Students not using services, fees continue to increase

SOFIA GALIANO
Contributing Writer

Student are granted services, sometimes unknown to them, covered by fees including athletic, health and activity and service fees that tack on over $200 to a student’s semester costs.

Students may be unaware or uninterested in the events taking place, some may not have the necessity for the services at all and some may not know they are entitled to these services to begin with.

“It’s amazing how students don’t know about services they've been offered,” said William Beesing, associate dean of undergraduate education.

For the 2013-2014 year, athletic fees are $20 and health fees are $181.10, with the latter having experienced a 2.8 percent increase approved by the Health Fee Committee in spring 2013.

Each year, the University rotates fee increases amidst athletics, health and activity fees.

SEE SERVICES, PAGE 2

Animal rights group raises awareness about pitbull ban

MARISSA PRICE
Contributing Writer

When people think of Miami a few things come to mind – beautiful beaches, night clubs and the one and only Mr. 305, the artist Armando Christian Perez better known as Pitbull.

But if you take a good look around, you will notice the lack of pit bulls in this city.

According to the University’s Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, pit bulls were banned in 1989 from Miami-Dade County after a young girl was attacked. Over the years, there have been attempts to have the ban lifted, but none have been successful.

SALDF is hosting the Miami Coalition Against Breed Specific Legislation, an event to raise awareness of the ban, on Nov. 12 at the College of Law.

“Our mission is to protect the lives and advance the interest of animals through the legal system,” said Oscar Fernandez, SALDF president and second year law student.

“We’re here to help animals in the best ways we can.”

The organization will welcome the Miami Coalition Against Breed Specific Legislation’s Dalilah Cane, the founder who will speak about the history of the organization and the community’s choice to vote “yes” on having the pit bull ban lifted.

Last year, the Coalition successfully achieved having the ban placed on the ballot, giving voters the opportunity to decide if they wanted to welcome back pit bulls.

Unfortunately, the outcome was not in favor of pit bulls, but they are not giving up that easily.

“My specific asked them to talk about their plans for the future, on what they’re going to do after the defeat they suffered last year,” said Stephanie Klein, SALDF co-president and second year law student.

It is an annual tradition for the Coalition Against Breed Specific Legislation, an event to raise awareness of the ban, on Nov. 12 at the College of Law.

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African exiled writer speaks on re-elected president, politics

KIERON WILLIAMS

The African and African Diaspora Studies Program will address tactics used by the president of Zimbabwe to seize the majority vote in a roundtable on Nov. 9 with keynote panelist Chenjerai Hove, an award-winning writer exiled from Zimbabwe.

The roundtable will be held in the Green Library, room 100A.

The event will provide insight into President Robert Mugabe himself as well as a discussion about a failed petition submitted by the Movement for Democratic Change, a political party in Zimbabwe that was formed in 1999 to oppose Mugabe’s campaign.

Hove is an award-winning poet and writer who has been exiled from Zimbabwe, his home country. Hove was selected in 2008 by Brown University to be the writer-in-residence for the National Writers Project. He has written various novels, including “Masimba Avunza,” an novel written entirely in his native language, Shona. However, his history with Zimbabwe is not so decorated.

“When he was very young, Hove’s sister Agnes was taken away,” said Reyno Valerio, program assistant for the AADS. “Only later did he find out that his father had told Agnes into marriage to a man that was old enough to be her grandfather.”

Hove’s family worked very hard and sold all their valuables to help Agnes flee, but the practice is still very common in Zimbabwe.

“After he found that out, he just couldn’t sit by,” Valerio said. “He had to take action.”

The School of International and Public Affairs will be hosting this roundtable to discuss the re-elected president of Zimbabwe and the tactics he utilized to seize the majority vote, including allegedly stopping people from voting at the polls while “assisting” hundreds of thousands of other voters through the voting process.

Students oblivious of services offered

SERVICES, PAGE 1

and service. However, students only receive the full benefit of these increases when they take advantage of the resources provided by these fees.

Students receiving athletic scholarships reap the benefits of the athletic fee because most of that money is attributed toward their tuition, granting about $20,000 a year per athlete according to Beesting. The other portion grants students free admission to football games and all other intercollegiate athletic events, but most students fail to show their Panther pride.

Tempryssh Sharp, junior psychology major, never attended a University football game due to the distance of the stadium and the Golden Panthers’ poor reputation.

“I rarely go to the [Modesto A. Maidique Campus],” said Sharp. “And the team loses.”

Although Sharp hasn’t attended football events by choice, other events need some work because otherwise he is out of the loop.

Dias said the reason why students are unaware of activities occurring on-campus is because events need better promotion.

Events advertised by email are ineffective for students like Dias because he receives so many messages that he ignores them all.

