Vending machines causing headaches throughout campus

NATASHA ROQUE Contributing Writer

Numerous complaints have been filed from students to FIU’s Business Services recently regarding several issues and instances of malfunction in regards to vending machines on both the Modesto Maidique and Biscayne Bay campuses.

“The vending machines are completely unreliable,” said Sergio Rubio, sophomore advertising major. “Sometimes the vending machine simply doesn’t dispense what I’m trying to buy, but also in the past when I’ve swapped my credit card I have later found incorrect charges from the machines when reviewing my bank statements.”

“I have later found incorrect charges from the machines when reviewing my bank statements.”

“Periodically, customers have issues with the vending machines failing to vend products. Most complaints stem from connectivity issues with the credit card readers, which connect via cellular networks,” said Jeff Krablin, assistant vice president of FIU Business Services.

While most machines operate on cash basis, several of the machines only accept credit cards. According to Krablin, Business Services is actively working with its business partners to install new readers on vending machines that will take the FIU One Card as well.

The University obtains certain income from its in-house vending machines, known as “concession funds.”

Concession funds offer financial support to on-campus programs and facilities set forth by the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors. According to the official University policy, this includes academic programs, Student Life programs, and faculty, staff, fellows, students, and support activities pertaining to the university and several of its organizations.

However, reports of frequent issues with the vending machines pose a serious deterrent for the continuation of this scholarly advancement.

Until the problems are somehow fixed, I will be staying away from the vending machines and buying my food somewhere else,” said Yohn Diaz, sophomore business major. “I food somewhere else,” said Yohn Diaz, sophomore biology major. “I have had way too many problems with the machines in the past, and having to go out of my way to get a refund every time is a real hassle. I would rather buy my food elsewhere and save myself the time, money, and frustration.”

Those in need of a refund after enduring a vending machine malfunction can visit one of the several refund bank locations on both campuses. MMC houses its refund banks at Parking Garage 1,100, University Park Towers (housing), and the Office of Business Services at Duplicating Center 115. At BBC, refund banks are located at Wolfe University Center 143, Bay Vista Residence Hall (housing), and the Kovens Conference Center front desk.

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“We need to improve the connectivity of the credit card readers,” said Rubio.

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PHILIPPE BUTEAU Editor-in-Chief

With campaigning underway and voting five weeks away, there are new rules regulating both old and new aspects of student government elections: political parties and voting.

A new aspect of elections is the ability of a group of students to form political parties, and for those parties to support one or multiple candidates.

Political parties were technically already accounted for in SGA’s statutes since April 2011 because of an amendment, there weren’t regulations on forming parties, membership of parties, their campaigning for and money spent on candidates.

“I see nothing wrong with it, so there’s nothing I would particularly change,” said William-Jose Vicente, president of Coalition of Students for Reform in an interview with Student Media in fall 2011, about the reform to the elections code. “That said, the issue at hand with political parties is not whether there should be, but how they will be registered.”

Vicente’s issue is no longer at hand as reforms to the elections code specify how students can form and register political parties.

Students can freely form political parties, but they must follow the registration processes for all student organizations to form one. Parties must register with the Elections Commission and the Council for Student Organizations at the Modesto Maidique campus.

There is no membership requirements for political parties such as a minimum number of chairpersons or candidates. Political parties are bound by the same campaign limitations and periods established for candidates; no new or special rules need to be made.

In terms of financing campaigns, political parties can only donate up to $5,000.

After candidates spend their campaign money, it will be time for students to vote.

Unlike in previous years, voting will take place at designated voting booths at various locations around MMC.

The Elections Commission Reform Act of 2012, designated seven polling locations with two to five volunteers to oversee the voting process.

The elections does not explicitly outlaw students voting online, while at home or in class, but it does say to vote students must present valid student identification to the poll worker.

A few students thought the addition of voting booths is more responsible and would make elections more fair, others feel it takes away from the convenience of voting online and wouldn’t change anything.

“It gets rid of the conve- niency but it ensures a more honest process,” said Deyps Abraham, freshman and business administration major.

“As long as people know, I think the change overall would be good,” said Gabriel Rubio, freshman and computer science major.

Anthony Francisco, senior and international relations major, believes voting booths is a good addition because of who would vote.

The people who vote are more informed and they are the people who follow government,” said Francisco.

Joshua Mullenite, senior and geography major, “conscientiously abstained” from the 2012 elections, only voting for the green energy fund. He doesn’t believe the addition of voting booths will have any changes on student government.

