Panthers prepare for winning season

ALEJANDRO AGUIRRE
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It’s time to put the last few seasons in the past. Making it to the Beef O’ Brady’s Bowl in 2011 marked the last time the football program was a fixture in their conference. After having a 8-5 record and winning a bowl the previous season, it seemed like FIU was becoming a Sun Belt Conference powerhouse.

That thought ended quickly when fan favorite Head Coach Mario Cristobal left for bigger and better things. The departure of Cristobal was bad news to the program as many were disappointed and that meant only one thing: rebuilding. The bad news didn’t end there; the program was moved to Conference USA, which on paper was a tougher conference.

The last two seasons the program had a mediocre record of 5-19. At the helm was new Head Coach Ron Turner who took on the role of leading a team back to the top of the standings. His first season was not a good first impression for fans after going a jaw dropping 1-11 on the season. Surprisingly attendance raised to almost 2000 fans the following season for good reason. The team was making a slow, gradual climb to try to be a competitive team during their second season in C-USA. Finishing with a 4-8 record gave a small glimpse a hope for FIU football and finally something to look forward to.

In regards to this upcoming season Turner had this on his mind when it came down to performing this year, “Just take another step,” get better, execute at a higher level more consistently and learn how to finish those close games that we were in last year that we didn’t finish.”

There are high expectations for this team as they have shown improvement little by little under Turner and are expected to finish with a .500 record at 6-6. That record could ultimately lead to a bowl game appearance.

Leading this offense is sophomore quarterback Alex McGough who is looking forward for this season and finally being a Sun Belt Conference powerhouse. There are high expectations for this team as they have shown improvement little by little under Turner and are expected to finish with a .500 record at 6-6. That record could ultimately lead to a bowl game appearance.

SEE WINNING, PAGE 4

Parking system now virtually managed

ALIANA ZAMORANO
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Students no longer have to wait in line to park on campus.

The University has adopted a fully virtual parking system that does not require a physical decal nor permit renewals as of July 1.

In previous years, a physical decal, which was normally placed on the rear windshield, was needed for vehicle authorization. Now parking permits are tied to each vehicle’s license plate, getting rid of decals altogether.

“We started working on this idea about a year ago,” said Mohamed Ghumrawi, parking and transportation coordinator at the University.

The University paired up with NuPark, a company responsible for designing a software that uses license plate recognition technology.

“We really took our time in finding the right software company we wanted to use,” Ghumrawi said.

The new parking system automatically renews permits to returning students for their current vehicle on file and allows for easier new student and guest vehicle registration through the Parking & Transportation website.

“It’s a more efficient system,” said Ghumrawi. A license plate reader vehicle moves across campus parking lots and reads each license plate with its cameras, he said. Although the LPR system links a license plate to the system, students feel that physical decals are a more obvious way to recognize unauthorized cars.

Mario Avalos, a junior English major, took to Twitter to express his opinion, responding to a tweet by Parking & Transportation Saturday, Aug. 22 — which read: “Skip the Lines…virtual permits are easier.” Avalos responded:

SEE PARKING, PAGE 2

2015 FOOTBALL TAILGATING GUIDELINES

New tailgating guidelines for the 2015 football season have been provided to students in a University-wide email Aug. 17.

To secure a space for tailgate, reservations must be made in advance with a $10 refundable fee. Notice of cancellation is required 48 hours prior to game kick-off. Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis depending on lot/trail availability via: parking.fiu.edu/tailgating.

Designated Tailgating Lots and Trails will be accessible from 8 a.m. until two hours following the end of the game.

General tailgating areas include the Diamond Lot, Nature Trail and Panther Trail. Visitors are encouraged to park in the Blue Garage, Panther Garage or Lot Five where tailgating is not permitted.

For mid-day games four hours prior to game start, the University’s open-container waiver will be in effect. For evening games, the open-container waiver will be in effect six hours prior.

Tailgating will close down 45 minutes prior to game kick-off. FIU Police Department and Parking and Transportation personnel will walk through all tailgate areas prior to kick-off to ensure compliance.

For further questions, contact Parking and Transportation at parking.fiu.edu.

SEE PARKING, PAGE 2
NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

President Obama to rough it on Bear Grylls’ show

President Barack Obama is going wild. NBC announced Monday that Obama will explore the Alaskan wilderness with survival expert Bear Grylls in a special episode of the docuseries “Running Wild with Bear Grylls.” The episode will be taped this week as part of the president’s three-day trip to the Last Frontier, intended to bring attention to the issue of climate change. The “Running Wild” appearance is Obama’s latest attempt to get his message out to the public using nontraditional media outlets.

