Jaywalking on campus may lead to fines

Diego Saldana
Staff Writer

With traffic lights also came pedestrian lights, which, if not followed, can result in a ticket for crossing a roadway at mid-block, otherwise known as jaywalking.

An officer may choose to give a student a University citation, a fine of $25. If it is not paid, a hold may be placed on the student's accounts.

Kristopher Saad, a junior digital media studies major, has firsthand experience when dealing with the enforcement of jaywalking.

One evening, Saad stood at the crosswalk between Academic Health Center Four and Parking Garage Five. Seeing that all cars were stopped and not knowing the crosswalk lights were functioning, he jaywalked.

"He's pretending to write me the ticket and [then he said], 'You know what? I'm going to cut you a break this time, but next I tell you to do something you do it'" said Saad.

"Jaywalking is not on the same level as other crimes... $25 is a bit too much." said Saad.

Jaywalking is not mentioned in the Department of Parking and Transportation's Rules and Regulations. As for pedestrians, the regulations say that pedestrians have the right of way when crossing a roadway.

A University Assistant Police Chief Alphonse Ianiello said the crosswalk lights are in place to protect pedestrians as well as to maintain the flow of traffic.

"It's the safety [of pedestrians] and it's the traffic. That's the main reason these lights are put in," Ianiello said.

Ianiello added that currently, the University Police Department is warning offenders, but said that the possibility of a citation is not out of the question.

"We want to educate people first, rather than start giving jaywalking tickets out. We are here to educate, not to hurt people," Ianiello said.

"I think as long as there is not a cop, people are going to disregard the lights," Saad said.

Senior Spanish major Betina Brogliola thinks people will disregard the lights if there are no officers present.

There is only one recorded jaywalking ticket this year, but according to Wendy Turner, records clerk for the University Police Department, there could be several more in the processing stage.

Brandon Wise
Sports Director

Following the Nov. 14 pipe burst at the Lakeside South Residence Hall, all students have returned to their dorms in the midst of cleanup and repairs.

As of Nov. 20, the 110 affected students have been allowed to return to their rooms, according to Jim Wassenaar, executive director of Student Affairs Operations and Auxiliary Services, but the repair process is in the beginning stages.

Though all 110 students were offered the opportunity to stay at a hotel free of charge until the rooms were suitable for return, only 30 chose to accept the offer.

"We’ll commence the repair of drywall and replacement of the base board over the next several weeks," Wassenaar said in an interview with Student Media. "We’ll do it incrementally as to not disturb students; they’ve had enough disruption. We'll start with the corners and go into the student units probably over the holiday break when they are gone."

Wassenaar added that the damage affected every floor of the building in some form, but less and less towards the ground floors.

"We had water intrusion from [the] sixth to the first floor and about 60 units. The lower you went in the building, the less the impact," Wassenaar said.

"The most dramatic impacts were mostly on the fifth and sixth floors."

Martina Comorkova, a freshman Languages major who resides on the fifth floor, described the damage done to her floor.

"If you walked down the way to my room through the elevators," Comorkova said, "you could look up and see parts of the ceiling were missing because they had to take out the tile because they were wet."

Wassenaar also noted that no mold was discovered in the building after it opened; however, Comorkova believes there to be some kind of mold in her room.

"Afterwards, there was a disgusting smell of mold until somebody opened the windows and aired the dorm out," Comorkova said. "There was just water everywhere. We were told, ‘If you open the windows, it would not be proper and it could mold.’ Since last Wednesday, it’s been very hard to breathe at my room."

The Super Restoration Clean Up Company estimates that, as of Nov. 20, cleanup and repairs will cost $210,000. However, Wassenaar believes that price will probably end up being higher.

"That doesn’t include the repair cost or any other costs that have yet to be determined," Wassenaar said. "That’s everything including water extraction, dehumidification and replacements."

Ashley Martinez
Staff Writer

The approval of a new Student Government Account, Activity and Services fee account 452, would provide funding for the scholarship. The total utilized from the 3 percent would be an estimated $62,000. Castro also stated SGA was allowed to use funding from these accounts in order to create loans and scholarships.

"This can be a step forward towards alleviating the needs of [students]," Castro said. "We could provide loans if students need. This is a bit of help for students."
New minors and graduate programs added to curriculum

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

New minors, graduate degree programs and global learning courses will soon be introduced to the University’s curriculum. Curriculum changes were brought up at the last two faculty senate meetings, which occurred on Oct. 25 and Nov. 8.

