University’s Reproductive Justice Summit reveals societal issues

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Summit on campus. It went from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with different panels throughout and different speakers.

The summit included many panels discussing different topics while people in the main room, GC 305 welcomed participants as they were coming in. The topics of the panels were: “Angry Uterus and the Law,” “Working Girlz,” “Reproductive Rights and the Law” to name a few.

Daniel Capote, a senior Communication Arts major and Art history minor is the “Reproductive Justice means to you.”

One of the participants, Stine Jean is a senior majoring in Political Science and international Relations. She attended the summit to learn about different issues as recommended by her professor in the Human Trafficking class that she is enrolled in this semester. Her pronouns were “she,” her, hers.

She participated in many panels, among which “Let’s Talk About Sex” was her favorite.

“It was interesting; instead of having it completely about sex, it was very informational and gave me different perspectives of how people view sex,” she said.

In the panel of “Let’s talk about sex,” participants were encouraged to express themselves about the topic through drawing, erotic poems and demonstrations.

“The activities were meant to make you feel uncomfortable,” she said. “Just to show you that everyone has feeling, everyone feel a certain type of way about a subject and we are here to learn about that subject.”

Jean believes that everyone is a sexual being and whether one chooses to have sex the traditional way or any other way is a personal choice. She attended the summit to learn about different issues and to address all parts of today’s societal issues and have people give different point of views on them.

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Reproductive Justice Summit

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Universities now have the ability to take part in “A Revolutionary Perspective on Education,” a trip to Cuba to feature explorations of the island and its museums, as well as conversations with Cuban grassroots organizations, community members and college professors about the role of society and culture on education.

FIU’s Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, in conjunction with the University of New Mexico’s Latin American and Iberian Institute, is offering a small federal subsidy to help pay for the seven-day trip. July 8, FIU Student Affairs experts will train participants before the journey to Cuba, where they will stay until July 17. Until recently, this would have been illegal.

For a decade, state law made it impossible for Florida colleges and universities to use public money or private grants to travel to Cuba. Last summer, the restoration of diplomatic ties between the United States and Cuba resulted in the lifting of the last travel restrictions keeping Florida professors from visiting the island. “I’m glad it looks like this will be over. We all have an interest in knowing what goes on in a country that can radically impact what happens here in Florida,” said Florida American Civil Liberties Union Executive Director Howard Simon, who helped lead a high-profile lawsuit against the restrictions.

In contrast with the publicity of the battle waged when the ban was enacted, academic travel to Cuba has resumed under the radar quietly, a trickle of professors and students from FIU started academic exchanges and research with a country that has been off-limits for years.

For professors in Florida, this re-opening of ties represents a major win for academic freedom. FIU sociology professor Guillermo Grenier said it was now possible for universities to pay for trips to Cuba the same way they would for trips to New York. Grenier conducts the university’s well-known Cuba Poll and its Cuban-American attitudes.

“Public universities were shackled to this law,” Grenier said. “For some exiles, though, publicly-funded travel to Cuba represents a new wound as relations with the island become more and more routine.

Former FIU president Modesto “Mitch” Maidique, who spent 11 years as a student in Havana, said increased cultural interactivity could have a positive impact on the island. However, he encourages caution with continued exchanges.

“We have to recognize these junkets for what they are - an attempt to indoctrinate through propaganda the visitors, and that is the main objective. What they will learn about education, only God knows.”

In a hint of the difficulties that may lie ahead, the Miami-Dade Public School system recently pulled its support of FIU’s latest trip. After originally advertising it to social studies teachers and offering certification credits to educators who sign up for the program, the district quickly
Ecuador’s leader demands release of Panama Papers, and learns he’s in them

In the weeks after the release of the documents known as the Panama Papers, Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa called out his country’s journalists and boasted that, unlike other countries, he and his government weren’t found in the leak. However, the secret documents show that he and his estranged brother, Fabricio, caught the attention of anti-corruption authorities in Panama in 2012. Panamanian prosecutors confirmed to McClatchy that investigators looked into an offshore company in Panama because of embezzlement concerns. And a secret email within the Panama Papers says Correa and Fabricio were the focus of the inquiry.

