FIU Board of Trustees talks fairgrounds

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
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Plans regarding student health requirements at the University and decisions on the fairgrounds expansion were brought forward on the Sept. 10 Board of Trustees meetings.

It is anticipated that 30 percent of University students are uninsured, said Yolangel Hernandez Suarez, associate dean for Graduate Medical Education at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine.

"Many people close to me have never been able to afford health insurance," she said.

"So for adults who are not covered and who do not have children, Medicaid is not going to solve this problem [for uninsured students]," said Hernandez.

"We are trying to make the Affordable Care Act work for our students," she said.

"That’s why we are offering students health coverage like Medicaid, certain requirements need to be met for eligibility. Eligibility differs from state to state, with Florida favoring Medicaid for children and pregnant women."

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American conflict about more war as they remember 9/11

As Americans paused Thursday to remember those who died in the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil, they also confronted the possibility that the 13 exhausting years of war that followed may not be ending soon. One of the other nine 11/11 anniversaries, President Barack Obama announced an expansion of U.S. airstrikes against militants in Iraq and Syria. The Sept. 11, 2001, attacks killed nearly 3,000 Americans.

Now, more than twice as many have given their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq. U.S. taxpayers have spent more than $4 trillion on both wars. Thirteen years of war have left a profound mark on Americans. The country struggles to provide a general well-being of combat veterans care for their wounds, physical and mental.

Expanded domestic security and surveillance regimes have deepened the distrust between Americans and their government, and vice versa.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The Tuesday Times Roundtable for Tuesday, Sept. 2, will be taking place in WUC 159, not WUC 253.

Also, the updated abbreviated calendar in this issue. In addition had incorrect information. Please check the calendar in the At the Bay Campus.

In the same issue the calendar in the At the Bay Campus.

NATION & WORLD

ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR

BBC Managing Editor

Cristina Garcia

Cindy Guzman, junior international relations major, said it's scary that sexual assault could happen on any college campus.

There is a lot of miscommunication because people are afraid to talk about certain topics. “We are here to bring some light to certain topics.

“Learning about the good stuff and the bad stuff should make you into a well-rounded professional — even hard topics such as sexual assault,” Ordóñez said.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, one out of four female college students will be a victim of sexual assault during their academic career.

This means that college women are most vulnerable to sexual assault during the first few weeks of the freshman and sophomore year.

CAPS, said sexual violence is a huge problem in our society and most of the time people are not willing to talk about it.

“We want to promote healthy relationships and increase an understanding of what having consensual sex means,” said Ordóñez.

There is a lot of miscommunication because people are afraid to talk about certain topics. “We are here to bring some light to what is typically considered as ‘taboo’ in our society,” she said.

Cindy Guzman, junior international relations major, said it’s scary that sexual assault could happen on any college campus.

“We have the right to take advantage of someone else just because they are vulnerable,” Guzman said.

“It think it’s a perfect opportunity to educate students about sex violence in campuses and the ways to prevent it.”

Also at the meetings, Associate Vice President of Business and Finance Aimee Martinez talked about the delays in the construction of the new residence halls at Biscayne Bay Campus.

The project opening date has been delayed to fall 2016. It was scheduled to open this coming year.

“We had a very tight timeline,” said Martinez. “When financing and the project [timeline] are not completed according to schedule, it’s pretty much impossible [to meet the date].”

Despite delays in the BBC on-campus housing plans, the University moves forward with acquiring the fairgrounds.

Now that the University expansion plan will be on the November ballot, University President Mark B. Rosenberg said he will be the sole spokesperson and University employees cannot continue to be involved in the process.

“University employees, other than the president, and there is an exception in the statute for the head of the governmental agency, are prohibited from participating in political activity,” said University General Counsel Kristina Raattama.

They cannot be involved on University time, on University resources and on University property.

If employees are questioned by media, there will be a guide by the University as to what they can do. However, they are not regulated during free time at night and on weekends. So there is a way to continue being involved, said Board of Trustees Chair Albert Maury.

The Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners agreed to include the University’s expansion plan in a countrywide referendum during the Nov. 4 general elections.

According to Rosenberg, the University is working directly with the County and not the Miami-Dade County Fair and Expocenter, Inc.

“This is a framework for a University-County relationship. It does not involve the County Fair,” Rosenberg said in reference to the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the University, the County and the Fair. “They’ve been very explicit about that.” The County is the landlord, so they have their contractual obligation with the County Fair.

In about seven years, Modesto A. Maidique Campus will not have enough grounds for further expansion, Rosenberg said, so the land is needed to expand.

Maury said that land acquisition does not mean FITI taking over the park land.

Rather, the University, the County, the Fair and the broader community will benefit from this process.

In a previous Student Media interview, Rosenberg said, “This is about more and better jobs and educational opportunities for our community.”

“We look forward to making significant progress and find a win-win solution,” he said.

So for adults who are not women, who are not pregnant and who do not have children, Medicaid is not going to solve this problem…

Yolangel Hernandez-Suarez

ASSAULT, PAGE 1

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Cindy Guzman, Associate Dean

Graduate Medical Education

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McMaster-Medina Campus, 1-211, 1-912-348-2279

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All the valuable wonders of 2014 technology

JASMINE ROMERO
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Every day, I go on Twitter and Facebook to check my messages and see if there's anything worth investigating in the Newsfeed. Usually there are memes, a picture from Humans of New York and angry political statements. Those are all fine and dandy, but then there is the inevitable, groan-inducing “I’m bored” status.

Really? You’re “bored”?

Please, this is 2014, if you haven’t noticed. If you’re telling me you’re actually sitting in your room as still as a statue because there’s “nothing to do,” you’re wrong. You have television, you have games, you have sports, you have books and you have the internet. There is always something to do. There are a myriad of things in this world to unearth.


There is no point in tweeting about what you had for breakfast. There is no point in whining about not having something to do as you look for shapes in the ceiling.

You could be hanging out with someone or creating something.

We have 3D printers, for God’s sake. You can print objects. You can print a mini couch. You can print a life-size couch if you put the time into it. You can make them polka-dotted and green. You can open your own green, polka-dotted coach business. You don’t have to go to IKEA ever again.

If you don’t know how to print couches, learn. No, seriously, just learn something new. Don’t let yourself believe you’ll suck at something when you haven’t even tried it.

You probably will suck the first time. Then you won’t — if you keep trying.

You have the power to prevent your life from sucking. It’s all in your hands. Stop complaining about your boredom and go get inspired.

I understand that you may not have money. Get a job. You may not have a car. Get a bike. The worst excuse is that you have no time.

Nothing valuable comes easy, and if you want something to happen, you sacrifice what you have to in order to get it.

Honestly, when you genuinely want something, all the obstacles you need to endure won’t even feel like obstacles to you, because you’re too busy wanting your goal to even care. That’s how I felt when I started building my own websites. I was so determined to have my own space on the Internet that I plowed through all the tutorials. I had to learn HTML and CSS to make a page. So I did. I got to my goal, instead of sitting around fooling myself into thinking there was nothing to do.

There are so many exciting things happening right now, but you refuse to acknowledge that. The key is to get yourself moving.

TEACHING:
Difficult job, easy entry

KRISTINE PEREZ
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A teacher is an educator, mediator, counselor, planner and creator. Teachers are those who devote their lives to educating others about the world and who go beyond the nine to five schedule. Sounds like a pretty difficult job that requires a great amount of preparation in higher education, right? Wrong.

Becoming a teacher is as easy as passing a couple of simple tests on the desired subject you would like to teach. All it takes is studying for the test (yes, exactly what teachers are told not to do) and you will be state certified to teach. It is the ultimate back up plan for those who cannot find another job in the meantime.

