UPCOMING EVENTS
Target Wednesday After Hours, March 24, 4 p.m. The Roxy in the Student Union will launch its virtual gala with Hendrix and Nefertiti 2010. 
FIB Baseball, March 24, 6 p.m. cow and your fellow Golden Panthers as they take on the Jacksonville Dolphins at the FIU Baseball Stadium.
Drinking Panda, March 24, 6 p.m. Join SPC-MMC as they start the GC Bullitts into a starting game eye. Attention is free with Paner Panda!

For more events, check out our calendar in the MARC section on Monday and Friday.

WEATHER
WEDNESDAY
LOW: 62 INCH: 80
FRIDAY
LOW: 57 INCH: 72

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SPOTLIGHT
AT THE BAY PAGE 2
SGC-BBC Vice President Christin "Cici" Brotte hopes to act as "a reflection leader."

OPINION PAGE 4
SGC-MMC passes the Student body Constitution Act of 2010, a piece of legislation that is in the benefit of the student body.

EDITORIAL PAGE 4
The new constitutionbullet hits your gut. It's not about winning, it's just about winning.

LIFE! PAGE 5
Panel Host! The Green Hornet maintains a strong following fueled by industry stars like Kevin Smith.

LIFE! PAGE 1
CAST members and director of Wet Tub Three Makers shut down the Forum to discuss the art of comedy.

SPORTS PAGE 8
Softball has hit a tough, losing twice to Troy in the midst of a cold streak.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE
Students flaunt their skills in The Roxy's production LIFE! PAGE 5

Professor takes on politics as city official

CHRISTOPHER NECUZE
Editor in Chief

The second floor of the Health and Life Sciences-I building on the Modesto Maidique Campus houses some of the University's most sophisticated biological laboratories.

The walls in those corridors are lined with technical posters, and the doors boast biobased and radiocactivity warning signs.

But on the office door of biology professor Philip K. Stoddard, there is a sign you might not expect: mayor.

Last month, Stoddard was elected mayor of the City of South Miami with almost 59 percent of the vote in an improbable defeat of 12-year incumbent Mayor Horror Felix.

With a new set of responsibilities, and literally a whole city to worry about, Stoddard has had to adapt from an academic setting to a political one.

"In academia it's our job to explore the boundaries of ideas, it's what we do better than anybody else," Stoddard said, sitting in the living room of his South Miami residence. "But it's a hard thing to do in city government, or any government."

Stoddard first came to the University in 1992, "on the heels of Hurricane Andrew." FIU initially struck him as a "third-world university."

"When I started here, we had something like 20 faculty in biology," Stoddard said.

SGC-MMC SENATE

Elections changes pass, GSA awaits verdict

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Senior Staff Writer

The Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus approved amendments to the Elections Code and pushed their final decision on the structure of the Graduate Student Association and other governing councils to their next meeting, after over two months of debate.

The council bill proposed to amend sections to the Elections code that relate to supplemental guidelines that the Elections board can create, and the qualification and registration of candidates. Of the four major amendments proposed in the bill the only one that was not passed was the one that dealt with candidates being able to campaign for one another which could not be limited or restricted by any rule according to the bill.

Loren Fraute, graduate senator, wanted that part removed because he felt it was too broad. He said that it would "make the strong stronger" and the "other side." Stoddard said, sitting in the living room of his South Miami residence. "But it's a hard thing to do in city government, or any government."

Stoddard first came to the University in 1992, "on the heels of Hurricane Andrew." FIU initially struck him as a "third-world university."

"When I started here, we had something like 20 faculty in biology," Stoddard said.

Jose Toscano, SGC-MMC adviser, said during the senate meeting the financial piece of GSA's restructuring is set and all that's left for GSA to figure out is the advocacy.

If the resolution passes the senate and students vote in favor of it, Saleem still plans to fight.

Saleem is counting on graduate students to vote against the proposed changes when they are voted on by students during the general elections on May 29-30.

"I will try to get the graduate senators to reverse it," Saleem said.

QEP revisions add new courses

GABRIEL ARRARAS
Asst. News Director

As part of their March 11 visit to the Modesto Maidique Campus, members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools met in the MARC building with several members of the FIU community, as well as several students enlisted to represent FIU's Quality Enhancement Plan.

