The school’s annual Homecoming tradition brings a week-long list of activities for University students.

"The events that we put on for Homecoming celebrate the alumni and allow students to show their spirit for the University," said Jordan Thompson, rules and regulations chair for the Homecoming Council.

The first official event “Kickoff by the Bay” takes place Friday, Oct. 16 at the Biscayne Bay Campus in Panther Plaza from noon to 4 p.m.

The event’s activities range from kayaking to a barbeque. Games such as potato sack races are included.

The Pantherominium concert will be on Sunday, Oct. 18 at the Ocean Bank Field at FIU’s Stadium.

Performers Rae Steenland and Flosstradamus will be the main features of Pantherominium. Doors for the concert open at 6 p.m., according to the University’s Homecoming website.

“The floor ticket prices as of now are $45 for guests, and any student who wishes to be on the floor and have closer access to the stage,” said Kelly Ibarra, overall director of the Homecoming Council.

“Every student is allowed to pick up a free ticket at the One Card office with their student I.D. for Pantherominium and Panther Prowl; however, free student tickets are bleacher seats, not floor seats,” Ibarra said.

Floor tickets can be purchased on the Homecoming website. Students can get a discount by using the code Golden50 when purchasing tickets, and the concert is open to the public.

Unleash the Crown! Court Pageant takes place Monday, Oct. 19 where students get to see the candidates for Homecoming court.

The top three candidates for King and Queen will be announced at the event.

“The Queen and King [of Homecoming] are invited back to host an event the following year and asked by other organizations to partake in their events,” said Melissa Ramos, Homecoming Council assistant director of administration.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the event starts at 7 p.m. in the Graham Center Ballrooms at the main campus.

The next event will take place at the north campus with Panther Caribbean Fest Tuesday, Oct. 20. Live Caribbean music, food and other aspects of Caribbean culture will be showcased at the fest.

It takes place at the lawns by the bay from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Following the fest, the University will host a Panther Prowl Comedy show Wednesday, Oct. 21. Comedy Central Roast regular Jeff Ross, and Friends of the People’s Jeremiah Fowler will perform at the FIU Arena.

Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and the comedy show is free for University students and $20 for non-FIU students, according to Fidel Urbina, Homecoming Council University Relations at the Modesto Campus.

The Biscayne Campus will welcome the sixth event: Roary’s Birthday Extravaganza, which will take place Thursday, Oct. 22. The mascot’s birthday celebration will take place

SEE HOME, PAGE 2

The Student Alumni Association, the cheerleading team and the Golden Dazzlers dance team will honor five students who have represented the University for this year’s Trail of the Torch.

There will also be music from the FIU Marching Band.

Along with Roary, the University mascot, the groups will follow each alumnaus with a torch from one point to another until they reach a final stop in the front steps of Primera Casa. PC is the first campus building since 1969.

The Torch represents knowledge, opportunity and service, which highlights the qualities of the selected alumni who were chosen by a committee of faculty.

Students will also receive a passport and a wristband as they trail throughout the main campus. With a passport and a wristband, students can get a discount by using the code Golden50 when purchasing tickets, and the concert is open to the public.

The University’s Student Alumni Association has teamed up with the Student Ambassador program to host the annual FIU tradition.

Newborn said the Alumni Association paid for event, but the ambassadors planned and will host it.

Student Ambassadors are members of the SAA who help the University with events.

“They give students an opportunity to get to know them and learn about what the Alumni Association has in store,” Newborn said.

The goal is for ambassadors to represent the whole university as they themselves represent its different groups: on-campus residents, commuters, greeks, internationals, Honors College students and athletes.

“We look forward to welcoming the entire student body,” Newborn said.

**HISTORICAL REFERENCES**

Paul S. George, a professor of history at Miami-Dade College and a historian at History Miami, speaks at the "Race Migration and Inequality: Salient Themes in Miami History" lecture as part of the Ruth K. and Stetepad Broad Distinguished Lecture Series hosted by the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs Monday, Oct. 12 in GC Room 140.

