Permaculture club works to restore environmental reserve by BBC

SELEMA HUSSAIN
Staff Writer

The cottage stands in the large yard, alongside two mango trees, two avocado trees, oregano plants and rosemary herbs. A large black labrador, Mu-Rain, roams around, searching for his best friend and owner, Joao Garcia.

When Garcia emerges from the cottage, clad in lime green swim trunks and baggy white T-shirt, Mu-Rain pounces with excitement. Garcia sits on a homemade fruit and vegetable smoothie made from avocados, watermelon, papaya, grapes, almonds and spinach. His long, tight curls are damp from an ocean swim – nature is his shampoo of choice.

Garcia, a 22-year-old environmental engineer major, is the president and founder of the Permaculture Club. After his breakfast of what he calls “baby food,” Garcia will head to campus to oversee his first official Permaculture Club meeting.

“Permaculture is just a new way of doing old things,” said Garcia. “We take degenerated, devastated land, and we regenerate it – help it cure itself.”

Permaculture, or permanent culture/agriculture, is an ecological design that mimics patterns seen in nature. By applying these to the environment and the community, Garcia said he hopes to create a functioning, flourishing space at the University.

Garcia’s interest in permaculture came at a time of deep stress. Bonnie Quiceno, Garcia’s yoga instructor, suggested that he find his deepest passion.

“How I say things and conjugate phrases and words which are common about 11 to 14 different vocalic pronunciations of the Spanish system which is simpler. Miami Girls Say,” have also popularized certain phrases and words which are common in parts of the country could probably notice the use of certain consonants. According to Carter, in English there are about 11 to 14 different vocalic pronunciations; whereas in Spanish there are only five, so many people in Miami tend to use a variation of the Spanish system which is simpler.

PHILLIP CARTER, a sociolinguist in the department of English, has been conducting research focusing on Hispanic-English dialects. He has been presenting his findings and debunking certain misconceptions associated with Miami English.

For example, Carter highlights the fact that Miami English is a native dialect, not an accent, based on standard American English but its pronunciation and rhythm is strongly influenced by Spanish.

“It is spoken by native English speakers, mostly second-, third- and fourth-generation Latinos, who learn it as their first language variety,” said Carter in a recent interview with FIU News.

One important characteristic of Miami English is its vocabulary, which is greatly influenced by Spanish. Words like “oye,” “dame,” “mami” and “chonga” are commonly heard around many parts of Miami on any given day. Phrases such as “pelo pera,” “pobreco” and “ah bueno” are also frequently used. However, these words and phrases are not used exclusively by Latinos. Many non-Latinos find themselves speaking Miami English and using some Spanish words in their everyday activities.

“Dale” is trademark Miami,” said Alex Simeonov, a business major from Bulgaria who has been living in Miami for many years. “Simeonov also explained how he has had to learn some Spanish in order to get by in Miami. “When I buy food I have to use Spanish words like ‘empunada,’ ‘arepa’ and ‘croceta.’”

Another major aspect that makes Miami English unique is its vocalic system and the use of certain consonants. According to Carter, in English there are about 11 to 14 different vocalic pronunciations; whereas in Spanish there are only five, so many people in Miami tend to use a variation of the Spanish system which is simpler.

Alumni, the ‘bread and butter’ of the University

MARCIA BRITOS
Staff Writer

Every semester thousands of undergraduate university students leave college life, become alumni and enter the “real world” – what Duane Wiles, associate vice president of Alumni Relations and the executive director of the Alumni Association, calls the “bread and butter” of the institution.

With the University’s most recent and largest donation – a whopping $400,000 to the University College of Law by alumnus Abraham Ovadia – Wiles said alumni help to financially support the University.

“We need the alumni to go out there and tell the FIU story,” said Duane Wiles, Associate Vice President, Alumni Relations.

 “[The donation] doesn’t have to be large. It could be anything from five dollars to 10 dollars to 20 dollars, whatever amount they can give, that money helps,” said Wiles.

Wiles, FIU Foundation, Inc.’s fund-raising goal to raise $750 million in ten years will reach out to alumni in its third phase of the campaign.

According to Wiles, alumni are not only expected to give monetary donations, the association highly encourages participation within university related events. Such programs consist of creating networking opportunities between mentors to university students and to other alumni through the new new alumni to alumni mentoring program managed by the Career Services.

Alumni can also volunteer by serving on the close to 30 alumni chapters nationally and internationally. These chapters, active in cities like New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, consist of groups of former students who organize events to help support the University and celebrate the Panther pride.