Danilo Santos, a junior studying journalism, has planned, “If I cannot find a job after I graduate, I’ll just take the English subject area test and teach until I can find a job in my field.”

I am a semester away from having a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and I work at a middle school, primarily with eighth graders. As I observe the teachers who I work with, I have realized that many of them teach straight out of the book and do not have any other knowledge on the content outside of the textbook.

When asked what exactly their path to teaching was, I have been told a number of answers that range from, “Well, I worked in finance but I got tired of that so now I am trying to teach” to, “I studied political science because I wanted to go to law school but then I got married so teaching was the next best thing.”

While those are wonderful career paths on their own, who is to say these men and women are now qualified to teach physical science and American history?

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, not even half of high school science, history and math teachers in the country hold a bachelor’s degree or higher in the subjects they teach.

Knowing how to maintain a classroom with respect where students truly learn is difficult. It’s not something that just appears by miracle because an exam was passed.

There are so many things you can do to plan your future, you just have to know where to start. There are so many interesting things you can explore and learn about. Just learn something. You’ll be surprised.

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Life: Dynamic musician proving reluctance is the only disability

Natalie Von Cieminski
Contributing Writer

Savant has been his stage name since 2011, as it is not just a stage name to the Norwegian musician Aleksander Vinter – it’s a constant reminder of the kaleidoscope in his head.

After an electric show at Mekka Nightclub on Sept. 5, Vinter spoke to FIUSM on living and coping with Savant Syndrome.

Savant Syndrome can be associated with autism; however, it is not all savants who are autistic.

Despite difficulties in social interactions, non-verbal conversations and serious mental or physical disabilities, such as scoring very low on IQ tests, people affected by this disability may demonstrate exceptional artistic and musical skills, as in the case of Vinter.

But Vinter’s pays a cost for a mind that overflows with creativity.

“It’s tough. It’s not fun at all. When I am alone, I don’t say anything. I don’t do anything. I am very introverted. But when I am with people, it is a practice of living,” said Vinter of his disability.

“Normal things for people, like breathing, looking at people, communicating, sorting facts, conversations and being in the moment are really hard. It is a lot of focus for me.”

Even though the Savant Syndrome impairs Vinter in his personal life, the disability does have an interesting effect on his music.

“The music is always positive. When I hear the right frequencies matching with each other, also mixed with the right rhythm and different types of sounds, the whole thing lights up in a very special way and that’s when I feel good,” Vinter said.

“I have this kind of compass that’s always saying what’s right to do. It’s like f*cking math. Let’s say I am working on a track and I have drums and a bass guitar, and my mind is just seeing thousands of combinations that can fit on top of that.”

During his tenure as musician, he has created over 10,000 songs from classical to black metal and dubstep. In 2012, Vinter released four albums that helped him to climb up the Beatport charts in Norway. After taking over the market in Norway, Vinter, who started his music career at the age of 11, aims to attain success in the U.S.

“I decided to go to L.A. because there are so many opportunities, both in the movie business and with other artists, like writing for a pop artist.”

“I want to work with Hans Zimmer for movies, work for him in the studio, and also work with some other singers, songwriters and women.”

When asked if he would like to work with Justin Timberlake, Vinter said: “You are talking my language right now. That would be awesome. He can dance, too.”

‘Love is Strange’ showcases real life issues for a displaced couple

Rafael Arreola

Starring Alfred Molina and John Lithgow, “Love Is Strange” is a very tender love story, one that looks at a couple and the people around them.

A recently married couple, Ben and George have been together for 39 years.

After getting married, George is fired from his teaching job at a religious school, leaving him and Ben homeless, unable to afford their apartment.

The film chronicles some of the more normal and mundane moments, being able to capture the lives of the couple and their family.

When Ben and George need somewhere else to stay, we see how they not only react and adapt to the new households, but also how their friends and family deal with them.

While George stays with friends, Ben stays with his nephew’s family, including their teenage son.