The first motion on Oct. 25 was the removal of a required common reading course from the Global Learning Foundations courses. The common reading requirement was formerly part of foundation GL courses and established a four-page article common to all courses.

Chairwoman of the Global Learning Curriculum Oversight Committee Rick Tardanico said this common reading was removed because it did not fit the content of each course nor did it promote a common learning experience.

The removal of the common reading was a decision made by the faculty who teach GL courses. The motion was passed, allowing faculty to select their own readings in accordance with the courses they are teaching.

Following the approval of this motion, a new global learning course was proposed—Japanese Culture and Society (JPN 350). Along with changes to the global learning curriculum, new minors and graduate degree programs were also proposed.

Both undergraduate minors presented, aerospace studies and international communications, were passed.

The new graduate degree programs included curatorial practice, a professional science master’s in forensic science and a professional science master’s in medical physics.

When the motions for the minors were once again raised on the Nov. 8 meeting, the rhetorical communication minor was passed without much debate.

However, the business communication minor tabbed for the following meeting after a request by associate professor of journalism and broadcasting, Neil Reisner, who spoke about the possibility that the new business communication minor might interfere with offerings in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

“At some point, there was a judgment I suppose that the proposed minor does not interfere with any other department, but we want to make sure that’s true,” Reisner said.

In response, Chairwoman of Communication Arts Joann Brown said the courses under this proposed minor are existing courses, courses that the SJMC encourages as electives. “Your curriculum wouldn’t fit into this spectrum,” Brown said.

The outcome of the motion is to be determined at the next faculty senate meeting on Nov. 29.

Farinas raises objections to scholarship proposal

Farinas also said that presenting first generation as being state matched was a mistake.

“Giving that money to first generation and assuming that it is going to be state matched is false because they have already met the capacity of money that they have to turn into the state,” she said.

Before Farinas could end her comments, Giovanni Castro, senator at-large and senate speaker, said that she was talking too much, which led Farinas to ask for more minutes before the meeting was adjourned.

Both Alex Castro and Giovanni Castro walked out of the room before Farinas was done explaining the issues concerning the piece of legislation.

Student Media attempted to contact Giovanni Castro, but received no response.

In an interview with Student Media, Farinas stated that she does not want the bill to be approved during the next senate meeting that will take place on Nov. 26.

“I hope it does not pass. I expect it to not pass. If it does pass, I will veto it until there is due process,” Farinas said. “I’m here to make sure that the proposal is valid and plausible.” Farinas also said she hoped the passed motion at the Nov. 14 University-wide meeting was adhered to. This motion was passed to establish a committee to merge a scholarship proposal authored by herself and Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus President Pablo Haspel with Castro’s scholarship proposal.

“I hope that there is an interchanging of ideas to make the best proposal for the students. That’s putting students first,” Farinas said.
There are bigger issues at hand than gauging the weather

MARC RAPAPORT
Contributing Writer

When one thinks about FIU, what stands out? One thing that has always been associated with our university is that most people commute, and from school, providing a whole new array of issues for the almost 50,000 students (along with 1,200 faculty and staff members). One would think, with so many commuters, parking issues would hold higher importance than building a ridiculous and for some, challenging, second traffic circle.

Those of us who have attended the ever-changing, “Worlds Ahead” Florida International University know some things: College Algebra is everyone’s favorite class and the parking situation is never okay.

One of the biggest reasons it seems that parking just can never be successful here at FIU is that many of the parking garages or lots are on opposite sides of the campus, and who wants to walk a mile to their next class in the wonderful Miami humidity?

Thus, we have almost everyone trying to cram into the Blue and Gold garages, and when those become full, it becomes a free-for-all, violent – yes, I have seen near brawls over parking spaces – situation.

So, instead of delving into the hellish world of parking, what is our school given by the state? A $10 million grant towards a wind tunnel.

I understand all the advances that can be made concerning weather, and that it can provide new information for scientists concerning hurricanes, etc., but why not focus on issues we as students, faculty and/or staff must deal with every day?

I can think of countless other causes this grant of $10 million could have gone towards. At the end of the day the voice of those paying for their education seems to be drowned out by authorities, as well as the sound of drilling.

