

FIU population growth impacts University Wi-Fi

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
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The continually-growing student population has started to affect the University Wi-Fi access.

Having over 50,000 students — and counting — logging into the University Wi-Fi at once proved to be too much for the system, when it began malfunctioning about two weeks ago.

Because of a congestion in Wi-Fi users, a particular code of a software was preventing them from authenticate their username and password credentials all at the same time, said Robert Grillo, vice president and chief information officer of the Division of Information and Technology.

“So it was kind of like a race — whoever got to it first got in, if not, they didn’t,” said Grillo.

The software’s code was not allowing authentication which accommodates to the maintenance and upgrade of the wireless system.

“There aren’t too many institutions nationwide that [have] the aggressive growth plan that FIU has,” said Grillo. “So a lot of systems and vendors hadn’t really experienced very similar loads when it comes to wireless and authenticating.”

After days of the wireless malfunction, on Friday, Oct. 9, an upgrade and code change to wireless controllers took place. A wireless controller is used to manage light-weight access points in large quantities by a network administrator.

“Since we have an Engineering Center here, it shouldn’t take that long to fix the internet or whatever is causing the problem,” said Laidelyn Mendoza, a senior biology major.

Mendoza said she practically lives in the Steve and

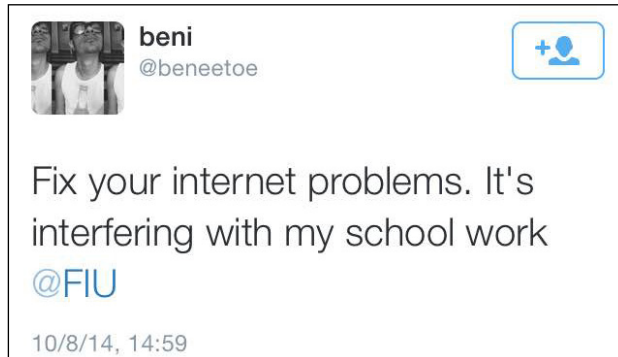


PHOTO ACQUIRED THROUGH PUBLIC TWITTER ACCOUNT

Students took to social media to complain about the University’s problematic Wi-Fi.

Dorothea Green Library, and the absence of Wi-Fi didn’t allow her to study at the University.

Grillo said that instead of making quick changes, the Division of Information Technology took a while to analyze what was going on first in order to make the changes.

“Sometimes in specific areas inside the library, the signal goes off and on — that shouldn’t happen,” said Mendoza. “I had to go home and I don’t like to go home because I don’t have the appropriate resources [to study].”

She said that in the past, she has seen professors re-post tests on the University’s Blackboard Learn because students are prevented from finishing their tests on time due to the Wi-Fi flux. “I guess it’s a headache for them to do that also.”

Grillo said the Wi-Fi worked fine at the beginning of the semester with its 35,000 simultaneous users. So the problem really occurred during the middle of the

SEE WI-FI, PAGE 2

109 Tower competition springs up



PHOTO COURTESY OF THRESHOLD AGENCY

These are the renderings for 4th Commons, a new apartment complex under construction in Sweetwater, just a couple of blocks away from the recently-opened 109 Tower. This new apartment is not exclusive to FIU students, but will have all the same amenities that a housing apartment would have.

NICOLE MONTERO
Staff Writer
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A new off-campus housing building will be opening next fall, aiding those students who were waitlisted for 109 Tower.

4th Street Commons, the new housing option located on 10899 SW 4 St., is just a few blocks away from the

109 Tower, deeper inside the Sweetwater, Florida.

“Students are familiar with 109 Tower, but they’re not really familiar with off-campus housing like the one we offer,” said Donte Harris, leasing and marketing specialist at 4th Street Commons. “A lot of people ended up waitlisted

SEE APARTMENT, PAGE 2

Homecoming Council reveals behind-the-scenes

CAMILA FERNANDEZ
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Every year, students, faculty, parents and alumni gather around campus and enjoy the series of Homecoming Week festivities — and there’s a whole team behind it all.

The Homecoming Council brainstorms ideas and puts them together for over eight months, according to Kelly Ibarra, a junior communication arts major and assistant director of operations for the HC.

“Everyone sees all the fun and everything, but behind the scenes it’s a lot of work and a lot of being able to communicate with the team,” said Ibarra.

This year’s 2014 Homecoming Council brought disc jockey Tiësto, rapper TY Dolla \$ign, comedians and more, to make FIU’s Homecoming the best in the nation. Making these guest appearances happen requires a lot of planning and contacting vendors, production companies and sponsors.

“Mainly for the concert, we work a lot with production and with an agent company who get our artists,” said Ibarra. “That’s the most work



CLINTON WALKER/THE BEACON

Lewis Sabater, a sophomore in finance, dunks FIU police officer Alejandro Morejon at the Midday Madness Homecoming event on Friday, Oct. 10. Midday Madness is one of several events put together by the Homecoming Council to boost student morale for the football game.

that we have to do.”