“Regardless of changes to voting rules it will still be a popularity contest,” said Mullenite.

“They will still have their friends voting for them and they will push people to vote,” said Mullenite.

MATCH DAY BRINGS AGONY AND ECSTASY TO STUDENTS

ALYSSA ELSO Contributing Writer

Sitting patiently, waiting to hear your name be called can be one of the most difficult things to do. The seconds become minutes, the minutes become hours, time seems to slow down to a screeching halt.

“I was so nervous sitting in my seat waiting, I was sweating; I was the last person called,” said medical student Daniel Castellanos.

But once your name is called, it can be the most exhilarating feeling in the world.

“Now I am going to children’s hospital of Los Angeles to study pediatrics, I can hardly wait, I am beyond excited,” said Castellanos.

After candidates spend a week campaigning, they are bound by the same number of chairpersons or members, rules regulating both old and new aspects of student government elections: political parties and voting.

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Medical students discover new homes

While most students found out their matches on Friday, one student Michael Hann, already knew his.
A member of the Navy, Hann was matched on Dec. 12, the Military Match Day, to the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, his hometown. Among the 33 graduating medical students was Trine Engbretsen, who made national headlines after being Flori-

DIEGO SALDANA
Staff Writer

University of Central Florida police were called to the Tower 1 building around 12:20 a.m. after a fire alarm went off, said UCF spokesman George Heston. While they were on their way, a 911 call came in about a man with a gun.
Officers arrived to find a student dead, from what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound, inside the dorm where he lived with three roommates.
Investigators said they discovered an assault weapon, a handgun and makeshift explosive devices in the room where the student died. Florida law prohibits guns on state university campuses.
About 500 students were evacuated from the building and morning classes were canceled.

UCF suicide raises concerns

In the event that a situa-
tion like this happened at FIU, Police Chief Alexander Casas explained to Student Media how the University would respond.
“UCF was one of the first to be certified by the FBI, so we have the expertise to handle any situation like this happened at FIU, Police Chief Alexander Casas explained to Student Media how the University would respond.
“It’s difficult to have a full proof blanket but it absolutely begins with awareness.”

Casas explained that there is no real way to prevent such an event from happening, but there are preventive measures that the University takes.
“THe University is acting. “It’s difficult to have a full proof blanket but it absolutely begins with awareness.”
Casas said. “If you see something that is out of the ordinary, it is important that you say something. The most minute bit of information could lead to our preventing a major incident from occurring.”

Vanessa Nieves, a sophomores biology major, first heard of the incident via Facebook. “I didn’t know anything about it,” Nieves said.

FBI Agent Kyle Hightower and Freida Frisaro of the Associated Press.

Additional reporting by Kyle Hightower and Freida Frisaro of the Associated Press.

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Casas said. “If you see something that is out of the ordinary, it is important that you say something. The most minute bit of information could lead to our preventing a major incident from occurring.”

Vanessa Nieves, a sophomore biology major, first heard of the incident via Facebook. “I didn’t know anything else other than that there was a mysterious death,” Nieves said.

Heston said that materials found in the dorm room made it appear that a wider attack was planned.
Police say he pulled a gun on another student, who was then called police.
Nieves expressed concern after learning that there were explosives and firearms present at the UCF dormitory. She thinks such an incident is possible at the University. “I think it is a little bit scary with everyone having an assault rifle,” Nieves said.
“UCF is supposed to be a safe campus. People don’t need to bring a gun on campus, we’re safe. We’re guaranteed that.”

Vanessa Fernandez, a junior UCF finance and accounting major, received warnings from UCF telling her to stay away from the main campus.
“I wake up at 6:30 a.m. for class and saw UCF alert texts saying all classes were canceled. I thought that the main campus was closed,” Fernandez said. “UCF alert sent out about 5 tests warning us to stay away from the main campus due to a suspicious death.”

Casas mentioned that the majority of firearms confiscated on campus are from motor vehicles. He explained that it is usually individ-
uals who thought they were legally carrying firearms but are unaware of the University policy that prohibits firearm possession on campus even with a concealed carry permit.

“It is the individual’s responsibility to be aware of and comply with policies and statutes,” Casas said. “Claiming to not know that an action was illegal is not a valid defense.”

