FIU ends losing streak at Akron

JACKSON WOLEK | Staff Writer

The losing streak stopped at two games as the offense scored three rushing touchdowns in their victory over the Akron Zips on Saturday, Oct. 8. The game stayed close the whole way through, and both players and head coach Mario Cristobal said they knew it wasn’t their best game.

They allowed just 157 yards on passing to quarterback Clayton Moore in the 27-17 win, after giving up over 200 yards in each of their last two games.

Sophomore running back Kedrick Rhodes finished with 22 carries for 126 yards and one touchdown in the victory.

“After watching the film, we knew that we could run the ball and we could move the ball,” said Rhodes. “It wasn’t our best football; we could have capitalized more... if we critique some of our mistakes we would have got at least five touchdowns.”

The win brings the Panthers to 4-2 halfway through the season and end non-conference play with a 3-1 record. They now finish off the second half of the season against Sun Belt teams, with four road games and just two at home.

“Right now we are going into the most important part, I know I sound like a broken record when I say this every week, it really is and now the urgency and meaning behind each and every game as it relates to the conference just gets bigger and bigger and greater and greater.”

The Panther defense smothered the Akron run offense on the first two possessions, only giving up 12 yards of offense in that span. However, Akron running back Jawon Chisholm, who sat out the first two drives, came in on the third possession and got 27-yard run that was followed by a 10-yard pass from Clayton Moore to Keith Scmierni. That set up Chisholm for a 1-yard touchdown.

After police search and lockdown, suspect not found

PHILIPPE BUTEAU | News Director

University police officers joined forces with Miami-Dade Police Department officers in their search for an alleged drug dealer on Oct. 7 at the Modesto Maidique Campus. According to a University police officer, MDPD followed the dealer onto MMC where he came to deliver drugs. After the deal went sour, the dealer, described as a young black male with a purple shirt and unarmed, fled into the 11-acre nature preserve located on the west side of campus.

Police officers from the University, county and Sweetwater surrounded the preserve in their search for the suspect. The University placed buildings close to the preserve, such as Panther Hall and the Recreation Center, on lockdown.

The search in the preserve ended without the suspect being found and normal University operations resumed. The preserve was not the only area on the west side of campus officers searched. Two MDPD officers wearing bulletproof vests and a K-9 unit searched FIU Stadium as the marching band did their usual practice.

“No violent felonies occurred during the incident,” said Sergeant Jorge Rodriguez of MDPD to Student Media. Rodriguez also said no University students, staff or faculty were involved.

As the Friday work day drew to a close, an alert went out informing students, faculty and staff of an incident “on or near campus” and that they should “stay vigilant.”

No additional information was given in the alert, also heard at the Biscayne Bay Campus, and freshman nursing major Rachel Gordon-Barrett wanted to know more about the situation.

“I didn’t feel informed,” Gordon-Barrett said. “I had to check my FIU email to [find out].”

A resident of Panther Hall, Gordon-Barrett, said if situations like this happen again the University should tell resident assistants immediately so housing students can be informed. She also said the University should “be more specific in their alerts.”

Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work

Obama honors health professor’s research on AIDS

MARIELLA ROQUE | Staff Writer

A University’s professor’s research is essentially just getting started, but what she’s discovered so far has received the attention of President Barack Obama.

Mary Jo Trepka, associate professor in the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work, was notified on Sept. 26 that she received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Trepka will receive the award on Oct. 14 from Obama along with 93 other researchers in the “early stages of their independent research careers.”

Obama said in a White House press release, “It is inspiring to see the innovative work being done by these scientists and engineers as they ramp up their careers—careers that I know will be not...”
Award-winning research looks into racial aspects of AIDS virus

Mary Jo Trepka, an associate professor at the College of Public Health and Social Work, will receive the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers for her study. (Photo by Elena Pavlova)

“Trepka, page 1

only personally rewarding but also invaluable to the nation.”

The award was originally established by former President Bill Clinton in 1996. It is the “highest honor bestowed by the United States government on science and engineering professionals.”

“I don’t know why they chose my project,” Trepka said, “[but] I’m happy they like it.”

