

Housing to add keycard access on all dorms

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University housing wants to become more high-tech and secure for students, and the key to the solution rests in the FIU OneCard.

The Department of Student Housing created an initiative to implement keycard access to all housing buildings, and used Parkview Hall as a test trial this past Spring semester. The trial period was only for that semester.

The pilot was a success. Nahshon Rollins, a junior majoring in sociology, has lived on campus for two years and resided in Parkview Hall during the trial period. He said the

keycard system was a life-saver. "I've lost my physical key plenty of times so I know it's a hassle to deal with it," he said. "[the keycard] is a great way to access your room."

Based on its successful performance, the department of housing chose to continue the project and plans to add keycard access as a feature to all on-campus housing by January 2015. There will be a total of 34 card readers.

John Tallon, assistant director of housing facilities, said the project was designed so students can use their current FIU OneCard. This will make it more convenient for students to have the necessary access to his or her room, as well as access to other

PANTHER PRIDE PARADE



CLINTON WALKER/THE BEACON

Students and employees of the Student Programming Council walk in the Homecoming parade on Saturday, Oct. 18 before the Homecoming game against Marshall. **SEE PARADE, PAGE 4**

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I've lost my physical key plenty of times so I know it's a hassle to deal with it. [The keycard] is a great way to access your room.

Nahshon Rollins
Junior
Sociology Major

”

Yik 'Yakety Yak:' what has Panthers yakking

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Social networking has not lost its mojo, especially at FIU. Every week on campus, millions of Facebook posts, Instagrams, Vines and tweets flood the cyberspace.

Now they will be joined by the latest networking craze to hit smartphones — Yik Yak.

The Yik Yak phone app, created just last year by Tyler Droll and Brooks Buffington, combines elements of both Twitter and “geo-fencing” to create an anonymous environment for students to “yak” about school happenings all across campus.

These often can range from who's physically attractive around the area to musings about class happenings to memes created by students on campus.

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It's really funny and entertaining but distracts me in class. I'm sure I'll lose interest in this soon, it's like any other fad.

Katrina Akirmaian
Freshman
Biology Major

”

Unlike other social networks, Yik Yak has a specific lean towards college campuses, to the extent that it allows users to preview other colleges' feeds with the designated peek category within the app. The University was included on the peek list just this week. The app borrows some elements from fellow social networking platform, Reddit, in that it uses a karma system where users can upvote and downvote yaks.

features, such as the laundry rooms.

The biggest hurdle in this project, according to Tallon, was finding the right software that would be compatible with the FIU OneCard.

"We're piggybacking off of an existing system, which is the OneCard. The Business Services office, which runs the OneCard, has really helped us get this set up," Tallon said.

The office of business services helped the housing department with the the manual processing of getting the 600 Parkview residents into the system for the

test run.

Now that the system will be implemented in all other dorms, the housing department has to attend seminars to understand the programming to avoid manually inputting every single student living on campus.

The card readers won't be up and running until this phase of the implementation is completed.

The card readers will be applied mainly for security purposes, Tallon said.

"We have thousands of students living on campus and everyone has a physical key to their room. When you have

thousands of people, keys do get lost," he said.

With the physical keys, housing has to change the locks of the room, which can be time-consuming and costly.

"It's not logical for us to change the locks of the room every time someone loses a key," said Tallon.

Once inputted, the Student Housing Department will have real-time access to turn the accessibility of a keycard on and off.

SEE KEYCARD, PAGE 2

Dog clears bomb threat on campus

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A possible bomb threat on campus Sunday morning was cleared by the early afternoon.

University police received a tip about a bomb threat in the Charles Perry building, also known as Primera Casa, at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. As a precaution, police alerted Miami-Dade County Police and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to assist in checking out the threat and ensuring the safety of the University community.

The University community did not receive an alert about the possible threat in the morning, but later in the afternoon, when President Mark B. Rosenberg

sent out a University-wide email to announce the threat had been cleared.

In the end, it was the help of FIUPD's bomb sniffing dog, Robi, that allowed police to search and clear the building, according to the email.

PC is the first building ever built in the University, and it houses the offices of the president, provost, board of trustees, admissions and financial aid, among others.