Other ways that alumni give back to the University is by providing student scholarships. Just recently, Pamela Silva Conde, former student and alumna of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, established the Pamela Silva Conde Scholarship for first-generation students in the journalism program. The Univision co-anchor was recently named alumni of the year and is one of the many lifetime members of the Alumni Association.

“They have so much to offer as far as their expertise and certainly can be a resource for our current students,” said Wiles. But alumni not only serve as a support system, part of the reason their involvement is so important is because they can help as recruitment tools for the next generation of incoming students, said Wiles.

“We need the alumni to go out there and tell the FIU story,” said Wiles.

Spreading the message to the world via graduates can help increase and build affinity for the institution. It’s the school we are proud of.”

University sociolinguist debunks Miami English stereotypes

ALONSO MONTANO
Contributing Writer

It is heard every day in local classrooms, the workplace and at home. It has a distinct sound, an almost tropical rhythm and in most recent years it has been popularized by de facto Miami Mayor Pitbull – it is called Miami English.

Phillip Carter, a sociolinguist who has been conducting research focusing on Hispanic-English dialects, has been presenting his findings and debunking certain misconceptions associated with Miami English.

For example, Carter highlights the fact that Miami English is a native dialect, not an accent, based on standard American English but its pronunciation and rhythm is strongly influenced by Spanish.

“It is spoken by native English speakers, mostly second-, third- and fourth-generation Latinos, who learn it as their first language variety,” said Carter in a recent interview with FIU News.

One important characteristic of Miami English is its vocabulary, which is greatly influenced by Spanish. Words like “oye,” “dame,” “mami” and “chonga” are commonly heard around many parts of Miami on any given day. Phrases such as “pelo pera,” “pobreco” and “ah bueno” are also frequently used. However, these words and phrases are not used exclusively by Latinos. Many non-Latinos find themselves speaking Miami English and using some Spanish words in their everyday activities.

“Dale” is trademark Miami,” said Alex Simeonov, a business major from Bulgaria who has been living in Miami for many years. “Simeonov also explained how he has had to learn some Spanish in order to get by in Miami. “When I buy food I have to use Spanish words like ‘empunada,’ ‘arepa’ and ‘croceta.’”

Another major aspect that makes Miami English unique is its vocalic system and the use of certain consonants. According to Carter, in English there are about 11 to 14 different vocalic pronunciations; whereas in Spanish there are only five, so many people in Miami tend to use a variation of the Spanish system which is simpler.

Additionally, consonants like the letters L, R and S are pronounced a little different sometimes.

“Despite the fact that for most speakers this influence is ultimately very light, it can be extremely salient for English speakers unfamiliar with the dialect,” said Carter.

Angela Torres, a senior majoring in nutrition and dietetics, thinks that people in other parts of the country could probably notice she is from Miami.

“By the way I say things and conjugate things,” said Torres. “We in Miami also don’t like beating around the bush.”

Popular videos on YouTube, like “Sh**t Miami Girls Say,” have also popularized certain phrases and words which are common
Eco-warrior to study BBC, located near landfill

ENVIRONMENT, PAGE 1

(Quail Springs) used to be flowing with rivers and vegetation," J. Garcia said. "After about 100 years of cattle grazing, the land turned into a desert." J. Garcia said that programs offered by Quail Springs aim to restore the area through planting crops, such as grape vines, that can grow easily in Southern California's climate.

J. Garcia plans to restore Arch Creek East Environmental Reserve – a dry, burned land behind Biscayne Bay Campus – with the Urban Paradise Guild.

"We're located on a landfill, so we don't really know how toxic our tap water or grass is," J. Garcia said. "Eighty-five percent of our efforts in the Permaculture Club would be to research. We want to know what we're working with before we act."

J. Garcia also said that community outreach is a major part of what the Permaculture Club wants to achieve. He said this thought is based on the three principles of permaculture: care of the earth, care of the people and reinvesting the surplus.

"Nature is what I love," J. Garcia said. "The forest is a self-sustaining life force, and not every tree bears fruit, but everything has its purpose." This story was reported and written as part of a class assignment in JOUR 3500, Advanced News Writing, taught by Professor Fred Bleuens.

跗selima.hussain@fiusm.com

SPANISH AND ENGLISH INFUSED IN MIAMI

Spanish and English infused in Miami

COMMUNITY, PAGE 1

"Every dialect has its own history, and no one language variety is more or less correct than another," said Phillip Carter, Sociolinguist Department of English.