“All of us in the [college] are thrilled to have one of our faculty members recognized by the President of the United States for her exemplary research,” said Dr. Michele Ciccacz, interim dean of the college, in an email to Student Media.

Ciccacz said the school was “thrilled, but not surprised.”

“Dr. Trepka has consistently demonstrated remarkable efforts in research,” Ciccacz said. Trepka’s research involves trying to understand why African-Americans die more quickly once diagnosed with AIDS than other races. Trepka looked at three factors: poverty, racial segregation at the residential level, and rural versus urban environments.

“Material deprivation is the main reason why African-Americans die faster,” Trepka said. After collecting data from the Florida Department of Health from the time when Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy — standard AIDS medication — was first sold to the public, Trepka believes that “African-Americans didn’t get the [AIDS medication] as quickly as non-Hispanic Whites and there is still a gap.”

“Because there is a higher percentage of poverty among African-Americans living with HIV than there is among non-Hispanic Whites living with HIV,” Trepka said, “a higher percentage of African-Americans did not get the medication initially.”

She is currently looking at other factors independently associated with survival.

“I think that when HAART [were] first available, people who were wealthier and more educated had better access to the new therapies,” Trepka said in an email. “Then the therapies became the standard of care and were more widely available.”

Trepka’s research is the first conducted at the state level.

“There is a waiting list for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, so we do have a problem with people in Florida getting their medication,” Trepka said. The National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, an institution within the National Institute of Health, nominated Trepka for the award last year. She submitted a grant application for her research in September 2009 and was granted funding for five years, ending in April 2014. The grant was originally for $1.35 million. It was a very long process,” Trepka said. “I’m happy for FIU and for my college.”

Also working on the research are doctoral students Khaled Lufti and Elena Pavlova.

“The research is very interesting and it is in an area of public health that could use some improvement,” Lufti said in an email to Student Media, “At the moment, data cleaning is my focus.”

Student Media emailed Elena Pavlova for comment as well but she was not available as of press time.

Trepka graduated with her bachelor’s in chemistry and German from Grand College, attended the University of Minnesota Medical School and completed her master of science in public health at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She went on to work in several places, including as an epidemiologist in Munich, Germany.

“I’ve been interested in studying HIV and other STDs for a long time,” Trepka said. “I was aware of the [death] rates from working in disease prevention.”

Trepka also worked in the Miami Health Department in 1998 and entered academia in 2003. Trepka currently teaches Infectious Disease Epidemiology and HIV/AIDS epidemiology at the University at the graduate level.

“A community is only as healthy as its unhealthiest areas,” Trepka said.
VOLLEYBALL

Bjelica powers straight sweep over rival Florida Atlantic

RICO ALBARRACIN
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers are still looking to improve because they have been a bit sharper in the attacking half of the field, generally, have been a bit more dangerous, but we just didn’t take our chances,” Chestnutt said.

The volleyball responded to the challenge in convincing fashion. FIU defeated FAU in straight sets (25-22, 25-23, 25-17) to put an end to their two-game losing streak.

“This shows that this team has the capabilities of performing and that’s why it’s so frustrating when they don’t,” said Tomic. “I felt the team performed well. We really needed this.”

The Golden Panthers rebounded after two devastating losses to Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee, both Sun Belt Conference rivals. Leading the charge was junior outside hitter Jovana Bjelica with 20 kills and eight digs, while junior Marija Prsa added seven.

FIU 27, AKRON 17

Rhodes, Perry combine for three touchdowns in victory

FOOTBALL, page 1

touchdown run to put the Zips up 7-3.

FIU turned the ball over twice in the game, one off a fumble from wide receiver Wayne Times, and another from an interception by quarterback Wesley Carroll.

Carroll, who had not thrown an interception all season, got picked off by Johnny Robinson in the endzone early in the second quarter. Akron had zero interceptions coming into this game.

“Bad read on my part. The defensive back made a good read on it, and it was good that our defense was able to hold them after and they didn't score any points off it,” said Carroll.

