FIU Board of Trustees talks fairgrounds

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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 this problem [for uninsured students]," said Hernandez. "Medicaid is not going to solve it. 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 [for uninsured students]," said Hernandez.

Under the Affordable Care Act, to offer 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.

"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 [for uninsured students]," said Hernandez.

Considering the number of people who are uninsured, Suarez said she was surprised with the number of Mathew.

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Mathew is a panther and his drive to give back to the school that has been his homegrown.

"Coming into the position, I knew there was an advantage of being home-grown," he said. "and being so heavily intertwined in the diversity, the culture and the essence of FIU.

"Being a part of FIU for so long has given Mathew a slew of ideas to help improve the Graham Center and keep working toward the University's goal of innovation.

"I started off at the Welcome Center, and really just worked my way up through almost every department possible here at the Graham Center," said Mathew.

While working part time for the University, Mathew took over as interim director on Aug. 21.

"He is so talented and experienced at such a young age," said Vice President of Student Affairs Larry Lunsford, who oversees student activities at the University.

Mathew said that his personal experience as a Panther and his drive to give back to the school that has been his second home since he moved to the United States made him the right fit for senior director.

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"Coming into the position, I knew there was an advantage of being home-grown," he said. "and being so heavily intertwined in the diversity, the culture and the essence of FIU."

Mathew believes that opening up more space for student organizations will not only make holding their meetings easier, but it will also fortify the sense of community GC hopes to create as the hub of the University.

The money allocated for GC projects such as this comes from the Capital Improvement Trust Fund, which is used to build and renovate student facilities.

This year, the University asked state legislators to approve $3.9 million for upcoming GC renovation plans.

Mathew also hopes to create a student advisory board to provide feedback about the Graham Center.

Representatives from Student Government Association and other student groups, as well as members of the student faculty at GC, will comprise this board and offer their perspective on improving the center.

"To me, this is just a title," said Mathew. "It's all a team effort, and it takes a lot to make this building tick."

University spreads awareness of sexual assault

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Justin Santoli, a junior elementary education major, said he is surprised with the number of people that aren’t really aware or sure about what consent means.

"Many people close to me have confided in me that they have been victims of sexual violence in varying degrees," said Santoli, who also works as an assistant in the University Victim Empowerment Program.

Students that are concerned with the possibility of sex assault on campus can learn more about it at the Red Zone event on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 10 a.m. at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Santoli thinks that it is crucial for students to attend events like this, especially if they aren’t aware of how they can protect themselves from assault.

This event is held annually to raise awareness about sexual violence during the fall semester, a time when students are more likely to be sexually assaulted.

"Across the country, during the first six weeks of school, there seems to be a higher number of sexual assault incidents on college campuses," said Victoria Carney-Paine, health educator from the University Counseling and Psychological Services.

According to Carney, this event focuses on educating students about what consent is, giving permission and getting permission for sexual activities.

The event will also teach students about the problems with drinking and consent, since almost 90 percent of all campus sexual assaults occur under the influence of alcohol.

"Not everybody knows that you can’t legally give consent when you are under the influences of alcohol or drugs, so we want students to know that," Carney said.

Wendy Ordonez, coordinator of outreach and educational media in
University expansion plans voted onto November ballot

Trustees, Page 1

Suarez. Those students who do qualify are covered.

The University Health Affairs Task Force is working to bring new values to Student Health Services with the collaboration of FIU Health.

It wants to optimize student health services that are being offered under the University health fee, and educate students—particularly to those with chronic illness—on the benefits of health insurance and where students can get it.

According to Hernandez Suarez, there are illnesses that affect student age groups, like sickle cell disease and lupus, that need chronic care.

The task force is working alongside Alexis Culatasyad, Student Government Council president of Modesto A. Maidique Campus, to develop a survey to have a better understanding of how many students are uninsured.

“As the [social] safety net becomes smaller, it’s going to be more challenging for us to get services for students,” said Suarez.

As the social safety net decreases, so do the number of fee waivers and exemptions for health care, schooling and utilities.

FIU has the fourth lowest student health fee in the State University System of Florida at $93.69 per term for a 12 credit full-time student. The state average is $117.75.

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 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 Raatamaa.

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 nights 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 Exposition, Inc.

“This is a framework for a University-County relationship. It does not involve the Youth Fair,” said Rosenberg 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 and the 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 FIU taking over the park land.

Rather, the University, the County, and the Fair 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 to find a win-win solution,” he said.
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, gown-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.

Watch a French film about gangsters. You could be hanging out with someone instead of on your couch. You can print a life-size couch if you want. You can print objects. You can print a mini bubble. You probably will suck the first time. Everything great that is happening right now, but you refuse to acknowledge that. The key is to get yourself moving.

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. Everything great that could happen to you is waiting, if you listen to the knocks on the door and open up.

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

TEACHING:

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 to the test, which is easy, and if you’re 50% ready, you’ll pass the test. Teachers are told not to do the hard work 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. So teaching was the next best thing.

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While those are wonderful career paths on their own, who is to say these men and women are not 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 not something that just appears by miracle because an exam was passed.

