University homeless students: difficult to identify

JOCELYN TALAVERA
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Alejandro Rizo said he lives off campuses with four roommates. Even though he is not homeless, he often looks for food in the University’s food pantries. “I go food throughout the month, but towards the end, I’m scraping by. The pantry allows me to not have to starve myself,” said Rizo, a senior psychology major.

He said most of his scholarship and financial aid go to school expenses. University students are sleeping in their car, the library, on a friend’s couch or at a shelter, said Ana Ramos, Student Access and Success program director.

“We know that our students face a variety of hardships, including at times homelessness,” said Cathy Aken, Student Affairs associate vice president and dean of students.

Over 58,000 students were identified as homeless on the 2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Florida had one of the largest increases in homelessness from 2014 through 2017 according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sexual abuse leads to homelessness from 20 to 40 percent and 40 to 60 percent from physical abuse. Some were thrown out of their homes because of their sexual orientation or because of a pregnancy from 20 to 40 percent, according to the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth.

It is difficult to identify homeless students because their appearance do not reflect their financial status, Ramos said. She said people imagine homeless as being, unkempt or without hygiene, but that is not normally the case.

“Homelessness carries a stigma, and there are a lot of students that don’t want to be labeled homeless or talk about their status.”

They blend in with everyone else, they don’t reveal their needs or they don’t realize that they qualify as homeless to receive financial aid, she said. Homeless students who prove their living status and wish to pursue a post-secondary education can quality for a tuition exemption.

Nearly 30 students receive a homeless tuition waiver, making FIU the No. 1 university in the state to give out waivers, according to Ramos. Not all states provide this service and states that do include Florida, Arizona, South Carolina and Texas.

1,015 exemptions were granted in the 2012 to 2013 school year, from 2008 to 2013, that number increased five times each year from the waivers administered in 2008, according to the Florida College System.

To address the needs of foster care or homeless students, the University created the Fostering Panther Pride program.

The program was launched in 2013, but was established in February 2014. It is comprised of five components.

The first is a College Coach, which provides a contact person for students in need. The student is provided with support and help to navigate the University’s resources.

FIU is the first school in the state of Florida to hire a success coach and to accommodate both former foster care students and homeless students.

The program’s Mentoring Program assigns a student with a trained mentor to help guide them.

Employers look to hire at the annual Career Fair

PHILOM BUTEAU & BELEN SASSONE
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University students have the opportunity to meet nearly 150 employers looking to hire at the annual Career Fair.

Career Services will be hosting the fair on Tuesday, Sept. 29 and Wednesday, Sept. 30 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Graham Center Ballrooms at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Over 1,500 students and alumni are expected to participate, according to the Career Services website.

“All students, even if they’re not ready to graduate, should come and walk through the fair,” said Fernando Figueredo, Career Services executive director.

Employers vary from public, educational, non-profit organizations as well as military.

Participants include American Express Technology; General Electric; Walmart Training and Air Force Base and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute, which offers internships, fellowships and scholarships opportunities with NASA.

Most of the employers that attend normally return because they have established FIU as a strategic hire university, said Figueredo.

“It’s good for students to get to know some of the recruiters.”

Figueredo advises students to come prepared by having their resumes in hand while being professionally dressed. He said it is important to have an elevator pitch, which is a concise and persuasive sales message.

“First impressions are critical. Be enthusiastic and be energetic, so the employer gets a picture of who you are soon as you see them,” Figueredo said.

He also said students should determine what their strengths and weaknesses are to present to potential employers.

While on the spots happen rarely happen, employers have reserved the interview room in Career Services’ office – GC 230 – to further evaluate potential employees, according to Figueredo.

Good grades and work-related experience can also be brought up during interviews.

“They have to talk about both those things,” Figueredo said. “Why should be someone the employer should consider?”

The National Security Agency was once looking to hire people for nine available positions and left having offered 17 jobs, according to Figueredo.

Career Services requires students to dress in business professional attire, to bring a printed copy of a current resume and their Panther ID. Book Bags are not allowed, and students who fail to meet the requirements will not be admitted into the event.

“I think the Career Fair is a great idea to help students like myself who never had a job, get an idea of what it’s actually like. I’m excited about dressing up and passing out my resume,” said Michael Chobin, a freshman exploratory major.

In order to prepare for the Career Fair, students are advised to attend professional development workshops and take part in the Practice Interview Program. Students practice mock interviews and get critiqued on their skills to improve and impress employers.

The first day of the fair is dedicated to technical and education majors. Technical majors are those in the science, technology, engineering and math fields.

The second day of the fair is open to all majors and will include employers from The Home Depot, Target Corporation, Waffle House, Burger King Corporation, Trump National Doral and the CIA.

A complete list of employers attending the event can be found in the Career Services website.

Davy Alvarez is planning to attend to get connected with local employers and to see what job is out there.

“Graduation is coming up faster than I expected, so this is a great opportunity to get my feet in the door and see where I could potentially be working after I graduate,” said Alvarez, a senior management and finance major.

Career Services holds two Career Fairs a year at MMC, so students who are unable to make it to this one will have another opportunity during the spring semester.

