Yoelyn Rodriquez
Contributing Writer
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A professor at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus has been listed as the principal investigator on a national landmark launched this year by the National Institutes of Health.

Raul Gonzalez, a 40-year-old University alumnus with a bachelor in psychology and a minor in chemistry, designed a project to investigate the effects of substance use on the developing brain.

“This is a very exciting and important study because something like this has never been done before,” said Gonzalez.

The study will follow 10,000 children across the nation and, according to the University, they are sometimes referred to as the upcoming generation of neuroscientists.

The drug referrals are given to students who are found in possession of drugs.

When they're caught, students are referred to the Code of Student Conduct, which states that the “possession, use, the manufacture, or the cultivation of illegal drugs or prescription drugs without a prescription is prohibited.”

They are then sent to a hearing, according to Santana-Bravo. Yeti is a situation and make sure that the student should be familiar with the referral, citations and more.

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University talks drug use, numbers increase

**DATA, PAGE 1**

“When we become aware of someone who has had a violation of drugs, or any kind of substance use, we try to respond both in terms of the violations from the Code of Conduct and in terms of providing support and resources to that student,” she said.

This means that, when a student goes through the student conduct process, they’re also being referred to the University’s CaPS, said Akens.

“I think that the presence of drugs in our community impacts our campus community,” she said. “It’s not just the user who suffers, but it’s the people around that individual student as well.”

The referrals can sometimes lead to arrest, as was the case when three individuals were arrested for marijuana and cocaine possession last summer.

“The table in plain sight I could see a six-pack of beer and a small green baggie with what appeared to be a cocaine, so that was the police report states. “(The other offender) then admitted to having marijuana cigarettes in his front left pocket.”

Akens said that the University is always concerned about drug use, particularly in the long-term effects and consequences associated with abuse.

“In an academic environment, where students are focused on their education and working and begin a career, the presence of drugs can impact those goals and become barriers to their success,” said Akens. FHPD is constantly analyzing any increases in numbers at the University, said Casas.

“We look at these numbers. We notice them if they’re going on,” he said. “When we notice a jump, we want to find out why. This isn’t minimizing the issue because I think that this is still very important to us, but the increase of these numbers shouldn’t be a concern for anybody in the community in regards to their personal safety.”

University alumnus leads ten year study

**BRAIN, PAGE 1**

Pulido are two of the six undergraduate students working as assistants in the Substance Use and HIV Neupharmacology Lab, directed by Gonzalez.

Their job is to screen patients and make sure that only those who meet the lab’s requirements are accepted as subjects.

Pulido thinks that one of the major differences of working with González is how approachable he is.

“He is someone you can talk to about anything,” said Pulido. “I’m glad that I’m working beside him.”

But Wahed sees Gonzalez as the juxtaposition of relaxation and a high-octane action man. “Looking at all he’s done, I would think he is someone who is super agitated or doing something,” Wahed said.

“Both, no, he is extremely mellow. He has everything under control.”

González is excited about the opportunities to expand FIU’s research portfolio and is glad that University students are taking advantage. University alumnus leads ten year study.
Democrat candidates take on gun control

JOHN CERVERA Contributing Writer opinion@fiusm.com

Last week, Democratic presidential candidates squared off in a CNN-hosted debate in Las Vegas. However, the word “debate” may be misleading.

Democratic candidates Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, Lincoln Chafee, Martin O’Malley and Jim Webb participated in a discussion that lacked the kind of captivating political drama brought by the likes of Donald Trump. Rather, this was a subdued issues-based open forum.

In one of the more memorable moments of the night, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders declared that no one should ever hear about Hillary Clinton’s “damn emails” and would rather focus on the issues. This was in reference to Clinton’s use of private servers during her tenure as Secretary of State. This was followed by rousing applause and a handshake between Sanders and Clinton.

That’s not to say that the debate was tame, as Anderson Cooper pulled no punches.

“Will you say anything to get elected?” he asked Hillary Clinton early in the debate.

A defensive Clinton retorted that her positions shifted as she “absorbed information.” Cooper wasted no time in bringing up the issues and started with guns.

“This was the highlight of the debate.”