For more world news, check out www.FIUUSM.com.
SPENDING TIME WISELY ON SPRING BREAK

JENNA KEFAUVER
Staff Writer

I’ve never been into the crazy spring break thing. I lived in Miami for three years and lived near Daytona Beach for a year. Pretty much the spring break capital. I didn’t (and still don’t) understand drinking so much that you end up on Girls Gone Wild or YouTube or in jail or what have you. I thought maybe that was because I was 21 but here I am, 21 years and five months old, and I still don’t get it. I went to the Keys, sat by the pool, tanned and enjoyed myself and “did my beach bum thing.” It was amazing. I never have time do that.

Spring break has changed for me in the past few years, which I attribute to the fact that I am now both an adult and over 21, but I still never felt the need to go all out and be all kinds of crazy. I used my remaining spring break as a time to calm down, unwind and get loads of sleep. I slept in every day, which I’m never able to do. I went to the gym because I finally had time, but then of course, totally ruined the time I spent at the gym by going home and eating cake and pie and everything else, but I don’t care because it was great.

And then I did homework. I attribute the fact that I am now both an adult and over 21, but I still never felt the need to go all out and be all kinds of crazy.

Women’s History Month – it’s a necessity

ADRIANNE RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

Whether you know who that March is Women’s History Month, or if you just don’t care, it is important to recognize the importance of a month established only 26 years ago. Most importantly, if it weren’t for a woman you wouldn’t be here, which is a good enough reason to respect Women’s History Month in my opinion.

Women have also suffered tremendously in the late 1800s and early to mid 1900s. The term “all men are created equal” may include women today, but at one point it didn’t.

Throughout history women were seen as inferior to men and evil temptresses, most popularly in the biblical story of Adam and Eve.

A piece of Greek mythology described a woman named Pandora, who opened the forbidden box and forever plagued mankind with unhappiness.

Early Romans viewed women as children – forever inferior to men.

In 1848, Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton created the American Equal Rights Association in efforts to gain attention to their cause which was women’s rights.

In 1866, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton created the American Equal Rights Association in efforts to gain attention to their cause which was women’s rights. Their efforts and those before her finally brought about the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

May 1919 Congress received a vote of two-thirds and thus women had the right to vote.

Women’s History Month is just as important as Black History Month because it is important to never forget what women in the past went through so that we as mothers, sisters, daughters and grandmothers don’t have to suffer today.

Education was also another issue because at one time women weren’t allowed to go to universities.

The first college in the United States to admit women was Franklin College in Lancaster, Pa., which was established in 1787. The first enrollment class consisted of 78 male and 36 female students.

At this point, women could finally receive an education, but the stereotype that they were inferior was still heavily recognized and difficult for them to escape from.

I could only imagine how some women must have felt during those difficult times. If they weren’t respected in society, they probably weren’t respected at home by their husbands either.

Today the law has helped women to receive equal education, the right to vote and the right to work, but society is still trying to find the balance of gender equality.

The University has taken a few steps of its own to recognize the contributions of women and to also bring awareness to the gender divides we still see today. FIU’s Global Water for Sustainability Program (GLOW) and the Women’s Studies Center will host “Women and Water: The Role of Gender Equality in Defining Sustainability of Water Resources Management” at 3 p.m. Thursday March 21 in the Rafael Diaz-Ballet Hall in the College of Law at Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

This event will celebrate women as well as World Water Day.

I highly recommend anyone with doubts towards Women’s History Month and its importance, and those who support it, to come out and be a part of this event. It is open to all FIU students.

Women are important to society. They always have been and always will be.

Maya Angelou said it best, “How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!”

**EDITORS POLICY**

The University’s lack of team spirit

During the much needed spring break, one of FIU’s athletic programs did something that no team in school history has ever done: advance to a conference championship. How about the amount of people that care is still laughable.

Of course there were the scattered few that cared about teams other than the basketballs, usually about the regular season and into the playoffs, but the apathy with which the student body at the University follows the different sports is only comparable to how the general public views the presidential election.

With a team that competed well, all season long. finishing 18-14, the total reported attendance over 15 home games was 13,723. That is an average of just 1,056 per game good enough for last in the Conference behind a team with a four game losing streak.

Then, once the team becomes successful, students on Twitter blow up with excitement and support for the University. So the Beacon recommends that students just don’t become the flaky fans the rest of South Florida is. Stand up and represent something that is not the stereotypical South Floridian.

The sports teams at FIU are doing well enough that their should be fan representation throughout all sporting events. The women’s soccer team has been to the past two Sun Belt Championships and won one of them.