Each semester seems to bring with it a set of new buildings, fast food restaurants or traffic circles. The number of students applying to FIU every year is also not decreasing, and the need for more parking spaces should be at the top of the “Important Things FIU Needs to Do” list.

No thanks to be given before Thanksgiving

ALEX SORONDO
Asst. Opinion Editor

Complaints were widespread, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, about the audacity, the shamelessness, the malevolence of professors who demanded their students attend class, particularly evening classes.

Given the vehemence with which most complaints were lodged, it prompts one of two impressions: either Thanksgiving is really something profoundly sacred for many students – so sacred that not even the preceding day can be tainted by work – or, as is more likely the case, the achievement of bachelor’s degree is, for many of us, not so much about the education it’s meant to suggest but the paper it’s signed up for.

Perhaps this is just the staple of a consumer culture, where we expect to pay for something (an education, in this case) and receive it. To pay for the opportunity to do work doesn’t seem to make sense, naturally.

I worked for the money; why should I then work for what I’m spending it on?

But an education is one of those exorbitantly priced and – at times – impossibly demanding responsibilities to which one should devote themselves, wholeheartedly and without complaint, if they want to reap the long-term and hopefully balancing reward.

It’s like having kids. One would think that, after nine months of preparation, few mothers would give birth to a child and then complain about its insistence upon being fed. And yet even those of us in our most tender years probably have one or two facebook friends who do precisely that.

There are few things so disheartening as seeing such widespread disinterest toward the efforts of bettering oneself. And yes, these efforts come at the expense of certain comforts and conveniences, but this is what we signed up for.

That which seems most precious and sacred to us is, unfortunately, of little importance to the gears and blades of such bureaucratic powerhouses as college universities.

It can be sad, and difficult to cope with, but hopefully more readily digestible when we consider the nonbalance with which most of us regard the traditions and observances of our peers (at least when our own grade or time or paycheck is on the line), and how hopelessly constipated our education would be if a class’ schedule had to accommodate everybody’s preferences as opposed to vices versa.

Everything worth having must be paid for with more than money, trite and cliché as it sounds.

If you want to worship or learn or celebrate something, accept the consequences; complaining about them only reflects the naiveté of a person who got into this without expecting as much.

-alex.sorondo@fiu.edu
Preparing for end of semester

Q. It’s the end of the semester and I’m feeling overwhelmed! I have lots of projects and papers to write, finals to study for, and I don’t know what to do! Help!

Z.F., Sophomore Accounting Major

Dear Z.F.,

Difficult challenges are just growth opportunities in disguise! Many students feel overwhelmed during the end of the semester, so rest assured you’re not alone. Follow a few steps to get organized and plan for the upcoming weeks ahead: you should be back on track in no time. I would begin by printing out a calendar and writing down the dates when papers and projects are due and finals will be held. This will help you to map out a plan. Look at the amount of time you have to cover the material and break it down into manageable chunks. Here is an example: You have a final exam in ten days.

• The chart below is ten chapters. Use the calendar to plot out the review for the final exam by spending a few hours each day over the next ten days to cover each chapter, perhaps a chapter a day. Continue with each exam, paper, and project until you have a calendar with all of the tasks and a plan to complete each one. Don’t forget to build some time into each day for yourself. Many times we think that pulling an “all nighter” is the best way to cram for a final, but research consistently demonstrates that you need sleep to do well academically. I would encourage you to get a good night’s sleep before each final exam, eat a healthy, nutritious breakfast every morning during finals week, and find time for physical exercise to keep the brain operating at peak levels. Finals are almost here.

• With the right preparation, positive outlook and healthy lifestyle, you can make it productive and feel confident and energized!

Be Well,

Nick Scheidt, M.S. is a Doctoral Psychology Intern at FIU Counseling and Psychological. He is a Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate from Carlos Albán University. Once he completes his internship at FIU, Nick plans to work as a Psychologist, Writer, and Professor.

Do you have questions you would like to Ask Nick? Send an email to: Nocheid@fiu.edu

Nick

ASSOCIATED PRESS

How Hungry Girl shed the pounds without guilt

JOHN ROGERS

Art Basle, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basle event during Dec. Until then, art exhibitions will still be on display including “Fragile Nature” and “Material and Meaning.”

“The Museum supports this environmental goal; it often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so,” Young said. “This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.”