"We thank FIU students, faculty and staff for being active participants in safety and working with police to resolve this matter," said Rosenberg in his memorandum. "The PC building is safe and normal operations have resumed."

This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

SEE APP, PAGE 2

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

More sea turtles come to Florida, but reasons are mysterious

This year's early count of sea turtles nesting on Florida beaches is encouraging, though there are many unknowns in the numbers.

Welcome to the mysterious world of sea turtles, which spend much of their life far from Florida's beaches encountering fishing boats, oil spills, plastic trash and any number of other perils.

Nesting by loggerhead, green and leatherback turtles has been trending up in numbers for nearly the past five years along the state's coast. But there have been significant dips and climbs in their nest counts.

Green turtles, for example, have wowed researchers with their growing preference for Florida beaches. Yet while last year's nest count was surprisingly high, this year's is down, which experts expected.

In Texas, Liberian Americans weary of Ebola stigma

The Ebola crisis that has killed almost 4,500 people across Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea has hit close to home for many West African immigrants living in communities from Minnesota to Rhode Island. But probably none has been hit more than in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The community of 10,000 Liberians heeded the call to help family and friends when the epidemic took hold overseas. Now they're immersed in their own battle against a national hysteria after a Liberian man, Thomas Eric Duncan, 42, died at a hospital in Dallas.

Liberian Americans here, some of whom haven't been back to their homeland in years or decades, report losing jobs, getting suspicious looks and facing probing questions from co-workers that they never received before.

"You have to worry about family back home and being stigmatized over here," said Ulla Adighibe, 52, several friends of whom have died of Ebola in Liberia.

Alumni to expand tutoring company

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Johnny Betancourt started private tutoring sessions, teaching organic chemistry to earn some extra cash while in school. Years later, the University alum has a start-up company in his hands: Clutch Tutoring.

Once word got out about his private tutoring and how helpful it was, the demand for private tutoring sessions started adding up. This is when Betancourt came up with the idea of putting all the students into groups so he would be able to reach a bigger amount of students and teach it all at once. This is the concept behind Clutch, which caters to FIU students and coursework exclusively.

"The reason why what we do works is because we cater to what the students are learning in the classrooms," said Marcio Souza, CEO and physics tutor. "The closer we are to what exactly it is they are learning in the classrooms, the more relevant the content and the more the students here at FIU are interested in the program and learn from it."

Jessica Justiz, a recent graduate with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, at one point needed help with her physics and organic chemistry classes.

"I definitely would not have passed physics without them and

they helped me get a 100 on my first orgo exam," she said. "They are very helpful and just help in making sense of everything."

Clutch Tutoring was created and is managed by FIU alumni. After Betancourt and Souza teamed up, they started to recruit other tutors who

Souza explains how they expanded at FIU and how they plan to expand to other schools.

They started off within FIU, adding more tutors into their program who taught different subjects. Students then started to migrate from one tutor and subject to the other to

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I definitely would not have passed physics without them and they helped me get a 100 on my first orgo exam. They are very helpful and just help in making sense of everything.

Jessica Justiz
Graduate
Chemistry

”

were able to teach other subjects. The subjects they teach include calculus, biology, statistics and even MCAT test prep.

Michael Blanco, a senior biochemistry major, used Clutch when he needed help in chemistry class. He credits his tutor, Jules Bruno, for passing the class at all.

"Jules knows chemistry so well—it's as if he invented the subject," he said. "Without Jules, I would have failed chem."

Clutch recently received recognition from Techstars, a start-up accelerator company that helps find sponsors for them.

learn more.

To spread the program to other schools, Clutch is creating video tutorials. If students outside FIU enjoyed and learned from those videos, then they will be able to expand their reach to more universities.

"We tutor, not teach, making it less painful, being funny and personal as possible," Souza said. "It's part of our company culture, we are all kids from FIU. Let's be serious, but yet again, not too serious."

New app piques student interest

APP, PAGE 1

campus happens, such as the burnt croissant in GL, you'll know about it the instant it happens!"

However, it seems that not everyone shares the same point of view as Aragundi; some students have found some faults with the network. Some students do not even foresee the app having much longevity as its more seasoned competitors like Facebook and Twitter.

"It's really funny and entertaining but distracts me in class," said freshman biology major Katrina Akirmaian, who has earned 439 Yakarma points. "I'm sure I'll lose interest in this soon, it's like any other fad."