Akron was not able turn the turnover into points and when FIU got the ball back, they got their first touchdown of the game with a 2-yard run from senior running back Darriet Perry, making him the all-time leading rusher for touchdowns in FIU history with 25, passing previous record holder Rhashad Smith.

The Zips had one last try at scoring in the second quarter, but turned it over off an interception from quarterback Clayton Moore, picked off by safety Terrance Taylor. FIU took the ball to the Akron 4-yard line, but came out with only a 21-yard field goal from Jack Griffin again, giving the Panthers a 13-0 lead at the half.

On the third possession of the second half, FIU finished off a six-play, 81-yard drive that started at their own 10-yard line and ended with a one-yard run from Rhodes putting them up 10-0.

The Zips kept it close with a 15-yard scramble by Moore into the endzone making it a three-point game going into the fourth quarter.

Perry put the game out of reach with his second touchdown of the game (26th in his career), a three-yard run that gave FIU a 27-17 lead with 12:38 to go in the game.

The Panther defense held the Zips scoreless for the rest of the game to secure the win. “I thought the defense did a really great job,” said Chestnutt. “We're starting to feel more comfortable with some of the multiple packages.”

Golden Panthers earn road draw against Hilltoppers

Kris Camacho/The Beacon

During the first half, FIU and WKU stood at a standstill as every shot both teams took defensively ended up being wide or high. “Defensively we really kept them from any dangerous opportunities,” Coach Thomas Chestnutt said.

One clear cut reason as to why the Golden Panthers kept WKU off the board was because of goal keeper Kaitlyn Savage, who earned her third straight shutout. The first half concluded 0-0 with no team threatening.

After a 15-minute reprieve, both teams returned to the pitch and the Golden Panthers entered the second half as more of an aggressor.

In minute 51:35, Deana Rossi had a great header, but it was saved by WKU goalkeeper Libby Stout. FIU then continued to try to penetrate through the Hilltoppers’ defense as players such as April Perry, Kim Lopez and Nicole DiPietra took great shots, but those where to no avail.

“The game was tied but I felt like we definitely were a little more dangerous, but we just didn’t take our chances,” Chestnutt said.

The Kentucky Hilltoppers did give the Golden Panthers a huge scare in minute 86:40, when WKU’s Courtney Rymer took the best shot of the game for the Hilltoppers, but goalkeeper Kaitlyn Savage saved FIU from what could have been the decisive goal.

So as quickly as that scare occurred, so did regulation, meaning overtime was the last chance for FIU to seal a victory.

After both teams took a much needed 15 minute break, they took to the pitch once again, but the game continued with the same back and forth routine.

Overtime play saw the Golden Panthers and the Kentucky Hilltoppers square off and finish evenly as both ended up taking four shots a piece.

So as no team could take advantage of their opportunities, overtime concluded and with it, the game. Even though this was a tough loss, the Golden Panthers kept their head high and viewed this as a step in the right direction.

“I thought we battled, we could have been a bit sharper in the attack, half of the field in general, but I am happy with the way the team played,” Chestnutt said. "Sometimes the result just doesn’t fall.”

The Golden Panthers are still looking to improve because they do not want to miss opportunities, and each shot is crucial. “We know we have the teeth to battle, we just have to execute on the attacking half of the field,” added Chestnutt. “We have to execute more and that’s the bottom line.”
Road victory eases sting from last week’s loss vs. MTSU

TOMIC. “Nothing is permanent,” said Bjelica. “We have some of the best individuals in the conference, but we need to play like a team, and that was our focus.”

Tomic tinkered with the line-up, starting freshman outside hitter Paola Ortiz at libero, giving Chanel Araujo, the team’s libero, the night off.

Tomic also inserted redshirt freshman setter Jessica Egan into the starting line-up, replacing her in the position, providing help for Gonzalez errors, keeping the deficit at five. Forced the Golden Panthers into the set in the Golden Panthers’ favor, 23-17, Lakovic gained two kills, one scored against two Owl defenders and the second on an assist from Prsa, to finish off the set and the match for FIU.

One aspect that was mentioned by the players about the win was focus. It is something that the team lacked in their two game losing streak, and the team plans on using that focus as they travel to WKU and Middle Tennessee on Oct. 14 and Oct. 16, respectively.