Students who attend the Biscayne Bay Campus will also have the opportunity to attend Career Fair at the main campus.

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The Beacon
A Forum for Free Student Expression at Florida International University

The FIU Career Fair will be held on the Graham Center Ballrooms from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Many companies are set to attend and offer positions to FIU students.

ID: 122692097-232

Photo Credit: Nicole Maza/The Beacon

FIU E-Library

http://www.fiusm.com

Homeless Students: February 2014

SOURCES: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

FIU Hosts Success Career Fair on Sept. 29

Contributing Writer

With over 1,500 students and alumni expected to attend, the Career Fair will be held throughout this week.

Students were provided with support and help to navigate the University’s resources.

FIU’s Panther Pride Office is set to host the annual Career Fair, which will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 29 and Wednesday, Sept. 30 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Graham Center Ballrooms.

Nearly 150 employers are expected to participate, according to the Career Services’ website.

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NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

NASA: Evidence of flowing water on Mars
With the help of a pair of Georgia Tech scientists, NASA announced Monday morning that it has found strong evidence of flowing water on Mars, raising the tantalizing possibility of extraterrestrial life. Led by Georgia Tech doctoral candidate Lujendra Ojha, the scientists used instruments on board NASA’s Maru Mission Observer to study mysterious streaks that snake down the Red Planet’s steep slopes. These streaks — known as recurring slope lineae or RSL — appear during the warmer seasons and then disappear at colder times during the Martian year.

Syrians who supported Assad find flight now a nightmare
The Lady Su was 14 hours behind schedule, and there would be no food other than soft drinks available for the 12-hour journey to southern Turkey. But for the passengers, this was probably the high point on what was likely to be an eight-country travel ordeal. Some 1,700 to 1,500 Syrians travel this route daily, according to the website’s owner, who made one of the main wellplings for the flood now inundating Europe.

Classifieds
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Homeless, Page 1
through their undergraduate years.
Meanwhile, its Student Academic Assistance gears towards high school seniors to give them the opportunity to participate in the Golden Scholars Bridge Program. The program is a summer transition academy that helps students improve in academic areas for admission to FIU.

New online course series on presidential elections
Barbara Valencia
Contributing Writer
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University will have the unique opportunity to study 2016 presidential elections current events in real-time.

The Department of Politics and International Relations announced an online three-course series focused on the elections. They will be taught by Dario Moreno and Sara Moats, both politics and international relations professors.

Each course will include five video analysis and guest speakers, according to the department’s website. The new series will start spring 2016 and finish fall 2016.

“This is an exciting opportunity for students to learn about the electoral system in the United States,” said Moats. The series will help students interpret and understand news on elections.

There is a limited number of 200 students who can enroll per course. Each course is worth three credit hours and each will count as an elective course.

Students interested in taking the courses do not have to meet any prerequisites or have specific majors to enter. “We welcome all students interested in the 2016 presidential election to enroll in the courses. Take one, or take all three,” Moats said.

Elections and political participation are the cornerstones of American democracy, she said. Lauren Padron said she wants to know more about the process of the elections, not the end result. She said millennials are involved with the election process more than ever.

“People are changing their political standings to vote for members of opposing parties that seem more promising and aligned with their hope for the future,” said Padron, a freshman international relations and philosophy double major.

The courses are designed to be highly interactive. Moreno said he came up with the idea for the series and with the help of Moat, they developed online components like discussion boards.

“We want to stress engagement and help students to ask questions,” said Moreno.

The first course offered is called, “The Primary Elections,” which focuses on the primary system in the United States. It closely follows the Democratic and Republican primary elections and assemblies.

“The Party Conventions,” will then be offered summer 2016. It examines the Republican and Democrat Party conventions, and it analyzes events occurring prior to, during and after each convention.

The final “General Elections,” course focuses on the general election between the Republican and Democrat nominees. Other themes include campaigning, polling and transitions strategies.

Moreno will be traveling to Iowa, New Hampshire and some of the early primary states to give students a first-hand account of the electoral process.

“This is a course that can be taken without having any background in politics, and the only requirement really is an interest in what is happening in the elections,” Moreno said.

He said he was inspired to create the series from watching large public interest in the 2016 presidential elections.

“Not only have the current elections been widely covered, but news companies such as CNN and Fox News have shown the highest ratings in the history when they covered the two previous GOP debates.

People don’t much know about the proceedings of the electoral process and the effects of the events that ocor at pass, but when you look about news, said Padron.

“In the international system and society, the United States is seen as a front-runner and as a superpower. Thus as citizens, we need to know what is going on internally, so we can better understand future external affairs,” she said.

University homeless students receive help
Using tampons might be life-threatening

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As women, most of us remember that special moment in our lives when we first got our period — for many this is one of the first steps in transitioning towards womanhood. As the years pass, the menstrual cycle can be an often painful experience due to cramps and spotting slightly bloated as a young girl matures into a young woman. Nevertheless, all girls and women continue to use these classic feminine hygiene products such as pads or tampons for handling their periods.

Using either pads or tampons is the most popular choice for women to use once they enter their monthly menstrual period as they are easy to use.

Unfortunately, the information I have read within two articles I found on the internet is something that needs to be shared with all girls and women if they are using tampons.