Ben and George have to deal with alienation in environments they’re not used to, as well as stay separated from each other as a result of their circumstance.

In this aspect, “Love Is Strange” is similar to the 1930’s film “Make Way for Tomorrow” in which an elderly couple must also be separated as a result of not being able to keep their home.

The film’s simple story allows for many moments of observation, seeing the characters’ routines and how their lives are now different as a result of a newlywed couple’s forced separation.

Much of it involves problems of being in a new and different environment, but a lot of it also deals with common domestic issues, showing us the lives of all of the main characters and not just the primary couple.

Scenes demonstrating teenage angst, good times among friends and family dinners help flesh out everything and everyone, depicting moments in the lives of these characters that help us understand them.

The use of music is very noteworthy because there’s very little used. Only piano music is ever truly heard in the film, not including one party scene, and it helps emphasize the film’s melancholy and beauty.

Considering that George does work as a piano teacher, it makes some sense at least in relation to the characters. However, it doesn’t take a connection to a character to make the music fitting and important to the overall picture.

A film like “Love Is Strange” works because of the characters at its center.

Molina and Lithgow are excellent and believable, living in the modern world, having to adapt to new circumstances and do their best in the situation they’ve been put in.

Every actor in the film is great, and it helps that the film gives time for everyone else in some capacity.

We wouldn’t be the people we are without the loved ones who surround and care about us, and we wouldn’t be where we are without their love and support.

“Love Is Strange” shows how important love in itself is, how it helps and how strong it stays through the good times and the bad.
‘The Killer’ follows violence closely, beautifully

Released in 1989 in its native Hong Kong, People’s Republic of China, John Woo’s “The Killer” is a classic action film featuring hernic violence, melodrama and slow-motion scenes of bullets and doves. While it’s been hard to come by on home video in North America, the film has maintained critical and fan appeal. It’s cited as one of Woo’s best films.

It stars Chow Yun-Fat as the titular killer Ah Jong, with Danny Lee as Inspector Li Ying and Sally Yeh as Jennie. The story is refreshingly simple, following a hitman who tries to make amends with one final job. He eventually comes into contact with the police officer hunting him down, resulting in an unusual and unexpected bond between the two.

It’s good that the story of “The Killer” is easy to follow and simple enough, especially since this leaves the film room to focus on characters and action.

On the character front, the film does a good job of showing the similarities between the cop and killer, as well as showing their struggles and dilemmas.

Much of this characterization allows the audience to sympathize with both the killer and the cop, something which not many films ever do, especially when both sides of the law are given almost equal amounts of screen time.

It’s the action element where this film really excels. There’s slow-motion, bullets flying, blood splattering and enough variety in the scenes themselves to keep it fresh.

The violence can get quite brutal, something that might be attributed to the film’s lack of a rating; but on the heroic level of things, it’s also quite beautiful.

John Woo manages to make beauty of such violent actions, showcasing that the killer is a world class assassin of the highest order.

So that would be fun playing some beats too late, people will hate you for it. So when people know you for being a person that changes a lot, they will expect the unexpected.”

There’s no lack of action: right from the first few minutes, we get an intense shootout and from that point on filler is nowhere to be found. Sure, it can’t all be blood and bullets, there are enough quiet drama scenes to even things out, but just like any great action movie there’s never any lack of tension or excitement. In fact, one famous scene involving the killer and the cop in a stand-off somehow meshes with a quiet drama scene to create something uniquely intense.

An easy to follow story and excellent scenes of action-packed violence, coupled with moments of genuine reflection and understanding from the characters (i.e. being a killer with a conscious, being a cop who is sympathetic), are what make John Woo’s “The Killer” such a masterpiece of Hong Kong cinema and a must-see film.

Versatile musician visits the States

So that would be fun playing some beats for him. It would be an honor.”

When performing on the stage, Vinter is wearing a mask to find distance to his audience.

