Bayview welcomes new residents

DOUGLASS GAVILAN
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Earlier this month, FIU’s new housing facility, Bayview, opened brand new living opportunities for students located specifically on The Biscayne Bay Campus.

When asked about Bayview, students expressed excitement toward the rooms and surrounding area.

“It’s a little more intimate and private here. We’ve got a nice view of the bay, we’ve got a nice pool,” said Kyle Uzcategui, a junior hospitality major. “It’s kind of like a nice resort feeling, not like a dorm at all.”

After years without living facilities for students at BBC, the University has spent nearly $60 million constructing rooms to accommodate around 400 students.

“The students at the [University] can be proud of this modern, state of the art residence hall on campus,” said John Iannuzzo, vice president of Property Operation for Servitas Management Group. “It is specifically designed to promote academic success as well as provide students the opportunity to play hard.”

Located behind the Marine Science building and right next to the Roz and Cal Kovens conference center, the nine-story building features 410 rooms, a pool, sky lounge, 24-hour gym, lounge area with television located on every floor, study rooms, free internet and cable, computer lab with both PCs and MAC computers, a free printing machine, conference room, fitness center and two classrooms leased to FIU.

One of the main benefits students living at Bayview enjoy is free transportation from BBC to the Modesto Maidique Campus. This allows for students to have one less expense to worry about.

“The free shuttle is definitely a perk cause most of the free shuttle is definitely a perk cause most of the students located specifically on The Biscayne Bay enjoy is free transportation from BBC to the Modesto Maidique Campus. This allows for students to have one less expense to worry about. “

Sailesh the Hypnotist works his magic on student volunteers at an SPC event in the Graham Center (GC) ballrooms on Thursday, Aug. 25, 2016.

Tuesday Times Roundtable brings student discussion platforms to University

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The weekly Global Learning event series, Tuesday Times Roundtable, returns Tuesday, Aug. 30, at 12:30 p.m. for another semester of moderated discussions among faculty and students.

The goal of the event, according to Eric Feldman, an Office of Global Learning Initiative’s coordinator, is to provide an educational event students can participate in between classes to help broaden their perspectives and understand issues from other perspectives.

At the discussions, students also have the opportunity to network with professors and learn things outside of their major.

Members of faculty, staff, and various community leaders lead the discussions, and students can interact with those leaders on the topic.

“Some people may do a presentation for 15 minutes, then lead into a discussion, or it can be a complete discussion,” said Feldman.

Because there is a different moderator every week, the style of the discussion varies. The moderators ask questions to facilitate discussion among faculty and students in the audience, moving the discussion away from a simple lecture.

“Take any issue, when you hear people in discussion … they are very polarized,” said Feldman.

Josh Nichols, a finance and information technology major, enjoys the differences of opinion highlighted during these discussions.

“I don’t want them to be sugar coated, I want us to get to the stuff that really really needs to be talked about,” Nichols said.

The toughest requirement for this program is English because not all students are familiarized with the language, but they are taught through grammar and English courses.

Some of the resources provided for the students include opening a bank account, tutoring, English courses, advisement, a tour around Miami and many more resources.

One of the resources is that students get the chance to meet and be guided by past global first year students.

“Some of the main differences of this upcoming group is that we already have students progressing out, so they already have what to look forward into college,” said Lorna Baer, associate director of academics.

This means that incoming students from the fall 2016 have an idea of what to look for, and expect through the first class of fall 2015.

According to Baer, many of the old students have managed to get involved on campus such as joining honors programs and sports.

“All the students that come in global first year are assigned a global first year adviser,” said Barry R. Vogel, managing director of global first

Freshman group welcomes 98 new students

SUDYEN NAVARETE
Assistant News Director

Over 98 new students representing 25 countries across the globe were welcomed by the Global First Year program at the University for fall 2016.

Global First Year was created with the purpose to welcome international students and help them adapt to the University’s system, surroundings and lifestyles; all during their first year of transition.

Tricia Ortega, associate director of admissions said, “Global First Year launched in fall 2015 and we’ve had students from 39 countries,” said Ortega.