Toxic shock syndrome is a fatal illness caused by a bacterial toxin, such as Staphylococcus aureus or group A Streptococcus. The source of the illness is apparently from the use of tampons — though there is not much awareness of it.

According to the Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine, a tampon introduced by Proctor and Gamble known as Rely tampons were recalled on Sept. 22, 1980, because in January 1980, epidemiologists in Wisconsin and Minnesota found TSS in those who were menstruating.

A 13-year-old British girl and keen swimmer, felt unwell with sickness and diarrhea while on a family vacation. She used tampons as a convenient way to continue swimming, and while her training as a swimmer - most female athletes tend to use tampons while performing extensive training. Suddenly, her health began to deteriorate and her family rushed her to the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary in Wigan where she was diagnosed with TSS. Nothing could be done to save Jemma-Louise’s life, sadly, for the disease had taken its course. On March 2014, she died one year later from brain hemorrhage while on a heart and lung machine. Devastated, her mother is now working hard towards spreading the word about TSS so that other young women will not meet the same fate that happened to her young daughter.

What happened to Lauren and Jemma-Louise could have been prevented if they knew about TSS and had they received earlier medical attention. Even though the disease is a well-known fatal illness which can cause a woman’s health to be at risk, many are still not aware of TSS and continue using tampons – running the risk of accidentally contracting the bacterial infection if something goes wrong during their menstrual period.

Every woman needs to know about TSS in order to prevent contracting the disease, especially young girls who are just starting their periods. If a girl is a tampon user say she’s not feeling well during her period despite having cramps and feeling bloated, take her to a hospital immediately in case she might have TSS so she may receive the proper medical treatment early.

To all the women at FIU: be careful while using a tampon for you may never know if you will get TSS one day. Always remember to read the warnings carefully and go to a doctor in case something goes wrong while using a tampon.

‘Playing hard to get’ a symptom of rape culture

CAYLA BUSH
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Saying that a woman is playing hard to get to a man’s request for attention and his romantic advances is “playing hard to get” is taking away the strength and power of a woman’s “no.”

As we get older, we’re taught that jokes when they say no. A woman who tells a man no simply is asking him to convince her to change. The problem with this ideology is that sometimes, a woman’s verbal and nonverbal cues will be disregarded in sexual or romantic situations, because she just needs a little convincing. A very good illustration of this train of thought comes from an episode of “A Different World,” properly titled “No Means No.”

In this episode, Dwayne speaks with Walter about a situation in which he “knows her mouth is saying ‘no’ but you’re sure there are parts of her body saying ‘yes’.” Walter tells Dwayne that no matter what, a woman’s no should be respected, and ignoring her no is rape.

While the story on the show ended without rape and a lesson learned, oftentimes real life experiences do not mirror this happy ending.

Often, a woman who says no has to have several escape options because simply saying no can have results that range from continued unwanted advances to angry and terrifying behavior. While rape is not always the outcome, there are instances in which women are stalked or beaten for saying no.

Just because rape doesn’t always occur, it does not mean that this isn’t a symptom of rape culture. The fact that a woman saying no is no longer valued, respected and heeded provides space for rape; that’s the problem with telling a woman she’s “playing hard to get.”

The Struggle is Real

SOLUTION FOR PARKING PROBLEMS...

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

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

Send us your letters!

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Send your letters to opinion@fiusm.com

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Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to opinion@fiusm.com.

About 46 million young American citizens between the ages of 18 and 29 are eligible to vote – 7 million more than the 39 million seniors that are also eligible. Young people of the aforementioned demographic also make up about one fifth of the voting population.

It is important to consider the ways that they can make a difference in elections - that their numbers, should they take advantage of the processes allowed them.

For those who feel as though their vote does little to cause change in government, perhaps consider this: by not voting, a citizen does little to cause change in government, but entirely hypo-

ical and brought upon oneself.

Those who do vote potentially have their lifestyles at stake and they understand that their voices, collected with the voices of others, can incite change, therefore they do what they can to preserve their interests.

There are also those who don’t share the same interests and needs as much of our generation, whose values and goals do not align with ours and, in the end, only add to the problems we see, an already crowded political arena.

Those are the people that vote while the majority of us sit back and complain about the current state of the nation. The change we want is only to happen through us.

It’s important to register to vote

Campaign season is upon us, and now more than ever, it is important for young people to stand up and make their voices heard.

The millennial voice has and continues to play a great social, political and economic change - we’ve seen our voices lend to historical moments such as the legalization of gay marriage and New York’s increase in minimum wage.

As millennials, we’ve learned to use advances in social media to promote solidarity, equality and reformulation. However, if we want to cause systemic change, however, we can’t stop there.

Though social media and online activism has risen in popularity, it is now time to take our power to the polls.

Young voters, before anything else, should know whether or not they are registered to vote and where they should go to place their ballots.

If you are living in a different area than the one in which you registered to vote, then it is important that you sign up for an absentee ballot. This way, you are still able to place your vote. Simply logging on to the state’s division of elections website will guide voters who want or need to vote absentee through the criteria of eligibility and the process of receiving the ballot.