“I have been a nerd all my life. So I have not really been like, ‘Look at me, I am cool,’” he said, adding that “I don’t want to have eye contact. I want to be able to look once in a while but not have it where [the audience will] know where I am looking, what I am thinking. I get paranoid. So I need my space.”

But Vinter’s bucket list does not stop there.

While doing a few shows through the States in order to explore new markets, he is making a funk album with a friend. In addition, Vinter is planning on doing a rock band tour next year.

He grew up with rock and pop music in the ‘80s that still inspires his music career today. “I like the ‘80s a lot. There was a lot of good melodies and catchy tunes like, ‘I Want To Know What Love Is,’” Vinter explained.

“I just need to do something more than house music. I can get bored. I don’t want to get stuck in one thing because then people expect one thing from you, and if you change too late, people will hate you for it. So when people know you for being a person that changes a lot, they will expect the unexpected.”

After an electric show at Mekka Nightclub on Sept. 5, Vinter explained the beauty and darkness that came with his disability. He noted that it allows him the view to be creative.

I just need to do something more than house music. I can get bored. I don’t want to get stuck in one thing because then people expect one thing from you, and if...
Panthers take on Owls in home opener

The Beacon – 6 Monday, September 15, 2014

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SPORTS

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SPORTS

Panthers take on Owls in home opener

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The Panthers (1-2-1) will travel to Johnson City, Tennessee to take on the East Tennessee State Buccaneers on Tuesday, Sept. 16.

The Panthers are looking for their first win since defeating the Michigan Wolverines, their opening game of the season. Since defeating Michigan, Head Coach Scott Calabrese’s team has had difficulties finding the back of the net, scoring on only one goal in the past three games they have played. The lone goal came in their home opener loss to Stetson.

The Panthers are looking at a must win game if they want to consider their two-game road trip a success, after their tough 0-0 draw against a strong Elon team.

Each of the last two games have resulted in disappointing efforts due to the lack of goals scored from the team. The University has outshot their opponents 34-16 in the last two outings, but have not been able to meet the target or pass the opponents goal keeper.

Calabrese has spoken on experimenting with different line ups on the attacking side of play, so a different starting 11 for the Panthers could be seen in upcoming games.

Another position that has seen a few changes throughout the first four games of the season has been the goalkeepers position. Junior Robin Spiegel and redshirt freshman David Mitchell, both international players, have shared time as goalie for the Panthers. Spiegel, a German native, started the team’s first three games against Michigan. Michigan State, and Stetson. Mitchell, a Jamaican native, started in the team’s last outing against Elon and recorded a shutout after playing the whole game, which went into extra time.

So far this season, ETSU sports, a 2-1 record, with their most recent game being a 1-0 loss to Radford, following an unbeaten weekend to start their season at the Virginia Commonwealth University Invitational.

The Bucs will enter the game relying on sophomore Joao Ramalho, a redshirt forward and their leading scorer. Ramalho, a native of Monte Santo, Brazil, scored four goals in the Bucs’ first two games of the season, helping his team defeat two opponents who made the NCAA men’s soccer tournament last season.

Homecoming for Calabrese

Tuesday’s matchup against the Bucs will hold a bit more weight than just any regular-season away game for one member of the FIU coaching staff, as he will return back to Tennessee, this time on the other side of the pitch. Before being introduced as the sixth ever men’s soccer head coach at FIU, Calabrese spent the previous six years at ETSU, acting as the first-ever coach in the programs history. Calabrese elevated the soccer program at ETSU from non-existent to a team worth watching, and Panther fans are hoping he can do the same for FIU. During his tenure with the Bucs, Calabrese enjoyed great success, winning two conference championships along with two trips to the NCAA Tournament.

The Panthers will return home after their matchup against the Bucs for a three game home stand, beginning Sept. 19 against San Diego State.

Calabrese experimenting with lineup in preparation for next match

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The women’s volleyball has already started their season, but nothing feels better in any sport than the home opener.