New apps help taxpayers report waste, fraud and abuse

In Long Beach, Calif., six city employees were fired after people complained items had gone missing from inside impounded cars. In Philadelphia auditors found safety issues in a dozen rental properties as well as more than $350,000 in unpaid taxes. And in Richmond, Va., a city employee is on the hook for nearly $10,000 in bogus tips. All of these cases were brought to auditors’ attention through hotlines or fraud apps, which allow smartphone users to anonymously report government waste, fraud and abuse. Cities and states have long had hotlines for reporting misuse of government resources. But mobile apps bring a new level of sophistication. All of these cases were brought to auditors’ attention through hotlines or fraud apps, which allow smartphone users to anonymously report government waste, fraud and abuse. Cities and states have long had hotlines for reporting misuse of government resources. But mobile apps bring a new level of sophistication.

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NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Ecuador’s leader demands release of Panama Papers

At least one parent complained to school board members about the trip, and a local exile group wrote a letter of protest. “We have a heightened sense of awareness about the sensitivity regarding that region, particularly in this moment in time. So we just didn’t think it was appropriate,” said Marie Izquierdo, chief academic officer for Miami-Dade schools.

There was a time when FIU students and professors traveled freely and regularly between Miami and Cuba. Former FIU professor Lisandro Pérez launched the university’s Cuba Research Center in 1991, leading the way for cultural exchanges and creating one of the first academic fellowships for Cuban professors in the U.S., Pérez said. Most of this travel was grant-funded. “We were known nationally as one of the most important centers for having exchanges with Cuba,” said Pérez, who now teaches at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York. “It’s natural for FIU.”

This came to a halt in 2006. A state law championed by then-Rep. David Rivera made it impossible for colleges and universities to use public or private money to travel to Cuba, or to any other country on the U.S. list of state-sponsored terrorism. FIU’s faculty senate and dozens of other local professors fought the restrictions in court. But that made it to the U.S. Supreme Court. But the court declined to hear the case. The law held. Simon said it was clear at the time that the ban was aimed at FIU, and called it a “bury your head in the sand” moment for Florida. While the rest of the country was free to conduct academic research, the most closely related institutions were locked out of those opportunities. “Sometimes we win lawsuits in court. Sometimes lawsuits get tangled up in court. And sometimes issues are won as a result of social change, and - in this case - political change,” said Simon.

Even after President Barack Obama lifted Cuba from the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism, the ban remained in place. The general counsel for the Florida Board of Governors, which oversees the state’s public universities, opined that the state’s money couldn’t be used to travel to any countries where the U.S. lacked diplomatic relations.

CUBA, PAGE 1

Students prepare for Cuba trip

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Then, in July 2015, Obama announced the embassy in Havana would be reopened.

That same week, FIU’s Office of Faculty and Global Affairs unceremoniously sent a memo to professors titled “Cuba travel.” “The removal of the Florida travel restrictions means faculty members may engage with colleagues on the island, as well as plan research and educational programming, including studying abroad trips, in line with our academic mission,” the five- sentence memo read.

Without much pomp or circumstance or something professors once fought so hard for, a decade-long restriction was lifted. “I think the flavor of the month. People are trying to figure out how to do study abroad in Cuba,” said Grenier. “We are behind.”

Grenier said FIU’s study of Cuba has been hampered by the state’s restrictions, forcing experts to move to other states in order to conduct research. “If you study Cuba, why come to Florida?” he asked. “We lost dozens of professors that would have made us the most important Cuba-studies center in the nation … In the future I don’t think we will be hampered.”

Additional reporting by TNS Staff

Reproductive Justice Summit creates dialogue

WASHINGTON, D.C. — It [The summit] was successful considering it is a student run program. I know the stress that it takes to organize a summit that last a day, so hands down for the team who put together this event. Jean said.