In 2009, the women’s volleyball team won the Sun Belt Conference tournament and consistently won 20 games each year, excluding the 2012 season. In 2010, the football team won the Sun Belt Conference championship and the baseball team won the Sun Belt Conference tournament.

For all of this success, there is very little fandom to show for it. Especially when the recipe of a Panther card makes the games free.

There is no excuse for the poor attendance by the students on campus. If you do actually attend one of the games during the semester, the bulk of attendees from the student section is student athletes.

For example, at the men’s basketball games this year, it would be the football team or women’s soccer team in attendance more than just the average student.

That might be because they care more about that specific sport, but it is a bit embarrassing to see miniscule amounts of people at a game on national television. It reflects poorly not only the sports team, but on the University as a whole.

So, as the student voice, we urge you to support these teams. Many of the student-athletes do similar work loads to the average student, they just also have a full-time job practicing and preparing for a sport that, in most cases, won’t find them a job once their playing days are done.

They do it for the love of the game. Now, you should reciprocate by supporting them and cheering them on at every game, not only when it’s convenient.
The relationship between women and the most abundant element, water, is almost always overlooked.
This is what inspired the FIU’s Global Water for Sustainability Program and the Women's Studies Center to join forces and present the “Women and Water: The Role of Gender Equality in Defining Sustainability of Water Resources Management” discussion. March is women’s history month, this month celebrates the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. It also happens to be World Water Day on March 22, where attention is called on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.
An international day to commemorate the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and so the official date became established in 1993. Since, each year has had a different focus.
The 2013 World Water Day is also dedicated to the theme of “teamwork around water.”

BSU’s annual fashion show presents diverse fashion

The University’s Black Student Union recently hosted its second annual BSU Fashion Show, named “I am Black Fashion.” Continuing off of the theme presented last year’s History Month theme “I am Black History,” the event featured 10 fashion lines that ranged from casual everyday wear to runway styles to Caribbean and African influenced clothing. The night also included music, dance and even some comedy. Host Sherrika Mitchell and Darrell Fletcher.
Ivore Desorme, who played a major role in putting the night together, was initially worried about doing the show annually but was pleased at the turnout.
"With it being at Biscayne Bay, my biggest fear was not having people in the seats. But honestly, it blossomed on its own. Even though we didn’t pass out flyers until a couple of days before the show, word of mouth was already out," said Desorme.
The fashion show began with music by Cameron Claussen, also known as DJ Cam, and “Lift Every Voice and Sing” was sung by Brianna Woods. There were also dance performances by Stevens Claude and Kim Avendano. The first line presented, named “Walk Fierce,” was created by shoe designer Alejandra Smith. The line featured bright colored women’s high heels that contained bold designs and patterns. Smith was also a model in the first BSU fashion show. A good friend of Desorme.
The second line of the night was “Black Cotton Apparel,” also created by Jude Case. Containing graphic tees and sweaters, the line consisted of Caribbean and African influences. Black Cotton Apparel was followed by Xandri & Co., a line created by designers Cassandra Saunders, Andy M. and Tiffany P. Xandri & Co. was a bold line that contained bright colors and patterns for women’s high-waist shorts and tees for men.
The fourth line, 2Fresh Apparel, created by Earnest Anderson and Darrell Ragin, was also featured in BSU’s first fashion show as well. Mostly tees for all ages, the line had an athletic feel to it and featured the word “SWANK” across many of the tops. Dreams by Me, the fifth line of the show, featured dressing women’s clothing, ranging from casual everyday looks to nightclub and evening wear.
Jesse Franklin, the sixth line, featured a class mix of designer bow ties, jackets, and blazers for men. Efeeko Sivad, the following line, took an edgier

Contact Us
Eissy de la Moneda
Life Editor
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LIFE!

If the player has grown up in an environment of abuse or neglect and uses [video games] as an escape outlet, they might assimilate themselves into the game and have a tough time understanding the real world.
Rebecca Scott
Junior Psychology major

Women’s history month celebrates the contributions of women. However, in the late 70s and early 80s, many comic companies abandoned the CCA in favor of an in-home rating system. The video game industry has undergone a similar situation with the founding of the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) with a self-regulatory organization that assigns a rating to a video game based on content in the U.S. and Canada, and enforces advertising guidelines for a game as well.
Many large retail stores like Walmart, Best Buy and GameStop prohibit the sale of unrated video games. Core system owners like Microsoft, Sony and Nintendo will not release games to consoles unless they carry an ESRB rating.
“One of the biggest misconceptions is that video games is that they are made for kids, which, they are not,” said Robert Padea, a history major. “The ESRB rating tells you the age the game is for. For and it’s not kids buying these games, their parents are. A kid can’t walk into a Gamestop and buy “Dead Space 3” because you need an ID and you must be over the age of 18, but their parents can get it for them.”
“One of the most popular games out there is called “Grand Theft Auto,”” Sessler said. “I think for a lot of parents, if the game has the name of a felony in it, it’s probably unsafe for your children.”