The team will face their in-state rival, Florida Atlantic University on Wednesday, Sept. 17. The FAU Owls are on a hot streak right now as their record is at 5-2 as of press time.

During that streak they’ve had a blend of offense and defense that has been difficult for most of their opponents to outplay.

The Owls have scored all the opponents they have played so far by a significant margin, 559 points to 481 points. At press time, the Panthers have a record of 3-4 but have a chance to get their record over .500.

Panthers have had this opportunity this weekend when the team travels to South Dakota to play three matches at the SDSU Challenge.

The three matches the Panthers will have will be against obviously the lost of the tournament South Dakota State, then North Dakota and Iowa.

The home opener is a very important match not just for the team, but for the fans at FIU and the other teams in the conference.

It is important for the fans because as of now, for the sports taking place in the fall, each one of them have lost their home opener.

So that means that the volleyball team can stop this unlucky streak and give the fans more of a reason to go out and support the volleyball team. This game’s performance for the volleyball team is important as well because the players will be showcasing their abilities and skill level for the rest of the conference to see.

If they win the home opener and play well, it would set the tone and put the team in the right dimension for the rest of the conference to be aware of.

Last year the volleyball team lost in the quarterfinals in the Conference USA Tournament, and in comparison to last year’s statistics, the team is poised to make the tournament and make it further than last year. This team was questioned negatively as an inexperienced team due to the fact that out of the 17 players on the roster only two are seniors and only seven are juniors. That means that exactly half of the team is made up of freshmen and sophomores.

That is such a rarity not just in volleyball but in any college sport to have predominately freshman and sophomores on the squad. This was a bold and gutsy move on part of the coaching staff to rely heavily on the younger players.

As of now that coaching decision seems to be effective in a positive way as the team stats compared to other opponents they have played so far are just as good or even better.

As a fan if you were going to attend a volleyball game on campus for the first time, I would keep an eye on co-captains Lucia Castro, outside hitter, and middle back Gloria Levorin. Other than those two, there are some other players on the team who seem to be always at the top of the box score stuffing the stat sheet with great numbers. Surprisingly for most people a good amount of the team play has not been solely reliant on Castro and Levorin but also sophomore setter Anabela Sataric, and freshmen Jennifer Ene, a middle back, and Lexi Montavon, an outside hitter.

On the other side of the net, FAU is led by junior Britney Brown, a middle blocker, who leads them in almost every offensive category, and seems to be everywhere on the court. She represents her team and their play style with her unique combination of strength, size and quickness.

Something to look forward for this game is the matchup between Britney Brown and the Panther’s captain Lucia Castro. Since both teams have a great offensive game, another matchup that can have a major effect to the match is each team’s assist leaders. For FIU it’s anabela Sataric, setter, and for FAU it’s Genesis Viera, setter. It is going to be key for each team’s assist leaders to set the tone and guide the offense.

It’s a great battle in the making. FAU went on a different route when setting up their roster compared to FIU. Rather than going with a roster with a lot of young talent, FAU’s roster is majority upperclassmen. This brings up an interesting debate about which team chose the right path and which coaching staff made the right moves. The only way to find out is on Wednesday.

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There’s an interest in the flashy lifestyle and pizzazz of a superstar athlete: the money, the self-centered tweets and the luxury of it all. America recognizes these athletes and supports them.

“Sports at a young age. Decision to get initiated into the world of soccer, almost every school in Florida came — to a soccer game,” said Leiva. "As soon as the injury happened, I knew right away, once I got here, it was meant to be. — to dock. A ship with a worthy captain: a captain named Chelsea Leiva. Through the ups and downs, each moment is proving to be worthwhile and life-altering for Leiva. From tee-ball to NCAA soccer, the latest chapter is ready to close and this ship filled with memories is ready to dock. A ship with a worthy captain: a captain named Chelsea Leiva.

