University breaks ground on long-awaited project

BRYAN PALACIO
Asst. News Director
bryan.palacio@fiusm.com

After years of planning and delays, the Student Academic Support Center got its official groundbreaking.

Fighting wind and rain on Friday, Nov. 21, university staff and distinguished guests, highlighted by University President Mark B. Rosenberg, were able to bear the weather long enough for necessary speeches to be given and media pictures be taken.

“This ceremony is evidence of the fact that rain or shine, up or down, over or under, we’re going to get it done,” said Rosenberg. “That’s in our DNA.”

The 74,800-square foot Student Academic Support Center, scheduled to open in the spring of 2016, will be the one-stop building for all student financial and academic needs—the first building that incoming students will see and use most throughout their academic career.

The SASC will house departments such as enrollment services, one stop, financial aid, advising, honors college, graduate studies and study abroad, just to name a few.

“It’s going to be the student center,” said Jeff Gonzalez, vice provost for planning and institutional research. “It’s going to be the one stop for students and a central hub for student life. Given the focus that the institution has on every student counts, this is a way to help both our students and our prospective students see all that the institution has to make them successful,” said Gonzalez.

The $31 million building, that will be located east of Graham Center next to Barnes and Noble and previously the bus lane, will be state of the art, encompassing features such as Wi-Fi, computers, technology hubs and charging stations for students to be as productive outside the classroom as they are inside. It will also have four general-use classrooms which will be the home of the $1.5 million UTEACH program for STEM instruction, and will be outfitted with a robust 250-seat auditorium, slated to be the largest on campus, that will be used for academic services as well as orientation and special events.

With the SASC designed to co-locate departments which work together, it will also increase

SEE BUILDING, PAGE 2

STEM institute changing traditional teaching method

NICHOLAS OLIVERA
Staff Writer
nick.olivera@fiusm.com

Using two separate grants from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, FIU’s Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Transformation Institute has been working to encourage the completion of degrees in the sciences.

Since 2010, the STEM institute had been going about this process by putting the money from the first HHMI grant of $1 million towards developing more creative, interactive processes in order to get students excited about science.

With the first HHMI grant, the institute funded efforts for each professor in specific STEM disciplines to transform one of their courses to fit the newer, more exciting mold to attract students to the sciences.

The second HHMI grant of $1.5 million works towards boosting the encouragement of students in chemistry, physics, biology and now mathematics courses.

Developing these new, exciting methods for teaching meant doing away with the traditional method for teaching—having students come in for a straightforward lecture before going off on their own to figure out what it was they just sat through.

According to Laird Kramer, physics professor and director of the STEM institute, this traditional teaching process is one that tends to discourage university students from pursuing degrees in science.

“If you take a typical physics course, your favorable attitudes towards physics learning will be decreased as a result of the instruction. A simple lecture becomes very dry, and to me that’s not what physics is about,” Kramer said.

The common change professors have been making to their courses is flipping them. This means that all lectures and power points (or any sort of instructional materials) will be available to students online.

Before showing up to class, the students will review whatever it is their professor had assigned to them. This allows students to go into the classroom with a general understanding of what the lesson is, and they can address any difficulties they already know they have with a professor or a learning assistant present.

An example of this “flipped” concept is seen in John Makemson’s general biochemistry class.

It appears to be a typical lecture. He stands in between a projector screen twice his height and an auditorium containing close to 200 students.

Today’s class is a lecture on urea cycle disorders. He will present a series of questions to his students, such as, what amino acid group does the amino ornithine belong to? The question will be up on the screen behind him, followed by five possible answers labeled A through E.

The students have exactly one minute to answer correctly.

A majority of them will sit in tight clusters, each holding an iClicker device. For each question that comes up the students will always end up consulting the person sitting next to them in an attempt to figure out what the answer is.

For the students, these questions are all important. Not only because it is a quick refresher for upcoming class exams, but also because the in-class questions will be graded.

“It’s a good buzz in the class. When students are talking to students, the students are doing the teaching for themselves. And attendance hasn’t been stronger too,” Makemson said.

Bryan Palacio/The Beacon
Wellness Center to bring HIV, AIDS awareness at RAW Day

LESLEY OVALLE
Contributing Writer
new@fiusm.com

Miguel Piaquadio, a testing counselor for the medical practice Care Resource, said it takes just a few minutes for someone to get their results. “If a person is found to be HIV positive, they will be referred to the Wellness Center.”

