently has 32,255 students enrolled in classes while BBC has 9,206 students enrolled with the inclusion of the Pines Center.

During the finance committee meeting it was determined that if finance committee allocations were determined by proportion-al representation, MMC would get $52,000 while BBC would get $13,000.

“The problem that a lot of us have been running into is that too many people see this as BBC and MMC and not FIU,” said Johnson in an interview with Student Media. “They look at this and want what’s best for BBC, not FIU.”

Johnson said that cohesion and unity between

UPCOMING EVENTS

Students Write Organization, Oct. 19, 2:30 p.m. Get Schooled about creative writing
The event will be held in GC 154 at free entrance.

Asian Stanley, Oct. 20, 12:30 p.m. Join the lecture and learn about the Asian culture!
The event is free and will be held in GC 178.

Phono Savers Lives, Oct. 21, 12:30 p.m. Join a musically good cause at this club meeting.
The event is free and will be held in GC 314.

For more upcoming events visit our Monthly Calendar.

WEATHER

MONDAY
PM Showers LOW: 71 HIGH: 79
TUESDAY
Scattered Showers LOW: 71 HIGH: 83
WEDNESDAY
Scattered Showers LOW: 71 HIGH: 84

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POWERFUL RUSH: Troy University Trojan DuJuan Harris is tackled by Golden Panther Jarrell McGee. Despite this, FIU lost 42-33 as it could not stop Troy quarterback Levi Brown from passing for 391 yards and three touchdowns.

TAKEN DOWN: Troy University quarterback Levi Brown is tackled by Golden Panthers Jarrell McGee at the 5-yard line. Brown, who completed 21 of 34 passes for 230 yards and three touchdowns, was one of just two Finns who exceeded 100 yards in the game.

ATTENTION: Troy University quarterback Levi Brown is tackled by Golden Panthers Jarrell McGee at the 5-yard line. Brown, who completed 21 of 34 passes for 230 yards and three touchdowns, was one of just two Finns who exceeded 100 yards in the game.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Party gets students ready for fundraiser

EMILY BELLO-PARDO
Contributing Writer

Free food, music and presentations were part of the 2010 Relay for Life Kickoff Party which highlighted the upcoming event’s festivities and its ultimate goal, to raise funds for cancer research.

The event has been held at the Modesto Maidique Campus since 2004, when it helped collect close to $20,000 for the American Cancer Society. Last year, it raised more than $80,000 with 74 teams participating.

Money raised by the event is donated to the American Cancer Society.

RELAY FOR LIFE, page 2
Survivors celebrate being cancer-free during RFL lap

The organization also hosts the FIU Relay For Life every January, conducts the simulation on what the model United Nations program should be showing students how to conduct themselves at a conference. High school students are also invited to participate and assist in the workshops.

“I think that the exposure from the conference shows that FIU can put on something at a grand scale that is well thought out,” said Hernandez, who headed the conference in 2008 as secretary general of FIMUN.

The chapter conducts a great deal of its research on the high schools in the area ahead of time. We give the students general topics to discuss from the actual United Nations and they are expected to research their respective country’s position on the topic, so we don’t tell them what to think,” said Anamaria Arias, secretary general of FIMUN for 2010.

A number of extra workshops are also held with teachers to help students with the training process and writing position papers. These position papers serve as the platform for debates and discussions held at FIMUN between students proposing solutions to problems countries face.

“We encourage interaction between students of different backgrounds to discover aspects of different world views. We care about the students growing and leaving the conference as better people, better citizens, better leaders,” Hernandez said.

More information about the FIMUN, such as when and an application for the program itself, can be found in the Labor Center Room 220 or on the organization’s Web site, www.fiu.edu/modelun.
Author captures culture with humor

SABREN A JOHNSON Staff Writer

Students coming from different places, speaking different languages and carrying different beliefs will have a day to put all differences aside and celebrate together their uniqueness.

It will all happen during “Diversity Day” Oct. 20 in the Wolfie Center’s Panther Square.

This year to celebrate our diversity, and to increase understanding and appreciation of our differences," said Diana Gruen, program director of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, who is also on the planning committee for the event.

According to Newman, this will be the 10th year that “Diversity Day” has been organized at the Biscayne Bay Campus. The event is funded by the Student Government Association and is organized by a volunteer committee of faculty, students and staff.