America has a massacre problem. From the Sandy Hook tragedy to the killings in Oregon, a swath of school shootings occurring across the country over the past several years has generated furious discussions about firearms. The Democratic candidates have seemed to heed this call. The biggest taking point for candidates involved banning the National Rifle Association, whose outsized influence in Washington and on politicians was widely attacked.

Clinton drew massive applause when she fiercely claimed that it was “time to stand up to the NRA.” The group has long been the bane of gun control advocates, fighting them at every turn for even the slightest restrictions to guns. Governor Martin O’Malley described the extent of the NRA’s political schemes and proves the intransigence of the group on any gun control legislation.

In his state of Maryland, O’Malley attempted to curb gun violence through legislation to increase restrictions. Sanders, often deemed the most radical of the bunch, actually took a less aggressive stance on the matter.

“All the shouting in the world,” he claimed, “won’t keep guns from the hands of the wrong people.”

Clinton took this moment to critique the senator, questioning the Vermont senator’s stance by mentioning his opposition to the Brady Bill. This provided fodder for Sanders.

Lincoln Chafee even chimed in that the audience was “…looking at a man who was given an “F” rating by the NRA,” referring to the NRA’s grading scale for politicians’ stances on gun control.

Only Jim Webb, a Vietnam veteran, was mute on the matter, being the only candidate to receive an ‘A’ rating by the NRA.

In the end, the debate did little to shake things up. Clinton remains the clear front runner. Sanders remains on her own personal viewpoint as a reflection of my own personal viewpoint as a reflection of my experience with anxiety and depression, as well as the journey that it took to heal through it all.

Anxiety and depression are prevalent in college environments. This is due to stress, drastic life events and genetics. College students are at a fragile age where they have a lot of pressure saddled on them to figure out who they are and who they want to be. One mistake can determine your whole future.

According to the American Psychological Association, at least 26.2 percent of people in the United States have had an anxiety disorder — one of the most common illnesses in the United States. It affects approximately 18 percent of the population nationwide and it costs the US more than $42 billion a year for treatment.

This is almost one-third of the $148 billion of the wrong people.”

There was hardly any diversity and students were mostly between ages 18-24. Despite this, many of the students were motivated. I tried to stay on track. I tried to be active every morning and get straight As to be successful and feel relevant. The pressure was definitely there.

I was born and raised in New York and grew up in Miami. I transferred to the University of Florida my sophomore year. Gainesville was a far cry from the diverse and metropolitain living environment that I was used to. Despite the surrounding nature, the school is the main focal point of the city. I had to adapt and change the way I was used to. I had to adapt to the school and be independent. I was able to be independent and do my own thing.

Today, I reflect on my past and admire how I was able to find my way to FIU.

There’s more to campus life than students realize

As students attending a commuter school, it’s easy to overlook the various opportunities Florida International University has to offer. With only eight percent of FIU’s student body living in on-campus housing, most students com up with the purpose of arriving to school, taking their classes then leaving as soon as possible - most students work, have internships, have their own families or simply have other responsibilities outside of school.

Though it’s understandable that students can’t always be on campus, it’s always good to keep in mind the opportunities FIU provides. Many of these services can be utilized by both campus residents and commuters.

Programs like Career Services are available to assist students in developing interview skills and preparing students for careers post-graduation. A student can prepare a resume, send it to a Career Service representative and the representative will give the student necessary corrections for a proper resume.

FIU also offers various tutoring services for a variety of subjects. FIU’s tutoring program is great for students who simply can’t make the time to stay on campus for longer than what their classes entail. The online tutoring program is provided by the University Learning Center’s website and consists of a list of tutors, subjects and online sessions that students can join in at any time.

Of course, students should always prioritize their health when pursuing their degree. Whether it’s a physical or mental health, Student Health Services provides programs of assistance to students who might feel a bit overwhelmed with the responsibilities of college life. With a diverse list of specialists, the Student Health Center has programs equipped to educate students on health, help those suffering from eating disorders and to empower victims of domestic violence.

Aside from offering standard health services, SHS has an emphasis on LGBTQ Health in which they offer a “safe zone” for LGBTQ students to provide “primary care as well as reproductive and sexual health care.” This program is designed to aid transgender students.