This illness attacks the CD4 cells — or T-cells, which are a type of white blood cell that keep our immune system able to fight infections and diseases in our bodies. Along with attacking T-cells it also duplicates itself to keep causing damage.

“The person’s CD4 cell count is below 200, the disease is no longer HIV it’s now AIDS,” said Piaquadio.

Care Resource is an organization that provides HIV/AIDS research, prevention, care and treatment services to individuals in South Florida. It is South Florida’s oldest and largest HIV/AIDS organization and it has teamed up with FIU to provide its services to students and the FIU community.

Becoming Paris, wellness coordinator of University Health Services said the wellness center’s RAW days consist of educational information, surveys and freebies and are planned by Student Health Services wellness assistant.

During World AIDS Day RAW Day, students will be informed of the many free services and resources available to them such as HIV testing and counseling.

They will be receiving information about these resources from student assistants who enjoy participating in such events and are getting experience in their field of interest.

Sofia Pablos-Aguirre, FIU alumna, working on a master’s in public health, and wellness assistant who plans these RAW Days enjoys tabling and the communication aspect of RAW Day events.

“I like talking to students and giving them information that is relevant and can improve their health and lifestyle,” said Pabilia-Aguirre.

According to Piaquadio and careresource.org, “Miami-Dade County ranks No. 1 in the state of Florida in the number of new HIV and AIDS cases.

The Wellness Center provides free HIV testing and counseling, available by appointment during their regular hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. said Caceres.

Appointments are best made by calling the Wellness Center the day of in the morning, before 10:30 a.m., recommends Piaquadio. All services are confidential and are not only available to students, but to the whole community.

“Everybody has a right to medical care for HIV/AIDS, regardless of residency or citizenship status,” said Piaquadio.

World AIDS Day

Mehdo Modeste Campus
Dec. 1
10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

GCB Pit

Biscayne Bay Campus
Dec. 1
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BBC Ballrooms or Panther Square

“Think everyone is excited about the new building,” said Jessell. Initial funding was received in May 2010, but it took four years, including a price reduction and relocation, until the final $7 million was needed to complete the project, he said.

“We actually had a virtual ground breaking two years ago, so that we could keep the project moving forward by symbolically documenting the dream of this remarkable facility,” said Jessell.

Although the ceremony was not ideal, similar to the rest of the building’s plans, the weather was not enough to derail the plans any longer.

“No umbrellas,” said Jessell. “We each stuck it up for one photo.”

“We actually had a virtual ground breaking two years ago, so that we could keep the project moving forward by symbolically documenting the dream of this remarkable facility.”

Student Academic Support Center construction underway

BUILDING, PAGE 1

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— Kenneth Jessell
Chief Financial Officer

The Beacon is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124 or apply at fiusm.com.
Thanksgiving is for good times, not uncomfortable praying

KRISTINE PEREZ
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

It’s that time of year again -- time to pick out an outfit, set the table, and spend all day cooking. The Thursday of all Thursdays is among us, as we prepare to eat our weight in food and endure conversations with distant family -- the questions about life we don’t have the answers to. With the Thanksgiving dinner being a very important holiday that should be cherished with loved ones, it does not always turn out as well as we wish and expect. Unfortunately, Thanksgiving has become the infamous and dreadful day of the year where the entire family is walking on their toes, trying to do just about anything to make their lives together. People tend to force themselves to spend the evening with people they would rather avoid, all for the gratitude of saying they celebrated Thanksgiving “the right way.”

Frankly, none of this would ever be an issue if the holiday was spent with people we love, trust, and enjoy -- and this does not always suggest family. Thanksgiving should be spent with people who we truly want to be sitting next to for an entire night without feeling uncomfortable and unwarranted. It requires another name; after all, someone other than family requires another name; after all, it is not called “Familygiving.” Those who decide to spend the holiday in another house should not be blamed or frowned upon because the give and take is far from an actual consequence. While you may be giving up the perfectly cooked turkey, expensive wine, and long table of perfectly set china, you would get a much more gratifying night of genuine laughter and true conversation. Rather than trying to avoid the noisy family member who wants to know why you show up without a date you can reminiscence with friends and retell the funny stories about why no one made the cut about explaining -- and improving -- what the plan for the rest of you life is, friends will want to discuss anything but the future. Given the opportunity to have a national holiday that entails eating, drinking, loving, giving thanks, there is no need to feel that there are rules we must follow to celebrate correctly. The holiday was not created on the basis that it is spent in a specific manner with the same people year after year. Nowhere does it say that the last Thursday of November must be a dreadful one filled with boredom and dismay. If there are any rules at all, they should say to eat as much as you want, laugh as much as possible, enjoy the fullest, and love everyone you surround yourself with.