"These are but a few of the many examples of changing gener-

ity of our FIU family," wrote Howard Lipman, president and Founder of FIU Foun-
dation, Inc., was unavailable for comment by press time.

-maria.brito@fiusm.com

“Other people are prob-
ably going to think you don’t speak English right,” said Hanna Stern, a sopho-
more majoring in nutrition and dietetics; she is a native from Colombia. Carter believes these stereotypes are just misleading notions and hopes people will learn more about the origin of the dialect.

Every dialect has its own history, and no one language variety is more or less correct than another," said Carter. In recent weeks, Carter has been featured in inter-
views on national and inter-
national media channels such as CNN, El Nuevo Herald, The Miami Herald and Caracol Radio in Colombia.

跗new@fiusm.com

"Like having a rain shower, watching the full moon, [or] observing the plants growing." J. Garcia’s love for the environment – combined with his spiritual, theo-

dical and scientific views – create a unique and holistic outlook on life.

In his living room, a cross, candles, a few paintings and a series of colored rocks lay scattered across the coffee table in a swirl formation. Everyday, J. Garcia burns rosemary incense, because it is one of the vividly “power rocks” in his pocket to bring positive energy.

“Observation and science are twin sisters,” J. Garcia said. “One can’t exist without the other. One attempts to explain the other.”

Aside from being a very spiritual person, J. Garcia also makes various fruit and plant juices to maintain optimal health. Some of the ingredients are found in his own backyard.

One of the beverages he makes is chlorophyll juice, which consists of two blended apples and a series of J. Garcia’s favorite greens.

"It’s like the energy of the sun and Earth fused into a liquid," he said. Through research and sheer curios-
ty, J. Garcia came across permacul-
ture. From June 24 to July 7, he visited Southern California to conduct research and take classes at Quail Springs Perma-
culture farm.

Eighty-five percent of our efforts in the Permaculture Club have to do with outreach. And not every tree bears fruit, but everything has its purpose." This story was reported and written as part of a class assignment in JOUR 3500, Advanced News Writing, taught by Professor Fred Bleuens.

跗selima.hussain@fiusm.com

Every day an English dialect and Spanish variety is more or less correct than another," said Carter. In recent weeks, Carter has been featured in inter-
views on national and inter-
national media channels such as CNN, El Nuevo Herald, The Miami Herald and Caracol Radio in Colombia.

购置 these stereotypes are just misleading notions and hopes people will learn more about the origin of the dialect.

Every dialect has its own history, and no one language variety is more or less correct than another," said Carter. In recent weeks, Carter has been featured in inter-
views on national and inter-
national media channels such as CNN, El Nuevo Herald, The Miami Herald and Caracol Radio in Colombia.

购置 these stereotypes are just misleading notions and hopes people will learn more about the origin of the dialect.

Every dialect has its own history, and no one language variety is more or less correct than another," said Carter. In recent weeks, Carter has been featured in inter-
views on national and inter-
national media channels such as CNN, El Nuevo Herald, The Miami Herald and Caracol Radio in Colombia.

购置 these stereotypes are just misleading notions and hopes people will learn more about the origin of the dialect.

Every dialect has its own history, and no one language variety is more or less correct than another," said Carter. In recent weeks, Carter has been featured in inter-
views on national and inter-
national media channels such as CNN, El Nuevo Herald, The Miami Herald and Caracol Radio in Colombia.
MOISES FUERTEZ
Staff Writer

Since the digital age started, the newspaper business has been in decline, which is no surprise to me. History has shown time and again that when a medium of communication flourishes, other mediums stagnate until they adapt to the new one. As a result, the newspaper business has started to adapt to the online scene. Everything is easier now due to how effective the Internet is, particularly when it comes to publishing papers.

There is, however, a shift in the way news is accessed online recently. Digital versions of newspapers today are beginning to input paywalls for the content, as opposed to before, when the news was posted online for free.

According to the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, a 2013 report on digital news showed that people within the age range of 25 to 34 are most willing to pay for digital news throughout several countries, while older groups are more reluctant, with only five percent of users 55 years old and older willing to pay for digital news. The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism additionally reported that “Nearly half (49 percent) of 18 to 24 year olds read a digital newspaper – the highest reach of any age group.”

“I see myself paying for digital news,” said senior English major Alejandro Viera, “I find the accessibility worth paying for.”

