Egypt’s President forced to step down

REBECA PICCARDO
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday, Egypt’s military forced Mohamed Morsi to step down from his position, and was placed on house arrest along with members of the Muslim Brotherhood after a series of anti-Morsi demonstrations and a 48 hour ultimatum to order reformers and offer concessions to the opposition.

University professors and students responded to these events with mixed feelings. “Undoubtedly, the events of the last week have hurt the concept of Egyptian democracy for many Egyptians, particularly those who voted and still back President Morsi,” said Reza Sanati, professor and graduate fellow at the Middle East Studies Center.

In a television announcement on Wednesday, Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi announced that the military set up a provisional government, in which Adly Mansour, the chief justice of Egypt’s Supreme Constitutional Court, was sworn in as the new president on Thursday live on television.

A date for the new elections has not been set yet. “It is important that the new interim government reaches out to the Muslim Brotherhood and incorporate it into new elections and the rewriting of the constitution,” said professor Russell Lucas, associate professor of Arab Studies in Michigan State University and former FIU faculty member.

Three of the six appointees that Mansour announced personally did not.

“Ianniello was asked if he saw Chief of FIU Police Alphonse Dawson, press secretary of the Virginia Easley Johnson Office. As unlikely as the court submission of one’s private communications might be, the topic of the invasion of privacy is currently a popular topic since the National Security Agency’s methods of communications surveillance were recently publicized.

Virginia Easley Johnson P.A., managing partner and

Texting while driving ban effective starting fall

CARLOS CORA
Contributing Writer

Twenty-five percent of American teens respond to a text message at least once each time they drive, according to the U.S. government’s official website for distracted driving.

Judging by that statistic, texting while driving should be a concern for the University. When Assistant Chief of FIU Police Alphonse Gambino was asked if he saw any texting while driving around campus, he said he personally did not.

However, students said they witness their peers texting and driving often. “I see people texting and driving all the time on campus,” said Roberto Lopez, junior computer science major. “It’s usually in the parking garages, which is especially bad considering the amount of blind corners as well as the pedestrians you see walking around all the time.”

On October 1, 2013, Senate Bill 52 will make texting while operating a moving vehicle a secondary offense. This means that a driver can be fined for texting while committing a moving traffic violation, a primary offense.

First time offenders will receive a $30 fine. A driver who is fined for a second time within five years will receive a $60 fine and accumulate up to three points on his or her license.

Some people question the bill’s effectiveness because of the complications behind determining whether a driver was actually using their phone at the time of the infraction.

“How would police officers differentiate between a message received at the same time [that was] not read, and one that [is] actually answered at the time?” said Andrea Padrón, senior biology major.

The bill’s answer to this question is to check phone records when the driver challenges the officer’s claim that he or she was texting while committing a moving violation.

Section 1, part 6(c) of SB52 says that during the process of determining whether a driver was typing any text while driving, authorities may use billing records from the driver’s phone or use evidence from the “appropriate authorities receiving such messages.”

Under very specific circumstances, one’s phone bill records may be used as evidence in a Florida traffic court.

Requesting such private documents comes into place if one decides to go to court to challenge the ticket and is able to prove that no text went through at the time of the infraction.

In that case, it is a question for the judge to decide. “A police officer couldn’t get your records unless they are subpoenaed by a judge, which might seem excessive when dealing with a secondary offense,” said Dan Dawson, press secretary of the Florida Senate’s Majority Office.

As unlikely as the court submission of one’s private communications might be, the topic of the invasion of privacy is currently a popular topic since the National Security Agency’s methods of communications surveillance were recently publicized.

Virginia Easley Johnson P.A., managing partner and

Race not considered a factor in University admission

STEPHAN USECHE
Staff Writer

The University considers a number of factors when it comes to admitting its students; race isn’t one of them. Affirmative action, a tool that has helped universities across the country to give equal admission to students of different cultures, is not used at FIU or other universities in the state of Florida.

According to Howard Wasserman, professor of law, the University does ask the applying students for their race and ethnicity, but can’t use that information when it comes to deciding whether or not to admit the student.

“Florida law decided that it will not take race as a factor for admission,” said Wasserman.

Even though the Office of Admissions wasn’t available to give further information on its admission policies, its records show that for the fall of 2012, 50 percent of the students admitted were Hispanic.

Lexy Feito, junior in programming, is aware of the abundance of this overpopulating number of Hispanics in the University. “It’s mostly Hispanics here,” said Feito. “I barely see any other ethnicities around campus.”

According to the University’s 2012 Fact Book, from the 18,013 students admitted to the University last fall, 13 percent were Black, 4 percent were Asian, less than 0.50 percent were Native American, 18 percent were White, 12 percent were international students and 1 percent were not reported.

