Students may soon have access to cheaper cellphone services

JESSICA MESZAROS
Contributing Writer

Students are overwhelmed with several payments including tuition, textbooks, food and gas, but may be catching a break with their cell phone bills in the future.

The White House and the Federal Communications Commission are urging Congress to overturn the law that does not allow people to use a cell phone which does not belong to their contracted service carrier.

For student consumers, this could lead to cheaper cell phones due to the competition over price after the initial service contract has been fulfilled. Each cell phone company would no longer be able to monopolize the price of their cell phones because they would be forced to compete with other service carriers and online cell phone sellers.

The Copyright Office of the Library of Congress ruled last year to open the software that restricts most phones from working on another service carrier’s network, according to The New York Times.

However, not all students are aware that there is an illegal process to maneuver around the software placed by Congress.

Jonathan Felix is a junior majoring in engineering who said he bought his phone from his friend that actually does it, “He does some kind of, like, flashing to it and then you can use it on any carrier that you desire.”

He said that this process is completely out of the radar of his service carrier. MetroPCS is under the impression that his phone came from their specific stock. Felix feels that people should be able to purchase cell phones from anywhere and have them activated to any service carrier account. Since that tweet, several major media outlets have picked up on the story.

“This has become a national story and we definitely weren’t expecting that,” said Felix. “We have to redo the court anyway. I just thought of how I could help the coaches in reference to recruiting and we are going to be on TV a lot in the next few years, such as Louisville coming here next year, also we are trying to showcase Coley as she returns for her senior year campaign.”

“XSEDE is one of the biggest providers of this type of technology on a national level, so by having it here at FIU, it gives us a chance to see some of the most advanced computational technologies out there and it will certainly help us in our research and academics methods,” said Kirgan. “So our student’s first experience with them are not when they get their first job.”

The workshop is open to students of all majors. However, Kirgan said science, engineering and mathematics majors will most benefit from it since they will be using this type of resource during their careers.

“XSEDE is one of the biggest providers of this type of technology on a national level, so by having it here at FIU, it gives us a chance to see some of the most advanced computational technologies out there and it will certainly help us in our research and academics methods,” said Kirgan.

The workshop will be held on April 4 and April 5 at the College of Business Complex, free to faculty and students. The topics that will be offered during the workshop will be customized based on participants’ requests when they register through the email that was sent out by the Division of Information Technology. Some examples, according to Kirgan, already requested include parallel computing, modeling and simulation. 

Jailbreaking phones could be legalized

After its deal with the EU

Russia may help Cyprus only

US military says Guantanamo hunger strike edges up

The U.S. military says a hunger strike at the Guantanamo Bay prison has grown to include at least 28 prisoners.

Three hunger strikers are at the hospital being treated for dehydration. Three hunger strikers are at the hospital being treated for dehydration.

The city was hit by about 50 centimeters (20 inches) of snow in the past day, more than it usually receives per month during this season.

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**Changing our behavior to change our health**

**BRIAN ANDERSON**  
Contributing Writer

Health is a number one priority for many Americans. One issue of great significance is obesity—especially as it relates to children. According to the American Dieteretic Association, 25 percent of children in the US are overweight and 11 percent are obese.

Of equal concern are adolescents. Seventy percent of obese adolescents grow up to be obese adults. This is a viable public health issue.

To combat the childhood obesity epidemic, first lady Michelle Obama has implemented her “Let’s Move!” initiative. Like issues addressed by other first ladies—such as Nancy Reagan’s JUST SAY NO campaign, Ms. Obama is tackling an issue which has reached epidemic proportions.

Obesity is an issue that parents, teachers, and students are aware of, and many programs have been initiated to give parents helpful information and fostering environments that support healthy choices target the epidemic.

The 5 pillars of the First Lady’s “Let’s Move” initiative are:

1. Creating a health start for college students
2. Empowering parents and communities
3. Providing healthy foods in schools
4. Improving access to healthy, affordable foods
5. Increasing physical activity.

From a public health perspective, the root of change is behavior.

If these behaviors are not controlled early, this behavior will continue into adulthood and lead to more serious issues such as hyperglycemia, hyperlipidemia, levels, infertility and other cardiovascular and digestive diseases and complications. For children, psychological issues such as depression are imminent.