page 5

University to celebrate women and water relationship

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Kiarostami’s film is an intimate glimpse into the idea of romance

Taking his time to set up his film as per usual, Abbas Kiarostami spends the first portion of “Like Someone in Love” introducing Akiko, played by Rin Takanashi, a young woman in Japan who works as a call girl.

The same limited camera techniques for back and forth conversations that once bothered me in “Taste of Cherry” are brought back here, and yet they’re endlessly more engaging this time around. In the opening scene alone, the atmosphere of the club from one angle is nicely contrasted against the same angle is nicely contrasted against the atmosphere of the club from one end of a television screen.

Glimpses of Akiko’s life are revealed through the simplest things: stories she tells, voicemails she listens to, and even the way her expression and mood change in the presence of different people. It’s a role that gives Takanashi a wide range of emotions to explore. Her first encounter with her client alone shows her at ease in a new place. It’s a big difference to the guilt ridden woman she was mere hours before while driving past her grandmother, who has become only a frustrating memory of the life she once knew. “Like Someone in Love” begins to unfold nicely after Akiko arrives at her esteemed client’s apartment. When she tries to coax her client, Watarabe Takashi, played by Tadashi Okuno, into bed, the immediate lack of comfort is clear in his expression and body language. The way Kiarostami shoots the long take in his bedroom in particular is amazing, only focusing on his disinterest in anything sexual with Akiko, while she remains shrouded in the reflection of his interests.

This is followed immediately by Takashi moving around his apartment, reflecting on his feelings for the woman in his bedroom, who looks so familiar to other women he once knew, as Ellia Fitzgerald’s “Like Someone in Love” plays. From this point on, character focus changes from Akiko to Takashi, and what was once assumed as a sexual relationship between the two turns into something entirely different. Takashi respects her and Akiko respects him, and he finds himself caring for her as a member of his own family. The emphasis of this relationship comes when confronted by her overbearing and abusive fiancé, as he even takes on the false role of her grandfather.

The ambiguity of a relationship is something that Kiarostami explored in “Certified Copy,” but the lines of this one in particular are far less blurred. Regardless, it’s fascinating to watch the view the two interact and have an effect on each other’s lives. Kiarostami takes a slow and steady approach to everything within his film, closing things out with an abrupt and impressive final act. It’s not a directorial style that everyone is fond of, as I haven’t been a fan of some of his former works, and interest in “Like Someone in Love” is ultimately reliant on the story and characters presented. This study of relationships and romance is an appealing one, especially as it deals with ideas and feelings rather than concrete facts.

Everyone in this little story that Kiarostami presents is under the idea that they are in love. This illusion of romance drives the characters and their interactions, no matter how crazy they are, placing them all in the compromising but fascinating position of someone in love.

JUAN BARQUIN
COLUMNIST

TUESDAY, MAR. 19

“THE BEST OF PRO-MAYDIA” SCREENING AND LECTURE
WHERE: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
WHERE: BC WUC 157

NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM: COPING WITH THE COST OF HEALTHCARE
WHERE: 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: MHC 101

CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2013

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 20
HOUSING GENERAL ROOM SELECTION
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: Housing Online

INTERVIEWING SKILLS WORKSHOP
WHERE: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
WHERE: MARC Graham Center (GC) 230

STUDY ABROAD GENERAL SESSION
WHERE: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
WHERE: MARC PC 113

RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP
WHERE: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
WHERE: MARC PC 113

TUESDAY, MAR. 19

“THE BEST OF PRO-MAYDIA” SCREENING AND LECTURE
WHERE: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
WHERE: BC WUC 157

NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM: COPING WITH THE COST OF HEALTHCARE
WHERE: 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: MHC 101

FIU's Ensemble in Residence
WHERE: 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: Center Hall - Wertheim Performing Arts Center
10910 SW 17 Street, Miami, FL 33199

H-1B IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY SESSION
WHERE: 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: BC WUC 255

WOMEN AND WATER: THE ROLE OF GENDER EQUALITY IN DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
WHERE: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
WHERE: MARC RB 1000

THURSDAY, MAR. 21

FASHION, PAGE 2

FASHION, PAGE 2

Black Student Union has successful fashion show

The fashion show received a lot of positive feedback from audience members. “The clothing that I observed at the fashion show is definitely stuff I could see myself wearing, there was a nice blend of different styles,” said Reginald Joseph.