"O Captain, My Captain" by Walt Whitman

Chelsea Leiva, forward and captain of the women’s team, controls the attack and puts a defender on swivel at the FIU vs Murray State game on Sept. 5.

Maria Lorenzino/The Beacon

Leiva, and for good reason. “It’s close to home and close to my parents,” said Leiva. “Honestly, I felt that right away, once I got here, it meant to be.” — Leiva mirrored her impact during her freshman years of high school and college. As a first-year player, the skilled forward had 10 goals, 22 points and a conference-best five game-winners. Freshmen athletes usually are pride and joy wasn’t going to be able to participate in the sport she loves. “When I told them, my dad was even worse than I was. He was really mad,” said Leiva. “I told him, ‘Dad, it’s just a knee.’ But [2013] was the hardest year ever.”

Fully recovered and feeling stronger than before, Leiva is wasting no time in giving the team every ounce of energy from head to toe. She has something that is unique: "nevma

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There’s a more unique and peculiar interest in a humbled superstar athlete, too, but it goes unrecognized. To be selfless and incredibly talented is not unheard of — it’s just the mere fact that being humble while in the spotlight can be rare.

Bring forth Chelsea Leiva, an athlete that

falls into the latter category. The Panther redshirt senior forward has made, and is still making, her mark throughout the University.

On Oct. 5, 1991, Leiva was born into a West Palm Beach household filled with Cubans: two older brothers, a mother and a father — all bare-bone competitors. It was only fitting that Leiva picked up a bat and decided to get initiated into the world of sports at a young age.

“I think I started playing tee-ball at three [years old],” said Leiva. “We would play video games, but we would come home from school and go straight outside.”

Leiva’s brothers played baseball while she would play soccer. Amongst the frenzy of big games, loads of dirty jerseys and cleats brushing with dirt, it made the moments shared at home that much sweeter.

“When we were home, it was awesome. We were also really close with my grandparents. It was always family-oriented,” said Leiva.

Parents in the life of an athlete give love and support, something Vivian and Albert “Cory” Leiva provide no matter the circumstance. Family, love and care were the foundations of Leiva’s childhood, which made the transition to sixth grade and beyond an easier ship to sail. Saint Juliana Catholic School in West Palm Beach was Leiva’s home throughout middle school.

“I talk to maybe two or three people still from [Saint Juliana],” said Leiva. “We always ran off the track after crossing the [finish] line — to go to a soccer game,” said Leiva.

After stepping off the grounds of the Catholic school for the last time, Royal Palm Beach High School harbored the young athlete from 2006 to 2010. Chelsea Leiva didn’t just start off her freshman year of high school on the right foot, she put both feet forward, set herself and jumped straight over the top.

Her first sport, and she wasted no time in trying out, was volleyball, a game she has never played before.

“The first sport that I played in high school was volleyball, just because it comes so early in the fall,” said Leiva. “So, I played junior varsity. I had never played volleyball before high school. Right away, [coaches] were like, ‘We gotta move her up to varsity! She’s really good.’”

Statistic majors, take these numbers down: 116 kills, 71 service points and 53 blocks. Those were Leiva’s senior year volleyball stats. After nearly doubling every national average, why would such a dominant player choose soccer over volleyball?

“Volleyball’s fun — it’s fun to watch, too — but I love soccer. There’s no other route. That’s just the way it is,” said Leiva, while also noting the greater amount of experience leaning towards soccer.

Before Excelling in both soccer and volleyball, full ride scholarships were flowing into the mailbox of the Leiva household. For soccer, almost every school in Florida came down from the mountaintops to seek out the unique talent of Chelsea Leiva. Florida Gulf Coast University, Stetson University, the University of Florida and University of South Florida were just the tip of the iceberg. FBU proved to be the warmest home for

flustered and mixed with emotions, but the script was rewritten with the Palm Beach native.

“I was so scared. But I was also really anxious and ready to learn from a different coach, someone who has a different perspective on the game,” said Leiva.