“We need to focus. We didn’t focus, we didn’t compete,” said Prsa. “We lacked energy, which we played with today. That’s what we need for next weekend.”

Jovana Bjelica [far right] had 20 kills and eight digs in win over FAU.

STRONG DEFENSE

The Golden Panthers are now 4-1-2 at home this season, surpassing their three total wins at home in 2010.

Anthony Hobbs [above, right] attempts to cross the ball during FIU’s 1-0 upset win over No. 21 Kentucky on Oct. 2. The Golden Panthers are now 4-1-2 at home this season, surpassing their three total wins at home in 2010. FIU has three home games remaining this season, including an Oct. 11 home match against UCF.

Team opens season with win over UM

D’OMBREY MOREAU Staff Writer

In their season opener, FIU did not let off the brakes and a lot of players got much needed experience with a chance to be inserted into the fire.

Playing the prestigious University of Miami, FIU’s women’s rugby team defeated the Hurricanes by a score of 36-7 on Oct 1.

The team played as one, using great communication and discipline throughout the match.

The Panthers, who have helped add a new sense of culture for sports clubs at FIU, have seen their ups and downs.

Rugby was once a game that was not accepted, or understood.

It was a game that not many schools played. Once a program that was in the ashes while starting to begin, the Panthers are now on the upswing of their program.

“If you’re consistent, you’re good, we tell our players that all the time,” said team president Alejandro Torres. “Rugby is about communication, dedication and heart,” she added.

The maintained level of consistency can be credited not only to captains Amber Williams and Victoria Villa, but more importantly to their head coach Trevor Alford.

“There is a new sense of pride and urgency that these women have,” said Alford.

Junior Sydney Carter added: “We’re getting more out of practice than we did before, making us a better team to defeat everyone we play against.”

The team understands that the time is short and the moment needs to be seized. Initializing new game plans and better coaching plans have greatly contributed to their success.

“We have more discipline, more practice, better nutrition, and we’re working on individual skills,” said Torres. “A more defined coaching plan made us a better team and made a better coach.”

“A lot of people are taking notice in how the team is playing. Hustle plays and energy is what excites and fuels the ladies as they make tackles and control the game,” she added.

The point of excitement for the team is through the roof, and they are currently looking for new players to help carry their new level of play.

“We’re a family. We have coaches who are like our fathers, we have the men’s rugby team who are like our brothers and us [teammates] who are sisters,” said Carter.
Season features opposite forces

Kathy Paz
Staff Writer

This fall, the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum will be presenting the two opposite forces of nature and technology.

The University is among of the lucky few to have a museum that is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. Year after year, the Frost Art Museum at the Modesto Maidique Campus opens its doors to students and presents them with engaging series and exhibitions by both classic and contemporary artists.

With the current semester well under way, the museum has been working hard on putting together a cohesive and appealing fall season that has something to offer for everyone.

"Some of the highlights include the Breakfast in the Park with Joel Perlman and the Target Wednesday After Hours featuring works by Humberto Calzada. Also opening is "2PM/009" by Magdalena Fernandez and the Wolfsonian Teaching Gallery," explains Jessica Delgado, Communications Manager at the Frost Art Museum. "And on Oct. 12, in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, we will have the Oscar Fuentes combo playing live jazz with spoken word and vocals."

On Oct. 12, the museum will be presenting an opening reception and debuting three new collections as part of its Target Wednesday After Hours. The exhibitions are "2PM/009" by Magdalena Fernandez, the Florida Artist Series featuring Humberto Calzada’s "The Fire Next Time" and "Modern Meals: Remaking American Foods from Farm to Kitchen."

As part of the Wolfsonian’s Teaching Gallery at the Frost, this exhibit explores the role of technology and design, focusing on how those elements impacted the production, selling, cooking and consumption of food in the late 1940s. The exhibit includes over thirty-three pieces, including posters, advertisements, prints, kitchen appliances and tableware.