Akirmaian is not the only one who think this way. Freshman biomedical engineering major Annabelle Santos has some words to say on the matter as well.

"I honestly think

it's a passing trend, but because it's perpetuated by a college community, which gets new students every year that have tons of time on their hands," said Santos, who has earned 3,800 Yakarma points. "I really wouldn't be surprised either if FIU's attention span drops Yik Yak for a new app."

It is not only the critics of the app that agree Yik Yak's days on campus as the social media darling of the moment are numbered.

"The tragedy of popular apps is that they do have their 15 minutes of fame," Aragundi notes. "Just like Temple Run and Words With Friends, Yik Yak will become a thing of the past but as for now, I'm enjoying the ride!"

Whether or not the app will prove to be a lasting competitor in the neverending onslaught of social media crazes, Yik Yak seems like something Panthers will be yakking about at this very moment.

Housing department attains OneCard readers for all dorms

KEYCARD, PAGE 1

With this system, the department will now have access to every record of when the card was swiped into a building.

There is also an emergency shutdown feature for all the buildings. If a building needs to be securely locked

for an emergency, the Department of Housing has the ability to do so with the click of a button.

This may also be done to open or close any single door, simply by using a mobile device.

"I think it's going to be more convenient," Nahshon Rollins said. "It will really help the students out a lot."

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OH THE HUMANITIES! *STEM attempts to surpass other areas of studies*

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STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. Anyone who's somewhat informed about education and economic reform these days has undoubtedly heard the acronym uttered a million times.

Touted as the savior of all of America's social and economic problems, the rhetoric coming from public officials and politicians is pushing for greater numbers of teenagers and young adults to enter STEM fields.

Even the United States president himself is getting in on the action. He committed \$3.1 billion to further developing STEM-focused education reforms. Yet this push for STEM education is diverting attention from and devaluing important areas of study such as the humanities.

It would be to the great detriment of society if the humanities were relegated to marginal areas of study as is being done. The humanities should not be ignored or devalued.

Any humanities major has undoubtedly been exposed to jokes and stereotypes claiming that humanities are worthless or have no economic incentive. These need to stop. The humanities include some of the most important areas of study and expression like art, English, history, theatre, music and philosophy among a myriad of others.

The humanities encompass fields of study that have been vital recorders of human history, creators of expressive art, romance and adventurous aspirations and music that gives us joy like nothing else.

They have brought us the journalism that serves as a watchdog over our democracy and assures a constant fight for equality and the bettering of humanity.

The humanities have brought us some of history's greatest literary compositions and ideas about how the world works and why. They add color, vibrance, variety and tremendous, incalculable beauty to the world. A method of capturing human pain and emotion, sadness, happiness and everything in between – the core of what makes us human.

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If we're to be truly progressive we must present them with all of the available options...

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Yet these humanities are often put on the back burner against the more favorable rational and logical studies of science and engineering. All it takes is for one to imagine how the removal of the humanities would leave the world barren, grey and dull, with no liveliness, peculiarity or expressed emotion, astonishment and perhaps even lesser equality and justice.

The emphasis on STEM education is academic eugenics – the planned sterilization and creation of a set of people who are perceived as more highly valued because of what they have studied.

This emphasis on STEM education comes at a massive cost to us all. The artists, the philosophers, the writers, the poets, the musicians, the actors, the journalists, the historians and everyone else who plays an essential role in capturing the essence of the human condition, expressing it and recording it for future generations.

When we look at history, it's not solely the scientific and technological accomplishments that we marvel at. But also the art, the books, the music that carry the human spirit through time and space.

We need to take a step back and let people decide for themselves what they want to study. If we're to be truly progressive we must present them with all of the available options and let them choose for themselves their passion and academic direction instead of shoving STEM down their throats and punishing them when they choose otherwise.

Stop trying to be a 'cool kid'

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Are you running around, trying to find the perfect snapback hat or cowboy boots that will get you “in” with that crowd at your school or hangout? Buying a skateboard to make a “cool” friend? Are you pretending to know about something you really don't to impress somebody?

I know, you don't want to admit it. Nobody will. I don't blame you for attempting to save yourself the embarrassment. But I'm going to warn you right now.