“I think about 230 students have come to this program ever since.”

Some of the countries being represented by the students are Ecuador, Honduras, Iran, Spain, Turkey, China and Pakistan.

Countries such as China and United Arab Emirates have the equal highest amount of international students, which is 15, that have enrolled in the program for fall 2016.

Some of the foundations that global first year stands for is to acculturate students into the U.S. education system,” said Ortega.

“Whether helping them navigate through the school system, giving them as much guidance as possible, and showing what the institution can provide for them.”

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Global First Year Program welcomes international students

GLOBAL, PAGE 1

year. They’re also introduced to global orientation leaders, which are students who have already been through the program and have progressed and are fully engaged at the University.”

“We identify the courses that they’re going to take for their first semester, and we get them scheduled in classes,” said Vogel.

“We make sure they’re settled in housing, we meet them when they arrive on campus, and we even make sure they got the linen for their beds, and we take them to target.”

As they progressed throughout their first year, the global first year program helps them act on their own.

“We start to take less of an active role, and make them feel more independent,” said Feldman.

“We provide them with all that very supportive direction.”

During their first year, all the students are put in classes together. According to Vogel it’s to help them communicate with one another, feel supported and have the ability to work along with other international students, gain knowledge and use it on their own.

“A lot of them are accustomed to learning by memorization, and by sitting and listening to what the professor says without arguing.”

said Vogel. “We help teach the students that it’s okay to question what someone says.”

Part of the process of welcoming the students is to get them to see Miami; visit museums, beaches and restaurants.

“We do events on-campus and off-campus so they can meet people, have other friends in the program and to get to know and see Miami and have access of their surroundings,” said Ashley James, marketing director.

“Our mission and our goal is to really get them assimilated into the greater community,” said James.

“We want them to enjoy college and stick around all four years.”

BAYVIEW, PAGE 1

Bayview residents express their satisfaction with new housing

For students interested in renting, Bayview is accepting applications online. Rooms are currently priced at $750 for a four-bedroom apartment. All bedrooms are separate from one another with residents only having to share a kitchen and sometimes a bathroom depending on what floor plan they choose.

If you would like to learn more, please visit http://www.bayviewfiu.com/ or call at (305) 998-3777.

“I feel like it’s important especially when you’re at an international school … Everybody can put in their two cents, their different perspective, and come back from the conversation with something,” said Nichols. “You [should] have a moderator that guides the conversation, proposes a question but keeps the conversation within the crowd.”

Feldman, who agrees with Nichols, stated that the roundtable is supposed to be about discussion.

“In addition to hearing opinions about topics that day, students can learn about different perspectives,” said Feldman. “The format is pretty effective and popular.”

Global Learning Initiatives organizers are often approached by faculty, staff and community leaders to participate in the event, but they also send emails to Global Learning faculty to see who would like to participate.

Students can urge the faculty members they would like to have as a moderator to participate as well.

The first roundtable discussion, moderated by the director of the Office of Study Abroad, is titled “Why Study Abroad.” Future discussions include the Olympics opening ceremony and controversial social aspects of the games, the election and environment issues in Miami.

The Tuesday Times Roundtable is one of many Global Learning activities students can participate in on campus. Student can participate in activities such as leading a Global Engagement project where they can apply for up to $1,000 grant. They can register online to track their involvement and win a Global Learning Medallion at graduation.

“There are a lot of other opportunities to engage in global learning on campus … not just for one hour at the roundtable every week,” said Feldman.

The Office of Global Learning Initiatives awards students who meet certain requirements, including Tuesday Times Roundtable participation, with the Excellence in Global Learning Medallion.

Refreshments and complimentary The New York Times newspapers are provided to those who attend the events, which are hosted at both the Modesto Maidique and The Biscayne Bay campuses, as well as online on their YouTube page: goglobalfiu.
Florida has become the first state in the nation to have local transmission of the Zika virus.

Rick Scott
Florida Governor

"Their team will consist of public health experts whose role is to augment our response efforts to confirmed local transmissions of the Zika virus," Scott said.