The QEP is FIU's centerpiece and business plan. The QEP is FIU's centerpiece for the reaccreditation process and includes a heavy focus on student learning outcomes, which were discussed at length during the "student session" of the SACS visit.

The learning outcomes focus is really all about what the students walk away from here in terms of what they know or what they can do with their life as it relates to global learning and global citizenship," said Dr. Ed Rugg, a SACS member from Kennesaw State University.

"The part about the process that was most surprising to me was that there was this eternal revision of the student learning outcomes, because as we would get input from the other faculty members, everybody had a different definition of interdependence," said Marcia Magnus, associate professor of dietetics and nutrition at FIU.

Out of this infatuation process six courses were developed: Globalizing Global Perspectives, Artistic Expression in a Global Society, Global Supply Chains, International Issues in Public Health & Nutrition, From the Bay to the World and How We Know What We Know, which is currently being piloted.

"I had the privilege of being in the QEP design committee. I saw the syllabi, I saw the struggles. Ultimately we chose six courses that I think are transformative for an institution," said John Stack, director of the School of International and Public Affairs.

For some students in attendance, the QEP courses represent an important step in unity for the FIU community.

"The University is such a large place," Fraute said.

Student leaders discuss with members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools the school's Quality Enhancement Plan.

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Courses reflect global learning initiative goals

STODDARD, page 1

Courses reflect global learning initiative goals

STODDARD, page 1

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Courses reflect global learning initiative goals

STODDARD, page 1

Courses reflect global learning initiative goals

STODDARD, page 1

Courses reflect global learning initiative goals
Vice President Battle eager to take over council presidency

MAUREEN NINO
Asst. News Director

Self-Professed “sell[es]her” Christian “Cici” Battle, current vice president of the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus, is ready to replace BBC “crunk” if elected president.

“I feel that this campus has so much potential to be the crunkiest campus in Florida,” she said. “Our campus is on a bay and we should celebrate our location.”

As president, Battle hopes to provide students with a strong voice and discuss their concerns with administration.

“I can offer students a strong voice. I am not afraid and I will not back down. I am not timid or shy. What needs to be said will be said. I am here for the students,” Battle said.

As president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the University and mentor at Strong Woman Strong Girls, an organization where college educated women help empower young girls, Battle is no stranger to leadership.

“I am very accessible and my door is always open. If you need me I am here. I like to develop bonds,” she said.

As a student, Battle hopes to provide students focused leadership, a united University and a campus filled with tradition and pride.

With over a year of experience in SGC-BBC, Battle helped mold interns as intern coordinator during the 2009 Spring semester and finalizes statutes, propose University-wide senate meetings, and create a senate and vice president transition guide books during her recent term as vice president.

“My goal is to create a culture of leadership, broadening the roles of our students and having that personal connection with FIU,” Battle said. “I want to represent students because I too have been victim of several issues on campus, including housing, transportation and advising."

“Since we are so small, our customer service and interpersonal skills need to be the best,” Battle said. “It all relates to feeling involved and having that personal connection with FIU.”

Battle believes she can easily relate to students because she too has been victim of several issues on campus, which is a major concern for Battle, who feels it can impact student involvement.

“Students should not feel like they do not feel welcome, they will not stay here.” Battle said. “Students need to know what they are doing,” she said.

Battle’s first priority will be to address issues in housing while also focusing on first impressions on campus for incoming freshmen and sophomores, which is a major concern for Battle, who feels it can impact student involvement.

“Since we are so small, our customer service and interpersonal skills need to be the best,” Battle said. “I want to survey what students want funded most, find most important and will benefit them.”

Arbabi also wants to address internal SGA issues that will help create progress within the University and the council.

"I believe that a full council will help create progress within the University and the council. I'd rather start off the year equally through events."

Furthermore, Arbabi also wants to create events that will incorporate students from both BBC and the Pembroke Pines Center.

“A lower division senator, Arbabi aski said. "I want to make sure the right people are in the right positions." she said.

To have an efficient council, Arbabi asks to plan to have the internship program and fully inform applicants of their role by providing them the SGA constitution and BBC by-laws before interviews. This process will allow the council to determine who is knowledgeable about their role and position. She also wants to pair interns with current council members creating a base for accountability and training.