Nutrition is a pivotal issue for college-age students as well.

As I refresh at a freshman football tailgate, and was just another victim of the “freshman 15,” the acronym given to freshmen gaining 15 pounds the first year of college.

According to Dr. Fatima Ercoli Huffman of the College of Diets and Nutrition in the School of Public Health and Social Work, the effects of obesity on children and adolescents are devastating due to the incidence of Type II diabetes in this at-risk population.

With regard to college-age students, Dr. Huffman points out sedentary lifestyles and stress as major factors.

Consumption of unhealthy foods in the diet such as soft drinks, fast foods and junk foods (chips, bars, sugary drinks) also contributes to obesity.

To combat obesity, Dr. Huffman recommends keeping a log of activity and foods eaten on a daily basis. When a balance is kept, a healthy weight can be maintained.

In addition, awareness and education are key components.

According to Dr. Huffman, nutrition education must be core requirements for FIU and other college curricula.

Dr. Rashida Biggs, a professor in the School of Public Health and Social Work, agrees.

According to Dr. Biggs, the major issue with college students is a sedentary lifestyle.

She believes portion control and awareness are essential to combat obesity.

In addition, more incentive fitness campaigns should be offered and heavily advertised.

For students who are interested in learning more about nutrition, the College of Diets and Nutrition offers two courses which are key to the foundations of proper nutrition and health: HUN 2000 FOUNDATIONS OF NUTRITION, also UCCE for science and HUN 2201 PRINCIPLES OF NUTRITION.

These courses are offered each semester, including nights and summers. These courses have no prerequisite requirements and can be registered by any college student.

Obesity is an important issue, just for children but also for adults. College students are not exempt either.

In order to combat this issue, proper education and lifestyle changes are a must.

The earlier we start with healthier lifestyle changes, the healthier our population will be.

**MIGUEL MARTINEZ-VIERA**  
Contributing Writer

Our relationships throughout our lives, specifically our romantic ones, define us as individuals. Each other human being we choose to be romantically sexually, adds a little more to our personal identity, and takes a little of us away with them.

This is just a basic fact of how human work.

But, for now, let’s avoid the talk of purely physical relationships, and focus on the truly romantic—romantically being the ones in which we invest our entire entity and give ourselves up wholeheartedly to this other individual in which we invest our entire entity and give ourselves up wholly to this other individual in which we invest our entire entity and give ourselves up wholly to this other individual.

Our relationships throughout our lives, specifically our romantic ones, define us as individuals. Each other human being we choose to be romantically

A little heavy, I know. But why bother writing about one’s attachment to.

Any way, with the relationships that truly take the strain on, and add some pain to, our heart, come some tough instances where we must test our resolve and analyze our invest- ment. In this particular case, I’m talking about distance.

There is an inherent risk in collegiately started relationships, and that risk comes, if we allow it, if we choose to be fiercely independent, the choices, although more limited now due to the hellish economy those that came before us soon will, all involve the commencement of your “real life.”

These are not easy choices to make, and many decisions will be quite uncomfortable.

Even more so, when you have a loved one you are attached to.

Let’s imagine Boyfriend A, who’s in love with Girlfriend B.

Now, Boyfriend A and Girlfriend A both attended FIU. BFA and GFA have had a fairytale relationship, they met in astronomy their first year, and their stars aligned.

BFA and GFA understand each other, every little quip, comment or look is easily understood and appreciated by each one, and their time spent together, which is much, is always easy going and comfortable.

Now, BFA is a biology major who wishes to attend medical school after graduation.

BFA has been accepted into a wonderful medical school in a major East Coast city, and is super excited.

GFA is a journalism major. BFA and GFA had discussed their future, and GFA was excited to move to that major East Coast city and everything was looking like it would work out wonderfully.

But then, GFA was accepted into an amazing internship with a company located in a major West Coast city. Here’s where our dilemma.

I’ll end this story at this point, and we can now attempt to address this classic conundrum.

A few solutions come to mind: compromise, a long-distance relationship and separation.

None of these are ideal, and that’s the point. If any of the solutions were ideal, then this would not be a dilemma, and we would not be having this conversation (well, me talking and you listening/reading.)

Each has its pros and cons, but we won’t list them.

I think I’m just pointing out that kind of thing, pretty much, isn’t fair.