Last month, in the Fisher v. University of Texas case where Abigail N. Fisher sued the University for its race-conscious policies, the U.S Supreme Court ruled to have the case go through extended examination by a lower court.

Fisher claimed that she was not granted admission to the University due to its affirmative action policy.

States, including Florida, have scrapped affirmative action from its state universities. Back in 1999, Florida’s then governor Jeb Bush issued Executive Order 99-281, which prohibits the use of affirmative action in the state universities.

Affirmative action was also created to provide diversity within an institution. According to incoming FIU student, Kelly Khoury, diversity is what characterizes universities.

“I am expecting to be exposed to different cultures, languages, beliefs and religions,” said Khoury.

President Rosenberg was unavailable to offer information on the University’s admission policies.

fiusm.com Wednesday, July 10, 2013
A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

MATH HELP

Looking for help with math? Have a question? Visit the Mathematics main page on the FIU website for more information.

With the help of the University’s Mastery Math Lab, the pass rate for 2012 College Algebra has increased to 52 percent. Evelin Ureanets helps students check in and use equipment in the lab.

SEE EGYPT, PAGE 2

SEE TEXTING, PAGE 2

Vol. 25, Issue 2 Wednesday, July 10, 2013
Afghanistan arrests former US translator

Afghan authorities have arrested Zakaria Kandahari, a man who served as a U.S. Special Forces translator. He was picked up in the southern city of Kandahar by the Afghan National Directorate for Security, wanted on allegations that he tortured and killed civilians. When he was arrested, Kandahari had three passports, two fake Afghan National ID cards and seven other false IDs on him, according to the country’s intelligence service.

Cyberspying targets South Korea and US military

The identities of hackers trying to infiltrate South Korean computers to steal U.S. military secrets are not known to researchers. Researchers at McAfee Labs said the malware is designed to find and upload information referring to U.S. forces in South Korea and the word “secret.” The value of any information the hackers have acquired is also unknown. McAfee experts said the hackers have targeted government networks with military information for at least four years.

Haiti hopes to revive tourism

The Haitian government is hopeful in reviving its tourism sector with a Venezuelan-financed $13.2 million airport and new infrastructure on the southern island of Ile-a-Vache, and an $8 million development of the historic coastal town of Jacmel. The Ministry has signed off on 15-year tax breaks and exemptions from import duties for 11 hotel and resort projects. It is also training a force of “tourism police officers” who will learn Spanish and English and be trained in first aid and customer service.

Professors develop quick delivery of anti-HIV drug

Two University researchers, with the assistance of two graduate students, have developed a new way for the anti-HIV drug azidothymidine triphosphate to enter the body through the brain’s blood-brain barrier. The discovery has been made by Madhavan Nair, a professor and chair of the department of immunology, and Sakhrat Khizroev, professor of immunology and electrical engineering. The human body has a multitude of natural barriers that prevents certain drugs and substances from entering the body. One of these barriers is called the blood-brain barrier, which prevents the AZTTP drug from entering the brain and prevents effective treatment. "We wanted to send some drugs to the brain and the nanotechnology and nanoparticles are the smallest in size, so they can cross the blood-brain barrier," said Nair.

The new delivery process developed by Nair and Khizroev works by attaching the AZTTP drug to microscopic magnet-to-electric particles and using magnetic energy to guide the drug to its destination. Once the drug has reached its destination, it is released from the nanoparticles by passing a low electric current. According to Nair, the drug is still functional after the process and allows the drug to work past the blood-brain barrier. “Now we have a new technology by which not only can we send the drugs to the brain, but [also] release the drugs,” said Nair.

The testing of this breakthrough was conducted at FIU’s Herbert Werth-heim College of Medicine. Therefore, they created a cell membrane which simulates the blood-brain barrier that is found in humans. Nair and Khizroev have been working on this research since 2009, and the research will continue through a second stage of tests that will commence at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. The second stage will involve testing the technique on monkeys infected with HIV.

Pending the success of the second phase could mean the possibility of human trials, and eventual approval from the Food and Drug Administration would mean open use to the public. “We hope that this can be done in a laboratory in a doctor’s office,” said Nair. “It’s a very cheap technique,” said Khizroev. “We want to have it in every office for quick treatment.” Because of the cost-effectiveness of the product, it can be used at almost any location. Examples include hospitals, free health clinics, and Third World countries.

This discovery has also prospects to help those that suffer from neurological diseases, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s, and brain cancer or epilepsy. “There is a good foundation to expand to other medical innovations,” said Khizroev.

Military coup overthrows Egypt’s President Morsi

EGYPT, PAGE 1

out of office, the military directly governed for about a year and a half before Morsi was elected.

Morsi, who describes himself as a “representative of the Muslim Brotherhood,” said he did not represent the best interests of all Egyptians, but that Changed and that’s the common complaints. "I don’t see any problem," said Cody Taffet, a senior anthropology major. "I don’t see any obstacles," said associate professor of political science major.