“We hope to achieve a sense of connection among our students and also a sense of inclusion, where every student feels welcomed and important,” Newman said.

The first event will be a ‘Diversity Expo’ at 10 a.m. in Panther Square. There will be a table with information about the different study abroad programs available at the University, including the Summer program in China for HTM students.

The ‘Diversity Expo’ will be followed by a book signing by Firoozeh Dumas at 10:30 a.m. in Panther Square. She will also be speaking in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater from 11 p.m. to 12 p.m.

Firoozeh Dumas is an Iranian-American writer best known for her New York Times best-seller, Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America. Her use of humor got her a nomination for the Thurber Prize for American Humor Award in 2005, an award that recognizes outstanding contributions in humor writing. She was the first Middle Eastern woman to receive this honor and was one of three finalists. The others were Jon Stewart from the Daily Show and Larry David from Curb Your Enthusiasm.

The next event will be the Black Jew Dialogues, a show starring Ron Jones and Larry Tysh. The Black Jew Dialogues will combine fast-paced sketches, improvisations and humor to share their stories with racism in America. Jones is a black actor, director, and trainer for educational and business communities for more than 20 years. He specializes in improvisation and has taught classes at Harvard University, Tufts University and Curry College in Massachusetts.

Tish is a Jewish actor, writer, poet, educator and a performer specialized in improvisation. He has written short fiction and poetry. He has also performed in the one-man show, Everything Hurts.

The duo uses a combination of props and different characters to take the audience on a comical journey that begins in Egypt and travels through America. Her times, to present-day America, according to the show’s official Web site. In September 2007, it was the only American play invited to perform at the Leeds Jewish Performing Arts Festival in England, according to the official show’s Web site.

The Black Jew Dialogues will take place in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at 12:15 p.m.

Attendees will also get lunch from 1:15 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the ballroom. Lunch is free for students who participate in the ‘Diversity Day’ events.

The winners from the ‘Dating Outside the Box' contest will also be announced during lunch.

The top winners will have a chance to present their speech, poem or videotape about dating outside the box, which was the topic for the contest,” Newman said.

There will also be a transgender panel discussion from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the ballrooms.

The panel will be made up of transgender guest speakers who will share some of their life experiences. There will be a question-and-answer period at the end of the discussion.

The final event will be a ‘Diversity Circle’ exercise that will take place in the ballrooms from 3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“Diversity Circle’ is an interactive exercise, and is designed for participants to mingle and get to know each other,” Newman said.

All the events are free for students, faculty and staff. A donation of $10 for the general public is suggested. All proceeds will go toward the BBC Excellence Fund.

The deadline to apply for the event is Oct. 15.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS COUNCIL

Search for new director begins

DAVIS AUGUSTE Contributing Writer

After losing its former marketing director, the Student Organizations Council is in the hunt for a replacement.

Graduate student Mary Humphrey was the SOC’s marketing director since April 2009, but she officially resigned Oct. 5.

“Somewhere along the lines of too much to do is probably a reason she had to step down,” said Didier Georges, SOC president.

“Mary had a lot on her hands, and she decided to let go of the position so that she can take care of the other things in her agenda,” Georges also told The Beacon that Humphrey’s reason for leaving was far too personal for him to elaborate on.

Humphrey was unavailable for comment despite several attempts to reach her.

SOC is the governing organization that oversees all student organizations on campus.

The marketing director, which is one of six paid positions in SOC that makes up the executive board, is the direct connection between student organizations and the SOC’s executive board members.

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.0, and must be registered for at least nine undergraduate credit hours or six graduate credit hours this semester.

A majority of the applicant’s courses must be also taken at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

“We are looking for anyone willing to work five hours a week,” said Georges.

“They don’t have to have experience. They just have to be willing to learn and work in a group setting.”

The marketing director is expected to attend all executive board meetings, unless told otherwise by the club president.

The marketing director is also responsible for making reports of club events, creating promotional campaigns for SOC, among other duties.

Every SOC board member is elected by the student clubs within the organization. Each candidate will have two minutes to speak to members of the organization, who will later vote for a nominee.

SOC officials and representatives from student clubs will vote.

The deadline to apply is Oct. 23.

The election of the new marketing director will take place on Oct. 26 at 2 p.m.