We believe we can have all of these wonderful things, but in the end, fate, or our choices, or a combination of both, just forces us over.

We can all act as if we understand why tough choices have to be made, but - no, fudge that.

Why shouldn’t life be something we all enjoy, why can’t our aspirations be some- thing we can all achieve and why can’t we hold on to the deepest desires be the things we can hold on to and let go of when we want to?

Well, I guess it’s because we all want that.

And we can’t all get what we want.

Anyway, I have no answers for you about what to do when you’re in a relationship, and the two of you need to go to separate places. Just have many conversations, and hopefully find a solution that you both feel, if not happy, with comfortable with.

Good luck.

-o@fiu.com

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**Students with side businesses to pay tuition**

In lieu of recent cuts in the work study program, financial aid, and grants, students look elsewhere to pay their tuition. Although many receive financial aid in some form or another, others have resorted to taking loans to be paid back over the years or working long shifts for wages.

In 2011, President Barack Obama signed the Budget Control Act of 2011 which resulted in automatic cuts for nine years totaling $1.2 trillion. Naturally, student financial aid (including federal grants and loans) has been impacted and as mentioned previously in a Student Media article, Pell Grant recipients would see an $85,000 cut. In addition, federal work-study would be hit with a cut of about $142,000 resulting in about 50 less students elected for employment.

Today, students face the very real challenge from these cuts in federal funding. Thanks to the rise in tuition every year and increasing fees, many students look for alternative ways to make money aside from college employment or simply scholarship refunds.

For some, the difficulty of surviving on wages is all too familiar. As an employee, you are replaceable and employers know that, of course that’s the risk.

But, there are other more intimate and fulfilling alternatives to meet financial needs.

One practice that has become increasingly common is to follow an entrepreneurial route to earn more than you would at an average job elsewhere.

Students at the university, like our own BBC photo editor, Sana Ullah, have started their own businesses to pay for additional tuition costs not covered by scholarship.

Through her own side photography business, SUPhotography, she has had the freedom to control what days she chooses to work in respect to her own business. She’s also acquired a unique budget cut out of creative and photography techniques while interacting with clients at a much more personal level rather than a forced service.

Likewise, junior Adnan Saeed, psychology major, established his own dry-cleaning business after being tired of being mistreated by employers and worked for less pay.

By offering incentives such as complimentary delivery services, Saeed has been able to keep a competitive edge that led to success. Through his hard work and success, Saeed has refinanced from conformity. On the contrary, it’s pushed him to strive for more.

That being said, the alternative of self-em- ployment can help in several ways that other- wise would be unattainable. Most importantly, the freedom to be your own creator andboss provides one with an indelible sense of pride, progress and accomplishment. In addition, becoming much more responsible, organized and timely from an academic standpoint is another added bonus.

Ultimately, it’s up to you what path to take for your future. There is no right or wrong answer. Despite the recent rise in tuition and federal and state financial aid, there are options out there. Know that there’s always a solution and know that there’s always a reward for your hard work.

Stick true to your convictions, and nobody can take away your sense of accomplishment.

**Send us your letters**

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to opinion@fiu.edu or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124.

With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter per month from any individual.

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**editorial policy**

Editorials are the unsigned opinion of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, managing editor, and the editors of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiu.edu.

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Digital world conquers higher education at FIU

CONSELO NARANJO  
Staff Writer

From the most complex cell code information exchange to the simplest technology created by humans, communication has been and always will be the base of every interaction within our society.

Facial expressions, vocal sounds, smoke signals and hieroglyphs are all part of the infinite ways that information has been exchanged. The way we interact is constantly evolving. Currently our platform of choice is the Internet.

According to the Council for Research Excellence, a study in 2009 found that adults living in the USA were exposed to screens – such as TVs, cell phones, GPS devices – for approximately eight and a half hours a day.

New technologies and social platforms are in the hands of more than 114 million Americans. A majority of these users own smartphones, according to the Business Insider website.

The world is going digital and as a consequence the landscape of higher education is changing. In 2012, the University spent $83 million dollars in technology fees, according to the University budget summary from 2012-13. Blackboard, modern computers, digital video cameras and other advanced technologies are now part of a new style of education that FIU is continuing to expand every year.