To have your event featured, email us at calendar@fiusm.com

FIU FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Health Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on

Thursday, March 28, 2013 MMC
GC 150 at 10:00am

Thursday, March 28, 2013 BBC
WUC 155 at 2:00pm

The objective of these meetings will be to give interested individuals an opportunity to hear arguments pertaining to the proposed increase to the Health Fee. The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.
Panther making case for rookie of the year

BYRAN PALACIO
Contributing Writer

Softball freshman Corina Jenkins has gone from first-year pitcher to one of the best pitchers in a Sun Belt Conference that includes two of the best teams in the nation.

“I don’t let the fact that I’m a freshman keep me from believing that I can still dominate and win games,” Jenkins said.

“It motivates me more, because you come in here and nobody expects anything and you have to prove yourself,” she continued.

Dominating and winning games has become part of her repertoire as the rookie pitcher leads the team with an 11-2 record. Her 11 wins are an impressive showing for the pitching staff combined. She makes up more than half of the wins the team has achieved.

Despite her recent success, Jenkins’ season didn’t get off to a smooth start.

After winning her first game on opening night versus Georgia Tech, Jenkins was clobbered in her next game by a North Carolina State team that won the season opening tournament. FIU lost the game 11-3 in just five innings after the mercy rule was applied. She gave up six runs in just the first inning of the game.

“Not good,” Jenkins said. “It definitely helped me, as soon as that game was over I was like, ‘Alright, I’m going to sit here and figure it out before the next game. This is not happening to me again.’ Ever since then I’ve been reading this book. It’s called ‘Ten Minute Toughness’, it’s all about focusing out of the game and really just feel like it’s helped me a lot.”

Jenkins can also count on great support from Head Coach Katarina Petrovic, who is the Assistant Pitching Coach for the Cincinnati Reds. Mack was a pitcher in the Reds’ Double AA team in the 1980s.

“I don’t think they played well at all, I was not happy with the girls,” Petrovic said.

“I think the doubles helped me out, at the moment of the game and then I really feel like it’s helped me a lot.”

Jenkins attributes much of her success to the diligence paid to her by her coaching staff. Head Coach Jake Schumann has done nothing but praise the young pitcher since even before the season started.

With 19 games left in the season, Jenkins will look to continue her stellar play and help lead the Panthers to a conference title and a chance at an NCAA championship.

Tennis still mired in slump, drop fifth straight game

STEVEN ROWELL
Contributing Writer

Throughout the season, one of the constant messages tennis Head Coach Katarina Petrovic drills into her team is that every player needs to give 100 percent effort out on the court.

On Sunday, March 17 that wasn’t the case against Winthrop as the Panthers fell 5-2 and 2-1 in the season. They’re now in the midst of a five-game losing streak, one less than this year’s earliest streak of six straight losses.

“I completely agree that the energy wasn’t there,” Petrovic said on Sunday.

“I don’t think they played well in doubles,” Petrovic said.

“Even the girls agree that they tried too much instead of playing it simple, but they are freshmen and are going to improve.”

Orlando bounced back and won her singles match 6-4, 3-6 and won the tiebreaker 10-6.

“In doubles, I was more nervous and the other girl played better than me, but it made me more focused for my singles match,” Orlando said.

“I think the doubles helped me out, at the moment of the game and then I really feel like it’s helped me a lot.”

Despite losing the doubles point, one doubles match go the Panthers’ way. The duo of Boha and senior Rita Maisak won their match 8-4.

Boha also took care of business in her singles match once again bouncing back after losing the first set to win the second set and 10-6, Boha said.

“I used to play with her [Maisak] in the fall and in my freshman year, and we used to always play well together and today we played well too,” Boha said.

“The first set I did not play well at all, I was not happy with it. I told myself, ‘What...I forget the first set and now go on focus on the second set’. Then I started playing really well and in the match tie-breaker I was really focused.”

That would all be that went the Panthers’ way against Winthrop. Once again, FIU couldn’t get with it. I told myself, ‘What...I forget the first set and now go on focus on the second set’. Then I started playing really well and in the match tie-breaker I was really focused.”

The head coach said she was going through the typical growing pains that freshmen endure.