**THE TORCH BEARERS**

Kamilia Manzuetta
Academic Excellence
Junior
Major(s): International Relations and Political Science
Minor(s): Communication Ethics and Legal Profession Minor and Rhetorical Communication

Gabriella Gustafsdottir
Student Athlete
Senior
Major(s): Recreation & Sport Management

Stephanie Gomez
Greek Representative
Senior
Major(s): Elementary Education with ESOL

Robbin Meneses
Student with Desire to Leave Paw Print
Senior
Major(s): Criminal Justice and Psychology

Ana Correa
Student with Desire to Leave Paw Print
Junior
Major(s): International Relations
Certificates in: Global Media Communications and Environmental Studies
Twitter plans to lay off up to 336 employees worldwide

Twitter plans to lay off up to 336 employees worldwide, the social media company announced Tuesday.

Despite White House opening, exports to Cuba continue to drop

Despite the White House opening, exports to Cuba continue to drop in recent months, despite the fact that the United States is working to substantially open trade with the island nation.

In August, exports of food and agricultural products authorized under a 2000 trade law dropped to $2.3 million, according to new data from the U.S.-Cuba Trade and Economic Council. That’s off substantially from the start of the year — despite the much-hyped thawing of trade and diplomatic relations with Cuba.

US delivers weapons to Kurdish, Arab forces in northern Syria

In a major boost for forces fighting Islamic State extremists in Syria but likely to stir controversy with NATO ally Turkey, the United States began airdropping pallets of weapons and ammunition to its Syrian Kurdish militia and allied Arab forces in northern Syria. ‘They have been held prior to the one written about.

This partnership encourages more students to study computer science. It helps us train computer scientists in Miami-Dade County while increasing opportunity for FIU students,” said Kip Irvine, the director of the Ultimate Software Academy for Computer Science, the UTSA program funded by Ultimate Software’s endowment.

The company has been working with the School of Computing and Information Sciences by providing endowments and sponsoring various programs, aimed at helping students in science, technology, engineering and math fields.

The TechSTARS internship program, a program where students are able to appropriate real-life experiences, kickstarted the partnership.

“Ultimate Software has given our students so many opportunities,” said Stephanie Lunn, a junior majoring in computer science and vice president of FIU STARS, a tutoring organization.

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“Ultimate Software has given our students so many opportunities,” said Stephanie Lunn, a junior majoring in computer science and vice president of FIU STARS, a tutoring organization.

Lunn, currently working on Artificial Intelligence that can read humans’ emotions, believes that early exposure to software and programming will give the younger generations a great advantage in a field that is “extremely flourishing.”

“We are very fortunate to have such generous sponsors to partner with, who are helping our students reach their full potential,” said Lunn.

University readsies for Homecoming events

University students since the beginning of its partnership, said Nancy Dalberg, a Miami Herald Staff Writer, on her Twitter page.

“FIU started sending student interns to Ultimate Software in 2007, and it went well,” said Dalberg. “We helped them find a deal and, in 2011, the grants began to support our programming team.”

With this extension, Ultimate Software upped the amount of funding it provides to the University, increasing it to $1 million for the 10-year period.

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**Opinion**

**We do not need a ‘Yelp for humans’**

MICHELLE MARCHANTE
Staff Writer
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Social media is a double-edged sword. It’s a great tool for communicating with others, but if used in the wrong way, can easily damage someone’s reputation - so where should we draw the line? When it begins to affect someone’s personal life. When it’s no longer just celebrities and other public figures being judged online by complete strangers but regular, everyday people being scrutinized.

An example of this would be Peeple, a brand new app that plans to be released sometime in November.

The app, often referred to as the “Yelp for humans,” will allow people to give reviews and 1-to-5 star ratings to everyone they have ever met: classmates, co-workers, friends and exes can all be reviewed.

The purpose of the app is to allow one’s “true character” to be showcased online for the entire world to see.

“People do so much research when they buy a car or make those kinds of decisions,” Julia Cordray, one of the app’s founders, said during an interview with The Washington Post. “Why not do the same kind of research on other aspects of your life?”

The difference between Peeple and other social media sites is that when someone is judged based on their latest photo or status on social media, they’re judged on something that they have consented to in the past. In contrast, the Peeple app does not need consent to allow people to post reviews or ratings about you and you’re completely powerless when it comes to taking it down.

Once a name is in the app’s system, it can’t be deleted unless the user’s page violates Peeple’s terms of service.

This app has the potential to defame and bully someone but Cordray promises that the app’s “integrity features” will ensure that no such thing will occur.

These features require you to be at least 21, have an established Facebook account and use your real name when creating reviews.