With so much time planning and coordinating together, Andrea Macias, a junior hospitality management major and assistant director of administration for the HC, said that the team has become a family.

“At the beginning we weren’t as

close, obviously, but we spend so many hours together that we became one,” said Macias.

She said they always have dinner together during the weekends and hangout. Ibarra agreed and said that this year’s Homecoming has been less of a stress because of how close they are.

“The fact that we all enjoy each other’s company has made it that much easier,” said Ibarra. “We’re obsessed with each other — we honestly are.”

In the HC Office, they have created mailboxes where they give each other letters of encouragement. They also bring each other cupcakes

and goodies and share pictures on iSnap.

She also said that their HC advisors are always readily available 24/7, making the process of HC a smooth one.

“You know you’re not working with people, you’re working with family; Homecoming is family,” said Ibarra.

Bringing a live panther to the University was one of their many ideas, but because of certain restrictions, they weren’t able to realize them.

“A lot of the council members have had amazing ideas. It kind of sometimes sucks that we can’t really do everything we want to do, but we try to get as close to those ideas as possible,” said Ibarra.

However, bringing artists like Tiësto was a shocking achievement, she said.

“He’s like the Beyoncé of the [electronic dance music] world [and] he’s a really humble person — he’s not a diva,” Ibarra said. “I think [because of the] fact that he doesn’t restrict himself as an artist he said, ‘Why not FIU?’ Especially Miami... where [the Ultra Music

SEE HOMECOMING, PAGE 2

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

New Ebola case in Dallas shows risk to health-care workers

A breach in safety protocol at a Dallas Hospital has caused a female health-care worker to become infected with Ebola after having extensive contact with Ebola patient Thomas Eric Duncan.

The development the first known case of the deadly disease transmitted in the United States stunned health officials who had not included the woman in the group of 48 people being monitored for the disease because she was thought to be of low risk for infection because she had worn protective equipment while caring for Duncan.

But the woman developed symptoms on Friday, and preliminary diagnostic tests came back positive late Saturday a reminder of the risk that nurses, doctors and other hospital workers face treating Ebola patients. More than 400 health-care workers, the vast majority in West Africa, have contracted Ebola.

Pentagon to unveil plan for dealing with climate change

At a meeting that brings together many of the world's foremost military leaders, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel is expected to reveal how the ongoing effects of global climate change pose an urgent risk to national security and require extensive rethinking of many aspects of the U.S. military.

In coordination with his comments Monday here at the Conference of Defense Ministers of the Americas, the Pentagon is set to unveil a plan articulating how it will address the effects of climate change that threaten global security and its own operational readiness.

The Pentagon anticipates new strategies at home and abroad, particularly in regions that are more susceptible to changing temperatures and extreme weather events. It has already begun assessing the effects on military bases in coastal regions.

Officials have also started to prepare for expanded roles overseas.

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New off-campus housing begins leasing to Panthers

APARTMENT, PAGE 1

for that housing and that wound is still fresh.”

The building will have over 562 beds available – with apartments varying from one bedroom to four bedrooms. The residence comes with reserved parking for owners, as well as parking for guests, and has its own roommate-matching service for students who need it.

Although Harris could not confirm the price per unit to Student Media, a classified listed in the University website details that it would cost \$1,200 or \$1,300 per unit.

Harris urges students to apply for their apartments online and start leasing it early. Even though the off-campus housing is not exclusive for FIU students, Harris says that most of the targeted audience is the college community.

“It isn’t just for college students and we’re never going to turn down someone who’s qualified to live in one of our apartments,” said Harris. “But, at the same time, whose grandmother is really going to come in and say that she wants to live where the noise and ruckus is?”

The residence includes unlimited access to a fitness center, a swimming pool, a resident lounge and other amenities.

The office already has more than 300 people enlisted – among those are FIU students from all campuses, students from the University of Miami in Coral Gables and regular residents in the City of Sweetwater.

“Everything in our building correlates to being a student and that’s why they’re our target,” said Zach Helton, leasing manager at 4th Street Commons. “The study rooms we have,

“

It isn’t just for college students and we’re never going to turn down someone who’s qualified to live in one of our apartments. But, at the same time, whose grandmother is really going to come in and say that she wants to live where the noise and ruckus is?”

Donte Harris
Leasing and Marketing Specialist
4th Street Commons

”

the fitness centers and a lot of other facilities that you won’t even have to leave the house to get.”

Some of these facilities include midnight breakfasts and massages during exams, as well as computer centers with iMacs, PCs and printers. It will also have outdoor grilling stations, Taco Tuesday nights and a private multi-use theatre.