Matt Hagoold, director of Media and Technology Services for the Division of Information Technology, emphasized the importance of this digital engagement along with access: “We are experiencing such an extraordinary change in technology. Moodle and Blackboard have changed our students’ lives dramatically,” Hagoold said.

FIU is updating their whole system. Currently, thousands of books, articles and even textbooks are available in an online library. Virtual classrooms are increasingly common at FIU.

Three semesters ago, the Center for Academic Success opened their online services. William Manquez, a senior majoring in computer science and a tutor at the center, is excited to help students with their academic needs either online or face to face. “We try to accommodate students’ busy schedules. Now they can receive tutoring on weekends just by sitting in front of a computer.”

Since 2011, after hour and weekend appointments have become very popular with students. After registering for an appointment, students are able to communicate with a peer tutor via video conferencing. “Online tutoring is a really good option for students who cannot make it to the center because of time constraints or transportation issues. Our extended schedule tries to accommodate those who work odd hours or need last minute help on an assignment,” said Nazneen Zaidi, an FIU liberal arts graduate who helps undergraduate students at Biscayne Bay Campus.

Ziyad Ben Taleb, graduate student of the Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work, stresses the importance of new technology in the development of higher education.

“Among the many amazing searching tools that FIU provides to the students is Google Scholar. It is my main source of investigation, and where I access scholarly literature across any discipline,” said Ben Taleb. “I am lucky to have access to the most current information available. Technology, along with great professors at FIU, have helped mentor students, creating well-rounded experts in the field.,” said Taleb.

Moses Shumow, assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and one of the founders of the digital media studies major, explained the transition into digital media.

“Digital Media is transforming not just communication programs, but politics, economics and culture,” Shumow said. “We are living in a communication revolution and we need a new set of skills to understand it.”

Yu Liu, assistant professor in the SJMC, characterized FIU students as “internet natives” because they grew up with the Internet. “Students in the United States have become more aware as to what is happening in other countries and cultures. They are open to the idea of globalization thanks to the Internet,” Liu said.

However, social media and the easy access to technology can also become a distraction in class.

“It is much harder now for students to concentrate,” said Taleb.

The core message of her speech was clear when she said, “Don’t let gender be a barrier to anything you want to be.” Her speech aimed to encourage all the young women and girls in the audience to find their passions, follow them and to think of themselves as stars.”

Wilets drew attention to a more serious matter concerning women and spoke about the Violence Against Women Act. With its epicenter in South Florida, VAWA deals with the issue of domestic violence against women. Wilets addressed its importance in protecting battered noncitizens from losing their immigration status in cases of domestic abuse. By promoting women to leave abusive relationships, VAWA helps in the fight against women being used as sex slaves. While the act largely helps protect these abused women, Wilets said that not many people are aware of the actual issues. “It’s happening all around us,” said Wilets.

He encouraged the students to help support VAWA and to spread awareness about the act. “There really is a way that you can help deal with these issues in South Florida,” said Wilets.

The Women’s Empowerment Fashion Show was the first show for Stand Up for Love. Aray Rivera, the founder of Stand Up for Love and junior public administration major, hopes that it will be as big a success in the future.

Rivera believes in women’s empowerment and believes that everyone should stop seeing women as lesser than men. “Society doesn’t see women as important as men and it saddens me.”

Rivera also hopes that students walk away from the event with a greater respect for women and with the drive to fight for their equal treatment. He summarized the event’s purpose best with, “Women should not have a glass ceiling.”

KARLA REYES  
Contributing Writer

In light of Women’s History Month, FIU’s non-profit organization Stand Up for Love drew students’ attention to the subject of women’s empowerment and women’s rights by hosting a charity fashion show that featured local designers and guest speakers.

Those who participated were moved by the cause and anticipated in the hopes to spread awareness on women’s empowerment. Many of the local designers involved carried messages that encouraged positive progression for women.

The female-owned Anjicai line printed the statement “Be natural, be simple, be beautiful” on their products, while the male-owned Shop Heartbreak claimed that they did not hesitate to join “anything that is meant for good.”

Senior Chantelle Hua strikes a pose during Stand Up for Love’s first women’s empowerment fashion show. Stand Up for Love is dedicated to bringing youths together through advocacy, education and community service while simultaneously displaying their vision of a society in which all people are given respect, dignity and the opportunity to create positive change.