In addition to the exhibitions and concerts, the museum also has plans to work with other organizations both on and off campus. "We do have collaborations planned. We are collaborating with Global Initiatives for our Movies on the Lawn. We are also collaborating with Athletics, Student Government Organization and College of Architecture and the Arts with our visiting artist program featuring Michael Genoves’s F.P. Project," explains Delgado. "It’s a highly collaborative project and engages both the FIU community and the outside community as well."

"We have an incredible season lined up," says Delgado. "There is always something new to see, do and experience at the Museum. Each visit is different."

"The Frost is planning several projects that will feature collaborations between the museum and other departments at the University."

Remembering Steve Jobs

Students reflect on the infamous innovator of Apple

I believe Steve Jobs was one of the greatest innovators and visionaries of our time. An irreplaceable genius. This is obviously visible throughout the numerous effects of a company that has changed the very ways in which we live our ordinary lives - Apple has been a revolution on its own.

Jose Nava Lujambio, Junior, Architecture

To hear that he died actually upset me. Even though I didn’t know him personally, I feel like I have lost someone important in my life. He contributed so much to technology and advanced our generation. He will always be remembered as the person whose advancement in technology affected us all.

Mayba Torres, Sophomore, Hospitality management

It’s regrettable to see such a visionary, ambitious and genius mind pass away. I have to thank Steve Jobs for giving me the tools to portray my art through photographs and music as I do with the iPhone and the iPad. A legend has died today but his legacy will be carried all the way through history.

Alejandro Carrizales, Sophomore, Marketing

When Steve Jobs died, it made me think about how someone most people had never met before, could have such an impact on everybody. He made Apple what it is today, and without him, I probably wouldn’t be using an iPod or Mac Book. His death is extremely sad.

Emily Harris, Junior, Accounting

We lost a crazy one. A misfit. A rebel. A troublemaker. Steve Jobs left behind a legacy that will reach far beyond the average lifespan of a human being.

Jorge Valens
COLUMNIST

He left a legacy that people hold in their hands, sit in front of and interact with on a daily basis.

From the company’s humble beginnings inside a musty garage in 1976 to his last breath in 2011 Jobs earned a title that is rarely handed out in this industry: visionary. Throughout his time at Apple, Jobs’ notorious demeanor and fervent dedication to an idea led his company to be one of the most prized possession’s in this country’s portfolio.

Jobs and Apple are some of the few remaining examples of American exceptionalism, an idea that many argue is dead.

To list his successes and the failures that led to them would require a few dozen pages and a small font. But let’s not reminisce. That’s not his style. Year after year, Jobs rattle our senses by releasing products that made us swoon over glass and plastic. People took days off work and braved the elements standing in line at one of Apple’s iconic and immensely successful retail locations.

Products like the iPhone changed the way we interact with the world around us. It made the phone an extension of ourselves and an indispensable tool. But what made the iPhone and the products that preceded and came after it so compelling is that Jobs discovered how to touch someone emotionally with a product or an idea.

As Joshua Topolsky, editor-in-chief of The Verge said, they believe in ‘the story’ of Apple.

Jobs is widely credited as the most successful CEO of all time. His triumphant return to the company he founded yielded unprecedented prosperity for the company. They released products that captured the hearts and minds of consumers all over the world.

He made the company about two things: the user and what he thought the user wanted.

Many people, myself included at times, criticized Jobs for this. How can one man tell me what I like?

JOBS, page 6
Comedy: “Whitney”

NBC, Thursday, 9:30 P.M.

Anyone with a sense of humor who has seen the show would agree that “Whitney” is an abysmal joke. The romantic comedy revolves around Whitney’s relationship with her boyfriend and the problems they encounter. They met at a bar, hooked up after and then began their relationship - the typical story of “how they met, right?” What was supposed to be a humorous aspect of the show comes off as asinine.

“Whitney” is shot in front of a live audience but it sounds like someone is pressing the “laugh” button at random intervals; no one laughs much in the course of 30 minutes on stale, trailer trash jokes that the so-called live audience. Whitney, Cammings, comedian and apparently poor actress, reflects her stand-up comedy through Whitney’s on-set character.