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) tokersteinpiedrahita@fiusm.com.

World financial leaders warn of possible global economy crash

ALAN DI DIEGO
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

In a shearly morose judgment, British Prime Minister David Cameron estimated that the world could be facing another financial fall in the near future.

The world’s 20 most economically powerful countries gathered in Brisbane, Australia this past Nov. 23, for the annually held G20 Leaders’ Summit, where former Leader of the Opposition and current leader of the second European economic titan expressed his worries regarding the global economic waveform.

“The euro-zone economy is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession,” he explained. He also went on to cite high unemployment and falling prices as troublesome “red warning lights” that hint at a potential financial meltdown and suggests European leaders to act quickly.

Subtract sub-prime loans and dying banks, and this seems like exactly the same situation the global economy was under just 6 years ago. Unfortunately, Cameron isn’t exaggerating, and it’s very much evident that the markets that drove growth in the early stages of Europe’s recovery are now slowly, but surely, fading away.

However, all of this begs the question, why haven’t European leaders taken action? Why can’t Germany’s Angela Merkel facilitate trade with Russia, since she has the best relation with Putin out of all European countries? Why doesn’t France’s Francois Hollande open new markets with smaller, willingly bordering countries?

Well the answer isn’t quite clear yet. But what we do know is that every European country wants to protect their own private interests, and when you’re a European country tied to the European Union, you face the burden of failing, which is why, if you’re not going to ignore Britain’s failing economy, which can affect all of Europe, or put aside your agenda to aid the situation. When your currency is dependent on other country’s currencies, you should care, and a lot.

Even putting lack of collaboration aside, or the plethora of other reasons why a worrying economic forecast isn’t being addressed as it should. The plain fact is that there is just too much going on in the world today, and everyone is so concerned with their own priorities that there are a wide range of factors that affect an economy.

Instability in the Middle East with an ever-growing and problematic ISIS, ongoing war in Ukraine, and the spread of Ebola, are all issues occupying not just news headlines worldwide, but also the minds of the individuals who need to direct their full focus on avoiding another international financial crisis. When a European leader needs to attend an economic meeting, suddenly there is an Ebola outbreak in North America and he/ she must change plans to attend a mandatory emergency meeting with other world leaders. When Merkel seems to have convinced Putin to cease fire in Ukraine, suddenly another breathtaking took place in Syria by a member of ISIS, and she has to rearrange her productive talks with Putin to address the news. These people just never get a break.

Cameron concluded his speech noting that “Working through the agenda at the G20, it was clearer than ever how vital it is that we work together,” and as he continues, there is just too much going on, and the only thing that he believes will tell. This makes us, as FIU students, think about how the actions, or lack thereof, made by politicians in a completely different and far finer affects us.

Well, for starters, a bad European economy could cause a bad American economy, and as any student who lived through 2007-2008 would remember, we’ll experience budget cutting. Being a public university, we could witness departments receiving less funding, which could affect our school’s budget, and organizations struggling to gather donations as people are more hesitant to spend their money. We could see the rise of prices, known as inflation, so your daily $2.50 Bauletto coffee run in the morning could turn into a $5.00 aggregation. Already pricey textbooks could cost significantly more, and ultimately this could discourage some students from even continuing their studies.

With all this in mind, it’s important to stay optimistic as students and remember that this country has endured a great depression, and FIU survived the deep recession in 1982, so there’s no situation without a solution.

Heading into the holiday season there can be a million things running through a student’s mind. A mix of course exams, work and family affairs can impact one for the worse.

With these issues at hand, it was a nice time for Parking and Transportation and the Student Government Council to meet and tour around the school for the Campus Safety Walk. The main focus last year was not only about the safety in many areas and it is clear the problem persists.