For information, students can visit their Facebook page: “The Reproductive Justice Summit” and stay updated on future events by follow “Stonewall Pride Alliance” on social media.
America looks to superheroes for hope

M TALK

MICHELLE MARCHANTE

Superheroes appeared around the 1930s when America had just come out of the Great Depression and was about to enter World War II. Americans were low on morale, money and hope. Then, extraordinary heroes like Superman, characterized with America’s sense of democracy and justice, were born.

Superman, along with other superheroes like Captain America, became America’s mascots and unofficial soldiers in the war against the Nazi’s. They became symbols of what it meant to be American. As time went on and America once again became stabilized, these prominent superheroes receded from the spotlight and became a niche genre. Yet, in this past couple of years, superheroes have once again entered the spotlight, as the amount of Marvel movies and DC TV shows demonstrate, but why?

According to Andrew Strycharski, the director of film studies at FIU, there are a variety of ways film interacts with society, such as helping people escape social reality, acting as a doorway to channel society’s general mood or to directly comment on it. “Look at movies [during] World War II. [Before America enters the war], a lot of American movies try their best to ignore everything that’s happening in the rest of the world and instead present an isolated happy view of American society. After America enters [the war], Hollywood becomes part of [the] war production and starts cranking out patriotic stuff,” Strycharski said to Student Media.

When it comes to the reemergence of superheroes, particularly Captain America, Strycharski sees the superhero movement as an attempt to recapTURE the feeling from World War II where Americans felt that they were “the good guys fighting for the right against threatening forces.” “The external threats the U.S. face have really changed over time... when the Soviet Union crumbled, there was this feeling that there was no one in the rest of the world who was a competitor or a threat to the United States so perhaps that feeling of superiority is something the people have begun to lose faith in again,” Strycharski said.

While Strycharski doesn’t see the present day external threats that are at any sort of level comparable to what we faced during the days of “mutually assured destruction between the U.S. and the Soviet Union,” he believes these similarities are there.

“Historically, the similarities are very thin but there’s a cultural imagination, I can see that...Americans today feel that a threat that they didn’t feel in the very recent past. A generation of people have grown up without a sense of external threat and are now experiencing that sense of external threat for the first time...”

“[I]t’s probably significant that you’re talking about a generation that’s grown up with a feeling that there was no more Russia, no more Nazi Germany, no sense of here are the people who threatened our existence and are now perhaps feeling a sense of it,” Strycharski said.

During the first season finale of CBS’s show “Supergirl” that aired on April 19, Supergirl, played by Melissa Benoist, spoke to the viewers, and citizens of National City through a live broadcasted speech. Taken out of context, this speech could be meant for us.

“We have been attacked. Mortals, humans, friends and neighbors, children, everyone, suddenly stopped by a force greater as great as this world has ever known. Your attacker has sought to take your free will, your individuality, your spirit. Everything that makes you who you are. When facing an attack like this, it’s easy to feel helpless. We retreat, we lose our strength, lose our self.”

America is in crisis. Our country is financially unstable and in these past couple of years, we’ve suffered the possibility of entering a depression. Our economy being threatened by terrorist groups such as ISIS and Al Qaeda, we’re watching North Korea test nuclear missiles, none of which meant to terrify us and we’re watching China build a military base in neutral waters.

“We’re not just suffering on the national level but also locally. Unemployment rates in America are still high and as students, we’re terrified of graduating and not having a job waiting for us because as we know, getting a bachelor’s doesn’t automatically guarantee you a job as it used to before; now many job requires masters and the competition we’re facing is intense. This is why the superhero movement has been sparked again.

We’re unsure of our future, personally and as a nation and just like the past generation looked to superheroes for hope that our nation, our America is not lost, we’re looking to them again.

This is why Supergirl’s speech is so important, so central to us and why it can hit home.

“(N)ow, in each and every one of you, there is a light, a spirit, that cannot be snuffed out. That won’t give up. I need your help, I need you again. I need you to look to hope. Hope that you will remember that you can all be heroes. Hope. That when faced with an enemy determined to destroy your spirit, you will fight back and thrive. Hope,” Supergirl said.

America is not lost. We’ve not lost. Just like superheroes fall down and get back up, we will rise above everything. America is not and shall always be America, even if we don’t see it like that right now. You just need to have hope.