“Frost Art Museum is proud to showcase the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope,” wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition. These two exhibitions and the Art Basle “Breakfast in the Park” event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

John Rogers is a Staff Writer for the Beacon. He can be reached at johnrogers@fiusm.com. 

END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series</td>
<td>October 17, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian – FIU Collection</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast in the Park</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIFE!

The Frost ends semester with Florida’s nature and Art Basel breakfast

EDWIVE SEME
Staff Writer

Art Basle, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basle event during Dec. Until then, art exhibitions will still be on display including “Fragile Nature” and “Material and Meaning.”

“The Museum supports this environmental goal; it often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so,” Young said. “This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.”

“Frost Art Museum is proud to showcase the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope,” wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition. These two exhibitions and the Art Basle “Breakfast in the Park” event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

John Rogers is a Staff Writer for the Beacon. He can be reached at johnrogers@fiusm.com.

END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series</td>
<td>October 17, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian – FIU Collection</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast in the Park</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIFE!

The Frost ends semester with Florida’s nature and Art Basel breakfast

EDWIVE SEME

Staff Writer

Art Basle, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basle event during Dec. Until then, art exhibitions will still be on display including “Fragile Nature” and “Material and Meaning.”

“The Museum supports this environmental goal; it often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so,” Young said. “This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.”

“Frost Art Museum is proud to showcase the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope,” wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition. These two exhibitions and the Art Basle “Breakfast in the Park” event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

John Rogers is a Staff Writer for the Beacon. He can be reached at johnrogers@fiusm.com.

END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series</td>
<td>October 17, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian – FIU Collection</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast in the Park</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIFE!

The Frost ends semester with Florida’s nature and Art Basel breakfast

EDWIVE SEME

Staff Writer

Art Basle, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basle event during Dec. Until then, art exhibitions will still be on display including “Fragile Nature” and “Material and Meaning.”

“The Museum supports this environmental goal; it often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so,” Young said. “This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.”

“Frost Art Museum is proud to showcase the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope,” wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition. These two exhibitions and the Art Basle “Breakfast in the Park” event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

John Rogers is a Staff Writer for the Beacon. He can be reached at johnrogers@fiusm.com.

END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series</td>
<td>October 17, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian – FIU Collection</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast in the Park</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIFE!

The Frost ends semester with Florida’s nature and Art Basel breakfast

EDWIVE SEME

Staff Writer

Art Basle, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basle event during Dec. Until then, art exhibitions will still be on display including “Fragile Nature” and “Material and Meaning.”

“The Museum supports this environmental goal; it often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so,” Young said. “This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.”

“Frost Art Museum is proud to showcase the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope,” wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition. These two exhibitions and the Art Basle “Breakfast in the Park” event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

John Rogers is a Staff Writer for the Beacon. He can be reached at johnrogers@fiusm.com.

END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series</td>
<td>October 17, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian – FIU Collection</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast in the Park</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIFE!

The Frost ends semester with Florida’s nature and Art Basel breakfast

EDWIVE SEME

Staff Writer

Art Basle, the annual contemporary art show in Miami, is right around the corner. The Frost Art Museum at the University will also have an Art Basle event during Dec. Until then, art exhibitions will still be on display including “Fragile Nature” and “Material and Meaning.”

“The Museum supports this environmental goal; it often displays art that deals with nature and will continue to do so,” Young said. “This is probably not the last time Messersmith exhibits in the museum, as many other artists have had multiple exhibitions and this might be the case for Messersmith; fans will just have to wait and see.”

“Frost Art Museum is proud to showcase the work of a Florida artist who can so sincerely capture the splendor of our state, our fantasy, and our hope,” wrote Carol Damian, director and chief curator, in a brochure for the exhibition. These two exhibitions and the Art Basle “Breakfast in the Park” event will close off the year for the museum, but there are many new exhibitions to come in 2013.

John Rogers is a Staff Writer for the Beacon. He can be reached at johnrogers@fiusm.com.