To apply, visit socbc.fiu.edu, or go to the Office of Campus Life and Orientation located at WUC 141.
The Student Government Association has recently taken up the cause of reviewing its constitution. The leaders of the new organization see the viability and efficiency of the current two-council, two-president system. After reviewing the facts and history, The Beacon believes that while there is no need for at least one president or two representatives, there is sufficient variation in both campuses’ student bodies to merit a system that assures a certain level of autonomy for each campus.

In their Oct. 12 meetings, the councils’ Senates met individually to discuss the unification of Student Government. In their meeting, the MMC Senate voted against unification citing the lack of identity among students. The MMC Senate, meanwhile, voiced their support to the measure. In the meeting, SEC- BCC President Sholom Neistein said that the issue was old news.

“The question is, why do it every year, so it is nothing new,” said Neistein.

The Beacon feels that overall a two-presi dent system is redundant. This is one university and should have a single student government president.

While the two campuses are still a part of the university and a lack of identity among students is an issue, the two-campus system is not the situation that the MMC Senate, on the other hand, feels is a unique collection of plants and animals that cannot be found anywhere else on this planet. The EPA has gone even further, researching individual ATVs. They showed that a two- stroke ATV or motorcycle could emit as much pollution as more than 30 automobiles operating in the same time frame.

Students pay the price for states’ stimulus misuse

VANESSA ESPINEL Staff Writer

Almost nine months in office and President Barack Obama has already delivered a failing stimulus package.

It is a widely known fact that the stimulus package was controversial from the get-go. The package was approved on the basis that it would help the economy.

However, the stimulus dollars are proving that yet again, a key component of the future has been pushed aside – education.

Empty promises are made in every campaign season for more funds to better schools, brighter futures for children and wok-wok-wok, this is beginning to feel like a scene from the Peanuts comics.

Making matters worse, the Associated Press earlier reported that this week the states were using their shares of the stimulus package to cover up gaps in their budgets, instead of dispersing it to schools. Another classic example of how the U.S. education system is being pushed aside by lawmakers.

In a statement released to education secretary Arne Duncan, “From the very beginning, we have made it clear that this educa tion stimulus funding is intended to supplement local education dollars, not replace them,” Really Mr. Duncan.

The Congress should have verified that the stimulus was free of loop-holes, which have made it possible for states to use the funds in areas not educational.

With the lack of enforcement by Congress, some states are using the educational stimulus dollars for their own benefit, instead of cutting education spending.

Research done by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2001 found that ATVs emit more than 381,000 tons of hydrocarbons, 1,890,000 tons of carbon monoxide and 11,000 tons of nitrogen oxide each year across the country. How could this do more good than harm?

The EPA has gone even further, researching individual ATVs. They showed that a two-stroke ATV or motorcycle could emit as much pollution as more than 30 automobiles operating in the same time frame.

Dun and the park tax proposal supports being by the ATV-riding taxpayers who just want a place to ride their ATVs.

Miami-Dade commissioners approved a resolution, sponsored by Diaz, endorsing the ATV park in May. It still faces Collier County Commission, the state Department of Community Affairs, water managers and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

It is a shame that this proposal has come this far. As citizens and taxpayers, ATV owners are entitled to complain. But, if the inhabitants of the Everglades could, they’d demand the rights to their territory.
Art inspired by Dalai Lama makes for intriguing exhibit

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

In The Missing Peace, the Frost Art Museum has found a fascinating exhibit. The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama, offers visitors a new perspective on how to look at peace by following the examples of the Dalai Lama and by using art in its many configurations to spread the message of peace. The exhibition offers a look into the prospect of a more peaceful world as artists construct works that aim to represent not only the concept of non-violence but other important themes such as death itself and the transient nature of life.

The exhibition comes to FIU thanks to The Dalai Lama Foundation and the Committee of 100 for Tibet. The exhibition offers a “unique opportunity to explore the idea of art as an interpretation of, and a catalyst for peace,” according to promotional materials for the exhibit.

The exhibition is comprised of 40 pieces of art from artists around the world. It offers an eclectic mix of work that ranges from an oversized inflatable Buddha to works from actress Sharon Stone’s private collection to an actual pair of the Dalai Lama’s shoes.

The most appealing to our tech savvy generation is Impermanence: The Time of Man by David and Hindy Hodge. The piece was inspired by an experience the artists had in Half Moon Bay, Calif. while watching a sand mandala ritual meant to symbolize impermanence, and is the opener to the exhibit. The installation piece is a row of 16 video iPods alternately playing 122 interviews.