Michelle Marchante is the Assistant Opinion Editor for FIU Student Media. Her column, M Talk, focuses on new and innovative events and ideas. For further comments, please email Michelle at michelle.marchante@fiusm.com.

Amelia Stone
The Beacon – 3 Wednesday, April 27, 2016
fiusm.com

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Beyoncé has a certain affinity for doing the unexpected. Even with the release of 2011’s “4”, it was surprisingly uncatered for a broad audience. Her fifth studio album, self-titled, was dropped onto iTunes and streaming sites without prior announcements and went into a variety of topics like sexuality and beauty. “Lemonade”, an HBO special that aired on Saturday, April 23, introduced the world to her latest visual-movie album of the same name. Immediately, the album itself dropped on the music streaming service TIDAL after the special aired.

By listening to the music alone, anyone can tell this album is very personal and intimate. Her sense of black empowerment and feminism weigh more heavily than they ever have. Lyrically she displays a painting of visceral imagery and genuine emotion. Musically we see a raw energy that Beyoncé hasn’t even been close to exploring before, yet it’s no surprise that she pulled it off with the kind of grace only she could do.

“Lemonade” is quite possibly the culmination of Beyoncé’s work. Despite the inclusion of February’s black excellence anthem, “Formation,” the album itself doesn’t pose as an explicit political or social message. Rather, its deeper meaning bleeds out with every new song you listen to. It’s partly why saying which songs are the best grossly undercuts the evolution you hear when they’re all put together.

The album starts slow and blends into the rock collaboration with Jack White, “Don’t Hurt Yourself”, a comparably unique track for Beyoncé’s catalog that still lends itself to be a stellar addition to the record. Beyoncé’s hard-hitting vocals play to the rock n’ roll vibe perfectly. With the follow-up “Sorry”, Beyoncé displays a crumbling relationship with questionable fidelity.

Following girl power, smooth track “6 Inch”, featuring The Weeknd, Beyoncé’s first dabble into her Texan roots enters. To be fair, though the album is best indulged in whole, “Daddy Lessons” is truly a standout. It’s a whole story on its own, rich and lively and a tune you latch onto quickly. After slowing down once more with two love songs, she takes a minute to cool off with a James Blake assisted track before entering the final acts of the album.

“Freedom” is the second standout of the record, the heart of the album’s message of empowerment. Kendrick Lamar lends his talents to the track, not relenting on the clear imagery of racial discrimination and oppression. Following it is “All Night”, an infectious melody and rhythm.

The album ends with “Formation”, quite literally the best way to lead out of a meticulously crafted work - gruff, poignant and unapologetic. What “Lemonade” represents is Beyoncé herself. Her identity, what she believes and how she illustrates the complicated parts of her life.

It’s probably the most honest thing an artist has released in a long time, and to come from such a big name like Beyoncé no less. She makes little effort to hit hard with explaining to her audience exactly how authentic and genuine she can be, and that is truly the most amazing thing about this album.

“Lemonade” is currently only available for streaming on TIDAL, but it has been stated it will be seeing an iTunes release sometime soon.

Lifestyle Points is a weekly column covering films and pop culture. To contact Joseph Cardenas for suggestions and comments email joseph.cardenas@fiusm.com.
Dean Blunt’s new album is ‘repetitive trash’

Dean Blunt is actually one of the most multifaceted musicians to come out of a post 2010 “aesthetic-core,” so I’m honestly shocked how unlistenable and abhorrent Babyfather, a collaboration between Arca and Dean Blunt “BBF,” hosted by DJ Escrow could possibly be.

It’s one of the more “obvious” albums of late, where the props for good songwriting that make up an album is instead turned into a concept album that doesn’t work.

It’s like Blunt went on Google and searched “recurring motifs in a concept album” and thought to himself “I guess I would do that.”

The best proof of this is the absolutely annoying repetition of the track “Stealth,” across the album, stealthily renamed although it’s quite literally the same track three times on the album. He repeats the words “I am Proud to be British,” over and over again, but to no effect.