Iranians hope to fill vacuum as US lowers its Middle

The agreement of curb its nuclear program in exchange for

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Turkish warplanes hit Islamic State in Syria as part of

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TribeN NewS Service

In Vol. 27, Issue 10 of The Beacon, The Wellness & Recreation Center is abbreviated WREC, while it is supposed to be WRC. Additionally, WRC is funded by the Activities and Services fee, not through the Athletics or Health fees as it was written in the article.

THE BEACON

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**Dual Enrollment Should Become Common Practice**

**GABRIELLE GARCIA**
Staff Writer
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If dual enrollment programs become a more common practice, high-school students will be more prepared for the rigors of a more substantial curriculum by exposure to college level material and may feel more confident and likely to succeed.

The emergence of dual enrollment provides high school students with an opportunity to kick off their college careers before they have even begun.

Having exposure to the rigors of a college curriculum can potentially aid in assuaging some of the many stressors a new college student may face. It is often the case that college freshman feel underprepared and find course workloads and expectations stressful.

“Senioritis” is often the culprit on high school campuses for senior students’ lack of motivation and dull-mindedness. As a result, one of the most common “senioritis symptoms” is carelessness, coining the notion that senior year is simply wasted time.

The result, one of the most common “senioritis symptoms” is carelessness, coining the notion that senior year is simply wasted time.

The emergence of dual enrollment is intended to be made available to students who desire to incorporate the challenge and rigor of college courses into their high-school careers.

Although Advanced Placement courses are geared toward “higher achieving” students, dual enrollment courses are intended to be made available to students who desire to incorporate the challenge and rigor of college courses into their high-school careers.

Unlike Advanced Placement courses which are geared toward “higher achieving” students, dual enrollment courses are intended to be made available to students who desire to incorporate the challenge and rigor of college courses into their high-school careers.

US News reports that around one million high-school students are taking at least one dual enrollment course each year.

Dual enrollment programs provide students with college credit after completion of these courses, prospective college students will enter their college coursework with not only credits but also experience.

In comparison to high-school teachers, college faculty members have a higher expectation regarding the quality and quantity of work from their students.

Throughout the country, dual enrollment programs provide students with college credit after completion of these courses, prospective college students will enter their college coursework with not only credits but also experience.

For many new students, college is a major transition. Whether it be relocating to a foreign place or adjusting to the college workload, dual enrollment courses provide high-school students a taste of what it’s like to be a student at the college level.

Send your letter to opinion@fiusm.com.

The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.
Maxwell out, still have good depth in the backfield

WINNING, PAGE 1

Last year McGough finished the season 138-274 and threw for 1,680 passing yards with 14 touchdowns. His 1,680 passing yards was ranked tenth of all-time in a single season. His 14 touchdowns is ranks number 3 of all time in a single season. He received All-Freshmen team honors in C-USA.

At the end of the day it’s a “family first” mindset for the team win or lose. “First and foremost family is the most important thing and there’s accountability for the family here on the field.” That type of leadership has spread throughout the locker room to the players and it specially had an impact on the leader on the field, McGough. “We’re a team now, when you are able to look from your right and to your left and say that’s my brother, that’s what brings out in everything.”

The sole difference between last season and this upcoming season for Turner is short but to point. “More wins.” Fingers crossed for the football team as they scratch and claw back to the top of C-USA contention.

Despite this occasional struggles displayed by McGough in 2014, though, I strongly believe that he’ll have a breakout season and be fantastic for the Panthers in 2015. A lot of his issues a season ago can be attributed to being “thrown to the wolves” in a sense, as most quarterbacks don’t have to make as quick of a transition.

It was assumed as the 2014 season began that who was a junior experience starting at FIU, would get the snaps as starting quarterback Alex McGough unexpectedly came in and took the snaps as starting QB. However, McGough unexpectedly came in and takeaways and 36th in total defense.

FIU enters the 2015 season with five brand new assistant coaches: Ron Cooper (assistant head coach/defensive secondary coach), Matt House (defensive coordinator/linebackers coach), Tim Harris Jr. (running backs coach), Tem Lukabu (defensive line coach) and Greg Moss (cornerbacks coach). Led by third year head coach Ron Turner, the new-look staff looks to turn a raw, talented roster into a Conference USA Championship contender.

On the offensive side of the ball, coordinator Steve Shankweiler will attempt to improve an offense that struggled mightily in 2014. FIU ranked near the bottom of all teams by scoring just 23 points per game, with many of those points coming from special teams or defensive touchdowns.

Shankweiler is also responsible for coaching the offensive line, which is one of the positions that is still a question mark for FIU entering this season. The offensive line was a major hole in the FIU offense a season ago and losing a starting guard in Jordon Budwig for the entire season definitely won’t help.

When you combine his impressive resume as a coach and his ability to recruit top high school players in the Miami area (including the recent commitment from Booker T. Washington kicker Jose Borregales), Harris shines as one of the best coaching hires of the offseason.