"I believe that a full council does not guarantee a successful council. I’d rather start off the year with some open positions than have a full council who does not know what they are doing," she said when asked about the senators removed throughout the current semester.

"I do not feel we have taken enough action to find out what our students really want," she said. "This is why next year during deliberations, I want to survey what students want funded most, find most important and will benefit them."
New act brings major changes for council

In a 22-0 vote, the SGC-MMC senate recently passed the Student Body Constitution Act of 2010, a series of amendments to the SGA constitution. This was supported by the University-wide Council. SBCA will not veto or reinstate current legislation, but make plausable changes and provide for further transparency and encourage student body participation.

In accordance with SGC-MMC’s proposal to restructure the Graduate Student Association, Article 2, Sections (2) (A) and (B) propose an increase in the number of graduate senators from 8 to 10, making each graduate senate responsible for approximately one-eighth of the graduate student population.

This amendment affords graduate students fair representation and most importantly, retention of the graduate community at FIU.

Article 3, Section (5) (A) and (G) gives the senate the power to “audit student organizations and entities directly funded by SGA through A & S fees.” Since recent investigations of GSA and Punta Ruge’s ability to be beneficial in restructuring organizations, the SGC-MMC senate should utilize this power accordingly to ensure that student organizations funded by SGA are in compliance with regulations.

Article 4, Section (4) (E) outlines the duties and procedures of the commission, with Section (4) (E) in particular asserting that the elections board must “be approved by the end of the Summer A...” This measure will afford the elections commission ample time to prepare for annual student elections, and in particular, to work out inconsistencies within the system (i.e., voting process, qualifying candidates, reviewing elections code, etc.).

The proposed change in Article 5, Section (1) (D) increases SGA presidents’ salaries $3,000 to $13,000 annually. Since the salaries of all members of SGA are percentages of the presidents’ salary, everyone can therefore anticipate a general increase.

For example, SGA speakers and senators will retain salaries of $4,160 and $3,250 annually, respectively. For SGC-MMC senators in particular, this increase is long overdue and well deserved, as a vast majority of senators have worked tirelessly on behalf of the student body.

Future elected student officials should remember, however, that this increase in salary requires an increase in responsibility, workload and expectations.

While SBCA proposes positive change to the constitution, there are two areas present a basis for contention. Article 11, Section (1) (D) maintains that the salaries of appointed officials such as the elections commissioner, for example, are left to the discretion of each council at each campus.

While the elections commissioner may not receive compensation in excess of the Senate speaker’s salary, the primary concern is that the elections commissioners are not elected. Any student official being compensated for and acting in the best interest of the student body should be elected by the student body.

Additionally, Article 7, Section (4) (B) maintains that any student wishing to become SGC president must have previously held an SGC position for at least two semesters. An SGC president must have experience with how SGC functions prior to becoming SGC president.

However, members of the student body are welcomed to possess a unique skill set not obtained through SGC that would properly equip him/her for SGC presidency.

Article 1, Section (3) (B), however, gives members of the student body “… the right to call for a University-wide or campus specific initiative, referendum, and/or recall…” via petition.

If the student body so wished to contest these aforementioned articles, Article 1 Section (3) (B) provides a platform upon which the student body’s voice is heard and acted upon.

The SBCA is no doubt a formidable piece of legislation allowing the study body to be involved in the legislative process, as it calls for important amendments to the constitution.

DEAN WILLIAMS

VETELINA V. TYUTINA Special to The Beacon

Recently, the FIU graduate student community was disturbed by a contradictory decision of the Student Government Association on restructuring Graduate Student Association. For a University that strives to be one of the best research institutions in the country, this step can have drastic consequences.

Several meetings were set up for understanding why such a change is needed; this included a town hall meeting that gathered about 80 graduate students. There are different aspects to this process that need to be looked at before a final decision is taken.

For most graduate students, the decision on deciding and by a final majority decision of the graduate community was never asked its opinion. Therefore, restructuring is needed. The question about the clandestine character of the resolution on GSA was raised during the town hall meeting. Unfortunately, it did not lead to any response.

While waiting on SGA, a petition was organized against the reformation of the association. It was signed by over 140 students and professors. This petition, however, was taken lightly by SGA officials.