Although Morsi won the 2012 election, “his approval ratings have plummeted as his government has failed to do anything to revive Egypt’s economy,” said Jones.

Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood “clearly have the means to enhance the power of the executive and help push legislation and new societal norms that clearly ran into opposition,” said Sanati. Police arrested police officers against the supporters of the Brotherhood so far is likely to make the situation all the more perilous," said Lucas. In the demonstrations, there have been clashes between the protests by the supporters of the anti-Morsi demonstrations.

Morsi was democratically elected and the fact that he was left office by the force of the military will undoubtedly cause many of his supporters to entertain the logic of using violence," said Sanati.

Morsi, who is under house arrest at the presidential Republican Grand Headquarters, is currently under house arrest at the presidential Republican Grand Headquarters, and to help with treatment for brain diseases, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease.

Two graduate students, Vidya Sagar and Gurudu will continue research along side Nair and Khizroev. “We want to have it in every office for quick treatment.” Because of the cost-effectiveness of the product, it can be used at almost any location. Examples include hospitals, free health clinics, and Third World countries.

Nair works in the department of biology, and Gudun is an electrical and computer engineer. Gudun’s main interest is to develop a tool to diagnose any type of infection.

“The military has now taken the country into a major response from South America because of both the breakthrough and the cost-effectiveness of the delivery process. “There is a lot of participation and a lot of momentum,” said Nair. “There are a lot of students interested in this project.”

Two graduate students, Vanya Sagar and Rakesh Gudun, came on board to help with the project two years ago. "Whether it is bacterial or viral, we can just monitor with these particles based on their quantum coupling of this interaction,” said Gudun. Gudun works in the department of biology, and Gudun is an electrical and computer engineer.

Gudun’s main interest is to develop a tool to diagnose any type of infection. “I will be working towards having some solid treatment for HIV,” said Sugar. “My ultimate goal is to be able to stop HIV and to make sure that something positive comes in the future.”

Gudun and Gudun will continue research along side Nair and Khizroev. The discovery also has prospects to help those that suffer from neurological diseases, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s, and brain cancer or epilepsy. “There is a good foundation to expand to other medical innovations,” said Khizroev.

According to Khizroev, the US should avoid damaging relations with Egypt by taking sides.

“At the same time, the United States, as well as other world powers, should keep an eye on developments,” said Herrera.

TEXTING, PAGE 1

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Take a stand with Wendy Davis

LAUREN TANA
Staff Writer

Sen. Wendy Davis of Texas made one of the greatest impacts on American women over the course of the past few weeks, and I am proud to stand with her and her now infamous bright pink and green tennis shoes.

On June 25, I encountered an uprising all across the world of social media. Every other, if not every, Tumblr post, Facebook post and tweet echoed with the shouts of thousands of feminists all across America.

After an 11 hour long filibuster of an anti-abortion bill, which, according to the International Business Times, “would ban abortions after 20 weeks and add other restrictions that opponents say would close 37 of the state’s 42 abortion clinics, and several other proposed bills,” Davis only temporarily delayed the probability of the bill passing to Monday, July 1.

According to The Washington Post, “advocates of the legislation say it is a means of assuring abortion is safe; opponents say would make abortion inaccessible.”

I, as an opponent to this bill, must stand together with Wendy Davis and the women of Texas on this, and I know that she will inspire people all over the nation will have seen for them themselves the true power that women hold.

I am proud to stand with Wendy Davis and the women of this country to stand up for their rights, said Zambrano.

I think that having someone like Davis stand up against those oppressors of women’s rights can really have an impact on our generation to stand up for our rights in the same, strong way that she did.

Davis not only stood in her bright pink and green tennis shoes for the women of Texas, but for all the women of America. I’m hoping that what has been happening in Texas will teach women in our University’s community to stand up for their rights as well; and maybe we will have our own Wendy Davis rise from FIU to stand up for the rights of women everywhere.

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DORM LIFE

What so was your first semester in a dorm like, and, oh it was wonderful, not worth talking about.

RE: GREEN LIBRARY REQUIREMENT

On June 26, an opinion piece titled “International students unacknowledged in GL’s new requirement” discussed how international students are affected negatively by the recently implemented Green Library policy of requiring two forms of identification when checking out devices. Such devices include laptops, iPads, e-readers and any other computer accessories and components available for students to borrow.

The article states the two-identification policy was implemented due to a rash of thefts of devices stolen from Panther ID’s.

The article goes on to signal a discontent among international students because the only identification available to international students, besides their PIDs, is their passport, I-20 and other state-required documents. Any student, international or domestic, can then apply and receive a state-issued ID, which is very similar to what a driver’s license looks like.