“I read most of my news online,” said senior and political science major Dana Hernandez. “Having the content available via the Internet is better because it allows a person from any country to read any publication at any time. However, Hernandez would prefer the news services remain free online, with revenue coming from advertisements on the page. She did mention that she wouldn’t like it if the advertisement became too personalized or intrusive. Many newspapers are also developing applications for smartphones and tablets, which has ultimately aided the entire news industry in reaching not only the digital market, but also the mobile market. The same report on digital news by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism shows that individuals using mobile devices, particularly Apple devices, are 50 percent more likely to pay for digital news. Whether I’m getting the news on my smartphone or my computer is irrelevant to me; I just care that I have access to it online. I do read print publications, but it simply does not compare to the amount of reading I do online.

The way I see it, this is not only a positive gain for the newspaper industry, but also a clear insight that digital natives (those born after 1980) prefer reading online over print. It is also evidence that we will continue to see a shift in the way people communicate as the digital revolution solidifies itself into our daily lives.

Digital news gains paid readership

SHEHRYAR EFFENDI
Contributing Writer

It was 2 p.m. when the discussion erupted over a slice of cheese pizza at the Fresh Food Company. “If we’re old enough to vote, to face the consequences of our actions, to get married and to raise a family, then why can we not drink?”

This question appears to be the issue many undergraduate students who reside in dorms struggle with, simply wanting to relax on weekends and blow off steam over a game of beer pong.

Juan Nicolau, a freshman studying engineering, was part of the discussion, having started the conversation by narrating an incident from the past week. It was the night of Sept. 19 when Harry and a couple of his friends decided to go out and party to celebrate Harry’s birthday. The night came crashing down when Harry collapsed at a local park in Miami. The drugs they bought were bad, which caused one young adult his life.

This incident not only affected Juan but all of us. We all know that one guy who might follow in the footsteps of Harry. As a freshman at the University, I know that drugs like “molly” and “MDMA” are readily available and accessible all over the United States. It is easier to buy these hard drugs compared to some of the treatments that educate parents to actively take part in the life of teenagers.

Along with consideration and revision of previous laws, steps should be taken towards highlighting the side effects of such hard drugs in the long run and programs should be set up that educate parents to actively take part in the life of teenagers.

When the day arrived, the day so many of us anxiously waited for, Sept. 7, nothing happened. I waited a week. Two weeks. I visited Financial Aid: “Your FIU scholarship hasn’t been disbursed. Check back later.” No sign of Bright Futures either. My credit card bills were piling up; I had put all my textbooks on a card and had yet to pay it back (because I was relying on the arrival of my FIU refund).

My mom, furious and puzzled with the delay of the money, called a friend who works at Financial Aid. They explained to her the inane problem they experienced that caused a delay in the scholarship disbursement and they told her I had nothing to worry about. She was told that I was going to get all of my money’s worth and I just had to wait.

For the full column, go to fiusm.com
Hair won’t define you, but enhance you

Ashley Gardner / The Beacon

"The Good Wife" remains one of the best dramas around

JIAN BANQIN

There’s no lack of drama program- ming on network television, but CBS in particularly has never really been at the top of the game.

Yet, there is one hidden gem relegated to Sunday nights that offers audiences some of the best drama and female characters on television right now. This show—a blend of politics, sex and courtroom drama—is none other than "The Good Wife.

Good, however, doesn’t even begin to cover what an engaging and strangely addictive series this truly is.

"The Good Wife" follows Alicia Florrick (Julianna Margulies), a politician’s wife, who decides to rekindle her law career after having her husband’s sexual affairs revealed to the world.

Over its last four seasons, though, “The Good Wife” has evolved in ways few would have ever expected.

There’s no easy way to draw a line down the middle of how the series divvies up its time between courtroom and family drama, but it does so with the utmost care.

On one hand, it shows the ins and outs of the law, along with plenty of joking and tension, to propel the narrative forward and often ignoring the procedural plot style that most dramas rely on. On the other hand, however, focuses on the human side of the show—the relationships between lawyer and client, mother and child, husband and wife, boss and employee—that keeps viewers coming back for more.

What keeps “The Good Wife” a notch above the rest of CBS programming is that it’s so much more than the courtroom drama it often presents itself to be.

The show utilizes the sort of quick wit you’d find in some of Aaron Sorkin’s earliest works, addressing and satirizing all kinds of modern political situations in ways something like “The Newsroom” could never hope to achieve.

Further proof of their superiority to that series is in the way that creators Robert and Michelle King have managed to create some of the most fascinating female characters on television.

The women on the series are all as fully-formed as they come, with personalities that actually provide some semblance of depth.

Alicia Florrick is not the only one, with Christine Baranski’s Diane Lockhart and Archie Panjabi’s Kalinda Sharma rounding out the main female cast.