Maisak has been in a slump lately and Petrovic placed her at the number three position. Still, the senior once again found herself on the wrong end of her singles match. Maisak now has three straight singles losses.

“Rita is a senior so I’m pretty sure she doesn’t want end her career losing, so I’m sure she will get better,” Boha said.

Aside from not getting enough production from every player on the court in a given match on a consistent basis, the Panthers have also been struggling to get doubles points.

The Panthers have failed to win a doubles point in their past five matches. For the whole season, they have won the doubles point in only three matches.

There have been three matches this season that FIU lost 4-3 and failed to win the doubles point. The Panthers will now have to wait until March 26 to attempt to end their doubles drought and the winning streak when FIU hosts Tulane.

No.8 sand volleyball is off to a solid start

DANIEL BREY
Contributing Writer

Win first game in FIU sand volleyball history: Check.

Rank top ten in the nation: Check.

After serving up a 5-0 season-opening sweep against Grand Canyon University, FIU sand volleyball has shown signs of promise after finishing off a grueling west coast road trip despite a 2-3 record. The Panthers’ sub-.500 record does not accurately reflect their level of play, with two of their three losses separated by just one point.

In addition, the Panthers faced three top-5 ranked teams over spring break including No. 1 ranked Pepperdine, No. 2 Long Beach State, and No. 5 Hawaii.

STEPAN-OVA THE COMPETITION

Much of the Panthers’ early season success can be attributed to the exceptional play of Kate Stepanova and her dual partner Maryna Samodoy who have won three of their last four matches in duals competition.

Stepanova, a former FSU sand volleyball standout, is no stranger to success on the sand courts. During the First American Volleyball Coaches Association Collegiate Sand Volleyball Championships in 2012, Stepanova led a first year Seminoles team to a third-place finish in both overall team and duals categories.

Her transfer to FIU brought much needed experience.
Panthers eye home opener against Tulane

SAND, PAGE 6

The University of Florida's baseball team walked through this tournament with ease? Team walk through this tourney "I've been here, and understands what to expect during a season... Her experience is priceless." AN ALL-DIVISION FINISH IN HAWAIIFIU ended their five-game road trip dominating the Hawaii tournament on March 16, which resulted in a thrilling three-set finals matchup between Stepanova/Ksenia Sukhareva, and Jessica Mendoza/Samoday, both FIU teams. Out of a pool of sixteen duals teams hailing from four different schools, both FIU squads dismantled the opposing competition on route to an impressive finals performance.

Stepanova and Sukhareva, the winners of the Hawaii tournament, easily handled their first matchup against Chamindade University's Brenda Walker and Regina Johnson defeating the duo 21-7, and 21-5. The quarterfinals match was no walk in the park for the duo, as University of Hawaii's Ali Longo and Karlee Rigg took the match to three sets.

In the semifinals, Stepanova and Sukhareva defeated yet another UH team to reach the finals where they eventually beat Mendoza and Samoday 21-13, 19-21 and 15-7.

BUCK-CROCKETT MIXING AND MATCHING

In hopes of establishing a consistent top-5 duals team, Buck-Crockett has been extremely active in re-arranging players in duals team competition.

Buck-Crockett is so active in her role that in every match played this season, not one duals team has stayed intact. Buck-Crockett has even separated her most effective duals team in Stepanova and Samoday, which evidently, proved successful during last weekend’s Hawaii tournament. As the season prolongs, it will be interesting to see what players Buck-Crockett will pair with freshman standout Emily Podschweit, as the Panthers travel back to Miami to face Webber International University on March 23.

Podschweit, the first recruit out of Colorado in sand volleyball history, has been matched with four different players throughout the season.

MIKE SCHMIDT

AP Staff

Captain America used to be Derek Jeter. Now it's David Wright, and he had been the star for Team USA until a rib strain ended his stay in the World Baseball Classic.

Wright said he could have played, but the New York Mets said no and demanded he go for tests. That is normal procedure, as Team USA is forced to honor all wishes of a player's parent club.

Minus Wright, his teammates lost twice and went home. With the U.S. eliminations went TV ratings in this country. It also opened a door to study the relevance of the WBC, at least in its current form.

Relevance, maybe. Or need — that may be a better question.

The WBC tournament, as we are led to believe, is designed to promote baseball throughout the world. Asian teams, Spain, Italy and the Netherlands get national TV coverage.

What the world needs from Major League Baseball is not more high-profile competition — rather, its help at the grass-roots level, help forming youth leagues and getting kids interested through proper instruction.