“The truth is that we came to make a splash in this market and everything we do, including our customer service, is geared toward students to be successful,” said Helton. “That’s our goal.”

Harris agreed with Helton and said that the lack of housing at FIU makes it a different market than what he is used to.

“You guys don’t have off-campus housing,” he said. “You don’t have Greek housing and the on-campus housing – while people are happy with it – when a better opportunity comes along, they would jump on it.”

Elizabeth Larios, a senior majoring in English, lives on campus and also believes that the housing at the University could be better.

“I wish the housing here had all the stuff that 4th Commons will have,”

she said. “Honestly, the only reason I wouldn’t leave is because I’m on scholarship, but I think that FIU needs to step up its game when it comes to both on-campus and off-campus housing.”

The apartments will be close to campus—with only a five to ten minute walk from Parking Garage 5. For Ian Gorgon, freshman biology major and FIU commuter, this is ideal.

“It takes me about 45 minutes to get to campus in the morning with all the traffic,” he said. “It would be great if I could find something I can afford that’s also close to campus. That way I can use my time better – basically to sleep in.”

4th Street Commons has already began the process of leasing apartments.

Although specific prices have not been listed, Harris said that the residence would be affordable to students.

“We understand our target market and we understand your budget,” said Harris. “How am I gonna charge you two thousand dollars for rent if I know your favorite meal of the week is Ramen Noodles?”

To apply, students can go to <http://4thstreetcommons.com> or stop by the leasing office located on 1411 SW 107 Ave.

Wi-Fi problems might soon be fixed

WI-FI, PAGE 1

semester.

About a year and a half ago, the Division of IT eliminated the need for students to insert their username and password every time they logged online. Instead, the University’s wireless connection can now automatically associate the student’s device at its particular access point.

“That helped quite a bit and relieved the redundancy

of having to do it every time,” said Grillo.

He said that in locations like large stadiums and concerts, people can get on Wi-Fi without having to authenticate themselves to their device.

Since Monday, the peak time in the amount of wireless users, testing of the new changes has been at its prime.

“Our attempt is to make sure that we get this rectified and fixed as quickly as possible for all the students, faculty and staff,” Grillo said.

A family works on Homecoming

HOMECOMING, PAGE 1

Festival] happens.”

She said that this year was not the comedian year because several of the ones they wanted either passed away or weren’t doing shows anymore. However, after they found comedians D.L. Hughly and Eddie Griffin, they celebrated.

Ibarra also emphasized on the importance of students coming out to HC events, especially because much of it comes out of student tuition fees.

Yet, students like Ingrid Faust, a junior advertising major, said no one knows about all the events that are going on.

“When you think about Homecoming, you think about the game and the

“

It kind of sometimes sucks that we can’t really do everything we want to do, but we try to get as close to those ideas as possible.

Kelly Ibarra
Junior
Communication Arts Major

”

concert. I haven’t heard anything else,” said Faust.

“This is my junior year and I keep thinking like next year, I’ll do everything, but I don’t even know what everything is – it’s just the concert and the game.”

Meanwhile, Ibarra said that because

FIU is a commuter school, a lot of students don’t go to the events.

“When I hear that, it kind of bums me out because I’m so passionate about Homecoming. Try it, you don’t know what you’re missing out on,” said Ibarra.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR RE: POLICE MILITARIZATION

Dear editor,

I have to say that, basically, we have to trust the police. We need to also take into account their side of the story. They put their lives on the line, and when they assume a person has a weapon, they are human beings who become afraid and react accordingly.

I'm not saying that all [police actions] are justified, but take the shooting of John Crawford III into account. Although he was carrying a BB gun, it looks like a real gun. Police seemed to think, I am guessing, that he wasn't obeying orders. Also, seriously, it is common sense. Why would you be carrying a BB gun which is not in its package?

There is the saying, "Don't let the actions of a few determine the way you feel about an entire group." I have met both good cops and bad.

The simplest thing you could do is to pay attention when you are being pulled over. You have to remember they have the power— not you, unfortunately. That is why the courts exist. Justice is blind. It is usually about race when it comes to these news.

Have you ever heard about Dillon Taylor, a white male shot by a black police officer? Most likely, there had been something that provoked the police to respond, just like in most of these cases. I am not saying that there was no hate crime behind these shootings. There probably was.

There is a video of a former South Carolina state trooper, Sean Groubert, asking a man for his license during a routine traffic stop, he ends up shooting the unarmed driver. This driver starts walking to the car without saying that he doesn't have his license on his person and has to get it from inside his car. Here, the officers feared for his life. He felt threaten and shot.

If you've ever seen a "thin blue line" license plate, here is its significance. The bottom black line represents the criminals while the top black line represents the civilians. The blue line in between represents the police force. The police have to distinguish between the criminals and civilians; it's funny how, on that plate, both criminals and civilians are represented the same way.