END OF SEMESTER FROST EXHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fragile Nature - The Florida Artist Series</td>
<td>October 17, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material and Meaning: Earthenware, Stoneware, and Porcelain from The Wolfsonian – FIU Collection</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast in the Park</td>
<td>December 9, 2012</td>
<td>Frost Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Release Week
November 26 - 30, 2012

MIDNIGHT BREAKFAST

BAY GLOW
HEADPHONE DISCO PARTY
FREE MASSAGES
GAMES / FUN
& BREAKFAST

MONDAY DEC 3RD
10PM-1AM
WUC 221-223
& BALLROOM 244

Friday, November 30, 2012
FIU - BBC

RESOURCE FAIR 11 AM - 1 PM
@PANTHER SQUARE

GUEST SPEAKER 1 PM - 2 PM
@MARY ANN WOLFE THEATRE
Does HIV look like me?
BY TODD MURRAY

HIV TESTING VAN 11 AM - 4PM
IN FRONT OF PANTHER SQUARE

or visit:
http://hopesvoice.org/events/does-hiv-look-like-me/todd

TODD MURRAY
DOES HIV LOOK LIKE ME? MY FACE, MY VOICE, MY STORY
**MEN’S SOCCER**

**FRANCISCO RIVERO  Staff Writer**

Coming into this season, the FIU men’s soccer team was picked to finish last in the Conference USA standings. After getting off to their best start in over 25 years, the players were primed to surpass those expectations.

During the first half of the season, the Panthers won six of their first eight games. For a team that had no expectations this year, it suddenly started to make people notice and leading that charge was first-year coach Kenny Arena.

“We established the way we wanted to play with the ball,” Arena said. “Whether we were on the road or at home we created a lot of offensives chances.”

All seemed to be going well for the Arena; the team was winning, the players were producing, and the program turned heads in the conference.

However, on Sept. 29, the wave of high prospect and invulnerability came crashing down when the Panthers began conference play against South Carolina.

FIU proceeded to lose every conference game they had this season. A team that wanted to show its program it was more than just a mediocre gathering of talent, and did so for the first half, could not keep its promise.

“We can always get better, I leave this year knowing I have a lot to learn but I’m encouraged about the strong start we,” Arena said. “One of my biggest regrets that I have this season was all the goals that we gave up. I truly believe that we could have defended better.”

At any point during a season like this there is always tension between coaches and the decisions that are being made. Arena is no stranger to this; however, Arena also knows the bond that he made with his staff throughout the progress of this year.

“Anytime you have a group of people that haven’t worked together before it’s going to take time to build chemistry,” Arena said. “However, as the season was winding down and the record wasn’t what we wanted it to be, the chemistry in our team was amazing, and so by the end obviously we lost and were devastated but everyone was happy that we did it together.”

Now that the season has ended, Arena looks to build around the chemistry that he has established in this program.

“A lot of what will happen next year will depend on our recruiting class,” Arena said. “So how our incoming class does will determine our team does.”

For Arena, it will also be an offseason of drilling messages into not just the players but coaches as well.

“I just want to get better, there’s always more that you can learn in terms of managing a team and managing plays,” Arena said.

Arena also feels that his program can always get better.

“A lot of what will happen next season will depend on our recruiting class,” Arena said. “So how our incoming class does will determine our team does.”

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**KEVIN CASTANEDA  Staff Writer**

Heading into the Thanksgiving weekend, Richard Pitino, head coach of men’s basketball, had very little to be thankful for. Starting the season 0-2 has put his Panthers in a pit that Pitino wants to claw out of.

The team dropped their home opener against Stephen A. Austin. In that game, the stout lumberjack defense held FIU to below 36 percent shooting from the field.

Against Boston College, FIU was held to 39 percent from the field.

One of the bright spots, however, is the team’s three-point shooting. Through Nov. 21, the Panthers are shooting 35 percent from the beyond the arc, ranking them third in the Sun Belt Conference.

The problem does not stem from their three-point shooting, but their lack of attacking the basket for easy layups. They have also done very little in the transition game. Against SFA, the Panthers forced 23 turnovers, but were unable to score a single fast-break point.

The case can be made that the Panthers have to remain trigger happy from the perimeter because of the small nature of their starting lineup. Freshman Jerome Frink showed in game one against Boston College that he can dominate in the paint, scoring 22 points. However, fast forward to game two against SFA and Frink only attempted four shots.

The Panthers have a dynamic player in Frink, but if the team wants to increase their field goal percentage, he needs to receive more touches.

**SHARPSHOOTER**

During the team’s open practice, Pitino gaushed about the shooting ability from his junior college transfer, Malik Smith.

“I really do think Malik can be the best shooter in the conference,” Pitino said.