Now, the big question: Why can't the USA Dream Team walk through this tournament with ease?

With so many Dominican big names playing, he felt obligated.

Team USA was definitely formidable, with high-caliber players at all positions, but not an All-Star roster by any means. The catcher, third baseman, shortstop, right and left fielders would be on an All-Star roster, as would the 1-2 starters and a reliever or two, but that's about it.

It was basically the same for other competing teams. The Dominican and Puerto Rico had top players, but not MLB All-Stars at all positions. The talent level was very similar, that's why Team USA loses.

After 2006, the U.S. was to pull out all stops to win in 2009. After a loss in the semina1s to Japan, same thing. So the U.S. brought in the heavy artillery this time with Joe Torre & Co.

Teams 3 for 3 in three WBC opportunities. And maybe it's time to face the music.

Until Team USA and the MLB clubs vested in winning the WBC by motivating — in some way — the best American players to compete. Team USA will be no different than its competition.

Smith: Team USA needs to go 'all in' to win WBC

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**SPC’s “Do you think you can dance?”**

**VINSON PRESSLEY**  
Staff Writer

So you think you can dance?  
The Student Program  
Manager at Biscayne Bay Campus is having its first dance competition called Do You Think You Can Dance? The deadline to sign up is Friday, March 29.

The competition is open for student solo and group acts and will take place on April 9 at 6 p.m. in the Wolfe Theater at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

The event is open to all students and members of the community.

Students who participate in the competition will have the option of working with choreographers for preparation of the show.

According to Judisha Chetty, graduate assistant for Campus Life-BBBC, students will have the option of working with choreographers from the Dancing with the Wolfe series but it’s not mandatory for preparation for the show.

However, students must have their choreography ready and attend the orientation on Friday, March 29 in ballrooms 221-223 in the Wolfe University Center.

There are clear parallels between SPC’s dance competition and the talent shows viewers tune into every week.

According to Chetty, this event was born out of “pop culture” and talent shows such as “So You Think You Can Dance?” SPC’s event will be similar to the popular TV show: there will be judges and prizes given to the winning contestants. SPC plans to have a host and DJ but it has not been determined who will fulfill those duties yet according to Chetty.

Nonetheless, Chetty believes that students will have a chance to showcase their talents and express themselves through dancing while also having the chance to receive recognition.

Jade Martincak, freshman business major who also danced with Hip Hop Kids for six years, likes the idea of Fiu having its first dance competition. It will give everyone a chance to “work and play together,” said Martincak. “I dance to let loose and enjoy myself.”

**Apple at Bay**

In the Koven Conference Center at 10 a.m. on March 18, Co-founder of Apple, Steve Wozniak, spoke to students as part of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications Week. The lecture was introduced by SJMC Dean Raul Reis and President Mark Rosenberg.

Sara Jarossy, a student at Nova Southeastern University who works with the U.S. Geological Survey. “As we are driving, Bob will throw the dummy over the boat and we have to notice.”

The students have to retrieve the dummy from the water and perform CPR while the driver of the boat calls for help and drives to the dock.

Another component of the exam tests the student’s driving and teamwork skills. One student maneuvers a truck, trailer and boat through a “cones course” and another student spots the driver.

“If someone is used to driving a VW Bug, putting them behind the wheel of a truck, a trailer and a boat can be quite intimidating,” said Weisman.

Alex Carreno, MOCC instructor trainer said he explains what he expects and wants students to recognize and fix problems themselves.

“They’re not in the middle of nowhere, they’re on the open water,” Carreno. “But other than that, I can’t tell him how to do it because he should know at this point.”

The students need motorboat operator certification in their current jobs and for future careers.

MOCC student Kelscy Chambers works with USGS and the University of Florida.

“Right now we rely on other people [to drive the boats], but we want to become self-reliant,” Chambers said. “I am taking this course because I am going to be driving airboats and conducting bird surveys in the Everglades.”

MOCC student Daniel Vega is an FIU sophomore and served four years in the U.S. Coast Guard.

“I am taking this course so I can be able to take scientific researchers out on boats and take them driving to do their research,” Vega said.

The course is currently offered free-of-charge, but does not offer a commercial license or college credit.

In order for MOCC to be a three-credit course, it would have to be proposed to The Office of Academic Affairs and reviewed and approved by academic boards. Weisman said this would take about a year.

“It is the people for them to do their jobs and do it safely,” said Weisman.