There’s no distortion or build up here, like in James Ferraro’s honest attempt in “Skid Row” that makes the sounds of police sirens and brutality intense, scary. Fatima Al Qadiri’s album “Brute” from this year also makes the case for this use of found audio and creates an atmosphere. On “BBF”, it’s just all mixed poorly.

Another aspect that really makes a disconnect for me is how poor the beats are by Arca. I don’t see the same chops here in making something otherworldly and inviting as he did on “Vulnicura” or his own release “Mutant”.

The track “Meditation” is kind of empty, save for Blunt’s sometimes funny rap verses on white women.

The sounds seem distant, inaccessible, but maybe that was the intention.

This is an experimental hip hop album that doesn’t really get to be experimental as often as it should be because of the careless tude that exudes from it.

And at a whopping 50 minutes (longer than other Dean Blunt albums,) with most of the tracks being the same loop of audio over and over again, it bears repeating that this is way too painful to listen to.

However, there are some highlights to this. I think the album cover is pretty fun, with a hover board painted in the Union Jack. There’s no denying Blunt did go all British on his album, eschewing any American producers altogether which was an interesting and political move.

You can really see the effort into making this production go into a few of the tracks, at least. “Platinum Cookies,” is a hazy, dreamy banger, if such an anomaly can even be supported. And then on the track “Killuminati,” we get a sense of his influences on this album that are far removed from the abrasive, real collaged sounds of maybe a “Brute” or “Skid Row”, but still stands a great hip hop track.

The highlight of this album, really, is the fast rapping against a grime influenced backing track that comes and goes in tiny snippets.

Maybe if the gems on the album weren’t 30 seconds long instead of bad sampling, this would be a great member of Dean Blunt’s multidisciplinary opus.

Selected Analyzed works is a weekly column that discusses selected works from the RPM genre. For comments or questions cindy.hernandez@fiusm.com

First Class

Anuar Kiuhan, Sergeant first class of the US Army and health care recruiter speaks during the Discovery Opportunity Community Expo hosted by the Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association.
Panthers eat Owls with three game win

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The tides might finally be turning for the baseball team as they managed to win three games over the weekend against 17th ranked Florida Atlantic University.

As for fighting for the top spot in Conference USA, the Owls from FAU scored six runs before the Panthers could even score one in game one of the series Friday, April 22.

Cody Crouse (2-1) had a rough start in his new role as the Friday night starter. The 6-foot-6 right hander only pitched three and two-thirds innings, but gave up eight hits and six runs, five of those runs earned.

To stop the bleeding, Head Coach Turtle Thomas brought Andres Nunez (3-2) into the game as his new mound man. Nunez would pitch four one-third innings, keeping the Owls from scoring any more runs, and striking out four. This plug in the bull would be exactly what FIU would need, so they could focus on the offensive side of things.

With Nunez on the mound, the Panthers would battle back, totalling 12 hits on the night, three of those from right-fielder Kenny Meimerstorf, who is still the team’s RBI’s leader.

In the bottom of the eighth inning, the rally would be capped off with a sacrifice fly off the bat of Zach Files, scoring Jack Schaaf as the go-ahead run. Williams Durruthy would come in to close the ninth inning and he’d do so successfully, notchting his fourth save of the season and helping Nunez win his third game of the year.

Saturday’s contest began a bit different than Friday’s did. This time, it was Chris Moutrelle (5-4) who had the mound against FAU and while he did give up a run early in the first inning, the FIU offense had his back in the second and third innings.

A solo home run from Nick Day and his team-leading seventh jack of the season got things started for the Panther offense and all tied up at one run up a piece in the second inning.

Junior catcher, Zach Soria rips a double to left field against FAU. The Panthers were able to take two of three from their in-state rival Owls.

In the third, RBI’s from Eddie Silva and Zach Soria gave the home team a two run lead. It was in the top of the fourth that the lead was erased by a two run home run by FAU designated hitter Sean Labsan.

Mourelle would stay in the game for the Panthers, pitching eight total innings while only allowing two earned runs all night.

In the same inning that they had scored the winning run just a night before, FIU managed to take the lead again with an RBI single from Irving Lopez.