Those who are not registered to vote at all, and want to register in Miami-Dade county can do so either at the DMV, online at miamidade.gov, or even during certain opportuni-

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PalmCon celebrates Star Wars franchise

COLLIN SIMPSON
Contributing Writer
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The latest comic book convention to come to Florida was PalmCon. From Sept. 26-27, 2015, the PalmCon Comic Convention took place at the Palm Beach Convention Center. This was the fifth year of PalmCon, and it was better than ever. The theme of this year’s convention was Star Wars, to commemorate the release of the seventh film due to be released on Dec. 18, 2015.

From booths filled with various Star Wars comics to stands propped up with dozens of Star Wars action figures, the Force did not disappoint this year. The guest actors attending were outstanding as well.

Staring at this convention were two guests from the Star Wars franchise: Matthew Wood and Catherine Taber. Matthew Wood is best known among Star Wars fans for voicing the nefarious Star Wars villain General Grievous in “Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith” and “Star Wars: The Clone Wars.” He is also currently providing the voice for the Stormtroopers in “Star Wars: Rebels,” and is the lead sound editor for “Star Wars: The Force Awakens.”

Catherine Taber is also well known among fans for voicing Palpatine Amidala in the 2008 “Star Wars: The Clone Wars” animated film and television series. Both actors were incredibly nice, talking to their fans while signing film memorabilia for very reasonable prices. Both actors had an excellent time at PalmCon and praised the convention and the guests.

“It’s great to be here at PalmCon. Clearly, the Force is strong in West Palm Beach,” said Taber.

“I’m having a great time here at PalmCon. Meeting all the fans and I’m feeling a lot of energy from the people and the folks here. It’s great to see so many interesting people and costumes. Thanks a lot,” Wood said as he signed a photo of General Grievous for an excited young fan.

Also appearing at PalmCon was Chris Harrelson, who portrayed numerous walkers on Season 5 of the hit AMC series, “The Walking Dead.”

All three hosted several panels during the weekend. When they talked to fans about their experiences. During Wood’s panel, he spoke about how he had first gotten hired by LucasFilm, his cameos in Star Wars Episode I and II, his work in sound editing and how he had gotten the role of General Grievous for Episode III. Taber’s panel was excellent as well, where she talked about her experience on Clone Wars, and her other voice acting projects for Star Wars, including “Knights of the Old Republic” and the new app “Uprising.”

There were also numerous artists attending PalmCon, such as Joe Rubenstein, who has worked on some of the most important comic series of all time, like the famed “The Infinity Gauntlet” series. Also appearing was Jose Delbo, accomplished Wonder Woman and Transformers artist from DC Comics. Other artists attending included Disney artist Vanessa “Banky” Farano and Universal Studios artist Mike Waggener.

Many of the people attending found PalmCon to be a wonderful experience, such as Gina Milian, who was attending PalmCon for the first time with her husband and young son. It was also the very first comic convention she had ever attended.

“Being my first comic convention, I felt nervous at first, but I had nothing to fear. I found it was very family oriented. My husband, son and I had a great time. We bought comics, art, action figures and had things signed by the artists and the voice actors, who were very nice to us.”

Many other comic conventions opportunities are available for those who could not make it to PalmCon, such as Wizard World Fort Lauderdale next week on Oct. 2-4, and Animaze Miami on Oct. 23-25.

‘A Flea in Her Ear’ features ‘charming characters’ and ‘good laughs’

COLLIN SIMPSON
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Wertheim Performing Arts Center opened its doors Friday night for FIU Theatre’s first performance of “A Flea in Her Ear,” a farce full of charming characters, sexual innuendos and mayhem.

As Raymonde Chandebise begins to doubt her husband’s loyalty to her and their marriage, she and an old friend plan an elaborate trick to catch him in the act of adultery by faking a letter from a mysterious seductress. Fast-forward through a miscommunication, a drunk couplendog and one hot summer night, she hotel proprietor and you have an ensemble of colorful characters all caught in the cross fires of fun chaos.

The cast and crew clearly had fun with the show and as difficult as a period piece is in theatre, they executed this performance in a rather entertaining fashion. Each actor in the performance brought a certain spirit to each character. From Etienne, the nosy butler with the brilliantly delivered punch lines (played by Brandon Hoffman), to Camille, the young nephew who can’t pronounce his consonants (played by David Neale), every actor had fun with each of their parts, no matter how big, small or odd. Although it took them the first act to warm up, it was evident the cast had fun with the show, which in turn, called for the audience to have fun watching the show.

Special attention should be called to one of the leads of the show, Allyn Moriyon, who played both Victor Chandebise, the dignified husband in question and Poche, the drastically different drunken redcap who has Victor’s face. Seamlessly, Moriyon was able to change from one character to the other within mere seconds of each other. To the point that it started to feel like there were actually two different actors playing these characters instead of just the one, which is no small accomplishment.

The technical aspects of the show were equally as commendable. The costumes and set were crafted to really set the play in 1910 France. The first scenes that took place in the Chandebise home were simply designed to simulate a French home from 1910 which was both effective and clever, as it was used to cover up the in-house orchestra pit as a stage exit and having a functional trap door, which had its comedic use in the show.