Students can also visit gatherigeo.com to verify documentation needed to obtain the state-issued ID, and even schedule an appointment; there is a Drivers License Service Center right across from MMC.

The benefits of securing the devices available for students in GL against theft completely outweigh any burden from the process of applying for a state-issued ID. There are even more other benefits international students will gain from obtaining a state-issued ID.

For example, a state-issued ID is useful not only in the University setting, but beyond: students could use their state-issued ID to open a bank account, as an ID when paying with a credit or debit card at a store, when attending age-restricted events, and a vast range of other possible situations in which the state-issued ID will be handy.

Finally, I do want to raise the issue of a particular group of students that will be possibly detrimentally affected by the new library policy: undocumented students.

In Florida, an individual may NOT request a state-issued driver’s license or driver’s license if he or she does not have documents of residency, etc. Only U.S. citizens, legal residents, international students and such others with official, unexpired documents are eligible to apply for a state-issued ID or driver’s license.

As a result, undocumented students may not be able to enjoy the library benefits that other students do enjoy; this is a sad consequence in the long line of practices that adversely affect undocumented students.

The question now is whether undocumented students are being unacknowledged in our University.

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CONTACT US

Junette Reyes
Opinion Editor
junette.reyes@fiusm.com
OPINION

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Students passing through the Deuxieme Maison building recently may have been surprised by the new look of one of FIU’s oldest buildings. French for second house, this building was the second building constructed on the University’s campus. Over time, its age led to it becoming one of FIU’s most overlooked and underappreciated spaces.

This was until Associate Professor and Chair of FIU Landscape Architecture Roberto Rovira, along with a team of four students, decided to give DM a much needed update.

The new renovations have taken the name “sky lounge,” a title which serves to sum up the design of the new additions.

“The design creates a flexible space within the courtyard that can serve for quiet study, conversation, contemplation, gathering and occasional presentations,” said Rovira. “It takes advantage of the space’s dramatic four-story height, while being mindful of the constraints of existing infrastructure underground.”

Rovira explains that he and his team have transformed the four-story classroom building from a space that was once dull and boring, into a relaxing sanctuary that’s also quite easy on the eyes. “The gentle sway of the nets above, the texture of recycled blue glass on the ground, the blue flowering vines that climb from the base of the four columns in the space, and the delicate ‘air plants’ that seem to float in mid-air, lets one’s mind wander and help frame the sky,” said Rovira. “That said, the view looking down from the upper floors is also quite special, especially when it’s full of students.”

According to Rovira, the idea to revitalize DM came from the 2010 Open Space Challenge, a series of architecture competitions seeking to transform some of the buildings most suited for this kind of extreme make over. “Some of the overall goals were to create safe, accessible spaces that promoted interaction and that advanced a sense of continuity and livability on campus,” said Rovira. Ultimately, DM became the building chosen, but some roadblocks kept the renovations from getting started. Issues with the cost and practicality of some of the early designs stalled the project for two years, until Rovira came along. “As a final alternative, I volunteered to design the space in the Spring of 2012 and selected a group of four students from the original charrette team to assist me in the process,” said Rovira. “I chose to focus on the interior courtyard portion of the project while still trying to meet the goals and aspirations of the original charrette.”

One of the students chosen for the team was Martina Gonzalez, who assisted in designing the sky lounge benches through a furniture-making course. “In that course I was able to make a prototype of the benches that you see in the sky lounge,” said Gonzalez.

She also speaks highly of Rovira as a professor as well as a project manager. “Roberto Rovira has, since day one, encouraged and challenged skills in fabrication,” said Gonzalez. “He has given me opportunities that have increased my abilities with wood working, making a list of all the things that I should keep me entertained while I was on the flight. The first thing I did was update my Kindle. I bought “The Great Gatsby” and “Tracks with Charley.” I wanted to read thoroughly. I decided to make a list of all the things that would keep me entertained while I was on the flight. The first thing I did was update my Kindle. I bought “The Great Gatsby” and “Tracks with Charley.” I wanted to read me at all times. So often I feel like I walk into a building or sit in a park and I do not even notice the lovely art close to me.

Another thing I did to prepare for this tumultuous trip was update my iPod with new music. I figured music would be my best tool for relaxation whenever I started to feel some cabin fever. I downloaded songs about passion, love and having the time of your life to get me in the travel mood. I even tried to include some variety in my playlist. I do not usually listen to Spanish music, but I decided to start listening to Alejandro Sanz and Enrique Iglesias, who are both Spanish artists. Music has the power to transform whatever or wherever you are into a completely new world. Whenever a good song would come up, I was suddenly in a better place and more relaxed.

The funny thing is, after I prepared for this upcoming dilemma quite thoroughly. I decided to make a list of all the things that would keep me entertained while I was on the flight. The first thing I did was update my Kindle. I bought “The Great Gatsby” and “Tracks with Charley.” I wanted to read me at all times. So often I feel like I walk into a building or sit in a park and I do not even notice the lovely art close to me.