Defensively, the Panthers underwent a major change as they essentially swapped defensive coordinators with the University of Pittsburgh. Last year’s coordinator Josh Conklin decided to sign with Pitt after leading FIU’s defense to new heights, with the Panthers finishing fifth in the FBS in takeaways and 36th in total defense.
New-Look coaching staff looks to lead FIU football to new heights

Why Alex McGough will have a breakout season

Wednesday, Sep. 13, 2014 on the Ocean Bank Field.

McGough unexpectedly came in and at FIU, would get the majority of experience starting for Ron Turner who was a junior at the time with the season began that E.J. Hilliard, did. quick of a transition as McGough

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OFFENSIVE LINE

50

SPORTS

MATT HOUSE

10

40

GREG MOSS

20

finally time to see just how much better the opportunity to work with their players, it's
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Panthers with 8 and 6.5 sacks respectively,
(Lombardi Award watch list) led the 2014
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quarterback is one of the most important
Being able to put pressure on the opposing
staff that will have a key task in 2015.

problem forcing turnovers.

however, House's defense should have no

and Davison Colimon on the roster,

With playmakers such as Richard Leonard
but Pitt ranked just 116th in takeaways.

was slightly ahead of FIU's 2014 ranking,

26th in the country in total defense, which
coincidentally also named the Panthers) to
the former Pitt defensive coordinator
Matt House. House led Pitt (who are

the heart and soul of this team.

They have a very inexperienced receiving corps, but as long as they avoid major injuries there are many playmakers on the
defensive side of the ball that can help McGough improve an offense that had a lot of trouble scoring a season ago.

The addition of speedy freshman wide receiver Anthony Jones gives McGough another much-needed weapon to go along with start tight end Jonnu Smith and sophomore running back Alex Gardner.

Say what you want about Alex McGough and FIU’s struggles offensively in 2014, but this season has the potential to be a drastic improvement across the board - both for McGough and the Panthers team as a whole.

lead FIU football to new heights

To replace Conklin, FIU brought in the former Pitt defensive coordinator Matt House. House led Pitt (who are coincidentally also named the Panthers) to 26th in the country in total defense, which was slightly ahead of FIU’s 2014 ranking, but Pitt ranked just 116th in takeaways.

With playmakers such as Richard Leonard and Davison Colimon on the roster, however, House’s defense should have no problem forcing turnovers.

Tem Lukabu is another new addition to the staff that will have a key task in 2015. Being able to put pressure on the opposing quarterback is one of the most important elements of a successful defense and as the defensive line coach Lukabu will be tasked with improving on the 31 sacks that the FIU defense had last season.

Michael Wakefield and Denzel Perine (both of which were named to the 2015 Lombardi Award watch list) led the 2014 Panthers with 8 and 6.5 sacks respectively, and each of them being back for their senior campaigns will give Lukabu two reliable stars on the defensive line.

All in all, FIU appears to have a lot of talent on their coaching staff that underwent many key changes during the offseason. After months of practices and camps that gave all of the new coaches an opportunity to work with their players, it’s finally time to see just how much better the FIU Panthers can be in 2015.
Middle Eastern, and in better taste than their counterparts.

Many people might be quick to think that these catchy designations are nothing but mere marketing gimmicks encouraging Korean women to harshly grade the body and strive for changes either through a healthy lifestyle or more popularly, plastic surgery.

Once South Korea is no longer driven by a bombastic “healthy and sexy” image like many Americans. Fitness centers have witnessed a sharp increase and practically everyone has been making this week’s event something down their alley.

The “X-line” was also popular, which refers to long legs and arms that were connected by a narrow waist. The face of a woman also had to have slim cheeks and a pointed chin that followed the “V-line.” Even cleavage was described using a W-, Y- or V-line.

Men, though somewhat spared the indignity of having their bodies defined by a letter, also have certain body types they need to strive for. The ideal standards for men were to have an “M-line” for six-pack abs, or the widely famous “chocolate abs” which is when a man has a chiseled abdomen similar to the subdivided parts of a chocolate bar.

All these alphabet-lines must be confusing to foreigners and it doesn’t end there - a new beauty standard taking over the Korean market.

The current trend for women to take pictures from the side to show off their defined “apple hips.” An “apple hip” is essentially when the shape of a woman’s hips down to her buttocks emulate the shape of an apple.

People might be quick to think that these catchy designations are nothing but mere marketing gimmicks encouraging Korean women to harshly grade the body and strive for changes either through a healthy lifestyle or more popularly, plastic surgery.

While there may be some truth to this, it is important and interesting to note that the Koreans are very creative with their way in communicating complex relationships of shape and balance. They are also more descriptive and in better taste than many American slang counterparts.