Each department, including the students and especially those living on campus, need to step up respective parties to address the problems so we can not only focus on other issues that may arise, but also prevent them.

If more people consider this, the Campus Safety Walk they would be well informed with more than just poorly-lit areas, but also be enlightened on safety tips mentioned during the walk.

What may be the easiest way to stay safe with a preoccupied mind is simple awareness to all the resources, available on campus. Every student should be cognizant of how the Panther Safety Tram works and which number to call in case of emergencies when on campus.

The Panther Safety Tram runs on both Modesto A. Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campus. The tram is a transportation service that those on campus can call to be picked from anywhere on campus and driven to another location on campus.

Another thing to consider is a buddy system in order to avoid being alone. If two friends are leaving campus, a simple buddy system to walk a friend to their car and have the second student drive to the other student’s car can prevent a sense of fear and a dangerous situation.

In case of any event, every student should have the University police department’s numbers saved on their phone: 305-348-5911 for MMC and 305-919-5911 for BBC. In an emergency, people must call 911, as this is the second student drive to the other student’s car can prevent a sense of fear and a dangerous situation.

Besides physical safety, there is a lot students have to manage at once. Counseling and Psychological Services are paid for when you register for classes each semester. It is available on MMC in the University Health and Services Complex Suite 270, 305-348-2277; on BBC in the Wolfe University Center Suite 320, 305-919-5305; and in the Engineering Center. CAPS also has a 24 hour emergency hotline if the office is not open at 305-348-5000.

The staff consists of psychologists, social workers and mental health counselors. There are individual, group and couples sessions for students in a strict confidential manner. Walk-in or appointment, counselors will help to find the best solutions for issues you may have or identify needs, explain choices, help students to medical services and help to have a safety plan.

Life as a student can be tough, but that does not give reason to be left in the dark without the knowledge of the extensive resources available with significant convenience.

Thanksgiving is for good times, not uncomfortable praying.
Math professor talks about her experience to inspire students

Leslie Angela Blanco
Contributing Writer
life@fiusm.com

Ada Monserrat, professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, walked on the University of Cambridge’s campus and her heart was pounding—she was on her way to the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics. “I was going to meet one of the smartest men on the planet,” said Monserrat, recounting her August meeting. “No pressure.”

She had spent several years prior trying to arrange a meeting with the high profile physicist, but to no avail. There was a good chance she wouldn’t be able to meet him; nonetheless, she flew to the United Kingdom, where he was expected to be.

Despite the uncertainty, her prayers were answered when the confirmation call finally came at 7 p.m.—the night before the scheduled meeting. Monserrat walked into an office and was introduced to the acclaimed physicist, cosmologist and author, Stephen Hawking with an assisted handshake by his personal assistant. She sat next to Hawking and he said, “Hello.”

Hawking is the subject of the new film, “The Theory of Everything,” which opened in theaters on Nov. 21. It centers on his life during his collegiate years and his battle with his neurodegenerative disorder, and how he overcame life’s obstacles.

Hawking suffers from motor neuron disease, a disorder that affects the cells that control voluntary muscle movement and is related to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Being almost entirely paralyzed, he communicates with the assistance of a speech-generating device.

Despite the difference of cadence in conversation, Monserrat says her brief meeting with Hawking was inspiring and life-changing. Hawking and Monserrat discussed various topics such as mathematics, space and his personal philosophies. Monserrat, who is also the coordinator of the Mastery Math Lab, mentioned about a trip over the summer in which she took the learning assistants of the lab to NASA for a day.

They also discussed the Mars One Project and University student Patrick Ford’s participation in it. Ford was chosen as one of the 700 candidates selected worldwide to be a part of the Mars One Project.

Hawking, who has largely defined the science of the origin and development of the universe, stated that it wasn’t for what happened to him, he probably wouldn’t be able to excel at the rate he did or be the person he is today.

“This is a day I will never forget.”

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definition of the origin of the world and the world will forever benefit mankind. This is a day I will never forget. Hawking believes one should focus on the things that you can do rather than regret the ones you can’t,” she said. “He’s an amazing man whose impact on the world will forever benefit mankind. This is a day I will never forget.”