For students who have difficulty getting to and from campus, FIU offers sustainable transportation options. Available programs and plans can be found on get2uin.com, including a carpooling matchmaker, shuttle schedules and information about the Emergency Ride Home program. If you are a student who gets to campus by biking, skiing or even walking, you can receive six free taxi rides through the Emergency Ride Home system. This program is offered to Miami Beach, Biscayne, North Miami Beach, and Saint Lucie county residents.

The important thing to note is that universities are a conglomeration of opportunities and initiatives designed specifically for furthering education. FIU is more than its classes, and its students need to leave behind the mindset that a college education is essential, especially in college.

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The important thing to note is that universities are a conglomeration of opportunities and initiatives designed specifically for furthering education. FIU is more than its classes, and its students need to leave behind the mindset that a college education is essential, especially in college. Politicians should see FIU as a springboard into the future rather than something to check off of a “to-do” list.
The Habit Burger is perfect for the entire family

In West Miami, Flagler passes through the Westchester/Sweetwater community, but past the Sedano’s Supermarkets and bodegas serving Cuban coffee and pastelitos, there is a Santa Barbara restaurant serving classic foods with a California twist.

The Habit Burger, a well-known restaurant chain that started in Santa Barbara, has now taken over West Miami.

Almost like Fuddruckers sophisticated cousin, this burger joint serves high-quality burgers, sandwiches, salads, malts and even tempura green beans.

The beach-themed restaurant is clean with minimalistic décor.

Paintings of California beaches and surfers are framed on seemingly every wall. With long wooden tables, bar stools and imitation palm tree decorations, the vibe is geared towards an older crowd who are not interested in fancy decorations, just good food.

I ordered a Santa Barbara Style char burger with a side of tempura green beans and their homemade strawberry lemonade limeade.

The presentation of the meal was impressive. The tempura green beans were warm and crispy and the ranch dressing added a zesty taste to the mild green beans.

My new favorite drink has to be the strawberry lemonade limeade with cucumber slices. The drink didn’t taste artificial. The strawberries were sweet and the cucumbers added a refreshing twist.

This place is a great spot for people who want great food at a great price. I’m definitely coming back to The Habit Burger.

With other options such as their BBQ chicken salad and albacore tuna filet, there is something for the entire family.

Oh, and don’t forget to hit up the self-serve pickle bar.

Beacon Bites is a weekly column about food tailored for the college student on a budget. Gabby Arzola paid for her food. The restaurant did not provide her with free food.

Beach House: ‘Thank Your Lucky Stars’ album review

EMILY AFRE
Contributing Writer
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On Friday, Oct. 16, dream pop duo, Beach House, released their sixth full-length album “Thank Your Lucky Stars,” nearly two months after their most recent LP, “Depression Cherry.”

According to the duo, this album is to be in conjunction with DC or even serve as a B-sides version. All songs on TYLS were written after DC but were recorded simultaneously.

In comparison, Beach House seems to have taken a more lo-fi approach with TYLS, definitely achieving a more brooding effect than DC.

TYLS, Beach House continues to deliver the melancholic depth that weights over Legrand’s atmospheric vocals.

“Thank Your Lucky Stars” portrays itself as emotional exhalation after its precursor DC, where the sound feels a lot denser and certainly a lot more to take in at once. There is a sense of emptiness in TYLS, clearly expressed in tracks like the very dim “She’s So Lovely” and the despairing slow dance of “Somewhere Tonight.”

“Rough Song” are reminiscent of early ’90s shoegaze with just the right levels of distortion and haze, a tease to the wall of sound effect. The dissonance of the organ personifies that heavy-heartedness, which is amplified in the remainder of the album.

Legrand sings about a certain “she” multiple times throughout TYLS. It’s ambiguous to determine whether she is referring to herself or someone else. Regardless of interpretation, it’s evident that Legrand is attached to this character in several ways. Does this “she” overcast Legrand with a sense of dread or longings? “Closer” is a kid.

Drank a memory of her face” are only fragments of “her story [that] unravels multiple times throughout TYLS. According to the duo, this album is not to be in conjunction with DC or even serve as a B-sides version. All songs on TYLS were written after DC but were recorded simultaneously..