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Summer heat calls for hot accessories

“My friends, the answer lies within the accessories. All summer I have been noticing students exercise their expression of self not so much through their attire but through their accessories. Take sophomore business major Caro-lina Barreits for example. Her outfit was simple and sweet with a casual crop top, shorts and tennis shoes but the true twist of the ensemble was found on her fingers with a handful of emotionally loaded knuckle rings. “The rings are my mom’s, class rings and from childhood memories.”

These were beautiful not only visually but spiritually too. Next we have senior business major Talebeer Alexander who was found sporting an athletic inspired crop top and cargo pants on an especially sunny day in front of the Graham Center. What first caught my eye about her was her tin-earring outfit that she said was inspired because “it’s hot” but the more I paid attention I realized that the real style that was oozing from this outfit was not from the shirt and pants but from the accessories. Her large hoop earrings, leather studded bracelet, discreet belly button ring and tattoos, the most permanent accessory of all, created get-up was that all was her own without forcing her to sweater any more than necessary.

So my advice to you all this summer if you’re looking for ways to express your self and clothing simply isn’t an option because you don’t want to die from a heat stroke is to find yourself through rings, necklaces, body chains and more.

The options are endless and practically timeless because, unlike clothing, jewelry has less a chance of going out of fashion as quickly as those wedge sneakers you bought last season.

-a shley garner@fiusm.com

‘Love is All You Need’ features good acts

Susanne Bier’s writing with Anders Thomas Jensen for this so-called romantic comedy is as predictable as it comes, but there’s a twist to the way it’s presented. Just like in most rom-coms, the predictability is high and there’s enough drama to go around, but Bier never shies away from the dramatic elements of her story, making it feel much less like a romantic comedy than expected.

After establishing that this hairdresser has lost her hair and her husband has been cheating on her, Susanne Bier takes her character down a muddled but interesting route. The traditional rom-com style involves the wedding, the enchanting music and location, and even Ida’s meet cute with her romantic interest Philip, played by Pierce Brosnan, who just happens to be the father of her daughter’s fiancé Patrick, played by Sebastian Jessen.

The drama of the film comes from all sides, some hidden and some out in the open. Fighting and crushes, uncertainty filling the air and the awkward relationship between Ida’s daughter and her fiancé. The tumultuous wedding is frankly one of the film’s weakest points, even though it’s meant to be what holds the film together, with Jessen and Egelind’s work and story pacing in compar-i-son to that of their on screen partners.

What really makes “Love is All You Need” rise above all the other films this year is its beautiful that comes with the darkness that comes with the romance, baring it all for a charac-ter that is driven and passionate throughout the picture.

While Pierce Brosnan has shown us that he can have a good time often enough, a constant reminder of which is “Mamma Mia,” he takes this opportunity to remind us that he can handle dramatic well.

Trine Dyrholm delivers a performance that one doesn’t usually get from a film of this nature, being an actress that is comfortable with the cards they’ve been dealt.

For all of its flaws, Susanne Bier’s film is enjoy-able to watch because of all the good that comes with it, the beauty in the moments, the chemistry of the cast, the locations and more. The only thing that makes the film fail is the predictable and cliché ending.

-Juan Barquin

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Softball leader starts new chapter as coach

Ashley McClain, FIU's softball all-time leader in almost every statistical category, is now stepping out of the batting box and using her knowledge to help other young ladies achieve their goals.

McClain racked up numerous accolades, such as being named the second player in the program's history to be named to the All-Sun Belt first-team on three occasions. McClain is also the Panthers' first-ever Sun Belt Player of the Year and the first FIU player to earn three National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Region honors.

McClain helped lead the Panthers to a winning record each of her four years at FIU. Now McClain is using what she has learned on the field to teach other players as an assistant coach at Murray State University, some players who are just one to two years younger than McClain.

"It was definitely a learning experience because I transitioned so quick from being a player to a coach," McClain said. "I've gotten great feedback from the girls telling me they've really enjoyed how I coach them."

As a Racer, McClain will work with their pitchers and assist with hitting. Areas the young athlete has had much success in during her softball career.

"It's been a blessing having Ashley on staff this past year," said Head Coach Kara Amundson. "Her ability to connect with our pitching staff was pertinent for the success of our program and she did an incredible job not only building a connection with them, but also helping them grow as players and people."

During her senior year at Riverview Tampa High School, McClain recorded an ERA of 0.90. At FIU, McClain ended her career and is currently the all-time leader in batting average, total bases, RBIs, home runs and doubles.

McClain is no stranger to the stress that comes with being associated to a team at the college level. Having been in the limelight most of her time at FIU, McClain knows first hand what players may go through and how to overcome it.