CDC personnel are already on the ground in Florida and their first task will be to understand why the local mosquito control efforts failed.

In Miami, aggressive control measures are not working as well as we would like," Frieden said. "The mosquitoes could be resistant to the pesticides being used, or the mosquitoes could be hiding in what we call 'cryptic' breeding places that are hard to find, like very small amounts of water where they can hatch."

Ground testing could take several weeks and people living in the area or traveling to and from it are advised to take the necessary precautions to ensure safety and prevention of any more of the virus' spread.

Some precautions include applying insect repellent containing 25% DEET to uncovered skin, wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants and removing standing water, a place where mosquitoes often lay eggs.

The CDC recommends additional precautions with the Miami outbreak: pregnant women who live in or travel to the area should get tested in the first and second trimesters of pregnancy, even if they have no symptoms of the virus; men and women should prevent mosquito bites and use proper protection during sexual activities or abstain from sex altogether;

In addition, attendees to the Olympics are being urged to take extra effort to minimize their exposure to mosquito bites for two weeks after returning home, whether or not they are experiencing symptoms.

The health and safety of the FIU community is a top priority, so FIU has also been monitoring the situation proactively. Since the identification of the first Zika cases in South Florida, FIU has been working with local authorities and frequently following updates from the Florida Health Department and CDC.

Currently, the university is not aware of any member of the university community being personally impacted by the Zika virus.

The World Health Organization may describe the Zika virus as a "public health emergency of international concern," but that doesn't mean we should panic. While it is true that the virus is already here in the States, Zika is manageable as long as we are prepared and remain clear-eyed.

Our world is too interconnected, travel is easier and mosquitoes are too airborne, so it'll be impossible to keep this issue completely at bay. However, our public health system is sophisticated and capable of monitoring potential outbreaks and delivering medical services when necessary.

Here at home, we need to focus on minimizing risks to citizens and most importantly, avoiding panic. Nothing is certain, but the best way to prevent any further spread is for us to be properly educated on the subject while taking the necessary precautions to ensure safety and prevent any possible spreading of the virus.

Maytinee Kramer is a staff writer for FIU Student Media. Her column, Panther Health, is a commentary on maintaining one’s health during college. For suggestions or comments, please contact Maytinee at maytinee.kramer@comcast.net.

As the new school year begins, it's an opportunity for all students to help curb the spread of the Zika virus by practicing good habits, including using mosquito repellent, spilling standing water to prevent mosquitoes from breeding and taking measures to reduce the chances of sexual transmission.

In fact, as you walk around your campus, you may notice references to the "Zika Aware: Spill it, Spray it" campaign, meant to remind students how to stay safe.

Florida’s 12 public universities are leaders in the conversation about Zika, conducting important research, creating task forces to track the virus and serving as a resource to the community. But as University students, you also have a unique opportunity to make a difference.

Just as Gov. Rick Scott challenged Florida’s educational institutions to be proactive in preventing new Zika cases, I am urging you – our students – to get creative and help us spread the word. By working together, we have a real opportunity to make a difference.

-Chancellor Marshall Criser III
State University System Chancellor

Letter to the Editor: Students must do their part to help prevent the spread of Zika
Hashtag ‘Behind the Badge’

ERICA SANTIAGO
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Sparking conversation, understanding and providing common ground solutions is a primary goal for FIU Student Media, according to Editor in Chief Cayla Bush.

The senior broadcast media major hopes to use Student Media as a catalyst for students to understand more how the University operates and the functions of different departments while expanding their knowledge of topics that affect them.

In doing so, FIU Student Media will host “Behind the Badge,” a two-part forum between the FIU Police Department and student leaders. Bush says the forum is an effort to provide a middle ground and information to improve and strengthen relations between FIUPD and University Students.

“In layman’s terms, the purpose is for students to feel comfortable asking questions of police, while allowing police the space to share their protocol and perception without judgment,” says Bush. “We want to humanize both sides, and to open the floor to discussion that will lead to a stronger, more secure feeling when the two parties interact.”