“I don’t really hear about events,” she said — a statement echoed by other students.

Most students are willing to participate in on-campus activities and service fees, but miss out on those opportunities because they, like Armatrading, don’t know of the activities taking place.

Andrew Dias, junior communication arts major, said he relies on friends to inform him about events because otherwise he is out of the loop.

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“It’s an overload,” he said.

Gerardo Vazquez, junior business administration and IT major, said he receives so many emails by the University that he too overlooks them, making him an example of students who want to participate in University activities, but are limited to ones they hear by word-of-mouth.

This past Homecoming, he attended his first football game and said he would go to more except he doesn’t know when the games are.

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Cyber bullying: the man-made virus

MOISES FUERTES
Staff Writer

I would venture to say that most, if not all, comic book and/or cartoon fans have been asked to do one of their “childish” amusements with heroes at least once. I know that I have experienced odd looks and inside comments from adults and peers about my love for superheroes, cartoons and fantasy novels. However, after years of enjoying countless tales of what has been deemed “genre fiction,” it has become evident to me that these pieces could quite possibly be the best way to address the complexities of our lives.

While the bright colors and the superpowers will forever amuse children who want nothing more than to fly around and be able to lift cars— but for the rest of us, these superheroes offer an expression of how we wish we could deal with personal and global problems. Even the way the tamer comics are written show us that these pieces could quite possibly be the best way to address the complexities of our lives.

The same can be said of the figure of the superhero itself. The recent trend of comic book movies made me think of exactly what this figure has reflected over the years and what its recent resurgence could mean.

So, without further ado, here is a rundown of how superheroes have reflected our fears and our hopes, since their inception.

The first time the notion of the superhero, as we know it now, was popularized was when Action Comics released the issue that has become the Holy Grail to comic book nerds everywhere.

Simply titled “Action Comics #1,” this was the first appearance of what is now a household name: Superman. Interestingly enough, Superman was not the only superhero who was on the scene as the country was coming out of The Great Depression and suppressing the tensions of World War I.

Superman, with his perfectly coiffed hair, incredible posture and somewhat frustrating invincibility, emerged as a figure of justice and hope that fought villains with honor and proudly touted the colors of the American flag all over his costume. He was a hopeful boy scout who wanted to save humanity during a time when a savior is what most were begging for.

After the success of “Action Comics #1,” the Golden Age of Comic Books began and many more super heroes (Batman, Wonder Woman, The Flash, Green Arrow, etc.) were born. Many of these heroes followed in Superman’s footsteps when, after World War II began in 1939, they took it upon themselves to fight Nazis and aid Allied forces. This pattern of inclusion of real world fears and threats continued throughout the history of the superhero.

The 1940s showed the rise of several female crime fighters, such as the Invisible Scarlet O’Neill, Lady Luck and Miss Fury. In the 1950s, along with the rise in the civil rights movements, Marvel Comics Group released the heroes Black Panther, Falcon and Luke Cage. More recently, heroes such as Marvel’s Northstar and DC’s Obsidian have been revealed to be gay.

Similarly, superhero films have also adopted themes that reflect more current events.

For the past few years, superhero films, much like the comic books they are based on, have reflected a lot of the worries that we have had after the events of Sept. 11, 2001. They have referenced many major problems such as war in Afghanistan and the sale of arms overseas, which we see in the first installment of “Iron Man.” Christopher Nolan’s Batman Trilogy focused more on domestic affairs, such as the increased concern of government surveillance shown in “The Dark Knight.”

Of course, there are also the eternal moral dilemmas involved.

One particular scene in “Man of Steel” shows Superman in handcuffs which are probably as effective for restraining him as wrapping his wings in bands of silly putty. None-theless, he sits there and abides by the law.

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Top five Instagram photos of Miami girls

IN HIS WORDS

MARTIN DI DIEGO

Let’s face it: The left side of your face is too beautiful for the world to not see it twice. You know that people scroll through their Instagram feed quickly (and might accidentally commit the biggest mistake of their lives byswiping past your majestic picture by accident), so you’re going to be nice this time and display your face two times just in case. While you help the world see both sides of the same face, poor little, innocent, misguided Maria posted her selfie without putting in the extra effort to reflect her face on a vertical axis. Common, Maria. This isn’t Google+ Step it up.