It is the police officer who has to distinguish between both. And if you don't give him the time, things get out of control.

Sincerely,

Omar V.
Junior

Mechanical Engineering

Peruvians: 'something is missing'

ANTONY PINEDO CORDOVA
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On Wednesday, Oct. 5, Peruvians elected about 1,800 mayors and 25 regional presidents in an election without the ability to distinguish the degree of morals and ethics each authority must possess to hold office.

In the case of the municipal election in Lima, over 50 percent of the city's residents have elected a former mayor, Luis Castañeda Lossio, who was accused of embezzlement and money laundering. Voters recognize his greatest quality as being that he "steals but does the job."

Peruvian citizens have chosen a governor who is currently imprisoned for influence peddling, which is the practice of using one's influence to receive special treatment, under the premise that both he

“ Ethics and efficiency should never be separate in order to effectively evaluate a candidate given that, in a democracy, the authorities are the reflection of their society. ”

and his voters would be working toward his freedom. This kind of promise, and the fact that citizens believe in it, demonstrate that something is missing as to their moral standards in respect to the type of authorities they choose to have.

Unfortunately, Peruvian citizens are accepting as normal the "steals, but does the job" idea, given that they ask for more public works without taking into consideration corruption or ethics in regards to public expenses. This is regrettable, since it creates a moral crisis in a society whose democratic system is in evolution.

Ethics and efficiency should never be separate in order to effectively evaluate a candidate given that, in a democracy, the authorities are the reflection of their society. Sadly, there are many emblematic cases in Latin America such as Pablo Escobar's, in which his supporters accepted his delinquent practices and had a lot of popularity.

If a consensus is not reached on that the legality of public function should be based on the ethics of its service, there won't be a true fight against corruption.

Healthy and delicious meals enrich your body and your life

MCT STAFF

Serving food to students is what we do. As the Urban School Food Alliance, we represent six of the largest school districts in the nation (New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, Dallas and Orlando), feeding more than 3 million elementary, middle school and high school students every school day.

Our mission is more than just supplying healthy meals for our children. We believe that school breakfast and lunch are integral to a student's education. This is why we believe that meals need to be healthy and tasty, why we believe meals need to be accessible to all students and why we believe that mealtime needs to be viewed as part of the educational day.

The USFA strongly supports the vision of the first lady and backs the larger goals of the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. The recent and ongoing debate in Washington on whether school food standards should be rolled back misses what we believe is the whole point of important nutritional standards: to bring healthier food onto our students' plates and into their lives. And yes, we need to get them to eat it too.

Our districts have had success in exposing students to and having them eat

“ We challenge our teachers, our administrators, and our state and government officials to look at the school breakfast and lunch not just as a meal program but also as what they were originally intended to be: enrichment programs. ”

meals under these new standards. Our districts have developed creative menus and innovative ways of providing lean proteins, whole wheat, low-fat dairy, and fresh fruits and vegetables. We can and should demonstrate actionable leadership in this debate.

These healthy and delicious meals need to be accessible to all students. And we need to get away from the attitude that school meals are only for the kids who can't afford to bring lunch from home. The new approach to serving American children should mean offering free lunches to all students regardless of a family's financial need. This would not only directly benefit the children and their families, but it would also cut through the current bureaucracy and enable American companies to sell more of their healthy products to our cafeterias. We need to

acknowledge that this would benefit American workers in American companies providing food to American children in American schools. It is money invested in us.

To that end, there should also be more funding allotted to the commodity food program. Doing so will allow districts to make their food-purchasing dollars go further and to remain focused on bringing healthier food into our cafeterias. The USFA can and should lead the way in setting standards and recipes that all districts, even the smaller ones, can use.

Eating is part of the educational day and mealtime needs to be treated as such. Students should be given enough time to eat so that they are not rushed or forced to skip meals altogether because of dwindling meal periods. Just like math and science, food and eating should be thought of

as part of, and not an intrusion upon, the educational day. Eating well is learning well.

This is also why the debate arising from the issue of plate waste and of "healthy trash cans full of fruit" misses the point. Exposure to healthy and wholesome food takes time and has long-term value. Children should grow up knowing that fruits and vegetables are indeed part of their meal experience.

We challenge our teachers, our administrators, and our state and government officials to look at the school breakfast and lunch not just as a meal program but also as what they were originally intended to be: enrichment programs. School meals enrich students' developmental growth. They enrich healthy eating habits for life. More importantly, they enrich student success in school.