“As a woman, take control of those moments and take control of what life gives you,” said Hernandez Suarez. Her speech focused on the reality of the present society and how its changing can be beneficial to women. “There are no social norms to what anything means anymore… Women matter. Women are changing what it means to be successful.”

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-life@fiusm.com

www.fiusm.com  
Wednesday, March 27, 2013
LIFE! The Beacon – Wednesday, March 27, 2013

Communication evolving at the University

TECH, PAGE 4

EDWIVE SEME
Staff Writer

Students, researchers and faculty in diverse fields with diverse interest in Geographic Information Systems will be able to participate during FIU’s 2013 GIS Day.

This annual event has served to open channels of communication between people with diverse and complementary interests, according to Matthew Toro, Maps and Imagery User Services coordinator and research associate at FIU’s GIS Center.

“Historians to geographers, to philosophers to architects, to epidemiologists to performing artists, etc. – you’d be surprised at the connections being made,” said Toro.

GIS represents new technologies that are changing the world by creating geographic consciousness, collecting geographical data and analyzing it, revealing relationships and patterns and creating a better understanding of the world.

According to Toro, natural and social scientists, decision-makers and the general public are increasingly engaging and expanding the potential of GIS to improve the way human beings interact with earth. FIU’s GIS Day provides a forum for people to discuss these technologies and applications.

This year’s theme, chosen by GIS Center Head Jennifer Fu, will be “GeoHumanities: Drawing New Connections in Time and Space.” The fields of geo-humanities, according to Toro, are changing the way human beings perceive their historical and contemporary relationships with history and geography. These advances aren’t only changing the way people look at their past, but also giving insight on the way society must progress into the future.

“The FIU GIS Center recognizes these developments seek to provide a forum focusing on ways to harness and promote the potential of GIS-based geo-humanities research,” said Toro.

The day will be filled with activities, including guest lectures by GIS and visiting experts, workshops, sessions, map games, an all-day GIS posters display and even a poster competition that both students and non-students can participate in. Toro describes it as a one-day mini-conference.

Through their annual GIS event, the GIS Center intends to raise the public profile of GIS technology and the impact it’s having on transforming society, by bringing together GIS practitioners from all fields. “Most importantly, we intend to show the community just how accessible, and powerful, GIS really is,” said Toro. “We intend to broaden and deepen the conversation about what GIS is and what people are capable of through GIS.”

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Matthew Toro
Maps and Imagery User Services Coordinator and Research Associate
GIS Center

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 amendments will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.

FIU FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The University Capital Improvement Trust Fund Fee Committee will be holding public hearings on

Monday, March 25, 2013 MMC
GC 140 at 10:30am
Monday, March 25, 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 CITF Fee, used to fund student buildings.

The amended fee will become effective in the Fall 2013 term. Students and other interested individuals are invited to attend these meetings.
The Beacons – 6
www.fiu.am
Wednesday, March 27, 2013

**Sports**

**KEVIN CASTANEDA**  
Staff Writer

Imagine you are the biggest fan of FIU’s men’s basketball team.

You not only go to every single home game, you travel to watch the Panthers on the road. Having watched basketball your whole life, you begin to nitpick some of the things the team does wrong – plays like Malik Smith taking on off-balance three with two defenders in his face or Deric Hill making a lazy cross-court pass that gets intercepted. However, no matter how mad you get at their plays, you know as a fan the most you can do is yell from the blachers.

The entire season Raymond Taylor, Rakeem Buckles and Dennis Mavin lived this experience tenfold. The three transfers had to sit out this whole season, relegated to the role of hard-core fans. Unlike a fan who can’t change the outcome of a game, these players had to endure knowing their talent could make a difference.

“It’s very frustrating because you feel like everything that a team needs, you can provide it,” said Taylor, a redshirt senior.

The Panthers were extremely young this season and Head Coach Richard Pitino stressed it. He repeatedly said that he had no way of referencing back to a specific game because his players had never played Division I basketball at this level.

This meant in practice the primary role that Taylor and his fellow transfers provided this season was that of being mentors and sharing their experience.

Buckles, a redshirt senior, brought the most experience to the table having played at No. 2 Louisville under Pitino’s father, Rick Pitino.