1. The Reflection

We’ve all been there. Our camera rolls may be full of them, but some take the extra step to publicly demonstrate their dirty toilet seat, opened tooth paste bottle, and whether they’re daring enough to have an electric toothbrush or not to. What some people see as a mirror image of themselves, Miami girls see as a portal to the world of fashion, stardom and modeling. Basically, it’s the 21st century wardrobe from Narnia. In these types of pictures, optimal butt position is essential for maximum likes. Many girls do this subconsciously because they’re masters of their own art, but there is actually a science behind “accidentally” sitting on the counter of their bathroom, allowing their Instagram rectum to bulge out like it desperately needs oxygen. The used towel hanging from their towel rack is not a sign of their inability to tidy up before a picture. It’s actually an allegory to their multifaceted stance on human self-acceptance and their deviancy of the norm, but they pretend to not know that. While hopeless Maria takes a bathroom selfie just standing in place, the more versatile Miami girl throws up peace signs, adds a foot of depth to her face with makeup, and tilts the camera ever so slightly to achieve that deep sense of disquiet-librium sought after by so many professional photographers.

2. The Bathroom Shot (Maximus Edition)

Thesame side of your face, poor little, innocent, misguided Maria posted her selfie without putting in the extra effort to reflect her face on a vertical axis. Common, Maria. This isn’t Google+ Step it up.

In “Just Dance 2014,” there is a simple concept on paper, but somehow works in execution when you get a group of friends together.

“Just Dance” is a dance party game where players dance to songs and try to get the highest score. This is a concept on paper, but somehow works in execution when you get a group of friends together.

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If you’re unfamiliar with the series, “Just Dance” is a dance party game where players dance to songs and try to get the highest score. This is a concept on paper, but somehow works in execution when you get a group of friends together.

If for some reason you’re managed to avoid the “Just Dance” series up to this point, I regret to inform you that Ubisoft keeps the dance game craze going with “Just Dance 2014.” It’s the main series entry of the franchise following last year’s “Just Dance 4.”

The dancing mechanics remain the same, as players must match the movements of their right hand to the dancers on the screen. While actually matching the dance movements on the screen is encouraged by the game, a lazy gamer could easily sit and do nothing, and the game is entertaining.

Depending how fit and energized your friends are, expect an average “Just Dance” gameplay of about 30 minutes an hour if you have a gathering of friends. Outside of party usage, “Just Dance 2014” does feature an online karaoke option, so you can sit back and sing along to the songs while everyone else dances. The multi-layered gameplay during a song is appreciated, and the party focused design helps the game succeed at its goal of being a “dance party game.” There is also some joy to be found as a spectator, as watching friends play the game is entertaining.

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If you can actually get friends or family together and play this game, you’re probably going to have a good time. There’s joy to be found in dancing to some of the songs in the game, and you can get some enjoyment in watching friends and family attempt at being as precise as the dancers on the screen.

Maria Mekras (left), senior in criminal justice, and Rashan Gomez (right), senior in hospitality, perform a song during the Alpha Omicron Pi pageant. AOPi’s main focus this year was to fight arthritis.

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LUCIO BULAMOS

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CULTURE, PAGE 4

At this point, Maria would be lucky to even go double-digits in likes.

3. The Marco Island Glory Shot

If you’re a girl, live in Miami, and go to the beach, then there’s no escaping this one. I’m talking about the lying-down, head-to-toe shots wherein one captures, you know, the beautiful line in which the sunset connects with the furthest glimpse of the ocean, the swaying palm trees in the distance, your belly button, and the beautiful multi-colored sand surrounding the blissful landscape. Sometimes I question whether you go to the beach, take this picture, touch the water, and leave. While the foolish and lost Maria takes a captivating picture of the scenic topography that invokes awe, a Miami girl adds that touch of genius by including her toes (exposing her uncut toenails) which adds a nice balance between nature and human anatomy. Maria, if you don’t help yourself, no one can.

4. #yolo

As the wise philosopher Aubrey Drake Graham once popularized, you only live once. Many girls take this to heart but forget that you also only die once. They suddenly realize that life is too short and they need to go “#yolo” every day without question and drink in each one before the world ends. Gathering random people from the party and commanding each one to hold up their red solo cup in honor of their youth is not out of the ordinary for Miami girls. Terrible midnight photo quality aside, these girls really know how to show everyone they’re having the time of their lives. In case you missed their photo caption of “Partying with my day-one #yolo [every relatable emoji ever],” they make sure you can see it in their eyes and facial expressions that everyone side. Simple-minded and misguided Maria goes to parties and enjoys the night by dancing and talking to others and sometimes forgets to take pictures, but Miami girls who take these pictures often accompany their expose shots with touching quotations taken completely out of context from books they’ve never read, tumblr blogs they don’t follow and songs they heard on Pandora a minute ago on their Zedd station in an attempt to add that extra touch of cultural capital. These girls are fearless. They know their moms follow them on Instagram and simply don’t care. When confronted by the mom about the picture, they stare at their mom in the eyes and whisper “Like the picture.”