With TYLS, Beach House continues to deliver the melancholic depth that weights over Legrand’s atmospheric vocals.

“Thank Your Lucky Stars” portrays itself as emotional exhalation after its precursor DC, where the sound feels a lot denser and certainly a lot more to take in at once. There is a sense of emptiness in TYLS, clearly expressed in tracks like the very dim “She’s So Lovely” and the despairing slow dance of “Somewhere Tonight.”

And all I have to do/ is stay away from you!” and “let us find elation” are hopeless accounts for feelings of dread or longingness? “Closer now in the mirror/ Your reflection, my reflection… she never really sleeps” (One Thing) and “Through the glass/ Drank a memory of her face” are only fragments of “her story [that] unravels like a ribbon in the windly-distance.”

Within itself, the album does not disappoint.”Thank Your Lucky Stars” further exemplifies the heartfelt exhaustion that is carried with the consistent sound Beach House has generated, which continues to resonate with their audience.

CD Musings is a monthly column that reviews newly released albums. To recommend an album email life@fium.com.
**Prevent aging in the future, care for yourself**

**SDA Health**

**SARHNA SCIVON**

Perhaps you might think reading this won’t be of any use to you; after all you are only in your twenties. As a matter of fact, this is as relevant to you in your twenties as it is for you in your fifties. Cellular, hormonal and metabolic aging happens to all of us and the sooner we begin to work on preventing this, the better.

When I say, “prevent it,” I mean, preventing it from happening sooner than it should. It’s important to understand the fact that we cannot stop aging; it’s inevitable. The goal should be to delay this process simply by renewing our cells at a healthy rate and preventing our bodies from being overworked.

As we get older our bodies lower the production of mitochondria (the powerhouse) in each of our cells. As a result, we feel tired more frequently and find ourselves reminiscing on how active and indefatigable we felt a few years ago. To put it simply: the fewer mitochondria, the less energy; this is called “Metabolic aging.”

Another way our bodies are more prone to aging is that we are constantly exposed to numerous toxins, which can also be found in our foods. Our bodies try to fight these external toxins and excrete them from our system. The bad news is that our body cannot do this forever and it starts accumulating unwanted toxins. Therefore, by avoiding toxins we are preventing damage and inflammation, which will not only delay aging but also reduce the risk of diseases such as cancer and more.

Let your food come to the rescue when it comes to aging; the best part is that it’s never too late or too early to begin. Fuel your body with nutrients for cell replication and cell energy by consuming enough water daily, B vitamins and iron, to feel as energetic as a five year-old. With the help of antioxidants found in berries, green tea, nuts, etc., we can prevent damage from inflammation since they neutralize the free radicals that damage the structure of cells.

To maintain a young and vibrant youth, remember to detox your body and buy organic and top-quality products. It’s important to keep a good variety when it comes to food. If you eat healthy, you’ll feel healthy. Trust me, your body will thank you each and every day that you don’t make it work more than it has to.

**SDA Health is a weekly column by the Student Dietsetic Association of FIU regarding health issues.**

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**Bonnamu brings music and miracles**

Redshift, an indie rock band formed of FIU students Enrique Rosell, Jose Maldonado, Chris Gil and Anthony Yabor, perform at the Bonnamu music festival.

**JULIAN BALBOA**

**Contributing Writer**

One thing about music, when it hits it does great things. For Phi Mu, great things come in the shape of Bonnamu.

Saturday, Oct. 17, Phi Mu filled the space between Gold and Blue Garages with 400 people to attend Bonnamu, a music festival which features local bands and food trucks.

“We have a very good relationship with the Miami Children’s Foundation owner Yisenia (Rodriguez), has been a really good contact for us. She always comes out to our events, whether it’s our pageant, Miracle Man, she’s always a judge for us so they know about what we’re doing and they know we are going to donate to them so we are hoping that it’s going bring if not a lot of money at least enough to make a difference,” said Phi Mu sister Mytal Maor, senior, a marketing major and vice president of External Affairs at Phi Mu’s FIU Chapter.

Bonnamu has its roots in other chapters of the Phi Mu sorority nationwide and FIU’s chapter felt it just had to get in on the action.