FIUSM started planning for “Behind the Badge” after the University hosted its own forum following recent nationwide conflicts between police officers and civilians.

“We went to the forum that was held after the Dallas police shootings and there were students who spoke up but there weren’t many students,” said Robert Jaross, advisor for FIUSM. “So after that forum, we met as an eboard to discuss how the students were feeling.”

The eboard concluded that more needed to be done, according to Jaross. Though the University’s previous forum included administration speaking out, Bush felt administration spoke at students, whereas “Behind the Badge” will grant them the opportunity to speak to students.

“I think there is genuine support and concern from administration, especially Chief Casas [of FIUPD], and this will allow more students to have that interaction and feel that support,” says Bush.

Casas, along with Daniel Capote of the Stonewall Pride Alliance, Prince Gafaru of the African Student Organization, SGC-MMC President Alian Collazo and SGC-BBC President Alihan Mejia, will speak at the forum.

“I’m very encouraged and eager to participate in the forum,” says Casas. “I believe FIU Police has a strong relationship with our community.”

Said relationship should not be taken for granted, according to Casas.

“We need to work together to maintain avenues of communication to express our concerns and continue to learn from each other,” he says. “I hope to better understand what our students are feeling and are experiencing in the greater community and perhaps can in turn share some of my feelings and experiences outside of FIU.”

The forum will be hosted by Professor Antoine Hardy and both Bush and Jaross hope to schedule a “part two” to the forum sometime in the future.

Part one is scheduled to take place Wednesday, August 31 from noon to 1 p.m. in SIPA 100.

“I am hoping that there is open conversation and that everyone walks away with a deeper understanding of both sides,” said Bush. “I’m also hoping that we can spark a discussion that very much needs to be had but do so in a space where everyone’s feelings are respected and observed.”

Forget Netflix and get some “cafécito and chill”

CATALINA MUñOZ
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In less than a month, The Frost Art Museum will open Vicky Café, a place for students to dine and relax after class and during the weekends.

Provided to the University by the Frost Art Museum Student Organization Committee, the café will host events such as Trivia Tuesdays, Salsa Fridays, video game tournaments and competitions for the students.

In addition, the café will also offer a new feature, the first one in Miami: a café serving local beer and wine for students 21 and over, in addition to a nightly menu, and healthy food options for the students.

“As a student living on campus, I love the idea of having something open during the weekends, and later on at night as well. A place to hang out and relax from school work with a beer in hand, sounds amazing,” said FIU Student Jaime Sanchez, junior double majoring in international business and finance.

This space at the museum, offering a view of the lake and fountain, had previously been called the “café space” and was usually rented out for events.

FAMSA’s goal was to get more students into the museum: “We noticed that the student population in the museum wasn’t very strong, we wanted to make an event for students to come and feel comfy,” said Sanchez.

“Cafecito and Chill” was the answer. With students filling the room, this event on Aug. 24 was an introduction to the café opening in September. Coffee, pastries and a “chill” area for everyone who came was provided with no cost.

Students were also given crayons, markers and coloring materials to set a light atmosphere to relax and have fun.

Vicky Bakery, who provided the coffee and pastries during this event, collaborated with FAMSA to make this possible for the students.

Opened in the 1970’s, Vicky Bakery was founded by two Cuban refugees who had a passion for baking. The idea of this café, an extension of Vicky Bakery, is to provide a creative environment for students to celebrate real Miami culture in an artistic atmosphere.

“We want something that will feel like home, we want to do this for the students,” said Alexander P., from Vicky Bakery’s management.

PANTHER Sports Talk LIVE
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9-10 a.m.
Only on WRGP

Jaime Sanchez having his snacks “cafécito” while coloring during “Cafecito and Chill” this past Wednesday, August 24, at the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum at the MWC campus.
FOLLOW US

#BEHINDTHEBADGE

Join us in an open discussion between FIUPD and the university community

August 31  |  Noon to 1 P.M.  |  SIPA 100/HL 210
Underdogs the ‘true world champions’

KRISTEN'S KORNER

You’ve seen the underdog story play out in real life, on television shows and movies. It’s usually the same scenario every time – an athlete spends countless amount of time working extremely hard to beat another person who is hailed as invincible by everyone. Usually, the underdog gets the best of their rival, making the story that much more profound.