“A Flea in Her Ear” was a fun comedy that effectively had the audience laughing hard and loud throughout the whole night. The cast hit their comedic timing, played off each other like they had been working together for years and breathed life into the old farce. It is a highly recommended performance for a night of good laughs and plays that will stay with you for days to come.
Sugar emerges as cause of heart disease

Sugar emerges as cause of heart disease

From the beginning of time, salt has been known to ward off evil, but during the late 1970s, salt became the evil when government and healthcare providers began to preach the dangers of salt. This white crystal then became known as the culprit of high blood pressure and therefore heart disease—America’s number one killer of both women and men, according to Naturalnews.com.

High blood pressure or hypertension is a condition in which the force of blood flow against artery walls is found to be high enough to cause health problems. According to Christine Tellez, Florida International University’s registered dietitian for Student Health Services, these probable health problems include cardiovascular disease, which can lead to kidney and eye damage, development of atherosclerosis, heart attacks and strokes.

Recently, many studies have been proving that a different white crystal may be more to blame for high blood pressure. In Discover Magazine’s September issue, Hillel Cohen, co-executive editor of the “American Journal of Hypertension,” explains that sugar and hypertension are largely linked by weight gain and calorie consumption.

“Even a person that has a healthy weight and is physically active has a higher risk of developing cardiovascular disease if they consume a lot of sugar in their diet,” said Tellez, “excess sugar in the diet can lead to weight gain and weight gain can often raise blood pressure.”

Weight gain problems, such as being overweight, increase a person’s blood volume so that tissues can keep their needed oxygen and nutrient levels. This increase in blood volume puts pressure on artery walls, which is where the damage is caused.

Excess sugar, according to Tellez, also contributes to hypertension in the formation of advanced glycation endproducts or AGEs which make arteries stiffer and in turn more difficult for blood to travel through them.

In regards to sugar, Tellez recommends choosing lean non-refined carbohydrates and limiting added sugar intake to six teaspoons per day for women and ten teaspoons per day for men.

One of the main reasons why sugar is taking salt’s place as the culprit of hypertension is because studies have found that people react to sodium in different ways—not everyone is “salt sensitive.”

“Many people with hypertension are what is considered ‘salt sensitive,’ meaning that high salt intake raises their blood pressure more than in the average person,” said Tellez, “people that are salt sensitive tend to be men, older adults and African-Americans.”

Still, salt’s effect on high blood pressure has yet to be discounted. Tellez, along with the USDA, recommend keeping sodium intake under 2300 mg per day, which equals a teaspoon.

Dietitians, including Tellez, remind us that a diet based on whole foods, including: whole grains, lean proteins, healthy fats, non-starchy vegetables and fruits, is naturally low in sugar and salt and therefore will ward off the real evil—heart disease.

SDA Health is published every Wednesday.

Jefe’s Original Soul Shack offers ‘delicious’ tacos

Jefe’s Original Soul Shack offers ‘delicious’ tacos

LEGENDARY KARAOKE

BEACON BITS

BEACON BITS

Every Tuesday and Thursday, I have a four hour break between classes. Naturally, I like to explore North Miami have tacos, but they also have burgers, salads and even pastrami sandwiches. Their culinary theme seemed to be a little abstract, but that just makes this restaurant even more unique.

I ordered an Ensenada Style Fish taco and a New Mexican Yardbird (Chicken) taco, with a side of guacamole.

The food came out within minutes and the presentation was definitely Instagram worthy. With corn tortillas and colorful and fresh toppings like pico de gallo and fresh slaw, the quality of the tacos were outstanding.

The chicken was juicy and seasoned perfectly. Their salsa verde complimented the taco by giving it a nice tang and their red onions and added a nice fresh dimension to the meal.

The guacamole was unique in which it wasn’t mashed up like most guacamole I’ve seen. Instead, it was in small chunks and mixed in with cilantro and lime juice.

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It was definitely a unique experience and not something I would have expected to be only a couple miles away from school. If anybody has a taco craving—or any craving, I’m sure Jefe’s Soul Shack will have exactly what you need!

With my taco craving satisfied, the world now feels a little brighter and my belt feels a little tighter—I call this a successful day.

Beacon Bits is a food column published every Wednesday. Gabby Arzola paid for the food with her own money. To suggest a restaurant near campus, email Gabby at gabby.arzola@fiusm.com.

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**MEN’S SOCCER**

**IT KEEPS GETTING BETTER**

Panthers continue six-game winning streak with a 5-1 victory

**DAVID DRUCKER**
Staff Writer

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The #24 men’s soccer team (6-2-0, 2-0 in Conference USA) added their sixth straight win on Saturday, Sept. 26 in a 5-1 victory over Marshall University. The high scoring effort, powered by four Panthers scoring different four goals and a Marshall own-goal, kept the Panthers perfect at home and in C-USA.

The first half struggles the Panthers displayed earlier in the season grew more distant on Saturday night as Florida International University posted two goals in the first 45 minutes. Sophomore, Paul Marie, notched his first point of the game at the six-minute mark when he assisted Hezel for a header to give FIU an early 1-0 advantage. Marie picked up another assist in the 26th minute when he gathered a deflected shot and passed to Betancur, who sent a shot to the right corner of the net and gave his team a 2-0 lead.