In his freshman year, Buckles was able to experience the NCAA Tournament and the Final Four. His exposure to such a stage could have helped the Panthers in key games when the pressure may have been too much.

Taylor and Mavin came from Florida Atlantic University. First up for the Panthers’ season so far this year, it is a difference maker.

Florida Atlantic University with championship pedigrees. Just two years ago, the Owls led the Owls to a first place finish in the East Division of the Sun Belt Conference.

Having played at such high levels in their careers, it was difficult for them to sit and watch the entire time.

“When we got hurt in the post, and Rakeem would talk about it. We felt like Rakeem could provide that spark in the post. Or if it was lacking from a point guard production, I would be like ‘man I can produce whatever we needed.’”

Buckles and Taylor not only played high school basketball together at Miami Pace, but they led the team to a state championship together.

While at Pace, both players also played under Mark Lieberman, who is now an assistant coach for the Panthers. Buckles’ familiarity with both Pitino and Lieberman will translate well into next season, and the offensive scheme right into Taylor’s skill set.

“You turn into a coach and a student of the game,” Taylor said. “Deric Hill had a great season for us this year. I feel a part of that was because of how much we pushed each other in practice.”

“Coach Pitino is a guru offen-sively and he knows where to put me in the right spot, where I can really display what I can do with the ball,” Taylor said. “Offensively, Rakeem knows this system like the back of his hand because he came over here with Pitino. And defensively that’s Dennis’ strength.”

**It’s very frustrating because you feel like everything that a team needs, you can provide it.**

**FRANCISCO RIVERO**  
Staff Writer

If there is one word to describe the Panthers’ season so far this year, it is inconsistency.

After dropping two of three games over at Florida Atlantic University, FIU (12-12) looked to rebound in a three-game home stand against Western Kentucky University. First up for the Panthers was starter Tyler Alexander who came into the game with a record of 1-3 and an earned run average of 3.57.

The game was a close until the ninth when WKU scored on a wild pitch by lefty Mike Brown. The Hilltoppers were able to take game one by a score of 4-3.

Game two was a seesaw battle that FIU dropped in the eighth inning after a sacrifice fly to lose 9-8. Having lost yet another series, starter Mike Franco took the mound to salvage another Sunday win.

Franco gave the Panthers a much needed performance with five no-hit innings as FIU went on to win 5-2.

Head Coach Henry Thomas knows just how important it is for his team to get consistent starting pitching in order to win ball games.

“The first two nights we got five out of 18 leadoff batters out, today we got seven out of nine,” Thomas said. “Every time you don’t get the leadoff batter out you’re going to be in trouble as a team.”

**COMING UP SHORT**

FIU has lost a quarter of their games by three or less runs this season. Players such as second baseman Manny Alvarez and Franco know just how difficult it is to lose such close games.

“Last weekend we went 1-2, this weekend we went 1-2 but it gives us a positive note for next weekend,” Alvarez said. “It’s very frustrating because you feel like you would win, but of course you want to win the series,” Franco said. “We came up a little short Friday and Saturday, but getting a win on Sunday and not having a middle of the week series gives us a lot of momentum for the next weekend series.”

**PITCHING HIGHS AND LOWS**

Besides Franco, who owns a 4-1 record and an ERA of 3.57, the rest of the Panthers pitching staff is struggling to stay above mediocrity.

“Truthfully, it’s just how we go about preparing ourselves going into the week, everyone goes hard and everyone prepares themselves very well,” Franco said. “I just feel that sometimes we get to comfortable and we can’t stay that way, we just got to keep pushing ourselves and striving to be the best pitchers we can be.”

FIU currently has the worst ERA in the Sun Belt Conference with 4.78 mark, and the second most hits allowed among the runs allowed with 135 on the season.

The Panthers look to stop the bleeding when they host visiting Arkansas State (16-9, 4-2 SBC) on March 29-March 31.
**Sand volleyball opens history books with an ace**

**Daniel Brey, Contributing Writer**

FIU sand volleyball put yet another show for the second straight week defeating Webber International University 4-1 in two dual matches. The Panthers (3-3), coming off a dominating win at last week's Hawaii Tournament and now ranked sixth in the nation, hosted the Warriors on March 23, marking the first home sand volleyball game in FIU history.