Stop trying to fit in. In the long run, it's not going to work.

Alright, so let's say you get that tattoo and those pants and start saying “sick.” You're in now. You schmooze with the popular crowd and you try to make them smile. You try to do anything that will make them notice you.

You want them to like you, so you agree with something you don't actu-

ally agree with. You laugh at something that's not funny. But then they give you a pat on your back, a fist punch, a seal of approval. You sigh in relief. You go home and take off the mask.

Your best friend is waiting for you there, asking if you want to hang out. You smile and say yes, of course. Almost right away, he or she cracks a joke and you're laughing so hard your cheeks sting. They ask what you think of the movie you're about to see and you say it's probably going to suck. There's no lying, no hiding. No costume to throw on to run on stage. Complete acceptance, without any energy expenditure. You don't have to try.

So what are you doing? Who are you trying to please? What are you trying to gain? When you try to please others, you will never win. If you're trying to earn other people's respect, respect yourself first. Know what's right for you. Don't lie to yourself. You will only end up living a dishonest life spent trying to please others and you will never be happy. You won't ever learn to

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If you're trying to earn other people's respect, respect yourself first.

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like yourself. You will end up hurting yourself.

Strive to belong. Strive to be somewhere or with someone you know you can be yourself with. Do something that feels right for you. If you love reading or video games or singing, by all means go ahead and do those things. Who cares if someone looks at you funny? There will always be other people who like what you do. And what matters most is that you're happy.

I don't believe in fitting in, I believe in belonging. You should too.

THE BEACON | Editorial

One does not simply park at FIU

FIU parking has been problematic for years. Traffic jams occur at every major entrance to the campus, as well as parking garages. All University commuters encounter this problem, and a new private off-campus housing facility is only making matters worse.

The 109 Tower poses a significant problem to commuters at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. The private apartment building brings more students on campus, but the 15-story building is limited to a measly 25 parking spaces, mainly used by 109 Tower staff.

Students resolve this issue by parking illegally near the apartment building and bare the risk of receiving a citation.

Students choose to do this, opting out of the parking the University was pressured to provide to the 109 Tower residents.

Due to the limited amount of parking available on the site itself, student residents are forced to park on campus in the parking garages located directly across from 109 Tower on Southwest Eighth Street. Although this may partially solve troubles for the students living in the new off-campus apartments, it worsens traffic for all other commuters on campus.

While dealing with so many traffic problems to begin with, they allowed for more students to park in the campus garages as residents of a private off-campus housing facility.

We understand that this is the University's attempt at creating a solution to the problem of the students residing in 109 Tower, as it is an issue that affects students of the University, but it also is, in turn, problematic for the remainder of the community.

Another issue is the Parkview facility. When it was built, the University constructed a parking garage connected to Parkview East. The issue was the garage was only available to those willing to pay a \$160 fee – rising to \$170 after taxes. The fee is charged for some security measures and convenience. That doesn't even include the gas expenses to fill a half tank, which is later spent entering campus and finding a parking spot.

What may not be a solution but instead a sigh of relief, may come from the 4th Street Commons. The commons will have parking available for their residents and may be a role model for any further housing, be it an FIU housing project or not.



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COMING HOME



CLINTON WALKER/THE BEACON

Different University groups and organizations took part in the Homecoming Parade on Oct. 18 to build morale around campus before FIU faced Marshall University in the Homecoming game that evening. The parade began at 1:45 pm in Lot 9.

Women against domestic violence on the rise

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Gladys Ricart envisioned Sept. 26, 1999 to be one of the most special days of her life — it was her wedding day.

However, that Sunday would be her last.

The excitement that consumed the day quickly became horror and sorrow. Agustin Garcia, Ricart's ex-boyfriend, drove to Ricart's New Jersey home that day brandishing a .38-caliber handgun.

Garcia shot the bride to be three times in what the court called "emotional rage."

There was an outrage in community following the killing of Ricart. Garcia's heinous act, an act of domestic violence, caused an uprising among Hispanic women in her community. Josie Ashton was one of the many people moved by the murder. As a demonstration, she

walked for miles in her own wedding dress, commemorating the death of Ricart and bringing attention to the issues of domestic violence.

Ashton's march was the start of New York Latinas Against Domestic Violence, an organization that raises awareness on domestic violence.