“Wow, there are a lot of chapters around the country doing it and FSU were close by so we were like ‘Let’s give it a shot ourselves.’ We figured that we might as well try to do some thing fun and different aside from Hoop-a-Palooza. Plus, since nobody else has done it on campus, it’s just something that we wanted to try,” said Phi Mu sister Amanda Cantillo, senior, a hospitality management major.

At the end where the two roads meet was the stage where each band played in front of a crowd of more than 400 people. There were four bands that played between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.: RedShift, high-school heroes Long Shore Drift, the Muse-influenced Quantum Waves and popular local rock band, Sunghost.

Long Shore Drift, while being composed of young members (their drummer in middle school is 13 years old), have the beginnings of a great band, matching great chemistry with musician- ship and their influences, like Vampire Weekend, can be heard in their music.

Not much longer after they came on, Quantum Waves came on and played a couple of songs reminiscent of something off of an album by Muse and got the audience hyped for Sunghosts, who played right after them.

Then, after all that power, Sunghosts, a local favorite in the Miami music scene, played a set full of songs off of their newest EP to close the festival.

Near the entrance, next to the food trucks, was a table where WRGP, FIU’s student-run college radio station, did a raffle for concerts that are going on around the Greater Miami area. Bonnamu is an annual event and proceeds are donated to charity; this year’s proceeds went to Nicklaus Children’s Hospital and the Children’s Miracle Network.

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**Panther Homecoming brings the funny with comedy show**

**RICARDO CHAVEZ**

**Contributing Writer**

Homecoming keeps the celebratory momentum going with the Panther Prowl Comedy Show on Oct. 21 in the FIU arena at 7:30 p.m.

This year, the comedians who will be attending are Jeff Ross, a stand up comic who focuses on insult comedy, or “roasting”, and Jermaine Fowler, comedian and actor who made an appearance on Orange is the New Black.

Ross has appeared on numerous programs such as “The Sarah Silverman Program”, “The Burn with Jeff Ross” and “Patriot Act: A Jeffrey Ross Home Movie.” It is no surprise that his insults and satirical remarks have earned him the name “The Roastmaster General.”

Fowler on the other hand has unique mannerism and has the ability to engage his audience by addressing them as if they are his personal friends.

For students who wish to attend the comedy event, it is highly suggested to buy tickets ahead of time. In previous years, tickets for the event have sold out weeks prior to the day of the event.

Should students not be able to buy tickets on time, they may be able to enter if there is room available during the event, but a ticket must be purchased. Tickets will be sold at the FIU One Card office.

For answers to questions pertaining to the purchase of tickets, please visit HC@FIU.EDU.
JAMES TAKE

Remember after the first football game of the season when we were all excited about how great FIU could be following their upset of the University of Central Florida in Orlando? When FIU was seemingly a lock for a bowl game and maybe even a contender to win Conference USA? Well, those days are over. After another disappointing performance this past weekend, FIU is all but eliminated from C-USA contention and a possible berth to the Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raiders (3-4, 2-1) on Saturday, Oct. 17 by a score of 42-34. The Panthers had countless opportunities all afternoon long, but their inability to capitalize in key situations is what ultimately led to their defeat.

Even though I actually picked FIU to lose in my column last week, I still feel horrible about this loss as somebody who watches this team each week and every week. My disappointment isn't just that they lost such an important game - it's how they lost it. The Panthers couldn't take advantage of the various opportunities they kept getting and eventually that caught up with them. FIU wasted multiple trips to the red zone and dropped an inordinate amount of passes, while MTSU capitalized on an FIU defense that for the most part did not show up. The FIU offense moved the ball very well as the game went on, converted more first downs than MTSU, won the turnover battle 2-1, had a slight advantage in time of possession and committed less than half of the amount of penalties that MTSU committed. This should mean that FIU won the game, right? Wrong.

Right off the bat, FIU's defense and special teams made a couple key plays that should’ve put FIU ahead with a comfortable early lead. Richard Leonand returned the opening kickoff 53 yards and on the first defensive play of the game he intercepted a Brent Stockstill pass (Leonard’s first pick of the season) and brought it to the MTSU 1-yard line.