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“My goal in life is to inspire students,” she said. “Hawking believes one should focus on the things that you can do rather than regret the ones you can’t,” she said. “He’s an amazing man whose impact on the world will forever benefit mankind. This is a day I will never forget.”

The places that she has visited are so impressive. Theoretical Physics. “Every three months during breaks between every semester, I travel abroad to a different location, something that is inspiring, whether it is historical or amazing, or captivating people to get an audience with Pope Francis to Italy, to name a few. She was also able to get an audience with Pope Francis in Italy, something that few are able to do.

While in the UK, in preparation to meet with Stephen Hawking, she was able to arrange a private viewing of Newton’s personal copy of his book, “Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica,” which is credited for developing calculus.

Monserrat’s main goal and reason for her travels is to inspire students and be able to enrich her own human experience in these different places that have significance worldwide.

“There is a whole other world out there that isn’t just Miami, that you need to explore and learn about,” she said. “I’m just glad I have the opportunity to share my experiences with the new generation coming along so they can be inspired to broaden their horizons. There’s so much history and innovative things and ideas that have happened in the past, and in the present that are happening right now that people should be made aware of. Students can see that there is so much more than just Miami, they just need to get out there and see it for themselves.”

Do you need to break the bank to get a good phone?

TNS STAFF

It might seem as though everyone has an iPhone or Galaxy smartphone. But many customers are eschewing the best cameras and screens - and their top-end price tags - and choosing models that can get the job done at less than a third of the cost.

Sales of high-end Samsung and Apple phones remain robust, but demand for budget phones is growing. About a third of the smartphones sold in the U.S. between July and September cost less than $200, up from 18 percent a year ago, according to tech research firm IDC. A top-end phone costs $600 to $700 at retail for commitments to two-year service contracts.

Besides the Moto G, Motorola has a $129 Moto E as an alternative to its $500 Moto X. Microsoft Corp.’s Lumia 635 costs $179 or less, compared with the $550 its flagship Lumia Icon retail for at launch. The Nubia S5 Mini, ZTE Corp.’s most expensive phone, retails for $280 contract-free. ZTE has a few models for just $100.

The cheaper phone does mean smaller profit. According to IHS iSuppli, ZTE makes about $13 per Nubia device sold, compared with several hundred for Apple and Samsung devices before marketing and administrative costs. But targeting the budget crowd has made ZTE the No. 5 smartphone vendor in the U.S., according to IDC.

Wait, you say, $200 is “cheap?” Many consumers in the United States see a $200 price tag on a typical high-end phone and think that is what the phone costs. But the phone company actually subsidizes about $450 or so of the total cost and recovers that by charging higher service fees for voice, text and data over the life of a two-year contract. Some carriers are now pushing customers to...
‘Payback’: a film worth seeing ‘for its originality, style and Mel Gibson’

Originally released in 1999 and starring Mel Gibson, “Payback” is an old fashioned, noir influenced revenge film, based on the pulp fiction novel “The Hunter” by Richard Stark. The film is an homage to 1970s crime films, featuring a bad guy as our protagonist and ‘70s and noir style music.

PHONES, PAGE 4

Quality phones don’t always come at premium prices

pay a phone’s full price in installments, such as AT&T’s Next plan, but $27 a month over two years doesn’t sound as bad as $650 all at once.

So who are the main buyers of these budget phones? The highest demand has been from those with prepaid wireless plans, which are popular among first-time smartphone buyers as well as customers who have poor credit and have to pay the full price of phones upfront. But even that is changing.

Doug Kaufman, Sprint’s director of device strategy, says that 90 percent of phone sales with traditional contract plans had been for high-end devices, including year-old Apple and Samsung models. That’s dipped to roughly 80 percent over the past half-year. Not everyone wants to pay $27 monthly when a lower-end phone can be had for less than $10 a month. And with the rise of family plans, parents are getting cheaper phones for their kids while choosing the latest and the greatest for themselves, he says.

Michael Weaver, an executive at the mobile-messaging firm Waterfall in New York, bought a Motorola Droid Mini for $50 with a contract, compared with $200 upfront for a high-end phone. Others “feel like they need to buy (something) that can launch the space shuttle, but they don’t use half the features,” he says.