With the lead and an opportunity to take game two of the three game set against rival FAU, Thomas pulled Mourele and put in Durruthy to shut the door.

In dominating fashion, Durruthy struck out three of the four batters he faced and the Panthers took the first two games of the series.

FIU had a chance to sweep not only their biggest rivals, but also the No. 17 ranked baseball team in the nation.

They faced left handed junior Alex Demchak (3-2). Demchak hadn’t been in this position all season, as Garrett Cave has been the Sunday starter most weekends for the Panthers.

To add to the nerves, Demchak would be facing the university from his home town, being a native of Boca Raton, and a graduate of Spanish River High School in Boca Raton.

The junior only pitched two innings on Sunday, April 24, giving up one walk, three earned runs, and eight hits before being pulled in favor of freshman Nate Pearson.

Pearson and Demchak were

Gamecocks shock Panthers in season end score of 13-9

STEFANO RIVERA
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One of the many goals for the University beach volleyball team this season was to be crowned the first ever Coastal Collegiate Sports Association (CCSA) champions.

After going 6-1 in their final seven games, the No. 10 ranked Panthers rode a wave of momentum into the CCSA Tournament.

On the first day of the tournament, Friday, April 22, the team had its eyes set on No. 9 George Washington University and Tulane University. These two matches were pool play.

The GSU Panthers have been a familiar foe for the team, splitting the first to matchups of the season.

After dropping the first match, the FIU Panthers promptly responded with two wins of their own to take a 2-1 lead.

The No. 5 duo of redshirt sophomore, Savannah Durkin, and senior, Natalia Giron, put the team on the board with their commanding victory.

Shortly after, the No. 4 duo of graduate student, Tina Toghiyani, and junior, Aten Cupp, claimed another victory, putting the Panthers ahead.

The team then lost the fourth match of the contest, which pushed it to a decisive fifth match. Juniors, Anabela Saturic and Marina Boulanger, one of the Panthers most dominant tandems, fell in a three-set thriller.

The team then faced off against Tulane to wrap up the first day of the tournament.

The Panthers clawed their way to a 3-0 start and defeated the Green Wave 3-2. Once again, the duo of Toghiyani and Cupp and Davis and Giror, propelled the team to its first win in pool play.

Davis and Giror made a move in the program’s record books. With these two victories, the duo moved into third place for the most wins by a pair in a season, 17, only two shy of the record.

On the second day of the tournament, Saturday, April 23, the Panthers had an early wake up call playing at 9 a.m.

To finish off the third match of pool play, the team faced off against instate rival, Florida Atlantic University.

Once again, the Panthers fell behind early, dropping the first match, however, they rallied back winning three straight matches to take the contest.

The rookie duo of freshman, Dominique Dodd, and junior, Katie Hogan, got its first win of the tournament.

The duo of graduate student, Martyna Gluchowska, and sophomore, Eisteratie Bethuncourt, and Toghiyani and Cupp, contributed to the winning efforts as well.

The single elimination part of the tournament began during the quarterfinals later on Saturday.

The Panthers battled against unranked University of South Carolina, a team they had previously beaten in the regular season and held a 3-0 overall record against. Although the Panthers came off two straight wins in pool play, they were given the upset of the season.

The Gamecocks defeated the Panthers 4-1, ending their season. The only duo to claim a victory in the contest was Toghiyani and Cupp. Together, they finished the regular season undefeated.

Toghiyani finished her career on top of the program’s record books for most wins all-time (67), and Cupp finished with 50.

The Panthers finished the 2016 season 13-9, seven wins shy of matching last year’s win total.

Further reading:

Gamecocks shock Panthers in season end score of 13-9

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The duo of graduate student, Martyna Gluchowska, and sophomore, Eisteratie Bethuncourt, and Toghiyani and Cupp, contributed to the winning efforts as well.

The single elimination part of the tournament began during the quarterfinals later on Saturday.

The Panthers battled against unranked University of South Carolina, a team they had previously beaten in the regular season and held a 3-0 overall record against. Although the Panthers came off two straight wins in pool play, they were given the upset of the season.