The interviewees are people from all stages of life, ages 5-94, speaking of the changes in life and death.

At first, the piece is daunting with the loud blaring sounds of voices of different tones and depth coming at you from the speakers but, as the listener gets settled in, the stories come to life and it is easy to be drawn to any of the speaker’s stories.

The media they chose for the piece was brilliant because it made the whole experience more relatable and accessible to a younger demographic, one that you don’t normally see strolling through museums.

Paranirvana is an oversized inflatable Buddha by Lewis deSoto that explores a theme closely related to impermanence — death. The oversized Buddha lies in the center of the gallery. The piece is meant to represent Buddha’s ascent from death into nirvana.

A giant inflatable Buddha lying in the center of an art gallery is comical at first, but once you consider the true meaning behind the piece you understand its significance. The piece depicts Buddha after the moment of his demise. According to the description posted next to the work, the artist aims to make one wonder: how will I face the moment of my own death?

DeSoto’s use of such an unusual object to depict a heavy subject like death makes the exhibit hard to forget.

Bamyan: A Continuum by Ann Samelson sits across Paranirvana and has a similar attention grabbing effect.

The piece, like almost all of the others in the exhibit, is evocative and thought provoking because of the creative way it addresses a sensitive subject.

A medley of dark blues and black depict the emotional outcry that resulted from the destruction of the colossal Buddha’s in Bamyan, Afghanistan in 2001 by fundamentalist Taliban rulers. The piece’s focus on the tragic incident highlights the exhibits prominent themes of impermanence and regeneration.

You can check out The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama at the Frost Art Museum which will be open from now until Jan. 10, 2010.

SLEEPING GIANT: Paranirvana by Lewis deSoto (above), an large inflatable depiction of Buddha, is one of the many pieces at the “Missing Peace” exhibit at the Frost Art Museum.

EXHIBIT REVIEW

Art inspired by Dalai Lama makes for intriguing exhibit

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‘Hell’ an excellent DVD

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

Those looking for thrills at their local video store this week should go straight to ‘Hell’.

Drag me to Hell, a horror-comedy directed by Sam Raimi, comes out on DVD this Tuesday. It’s a story of how one lapse in judgement can lead to a terrifying struggle with the forces of evil.

The film opens in 1969 California where the exorcism of a young boy goes awry, resulting in the boy being pulled underground by unseen demonic forces.

We then flash forward to the present where we are introduced to Christine Brown (Allison Lohman), an ambitious Los Angeles home loan officer with a charming professor boyfriend named Clay (Justin Long).

One fateful day, Christine is approached by an old gypsy woman named Mrs. Ganush (Lorna Raver) who begs for an extension on a home loan. Christine feels bad for her but, in order to get closer to a promising promotion, she denies the request.

Later that day, Christine is attacked by Ganush who places a powerful curse on her which Ganush says will wreak havoc on her and culminate in her being physically dragged into hell after three days.

Drag Me to Hell marks the return of Sam Raimi to the horror genre. Raimi first gained notoriety as the driving force behind ‘Evil Dead’ and ‘Army of Darkness’, to help create the monsters and makeup effects of the movie. Nicotero and Berger also worked on the ‘Kill Bill’ movies as well as ‘Planet Terror’.

Once again, they showcase their talent by creating different incarnations of Mrs. Ganush that haunt Christine and an exorcism sequence that involves several people and a farm animal.

Special features on the disc include vignettes that look at the making of the film. Hosted by co-star of the film, Justin Long, the ‘Production Diaries’ details certain aspects/highlights of the film from how they made actress Lorna Raver look like a sickly, demonic woman, to how they were able to choreograph the garagé light sequence.

Some criticisms of the DVD: the unrated cut of the film only extends certain scenes that are especially enticing, most starting around $299, you are much better off saving your money and purchasing a new, full-fledged computer.

Netbooks garner undue credit

As I walk around keep

STEFANIA SANTANGELO
Associate Editor

Often, due to their limited specifications, netbooks are programmed to limit users to only having three applications open at a time, so you can go ahead and wave productivity goodbye.