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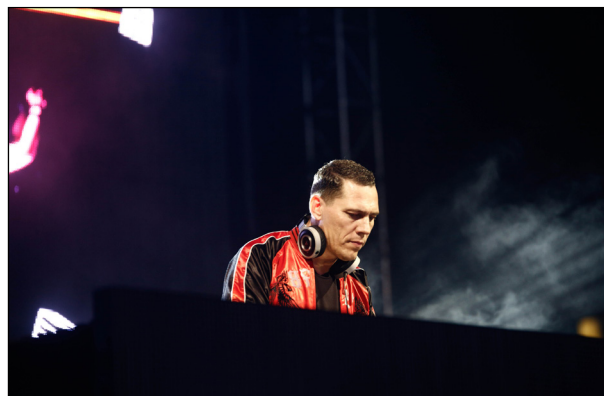
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CARL-FREDERICK FRANCOIS / THE BEACON

Disc jockey Tiesto (above) and rapper Ty Dolla \$ign (right) perform at the Panthermonium Concert on Sunday, Oct. 12. The concert is one of many events during Homecoming week.



PANTHER PARTY

'You're Dead!' shows the progression of a true artist

COLUMNIST



DAVID SANABRIA

Flying Lotus is an expert on melding traditional jazz elements with luscious electronic productions. His revered musical style is found on some of his more recent releases including his 2010 masterpiece, "Cosmogramma."

On his album, Steven Ellison features his famous relative Ravi Coltrane, son of saxophonist John Coltrane, and other guests, including the bass guitar phenom Thundercat.

Their collaborative effort made "Cosmogramma" a fascinating album and an essential listen for contemporary jazz fans.

The Warp Records heavyweight has done it again with his new jazz-electronic album, "You're Dead!" Several notable guests include Thundercat, West Coast rappers Kendrick Lamar and Snoop Dogg (also known as Snoop Lion) and Herbie Hancock.

The contributions, who add their lyrics or instruments to the album, work well with Flying Lotus' intricate production. "You're Dead!" is a complex listen and several repeated plays are required to appreciate Ellison's vision.

The album rolls in quickly with the bass-filled intro "Theme" and it sets the pace for the album. Two minuets later, on the track "Cold Dead," Ellison exhibits his incredible skills. His intricate production works well with the slamming bass drum and shredding guitar. Both these tracks are relatively short, which is the case for the majority of the songs on the album.

"Turkey Dog Coma" appears to be a bonus track on "Cosmogramma." Harmonies accompany Thundercat's bass and electric guitar. A trumpet enters the scene, giving the music a jazz fusion feel.

Only one song makes it near the four-minute mark and that is "Never Catch Me," featuring Kendrick Lamar. This song is less jazzy than the ones that precede it, but the track does feature Thundercat on bass and Flying Lotus handling the beat. Kendrick's voice eventually fades out, and Flying Lotus takes center stage with his signature rhythms.

Captain Murphy, Ellison's delinquent, drug addicted alias, also makes his presence known on two songs. He first appears on "Dead Man's Tetris," which features Snoop Dogg, and later on "The Boys Who Died in Their Sleep." On the former, both

musicians rap over trap snares and woozy bass notes. Captain Murphy lists some of his favorite prescription drugs on "The Boys Who Died in Their Sleep." The end of the track is characterized by a descent into an abyss and Murphy repeating the phrase, "I know of a place inside my mind where I can fly!"

Jazz elements have been a part of Ellison's output since the last decade. Never before has he downplayed electronic sounds that characterized his previous works. On "You're Dead!" we see a more mature artist willing to deeply explore the genre of his close relatives. Few artists have the skill and versatility of Flying Lotus. He will continue to deliver excellent albums that show his interests and natural progression as an artist.

david.sanabria@fiusm.com

Artist: Flying Lotus
Album: You're Dead
Rating: 4/5

Rapper shows his versatile skill in his new mixtape

COLUMNIST



KRYSISHA CONLY

If you have never been a fan of Childish Gambino, "STN MTN/KAUAI" will definitely make you one. He gives you two different sides of Childish Gambino. With "STN MTN" you get the raw, Atlanta, Georgia, Childish Gambino. On the "Kauai" side, you get Childish Gambino, "the boy" from his script "Because The Internet." But both the mixtape and album shows Childish Gambino's comedic side as well with his metaphors and punchlines.

He also has some features on this mixtape/album and one on Kauai, which surprised me.

STN MTN

A lot of people who aren't Childish Gambino fans have never heard this side of him before. A lot of people feel that he can't be grimy or be hood like an Atlanta rapper because of some of his mainstream songs. People who only see Childish Gambino as Donald Glover The Rapper are in for a rude

awakening. Childish Gambino is known for his metaphors, irony and punch lines and he gives all of that through "STN MTN."

He starts off the mixtape with disc jockey Drama hosting STN MTN as a Gangsta Grillz featured mixtape. The first track called "Dream/Southern Hospitality/Partna Dem," he talks about his dreams of the things he would change and do in Atlanta such as make sure Chick-Fil-A opens on Sundays, bring back the Freaknik, make sure strippers have Mother's Day off and have his own Gangsta Grillz Mixtape.