University-approved medical-marijuana panel

DIEGO SALdana-ROJAS
Entertainment Director

A new on-campus student organization, Students for Sensible Drug Policy, will be hosting medical marijuana patient Irvin Rosenfeld to discuss his experience with the Supreme Court, and his views on the status of the War on Drugs.

Rosenfeld was born in Portsmouth, Va. in 1953. He was diagnosed with a bone disorder at age 10 while playing little league. He discovered the healing properties of medical marijuana in 1971. Now, he is married and has been so for the past 34 years and is an investment consultant — and still using medical marijuana to help him deal with his illness.

Kelly Milagro, vice president, of SSDP is inspired by Rosenfeld struggle against his rare bone disease and the government.

“He’s lived through decades of being a patient. He’s the second patient in the US to be allowed to have medical cannabis,” said Milagro.

The first portion of the event will have Rosenfeld discussing his experiences with medical marijuana. The second portion of the event will be a panel discussion with University professors: Michael Weissberg, Eduardo Gamara, Jose Miguel Cruz and Dario Moreno, as well as Rosenfeld. Students are encouraged to participate and ask questions.

“I’m leaving the floor open to ask whatever they feel comfortable with,” said Milagro.

-diego.saldana@fiusm.com

3-month-old Prince George is christened in London

GREGORY KAIt
AP Staff

Dressed in a lace and satin gown designed in the 1840s, Britain’s 3-month-old future monarch, Prince George, was christened Wednesday with water from the River Jordan at a rare gathering of four generations of the royal family.

The occasion had historic overtones: the presence of Britain’s 87-year-old monarch and three future kings, Princes Charles, William and, of course, little George.

Queen Elizabeth II, usually the center of attention, quietly ceded the spotlight to her rosy-cheeked great-grandson, who seemed to wave at her when he arrived — an illusion created by his father, Prince William, playfully moving the infant’s arm.

The private affair at the Chapel Royal in St. James’s Palace was also attended by Prince Charles, next in line to the throne, and the queen’s 92-year-old husband, Prince Philip, who has shown remarkable stamina since retiring from regular public life because of a two-month convalescence following serious abdominal surgery.

All told, it was an exceptional day for a monarchy that seems to be basking in public affection since the 2011 wedding of William and Kate Middleton and the maturing of Prince Harry, who appears to have put his playboy days behind him.

George, who was born on July 22, wore a replica of a christening gown made with exquisite antique lace for Queen Victoria’s eldest daughter, and first used in 1841.

When William was christened in 1982, he wore the original gown — by then well over a century old — but the garment has become so fragile that a replica was made.

The infant, who will head the Church of England, was bathed in the world of light, was christened with water from the River Jordan by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby. The silver baptismal font — known as the Lily Font, dates to 1841 when it was designed by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert for their first child’s birth, and has been used for every royal christening since.

As trumpets blared Baby George arrived at the chapel in his father’s arms with his mother by their side.

Kate, broadly on her way into the chapel, wore a cream-colored Alexander McQueen dress and hat by milliner Jane Taylor, with her long hair brushed to the side. William wore his customary dark suit and tie as he proudly carried their first child.

Kate’s parents, Michael and Carole Middleton, and her sister, Pippa, and brother, James, were also at the ceremony, where Pippa Middleton read from the Gospel of St. Luke and Prince Harry from the Gospel of St. John.

The chapel has a strong connection to William’s mother, the late Princess Diana, whose coffin was laid before the chapel’s West Door. The others include Oliver Baker, a friend from William and Kate’s days at St. Andrews University. Emilia Jardine-Paterson, who went to the exclusive Marlborough College high school with Kate; Hugh Grovenor, the son of the Duke of Westminster; Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton, a former private secretary to the couple; Julia Samuel, a close friend of Princess Diana, and William van Cutsem, a childhood friend of William’s.

Palace officials said water from the River Jordan — where Christians believe Jesus Christ was baptized — was used for the christening.
Panthers’ season spiraling down after big loss to ECU

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Last Saturday brought another loss to the Panthers football program as they fell 34-13 to East Carolina University. The Panthers now sit at 1-6 overall and 1-3 in Conference USA play.

After the game, Head Coach Ron Turner said again what he has been saying all season.

“There is no such thing as moral victories,” Turner said. “I do not and will not ever say that I believe in them.”

This came from speaking about the defensive unit and its play near the end of the game.

“I thought that they continued to fight and I think the defense did well,” Turner said. “They stayed focused against a very, very good offensive football team. They were the quickest tempo team that we will play against this year, who averaged over 100 plays per game, but I thought that our guys stepped up and competed. In all aspects of their [ECU] game, they kept it going after the initial touchdown drive that put us down and we kept competing and obviously came up short.”