However, this is where those missed opportunities I was talking about started to arise. The offense stalled after Leonard’s great kick return, turning the ball over on downs at the 29-yard line of MTSU. Then, after Leonard set them up for what appeared to be an easy touchdown with his interception, the Panthers couldn’t get the ball in the end zone and had to settle for an 18-yard field goal from Austin Taylor.

Unfortunately, FIU’s inability to capitalize on scoring chances did not end there. An interception thrown in MTSU territory (which came just two plays after a holding call on Michael Montero negated a 32-yard completion to Thomas Owens inside the 5-yard line) ended what was sure to be a scoring drive in the second quarter.

The Panthers once again had to settle for a field goal inside the five-yard line on a later possession, even though an MTSU penalty gave them an extra set of downs. Taylor not only missed a 44-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter, but also Shanked the extra point after FIU’s first touchdown. Add all of these combined with the countless drops by FIU receivers and it’s no wonder MTSU pulled away with the win.

As upset as I was with how this game was ended, there were a few positives that I took from it - sophomore quarterback Alex McCough, sophomore running back Alex Gardner, and senior linebacker Richard Leonard.

Each of these players is a leader on this team and they were the main reasons why FIU hung around for as long as they did. McCough continues to look more and more comfortable in his second year and Leonard finally stepped up and had a game where he shined defensively and on special teams like he did a season ago.

Gardner specifically has continued to impress me more and more as the season has gone on. He really became a number one back before his shoulder injury ended his 2014 campaign short and he’s come back in a major way despite a crowded backfield and inconsistent offensive line.

The more I watch him play, the more I believe he could be the best offensive player FIU has had since T.Y. Hilton.

If FIU wants any chance to receive an invitation to a bowl game, they’ll need to quickly put this loss behind them and focus completely on moving forward. They need three wins at the very least to be considered for a bowl and their next three games are against Old Dominion University, Florida Atlantic University and University of North Carolina at Charlotte, so what should be the three best chances remaining for FIU to pick up wins.

The first of those three games will take place this Saturday, Oct. 24, as the ODU Monarchs come to Miami for a C-USA East matchup. This will be FIU’s homecoming game, so hopefully there’s a big crowd to cheer the Panthers on to something their fourth win of the season.

“Jake’s Takes” offers commentary on the University football team with predictions or recap games of. For commentary, email Jacob at jacob.spisak@fiusm.com.

FOOTBALL

Panthers drop third-straight road game

STEFANO RIVERA Contributing Writer - sports@fiusm.com

After splitting the first four sets against University of Southern Mississippi, the women’s volleyball team found itself in a familiar position. Just last season, the Panthers took the Golden Eagles to a five-set marathon, but eventually fell 15-17 in the fifth set.

On Friday, Oct. 16, the Panthers traveled to Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to take on Southern Mississippi, hoping to not have a repeat of last year. However, FIU fell in five sets with scores of 25-21, 21-25, 25-11, 17-25 and 8-15.

The Panthers took the first set and were tied 18-18 late in the second, but the Golden Eagles went on a 7-3 run to take the set and tie the game 1-1. Sophomore middle blocker, Jennifer Ene, propelled the team in the third set as she collected five consecutive kills and two blocks. With a 2-1 set lead, the team looked to close Southern Miss. out. Similar to the second set, the score tied 14-14, but the Golden Eagles went on a late run to tie the match 2-2. In the final set, the score was tied early; however, the Panthers could not hold on as the Golden Eagles closed the set on a 10-3 run.

With this loss, FIU falls to 11-8 and drops its third-straight road game. The team is 3-3 in C-USA road games, with its lone win coming against University of Alabama at Birmingham in early September. Meanwhile, Southern Mississippi improves to 18-6 (5-2 in C-USA).

Overall, the stats were almost dead even. Both teams struggled hitting the ball; the Panthers had a hitting percentage of .106, while Southern Mississippi edged them with a .132 hitting percentage. FIU out-blocked the Golden Eagles 14-9, but Southern Mississippi had its way with 60 kills on 59 assists.

The Panthers struggled to contain the Golden Eagle offense as three players recorded 14 kills or more. They need three wins at the very least to be considered for a director of the University football team with predictions or recap games of. For commentary, email Jacob at jacob.spisak@fiusm.com.