You must also affirm that you “know” the person professionally, personally or romantically.

The most secure integrity feature Peeple has is that the user is required to have the person’s cell phone number in order to create a page for them. While this is slightly more difficult to do, it’s not completely impossible to obtain if they don’t already have it. Plus, the cell phone number requirement is only needed for the initial creation of the page and won’t ensure the integrity of the reviews.

Another notable feature is that only positive reviews will be placed on the page immediately while negative reviews will initially be placed in a private inbox queue for forty-eight hours to allow the person that is being reviewed to claim and debunk the fallacy.

If the person is not a member of the service itself, the negative reviews will never be posted on their page, contradicting the goal of the app.

Since its announcement, the app has been receiving a steady stream of criticism.

Not enough environmental protection: bees endangered

ANA BARRIOS
Contributing Writer
opinion@fiusm.com

Most people have a fear of bees due to the insect’s tendency to sting in self defense. However, much use can be found in the honey bees make, as it can be used as a sweetener or substitute for granulated sugar.

A bee’s job is not only to make honey, but to contribute to the pollination process. Pollination is the process of transferring pollen to the female reproductive organs of seed plants, enabling fertilization and the growth of our food.

Without bees, there will be no honey and consequently, we will lose many of the foods we eat.

Farmers use pesticides on their crops in order to protect the harvest from any bugs and insects that could destroy them. Unfortunately, the harmful pesticides they’re spraying also kill bees.

One particular pesticide called Neonicotinoid has recently killed approximately 250 million bees in just a few years. Additionally, this pesticide infects other vulnerable species such as birds, earthworms and bats.

Another reason behind the decline of bee colonies is a phenomenon called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD).

When bees develop CCD, it causes them to feel disoriented and not be able to return home. This causes the bees to become lost, leaving them to die.

Many bees die if they do not find their way home and those who are able to locate their hive fly back after being poisoned and drop dead within their colony.

What causes CCD is still unknown, but it is most likely the enhanced usage of pesticides and a deadly combination of pathogens and parasites.

Over 40 percent of bee colonies here in the U.S. have suffered in the last ten years from CCD.

Because bees are already an endangered species, killing them will do more harm than good.

Instead of killing bees, take action. Save them because they provide us with food and the nutrition necessary to be healthy.

Bees are dependent on making honey and to foster the growth of plants. If all the bees die, the amount of food sources and honey produced will diminish, putting our survival at risk.

**Send us your letters**

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.

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**Editorial Policy**

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.
Half Moon a hint of Argentinian flavor on campus

The South Florida culture surrounds us with delicious foods from various countries; In particular, Latin America. Who can resist a cortadito, a croqueta or a delicious empanada? But these greasy favorites can make us feel heavy and make it difficult to stay awake in class or study.

Luckily, there is a new place on campus that offers a healthier alternative to our favorite latin treat, and guess what? They deliver!

Half Moon Empanadas are the newest member of the FIU Campus! The owners Pilar Guzman and Juan Zavala launched the company in 2008, after a nostalgic longing for the late-night delivery snack of choice in Argentina; a scenario our Panthers can relate to when our tummies are grumbling at midnight. Now, they have brought the taste of Argentina to our diverse campus.

While these savory pockets of dough are usually deep fried and stuffed with high-calorie fillings and preservatives, Half Moon is an alternative to your usual wrap and sandwich routine. Stick your teeth in to these guilt-free, golden treats with unique flavors.

Half Moon serves hot, made-from-scratch empanadas. The have a variety of flavors such as spicy chicken, guava BBQ pork, spinach or fresh ground beef. Half Moon’s empanadas are baked, not fried and they are made with fresh ingredients every morning so they make for a quick, filling and tasty bite when you are on the go.

The Half Moon Empanadas FIU Grand Opening will be on Wed., Oct. 14. But you don’t have to wait until then to taste the newest spot in PGS. They have already started their catering and desk-side delivery service to anywhere on campus.

So, whether you’re emerged in a serious study session, working late on campus, or even rushing to an organization meeting, you can enjoy fresh-baked empanadas no matter where you are on campus.

Be sure to stop by the grand opening this week. From noon to 2 p.m., you can stop by and enjoy an Empanada Happy Hour of free empanadas and a raffle for prizes.