Underdogs are easily the most relatable kind of athlete we have in the sports world. They come from a similar background and face the same issues that most of the population does. This is part of the reason why many resonate with the underdog. FIU freshman and football team hopeful Davionne Ghee has embraced the label. “I am an underdog,” said Ghee. “High school football players have a specific GPA requirement in order to play, and they also have to deal with some of the most aggressive coaches in the game. It’s tough.”

Underdogs are often pushed to the limit because many think they won’t be able to handle the pressure. But that only serves as motivation to build themselves physically and mentally. “I always wanted to prove something because your own team doesn’t want you on the team at all,” said Ghee. “They want you to quit but I wasn’t going to do that. My dream is the NFL and nothing can stop me from getting there.”

That’s another reason why so many people root for the underdog: they put time and effort into being the best athlete they can be. When you’re viewed as a prospective failure, there is an insanely huge chip on your shoulder. You have to work three times as much as other athletes because you have to prove your ability to win and succeed.

Our very own football team has been labeled an underdog time and time again, with the most recent coming last year’s September game against the University of Central Florida. No one expected our Panthers to score against the highly-touted Knights but we did and we won, shocking the collegiate football world. “Seeing that game really got me excited. I love seeing the underdog team win and knowing that my school was able to pull it off made me enthusiastic for the rest of the season,” said FIU student Josh Brown.

People like Simon Biles, Nate Diaz and James “Buster” Douglas have all been considered underdogs in their career. Yet, this label never stopped them from continuing to work hard and compete at the highest level, allowing them to achieve some of the greatest victories in sports history.

Being an underdog should never be considered a bad thing. We need to rid ourselves of the mindset that underdogs are nothing more than the proverbial “little guy.” The underdogs are the true champions of the world.

Kristen’s Korner is a column focusing on issues that affect students interested in sports. For questions, commentary or suggestions email Kristen at kristen.king@fiusm.com.

MMC Wellness and Rec Center welcomes director

JAYDA HALL
Sports Director
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After 19 years away from Miami, Charles A. Judkins makes a return by taking the helm of the Wellness and Rec Center at MMC.

Judkins comes from Jackson, Mississippi, with 23 years of recreation experience in both community and higher education.

Judkins attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham and worked as a graduate assistant for intramural and recreational sports while he pursued a Masters of Arts in Education. Before attending UAB, he received two Bachelor of Arts degrees in psychology and special education from the University of Miami.

Judkins explained that he “has a wealth of knowledge in this field with the passion to prove it.”

He served as a women’s basketball assistant coach, where he assisted in guard development of offensive and defensive plays and coordinated the Lady Blazer Spark Ball Program. Judkins was also the editor of the monthly Lady Blazer Newsletter, which included player biographies and upcoming events for fans.

Judkins started working as an assistant director of intramural and informal sports in 2008 and assistant director of competitive sports in 2012. Some of his duties included recruiting students to participate in a variety of recreation activities and maintaining team participation in the competitive sports program.

In 2013, Judkins became the senior assistant director of programs and managed five community leagues, 20 club sports and 37 intramural programs.

He participated in centralized strategic planning and initiatives and oversee the generation of $1 million in revenue yearly while serving as a director of Campus recreation at Jackson State University for two years.

Judkins is recognized for his departmental leadership and participation in associations such as the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association and the National Federation of High School Athletic Associations.

Judkins started working as a director of the Wellness and Recreation Center at MMC on Monday, Aug. 29.
**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

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The FIU men’s basketball team did more than train during the summer for the upcoming season. They played video and board games with sick children at Holtz Children’s Hospital, too.

Senior forward Elmo Stephen, developed a relationship with Junior, a child being treated at the hospital.

“Junior is a big Golden State Warriors fan,” Stephen said in a phone interview with Student Media. “He loves to talk about sports and he’s very excited for the upcoming season since Kevin Durant plays for his favorite team.”