The fact that they experience a real range of emotions rather than exist as blank slates for the men around them makes them a step above most other CBS shows, especially its tactless comedies, with the stellar writing for Joan Watson on “Elementary” being among the best as well.

Each one is a powerful representation of women in three very different places in life: the roles of wife, head litigator and investigator all being explored.

They may be at the same law firm, but each has her own life, her own troubles and her own personality, entirely separate from that of the men in their lives.

Of course, the men are always present—offering story progression through their schemes, sex and stupidity—but they often take a backseat to the women, something that has served the series well.

This immense dedication to making a politically charged law-based series that heavily focuses on women is really what has kept “The Good Wife” at the top of the game.

It’s smart, it’s funny, it cares about its ladies and it’s remained one of the most consistently interesting shows on network television for the last four years.

With Sunday night programming not being all that strong at this point in the year and its first four seasons being available for free on Amazon Prime, there’s no reason not to be watching “The Good Wife.”
Foundation of Meditation and Innate Practices in India

**Consuelo Naranjo**

Sometimes, the invisible and intangible is vital for human existence and survival such as air, love or hope. I learned that in India, while meditating in the middle of a small hummed room fulfilled with faith, peacefulness and mosquitos. A low tone voice asked me to sit on the floor, cross my legs, close my eyes and rediscover what I subconsciously do every second of my life, breathing. While trying to find that energetic spiritual light around my body, waves fulfilled with uncontrollable thoughts caressed my mind. An unstoppable tickling, started from my feet, traveled around my sweaty body, as I wondered if one day I will reach the same level of detachment and freedom that some spiritual souls, walking around earth had achieved.

Practicing meditation seems to be one of the most challenging processes; however, I do believe that it is completely attached and inborn as part of our nature. Finding your inner self while communicating with nature or the supreme, which belongs from the act of contemplation, in my experience, is the same as praying—by closing your eyes, holding hands or raising them in the air. When we are laying our knees on the ground while singing or reciting spiritual mantras coincidently or subconsciously we are meditating.

In some Asian cultures, mental and physical arts are basic for the ones who are looking forward to a better lifestyle, longevity and good health. In India there are many religions that promote the practice of meditation along with breathing exercises.

While living in the Jain community, one of the most ancient religions in the world, I discovered the practice of Preksha meditation, also known as Preksha Dhyam. This is a unique technique within the practice of nonviolence and respect for every living being. It is a mixture of knowledge from variant antique religious practices, modern day science and spiritual experiences.

Preksha meditation was created and mastered by Tera-panth Svetambara Jain Acharya Mahaprajna, one of the most important spiritual leaders for the Jain community. The main goal of this type of meditation is helping humanity by eliminating stress, relaxing the body and the mind as well as anchoring inner self into a stage of tranquility and awareness. According to Mahadev Lal Sarogi, A-A Science of living, Preksha, the utilization of this method purifies emotions, self-consciousness and creates awareness of the self-existence by clearing the mind. In addition, people who practice this kind of meditation will experience mental balance and peace.

After immersing myself into the path of meditation, I realized that this process does not have a minimum or a maximum time constraint. Much like praying, this technique connects us to the present and allows us to relieved pain and suffering. I encourage you to, no matter what religion or belief you follow, take a few minutes of your time, close your eyes, breathe deeply and be grateful for the positive energy that you have around. Be thankful for being alive and an indispensable part of our world. Meditate for the wellness of others, the ones who are far from or near us.

"Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul. It is daily admission of one’s weakness. It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart," - Mahatma Gandhi

University student Stephanie De Leon meditating in the middle of a sanctuary located in a northern area of Ladnun, India.

---

**Concert Preview: Nine Inch Nails’ comeback**

**JUNETTE REYES**

*Opinion Editor*

Nine Inch Nails is coming back to Florida for the first time since having performed at the Crazan Amphitheater in West Palm Beach during the NINJA (Nine Inch Nails and Jane’s Addiction) leg of the Wave Goodbye Tour in 2009.

The current tour, Tension 2013, marks the comeback tour for NIN and also serves as a platform for the recently released album, “Hesitation Marks.”

Trent Reznor, the mastermind behind NIN, took a break from constant touring as soon as the Wave Goodbye Tour ended, passing any further developments for NIN. Reznor instead tried his hand in movie score composition, having teamed up with director David Fincher for the films “The Social Network” and “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo.” The former earned him an Academy Award for “Best Original Score” while the latter earned him a Grammy Award for “Best Score Soundtrack for Visual Media.”