"Once you break that one record, once you show how good you can do, there's always going to be pressure to follow up that next year to do the same," McClain said. "I had great support from my teammates who just kept making me feel like I was just another player out there playing."

While at FIU, McClain expressed to former head coach Beth Torina her goal of being a graduate assistant; though leaving the game of softball wasn't something that was easy. Torina, who would later accept a head coaching position at Louisiana State University, helped McClain find a way to continue being a part of softball, and instead of leaving the game, she decided to stay.

"She has a very positive approach to coaching and a vibrant personality," Amundson said. "I am really looking forward to her coming back this year and starting up right where we left off."

Coaching wasn't McClain's first choice after graduation. The love of softball still filled her lungs once her time as a Panther came to an end. Unfortunately, McClain didn't have plans to go on and play National pro Fastpitch, the women's professional softball league, did not pan out the way she had hoped. So she came to the realization to put down the helmet, put on the coaches hat and begin anew at Murray State.

"I definitely enjoy softball and it's going to be hard for me to give it up," McClain said. "You'd definitely going to see softball somehow. If I'm playing on a small pitch league or if I'm dealing with the University."

McClain has completely hung up her cleats though. Whether on or off the field is still yet to be seen.

"You definitely enjoying softball and it’s going to be hard for me to give it up," McClain said. "You'd definitely going to see softball somewhere. If I'm playing on a small pitch league or if I'm dealing with the University."

Ashley McClain hopes to begin her new career as a coach at Murray State similar to her great career at FIU, only building a connection with them, but also helping them grow as players and people."

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Rhys Griffin respectively. With the weak showing the pair had in spring practice, it is necessary that in the remainder of the summer and into the fall practice, the pair must grow into their roles.

On Oct. 26, Louisiana Tech will roll into town, a team that posted a 1-3 record last season.

When the program decided to hold out from a regular bowl game to wait and see if they would get a BCS bowl game it was a risky choice, many people thought that the Bulldogs would partake in the Discover Orange Bowl but it did not come to pass.

East Carolina is next up for FIU, a team which hosted a 8-5 record last season which ended in a loss to the University of Louisiana in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl. In Athlon’s all Conference-USA 1st and 2nd team selections, the Pirates are tied for second with seven players selected.

The second matchup in November for the Panthers will be the Middle Tennessee State University. The Blue Raiders are another 2013 addition to C-USA and familiar to the Panthers from the Sun Belt. In their last season in the SBC, they Raiders went 8-4 and looked primed for a bowl game until a last game loss to SBC Champions Arkansas State 45-0.

FIU will then take its first and only trip to Texas when they play against the University of Texas at El Paso. The team that went 3-9 last season has the 97th hardest schedule in the nation, out of 126 teams, according to ESPN. However, they are in the middle of the pack for the new C-USA, with nine of the other 18 teams having easier schedules than them. The Miners also go into the fall with five members on the Athlon’s all Conference-USA preseason list, which is four more than the Panthers.

On Nov. 23, FIU will return back to Miami to face Marshall University.

While at FIU, McClain expressed to former head coach Beth Torina her goal of being a graduate assistant; though leaving the game of softball wasn't something that was easy. Torina, who would later accept a head coaching position at Louisiana State University, helped McClain find a way to continue being a part of softball, and instead of leaving the game, she decided to stay.

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With eight players selected to the preseason all-conference team by Athlon’s, they lead the pack. The Herd were a pass first offense last season with an average of almost 120 more passing yards per game than their opponents.

FIU will then wrap up the 2013 season on the road against Florida Atlantic University. The Owls are another team that joined C-USA on July 1. Our northern neighbors in Boca Raton are joining us a year earlier than expected, leaving the Sun-Belt conference. In their last season in the SBC, the Owls tied with our football program with three wins and nine losses. They also tie with the Panthers in number of players selected to the Athlon’s all conference list, only a single player in Tight End Nelson Dorville.

Rhys Williams 8@fiusm.com

Panthers face a new mountain to climb

The FIU Football team looks to prepare for a new era under the guidance of new head coach Ron Turner.
Coasting to 2nd makes or good night at Daytona

JENNA FRYER
AP Writer

Tony Stewart coasted for at least 250 miles at Daytona International Speedway, where he hardly worked up a sweat until the final hour of the race.

It’s a game he hates to play, dropping to the back of the pack for restrictor-plate races to casually circle the track lap after lap.

The strategy of waiting until the end of the race to make a frantic, finish push goes against his fundamentals of racing.

But he couldn’t deny the results Saturday night when he found himself in position to challenge Jimmie Johnson for the win.

Although he ultimately settled for second, the finish pushed him a whopping six places to 10th in points in the Sprint Cup standings.