Meanwhile, on defense, the Panthers didn’t allow Marshall to put a single shot on goal in the first half. At halftime, the score was 2-0, FIU.

FIU has provided dominant offense in the second half of games this season and made no exception for the Mean Green. Marshall’s prospects for a comeback victory took a hit in the 61st minute when defender Arthur Dinneche cleared the ball into his own net, giving FIU a 3-0 advantage. Junior, Jamar Campion-Hinds, picked up his fifth assist of the year when he found junior, Ismael Longe, for a goal off of a corner kick to put FIU up 4-0. Sophomore Luca Gione added the Panthers’ fifth goal in the 86th minute when he broke through Marshall’s back line and beat Marshall keeper Bijnan Golston one-on-one for his second goal of the season. Marshall managed to score in the 87th minute off of a rebound to prevent a shutout, but the Panthers took the match by a resounding 5-1 decision.

The five-goal effort was the second-straight high scoring effort in a row - FIU defeated Florida Atlantic University. The high scoring effort, 26 in a 5-1 victory over Marshall.

Senior, Nick Hezel, sophomore Luca Gione, junior, Jamar Campion-Hinds, and senior, David Drucker have been the main reasons why the Panthers continue their sixth straight win. The five-goal effort was the second straight high scoring effort in a row - FIU defeated Florida Atlantic University 7-2 on Monday, Sept. 21.

Over the six game winning streak, they have outscored opponents 20-6.

**CONFERENCE USA MEN’S SOCCER STANDINGS**

**FOOTBALL**

Panthers lose conference opener 27 points to 17

**JAKE’S TAKES**

Sometimes in the great sport of football, a team can play a solid all-around game and still not have much of a chance to win on that given day. As unfortunate as that can be, it’s exactly what happened to FIU (2-2) this past Saturday, Sept. 26.

The Panthers dropped their Conference USA opener by a score of 27-17 to the Louisiana Tech University Bulldogs (2-2), a team that many have picked as their favorites to win the conference.

Despite the final score, FIU didn’t play poorly at all; in fact, I’d argue they played fairly well for the most part. They didn’t turn the ball over a single time and their defense hung in there with an offense that had scored an average of 44.3 points per game in their first three contests.

However, a combination of costly penalties, inability to get past the Bulldog’s massive defensive line and LA Tech’s star running back, Kenneth Dixon, led to a game where FIU just didn’t really have much of a chance.

There’s no shame in getting burned by Dixon, who had 169 yards on the ground with two rushing touchdowns and was on the receiving end of another.

I’ve been saying for the past couple seasons that I expect Dixon to have a successful career in the NFL, given his incredible career numbers (3,934 rushing yards with 68 total touchdowns) and he continued to impress time and time again against FIU.

The Bulldogs offense always gets a lot of well deserved credit, but their defense is often overlooked. Led by their impressively strong front seven, LA Tech made it very difficult for sophomore quarterback Alex McGough and the FIU offense to move the ball. FIU avoided turning the ball over, which was a major step for a team with predictions or recaps of gameplay. For commentary, email jacob at jacob.spivak@fiusm.com.

**IT KEEPS GETTING BETTER**

Panthers continue six-game winning streak with a 5-1 victory

The防的第二半的大部分时间，都由Tech的强大的防守组主导，但他们的防守也被忽视。Tech的防守组是Tech最大的弱点，他们的防守组在强大的进攻线和不成熟的防守是他们最大的弱点。

尽管如此，Tech在防守端也表现不错，他们在比赛中没有一次被烧，因此他们一直有很好的机会。

不过，有时在伟大的足球运动中，一个团队可以打出一个很好的比赛，但仍然没有太多的获胜机会。这在9月26日的比赛中就发生了，Tech以27比17击败了金骑士。

Tech虽然输掉了比赛，但他们并不是表现不佳，事实上，他们表现得相当不错。他们在比赛中没有一次失误，他们的防守一直坚持到了最后一刻。

然而，一场巨大的犯规，投篮和投篮的缺乏，让金骑士的进攻组在这个赛季发挥不错，他们在所有的比赛中都保持了26的高比分。与此同时，他们的防守组也表现不错，他们在比赛中没有一次失误。

Tech的进攻组一直被看好，他们在这个赛季中表现不错，他们在比赛中没有一次失误，他们的防守组也被看好，尽管他们在比赛中表现不错，但在进攻端表现不佳，因此他们一直有很好的机会。

在六场连胜之后，他们以20比6的成绩击败了对手。

**CONFERENCE USA MEN’S SOCCER STANDINGS**

**FOOTBALL**

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**JAKE’S TAKES**

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The Bulldogs offense always gets a lot of well deserved credit, but their defense is often overlooked. Led by their impressively strong front seven, LA Tech made it very difficult for sophomore quarterback Alex McGough and the FIU offense to move the ball. FIU avoided turning the ball over, which was a major step for a team who’ve been called on too much even when they’re not given any rushing lanes and McGough was rarely given the chance to drop back and pass.

At the end of the day, FIU wouldn’t have needed to play essentially a perfect game to keep up with the Bulldogs and unfortunately that isn’t how it turned out.