But the empanada madness doesn’t stop there. On Thursday, Oct. 16 and Monday, Oct. 19, the Half Moon Empanadas street team will pop up around campus for Random Acts of Empanadas. They will surprise members of the FIU community with gifts of empanadas to thank those who aren’t always noticed for their dedication and work on behalf of FIU.

These Random Acts of Empanadas will continue to happen on surprise dates on the FIU Campus. So you never know when half moon will pop up to brighten your day.

Happy, Healthy, Humble is a bi-weekly column focusing on maintaining a healthy lifestyle on campus. To offer topic suggestions, email Crystal at crystal.fernandez@fiu.edu.

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This year’s ‘ii points festival was held at Mana Wynwood from Friday, Oct. 9 to Sunday, Oct. 11, with four stages and 120 acts.

The highlights of the lineup this year were King Krule, Toro y Moi, Panda Bear, yxyx and an assortment of local bands including Krisp, Kazoots and Deaf Poets.

Installations as giant white pyramids, a black tunnel, a glowing triangle decorated the festival, as well as a Japanese culture themed makeup installation. It was one of the best weekends of my entire year, but I can’t overlook how disorganized the festival was.

My wait to enter ‘ii points was accompanied by the sight of workers hastily painting a building and men luggng around tables and planks. I don’t think most people knew what was going on.

A member of the Plastic Punks asked where he could unload his equipment, only to be given no real answer. Someone suggested that he simply go to his stage and unload them. Trucks were still moving materials around and the giant white pyramid was still being worked on.

The doors were supposed to open at 5 p.m. No one was allowed in until around 6:30 p.m. As press, I got in around 5:50 p.m. and I was hoping I could grab some food from either Coyo Taco or Shake Shack. Neither of them were ready.

I asked for an estimated time they would be ready to serve and the Shake Shack worker told me they didn’t know.

I gave up on that and, seeking relaxation until the first set began, I decided to sit on a bench in the shade by a white bus decorated with black graffiti.

“I’d love to be in the film, as long as they find a role that suits me and makes sense,” Shatner announced, much to the excitement of the audience.

Unlike most conventions that occur at the same locations every year, Wizard World constantly explores new localities. Every weekend, this comic-con takes place in a different city and state across the United States. Each Wizard World convention is unique because it showcases a different cast of actors and artists.

Wizard World Comic Convention had its first trip to Fort Lauderdale from Oct. 2 to Oct. 4, and it took place at the Broward County Convention Center.

The convention also hosted an array of comic artists, including Krisp, Kazoots and Deaf Poets. Many of the celebrities charged fair for autographs, $30-$40 each (with the exception of Shatner, who charged $80 an autograph).

Numerous celebrities also hosted panel experiences as actors and discussing their experiences as actors and discussing their work in . Shatner’s panel was incredibly kind to his fans. He answered all questions including whether he would appear in “Star Trek” be released in 2016.

“I’d love to be in the film, as long as it suits me and makes sense,” Shatner announced.

The convention also hosted an array including the legendary “Batman” writer Michael Golden, who is the co-creator of Rob Liefeld, who co-created the famous “Deadpool.”

Unfortunately, several actors including N
SCOTTY, features William Shatner

Shatner, whose credits include playing Captain Kirk on "Star Trek," will appear at the Wizard World Fort Lauderdale convention. He'll be promoting his new book, "The 87-Percent Solution: How to Use the Law to Protect Yourself, Your Family and Your Business," and discussing his acting career with fans.

The convention will be held at the Broward County Convention Center from October 15-18. Admission prices range from $29 for one-day passes to $75 for four-day passes. For more information, visit wizardworld.com.

"I'm excited to be a part of Wizard World Fort Lauderdale," Shatner said in a press release. "Star Trek" fans will have the opportunity to meet him and other famous actors from the show, as well as participate in panels and autograph sessions.

In addition to Shatner, other notable guests at the convention will include William Fichtner, who played Captain James T. Kirk in the 2013 movie "Star Trek Into Darkness," and Robert Duncan McNeill, who portrayed Benjamin "Billy" Decker on the original "Star Trek" series.

Other featured guests will include actors from "Supernatural," "The Walking Dead," and "Game of Thrones," among others.

The Wizard World convention is one of the largest genre conventions in the country, with attendees coming from all over the world to meet their favorite actors and creators. In addition to the celebrity appearances, the convention will also feature comic book artists, dealers, and vendors, as well as panels, workshops, and other activities.