“We have been in South Florida and those are the main parts of the design that was chosen,” said Coach [Pitino] who had the idea to add more sand and more of a beach look from the first design with the South Beach skyline. We all agreed on the second version of the design. We have sponsors that want to come in and name the court for helping us pay the entire ceremony,” said freshman Emily Podscheit.

Fans who attended the game lined up around the perimeter of the sand courts, while others took a seat on the three benches provided by FIU. The lack of spectator accommodations and the optimistic future of the team have led FIU to develop a plan to build new bleachers for next season according to Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett.

“FIU is planning to build brand new bleachers for next season,” Buck-Crockett said. “We really needed it.”

**SURF AND TURF TOURNAMENT**

Starting March 29 at 9 a.m. on the FIU sand courts, the Panthers will take on the best teams in the nation at the Surf and Turf tournament, which will mark the first sand volleyball tournament to take place at FIU.

The Panthers will face Georgia State, Tulane, FAU and defending national champions Pepperdine, who steamed rolled FIU 5-0 in their first matchup of the season.

“We will certainly review the tape from our previous game against Pepperdine to see what adjustments we can make to better our chances of winning,” Buck-Crockett said.

**New basketball uniforms among 2013-14 additions**

**Basketball, Page 1**

Garcia said the reasoning behind the design is that when people think of South Florida, they immediately imagine the beach. Sand, palm trees and water are staples in South Florida and those are the main parts of the design that was chosen. "It was definitely amazing," graduate student Kate Stepanova said. "What a great opening... It was so special to have all these big names here to share this moment with us."

"I was so excited watching the cutting of the net and the entire ceremony," said freshman Emily Podscheit.

One team wants it to be accepted by many generations to come here at FIU."

A spike in interest

The Panthers arrived in Miami after going 1-3 on their first west coast road trip of the inaugural season. Their performance was not exactly what was expected from a team coach by an Olympic silver medalist. Saturday’s matchup however, had more than 150 spectators on hand to witness the first sand volleyball game in FIU history a total, much higher than predicted.

“We had so many fans,” Podscheit said. “I was so surprised, we usually don’t have this many boys being that we are a first year program.”

Of those fans, a few had the opportunity to sit alongside their favorite sand volleyball players.

“I was talking to some people in the bleachers that had never seen a sand volleyball game,” Stepanova said. “You could tell they absolutely loved it.”

Stepanova and junior Maryna Samoday were just two of the various sand volleyball players who engaged in conversations with fans during timeouts.

The sand volleyball squad opened up their first home game with a win over Webber International to even their record at 3-3.

The sand volleyball squad opened up their first home game with a win over Webber International to even their record at 3-3.

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Ticket system limits election at BBC

NADRA MABROUK
BBC Managing Editor

The Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus will once again attempt to gather votes for yet another uncontested election. FuZhou Wu, director of lectures, is running unopposed for president with Richard Azimov as her vice president. Other candidates include Ismail Hassan and Whitney Saint Fleur for Arts & Sciences senator, Jazmin Felix for Nursing and Health Services, Sheni Kathy-Moon for School of Journalism and Mass Communications senator and Christopher Medrano for lower division senator.

The candidate for Broward-Pines Senator, John Barron, had the application withdrawn.

The ticket system limits the options for candidates for president, according to Rafael Zapata assistant director of Campus Life and SGA advisor. The system requires that any student interested in running for president to have a vice president and any student for vice president to have a president, mimicking the system of the elections for president of the United States. However, BBC is a commuter campus with much fewer students than the modesto A. Maidique Campus, which limits the options for presidency even further. “I would prefer if we didn’t have the ticket system because we would have had a four-way race for vice president this year,” said Zapata. Wu on the other hand believes that the ticket system ensures that candidates are working together instead of clawing at each other and that the president and vice president are coming up with goals using teamwork.

A goal on Wu’s mind would be to try to bring back a coffee and snack place in the Glenn Hubert Library similar to Provisions on Demand which used to be in the library. She feels students who are studying shouldn’t have to go outside to grab a coffee or a bite.