With more of a preference for working towards a healthy and sexy image rather than a thin and slender look, handfuls of active women with toned bodies have been receiving positive attention.

The “apple hip” has even taken over the entertainment industry with many female idols such as SISTAR and Girls’ Day striving for a healthy and sexy image. One such group, Hello Venus, even released a single titled “Wiggle Wiggle” which talks about shaking one’s sexy butt and in one of the song’s verses, a member sings “I know you looking at my apple hip.”

Though South Korea is creative with their ideal beauty standards, it’s important to remember that everyone has their own individual body and the best way to achieve any ideal body type is one that you are comfortable and healthy in. Korean women are not exempt and it’s great to see them strive for a healthier image, but it’s not healthy to obsess over appearances and certain physiques.
RICK BENTLEY  
TNS Staff

“Empire” caught everyone by surprise. The FOX family drama that plays out against the cutthroat world of the music industry seemed strong when it launched as a mid-season replacement in January. What no one expected was for the ratings to climb each week until the season finale opened Sept. 23. If MTV had an Emmy, Nicki Minaj would have won it.

MTV play maker
Nicki Minaj reality aside, MTV tried way too hard to foster new meaning, and I’m here for it. It’s been a decade since a freshman series (“Grey’s Anatomy”) has ended with退出。doubt that either. It’s been so safe for so long. And I think that’s why “Empire” has had the impact that it has. It’s almost like the cable formula, we’re just not using it with a look, and you know what it means. I’m just always blown away by the stories that they come up with.”

When a show becomes a hit, there’s a rush to be part of that success even by those who don’t traditionally act. Because “Empire” uses the music industry, it’s been able to incorporate a lot of big-name guest stars, many playing characters and some, like Snoop Dogg, appearing as themselves. The first season featured appearances by Gladys Knight, Mary J. Blige, Patti LaBelle, Common, Oprah Winfrey, Pitbull and others.

Why ‘Empire’ rules network TV and you should pay attention

The FOX family drama that plays out against the cutthroat world of the music industry seemed strong when it launched as a mid-season replacement in January. What no one expected was for the ratings to climb each week until the season finale opened Sept. 23. In love, adultery, sibling rivalries, greed, emotional trials and tribulations: falling

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Remote volcano may hold key to Florida reefs

JENNY STALETOVICH  
TNT Staff

Scientists trying to size up the toll that climate change will take on Florida reefs may have found their answer at the bottom of the ocean on the other side of the world.

In a study published in the journal Nature Climate Change, a team looked at an ancient, buried volcano near the Marianas Islands in the Pacific Ocean where carbon dioxide bubbles from the sea floor mirrors projections for future levels of ocean acidification. The results? A real world yankshock showing that what healthy reefs collapse and algae takes over, leaving a bleak rocky moonscape.

Two freshmna, Lina Bernier and Katie Friesen, impressed collegiate debaters.

They both tallied up double-doubles: Bernier doing her damage with 10 kills and 17 digs, and Friesen spreading the ball with 42 assists and 16 digs. Castro and Jennifer Ene added 27 kills combined. The Panthers didn’t hold their opening match loss in the back of their minds. The team defeated Alabama A&M 3-0 with scores 25-13, 25-13 and 25-14, winning in a dominant way. The Panthers doubled up the Bulldogs in kills with a total of 46 for the match. Bernier had a stellar match, tallying 14 kills, 8 digs, and team leading 522 hitting percentage.

Compared to its previous game against UNF, where the Panthers had a hitting percentage of .178, the team saw a significant increase against Alabama A&M, finishing with a .364 hitting percentage. Overall, it was a balanced attack and defense for the Panthers as they evened up their record to 1-1. The team would have a few hours before playing its final game of The Panther Challenge 2015 against USF later that day.

The Bulls came into their matchup against FIU with a 14-18 record a year ago, losing to the Panthers in the USF Invitational.

The trend would be the same as the Panthers, who defeated the Bulls 25-17, 26-24, and 25-19, in three straight sets. Castro once again helped propel the team with her match-high 18 kills and .455 hitting percentage. Katie Friesen finished with 22 assists and 15 digs and Maria McLaib had a match-high 17 digs.

The Panthers forced USF to a total of 22 errors and a hitting percentage of just .148 throughout the match, giving the team its second straight victory against the Bulls. Overall, the team won the event winning seven total sets, one more than both USF and UNF.

With a 2-1 start to the season, the Panthers will travel to Birmingham, Alabama to partake in the UAB Tournament, a two-day event starting Friday, Sept. 4 and ending Saturday, Sept. 5. The team will face off against the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Austin Peay State University, and Savannah State University, respectively. The team will look to use its momentum it gained from the final two games of The Panthers Challenge to defeat these next opponents.

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