The team will be back home as they host Louisiana Tech University on Wednesday, Oct. 21. However, it is only for one game before it has to go on the road once again. If the Panthers want to make the C-USA tournament and succeed, they will need to fix their problems on the road.

Rachel Johnson, combined for 28 kills. Ene led the team with 13 kills, a hitting percentage of .414 and nine total blocks. Freshman setter, Dominique Dodd, had a career-high 19 assists throughout the match. Defensively, the Panthers were led by senior libero, Adriana Melamb, who collected 23 digs.

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“Jake’s Takes” offers commentary on the University football team with predictions or recap games of. For commentary, email Jacob at jacob.spisak@fiusm.com.

VOLLEYBALL

CONFERENCE USA EASTERN DIVISION FOOTBALL STANDINGS

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*All records up to date as of Oct.19"
Panthers defeat No. 9 Old Dominion

Midfielder Ismael Longo fights for the ball at the game versus Old Dominion on Saturday, Oct. 17 where FIU won with a score of 2-1.

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If there was ever a right way to snap a two-game losing streak, Florida International University’s men’s soccer team discovered it on Saturday, Oct. 19.

After suffering back-to-back conference losses, the Panthers (8-4-0, 3-2 in Conference USA) handed number nine (8-4-0, 3-2 in Conference USA) and Marshall (11-3-3, 4-2-2 C-USA) was shut out twice over the weekend in their road trip to Western Kentucky (8-4-4, 4-2-2 C-USA) and Marshall (11-3-3, 4-2-2 C-USA).

After having such a stellar home performance in which the Panthers shut their opponents out in back to back games, the Panthers looked lost on the road and their consistency issues continued to show.

The Panthers trip began at Western Kentucky, where a double-overtime thriller resulted in a 1-0 loss, as the Lady Hilltoppers outshot the Panthers 16-8 in total shots. Western Kentucky went on to dominate in overtime.

The Lady Hilltoppers had an overwhelming amount of shots on the Panthers and after the second overtime it was Caitlin Hesse of Western Kentucky who ended the game in the 109th minute after a great look. Western Kentucky ended the Panthers’ two game winning streak and FIU headed to Marshall for the second game of the weekend.

The floodgates remained open for FIU in a loss against Marshall. After a scoreless first half, the Panthers and Thundering Herd were not leveled for much longer.

Kelly Culicerto of Marshall scored the first and only goal of the game in the 60th minute after a beautiful strike from 18 yards out. The Panthers did have a great opportunity to get on the board, but two shots from Ellen Crist were to no avail and the Panthers went on to lose 1-0.

FIU has no dropped to under .500 yet again on the season. The Panthers have not won a game on the road since September 6, when they beat Miami (OH) 1-0, which marked FIU’s lone road win this season. FIU looks to bounce back strong as they face rival Florida Atlantic University for their final home game of the season on Sunday, Oct. 25.

Women drop to .500 in conference play

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FIU women’s soccer (8-9, 4-4 C-USA) was shut out twice over the weekend in their road trip to Western Kentucky (8-4-4, 4-2-2 C-USA) and Marshall (11-3-3, 4-2-2 C-USA).

After having such a stellar home performance in which the Panthers shut their opponents out in back to back games, the Panthers looked lost on the road and their consistency issues continued to show.

The first half was uneventful and frustrating for both teams. FIU is rarely as athletically matched as they were on Saturday night and struggled to create space. Junior goalkeeper, Arthur Lopez, bailed out his defense in the first 45 minutes on five quality saves - he totaled eight on the night and struggled to create any immediate impact when he was substituted in for sophomore, Paul Marie, in the 71st minute. Only a few seconds later, Campion-Hinds found Gonzalez on a cross from the right to the middle of the box. Gonzalez punched in the equalizer to even the score at 1-1.

The assist was Campion-Hinds’ conference-leading eighth of the season. Gonzalez notched his 12th point of the year with the equalizer.

“After the first goal, everybody motivated each and started working harder for each other,” said Campion-Hinds.