He then freestyles over well-known Atlanta instrumentals such as Ludacris' "Southern Hospitality" and Rich Kidz's "Partna Dem."

Throughout the tape, he has raps over Southern artist instrumentals and instrumentals with lots of bass, which Atlanta beats are known for.

Childish Gambino collaborated with upcoming female rapper Kari Faux and added a verse to her song "No Small Talk," my favorite track off of "STN MTN." This track has that authentic player/Outkast/Underground Kingz feel to it.

KAUAI

Childish Gambino gave us more of his crooner side on "Kauai" and sang to the females.

This side features his new single, "Sober." Childish Gambino sings in a mid-falsetto to a somewhat '80s up-tempo beat. "The Palisades," featuring Christian Rich, is my favorite track off the "Kauai" side. It has a Pharrell/Michael Jackson feel to it: very mellow and smooth.

The feature that surprised me was Jaden Smith. On the two songs, "Pop Thieves" and "Late Night In Kauai," Jaden Smith played "the boy." This is the character Childish Gambino plays in his script "Because The Internet," which inspired his album of the same name. These two songs together are supposed to give us a hint to what the Secret Track is going to be, which is also from his script. Gambino had Jaden read a part of what seems like a script on "Late Night In Kauai."

"The time flew by / like it was prime time and I'm inside of life / You shouldn't be my wife / You should just be with me / on this beautiful night."

On "Pop Thieves," Childish Gambino

didn't mind showing off his childish side with this lyric: "Now that we have found this love / Baby, these haters can't say sh*t. / Oh, I know sometimes it's hard / when I'm so far so I know you miss this di-love." He deliberately left in where he changed the word "d**k" to "love," just to add in some humor; but I'm still trying to figure out who or what is "Roscoe's wetsuit" from the story.

I love both sides of Childish Gambino, but of course I'm more of an R&B chick to heart so the "Kauai" side had me melting in my seat, if you get what I'm saying.

This will reach out to the people that like that southern sound, lots of bass, punch lines and true freestyles. It will also reach out to those people who enjoy R&B and mellow types of grooves.

life@fiusm.com

Artist: Childish Gambino
Album: STN MTN/KAUAI
Rating: 3.5/5

4th street COMMONS

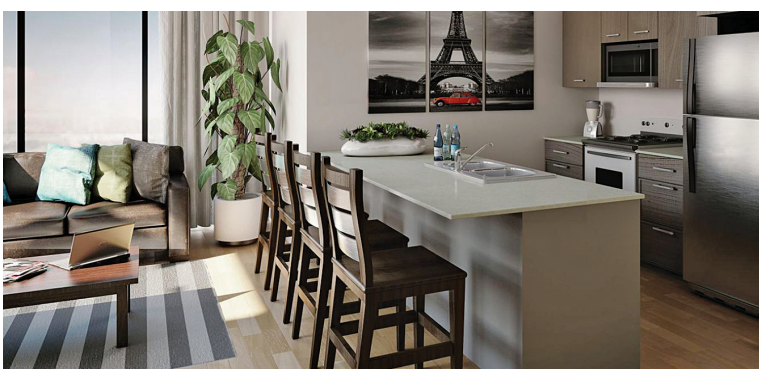
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SOCCER

Panthers prepare for pivotal match against UCF

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After fighting viciously for 90 minutes against the University of South Carolina 49ers, the Panthers men's soccer team fell short of a victory on the road against No. 7 ranked University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a score of 4-3.

While Head Coach Scott Calabrese believes that the Panthers (3-7-1) can compete with the best, the results haven't exactly represented FIU's abilities. Since their game against Stetson University, the Panthers have either won or lost each of their games (excluding the game versus University of New Mexico) by a one goal margin.

The University of Central Florida Knights (1-6-4) await and are in need of a win.

Knights on the Hunt

Just like the Panthers, out-of-conference rival University of Central Florida is not exactly what their record represents. In fact, the Knights have either tied or lost in OT in their last four conference games. The Knights look to finally pick up another victory this season, after only defeating rival Florida Atlantic University earlier in the season.

Head Coach Bryan Cunningham expects for his team to come out firing from the start.

After being asked "How do you keep your team motivated through the grind of a difficult



PHOTO COURTESY OF NINERTIMES

Sophomore defender Marvin Hezel stands in the field after the Panthers lost their fourth conference game to the Charlotte 49ers on Saturday, Oct. 11.

schedule?" in his interview with "The Corner," featured on the American Athletic Conference, Cunningham said "we try to prepare them for that, mentally and physically. I think the guys came away feeling good about how we played, but not necessarily good about not finding a

way to get those results. We still have two good non-conference games we have to win."

It's clear that the UCF Knights expect to grind out the game from beginning to end.