For more information on the Wizard World Fort Lauderdale convention, visit wizardworld.com.
FOOTBALL

GO HARD OR GO HOME

Next game poses a threat to conference championship run

The Panthers come into this game with an impressive record of 17-6 (7-6 in C-USA). For the season, the Panthers offense may have another big performance in store.

JAKE’S TAKES

JACOB SPIWAK

SEE GAME ON, PAGE 7

The women’s volleyball team is coming off a four-game home stand in which it went 3-1 overall and 3-0 against Conference USA opponents. For the season, the Panthers are 11-7 (5-2 in C-USA).

The team will travel to Hattiesburg, Miss., to face off against the University of Southern Mississippi on Friday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. The Golden Eagles come into this matchup with an impressive record of 17-6 (4-2 in C-USA). However, they lost their last match to Western Kentucky University with a final score of 3-1.

Offensively, the Golden Eagles are led by junior outside hitter, Stephany Purdrew, and freshman outside hitter, Kylie Grandy. Purdrew has accounted for a team-high 362 kills and a hitting percentage of .267. Grandy is second on the team with 210 kills with a hitting percentage of .126.

Freshman setter, Sarah Bell, has led the team in assists, totaling 854 throughout the season. Defensively, senior libero, Mary Pursell, leads the team with 409 digs.

The Panthers are led by senior outside hitter, Lucia Castro. Castro has 215 kills and a hitting percentage of .227. The team has little to no chance to make the C-USA Championship if they lose this match to Western Kentucky University, who is far and away the best team in C-USA this season.

Both of these teams are very similar in terms of talent, which makes it very difficult to predict what will happen in this match. The Blue Raiders will be tough, but if they can step up and force turnovers like they did throughout the season, they could take control of this game.

Other FIU defenders who have been leading the way all season are senior cornerbacks Jeremiah McKinnon and sophomore linebacker Anthony Wint. Each of those standout players will also need to turn in big performances in order to contain the MTSU offense.

A big advantage for FIU could be the point in the season where they’re playing MTSU. FIU is coming off statistically one of their biggest wins ever, and MTSU is limping into this game after allowing 58 points in a blowout loss at the hands of Western Kentucky.

If last week is any indication for how either of these teams fares this weekend, McGough and the Panthers offense may have another big performance in store.

Panthers face another tough conference test

STEFANO RIVERA

Contributing Writer

sports@fiusm.com

The Beacon – 6

Thursday, October 15, 2015

Cornerback Jeremiah McKinnon (middle), Safety Tyree Johnson (right), and Linebacker Jephete Matilus (left) celebrate their win of 52-12 against UTEP on Saturday, Oct. 10.

The Blue Raiders put up monster performances in each of their two wins, scoring at least 70 points in each. These two teams are very similar in terms of talent, which makes it very difficult to predict what will happen in this match. The Blue Raiders will be tough, but if they can step up and force turnovers like they did throughout the season, they could take control of this game.

Both of these teams are very capable of playing an incredible all-around game, evidenced by the fact that the Blue Raiders’ wins against Charlotte and Jackson State and FIU’s rout of the University of Texas at El Paso last week. The key for FIU in this game will be whether or not their extremely talented defense can stop MTSU’s star redshirt freshman quarterback Brent Stockstill.

Stockstill is having an incredible year, throwing for 16 touchdowns and just 3 interceptions, but FIU has one of the best defenses in C-USA. Senior cornerback Richard Leonard is still without an interception all season, but if he can step up and force turnovers like he did throughout the 2014 season, FIU could take control of this game.

Other FIU defenders who have been leading the way all season are senior cornerbacks Jeremiah McKinnon and sophomore linebacker Anthony Wint. Each of those standout players will also need to turn in big performances in order to contain the MTSU offense.

A big advantage for FIU could be the point in the season where they’re playing MTSU. FIU is coming off statistically one of their biggest wins ever, and MTSU is limping into this game after allowing 58 points in a blowout loss at the hands of Western Kentucky.

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SEE GAME ON, PAGE 7

Golden Eagles in a five-set nail biter with scores of 25-17, 14-25, 23-25, 25-22, and 15-17. For the match, FIU was out-hit 77-40 and only finished with a hitting percentage of .119. Southern Miss finished the match with 200 total attacks and 71 assists. Castro and Ene combined for 21 kills, Levorin finished with 7 blocks, and sophomore setter, Kioma McSwain, collected 33 assists and 7 digs.