During the town hall meeting, representatives of the graduate student association questioned the two areas present a basis for contention. For example, proposals to keep the current GSA structure for one year under the close monitoring from SGA, and for the reorganization of the association were raised. Nevertheless, these initiatives are not being considered by SGA in its decision making.

Who will benefit from the change? The SGA proposal on GSA includes three major changes: for example, in number of graduate students at MMC from two to four, a $40,000 budget increase (from $120,000 to $100,000), making $100,000 exclusive funding for conference and research) and integration of GSA as a committee in SGA. Graduate students are not in opposition to the increase in the research and conference funding specified. According to the SGA, the additional money will be coming precisely from eliminating GSA as a council. And at this point, the meager money at MMC is very unclear. Without any doubt, the elimination will give SGA extra money. But at the same time, three new positions and additional budget will be introduced, as well as two new graduate positions which are not paid. Consequently, would these savings be worth transforming a fully functional council into an SGA committee with limited autonomy? Graduate students will not have an organi- zational structure. Furthermore, their advocating capacity will be reduced, as a minority in GSA senate even with four seats will still exist. Under the present circumstances, the only benefit of the restructuring will be that Campus Life will have one less council to advise.

There is only one question that comes to one’s mind. The University SGA members are elected to represent the students, both graduate and undergraduate. Why was a crucial decision of the student’s governance made without the consulta- tion of 18 percent of the student population?”

Svetelna V. Tyutina is a former SGC president.

Send us your letters

Get a problem with parking? Want to give guidelines to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts to theopinion piece@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at Miller Library, Room 240. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, and year.

The Beacon – 4

www.fiusm.com

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Contact Us

David Barrios
Opinion Editor
david.barrios@fiusm.com

QUOTATION PIECE

"Can you say it was done openly with transparency and accountability, with a backroom deals and struck behind closed doors, hidden from the people?"

Sen. John Boehner (Rep-Ohio) on Healthcare reform Package passage
Corinne Sands & Abby Ouellet play the lead character in Guys and Dolls playing at The Roxy Performing Arts Center across the street from FIU’s Modesto Madique Campus. The play is set in a post World War II New York City and is a hilarious story of love, money and salvation.

The bulk of the action surrounds Sky’s bet with clumsy gambler Nathan Detroit, played by Joel Santana, 17, to take religious zealot Sarah Brown out on a date. What happens next is a fast-paced collection of song and dance in the pursuit of Sarah, played by Stephanie Volero, 16, and a place to play crazy.

Bonilla heard about the show from a friend he was working with at a summer camp teaching theatre, who got a job at Roxy and called him to audition for the part.

“His character is the highest roller there is, he makes crazy bets and never loses,” Bonilla said of Sky.

Guys and Dolls is Bonilla’s first major role in a musical production even though he’s been acting since the third grade. Besides the shower and with the radio, Bonilla had not done any professional singing, a challenge for the actor.

“The concepts you have to grasp, singing with your diaphragm and all that stuff was completely different and new to me. So, I had to work on it but the teachers work really well with us so I was able to learn,” Bonilla said.

“Im came in and had a great audition,” said Nora Onate, chairman of the Board of Directors, of Bonilla.

The actor, who is currently working on a degree in psychology, sees himself working toward a career in film once he is finished with school and, hopefully, further developing his voice as well.

How does he manage textbooks and sheet music? He did it with the help of understanding professors and putting in a lot of hard work and effort.

“Rehearsals run late. We get out of here at around 9:30 and [I] just hit the books until I’m done turning in all my work. I just get by as much as I can to get them both done,” Bonilla said.

Bonilla does a great job at capturing the slick attitude of Sky Masterson and has great chemistry with his leading doll, Volero.

“Thought Sky and Sarah are the leads, the musical would be nothing without the quirky relationship of Miss Adelaide, a nightclub performer played by Sonia Fernandez, 18, and Nathan Dettoro, a couple engaged for 14 years. Both were strong actors and singers and offered non-stop giggles for the audience.

“There’s plenty of Panther pride at the Roxy – the majority of the staff are FIU alumni,” Jillian Torgas, FIU alumna, dance director and choreographer of the show, makes a special appearance in the show’s biggest dance number, “Havana,” and both directors, Ana Andrea and Jorgina Fernandez, are FIU alumni.