The Panthers’ appearance marks the third consecutive year the team has been able to visit Holtz Children’s Hospital through their community outreach program. According to Stephen, the children also become role models for the players.

“The way Junior handles his current situation inspires me to keep fighting, no matter what,” Stephen said. “He only wanted to get to know us, but he taught us so much more about life than what team he roots for.”

When Stephen transferred from Tallahassee Community College last season, he missed the first nine games of the 2015-2016 season with a stress fracture in his right leg. Once he was back on the court, Stephen averaged 7.7 points per game in 23 games, which was enough to be the fourth-highest scoring Panther.

“I got a kick out of [ed] when the kids told me how tall I was,” Stephen said. “I never expected the kids to be so happy to see my teammates and me. All they wanted to do was socialize with us. I would’ve never expected these kids would be so energetic.”

The team also got to interact with the parents and discuss their upcoming season.

“Meeting the kids and their parents was the highlight of the visit to the hospital,” Stephen said. “Getting to know them and talking to the parents about our upcoming season was enjoyable. It was a lot of fun talking to those parents, who are going through so much with their kids in the hospital.”

The schedule for the men’s basketball team has not been yet announced. Based on past seasons, the season will begin in mid-November.

Stephen enjoys participating in this program and would like to continue doing so in the future.

“I would go back to the hospital in a heartbeat if I was asked again,” Stephen said.

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

Home opener begins with bad weather, ends in defeat

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The season opener for the women’s soccer team started with a 35-minute lightning delay and ended in a stormy defeat after the team was routed by the undefeated Wake Forest Demon Deacons 4-0.

With less than 72 minutes left in the second half, the game was called off due to another lightning delay, resulting in the Panthers’ overall record of 0-1-0.

Senior goalkeeper Sophia Trujillo was outnumbered by Wake Forest’s offense led by junior defender Maddie Huster, who recorded three goals in four shots in the first half. One of her goals was a hat trick right across the left sideline. This would be her ninth hat trick in her collegiate career.

In the second half, she recorded an assist when her fellow teammate, Bayley Feist, scored the final goal before everyone was evacuated due to the lightning delay. Despite eliminating performance by Huster, Trujillo managed to record four saves the entire game.

The Panthers failed to get in scoring position so far this season. In the last three games, the Panthers were outshot by their opponents 54-17, averaging 18.0 shots a game and 5.7 shots a game for the Panthers.

Last week against University of South Florida, FIU lost in an overtime fashion 2-3, led by senior midfielder Alyssa Robinson, who scored twice in that game. The week before, the team traveled to Deland, Florida, to face Stetson University for their opening game, ending in a 1-1 tie.

During that game, sophomore Lucky Manteas hit a free kick from 35 yards out into the box, and

**Anti-PED stances ensure athletic honesty**

PED, PAGE 8

**“There is no substitute for hard work and sound nutritional habits,” states the handbook.**

It is unbelievably important for schools like FIU to take this stance against these drugs. We need to ensure that our athletes are performing at their best, but honest, abilities for the sake of sports.

Hopefully, in the near future, we can put an end to the use of these performance enhancers and go back to performing in sports the right way.

Kristen’s Korner is a column focusing on issues that affect students interested in sports. For questions, commentary or suggestions email Kristen at kristen.king@fiusm.com.

Paula Zuluaga
Assistant Coach
FIU Women’s Soccer

freshman Michaela Rouse made a head-in goal after the pass.

“I expect the team to peak later in the season. We have a lot of growing to do.”

Paula Zuluaga
Assistant Coach
FIU Women’s Soccer

I expect the team to peak later in the season. We have a lot of growing to do.
SEASON’S GREETINGS

Men’s Soccer looking to go further this fall

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After a breakout season in 2015, the FIU men’s soccer team hopes this season will be better than their last. Before 2015, the Panthers were 20-14-1 in the NCAA tournament. Last season, for the first time since 2004, The Panthers made the NCAA tournament; however, the team was taken out in the first round of the tournament in an overtime loss to Tulsa University.