“This is a 195 mph chess match and the lap laps are lap 160,” Stewart said. “A lot is said about guys that lag back like that, but we’ve become the most competitive series in the country, and when you’re running in the most competitive series in the country you have to do what you think is in the best interest of you, your car, your team and your situation to get to the end.

“Part of winning races is knowing to be where at what times. I know some people don’t like that and some people don’t agree with it, but that’s what I think is the best thing to do in the interest of our race team and to ensure at the end of the day that we’re time to go we have a car that’s capable of doing so.”

Stewart has used that strategy for years at Daytona and Talladega, then two tracks that NASCAR requires the use of horsepower-sapping restrictor plates.

The plates control speeds and keep the cars bunched, raising the likelihood of a multicar crash when a driver makes a mistake.

Now more and more drivers are simply riding around for the three-quarters, choosing to wait until the end to turn it up a notch.

It was frustrating to fourth-place finisher Clint Bowyer, who had voiced his boredom with Daytona several times over the winter, competitive series.

“I made a rule with myself at these restrictor-plate races to be easy. You know, ride around,” Bowyer said. “It’s boring. You want to be up there racing for every lap led. If you get wiped out it doesn’t matter who caused it or whose fault it was. If you get wiped out before halfway in one of these restrictor-plate races it’s your own fault. You know better than to put yourself in that situation.”

The final results Saturday showed that riding in the back is the best strategy for making it to the finish line.

Johnson, who had the dominant car, led a race-high 94 laps and felt confident his speed was enough to keep him out front and avoid trouble.

But Stewart, Kevin Harvick, Bowyer and Michael Waltrip all made moves to the top-five but laying back for at least half the race.

David Ragan did the same thing going to win Talladega in May.

But Stewart is correct in sensing that many fans don’t like watching drivers take it easy. They gripe and grumble that there’s no point in watching a plate race until the very end because that’s when it gets exciting.

So what does NASCAR do about this predicament?

Series officials can’t force drivers to race hard, and there doesn’t seem to be any real consequence to laying back.

Several years ago when Denny Hamlin was in the thick of the championship race, he lost a tandem partner while racing at the back and fell out of the draft. In danger of going a lap down and ruining his title chances, fellow Toyota driver Waltrip got out of the gas and slid back to rescue Hamlin.

And NASCAR can’t take the plates off unless it figures a way to slow the cars, which nobody has been able to do at the two biggest and fastest tracks in the series.

But as Bowyer grumbled about how much idle time he spent at Daytona, where drivers run just a few laps of practice to tune their cars, then turn one lap on qualifying day, then sit and wait for the race to take it easy until the end, it became apparent the whole system is broken.

NASCAR will never cut races from 500 to 400 miles to a 25-lap shootout, but that’s basically what they’ve become.

Everybody sat around and waited three days to see the final 25 laps of Saturday night’s race.

At minimum, NASCAR should cut the plate events, excluding the Daytona 500, down to two-day shows for the Sprint Cup Series.

No team is using all its practice time, making it pointless for everyone to be at the track all those hours.

As for the race itself?

Who knows?

There’s no incentive to race early, and there’s not much NASCAR can do to change that.

For now, we know what we’re going to watch four times a year.

We’ll sit and watch for some wrecks, then wait for it to get crazy at the end.
The first time I tasted a Georgian wine was in my first wine class, Historical and Contemporary Wine, taken in fall 2012 at the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management with Professor Bill Hebrank. As we went through the history of wine in class, we were able to taste wines from different countries that you would not usually taste; not because they are not available in the market, but because they are not familiar to us and unfortunately most of us try to stay on the safe side while experiencing new things. Wine might not seem complex at first, but requires more information that you might be willing to know.

On June 23, I tasted six Georgian wines. It was an experiment conducted by Clark Smith and his assistant in Miami Nicole Linares to introduce these wines to the “American palate.” Our tasting group consisted of everyone that you would imagine in South Florida. Clark Smith is one of the teachers for the Wine Program at FIU. We tasted three whites and three reds as an assignment. He joined us via a Skype conference call while in California and we went through each wine together. In addition to that, he gave us a little bit of background on the country and the challenges that Georgian wines have been facing by trying to get into the American Market.

The group had mostly the same impression about each; but still, wine tasting is a unique and personal experience. As we waited to receive our wine, I decided to start the tasting at 9:30 p.m. with the whites.

The first white wine we tasted was the suur-year wine from the United States; more specifically at The Finger Lakes, NY, by Dr. Konstantin Frank Winery. Rkatsiteli, the grape variety used in the production of the wine is originally from Georgia, is one of the oldest vineria grapes known to man. The vintage of the wine – that means the year in which the grapes were harvested – was 2011, and it had an alcohol content of 12.5 percent. It was a dry wine and some compared it to a Pinot Gris. I was impressed when Clark told us that this wine was produced from a vine that was planted in 1952. Usually older vines produce fewer yields but tend to increase in quality.