Reznor continued making music beyond this, this time for the band “How to Destroy Angels,” which is fronted by his wife Mariqueen Maandig. He couldn’t stay away from touring for long either, with a HTDA tour having started earlier this year on April 10. Throughout this time, Reznor was clearly working on what would soon be titled “Hesitation Marks” and surprised fans with the announcement of the album, with tour dates soon following.

Several songs from the album have been performed live since before Tension 2013 kicked off, as NIN appeared in many festivals since the announcement. This means that the live band, comprised of frontman Reznor, drummer Ilan Rubin, guitarist Robin Finck, pianist Alessandro Cortini and bassist Pino Palladino, should be quite comfortable with the new album.

Besides hearing songs from the new album live, the audience should also expect performances of rarely played songs, such as “Sanctified” from the debut album, "Pretty Hate Machine." Live rehearsal recordings as well as clips from several festival shows have shown the band performing “Sanctified,” which has been given an update from the original composition. An update, I must admit, that has given new meaning to the song.

Rarely played songs were also a theme during the Wave Goodbye Tour, with fans hearing songs such as a cover of David Bowie’s “T ‘n Afraid of Americans” during the West Palm Beach show.
Rhys Williams
Staff Writer

Saturday will bring some familiar faces to FIU Stadium. Head Coach Skip Holtz brings in the 2-5 Bulldogs of Louisiana Tech University for the first ever matchup between the two teams.

Senior defensive tackle Isame Faciane will welcome his cousin, Bulldog redshirt sophomore defensive lineman Malcolm Pichon, to Miami. “We have been trash talking each to each other since we found out that this upcoming game was on the schedule,” Faciane said. “You know, when you go against your family you are going to talk. We played together for three years so it is like the defensive line at our high school and we had one of the best units in the state.”

Faciane, a native of Slidell, La., received an honorable mention for the “Player of the Week” accolade given by the College Football Performance Awards weekly for his performance against Mississippi Golden Eagles, which was highlighted by his five tackles, including one for a loss.

Senior defensive tackle Isame Faciane will line up at the defensive line for the Panthers sideline. “It is just a game between two Conference USA opponents,” Holtz said. “It’s ability to be to the be that he is my former coach. We haven’t prepared any differently this week as we have before.”

First year running backs coach for the Bulldogs Jabbar Juluke also see two familiar faces when he makes the trip to Miami in former players defensive tackle Darian Dyson and Leonid Washington. Juluke coached the pair during his tenure at New Orleans’ Edna Karr High School in Louisiana.

Saturday will also mark a return of arguably the best football player to go through the Panthers football program. Indianapolis Colts wide receiver T.Y. Hilton will be the team’s honorary captain. Hilton and the Colts play on a bye week following a win against the Denver Broncos.

Holtz spoke on the Panthers as a whole this season and how the two programs have been compared this season in the Bulldogs weekly press conference. “Playing against FIU will be a great challenge this week coming off difficult loss where we continued to make some of the same mistakes. We are playing a team that scores 24 points the last two weeks. If do not think you can look at the full season of work, I think you have to look at the progress they have made. On the road early they played Louisville, Maryland and Central Florida who have proven to be good football teams. They are getting better and better as the years gone by. The last two weeks I have really impressed with what they are doing.” Holtz said in a statement.

Holtz also broke down each side of the ball for the Panthers. “Defensively, it starts with their first team all-conference lineman. He put them on both sides of the field, defensive lineman Greg Hickman. I think he is the best football player on the field when their defense is out there. Regardless of who they play, they can rush the passer and constantly put pressure on the quarterback which has not been our strong point, which something we have to get corrected this week, “Holtz said. “Offensively, they have a returning starter at quarterback. Their tailback is rushing for 90 yards a game at this point. They are getting better and putting points up on the board. For the third week in a row we are facing some very dangerous return men. Comeback Sam Miller their punt returner is doing a great job. Also, their young talented kick returner is doing a good job. He has a lot of shake and wiggle. Those are going to be guys that challenge our dirty dozen.”

The game will kickoff at 6 p.m. at FIU Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 26.

Rhys Williams@fiusm.com

Panthers face adversity as they come into their own

Oscar Baldizon
Staff Writer

Jessica Egan has been the story for this FIU volleyball team recently. The redshirt junior from Germantown, Md., has seamlessly transitioned to the setter position and really changed around what this team can get done both offensively and defensively.

Standing at 6-foot-2, she is a taller setter than freshman Anabela Sataric or sophomore Ashlee Hodgson, the two players who had been splitting time at the setter position before the team made the move to Egan as the dominant setter.