Turner went on to speak of where he believes the Panthers are headed.

“I like where we are going and I told the team that in the locker room after the game. I am really excited about where this football team is going. This football program and this team, if we believe and continue to fight, we are going to get there and I am excited about it,” Turner said.

“As I have said every week, we have guys playing more plays than they should, but when we get our full squad out there and everyone is taking care of business – like they should – and we keep believing and fighting like that, then we will get things done.”

The Pirates dominated time of possession throughout the game, holding the ball for 40 minutes and 37 seconds in total. This only gave the Panthers 19 minutes and 23 seconds of ball possession and you cannot score unless you have the ball. The largest difference margin between ball possession came in the third quarter when the Pirates had the ball eight and a half minutes longer than the Panthers.

Quarterback E.J. Hilliard made his second start of the season – his first came in the 72-0 loss against the Cardinals of the University of Louisville – and couldn’t stay upright. Hilliard was sacked nine times by the ECU defense. He also put up some decent numbers in the passing game by completing 21 of his 33 passing attempts, with only a single interception thrown. His numbers against the Pirates are substantially better then when he last started, as evidenced by his numbers against the Cardinals of Louisville where he had four completions on nine attempts, threw no interceptions and was sacked four times.

The Panthers’ defense was thrown on for almost 300 yards by quarterback Shane Carden. He completed 23 of his 35 passing attempts for 264 yards and three touchdowns while only being sacked a single time. A fourth touchdown was added in the air on a trick play where wide receiver Justin Hardy – who had 136 yards on five receptions, which included a touchdown for himself – threw the ball for 35 yards to a wide-open receiver Isaiah Jones.

Hilliard was running the offense on Saturday, with quarterback Jake Medlock. Medlock had four punts total on the night for 180 yards, two of which were downed inside the 20 yard line.

The Panthers’ defense were downed inside the 20 yard line.

— JASON DESEASON / THE BEACON

C-USA Quarterfinals; North Texas Preview

The quest for a championship begins on Wednesday, Nov. 6 as the Panthers play in their first Conference USA tournament.

After a rough 2-7-0 start to the season the FIU Panthers have fought into the postseason, with a 7-11-0 overall record and a 5-5-0 conference record, where they will take on North Texas in the C-USA tournament. This is a North Texas team that FIU has not played this season and with their 12-6-1 record they aren’t to be taken lightly.

North Texas has some very impressive wins on the season that include a 3-0 beating of number one seed Charlotte University, and a 5-0 rout of Oklahoma University on national television.

The Mean Green have the most dynamic offense in the conference, torching opponents with 47 goals on the year and 2.47 goals per contest. Good for first in conference for each statistical category.

They also lead the conference in assists with 1.95 per game and have 37 assists on 47 goals. Which translates to assisting goals nearly 80% of the time.

Staying with the offensive side of the ball, junior Ashleigh Shim is tied for sixth in total goals in the conference with eight, while North Texas has two girls ranked in the top 10 for goals with freshman Rachel Holden with 12, good for second in C-USA, and senior Kelsey Hodges also with eight – tied with Shim.

What seems to be clear is North Texas is very good at offense. With such an explosive offense North Texas looks to be threatened to play against one of the more loose defenses in the conference. FIU is second to last in goals allowed with 35 on the year and allows nearly two a game. However, I want to add perspective to that number, since the 2-7-0 start the Panthers have tightened their defense dramatically.

FIU has only allowed 1.50 goals a game after the 2-7-0 start as opposed to 2.20 throughout it. The Mean Green’s 1.50 allowed goals through the last eight games is exactly the same as FIU’s.

Looking at FIU offensively, they are in the middle of the conference for goals scored, however the same principle applies to defense as FIU’s offense. They have been a different team since their slow start. They have scored a little over two goals a game over their last eight and have a much improved offense. The 2.20 goals per game FIU has in their last eight contests would rank third overall in the conference today.

After the Panthers fell to Marshall University the season finale, they gave up a chance of a number one seed and a bye week. Instead they have to play perhaps the best team in C-USA on their first night of the tournament.

This team has done it before. Have shocked the conference and all watching. When they gridironed through a 2-7-0 start to being the number one seed up until the final whistle on the season finale.

When they upset at the time number one University of Alabama at Birmingham in a dramatic overtime win. Or when they have a five goal explosion against Rice University to keep them atop the C-USA eastern division.

They have done it before, over and over and over again. When you doubt these ladies they show you why you shouldn’t. By now we shouldn’t doubt and just believe.

Believe they can pull another upset and have enough firepower to take on the heavy artillery of North Texas. Can they do it? Who knows really, soccer is random that way. With a one and done tournament system anything can happen.