It was the only American produced wine of the night and, in my opinion, the least impressive. The appearance was a faded gold. The nose - usually how the sense of smell is received - was delicate with hints of star fruit, roses, and fresh-cut grass. The taste did not light. The average price of this wine is $15.

For the second wine I want to mention was the third and last wine we tasted that night. It is originally from The Republic of Georgia, specifically the Bodisikhevi-Kakheti region produced by Pheasant's Tears Vineyards with the same grape variety previously mentioned. Rkatsiteli. The vintage was 2009, in my opinion, a little young to already be open. Nonetheless, this wine had the most beautiful color I have ever seen in a white wine: amber like a liquid in fire. On that note, Clark explained to us that this wine is sometimes referred to as “Fire Wine.”

The nose was a very intriguing one, with notes of black tea leaves, truffle and earth. However, it lacked a depth of flavor making me a little disappointed. What helps white wines to age is its acidity, which was very subtle producing a very light mouth feel, in other words, the texture of a wine in your mouth; you can associate water with the lightest, milk as the heaviest to better understand the finish was short and it reminded me of a 5 p.m. tea party. The average price of this wine is $18. On a history note, those wines are aged before bottled in Qvevri, a unique Georgian wine vessel made out of clay.

Our complete group included myself, Orestes Lavassas, Nicole Linares (the host), Sara Kaplan, Certa Majar, Andik Sigari and her fiancé as well as Aaron Welch (FIU wine visitor professor) and his brother Morgan.

The fifth wine tasted in the evening, the second red wine and my favorite from the whole tasting. It was produced by Wine Man with the Saperavi grape, an indigenous variety, also originated the Kakheti region of Georgia. One of the wines I had one had an unusually low alcohol percentage: only 12. Unquestionably, it was dark red, with such a deep color that when placed over a white surface, you would not be able to see anything through. In all honesty, it had a perfect balance of fruit and bitter notes. I can still pick its unique terroir; the different earliness scents on the nose and on the finish of the palate made it the best of the show!

-Daniela V. Walter is a Teaching Assistant to professors Chip Clark andHebrank at the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management. This wine had the most beautiful color I have ever seen in a white wine: amber like a liquid in fire.

Health insurers fear young people will opt out

The Beacon – 8
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KELLI KENNEDY
AP Writer

Dan Lopez rarely gets sick and hasn’t been to a doctor in 10 years, so buying health insurance feels like a waste of money.

Even after the federal health overhaul takes full effect next year, the 24-year-old said he will still decide to pay his $100 penalty for those who skip the law’s requirement that all Americans purchase coverage.

“I don’t feel I should pay for something I don’t use,” said the Milwaukee resident, who makes about $48,000 a year working two jobs.

Because he makes too much to qualify for government subsidies, Lopez would pay a premium of about $3,000 a year if he chose to buy health insurance.

“I shouldn’t be penalized for having good health,” he said.

Many young and healthy adults such as Lopez to buy insurance under the Affordable Care Act. Insurers are betting that younger adults will buy coverage in order to offset higher costs they will incur for older, sicker beneficiaries.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that about six million people of various ages will pay the tax penalty for not having insurance in 2014, the first year the law championed by President Barack Obama will be fully implemented.

It’s hard to estimate how many of those will be the young and healthy adults insurers are trying to reach, but that subgroup makes up a very small portion of the overall market.

Though it’s small, experts say it could be enough to throw the system’s financing off kilter.

About 3 million 18-24 year-olds in the U.S. currently purchase their own insurance.

Many pay high prices for scant benefits, with high deductibles and co-pays because they make too much to qualify for Medicaid and have no coverage options from their employers or parents.

The Urban Institute estimates that the majority of adults in that age group will qualify for government subsidies under the Affordable Care Act.

Premium hikes could be a disincentive for young people to shop for insurance. Premiums for people aged 21 to 29 with single coverage who are not eligible for government subsidies would increase by 42 percent under the law, according to an analysis by actuaries at the consulting firm Oliver Wyman. By comparison, an adult in his or her early 60s who would see about half of his or her premium increase to cover older, sicker beneficiaries.

The estimate comes from the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation’s online Health Insurance Subsidy Calculator. Franc Louis, a 20-year-old college student in South Florida who works part-time, can’t remember the last time he went to a doctor. He now has to worry about paying off monthly co-pays because he makes too much to qualify for government subsidies to help pay for counter medication whenever he’s sick. He’d love to get a check-up, but says it’s too expensive on his income of less than $10,000 a year.

“I probably would do the $100 fine because it’s just cheaper and you don’t have to worry about paying off monthly costs,” said Louis, a student at Broward Community College near Fort Lauderdale.