Following Ashton's act, hundreds of women began marching every year in their wedding dress in remembrance of Ricart in places like New York, Florida, Wisconsin, Washington and Dominican Republic.

These marches caused a new movement. A new awareness was launched in the streets, an awareness to promote peaceful relationship and bring to the eyes of the community that domestic violence is a serious matter.

This year, the fifth Annual College Brides Walk will occur on Friday Feb. 13. The walk will begin at Barry University, head to Johnson & Wales University and then return back to Barry University, making it a total of

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Approximately 80 percent of female victims experienced their first rape before the age of 25 and almost half experienced the first rape before age 18. 28 percent of male victims of rape were first raped when they were 10 years old or younger.

Stephanie Wong
Vice President
National Organization for Women

”

six miles.

Psychology major Stephanie Wong is vice president of the National Organization for Women, which hosts College Brides Walk.

She says that raising awareness is important because, "approximately 80 percent of female victims experienced their first rape before the age of 25 and almost half experienced the first rape before age 18. Twenty-eight percent of male victims of rape were first raped when they were 10 years

old or younger."

The statistics can be troubling.

Stephanie Wong who advises that if you are suffering domestic violence to approach a service like No More Tears or Women in Distress in order to receive aid. Also, No More Tears is a service for men, women and children, since women aren't the only victims of domestic and dating violence.

Marriage is a symbol of a beautiful journey with a loved one. Unfortunately, domestic violence is a possi-

bility and an unfortunate reality within some marriages.

Wong will participate in the College Brides Walk. She says that she will be, "wearing the beautiful gown and speaking up about such an ugly practice as an opportunity for survivors to take back what was always rightfully theirs; a healthy and peaceful relationship with the one they love."

While also remembering the tragedy of Gladys Ricart.



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SOCCER

Women's soccer on their way to the top

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Top-tier talent in Conference USA toured Miami this past weekend, Oct. 17 through Oct. 19. Rice University fell to the women's soccer team on Friday, Oct. 17, with overtime painting a thrilling narrative to begin the two-game weekend. North Texas University, now with 11 wins, strutted onto the field at the FIU Soccer Stadium on Sunday, Oct. 19, for a 1 p.m. match.

The implications of either losing or winning were dire for the Panthers. With

Panthers and Rice University on Friday, Oct. 17. Coming into the late-night match, the Owls of Rice were ranked number three overall in Conference USA standings. The Panthers were sitting at eighth, making Chestnutt and his team the perfect choice for the underdogs.

Throughout the entire 96 minutes, both sides had much at stake. Rice had the golden opportunity to further make their case for the number one spot. The Panthers, with a win, would control their destiny.

"Again, two good teams that are switched on to play," said Chestnutt. "It's going to be back and forth."

but kept the Panthers honest all night.

"I think this last week of training—we all really pushed ourselves to put in as much effort as possible and do the little things correct[ly]," said redshirt sophomore defender Shelby Bowden. "I think the little things helped us get this win tonight."

As the first half's end crept closer, so did the anticipation for a goal from both sides. Rice saw themselves in a corner kick set piece at the 36th minute. An Owl found contact with the ball and in the midst of all the chaos in the box, the ball found the back of the net.

The scoreboard didn't change though, and the referee waved off the goal due to offsides. Freshman goalkeeper Nevena Stojakovic was shaken up after heavy contact. No matter, though, as the Serbian native refocused and added five key saves on the night.

"It's my job to stop shots," said Stojakovic. "A big part of stopping [Rice] was [due to] my teammates...I'm proud of them. They showed big effort and were willing to win."

Owls fight back

At halftime, one could slice a knife through the thin air and deep breaths each fan were taking. Going into halftime 0-0 presented a fresh slate for the Panthers and a more confident mindset knowing the game was in their hands.

"We were controlling the whole game and [a goal] was coming," said Leiva.

A goal, indeed, presented itself to the Panthers. At the 54th minute, a rather unlikely candidate, but always a likely factor, found the first goal on the night and of her career. Bowden seemingly made the best chance of her positioning off a wonderfully executed set piece (Leiva and junior midfielder Madlen Weinhardt credited with assists).