The Gamecocks defeated the Panthers 4-1, ending their season. The only duo to claim a victory in the contest was Toghiyani and Cupp. Together, they finished the regular season undefeated.

Toghiyani finished her career on top of the program’s record books for most wins all-time (67), and Cupp finished with 50.

The Panthers finished the 2016 season 13-9, seven wins shy of matching last year’s win total.

Further reading:

Panthers lose in C-USA finals

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The No. 44 FIU women’s tennis team fell short of winning the Conference USA championships from April 21-24 at Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The Panthers (17-7) lost to No. 45 Rice University in the championship match of the C-USA tournament, 4-1, on Sunday, April 24. The Owls win over the Panthers clinched the university’s fourth-consecutive conference title, a new conference record.

FIU fell behind early, dropping the doubles point.

Freshman Martyna Veksler and Junior Nina Nagode fell to Emily Smith and Katherine Ip, 7-5.

However, the Panthers have been the Sunday starter most weekends for the Panthers. To add to the nerves, Demchak would be facing the university from his home town, being a native of Boca Raton, and a graduate of Spanish River High School in Boca Raton.

The junior only pitched two innings on Sunday, April 24, giving up one walk, three earned runs, and eight hits before being pulled in favor of freshman Nate Pearson.

Pearson and Demchak were
Barry Bonds: Forever Giant

In total, FIU would strikeout Brady was initially challenging a four-week game suspension NFL commissioner the integrity of inflated footballs and Circuit Court of Appeals defended legend Barry Bonds, of ballgames. It wouldn't feel like baseball season without Jake Arrieta throwing a baseball season without sport we love. welcome us back to the underway and we've

In Miami, the road to the Super Bowl is congested and full of traffic. Each time around, somebody’s transmission gives out halfway there and the entire commute crawls home. The Miami Dolphins of 2016, however, might be riding another highway entirely. On Monday, April 25, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals defended the integrity of inflated footballs and deflated Dolphins fans everywhere. The federal court overruled a decision made last September by U.S. District Court Judge Richard Berman that New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was innocent of involvement in a deflated football scandal dating back to the AFC Championship game in January of that same year. Brady was initially challenging a four-game suspension NFL commissioner Roger Goodell sanctioned on the 16-year professional Dolphin-killer. That means that when the Dolphins play in Foxborough on Sept. 18, the only paper-thin defense Brady will possibly be shredding in the second half is the waxed lining of a Gatorade cup. The timing and decision of the ruling could not have been more convenient. The decision takes a ton of pressure off of the Dolphins (regretful, but intentional pun), as they will enter New England coming off of a road trip to Seattle in their 2016 opener. Given that they also play the Browns at home, Bengals on the road and Titans at home in the following three weeks, a dream of a decent start to the season can return to Miami. Some fans may think that this appeal decision is only a coincidence or too good to be true. I simply treat this news, however, like the turning point in an enigmatic battle for justice in our universe. A team simply cannot go 7-9, 7-9, 6-10, 7-9, 8-8, 8-8 and 6-10 since 2009 without a higher power intervening at some point, right? I believe that the Dolphins will be reimbursed for all of their bad fortune in one miraculous 2016-2017 season. Everything will go right. Quarterback Ryan Tannehill will connect on at least three game-winning deep passes. Oft-troubled defensive end Dion Jordan will fulfill his potential as a number three overall pick. The Dolphins will take the AFC East title, making it all the way to the conference title game. Before you dismiss me as a Dolphins homer, you have to admit that it feels right. The narrative fits. Downstretched by the league for years, the Dolphins surge back to national prominence behind what I think might become one of the league’s more perfect player coach combinations in Tannehill and Adam Gase. It also makes sense on the defensive end. Why shouldn’t a pass rush that features Mario Williams and Cameron Wake be among the most feared in the NFL? Although the team has holes, the talent is there. Consider this too: this kind of miracle turnaround happened in 2008. The Dolphins were 1-15 in 2007 and produced the most improved record in the league with an 11-5 record the very next season. Aren’t we due for another Miami? The Brady decision lands in April days before the NFL draft, it looks like Miami is finally going to get its due. You might doubt it, but it’s going to happen, because even our cruel world is too kind to give Miami another six-win season.