WORLDS AHEAD

Nadia Alharbi, pictured above, hands out Saudi coffee representing Saudia Arabia at the World’s Fair. Alharbi is a level four student at the University’s English Language Institute. Pictured right, Xiaokang Bao, first year healthcare business administration masters student plays traditional songs from his native inner Mongolia. A set of Maryoshka dolls, (top right) also known as babushka or Russian dolls, are placed at the table representing Russia.

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Panthers break records at Mizzou Invite

**STEFANO RIVERA**
Contributing Writer

Fresh off its bye week, the women’s swimming and diving team looked to use its 4-0 record as momentum for the Mizzou Invite, hosted by Columbia, Missouri. From Nov. 20 to Nov. 21, The Panthers finished second overall, just behind the host team. Missouri. The tournament began with star freshman swimmer Silvia Scalia, who broke a school record with her time of 1:00.20, overtaking the 100 backstroke in the 400 medley relay with a time of 53.3.

Sophomore swimmer Jennifer Alfani also helped the Panthers with her personal best time of 23.31 in the 50 freestyle event. Head Coach Randy Horner, who ended with his team’s performance on the first day of the invite.

“We had a solid day today. We gained a lot of experience for our freshmen and had some best times that were good to see mid season. Our depth is what excites me most about today. All of our relays were solid from A to D and that shows our program’s growth,” Horner said.

On Friday, Nov. 21, the second day of the tournament, the Panthers sat in second place with 182.3 points. The Panthers set the new school record for the 200 medley relay posting a time of 1:41.78. Scalia, senior Klara Andersson, Alfani, and sophomore Jennifer Deist were able to work together to help break the record.

Senior Johanna Gustafsdottir finished in second place in the 400 individual medley. With a time of 4:14.86, the Iceland native ended up with the second best time in FIU swimming history.

“I feel like we had a stronger day top to bottom today. The ladies relaxed a bit more and had fun. That’s the key to swimming fast. It has to be fun, and that’s where the team effort comes in,” said Horner.

Entering Saturday, Nov. 22, the Panthers were in second place yet again with 414 points.

Panther divers freshman Rebecca Quesnel and sophomore Lilly Kaufmann contributed to the efforts. Quesnel’s best score, 248.85, came in the finals and Kaufmann’s, 232.40, came in the prelims. Both placed into the FIU record books for their respective events.

Once again, Scalia showed why she won Conference USA swimmer of the week two weeks ago. Scalia moved into second in FIU history in the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:55.55 time and finished second in that event.

Gustafsdottir showed no mercy in the 200 breaststroke, setting a record with a personal and first in school history for her event.

Junior Valarie Inghels had no problem breaking the school record in the 200 butterfly. Finishing with a time of 1:58.43, she broke the record by nearly a full second. Inghels ended up finishing second in her event.

On the third and final day alone, a combined eleven swimmers and divers ended up in the FIU record books.

Horner was very happy with how his team performed at the Mizzou Invite.

“We competed well this week. We beat some very good teams from the Big 10 and Big 12 and that’s a feather in our cap. We have a lot of work to do still to achieve our goals, but this meet was a great mid season evaluation,” said Horner.

The Panthers proved to be relentless ending up with 586 points edging the University of Nebraska and the University of Illinois from the Big 10, and West Virginia University from the Big 12.

The Panthers don’t compete again until they host instant team University of North Florida on Wednesday, Dec. 17. They hope to use their strong performance at the Mizzou Invite to propel them to a (5-0) record.

Miami Dolphins collapse in fourth quarter, lose to Denver Broncos

**TNS STAFF**

Another fourth-quarter lead against a quality opponent. Another fourth-quarter collapse by the Dolphins’ defense. C.J. Anderson ran 10 yards untouched to the end zone, completing a Broncos rally and sending Miami home with a 39-36 loss that was as painful as it was familiar.

Yet again, the Dolphins could not protect a lead, surrendering 22 points in the fourth quarter alone.

And the offense, which had been so good in the first half, failed once again. The Dolphins needed it the most. With the Dolphins down by four and driving, a Ryan Tannehill pass bounced off Jarvis Landry’s usually sure hands. Manning connected with Demaryius Thomas on a designed run, the foot down on the goal line. Tannehill dropped a 47-yard drive with a 5-yard touchdown strike to Mike Wallace.