For a short time, I used a Dell Mini-10 for the purposes of reviewing the unit and I despised everything about it. I usually have anywhere from six to 12 applications open at a time when using my trusty MacBook Pro, including multiple Web pages. The Mini-10 however, started to heat up and slow down at around two applications.

I don’t think these computers are convenient, or make life easier for anyone. Every time I see someone huddled over their netbook at a coffee shop, squinting as they read ‘The New York Times’ on those lackluster 10-inch screens, I have to laugh because they don’t look pleased. Typing on that keyboard has to be a pain.

As companies like Dell, HP and Sony market these computers as the next step in computing, I can’t really justify buying one. With the rise in desktop sales, I don’t see why people can’t just take their laptops with them.

However, Sony, in particular, is chugging this netbook Kool-Aid by the gallon. Soon, it will release the VAIO X Series, its next major netbook. Though Sony is very careful about not calling this a “netbook” we all know that they’re just kidding themselves. The carbon fiber VAIO X is no doubt gorgeous, weighing in at 1.6 pounds and measuring about half and inch thin, but when computers get this small, sacrifices in functionality must be made and, sadly, this computer is no different.

The device boasts the new 2.0ghz Atom processor, 2 GBs of RAM and an 11-inch screen – better, but still not great. The fact that the VAIO X will strip your bank account of $1,299 is absurd. For that I can buy a real computer.

Five years ago, netbooks would have been a great supplement for a desktop user. But, now that powerful laptops are becoming lighter and faster, and cell phones are becoming smarter and smarter, I am having a hard time finding a place in this crazy tech world where netbooks can live happily ever after.
Second half kills Panthers’ comeback

FOOTBALL, page 8

were plenty of opportunities there. They gave us some opportunities but we gave them more than we got from them and ultimately that was the difference in the football game.”

CRUCIAL QUARTER

Tyler Clawson recovered a fumble at the Troy 24-yard line in the second quarter, but three straight incompletions led to a Dustin Rivest field goal. When Armond Willis forced a fumble on Brown that was recovered by Aaron Davis with 1:02 left in the third quarter, made all the difference in the football game.”

DEFENSIVE MISHAPS

The Golden Panthers allowed more than 160 rushing yards for the sixth time this season. Troy’s DuJuan Harris had a season-high 65 yards by the second quarter and finished the day with 86. FIU allowed more than 40 points for the fourth time in six contests.

Everybody on defense, we just have to correct these mistakes,” said defensive end Armond Willis. “They capitalized on the mental errors that we made. Sunday we’ll clean it up on film and keep getting better in practice.”

FIU scored two late touchdowns on a Darrian Mallary run and a McCall throw to Ty Frierson.

“Teams like that, you have to win quickly, to send a message to show that we are on a different level,” Rosa said.

Coastal Carolina 7

“Teams like that, you have to win quickly, to send a message to show that we are on a different level,” Rosa said.

VOLLEYBALL: FIU 3, TROY 0

Team sweeps Troy at home

JOEL DELGADO

Staff Writer

Coach Daniela Tomic wanted the Golden Panthers to show the Troy University Trojans why they are the top team in the Sun Belt Conference.

Tomic was concerned the 17-2 Golden Panthers would not dominate the whole match and play a close game vs. the Trojans, a team with a 10-10 record.

“We have a tendency to play at the level of our opponent. I challenged the team to play FIU volleyball,” Tomic said. “We have to be aggressive, we have to be confident and come out and play like we are playing the No. 1 team in the nation and they responded.”

Tomic’s challenge motivated Yarimar Rosa and the Golden Panthers (18-2, 9-0 Sun Belt) to put away the Trojans (10-11, 5-4 Sun Belt) in just an hour and 15 minutes as they soundly defeated the Trojans 3-0.

“We have a tendency to play at the level of our opponent. I challenged the team to play FIU volleyball,” Tomic said. “We have to be aggressive, we have to be confident and come out and play like we are playing the No. 1 team in the nation and they responded.”

Visit our Web site for the full version of the story, fiusm.com/sports

SOCCER (W): FIU 4, SA 1

Offense keeps winning streak alive

CHRIS GREEN

Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers women’s soccer team (7-5-3) extended its unbeaten streak to six games as it routed South Alabama 4-1 on the road on Oct. 16.

The Jaguars of South Alabama had an opportunity to score vs. freshman goal-keeper Kaitlyn Savage early, but that would be their only bright point of the FIU-dominated first half.