Anything can happen. I like the sound of that, maybe they can do it again. Let the chaos of the playoffs begin.

— RHYS WILLIAMS / FISU.COM

Colin Carlyle

The Pirates dominated time of possession throughout the game, holding the ball for 40 minutes and 37 seconds in total. This only gave the Panthers 19 minutes and 23 seconds of ball possession and you cannot score unless you have the ball. The largest difference margin between ball possession came in the third quarter when the Panthers had the ball eight and a half minutes longer than the Panthers.

Quarterback E.J. Hilliard made his second start of the season – his first came in the 72-0 loss against the Cardinals of the University of Louisville – and couldn’t stay upright. Hilliard was sacked nine times by the ECU defense. He also put up some decent numbers in the passing game by completing 21 of his 33 passing attempts, with only a single interception thrown. His numbers against the Pirates are substantially better than when he last started, as evidenced by his numbers against the Cardinals of Louisville where he had four completions on nine attempts, threw no interceptions and was sacked four times.

The Panthers’ defense was thrown on for almost 300 yards by quarterback Shane Carden. He completed 23 of his 35 passing attempts for 264 yards and three touchdowns while only being sacked a single time. A fourth touchdown was added in the air on a trick play where wide receiver Justin Hardy – who had 136 yards on five receptions, which included a touchdown for himself – threw the ball for 35 yards to a wide-open receiver Isaiah Jones.

Hilliard was running the offense on the drives that ended in a punt, handled by quarterback Jake Medlock. Medlock had four punts total on the night for 180 yards, two of which were downed inside the 20 yard line.

The Panthers’ defense were downed inside the 20 yard line.

— JASON DESEASON / THE BEACON

C-USA Quarterfinals; North Texas Preview

The quest for a championship begins on Wednesday, Nov. 6 as the Panthers play in their first Conference USA tournament.

After a rough 2-7-0 start to the season the FIU Panthers have fought into the postseason, with a 7-11-0 overall record and a 5-5-0 conference record, where they will take on North Texas in the C-USA tournament. This is a North Texas team that FIU has not played this season and with their 12-6-1 record they aren’t to be taken lightly.

North Texas has some very impressive wins on the season that include a 3-0 beating of number one seed Charlotte University, and a 5-0 rout of Oklahoma University on national television.

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— RHYS WILLIAMS / FISU.COM
Strong start for swimming

LUI S BARRASO
Staff Writer

The FIU Swimming and Diving team improved to 3-0 this season after a 140-101 win over Indian River Community College this weekend.

FIU was led in the Swimming events by senior Sonia Perez, who with a time of 2:03.98 on the 200 meters backstroke event posted the top time on Conference USA this season on that event.

Perez also took first place on the 400 IM event with a time of 4:24.87.

Another swimmer that contributed to the Panthers victory was junior Johanna Gustafsdottir, which also won two events on the meet.

Johanna posted a season-high time on the 200 m freestyle event with a time of 2:20.22 and finished first on the 200 breaststroke.

Nadia Farrugia also took honors on the 1,000 Yard Freestyle to seal the victory for the Panthers.

The Diving events were led by senior Sabrina Beaupre who won the one and three meter diving events.

Beaupre recorded a season-best score of 294.45 on the three meter diving event to earn first place in the event.

Freshman Barbara Caraballo led Indian River, who took the victory in the 200 yard butterfly as well as contributing on two relay races, and winning one of them.

Freshman Josephine Hippi took home the 500 yard freestyle event for the Panthers.

The Panthers answered well to a unknown matchup against an Indian River team that had not had any meets this season, but as a team that FIU Head Coach Randy Horner described them to student media.

“They are unpredictable, a team that always has some very good high caliber division-I talent, and that usually go on to move on to other places after they graduate, so we expect some good competition, but expect to win upon a good challenge on the road,” Horner said.

Now, FIU enters a long stretch where they will not be competing until the Mizzou Invitational on Nov. 21, in which they will find some competition in this three day event hosted by the University of Missouri.

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Low attendance may prove costly to Panthers

THE BEACON

The final two home games for the Panthers may be the most important of the season, and it has nothing to do with any of the players on the field.

Low attendance is the norm at Alfonso Field at FIU Stadium in the Panthers’ first season in Conference USA, but if the numbers stay where they’re at, the game may face the wrath of the NCAA.

According to the NCAA manual, an average of 15,000 paid or actual attendance is required for a FBS team over a two-year rolling period. As per the NCAA, in six home games in 2012, FIU averaged 13,634.

The average announced attendance, according to Athletics’ website, is 15,365 in just five home games, though it isn’t the exact number of FIU fans may send to the NCAA.