Smith is hitting almost four three-pointers a game, that ranks him number one in the Sun Belt Conference. His 36 minutes a game has allowed him to average 16 points, which is fourth best in the conference. Smith is also hitting just above 41 percent from beyond the arc.

If Smith wants to be the best player in the conference, not just the best shooter, he needs to expand his game.

A shooter of his caliber needs to increase his free-throw percentage, which is at a paltry 71 percent. Rebounding does not have to be one of his fortes, but increasing his two per game average can go a long way for the Panthers.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

Before the season started, the Sun Belt Conference coaches’ poll predicted FIU would finish last in the East division. Through Nov. 21, FIU ranked last in the East and last in the Conference.

The Panthers are just below .2 in rebound margin, placing them dead last. In their first two games, FIU was unable to eclipse 30 rebounds as a team in either contest. The team desperately needs to work on offensive rebounding. FIU ranks third to last in the conference in offensive rebounding percentage, at 24 percent.

The team also needs to strengthen their defense. The Panthers have allowed opponents to shoot 51 percent from the field.

The Panthers have struggled shooting the ball so far this season, going for just 35 percent from behind the arc in the first two games.
Unexpected rough season surprises first year coach

**JOHN JACOBSON**
Staff Writer

If someone would have told Head Coach Trevor Theroulde that his first year at the helm would end with a 10-19 record, an NCAA tourney berth and five players missing significant time due to injury — including his All Sun Belt goalkeeper — he probably would have told you to stop the dumb jokes.

Unfortunately for the first-year volleyball coach, the joke was on him.

"It was almost like survival of the fittest," Theroulde said. "We had a lot of challenges that had to face this year and we tried to make certain changes and adjust, but all in all I am not satisfied how the season went." In a season that saw the Panthers plodged the team from start to finish, Theroulde found himself searching for players to simply fill front across the board. At this point in time, the coaching staff was forced to re-adjust the lineup to cater to different players skill level and ability to play together.

Before stepping in as head coach this past summer, Theroulde was a four-year assistant under the legendary Daniela Tomeic for the Panthers. Despite the surge in responsibility, Theroulde did not feel the workload was all that more challenging.

"The workload was pretty much the same, just a little more frenetic," Theroulde said. "What was more challenging is that sometimes you have to deal with issues that do not have to do deal with coaching. I try to show them to do things the right way from my experiences. For me, I try to teach them to do things the right way, it has to be sustainable, I hope that they do the things they teach me even when there is no looking." For a program that is not accustomed to having losses than wins, the minds of the players may have not been in the proper place.

"Dealing with losing is not a good thing," Theroulde said. "So in times like that you really do not know what is going on in the kid's mind set because they're thinking, 'oh, we lost a team-mate that would have made the workload easier,' instead of, 'Ok, here's a great challenge, let's see if we can still win this game.'" After a brutal inaugural year as head coach, Theroulde sees a better future for his program and believes the Panthers have a huge ceiling, coming into next season.

"We have big plans for next season, which includes better recruiting and looking superior athletes," Theroulde said. "We have to be bigger, stronger, faster and will also need some luck and pray all these players stay healthy."
Cremating, burying or eluding the Reaper, students differ on afterlife

MÁRIA EMILIA GARCÍA
Contributing Writer

More than 2 people million people died in the United States in 2009. Where they went after that is a mystery.

Reincarnation, purgatory, limbo, heaven and hell are some of the places students believe they might be going.

“I believe in heaven and hell,” said Daniel Benitez, junior in psychology and religious studies. “Where you end up is based on the decision of a lifestyle on Earth. If Jesus became your savior you will go to heaven. And the definition of hell is the eternal separation from God.”

The concept of a heaven and hell isn’t an exclusive Christian identity.

Mahfud Oubadi, graduate student in hospitality management, said Islam views the afterlife in a similar way to Christianity and Judaism.

“After death, human beings no longer have contact with life and begin a contact with an afterlife,” said Oubadi. “God will judge everyone according to their actions.”

Varemi Zamora, a junior majoring in nursing, does not worry about what will happen after death.

“For approach to it is it doesn’t know,” said Zamora. “I really never going to know and I’m still not sure what it is.”

“Don’t stop me from living my life,” said Zamora. “I think it is better I’m not so worried because a lot of people try to be someone they’re not because of this heaven and hell. I’m happy I don’t have to worry about that.”

Fabiana Ortega, a graduate student in journalism and Catholic, but she does not believe in her religion’s concept of afterlife.