Whitney needs to realize that there is a difference between bringing justice to the show as a comedian and being obnoxious by constantly yelling moronic jokes. Neither her writing or acting routines lare in funs - it really is time to start fresh, Whitney - producing isn’t your thing either.

The second episode improved; it made me chuckle and laugh at one instance. With a dreadful pilot, there’s only one way to go - either up or off the air.

Comedy: “Community”

NBC, Thursdays 8 P.M.

Study groups never work, but at Greenendale’s Community College, they are definitely worth the time. “Community” incorporates pop culture, proves stereotypes wrong and creates a mockery of film and television clichés.

The package is very much appreciated, especially for a cliché lover like myself. Britta, for example, plays the role of “mummy,” the one who takes control of problems. Her good looks and blonde locks gave me the impression that she would need the study group more than anyone else, yet she is the one who tries to keep everything together - until it begins to fall apart again.

Annie reminds me of Rachel Berry on “Glee” - brunette, studious and naive. Her innocence can be interchanged for a “dumb blonde” occasionally. Maybe stereotypes are flawed.

Typical character traits from “Community” still remain embedded from previous seasons; the comedic familiarity is like home. For example, Abed’s TV obsession and Jeff taking his place on the boxsets - what’s an episode without a speech? The cleanliness and humor of “Community” makes the show one of the must-see comedic programs on TV right now. Yes, there are many humorous up-and-coming shows that are predestined for greatness, but “Community” is anything but mediocre - it’s madness 101.

The witless and humor of “Community” makes the show one of the must-sees [programs].

Fashion show gives back

HEATHER ARMAS
Staff Writer

The 10th annual FIU Fashion Show, hosted by the ladies of Phi Sigma Sigma, is being held on Oct. 25 at the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables at 8 p.m.

The fashion show’s main aim is to help raise funds and awareness for two charities: Janelle’s Wishing Well and the National Kidney foundation. Both charities are held near to the hearts of the Phi Sigma Sigma ladies; Janelle’s Wishing Well is a foundation set up in honor of former Phi Sigma Sigma member, Janelle Benot, who passed away because of carbon monoxide poisoning back in 2004. Kristina Puma, the 2011 fashion show director, said, “The main goal is to raise money for these philanthropies as well as awareness and prevention.”

The show also wants to reach out to donors and touch them on a personal level because contributions are a vital part of these causes. One of the show’s main aspects is to educate its viewers on how frequent carbon monoxide poisoning and kidney disease are and why it is so important to raise money for these causes. Prices for admission have not been disclosed, but there will be general admission and V.I.P. packaging.

Tryouts for models were held in September. Many of the 50 models chosen were announced on Oct. 6.

This year’s theme is going to be Monte Carlo. “The European Vegas, think classy and vintage,” said Puma.

One of the designers who will be showcased in the fashion show is Cia Maritima Brazilian swimwear company that was started in 1990 in Latin America and featured in Miami Swim Week. The newest boutique to be showcasing at F"
India is entering a historic time of excitement and hope in the future. This is contrasted with the States’ uncertain and grim economic future.

The state of the American middle class according to Michael Snyder, writer for The Economic Collapse, was far more absymal. “We once had the largest, most vibrant middle class in the history of the world, but now way too much unemployment, way too much inflation, way too much greed and way too much debt are all starting to catch up with us. America is changing, and not for the better.”

As India, as well as other countries’ develop rapidly, America’s economy must become as competitive as it once was or we risk losing future scholars. “Borderless with Brooklyn” is a biweekly column examining world events.

University not using social media to fullest potential

KELLY MALAMBRI
Staff Writer

Almost any organization can be found on various social media websites, and the University is no different.

While its presence on Tumblr, Facebook and Twitter has potential to be a beneficial way for the University to communicate with students and promote a more reliable network of communication between the University and its student community, it is not using its social media websites to their fullest potential.

If the University hopes to successfully communicate with students and promote a more active community, it needs to keep up with the social media more frequently while reaching more students in general.

Of the University’s approximate 46,000 students, its Facebook page is liked by only 28,436. Its Twitter only has 4,262 followers, and it is not using its social media accounts as effectively as it could.