The achievements and record-setting numbers are continuing to grow. Leiva is on pace to become a top five goal scorer for FIU, and, at the time of writing, she’s sitting comfortably at number three all-time for FIU in points.

Just as the numbers were being spewed out at Leiva, her humble attitude, as alluded to before, began to show. This isn’t about her — it’s about the team.

“I honestly want to leave [FIU] with no regrets, knowing that I gave 100 percent each day,” said Leiva. “But I want the team to succeed; I want us to go far. I really think we have the opportunity to win the conference,” said Leiva.

This is a most characteristic answer from the captain; an answer that portrays the mold of Leiva. During 2013, her senior year, she was ready to lace up her cleats and take off sprinting, ready to do anything for her teammates and coaches. Unfortunately, the next bit of news that trickled down hindered her ability to help guide the Panthers.

Leiva would be sidelined for an entire season due to an ACL tear.

The frustration, the choice words — all of this was bundled into one melting pot of emotion.

“As soon as the injury happened, I knew right away,” said Leiva. “I heard a big pop. I felt it... I knew it was over. The hardest part was telling my parents.”

The Leivas were ready to help their daughter move onto campus once they were given the news. Her father displayed even more emotion than Leiva, realizing that his

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Chelsea Leiva, Forward, Captain, Forward Women’s Soccer

Chelsea Leiva, realizing that his

pride and joy wasn’t going to be able to participate in the sport she loves.

“When I told them, my dad was even worse than I was. He was really mad,” said Leiva. “I told him, ‘Dad, it’s just a knee.’ But [2013] was the hardest year ever.”

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"[I’ll miss] being part of the team and seeing the girls all of the time. When we are together, it’s just hilarious. It’d be weird sitting at home and not having anyone say, ‘Hey, let’s grab a bite to eat.’" This last year for Leiva is special. The roster is full to the brim with talent, with each coach working to oil the machine that is the FIU Women’s Soccer team. Through the ups and downs, each moment is proving to be worthwhile and life-altering for Leiva. From tee-ball to NCAA soccer, the latest chapter is ready to close and this ship filled with memories is ready to dock. A ship with a worthy captain: a captain named Chelsea Leiva.

Maria Lorenzino/The Beacon

Senior Chelsea Leiva, forward, scouts defense, setting her team up for the next play.
Golden Panther Express seeks to better itself

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The University shuttle service implemented a new schedule by extending operation hours, but students across campuses have responded negatively to the changes.

The Department of Parking and Transportation director, says the new schedule comes from an increase in students using the bus to attend classes at both campuses.

The department also added an extra bus on Tuesdays and Thursdays in order to accommodate the increase in passengers, along with a shadow bus to troubleshoot emergencies on the road.

The shadow bus is to make sure no student will purchase a shirt with a $20 bill and wait for another hour until the next bus arrived, said Mor. “By then, you probably already missed half the class.”

The shuttle now departs from MMC and Biscayne Bay Campus 30 times a day, compared to the previous 25 visits.

Most of the new times are during the shuttle’s busiest hours.

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The FIU BBC Gone Pink team raised nearly $1,500 last year, making that the most they have raised since starting in 2010.

“Last year was unique,” said Shaw. “We had a lot of time to raise money.”

“Shadow Bus”

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Recreation Center to kick off breast cancer fundraiser

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A University team devoted to finding a cure and raising awareness for breast cancer will kick off their annual fundraiser this week.

On Tuesday, Sept. 16, the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center’s FIU BBC Gone Pink team will host their fifth annual Breast Cancer Kick-off, to mark the start of a month-long fundraiser this week.

The Bras for a Cause: Decorate A Bra contest, will be held at the event, showcasing women’s willingness to give to such a meaningful cause.

Meanwhile, a masseuse will be giving free 10-minute massages at the event, showcasing women’s willingness to give to such a meaningful cause.

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