“I go to church and follow certain parameters but I don’t exactly know the Bible front to back,” said Ortega. “I don’t believe in hell. I think God’s forgiveness is absolute.

Ortega thinks that after a person dies, he or she will meet with all other people that died.

Juan Camilo Gómez, a journalism graduate student, was raised Catholic, but has his own view on heaven.

“I base my beliefs on my conceptions on what is good and evil, not what Catholicism says about it word for word,” said Gómez. “I think you build your own heaven. What’s heaven for someone could be very different than what I think is heaven.”

Gómez is not sure he will meet his family and friends in heaven after he dies.

“Maybe you’re not in your loved ones’ list of loved ones,” he said. “Maybe they didn’t love you as much as you did. Then what? Do you ever encounter them?”

Kumar Rasulab, a hospitality management senior, a Hindu and thinks different happens after life ends.

“Dying is considered a passing of the soul to another body and all the past experiences and knowledge go with it,” Rasulab said. “Followers of Hinduism believe in four courses after death.

The first, Devayana, is for the spiritually advanced souls that lead a pure life.

The second course is followed by those who have cherished a desire for the results of their charity and worship. They are rewarded with richness and luxuries.

The third course, which leads to hell, is followed by those who have led an impure life as forbidden by the scriptures.

The fourth course is for those who have been evil and can be born again and again as insignificant creatures, but always with the chance to be reborn again and find their way towards a better life.

Ultimately, all souls will attain self-knowledge according to Hinduism,” said Rasulab.

The rituals of death have strong meanings for those who didn’t die.

Muslims, after bathing the body, enshroud them in a plain cloth called the kafan to respect whoever is in the mosque will pray for them as well. Then we take them to the cemetery to be buried.”

For Rashab, a respectable burial includes cremating the body.

“A dead body is considered impure. If the body sits it will leave impure things on Earth,” Rasulab said. After the cremation, the ashes are collected and immersed in a holy river or the holiest of rivers for the Hindus, Ganges.

Stephanie Romro, a biology student, went to church since she was 10 when her father was diagnosed with cancer.

“It makes me live my life with purpose. I want to feel like I accomplished my mission here on Earth,” Romro said.

Despite different beliefs, death is certainty for all.

“People fear what they can’t understand,” Gómez said. “Not only am I going to die but I’ll be dead for a very long time. The time I’ll be dead will be longer than my time alive. It’s beyond what our minds can comprehend.”

‘Thirst for freedom’ brings Syria closer to BBC

Luis Carducci, a junior studying advertising, and Carlos Girando, a senior studying business, sit inside of the Academic II photo lab while working on their portfolio.

They must color balance, compose, print and use specific postscript techniques taught in class to compile 10-20 photos for their final critique. Both students are taking Beginning Digital Photography with professor Lissette Schaeffer.

The Tuesday Times Roundtable, a weekly event, open to students and staff, will be at 1600 hours on Nov 29 in the Wolfe University Center, Room 159 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. It is extremely important to inform students and staff about world matters. With the process of globalization we are somehow interconnected.

Donaldy Salvant
Student and Representative
International relations and FIU Model United Nations program

The Tuesday Times Roundtable, a weekly series of open discussions based on The New York Times articles about global current issues, will present “Endgame in Syria” on Nov. 26. Sponsored by the Office of Global Learning Initiatives, the Division of Academic Affairs, and the Student Government Association, the event, open to students and staff, will be at the Wolfe University Center, Room 159 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The main issue to be addressed in the event is how international organizations, such as the United Nations, should be involved in a humanitarian intervention and other ways to intervene in the conflict.

International and state power, social issues, government institutions and national interests will be other topics in the discussion. Donaldy Salvant, international relations student and representative of FIU Model United Nations program, said it’s important for students to be involved in worldwide issues.

“The goal of these global learning events is to engage students to learn more of international issues,” Skendaj said. The main issue to be addressed in the event is how international organizations, such as the United Nations, should be involved in a humanitarian intervention and other ways to intervene in the conflict.

International and state power, social issues, government institutions and national interests will be other topics in the discussion. Donaldy Salvant, international relations student and representative of FIU Model United Nations program, said it’s important for students to be involved in worldwide issues.

“It is extremely important to inform students and staff about world matters. With the process of globalization we are somehow interconnected,” Salvant said. Free Lunch will also be provided.