Without reaching more students and fans, the University will miss out on communicating with a vast audience that could be embraced through its activities and advertisements.

If the University hopes to successfully communicate with students and promote a more active community, it needs to keep up with the social media more frequently while reaching more students in general.

Of the University’s approximate 46,000 students, its Facebook page is liked by only 28,436. Its Twitter only has 4,262 followers, and its Tumblr has 4,221 followers. In comparison to other Florida universities, the University’s impact on social media users is quite small.

It is unfortunate that America is proving to be incapable of competition with countries whose economies are thriving and whose middle classes are growing instead of shrinking.

The middle class that continues to emerge politically and economically is one of the reasons for the exodus back to India and while it is exciting that India is growing, the loss of international scholars to America is a detriment.

Further, India’s rapidly emerging middle class contrasts America’s shrinking one.

According to The Economic Times, “the percentage of the middle class in the country’s total population will increase to 20.3 per cent by 2015-16 and 37.2 per cent by 2025-26.”

The state of the American middle class according to Michael Snyder, writer for “The Economic Collapse,” was far more absymal. “We once had the largest, most vibrant middle class in the history of the world, but now way too much unemployment, way too much inflation, way too much greed and way too much debt are all starting to catch up with us. America is changing, and not for the better.”

As India, as well as other countries’ develop rapidly, America’s economy must become as competitive as it once was or we risk losing future scholars.

“Borderless with Brooklyn” is a biweekly column examining world events.

VERBATIM

“There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”

-Albert Einstein

“All generalizations are false, including this one.”

-Mark Twain

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Writer needs to be conscious of both sides

I am writing because I was upset by the article “Democrats using religion as a distraction.” While I, as I’m sure most other would agree, believe it is wrong to imply that others religious beliefs are stupid or irrational, I think the religiosity of many Republican candidates is a concern.

It is not because there is anything inherently wrong with having faith, but rather because these candidates use their religious beliefs to try to deny many American civil liberties. Religion has been used by the right to justify constitutional amendments to ban gay marriage, to ban gay individuals from adopting, to try to move to reinstate unemployment benefits. Take for example the extension of unemployment benefits. Obama wanted to extend these benefits for those who help millions of Americans. The Republicans in office would not agree because if they did not extend the Bush tax cuts, for which those who don’t know are tax cuts for the wealthy. Does that show that the Republicans in office cared about the general American? Simply, no.

I suggest for next time the writer of the story be a little more careful in evaluating both sides of the issue and try to reduce their obvious bias against the left.

-Samatha Lemes, Junior, Psychology

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editors are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the sections. The Beacon reserves the right not to publish certain color and clarity.

Send us your letters

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts in (500 words maximum) to neda.ghomeshi@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year. The Beacon reserves the right to edit for space, content and clarity.

BORDERLESS WITH BROOKLYN

Loss of international students a detriment to U.S.

India is a country that buzzes with paradoxes: it has more cell phones than toilets; McDonald’s restaurants line the streets of the biggest cities, but sacred cows line the streets, too.

Despite the fact that India seems to contradict itself relentlessly, its middle class is growing exponentially. As India continues to be modern and ancient contemporaneously, more and more, highly educated Indians are flocking back to India after being educated in America’s universities. The return to India helps to demonstrate the phenomenon of international students who leave America once they have their degrees.

Ana Sippin, director of the office of student and scholarly services at the University, said that in Fall 2010, according to the most recent data available, there are 224 Indian students studying at this University. While this a small number in comparison to the over 40,000 students attending the University, in 2009 The Economic Times reported that there were 95,000 Indian students studying in the United States.

In addition to fixing the American economy, it is also key that immigration issues concerning visas and residency be questioned so students have an opportunity to stay here after graduation.

India is entering a historic time of excitement and hope in the future. This is contrasted with the States’ uncertain and grim economic future.

According to the BBC, “The return of highly skilled and educated graduates might be seen as a boost for India, but it is also a concern to America. Some 52% of Silicon Valley’s startups were founded by immigrants, according to research conducted by researchers from Harvard and Duke universities.” The article appropriately goes on to reference President Barack Obama’s concern that there needs be focus on retaining educated international students as asset to the American workforce and to America’s commitment to innovation.