Sophomore Thais Moreno notched a career first multi-goal evening as she found the back of the net twice in less than 10 minutes. Senior Amy Jackson and sophomore Deana Rossi both tallied assists on the goals.

Rossi increased the lead to three without less than two minutes after Moreno’s second goal off an assist from Marina Pappas. Heading into the half, the Golden Panthers had a comfortable 3-0 lead, and would pick up right where they left off in the second half.

“It took us a while to get into it, but once we scored, it was like the goals just kept coming,” Pappas said to fiusports.com.

Visit our Web site for the full version of the story, fiusm.com/sports

Rossa said. “It took us a while to get into it, but once we scored, it was like the goals just kept coming,” Pappas said to fiusports.com.
FOOTBALL: TROY 42, FIU 33

Aerial attack overwhelms Panthers

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers could not stop Troy’s high powered offense as the defending conference champions used a powerful and physical offense to defeat FIU 42-33 on Oct. 17 at FIU Stadium.

FIU quarterback Paul McCall threw for 257 yards and two touchdowns, but was sacked six times by a relentless Trojan pass rush. Troy quarterback Levi Brown spread the all around for the Trojans for 391 yards and hitting 12 different receivers on the night.

“We couldn’t keep scoring at the pace they were scoring,” said Golden Panthers coach Mario Cristobal.

The Trojans got off to a 28-10 lead in the first half before the Golden Panthers closed that gap by scoring 10 points to end the half. The Trojans, however, quickly scored two touchdowns in the third quarter to put away FIU.

“You’d like to stop them a little better – a lot better – when you recover fumbles in the red zone, you need to make those touchdowns,” Cristobal said. “You can’t, against a team as high-powered as they are offensively, go and kick a couple field goals when you have a chance to make those seven-point deals. There

FOOTBALL, page 7

Consistency is team’s downfall

Tough to say exactly anything new to say. Every week, the same FIU team shows up.

Win or lose, week after week, the Golden Panthers do the same things well, and more importantly, they do the same things poorly. Say what you will about the team, but it’s kind of comforting to know what you are going to get all of the time, so you can’t be surprised.

In FIU’s conference home opener, the Golden Panthers gave up 174 yards of rushing to the University of Troy Trojans; they failed to protect the quarterback, allowing six sacks; T.Y. Hilton, despite being limited by a right knee injury led the team in receptions; they failed to grab the game with three turnovers in each of the last three games.

Troy quarterback Levi Brown came into FIU Stadium on Saturday night in front of 10,000 FIU fans wanting black for the team’s first ever “blackout” game, and proceeded to pick apart the Golden Panthers defense until the only thing that was consistent was the gang run moving the first down marker seemingly every time he dropped back to pass.

Brown connected with 12 different receivers en route to a 391-yard, three-touchdown day, his second best performance of the season. He entered the game throwing for 260 yards per game. He equaled that by the end of the first half.

Most teams that have had success against FIU this season (and that includes most of the teams they have played, unfortunately) have leaned heavily on the running game to dominate the clock and keep FIU’s offense off the field.

Troy opted for the quick strike technique, and FIU, with a banged up secondary that at one point in the game was missing both of its top corners and a starting safety, had no response for the senior, who consistently found the open receiver all game long.

When FIU tried to stay in its base defense to shore up the run defense, Brown took advantage of the mismatches, finding his talented slot receivers for big gains in the middle of the field. When the Golden Panthers would bring in extra defensive backs to guard Troy’s spread offense, they would gash them with runs.

And once the safeties would creep up to help in the running game, Brown would go over top with play action passes.

Troy perfectly executed their offensive game plan, and despite numerous penalties (11, their fourth straight game with double digits in this category) and three turnovers in their own territory, FIU wasn’t able to keep up with the Trojans.

Coming off a win over Western Kentucky, FIU was looking to make a statement against the class of the conference by stealing a win at Troy.

In the first half before the Golden Panthers closed that gap by scoring 10 points to end the half. The Trojans, however, quickly scored two touchdowns in the third quarter to put away FIU.

You’d like to stop them a little better – a lot better – when you recover fumbles in the red zone, you need to make those touchdowns,” Cristobal said. “You can’t, against a team as high-powered as they are offensively, go and kick a couple field goals when you have a chance to make those seven-point deals. There

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