Along with Bonilla, other University students in the production are Melissa Gonzalez, Alex Machado and Elizabeth Nickerson. Alex Machado is hilarious as Harry the Horse. His crazy expressions and accents give his character the perfect amount of physical comedy and his timing is impeccable.

He even got a congratulations from FIU theatre professor Phillip Church after the show.

The Roxy Theatre Group is a non-profit organization funded by The Children’s Trust. Its main mission is to spread a love of the performing arts to children across Miami-Dade.

Krispin Glover is no stranger to the 1980s and such as Back to the Future and Friday the 13th Part IV: The Final Chapter.

Crispin Glover is no stranger to the 1980s as he had roles in quintessential 80s films such as Friday the 13th Part IV: The Final Chapter and Back to the Future. Glover said he thought it was interesting that Hot Tub Time Machine and Back to the Future have a similar structure in terms of the plot of the film.

“This movie has interesting correlations and talking about this film has made me talk about certain things I have not talked about for a while,” Glover said. “It has been an enjoyable experience on the whole. I am grateful and happy that I am in this film. I feel like this is a film that can do well and I think people will enjoy and get good things out of it.”

Hot Tub Time Machine opens everywhere on March 26.
LIFE!
The Beacon – Wednesday, March 24, 2010
www.fi usm.com

Upcoming Green Hornet film boosts superhero’s popularity

PANEL, page 5

For those who don’t remember The Green Hornet, which is probably most of the college age demographic, a simple summary will suffice. Created for radio serials in the 1930s, The Green Hornet is a masked vigilante who fights crime with his hand-to-hand combat skills and his state-of-the-art technology. He is also accompanied by his Japanese manservant, Kato.

The Green Hornet was extremely popular, which brought an evolution into television. The show on ABC was actually where Bruce Lee had his break in America while playing Kato. In long history is part of the reason why The Green Hornet has managed to survive for so many years, especially with reminders from people such as Kevin Smith, who had been in talks to write and direct a movie based off the character a few years ago.

Talks apparently fell through but recently production has begun on the project with Michel Gondry directing and Seth Rogen starring as the hero. Smith’s lost chance to write one of his childhood heroes was not passed up because he writes one of the five titles for Dynamite comics.

With the new movie coming out and writers like Smith working on the books, it’s no surprise that The Green Hornet is experiencing a surge in popularity. After picking up a few issues of the comics, I can honestly say that the hype is not taken for granted.

Green Hornet: Year One gives the hero an origin that he never had in the radio or TV shows. It manages to embody the old school feel of the 30s without being too campy.

The Green Hornet Strikes! involves the hero in a dystopian future. Even Kato has his own book, where he teaches his daughter how to continue his legacy.

If you’re interested in getting in on the action before the movie is released, don’t be worried about these comics being lousy promotional fodder or attempts to milk money out of fans. The stories are written by people who genuinely love the character and I doubt they’ll disappoint.

Panel Panel is a weekly comics column. Look for it every Wednesday.

Visit www.sudoku-puzzles.net for answers. Puzzle ID 715665344

Day one and we’re in this together

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ERNST & YOUNG
Quality In Everything We Do
Thomas looks for changes as season nears midpoint

BASEBALL, page 8

two runs.

Thomas then opted to go with Eric Berkowitz to get the final three outs. Berkowitz, making his third appearance in as many days, failed to record an out and gave up the lead after a three-run blast by Shohei Fujita to complete the Trojan rally.

Fujita's home run proved to be the deciding blow as the Golden Panthers failed to answer in the ninth after Pablo Bermudez struck out to lead off.

BULLPEN ADJUSTMENTS

Turtle Thomas had his bullpen arrangement just about figured out until last week, when the team learned that emerging closer Bryan Garcia will be out indefinitely due to an unspecified injury to his throwing arm. The injury forces Thomas to resort to a revolving door to fill in the closer role and said that Jorge Marban and Alberto Cardenas would fill the gap left by Garcia. But it was Eric Berkowitz who appeared to have Thomas’ trust throughout the weekend. The right-handed senior pitched three consecutive games over the weekend against Troy, picking up two saves before blowing the save on March 21.

OFFENSIVE POWER

The Golden Panthers may have dropped the final game of their series against Troy but they stand as the Sun Belt Conference’s leading offensive unit as of March 22, batting .342 as a team.