This isn’t a game that many people gave FIU a chance in and to their credit, they were in it until the very end.

Last season’s team more than likely would’ve gotten blown out in a game like this, so I still think Panthers fans can take some positives out of the game no matter the result.

FIU will play their final non-conference game this Saturday, Oct. 3, as the Panthers head up to New England to play the University of Massachusetts Minutemen (0-3).

“Jake’s Takes” offers commentary on the University football team with predictions or recaps of gameplay. For commentary, email jacob at jacob.spivak@fiusm.com.
**SPORTS**

**Two-game road test ends with losses**

**STEFANO RIVERA**  
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After defeating its rival, Florida Atlantic University, at home on Sunday, Sept. 20, the FIU women’s volleyball team faced a tough, two-game road test as part of its Conference USA schedule. The Panthers traveled to Rice University on Friday, Sept. 25 and Western Kentucky University on Sunday, Sept. 27, looking to improve on their 8-4 (2-0 C-USA) record.

The Panthers played a hard-fought match against Rice, but ended up falling in three sets with scores of 9-25, 16-25 and 24-26. The team failed to reach double-digit points in a set for the first time this season, after only scoring nine in the first set. Overall, the team finished with a hitting percentage of .037 and 24 errors, while only tallying 28 kills.

The Panthers were led by Senior, Lucia Castro, who finished with 10 kills and 14 digs, which brought her double-double total to six this season. Fellow Senior, Adriana McLamb, also looked impressive with 10 digs and Freshman, Katie Friesen, collected 16 assists in the match.

The Owls posted impressive stats all around the board, finishing with 39 kills, only 14 errors, and a hitting percentage of .250. They also doubled the team’s block total with 12 for the match. With this win, the Owls improve to 11-4 for the season and start 1-0 in C-USA play.

The Panthers then traveled to WKU, to complete the second half of the two-game road trip, on Sunday, Sept. 27. The team tried to rally back from its disappointing defeat against Rice; however, it fell once again. The Hilltoppers defeated the Panthers 25-21, 26-24 and 25-15, for their second-straight three-set loss.

Once again, Castro and McLamb led the Panthers throughout the match, collecting nine digs each. Senior, Glotia Levorin and Sophomore, Tia Clay, combined for 12 kills and 37 kills and only 13 errors. Playing a very safe game, the Hilltoppers avoided costly errors and got the better of the Panthers defense. The Hilltoppers improve to 15-2 (3-0 C-USA) and are proving to be one of the top teams in the C-USA.

The Panthers will remain home and host the next four games, three of which are against CUSA competitors. They will host Marshall University on Friday, Oct. 2, University of Texas at El Paso on Sunday, Oct. 4, Florida Gulf Coast University on Tuesday, Oct. 6 and University of North Carolina at Charlotte on Friday, Oct. 9.

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

**Panthers have 2-0 weekend at home**

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FIU women’s soccer went 2-0 this past weekend after winning their last contest in impressive fashion.

The weekend home stand started on Friday, Sept. 25, when FIU hosted the University of Texas at San Antonio Roadrunners.

The Roadrunners came to Miami winless and were completely dominated by the Panthers after FIU emerged victorious with a final score of 3-1.

FIU went on to have eight shots on goal and 26 total shots, compared to the Roadrunners’ one lone shot on goal with eight total shots.

It was a fast paced start for the Panthers, as Marita Davydova, who graduated after last season, sent a cross off a corner kick directly to freshman Lyrik Fryer, who took an advantage of the opportunity and gave FIU a 1-0 lead with her first career goal. The eighth minute goal marks the earliest goal FIU has scored all season long.

FIU went on to score again 11 minutes later, when Scarlet Montoya scored her first goal of the season. The Roadrunners showed signs of life in the 35th minute after a goal by Channing Machen, but FIU ended the first half on a 2-1 lead and outshot the Roadrunners 17-2.

It was much of the same in the second half. The Roadrunners were unable to get a shot on goal for the rest of the game. FIU sealed the game in the 88th minute when Alyssa Robinson recorded her fourth goal of the season and gave FIU a 3-1 victory.

FIU was back in action on Sunday, Sept. 27 against the University of Texas at El Paso Miners (8-4-1) and it marked the second Conference USA game for both of these teams.

The game changed gears towards the end of the first half, when Kennadie Chaudhary scored the first goal of the game for the Miners, and it would carry on to the half as UTEP was up 1-0.

FIU wasted no time to level the game in the second half and in the 47th minute, FIU was awarded a penalty kick after a foul in the box. Malden Meinhardt took the penalty for the Panthers, but it was deflected off the Miners’ goalkeeper and Scarlett Montoya was there to clean up the mess as she controlled the deflection and assisted it back to Meinhardt, who tied the game at 1-1.

Sophomore Paula Quintero continued the hot second half start for the Panthers. Quintero scored on an unassisted goal to mark FIU’s second straight goal, and added a career-high three assists, a career-high.

The game looked to be all but over, but in the 99th minute, UTEP capitalized off a corner kick and Aleah Davis would tie the game up for the Miners.