Denver answered right back, and Manning was terrific. First, he connected with Emmanuel Sanders for 35 yards down the left sideline. And then he made it count with a 14-yard touchdown connection with Thomas. The drive took just 1:42 off the clock and cut Miami’s lead to four points at the half.

Just how close was it through two quarters? Both teams finished the half with 212 yards of offense.

The Broncos had controlled the ball for nearly seven minutes to start the second half, and didn’t get a point to show for it. Manning gave himself up for a sack on third down, and McManus missed from 33 yards.

Special teams bit the Broncos again, as Isaiah Burse coughed up a punt, thanks to a hard hit by Damien Williams. John Denney recovered the fumble, and the Dolphins were in business deep in Broncos territory.

And the Dolphins dodged a bullet, thanks again to a Denver miscue. Tannehill appeared to throw an interception on third and-10, but a defensive holding by Ward kept the drive alive. Tannehill made it count by riling a 5-yard touchdown pass to Landry.

But the Dolphins suffered a double-whammy on their next play. Already without Cortland Finnegan, they lost Jamar Taylor to a shoulder injury. And Manning connected with Thomas in the end zone for the third time. The converted two-point try made it a three-point game with 14:09 to play.
Women’s basketball searching for a win after three game losing streak

REBECCA CHARUR
Staff Writer
rebecca.charur@fiusm.com

The Panthers hosted the Cleveland State University Vikings on Sunday, Nov. 23, in their third regular season game. With this third game of the season, however, also came the team’s third loss.

The Vikings had brought in the first half. The Panthers scored twice in the first five minutes. The Panthers went into the halftime break trailing 42-28.

The story of the night, however, was in the performance of redshirt freshman forward Kiandre’a Pound, who recorded her first collegiate double-double with 24 points and 14 rebounds. This influence was seen particularly in the second half. Coming out of the break, the Panthers appeared to have gained new life. Pound lead the way, laying in the first points of the half. After the Vikings knocked down another three pointer, a back and forth exchange of baskets ensued. The Panthers, at this point, were able to successfully match and even exceed the intensity that the Vikings had brought in the first half.

Sophomore forward Kiandre’a Pound does a layup against Cleveland State University on Sunday, Nov. 23. The Panthers lost 65-73.

BASKETBALL

With about 15:09 left in the game, Pound hit two free throws to pull FIU within single digits. This sparked a 14-6 run that would eventually pull them within one. "It felt pretty good [to record a double-double] but we still lost the game,” said Pound. "We wanted to win, we’re 0-3. We’ve been losing over and over.”

The Panthers pulled within three one last time after three consecutive baskets scored by junior guard Taylor Shadle. Still, even with solid second half performances from Shade and Pound, the Panthers could not erase the lead that the Vikings had built up in the final minutes of the game when they once again pulled away.

“Heart was a nice effort by a lot of people but you know we did not play smart down the stretch,” said Head Coach Cindy Russo.

Despite opening the game with back-to-back layups, senior forward Tynia McKinzie barely saw any action in the second half, spending the half on the bench.

"FIU will continue their four-game home stretch this week with the commencement of their annual Thanksgiving Classic. They are scheduled to play Arizona State University, and University of Toledo or University of Virginia, where they will be on the hunt for their first win of the season.

Panthers rally to force overtime, but fall to Predators in shootout, losing 3-2

TNS STAFF

The Florida Panthers will have to wait at least another year to experience what it is to party like it’s 1999. In Music City, at least, where Saturday they continued a victory drought that extends to the last millennium with a 3-2 loss to the Nashville Predators in a shootout.

The Predators, among the leaders in the West have been tough on everyone in Bridgestone Arena, where they are now 7-1-1. The Predators are one of the poorer teams in the league, but they have trouble keeping pace with the energy of the visitors.

The Panthers have been tough on the West, coming in 5-2-1. But they looked every bit like a team that had just played three tough games in five days in California, which they had, winning twice.

Under a relentless Predators assault, Luongo stopped 48 shots. The one that finally got past him just a minute and a half before the second intermission was a freak bank-shot. Colin Wilson flipped it over from behind the net and it ricocheted in off the back of Luongo, apparently off his helmet.

Nashville seemingly had the game iced with seven minutes remaining when wide-open Matt Cullen took a centering pass out front from Derek Roy and fired it home on a shot Luongo said deflected off a defenseman.