Mike Martinez (.311), Garrett Winels (.313) and Pablo Bermudez (.407) rank among the top 10 hitters in the conference. Martinez is tied for most doubles (11) in the conference this season while Jabari Henry, who now has a team-high 30 RBI on the season, ranks third in that category and is first in slugging percentage (.769).

Pitching has been a different story, however, as the team has struggled to keep opposing offenses at bay and now ranks eighth in the conference with a team ERA of 5.73.

FIU, looking like a potential juggernaut. They had stormed through an early conference schedule, going 6-2 against conference opponents.

It wasn’t that there weren’t some chinks in the armor last season.

As we eventually saw, the starting pitchers were overused in the early parts of the season and the bullpen, which was shielded early, was not able to pick up the slack when the starting pitching stalled.

Last weekend, the Golden Panthers took two out of three from conference foe Troy in their conference opener, winning a couple of close games thanks to timely hitting and a bend, don’t break showing from the bullpen, but by Sunday, the pen finally broke, allowing nine runs in three and two thirds innings.

For much of the season, the bullpen has been something of a strong point, relative to last season, and the starting pitching has failed to hold up their end of the bargain.

If last season’s pattern follows, it’s likely that the wheels will come off before long, and FIU may not be able to sustain a deep run in the tournament.

LOOKING FORWARD

The biggest change for FIU from this season to last is the pitching, and it’s been a mixed bag. The bullpen, a real weak point, has mostly improved from last year, but the starting pitching hasn’t been there now.

The bullpen has had to take on a large amount of innings, so much so that against Southern Utah University on March 18, starter Daniel DeSimone threw a 130 pitch complete game to try and save the bullpen for the weekend series.

While they’ve certainly improved upon last season’s showing, the question remains how much of a load can the bullpen carry, and whether they have the depth to pick up the starters as the season wears on.

The key will be for the starters, especially Rembisz, who had his best performance of the season against Troy, and Corey Polizzano, the two seniors, to pick up their game.

While the bullpen may be improved, both in talent and in depth, it may not be enough to make up for the starting pitching’s regression.

The hitting is there to make FIU an elite program, as coach Turtle Thomas has a knack for finding young, talented hitters with mature approaches at the plate, but finding arms to take the next step has been a much tougher task.

Last year, it was the starters who carried the brunt of the load, and now the pressure’s on the bullpen to pick up the slack.

And that may prove to be their undoing.

Starters must improve to keep up with potent bats

TOWERS, page 8

FIU looked like a potential juggernaut. They had stormed through an early conference schedule, going 6-2 against conference opponents.

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A Friend Dies. Who Cares?

Toxic drinking is an epidemic on campuses all across America.

It means consuming so much alcohol the drinker passes out. But while “sleeping it off,” the victim may be quietly dying.

When you come right down to it, students themselves are the best ones to tackle this problem. So, in growing numbers, Stony Brook students have joined together in the Red Watch Band movement.

Working with experts, they fine-tuned a course in techniques to handle these alcohol emergencies. Red Watch Band members can act fast, when every second counts. They know the quick steps they can take to rescue a passed-out student from a drinking death, and can immediately summon professional help. Everyone completing the course is given the distinctive red watch for identification.

Since its inception at Stony Brook University in March 2009, approximately 40 schools across the country have signed on to implement this lifesaving program.

To prevent toxic drinking deaths, go to redwatchband.org
**Key to season success falls on pitchers’ arms**

It is, of course, a little bit too early to take anything definitively out of this season. Twenty games is a very small amount of time in baseball, and there is still a large amount of change or fluctuation possible for this FIU team. But we are starting to reach a point where this team is forming an identity, and I’m not sure if it’s one that can lead to post-season success for the Golden Panthers.

**Overworked pen struggles**

The Golden Panthers failed to secure a series sweep as the Troy offense awaked late and overcame two large deficits to steal the victory from FIU.

**Golden Panthers disappointed after promising start**

The FIU softball team thought they were ready. After almost upsetting No. 5 ranked Alabama on March 18 and beginning the season with their hottest start ever through 23 games, the Golden Panthers thought that beating conference rival Troy and taking an early grasp of the conference might be very plausible.

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