Season Defining Game

After losing four games in a row, three of those being conference games, the Panthers are desperate for a win. The team has fought valiantly through the month of September, but has failed to pick up a victory in the month of October. If the Panthers are to keep up with the rest of the top tier conference foes, they must find a way to win, and they have to start now.

When it's all said and done, much of the responsibility falls on Calabrese's shoulders.

When questioned what his team's Achilles' heel has been, Calabrese said, "We've competed enough offensively. What we haven't done well enough is read other team's set pieces. We've allowed them to get where they need to be. We cannot do that if we expect to win"

After scoring and assisting in the previous two games, the Panthers expect for junior midfielder Daniel Gonzalez to continue providing the offensive firepower they need.

The playing field is set, and both the Panthers and Knights expect to leave everything they have on the field. Both teams look for a win, and a tie will not be enough for either side.

After the game in Miami, the Panthers go on the road on Saturday, Oct. 25, to Huntington, West Virginia to take on The Thundering Herd of Marshall University at 12 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Roadrunners outrun the defense

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The Panthers traveled to the Alamodome Saturday night, Oct. 11, to take on the University of Texas at San Antonio for the first time in school history. However, the Panthers were unable to get over .500 and fell to the Roadrunners, 16-13.

Both teams got off to a slow start offensively. The Roadrunners were unable to capitalize on two first quarter turnovers by freshman quarterback Alex McGough. McGough fumbled and threw an interception early but the defense was able to bail him out.

The Panthers recovered a muffed punt by the Roadrunners on the UTSA 28-yard line that led to a 15-yard touchdown pass from McGough to tight end Jonnu Smith. It was Smith's fourth touchdown reception of the year and it gave the Panthers a 10-0 lead. He leads all of Conference USA with 34 receptions in 2014.

The Roadrunners were able to break through late in the half. Senior running back Javeon Williams punched

in a 2-yard touchdown run with 39 seconds left. The score was set up by two long runs by redshirt freshman quarterback Austin Robinson. Robinson entered the game for the Roadrunners after starting quarterback Blake Bogenschutz went down with what appeared to be a wrist injury.

UTSA struck first in the second half with a 41-yard field goal to tie the game 10-10 with 8:08 left in the third quarter.

The Panthers left some points on the board late in the third quarter. With four minutes left, running back Alex Gardner fumbled on the 1-yard line on a first down run. The Roadrunners gave the ball right back after redshirt junior cornerback Richard Leonard forced and then recovered a fumble on the FIU 36-yard line. The takeaway led to a short field goal by kicker and punter Austin Taylor. The Roadrunners answered with a 27-yard field goal with 2:44 left.

Wide receiver Glenn Coleman fumbled the ensuing kickoff which gave UTSA the ball on the FIU

26-yard line with just over a minute left. UTSA kicker Sean Ianno nailed his third field goal of the night to give the Roadrunners a 16-13 lead with 55 seconds left.

McGough's Hail Mary attempt was picked off as time expired. He finished the game 11 of 25 through the air for 141 yards. He also threw a touchdown pass and an interception.

Despite the loss, the Panthers' defense was sturdy once again, forcing three Roadrunner turnovers which led to 13 points for the Panthers.

Robinson stepped in and had himself a game. Robinson threw for 144 yards and hit on 14 of 17 attempts. He also led the Roadrunners with 64 yards rushing.

The loss puts the Panthers at 3-4 overall and 2-1 in C-USA. It also deals a big blow to their bowl game hopes. Next up for the Panthers is their Homecoming game against the 6-0 Thundering Herd of Marshall University. Game time is set for Saturday, Oct. 18 at 6 p.m.

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SOCCER

Defeat kicks in early, 2-0 loss in Tennessee

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The Panthers, coming off a rain delay and rescheduled match in Birmingham, Alabama, found themselves in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Sunday, Oct. 12, against a familiar Middle Tennessee State University team. The conditions of the field were sloppy and wet from the previous days' rain, a situation seen more than a few times this season.

MTSU was relatively quiet coming into the Sunday, Oct. 12 match, but the muzzle came off quickly for the Blue Raiders. Early chances were popping up all over the field, but the disciplined Panthers defense was jaded to any premature pressure — until the 26th minute. MTSU freshman Peyton McCollum launched a screamer from 15 yards out, finding the left side netting.

Before the MTSU goal, women's soccer Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt's defense squandered many opportunities. A shot in the fourth minute was deflected wide by a Panthers'

defender and two more were blocked shortly after.

After seeing the scoreboard light up in MTSU's favor, the Panthers offense began to click. In a five-minute span, four shots were found testing the Blue Raiders goalkeeper Kelsey Brouwer.