Even for FIU’s distributed offense - eleven players have now scored goals for the Panthers this season - Saturday’s game-winner came from an unlikely source. In the 82nd minute, Junior Deshawon Nembhard found Lopez on a pass from the left side, who headed it in to give FIU a 2-1 advantage. Nembhard’s assist was his first point of the season and Lopez’s score was the first of his career.

“It’s kind of a dream come true, especially in a situation like this. I couldn’t be happier, but more important than the goal is the team win,” said Lopez.

Unlike in Birmingham, Alabama against the Blazers, the Panthers played solid defense through the final minutes of the contest to claim the 2-1 victory. FIU allowed Old Dominion 15 shots and nine shots on goal in the match.

The result elevated FIU to 3-2 in C-USA, although they still remain in fifth place and a point behind Old Dominion with the win.

“It was really nice to get a good feeling back for the team. It gave them encouragement that we can be successful against the best teams,” said Head Coach Scott Calabrese.

DEFENDER DESHAWON NEMBHARD RACES TO CONTROL THE BALL DURING THE OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY GAME ON SATURDAY, OCT. 17. THE NEXT HOME GAME WILL BE AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO ON SATURDAY, OCT. 31.
LGBTQIA Initiative - raising suicide awareness

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Lesbian, gay and bisexual youth in the LGBTQIA community are four times more likely to commit suicide than their peers, with nearly half of young transgenders having seriously contemplated taking their own lives.

“Many people should be able to express themselves freely no matter what sexual orientation they identify as and everyone should have that freedom,” said Kayla Thompson, a freshman majoring in biology. “FIU is a diverse school, so of course people of that community should have representation as well.”

Suicide awareness is going to be the topic of choice at this month’s LGBTQIA 3D Series event.

The series, a monthly discussion hosted by FIU’s LGBTQIA community, occurs four times a month and is open to students, faculty, staff and the general public.

The first event will take place Wednesday, Oct. 28 in WUC 100 at 6 p.m.

The event will center around TikTok sensation @TheBoyInTheMirror, who recently committed suicide.

“Many people do not know about this until they search it on TikTok, but there are people dealing with this daily and it’s important to have people aware of it,” said Anika Strickland, a junior who attends, while a first-year student. “It’s not just one person in this room that fits into a stereotype we are used to.”

The initiative is Attempting to bring enlightenment to those who may be unaware of such problems that may be prominent within the community.

“We just want to let students know what’s going on,” said Mario Lara, a graduate assistant for the LGBTQIA Initiative. “Students can find out how they can help prevent anyone they care about who may be going through this or just be aware of the resources that are available to them.”

Special guests for this event include representatives from Switchboard Miami, a South Florida-based organization that provides free over-the-counter counseling to those in need.

One of the many services Switchboard Miami provides is their suicide prevention hotline, which will be at the front and center of this upcoming 3D event.

“You might have heard about it from other people but we have to step in someone else’s shoes to understand the struggles they are going through,” said Nicole Malanga, a sophomore majoring in broadcast media.

“It’s probably in the back of everyone’s mind but it brings it to the front and puts it in everyone’s face.”

Bringing forward issues that not many know of is the primary objective of the Initiative’s 3D series, which is summed up by the meaning of the three D’s: dine, discuss and deliberate.

According to Lara, the discussion normally begins with a presentation from the special guest, followed by an open panel for students to discuss topics freely.

Students are encouraged to speak up during these discussions if they do not understand something.

The Initiative will be providing food to anyone who attends, while a speaker presents. This is done to create a non-hostile environment in order to get students to relax and participate in the discussion, said Lara.

“We always have food there so students can have a chance to eat and sit to listen to the presentation and join in the conversation,” Lara said.

One of the many services provided by this organization is the career services program which helps students create a profile connected to the Career Service website so that they can better utilize their services.

At the Bay: The BBC Resource Fair showcases programs and services in kayaking and paddle-boarding. The center also hosts a swimming club known as Poseidon’s Panthers and a program called Learn to Swim where Panthers can take classes to be more proficient in the water.

The BBC Resource Fair also showcased programs and amenities that are unique to the BBC Resource Fair. Students around the room said that black lives matter because of the simple fact that you are a human being.

The last installment of the workshop series “All Lives Matter: Chinese Lives Matter” will take place Thursday, Oct. 27, in WUC 253 at 2 p.m.