“She has amazing court vision,” said senior Kim Smith. “We have great chemistry together and she is a very intelligent player. With the ability to set it right to our hands; as a hitter that makes everything so much easier because we know we don’t have to worry about a bad set from her.”

As one of the best blocking team in Conference USA, the added height to the lineup only helps their cause and adds even more blocks. With 52 assists in just the last two games, Jessica Egan is showing why she will be the setter for this team come postseason play.

Blocking their way to success

Currently ranked second in the conference in total blocks as a team, the Panthers are beginning to show their grit on defense. With over 67 blocks for the season, and averaging over 3.5 blocks per set, the Panthers are looking to make their mark on this season as most great champions do, with their defense. Currently ranked fourth and fifth in blocks in C-USA, respectively, senior Ceece Spencer (32) and senior Kim Smith (29) have led this effort for this season.

“We have played all top teams in the conference, NCAA tournament bound teams, and are now moving along. We have found our groove and our identity as a huge blocking team which we will focus on more and get better at still,” Head Coach Rita Buck-Crockett said.

Internal Struggles

At some point during the season, even athletes can get irritated or bothered with each other. They are humans just like us and make mistakes like anyone else.

Last week, a day before their rivals, Florida Atlantic University, came to our campus for a match there was a dispute between two players on the team.

About halfway through practice a dispute broke out between redshirt junior Ksenia Kukhareva and junior Sylvia Carl. The two were separated from the rest of the team and spoke with Buck-Crockett for a brief period of time before the two met on the court whole on the middle of the court.

Both individuals haven’t played since and the team has been unavailing for comment.

Kukhareva was balled as the go to offensive player for the Panthers before the season started, and to anyone that watches her play, her obvious she possesses a lot of talent and versatility at multiple different positions on the court, but that hasn’t been the problem for the Russian this season. Easily fluctuated throughout games when she makes mistakes, teams have been able to key in on her terrible body language and attitude when she is mentally distracted and that has caused to her underperform.

On a team loaded with talent at the outside hitter position, it could be a while before we see Kukhareva take the court. And when the coach is a former Olympian who is known not to deal with nonsense, she is going to have to find that resolve and fortitude a player with her talent needs to execute properly and help a team win.

-sports@fiusm.com

The FIU women’s volleyball team looks to end the season strong as they enter their final few games with a record of (9-12).
The Panthers statistical greatest player, T.Y. Hilton, will return and be the honorary captain for the game against the Bulldogs of Louisiana Tech University on Saturday.

Hilton, currently one of the leading receiving TD candidates in the NFC, will add a significant weapon to the Panthers as they try to climb over .500 and reach the playoffs. The Panthers try to climb over .500 — tied for third in the NFC. The Panthers are 5-4 with a plus-5 takeaway/giveaway margin and have four of the five spots being held by Hilton — the players that are leading the league in this category.

Hilton also holds eight of the top 10 spots in single game receiving yards, with his highest total coming in his senior year at Troy University and ties for second in longest touchdown run with a total of 3,203, which is 4,295 less than Hilton's total.

They're a good football team, that's just a matter of time, keep pushing and keep working. That's the way it is in this league.

**Greek Flag Football**

Top five fraternities and sororities going into the postseason

**Fraternities:**
1. Phi Sigma Kappa (5-0)
2. Phi Gamma Delta (4-1)
3. Sigma Phi Epsilon (4-1)
4. Sigma Chi (3-2)
5. Pi Kappa Phi (3-2)

**Sororities:**
1. Ball Snatchers (5-0)
2. Alpha Omicron Pi (3-1)
3. Phi Sigma Sigma (3-1)
4. Alpha Xi Delta (3-2)
5. Sigma Kappa (2-3)

**Wireless Bucs eye opportunities against Panthers**

National TV, a chance to shine for Hilton, currently one of the leading receiving TD candidates in the NFC, will add a significant weapon to the Panthers as they try to climb over .500 and reach the playoffs. The Panthers try to climb over .500 — tied for third in the NFC. The Panthers are 5-4 with a plus-5 takeaway/giveaway margin and have four of the five spots being held by Hilton — the players that are leading the league in this category.

Hilton also holds eight of the top 10 spots in single game receiving yards, with his highest total coming in his senior year at Troy University and ties for second in longest touchdown run with a total of 3,203, which is 4,295 less than Hilton's total.
University to hold safe driving seminar

ALEX BLENCOE
Contributing Writer

More than 7,000 Americans died in motor vehicle crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Board. In Florida, at least 85 crashes by distracted drivers turned fatal in 2010 and 2011.