C-USA finals end in defeat for the Panthers

Lazaro was handed her first loss in dual matches this season. The Spaniard dropped her match against Smith, 6-4, 4-6, 3-6, despite having a one set lead on her opponent. Lazaro’s first loss in dual matches clinched the match for Rice. The last time the Spaniard lost was back in October 2015. When the Panthers defeated UT Arlington back in February, Vekslser said head coach Katarina Petrovic’s goal for the team was to win the conference and make the NCAA tournament. Although the Panthers fell short of the coach’s first goal, the team has a chance to make it into the NCCA tournament. The Panthers will find out if they made the tournament on Wednesday, May 4, at 5 p.m.

Panthers continue potential win streak

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only the first two of the long line of seven pitchers that FAU would face on this Sunday afternoon matchup. In total, FIU would strikeout 10 but give up 12 hits and eventually nine runs to the Owls. The defense for the Panther squad would also be a hinderance to their success, committing four errors. The University offense only managed to bring across one run and that was thanks to a Meumaster in the 7th inning, but that run would soon be made to feel very unimportant when in the next inning Owl first baseman Esteban Puerta hit a solo homerun to left field. The final score would be 9-1 and the Owls would avoid being swept by the Panthers. While they didn’t get the sweep, there could be a great deal of positive momentum drawn from taking two games from this FAU team and it might be exactly what the Panthers need going forward to finish off the season. Thomas’ tune seems to have turned to something less typical as he has finally switched his pitching rotation around a bit. This team is far from done, as this weekend proved. They had another opportunity to keep the ball rolling at the University of South Florida on Tuesday, April 26, at Louisville on Wednesday, April 27, and then a three game set against another CUSA team at Western Kentucky University on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 29 and 30, and May 1.
The FIU powerlifting team reached new heights last weekend, on April 15 and April 16, 2016. The team performed at the 2016 USA Powerlifting Collegiate National Championships in Providence, Rhode Island for the first time, where the women’s team finished in sixth place, while the men’s team finished in third place.

Head Coach Bill Hennessey touted and praised his team for their performance, saying that it “feels fantastic” to succeed in the way they have, and that he has some of the smarter and more talented lifters in the country.

Hennessey also points to how hard his lifters work, training multiple times a week and with different methods of training in order to maximize their improvement. He is all about strategy and feels that it is an underrated part of success in powerlifting.

Finally, he was most proud because of the fact that although FIU’s powerlifting program is not a scholarship program, they competed against scholarship programs anyway, and “punched them all in the teeth”, which he thought was “truly remarkable.”

Hennessey feels that the future of powerlifting looks “excellent” and enhanced his praise by adding that FIU powerlifting “is the most successful sports program at FIU.”

Some of the more significant finishes pointed out by Hennessey were: senior Leandria Ates, who finished second in the country at 138 pounds while competing with torn knee ligaments; senior Vincent Victorero who placed fourth at 199 pounds; junior Gabriel Llanes who finished third nationally at 250 pounds; sophomore co-captain Roman Fronzaglia who won the silver medal for the 130 pound class; graduate student co-captain Kimberly Acosta who won the bronze medal in the women’s 114 pound class; junior Emmanuel Lokolo who won the bronze medal in the super heavyweight class in his second meet ever.

According to Hennessey, this is the third year that the team has been around. In their first year of competing, the team dethroned Florida State University, who had won for seven consecutive years at the time, in the Collegiate State Championships, where the men’s team finished in first place and the women’s team finished in second.

The next year, 2015, both men and women’s team got first place at the Collegiate State Championships. They won first place in both men and women again before their first Collegiate National Championship berth this year.

There are tryouts for the travel team every other month or by appointment with Hennessey. The team conducts multiple fundraisers throughout the year in order to help fund hotel, plane tickets and other costs needed to perform.

Hennessey believes in hard, smart, and strategic work in order to maximize results, but believes in instilling and enjoying a family-like atmosphere and culture within the team.

He feels that this team is wound together like a family.