It is not only India that is experiencing an increasing middle class. The Economic Times reports that China’s middle class is growing exponentially. As India, as well as other countries’ develop rapidly, America’s economy must become as competitive as it once was or we risk losing future scholars.

“Borderless with Brooklyn” is a biweekly column examining world events.

Disclaimer

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon editorial board. These views are separate from editorial and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.
Hubert Library to host open house for GIS Center

The Biscayne Bay Campus will be opening its Geographic Information System Center at the Hubert Library on Oct. 8, and will have an open house, hosted by director of GIS Jennifer Fu on Oct. 11.

The new GIS Center will provide assistance and resources for research and teaching in all BBC FIU departments, disciplines, and units. The event will run from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Hubert Library in rooms 127 and 124. Students will meet the GIS staff and Advisory Committee, who will be providing information about GIS classes, programs and advantages, as well as answering specific questions.

The GIS Center will be equipped with 18 Personal Computer workstations; a Hewlett-Packard plotter printer, capable of printing maps and images up to 36 inches; an HP 42" scanner; and a 3-dimensional photogrammetry workstation. A Geocommons Lounge will be located in front of the GIS lab, offering maps and geographic references, new seating, and two gaming stations for students, faculty and staff.

The Chair of the Faculty Senate, Thomas Breslin, will be the keynote speaker of the event. He was an important supporter of the GIS establishment initiative at the Modesto Maidique Campus in 1998, having the vision of a library-based GIS department that would support research in all disciplines.

The Geocommons Lounge will be inaugurated with a map identification game competition, the first prize will be a $50 FIU Bookstore gift certificate, and the second prize will be a $25 Starbucks gift certificate. The system provides any type of demographic or geographical information, being capable of presenting them in innovative ways, such as interactive maps.

“Faculty need to be aware and open to new trends, and GIS allows professors and students to understand and meet the needs for reality,” Fu said. Fu also explained how GIS is an interdisciplinary program “The system can provide environmental and geographical details of regions.”

Student luncheon makes move to Kovens Center

ALEXANDRA MARTIN Staff Writer

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at The Biscayne Bay Campus has consistently ranked as one of the top hospitality management schools in the country, earning international recognition, and their Food Production course is one of its notable programs.

With over 80 courses, students learn how to start, manage and expand successful organizations within the field, and it all culminates in the grand finale, the Food Production Course, an advanced capstone course that takes place every semester for graduating seniors.

The course requires students to run a restaurant on campus and alternate holding restaurant positions such as, dining room manager, waiter, and hostess.

The course, which once took place inside of HTM 129, has now moved to the Kovens Conference Center for a one-year period due to renovations.

The center now housing the course is a ballroom designed primarily to serve as a place to conduct meetings for FIU and the general public.

According to Mohammad A. Qureshi, assistant dean of the HTM, students and professors were faced with a few obstacles with the move.

“The first challenge was to fix all the equipment in the Kovens kitchen to make sure we could use it for instructional purposes,” Qureshi said. “The kitchen is smaller and its equipment was not all designed for teaching purposes, therefore about a year ago we started to make some modifications and bought a new grill and fryer. Those changes are still ongoing.”

Some students agree with Qureshi’s sentiments.

“I don’t really feel that we are at a disadvantage. I think it’s helping us by giving us a few more obstacles to deal with throughout the cooking,” Senior Hospitality major Nathalie Fundaro said. “The restaurant at the HTM building was kind of made easy for us because the dining area was literally right next to the kitchen but in the real world, the kitchen won’t be right next to you and you have to deal with keeping things warm.”

Another highlight the class offers is that it is the only course at FIU that allows students to act as managers within the school.

“It makes you understand the roles you have to play and the importance of it,” said Adkins. “It allows you to see if you want to pursue a career in this in the future.”

TALKING TO CLUB GOERS

Dwonna C. St. Louis, professors speaker, coach and educator, speaks to Professor Samantha DeBianchi’s students on strengthening communication skills when dealing with club goers.