“When we were eliminated in overtime, I lost many nights of sleep,” said senior defender Marvin Hezel. “It was definitely hard to practice in the weeks after the match. It felt like we were heading deep into the tournament, but it wasn’t meant to be.”

In the 2015 season, the soccer team also went 12-7-1 on its way to winning the Conference USA Championship, with an average of 2.05 goals per game while allowing its opponents to score only 1.30 goals per game.

Heading into the 2016 season, the Panthers have garnered several preseason awards. Hezel and teammate Luis Betancur were named to the preseason All C-USA team and Hezel was picked as Preseason C-USA Defender of the Year. The Panthers are also ranked No. 23 in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America’s preseason poll.

“I’ve been working hard on my agility,” said Hezel. “I have been working with Coach Jacob doing plyometrics, box jumps and running ladders on the floor. The drills have made me more explosive and quicker to react to the ball.”

But, the aforementioned awards are not the only awards the Panthers have received in the preseason.

Freshman midfielder Esteban Calvo, whom FIU signed over the summer, was tabbed as Florida’s “Gatorade Player of the Year” back in June. The Costa Rican athlete will more than likely debut in the Panthers’ first game at the Nike/Aaron Olitsky Memorial Soccer Classic in Charleston, South Carolina on Aug. 26.

“Esteban is a great player,” said head coach Scott Calabrese. “Him being named ‘Gatorade Player of the Year’ shortly after signing with FIU reinforces that we have a really deep pool of talent here.”

According to the NSCAA’s preseason polls, the Panthers have some of the best players in C-USA and the awards to prove it. With what seems as a budding star in Calvo and a defensive standout in Hezel, there is no doubt they will go far into the post-season like they did last year.

The Panthers will play NCAA-tournament regulars Furman University to begin the season and will compete against C-USA rivals Charlotte University, University of Kentucky and Florida Atlantic University over the course of the season.

“As long as we can stay together on defense and keep the field as compact as possible, there is no team in college soccer that can tear this team apart,” said Hezel.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

Five seniors a ‘small class’ with ‘a big voice’

SETH LOUIS
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The women’s soccer team hasn’t won a game, resulting in a 0-2-1 record in the first three games. This is not the start the team wished for, but Assistant Coach Paula Zuluaga believes there is great upside to this team. “I expect the team to peak later in the season,” Zuluaga said. “We have a lot of growing to do.”

Courtney Phillips, Paula Quintero and Alyssa Robinson are just some of the returning players, who helped contribute 13 of the Panthers’ 21 goals scored last year. There are 18 underclassmen on the roster and only five seniors to lead them. Leadership though, will not be an issue.

“Five seniors is a small class, but they have a big voice on the team. Two of them are our captains, the team sees them as that, respects them and hears their voice,” Zuluaga said. “They are able to translate our message to the team, I don’t see it as a problem. They have done a great job roping the underclassmen in.”

The team endured two overtime games to start the season. The first game was a 1-1 draw at Stetson University on Aug. 19 against C-USA rivals Charlotte University over the course of the season.

“As long as we can stay together on defense and keep the field as compact as possible, there is no team in college soccer that can tear this team apart,” said Hezel.

COLUMN

Performance enhancing drugs a sports epidemic

KRISTEN KING

Whenever I watch sports, I expect each player or team to perform at their healthiest and strongest abilities. What I don’t expect, however, is some of these players using a shortcut to enhance their abilities in the game.

While it has been fairly moderated in the past, the use of performance enhancing drugs has started to rise again in many sports. From football to mixed martial arts, many athletes use these drugs to ensure their body is at 110 percent for every competition.

It’s understandable that these men and women would like to perform in an elite level, but that could be achieved if they simply trained with diligence and repetition. There is no need to take a supplement or pill that unfairly increases their ability to perform, which could also have detrimental effects on the body.

“From research that I’ve seen, PEDs are horrible for the body in general,” said FIU Health Services nurse Rachel Gozun. “It comes with a number of risks for the body in general.”

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