The Panthers have not won here since Dec. 11, 1999. They have now lost seven times and tied twice since then.

The Panthers went 2-1-1 on a grueling four-game trip that included visits to three of the top four teams in the Western Conference. They begin a four-game homestand Monday against Minnesota.

The Panthers are scheduled to play Arizona State University and University of Toledo or University of Virginia, where they will be on the hunt for their first win of the season.

The sensational play of one gave them a chance, but the Panthers mounted little in the way of offense most of the night, and Pekka Rinne stopped their first 28 shots.

One of Luongo’s toughest saves was on a Predators rush in the second period while the Panthers were on a power play in the second period. Earlier, he gloved a one-timer by James Neal on Nashville’s high-scoring top line.

The Panthers’ penalty-kill unit did a nice job of helping him hold off a minute and a half of 5-on-3 early in the third period. The Predators are one of the poorer teams on the power-play, but they are one of the best on 5-on-5, and they showed it as they came at Luongo in waves with precision passing that created countless openings to the Panthers’ net.

Luongo came in 16-13 with a 2.19 goals-against average. He has lost the game in the first game on a shot Luongo said deflected off a defenseman.

The Panthers have been tough on the West, coming in 5-2-1. But they looked every bit like a team that had just played three tough games in five days in California, which they had, winning twice.

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FRUSM STAFF
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With the holiday spirit of Thanksgiving in the air, students will get to “trot,” for some turkey at this year’s 27th Annual BBC Recreation Turkey Trot on Nov. 26.

Hosted by the BBC Student Affairs Campus Recreation Center, students will have the opportunity to burn calories through different competitive races at the campus.

There will be a men’s and women’s division composed of a three-mile run and a stretch station on site. First place winners in each category will take home a Thanksgiving turkey and a gift basket. However, the first five runner-up’s in each category will also be recipients of the turkey prize. The prizes are limited to one person per household since the competitions are open to the community.

There will be a fruit and water station, and a stretch station on site. To register for the event, competitors need to register at active.com and enter keywords: “FII BBC Turkey Trot.” There will be a packet pickup on race day at the plaza from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Students must arrive at 3:30 p.m. and those who will walk will meet at 3:30 p.m.

John Harris, a junior biology major, says, “I think it’s a different way to celebrate the holidays. For instance, on Thanksgiving, especially since we all tend to overeat, it’s a great way to burn some calories before a feast.”

Martin Baron, executive editor of the Washington Post, speaks with moderator Robert Hirsch, managing editor at the Miami Herald about media, journalism, and the future of news in the digital age on Wednesday, Nov. 19. “[We] need to understand how people are consuming information these days,” he said.

THS STAFF

Florida’s college grads have lower student loans

Graduates of Florida’s colleges are less likely to be saddled with student loans when they graduate, a new study shows. Nearly 4,400 less than the $28,400 national average. Florida’s comparatively low tuition at public universities helps many students avoid or take out fewer loans, said Debbie Cochrane, research director at the Institute for College Access & Success.

Seven of Florida’s 11 public four-year schools reported that just under half of their 2013 graduates borrowed to cover their college costs. New College of Florida had the lowest percentage of students taking out loans -- 39 percent -- followed by the University of Florida’s 43 percent, the institute found.

Those who did borrow at Florida’s four-year public and nonprofit colleges took out an average of $24,017 in loans, nearly $4,400 less than the $28,400 national average. Florida’s comparatively low tuition at public universities helps many students avoid or take out fewer loans, said Debbie Cochrane, research director at the Institute for College Access & Success.

Tuition is much lower here than what you see around the country,” said Sean Snaith, director of the University of Central Florida’s Institute for Economic Competitiveness. The state’s Bright Futures scholarships -- awarded to high school seniors for academic excellence -- also have helped Florida students avoid debt, he said.

Many of Florida’s public universities also award scholarships and grants to help students in addition to the state and federal financial aid they receive, said Cochrane, of the Institute for College Access & Success.

FIU, for example, gave grants and scholarships to 49 percent of its incoming freshmen, amounting to an average award of $3,125 in the 2012-2013 school year, according to federal data.

Meanwhile, FAU awarded 37 percent of its incoming students scholarships and grants that averaged $2,935 in the 2012-2013 school year.

“That all helps,” Cochrane said.