The Panthers were not ready to give up a victory. A late push led to a UTEP foul in stoppage time and FIU was awarded a free kick which was taken by Scarlet Montoya. Montoya’s kick sailed over the wall of UTEP defenders and to the back of the net, which gave FIU the 3-2 win.

FIU ended the Miners five game winning streak and went back over the .500 mark for the first time since they started the season 1-0-0. FIU is now 6-5-0 and 2-0-0 in conference play after the weekend, giving them a shared spot atop the C-USA standings. The Panthers will be back in C-USA action on Friday, Oct. 2 as they travel to Houston to play Rice University.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**2014-2015 Conference USA Freshman of the Year to miss sophomore campaign due to injury**

**LOUIE AQUEDOLE**  
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After an outstanding first year with the Panthers, forward Kiandre’a Pound will be sitting out her sophomore season due to undisclosed personal reasons.

This is a huge loss for Florida International University, as they’ll be missing not only the conference’s former freshman of the year, but also the team’s leading scorer and most consistent shooter. Pound was also second in free throws made, total rebounds and blocks on the team behind only Marita Davydova, the 6’3” center who graduated after last season.

Teammates and head coach alike are fully supportive of the sophomore forward in her time off and can’t wait for her to get back. KP has already started to begin preparations for her junior season with FIU by approximately March of 2016.

Although she won’t be lacing up her shoes to play on the court for the team’s season opener against the Florida A&M Rattlers, KP Pound won’t be found too far from the game itself, as she plans to be courtside with her teammates for that game and all season long.
### CELEBRATING BELIZE

**FIU benefiting Belize’s women and children**

**YMARIS TEJEDA**
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The University is hosting a first annual event benefitting a third world country neonatal pediatric intensive care unit.

In collaboration with the Belize Tourism Board, the Consulate of Belize in Florida and Belize’s Office of Special Envoy for Women & Children, The Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management will host See and Taste Belize festival.

Belize, a Central American country, borders Guatemala and Mexico towards the Caribbean Sea. It was ranked as the third most dangerous country with a high homicide rate by the United Nations in 2014. The idea for the event began when the University visited the Cooper Center in Belize earlier this year with Kim Simplicio Barrow, the country’s first lady. The partnership came about with the idea of fundraising for a new care unit.

"I like that FIU does stuff that tries to help around the world. FIU has a lot of international students, and people are bringing awareness to what’s happening," Stephanie Menendez, a junior hospitality major said she is glad to be involved in this fundraiser.

With the finishing of unit, Belizean patients will receive quick immediate care instead of waiting to be airlifted to Guatemala.

The funds raised for the new unit will also provide medical equipment and dormitories like rooms for overnight patients.

"Of course, these are important causes," said Schouten. "What better way to get students engaged and involved than for a cause like this."

### The Everglades

The plan also proposes that Congress designate additional land as wilderness and make the park more accessible to visitors as part of the first overhaul of its management plan in more than 30 years.

The plan, which is final but will be implemented gradually, will prohibit boaters from using their main engines or require them to go at idle speed on about one-third of the bay, in an attempt to prevent their propellers from destroying the seagrass beds that form the base of the bay’s food chain.

"The plan also proposes that Congress designate 42,200 acres in the eastern Everglades as wilderness, land intended to be kept in the most primitive state. It would create additional ways for people to get access to the park, with more visitor centers, a paddling concession on Tamiami Trail, a 120-mile paddling trail at the western side of the park and other amenities.

The most debated part of the plan concerns Florida Bay, the estuary at the bottom of the Florida peninsula, where water that has made the long journey through the Everglades discharges into the ocean. A sheet of water dotted with the gnarled roots of mangrove islands, Florida Bay supports a vast range of life - bonefish, bonnethead sharks and tarpon darting around the seagrass, crocodiles sunning themselves along the shore, wading birds standing in one or two feet of water hundreds of yards from land.

Extremely popular for fishing, the bay has sustained decades of damage from the propellers of speeding boats.

"They would blast through the flats," said John Adornato, Sun Coast regional director of the National Parks Conservation Association, who supports the plan. "Seagrass was being damaged by prop scars and the fishing being negatively impacted. People were driving over the flats and blowing holes in the seagrass beds. It had a negative effect on juvenile fish, prey species, all the way up to tarpon and bonnetfish."

Adornato said the plan, which was unveiled Friday, would "significantly reduce scarring and damage to seagrass beds."

"It gives FIU and its students a chance to become involved in a cause like this [and] hopefully bring some awareness to Belize itself," Schouten said.

The Office of Special Envoy in Belize is dedicated to advocating for children and families. It raises awareness through humanitarian efforts by addressing women and children issues and by raising money in support of the new care unit.

The festival will bring five of their top chefs flown from Belize to provide hand-crafted samples of their food.

They will also offer outdoor culinary food and Belizean rum. Guests will also be able to create their own Belizean spice mix from a variety of spices.

There will also be live dance and soca music, Belizean style.

"It’s cool that FIU is bringing its cultural influence on the world,” said Joseph Nova, a senior biology major. "It’s a nice thing to be involved."

The event will start with a VIP brunch and a silent auction from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stephanie Menendez, a junior hospitality major said she is glad that the University is partaking in this fundraiser.

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