Schools that do not reach such guidelines, according to the NCAA, “shall receive notice of such noncompliance. After receiving notice, any further noncompliance with the Football Bowl Subdivision requirements within a 10-year period shall cause the institution to be placed in restricted membership.”

In other words, should the restrictions come, the Panthers would not be eligible to play in any postseason game. Thanks to low academic progress rate scores during Isiah Thomas’ tenure, the men’s basketball team already deals with a postseason ban.

After a year, FIU could be put in a subdivision based on the subdivision’s criteria. “If the member does not meet the criteria of any subdivision at the end of the restricted membership period, the institution may continue to be classified as a Division I member in sports other than football.”

In essence, FIU would no longer be a member of C-USA and would have to pay the conference for abruptly leaving.

Even with students entering games free, Athletics has already used different promotions in an attempt to attract more fans to the games.

Most recently, FIU offered free tickets to military personnel, as well as discounts for FIU employees and guests for attending Saturday’s game versus C-USA foe East Carolina.

FIU’s final home game will be against Marshall University on Nov. 23.

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Despite final preseason win, Russo not happy

STEVEN ROWELL
Staff Writer

In their final tuneup before the regular season, senior guard Jerica Coley’s 30 points led the Panthers over Barry University 66-52 on Nov. 1 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

Despite the victory, Head Coach Cindy Russo said.

“We are in trouble, and they got to know that and I just told them that.”

Head Coach Cindy Russo
Women’s Basketball

was anything but satisfied with the performance.

“It was disappointing, we showed no energy, it’s not something we should do in an exhibition, to get it done,” Russo said.

For Barry, junior guard Nyjah Porcher lead the way with 18 points with 13 of them coming in the second half, but in the second half, no one cared,” Russo said.

For the second straight exhibition game, the Panthers had to withstand a late rally after building comfortable leads.

The Panthers built up to a 16 point lead at halftime after an 11-2 run to end the half.

They held a steady double-digit lead throughout the second half before Barry capped on a 15-0 run with 3:54 in the game that would threaten the Panthers but ultimately FIU held on for the victory.

Other than Coley, sophomore forward/center Brianna Wright was the only other Panther to reach double figures in scoring with 14 points.

The sophomore was plagued by foul trouble throughout the game.

For Barry, junior guard Nyjah Porcher lead the way with 18 points with 13 of them coming in the second half, and junior guard Ines Kerin was the only other player for Barry to reach double figures with 12 points.

After holding Barry to 28.6% shooting in the first half, FIU allowed Barry to shoot 45.8% in the second.

While recording 19 turnovers in their previous game against Nova Southeastern University, FIU kept the ball more in their own hands by trimming that number down to nine against Barry.

Next up for the Panthers is their regular-season opener at home against Florida Gulf Coast University on Nov. 8.

Russo hopes the Panthers will come out more motivated and with better energy against the eagles.

“Think they understand, unless they do a better job it’s going to be a 50 point game, if they go out and play like they did tonight, we are in trouble, and they got to know that and I just told them that,” Russo said.

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Last season the Eagles defeated the Panthers 69-45.

Tip-off is set for a 6 p.m at the Lime Court in the U.S Century Bank Arena.

-steven.rowell@fiusm.com

... we are in trouble, and they got to know that and I just told them that.”

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Panthers getting ‘bold’ with new student-run public relations agency

ALEX BLENCOWE Contributing Writer

Something very bold is happening at the FIU School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Bold Student Agency is the student-managed, student-run public relations agency at the University and it is making some very bold statements. From packages to website design, the students of Bold are bringing real clients to the table and working with real companies as part of the classroom setting. Bringing together about 15 students from journalism, communications, public relations, advertising and more, Bold is supervised by Professor Victoria Shorten – but the students are the brains and brawn behind this operation.

“The power of the agency is that everyone has different talents to bring to the table,” said Shorten. “They’re getting real world opportunities to expand their horizons.”

Students at Bold work with various multimedia outlets, plan press releases, build media packages, design websites as well as produce work for high-end concierge and real estate services such as “More Than Lux,” companies in Wynwood, Miami, as well as the Discovery Channel.

“We're learning how to do a lot of different things, and I think that's really fun,” said Melissa Mendoza, a junior advertising major. “The journalists help the public relations students, the public relations students help the journalism students who are having trouble. We're teaching each other. Cardona added, “Sometimes we'll blast emails in the middle of the night and talk about ideas.” The students of Bold not only learn skills in media production, but also in project management, content to experiencing an internship for a big company.”

Shorten notes that the students are very dedicated to Bold and that’s what keeps them going. Students have other classes, full-time jobs and other responsibilities, and don’t have time for a full internship. "(This class) is our hour of personal growth time,” Mendoza said.