Counseling and Psychological Services, Student Health Services and the Florida Department of Transportation is hosting CAPSapalooza 2013 just in time for National College Alcohol and Drug Awareness Week.

CAPSapalooza, in partnership with the FDOT’s Put It Down Campaign, will feature two events: “Get It Straight” and “Get Crushed.”

The events are an interactive and preventative approach to helping students to think about situations that put them at risk, wrote event organizer Xuan Stevens, University psychologist, and Silvia Hassert, psychology intern, in an email.

“Get It Straight” will feature special guest speakers Dr. Sarah Marie Stevens, assistant vice president of the Humanity Project Board of Directors and assistant professor of criminology and sociology at Barry University, who will share her inspirational story about the dangers of drug abuse and irresponsible behaviour.

“Get Crushed” will feature a rock-climbing wall and a bounce house that Stevens and Hassert say will be part of an “educational experience geared towards changing students’ negative association and inappropriate use of the bounce house while intoxicated.”

The Florida Department of Transportation, the American Automobile Association and AT&T are also bringing some interesting attractions: a distracted driving simulator, a rail over simulation, motor squads, a BAT mobile and more. Delicious Capi-Sun “mocktails” will be served at the “Get Crushed” event, and there will be two certainly non-alcoholic,” says Hassert.

Students from local surrounding high schools are invited to join the events. According to Hassert’s findings, about 662 students attended in 2011 and there were about a thousand attendees in 2012, with more expected this year.

Carlos Sarmiento, community Traffic Safety Program Coordinator at the Florida Department of Transportation, District 6, says the “Put It Down” campaign has visited high schools, colleges and universities for the past three years, and has reached 4.2 million people so far. This year the FDOT hopes to get new data on how effective the recent Florida ban on texting and driving has been in making roads safer.

“The Put It Down Campaign and CAPSapalooza is an opportunity for students to learn and share experiences about what they do when they drive,” said Sarmiento.

Funding for CAPSapalooza is provided by CAPS, the Victim Empowerment Program, Student Government, Campus Recreation, Student Health Services through the student health fee, and Campus Life through the student activities fee.

In attendance will be members of the Florida Highway Patrol, Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization, South Florida Commuter Services, as well as officials of various police departments such as Bay Harbor Islands, Aventura and Sunny Isles, to name a few.

CAPSapalooza “Get It Straight” will take place on Oct. 30, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Bay Vista Housing at BBC, and will be video-conferenced to the Parkview Multipurpose Room at MMC during that time. CAPSapalooza “Get Crushed” will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 29 in ACHI Breezeway at BBC and on Oct. 31 at Betty Chapman Plaza at MMC.

Sarah Kenneally, senior health educator of Student Health Services Wellness Center, says it’s not just about drugs, alcohol and texting while driving.

“We want students to be more responsible with the decisions they make and the consequences of their actions,” Kenneally said.

-lbc@fiusm.com

Swimming and Diving: the hidden success of FIU

LUIS BARROSO
Contributing Writer

When we talk about FIU Athletics we tend to think of successful programs, who do we think of? Maybe past football success, baseball, I would guess the soccer team has won a couple of games, right? This success was not only due to the coach and brings experience from 10 different countries.

Another notable swimmer from 10 different countries. Another notable swimmer is Karen Anderson, who won two individual events and two relay victories. When she came time to go on a visit to the University of North Florida, the Panthers picked up where they left off, by blowing the Ospreys with a score of 140-98. FIU won 11 out of the 13 events that took place during the day to take the victory against UNF.

Perez again led the way for the Panthers by winning two individual competitions, blowing away her competition in one relay event. In the diving category, FIU was led by Kaufman who won her first career diving event which came via the three-meter diving platform. These performances earned Perez and Kaufman the Conference USA weekly awards of Swimmer and Diver of the Week, respectively.

The FIU women’s swimming and diving team started to raise eyebrows as the team has won its first two matches this season in convincing fashion, handing defeating FAU 175-102 and UNF 140-98.

The Panthers ranked in the top five of the Sun Belt Conference the past three seasons, and with the new addition to the CUSA, I would have FIU with the ball-seye on their back coming off their previous success and starting this season 2-0.

Next time you debate as to what is FIU’s bright team, you might want take the Swimming and Diving team into consideration and with all their accolades and prospects, they might be the only team with a legitimate chance this year to put FIU into the NCAA map, for a long time.

The FIU Swimming and Diving team was unavailable for comment on this story due to inclement weather.

-bbc@fiusm.com