This will be a short road trip for the team, as it will return home on Wednesday, Oct. 21, for a matchup against Louisiana Tech University.

SEE GAME ON, PAGE 7
**SPORTS**

**The Beacon – Thursday, October 15, 2015**

**GOLF**

The FIU women’s golf team is hitting the road this weekend as they try to build on their two game winning streak.

The action will kick off at 6 p.m. in Bowling Green, Ky. The Western Kentucky University Ranch, Colo., from Friday, Oct. 9, through Sunday, Oct. 11, FIU finished 13th out of 18 teams.

The senior from Cambridge, United Kingdom, shot a 1-under par 71 on day one, and struggled on day two, shooting a 2-over par 74. However, she rebounded on her final round carding a 2-under par 70 to finish the weekend with a 1-under par 215, marking her second top-five placement of the season. In last year’s fall season, FIU finished no lower than fifth place. The team’s best finish in tournaments this fall season is equal to last season’s worst finish.

**Defensively, we were happy to get back on the right path of not conceding this past weekend,** said FIU women’s soccer Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt.

The Panthers have kept their winning ways at home, as they have won their last four games at the FIU Soccer Stadium. These have all been conference wins, and has improved to a 7-2-2 overall home record. However, there is an important road bump coming up for FIU. Chestnutt has his team focused on their next challenge. **“We have to focus on Western Kentucky,” said Chestnutt. “They’re a tough defensive team and can definitely score goals as well. We have a mentality of looking at the next game, and the next game is all that is on our mind.”**

The Panthers last road trip was disastrous after allowing four goals to Rice and getting shut out by North Texas. The Panthers loss dropped to a .500 conference record. FIU also dropped to 1-5 on the road after their last time out, but there seems to be no concern moving forward.

“We have three out of our four next games on the road,” Chestnutt said. “It’s not a concern, it’s a circumstance. We’ll be fine, it’s an anomaly. We haven’t traveled a lot this year, and we are just getting back to the rhythm of traveling early. FIU is how can we be better than our last time out, and the last time on the road we had a tough time.”

Western Kentucky is also looking to bounce back after a winless weekend, and to climb up in the C-USA standings. The Hilltoppers are 6-4-4 overall, and an even 2-2-2 in conference play. They got blanked out by Middle Tennessee and tied with UAB in their recent road trip.

Both teams are looking to carry momentum from players that are stepping up for the first time in the season. For the Hilltoppers, freshman Megan Morris tied up the game with UAB in the second half. This was Morris’ first goal of the season and her career.

FIU scored two goals from Talia McMarron that would break the tie in both games this past weekend. Both goals were McMarron’s first goals of the season.

**Middle Tennesee game critical for C-USA East**

**GAME ON, PAGE 6**

**Prediction**

MTSU defeats FIU 31-24.

I really do hope I’m wrong, but there’s nothing harder in football than going on the road and defeating an extremely motivated team in their home stadium.

MTSU is well aware that a loss here effectively ends their season, and I think their offense will do just enough to pull away from FIU and put the brutal Western Kentucky loss behind them.

**That’s not to say I can’t see FIU winning.**

In fact, I was very close to picking them in this one. This has definitely been the hardest game I’ve had to pick all season due to the fact that these teams appear to be so evenly matched.

I give MTSU the slight nod, but FIU fans should still be optimistic that their team can go into Floyd Stadium and pick up a W against the Blue Raiders.

“Jake’s Takes” offers commentary on the University football team with predictions or recaps of gameplay. For commentary, email Jacob at jacob.spiewak@fiusm.com.
Needless to say, FIU blew their opponents out of the water. Head Coach Randy Horner and his team have quite the modest demeanor to them, however, whenever any of them are asked about how they think they’ll do going forward, and if they’re even concerned about the competition.

“I think we have to look out for all of them,” Horner said of other teams. What’s crazy about this, is, with as well as FIU performed in their first meet, and as well as I expect them to do when they host Dual-A-Palooza at the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Center, and taking into consideration how the Panthers usually opt away from the defending Conference USA champions. Look for the Panthers to, at the very least, impress in the pool yet again this Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17.