SAnA U llAh /t he BeAcon

SOC is hosting Golden Week from March 25 to March 27. The candidate for (Arts & Sciences Senator (3) Ismail Hassan Whitney Saint Fleur

Broward Pines Senator (1) John Barron - Withdraw application

Senator At-Large (3) Solia Abedbadon Oliva Delphine Kerline Honor

2013-2014 SGC-BBC ELECTION CANDIDATES

President/ Vice President FuZhou Wu - President Richard Azimov - Vice President

Arts & Sciences Senator (3) Ismail Hassan Whitney Saint Fleur

Broward Pines Senator (1) John Barron - Withdraw application

Senator At-Large (3) Solia Abedbadon Oliva Delphine Kerline Honor

Nursing and Health Services (1)

Jazmin Felix

Housing (1)

Emerald Nesbit

Journalism & Mass Communications Senator (2)

Sheni Kathy-Moon

Lower Division Senator (4)

Christopher Morisel Jonathan Medrano

(# of available seats)

Pot of Golden Week

The Beacon – 8 Wednesday, March 27, 2013
Contact Us
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BBC Managing Editor
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Vendors might need more than bling to lure students in

VINSON PRESSLEY
Staff Writer

Walking down the halls of FIU, a vendor earnestly making the effort to persuade students to buy their products is a common sight. The University provides a platform for vendors to reach out to students and promote their products and services. However, there is a process they must go through before they are given the chance to come to FIU.

According to O’Darris D’Haiti, fiscal assistant at the Wolfe University Center, the vendors must fill out a form detailing their identity, their products, services as well as pay for a table to set up their products. Once their table reservation form has been reviewed and accepted, the information is passed to the setup crew; after this point, the table is ready and the last step is for the vendor to set up their spaces and pitch to the students.

According to John Morris, TRAC program manager who also handles the tabling for the vendors, the table reservations are $42.80 and are good for an entire day. In order for a vendor to even be considered to have their products on campus, they must have insurance and liability. Morris mentioned some of the vendors, including “Miami Wow!”, a jewelry business, and “Mini Gateway Inc.”, a cruise line that has come to FIU in the past.

Vendors who attempt to get their products on modesto A. Maidique are subject to the same process. According to Maxine Hylton, one of the directors of the Graham Center, vendors must go through a step by step process and must book everything in advance.

According to Morris, “They need more variety, switch it around every so often,” said Jeffrey Sodusta, senior psychology major. Sodusta mentioned he would like to see other products being sold on campus by vendors besides jewelry. “I don’t wear jewelry, (I’d like to see) computer vendors, food vendors,” said Sodusta. Sodusta summed up his comments by saying “I emphasize more variety and selection [of vendors].”

Zoraida Pastor, junior psychology major would “mind seeing more variety in the types of vendors on campus either.” Pastor discussed that she would like to see more clothing and food vendors, including the farmer’s market. “The Farmer’s Market used to be on Mondays, now on Thursdays. It’s very limiting and I don’t think it’s a good idea,” said Pastor. Pastor argued that foot traffic is much higher on Mondays than later days in the week; “Friday is a ghost town” said Pastor.

Although some students have issues with the setup of the food vendors on campus, some have a slightly different view.

Ketilie Laroche, junior chemistry major, says she rarely buys from the vendors on campus, but when she does, she usually buys earrings and bracelets. Laroche also felt the prices of the vendors she buys from are “reasonable.”

SGC-BBC brings Larry King to BBC

SGC-BBC hopes that students will be inspired by his experiences starting an evening with King, in which students will hear about his experiences starting as a journalist in Florida and becoming one of the nation’s most watched TV personalities.

SGC-BBC brings Larry King to BBC

The lecture series has brought Common, Dan Savage and Adrian Grenier. Students had the final say when Larry King was the highest ranked in a survey in which they were asked to rank speakers they would prefer to see.

“[Bringing Larry King to FIU] is an educational experience that will allow the student body to interact and learn from an individual that has had the honor of interviewing many of the most distinguished people in the world,” said Pablo Haupel, SGC-BBC president.

From 1985 to 2010, King hosted the popular and self-titled TV program Larry King Live on CNN. Throughout his run on Larry King Live, King interviewed many prominent figures from politicians to celebrities. The lecture will be based around an evening with King, in which students will hear about his experiences starting as a journalist in Florida and becoming one of the nation’s most watched TV personalities.

SGC-BBC hopes that students will be inspired by King’s experiences and examples in order to achieve the same successes that he has achieved.

The SGA-BBC Lecture Series Presents: Larry King will take place in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms tomorrow, March 28. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.