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

In order for students to learn, the teacher should have a background in the field and know how to creatively teach the content matter in a way that caters to the students’ specific learning styles through implementing various pedagogical strategies. These things can only be possible if the teacher studied both education and his or her subject at the university level. However, many schools are hiring teachers who do not have these qualifications and therefore are not providing quality education to students. As someone who is constantly surrounded with the education scene, I can comfortably admit that it takes much more than passing a test to be a respectable teacher and the qualifications should be altered.

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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 household, 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.

When 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 1936’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 who 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.
 Released in 1989 in its native Hong Kong, People’s Republic of China, John Woo’s “The Killer” is a classic action film featuring hemic 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 appraisal. 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.

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.

RAFAEL ABREU
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ItalianAmerican

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.

Aleksander Vinter
Musician
Norway

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.

Jeffrey Pierre/The Beacon
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. It will be 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 opposition goalkeeper. 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 goalkeeper 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 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 atETSU, acting as the first-ever coach in the programs history. Calabrese elevated the soccer program atETSU 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.

COLUMNS

JOHANNESSEN

The women’s volleyball has already started their season, but nothing feels better in any sport than the home opener. 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 host 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 direction 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 collegiate 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 Lea 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.
O Captain, My Captain

Chelsea Leiva leaves it all on the field

Chelsea Leiva, senior 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.

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 was 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 waiting no time in giving the team every ounce of energy from head to toe.

She has something that is unique: “nevmapharmacist,” which is Greek for “warrior spirit.”

When asked where her warrior spirit comes from, Leiva said, “It’s just passion. I’m very competitive; my whole family is. When you know your team can win these games, you get really passionate and want to win.”

As the end of Leiva’s collegiate career comes nearer, there’s one thing that will be missed most about it.

When posed the question, she looked down and exhaled a breath of air. Before uttering the words, she took a small moment to collect her thoughts, smiled and looked out the windows toward the court below, her eyes filled with heartfelt emotion.

“I’ll miss being part of the team and seeing the girls all of the time. When we are all together, it’s just hilarious. It’ll 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.

As chuckles from Leiva reverberated throughout the room overlooking the basketball court, she painted a picture of whom she was during those younger years.

“I thought I was the coolest person alive. With sports and everything, I probably thought I was a big shot,” said Leiva.

Before finishing her time at Saint Juliana, Leiva made her mark. Almost every major sport was graced by the ever-busy athlete: basketball, soccer, softball and track and field.

“One time, I left a track meet — literally 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. “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.

These 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.

After 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.

Once FIU proved to be the warmest home for a West Palm Beach household filled with Cubans: two older brothers, a mother and a father—all bare-bone competitors.

As Leiva stated, her grandparents were given the responsibility of Leiva’s childhood, which was almost unthinkable. Regardless, Leiva adored her childhood.

“I lived [my childhood]. My brothers and I played sports, and we were constantly outside,” 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 brimming with dirt, it made the moments of big games, loads of dirty jerseys and cleats adored her childhood.

After excelling in both sports at a young age.

“I think I started playing tee-ball at three [years old],” said Leiva.

Life at home was busy, with every sibling of Leiva’s on the move. Being inside was almost unthinkable. Regardless, Leiva adored her childhood.

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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 added more hours to the Golden Panther Express Shuttle schedule, traveling between the Modesto A. Maidique Campus and the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Students want to take the bus to MMC. Parking and Transportation is adding more buses to commute between campuses.

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. Lissette Hernandez, FIU 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 passengers headed to MMC are left at BBC after the last scheduled bus, and vice versa, according to Hernandez.

Although the changes are an effort to accommodate the demand for the shuttle, some passengers are still unsatisfied with the University’s transportation system.

Tardy shuttle arrivals have upset students.

A University team devoted to finding a cure for breast cancer kicked off its fall fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

The Bras for a Cause: Decorate A Bra contest, which was added this year, has been a lot of time to raise money.

Consequently, this gave the team more opportunities to collect donations.

Donna Walcott, assistant director of the BBC Wellness Center, said she was unable to take the bus back to MMC because the buses weren’t offered Friday nights, said Mor.

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 for the American Cancer Society.

The BBC Rec Center partnered with other University departments including the Student Health Services Wellness Center, the Center for Leadership and Service, Campus Life and the Women’s Center on their mission to cure breast cancer.

Starting at 10 a.m., students can purchase “FIU BBC Gone Pink” T-shirts for $15, which will automatically register them in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk at Marlins Park on Oct. 11.

Baked goods, pizza and $1 raffle tickets to win a lunch date with Eric Arneson, assistant vice president of Student Affairs, will also be sold at the event. All proceeds will go toward the American Cancer Society.

FIU student and Buffy Alumni representative, Shaw, said that a nurse will be at the kick-off with information on early detection and prevention.

“A lot of our family and friends have been, or are, survivors of breast cancer,” said Walcott.

She said a nurse will be at the kick-off with a model of a breast to demonstrate the proper way to perform a breast exam, for both men and women.

Meanwhile, a massage will be giving free 10-minute massages at the event, showcasing one of the many services offered at the Wellness Center.

Donna Walcott also said pink goodie bags with breast self-exam shower cards, aromatherapy oils and razors will be handed out, as well as blue goodie bags for guys.