"Usually I don’t like group projects because there's always that one person that doesn’t do anything or doesn’t care,” said Samantha Serra, senior journalism major. “But here, everyone is needed. In class you’re taught what to do, but Bold shows us how to do it.”

Last week, Bold had its first official welcoming ceremony, introducing the agency to the University and the world. The event was an opportunity for students to engage other professionals in their field and was planned, advertised and put together by the students themselves. Sponsors of the event included Misha’s Cupcakes, La Gloutonnerie, FastSigns, Nancy Starr and VSL Jewelry – Shorten’s own line.

Throughout Bold, students also work in partnership with various companies such as MasterCard, Discovery Latin America, Tierra Nueva Fine Cocoa and even Google. One such participant at the event was senior media sales executive of Google and former Apprentice participant Panos Zambetakis.

Bold hopes to open doors to students in the world of local and international business as well as provide a learning experience for them to get the tools they’ll need to survive in the real world.

“We really build our strengths here, but we build our weaknesses at the same time,” said Cardona. “Our future employers will want us to know everything, not just what’s in our field.”

Rachel Dufrene, senior in psychology, scales her way up a rock-climbing wall on campus as part of a series of activities encouraging students not to drink and drive.

Lecturer to promote positive self-image with uplifting Post-its

ARLYNE PEREZ Contributing Writer

Caitlyn Boyle, 29, posted an anonymous Post-It note on her college bathroom window one night – something she called an act of beauty. Through the lessons students learn in entrepreneurship as well, "You don’t get taught business in mass communications,” said Laura Cardona, senior advertising major and event planning minor. “With Bold, it’s learning how to deliver and build our brand at the same time. We’re building a bridge to the business world.”

Students at Bold affirm that working with real clients on deadlines and working with people from so many different fields can be hard and takes a lot of time. Even so, students are determined to make it work. "The journalists help the public relations students and the students that are good with social media and websites help the students who are having trouble,” Cardona said. “Sometimes we’ll blast emails in the middle of the night and talk about ideas.”

The students of Bold not only learn skills in media production, but also in project management, content to experiencing an internship for a big company.”

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Caitlyn Boyle will teach and give tips on how to be more body positive.

The event is a part of International Day Against Women’s Violence and there will be a resource fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., focusing on women’s violence and body image. The Clothesline Project, self-defense class and the ability to write your own anonymous inspirational Post-It note are just some of the activities that will be taking place during the fair.

The Beacon – 8 Wednesday, November 6, 2013
Contact Us
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News Director
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THE

With Bold, it’s learning how to deliver and build our brand at the same time... We’re building a bridge to the business world.

Laura Cardona Senior Advertising Major

CLIMB TO THE TOP

Rachel Dufrene, senior in psychology, scales her way up a rock-climbing wall on campus as part of a series of activities encouraging students not to drink and drive.

Lecturer to promote positive self-image with uplifting Post-its

ARLYNE PEREZ Contributing Writer

Caitlyn Boyle, 29, posted an anonymous Post-It note on her college bathroom window one night – something she called an act of kindness that turned into Operation Beautiful. To promote positive self-esteem, Student Affairs is hosting Operation Beautiful on Nov. 14 in the Wolfe University Center as part of International Education week where Boyle will speak to students about her mission and reversing the epidemic called “fat talk.”

“Students, especially in college, struggle with body image,” said Christine Teller, a registered dietitian of SHS. A Northwestern University study reported that 93 percent of college women engage in fat talk. “We do a lot of negative talk. We don’t think about what is positive about ourselves,” said Sarah Kemnay, SHS health education specialist.

The event will promote positive self-talk. Boyle, who operates a website and blog for people to share and post picture of positive Post-It notes they find as part of the Operation Beautiful initiative, struggled with negative self-talk.

However, a study done at the University of Notre Dame had shown that men also struggle with negative self-talk. Though less prevalent than in women, men struggle with different issues, such as being too thin or wanting muscle bulk.

Negative self-talk can be a difficult issue to battle. Starting with a friend, it can soon infect person to person, having a snowball effect. Sometimes one can feel even pressured to comply with a friend complaining he or she is too fat and another feeling the need to revert something just as negative to maintain the friendship on equal standing. Engaging in negative self-talk can feel insignificant or scripted but can have a truly toxic effect and can hurt you both emotionally and physically.

To put an end to negative self-talk, students of all genders are encouraged to attend Thursday’s event to transform the way he or she views beauty and him or herself. Additionally, Caitlyn Boyle will teach and give tips on how to be more body positive.

The event is a part of International Day Against Women’s Violence and there will be a resource fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., focusing on women’s violence and body image. The Clothesline Project, self-defense class and the ability to write your own anonymous inspirational Post-It note are just some of the activities that will be taking place during the fair.

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