With that many sixes swimmers should be afraid

LOUIS AGUDELO
Staff Writer
lado@fiusm.com

FIU Swimming and Diving is one of the most competitive teams in the nation, and this week, the four DI programs that are based at the University of North Florida’s score, and those of Florida International, University of North Florida’s score, and University of Miami, are all top five teams in the nation.

Fabiola Pierre, a senior physical education major, speaks with Anzela Vanegas, a junior broadcast media major, while she tables for the Wellness and Recreation Center to raise money for the “My Stride Breast Cancer Walk.” $15 donations earn students a shirt.

Benefits in Pink

PRETTY IN PINK

SUSANNE NAVARRE/TH BEACON

Alexandra Mosquera Netzkarsch
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Staff Writer
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Spanish alternative indie band Minimal is a musical fusion of Western self-expression and Spanish identity. Pronounced mee-nee-MAL, the title of the band represents the mixing cultures in Miami.

“Fauna”, the band deviates from their electro-pop acts present in their 3-year-old album “Antibalas Corazon.” Instead, this album emphasizes a garage sound. This sound was enhanced by the abandoned Christian church on the Northwest Seventh Avenue corridor, which is where they recorded the album. This location is now used as a live-work center for artists and musicians in Wynwood.

“We were constantly there, eating breakfast, lunch dinner and playing…”

Promotional photo for local band Minimal.

Photo courtesy of the band Minimal.

Said Alejandro Angee, Minimal’s drummer and an FIU alumnus with a Ph.D in Sociology. “[The location] gave it a naturally distorted sound.”

Comprised of vocalist and guitarist Gabriel Ayala, guitarist Fernando Llanas and drummer Angee, Minimal lived in the studio for a week to record “Fauna.” The album, produced by Grammy award winner Rafael Lazzaro, is much more aggressive than their last. However, it includes symphonic choruses as heard in their song “Libertad.”

The lyrics of “Fauna” give an inside look into the band’s lifestyle. “Without sounding cliche, Fauna is about sex, drugs and rock and roll,” said Angee. “We were living very fun lifestyles for a while and to an extent, that involved drinking. But really, it’s a reflection of the last 10 years individually and musically.”

Minimal has transformed not only musically, but aesthetically on stage. In their music video produced by Miami’s Denny Irizarqui as well as during their show, the band members wear large animal masks. This alludes to an animal ecosystem, which Angee said reflects Miami’s culture.

“We wanted to compare Miami to a fauna. People living from all parts of different countries here, it’s like a jungle,” Angee said.

The masks were made by British designer Steve Wintercroft. Though the masks cover their faces, the band expresses a sense of melancholy which appeals to people universally.

For example, their song “El Barrio” is about Angee returning to his hometown in Colombia. He returns only to find it destroyed and remodeled into shopping stores.

“All of the spaces where there used to be parks and houses are gone,” said Angee. “It was heartbreaking and the song is a reflection of that.”

Studying the politics of development is nothing new for Angee. He remembers fondly studying Miami’s infrastructure and construction while working with Alex Stepick, an FIU anthropology professor and advisor.

“It’s sad what’s going on in this city,” said Angee on the recent closings of studios like Grand Central. “You’re left without a place that can throw good alternative shows to that capacity.”

Today, the band lives in Little Haiti and performs in local arenas such as Clandestino Pub in Miami. Minimal will perform this Thursday at this location.

It may not be an abandoned church, but the band agrees on one thing. Wherever they play, their new album will sharply contrast today’s popular music heard on the radio waves.

“We did that on purpose,” Angee said. “The nuance is different in the way we recorded, the lyrics are not loud. In pop music it’s the opposite.”

MINIMAL PERFORMANCE

What: Clandestino Pub presents “Minimal”
Where: Thursday
Where: 758 Washington Ave, Miami Beach, Fl. 33139
Time: 9:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

What is Miami, but that was merely an illusion.

Today, the band lives in Miami to a fauna. People returning to their hometown in Colombia. Angee returning to his

”Everything we do is planned and calculated to peak at the right time. We could be faster right now if we wanted to,” Horner said.

At Dual-A-Palooza, the Panthers will swim and dive against the likes of Rice University, Florida Atlantic University and the University of Miami.

The only team besides them that will have seen any sort of competitive swimming before this weekend is Miami, but that was merely an invitation. None of the teams squaring off against FIU at Dual-A-Palooza seem ready for a competitive meet, much less a competitive meet against the defending Conference