Redshirt senior forward Chelsea Leiva's shot went wide, freshman midfielder Courtney Phillips' went wide of goal, junior midfielder Madlen Weinhardt's shot was blocked and senior midfielder Johanna Volz's was saved by Brouwer — six total saves.

Not being phased by the onslaught of chances from the Panthers, MTSU countered with only one shot of their own, and one that counted for a 2-0 lead. Kelsie Roberts for the Blue Raiders took advantage of a corner kick at the 43rd minute mark to put her team ahead for what eventually was the remainder of the game.

In the second half, the Panthers were not ready to lie down and accept the deficit at hand. Outshooting MTSU 11-7 in the first half, the trend continued

HANDS UP, SEVENS UP



PHOTO COURTESY OF NINERTIMES

Freshman middle blocker Jennifer Ene and senior outside hitter/right side hitter Martyna Gluchowicz try to block a ball against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte 49ers on Friday, Oct. 10.

into the last 45 minutes. The Panthers had eight shots to MTSU's four, but none that found the back of the net. Leiva continued to pressure the Blue Raiders, picking up where she left off with an impressive eight shots of her own. The team shots on goal for the game totaled six, a number that surely isn't bad.

With the road loss, the Panthers fell to 6-6-1, 1-2-1 in Conference USA. With four points, a win can control their destiny by moving up the standings drastically,

thanks again to their .500 overall record.

Sitting at ninth place in C-USA, Chestnutt and his team are peeking into the window of the top eight. MTSU became relevant again by squeaking into the eighth spot with a 5-6-2, 2-2-1 record.

On the horizon are a slew of top-talent matches with two of the top three C-USA teams. Rice University on Friday, Oct. 17, and University of North Texas on Sunday, Oct. 19, will provide the

toughest weekend the Panthers have seen at home this season.

With all the chances and on-goal opportunities the Panthers have seen over the past two games against Florida Atlantic University and Middle Tennessee State University, the Panthers will look to finally reward their hard work and hustle with a bundle of goals that can gift-wrap their team to victories over the next two games in Miami.

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SLIDE TO HOMECOMING



NATALIE REYES/THE BEACON

Biology senior Ashley Reid and marketing and finance sophomore Allhan Mejia go down a giant inflatable panther slide at the Homecoming Kick-off on Monday, Oct. 13. Students also enjoyed food, giveaways and other carnival style games.

Rooming with strangers splits costs and paves way towards independence

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Moving out of your parents' house and into on-campus or off-campus housing has its pros and cons. And moving in with roommates is an experience that will shape a college student in many ways.

I moved out of my parents' home over four years ago when I was 19 years old, which was not an easy task.

Life challenges you in many ways when starting college, even more so when you move to a new place where you don't know anybody. Things can get scary when sharing your new home with total strangers.

You have to be prepared to share the kitchen and all the appliances, so if you want to make lunch or dinner and someone is using them, you are simply going to have to wait for them to finish. I'd get frustrated when dirty dishes were left in the kitchen sink. I couldn't understand why some people would not just wash what they used, rather than letting it sit for a week.

When I first moved out from home into an apartment in Cupertino, California, I lived with a couple who were in their 40s and a student from the same school I was attending. They were very respectful regarding the use of the T.V. and kitchen. When my roommate or I were watching a movie or sports, they would have no problem with watching TV in their room

instead of making us switch the channel. The kitchen was spotless and I was free to use everything from pots and pans, to spices in the cupboard.

The other student, a guy from Colorado, wasn't as tidy. Not only would he leave the kitchen dirty, but once when he showed me his room, I was so relieved I didn't have to room with him because it looked like a bomb of clothes exploded in there.

I didn't have to worry about paying for any kitchen appliances or the TV when I first moved from home, which is the bright-side of sharing a space with strangers. I was on a budget and couldn't afford those things at the time. So although having roommates meant I needed to share everything, it also made having those things possible.

The shared spaces, like the living room and kitchen, presented a slight challenge after being used to how things worked at home with my family. However, humans have the ability to adjust.

My current roommates have no problem with me having friends or study groups over, or even hosting small get-togethers on the weekends. But I adjusted to them watching TV at certain times that might not be very convenient for me because of the noise. I have found that talking to each other and coming to a compromise helped us avoid arguments.

You don't always get to pick who you room with – you kind of have to take what you can get. Sometimes it goes well, sometimes it doesn't.

I have lived with random people and with one of my best friends at some point. All of these people offered some great experiences that made me the person I am today. The positive and negative moments go hand-in-hand in life, and I am slowly realizing that people chose whether to let those experiences affect them in a negative way.

These lessons will help you figure out who you are as an individual. Living with

roommates will put you in situations you never experienced when living at home with your family. These situations will help you acquire valuable people skills that could potentially land you a job to support you living on your own one day.

Check for a new Straight-Up Alex by Alexandra Mosquera Netzarsch every Wednesday.

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