"Madlen put in a beautiful ball and Chelsea got a head on it," said Bowden, smiling from ear-to-ear while holding a congratulatory plant in her hands. "It just kinda skid off her head, went back-post and I volleyed it in."

The narrative quickly became defense,

defense, defense while Rice's became desperation. Chestnutt and his team have witnessed and felt the frustration of late goal equalizers after a score.

Those feelings were revisited in the final 40 seconds.

The Owls' Quinny Truong, orchestrated a strong attack and launched a prayer into the box, which found fellow teammate Lauren Hughes. Stojakovic made her only mistake of the night in this sequence by coming out too far, allowing Hughes to softly head in an equalizer.

"We let our minds kind of wander in the last 40 seconds," said Rios. "From there, we [said], 'Alright, we just have to win in overtime. There's no other option.'"

Finding gold

As everyone in attendance began to prepare themselves for overtime, only one loud, booming voice was heard. The voice of sophomore midfielder, Alyssa Robinson, inserted herself into the middle of the Panther huddle, yelling motivational commands that quickly alerted every teammate of the fight left in the tank.

Six minutes into the first 10 minute half of overtime, Shim continued her sharing (four assists on the season) and found a trailing Leiva on the left side of the box. Leiva faced Owl goalkeeper Amy Czyn for the last time that night and struck gold—a golden goal for the win.

"Their mental focus was high tonight," said Chestnutt. "It's what we needed. We were happy to see that."

Chestnutt also mentioned that the Panthers played to their level, to their roles. The 2-1 victory was one of the more complete games the University has played this season and has boosted them to a 7-6-1, 2-2-1 record. With seven points, the Panthers sit at 11th overall in C-USA.

When asked if the victory over Rice was a confidence boost in preparation for NTU, Rios provided the most colorful commentary of the night: "We hate North Texas, so I think this [win] is awesome. This definitely helps us and our main focus now is North Texas and beating them."

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 7



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

Panther's junior midfielder Madlen Weinhardt sits in the field after a penalty kick lost the Sunday, Oct. 19, game for FIU against North Texas University.

a win, the Panthers would jolt upwards in the C-USA standings to a possible top five spot. A loss for Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt and his team makes the road to the C-USA Tournament that much harder.

A road swarmed with adversity is ahead.

A two-game Texas road trip next weekend, Oct. 24 to Oct. 26, is now more important than previously thought. The University of Texas at San Antonio welcomes the Panthers on Oct. 24 at 8 p.m. and an intrastate trip brings them to the University of Texas at El Paso on Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. UTSA is drowning at the bottom of the conference (13th) and UTEP at the third spot.

This weekend must result in six points for the Panthers, as both teams are beatable, yet unfamiliar (no series history between the two), or their plight to a top eight spot come playoff time may become muddled.

When asked about these last three games left in the season, redshirt junior Scarlet Montoya glanced down, then up with a sense of willingness to accept the road ahead—a road swarmed with adversity.

She smirked and uttered three words for three important games: "We gotta win."

The little things

The night was cool and unusually calm in Miami, a clear-cut opposite of how one would describe the game between the

Before the game began, a brand new starter made her way into the lineup—freshman midfielder, Paula Quintero. Making her first appearance as a starter, Quintero fought off early jitters to bring a balance to the midfield.

Assistant Coach Lauren Singer, mentioned post-game that Quintero was "nervous at first," but handled the pressure well by having great "on-ball moves and passing."

The "iron-core" of the Panther defense proved solid once more, allowing zero goals through the first 45 minutes to a Rice team used to scoring quite often (23 goals on season). Redshirt junior defender Nikki Rios helped lead her teammates in stifling the early pressure put on them by the Owls.

"[The defense's mentality is] always let's go out and not concede any goals," said Rios. "Not let the other team get a sniff at the goal."

There were four sniffs in the first half for Rice versus the Panther's three, although the Owls struggled to find smooth lanes to work within all night. Senior midfielder Johanna Volz and her band of midfielders for the Panthers rallied behind one another and set an aggressive, but smart, tone. This allowed for senior forwards, Chelsea Leiva and Ashleigh Shim, to lead and support on breaks toward the goal.

Not more than 20 minutes passed before Rice started picking the brains of each defender with cheeky balls played through the backline of the Panther defense. A few offsides calls hindered the Owls' attack,

STAMPEDE HITS HOME



BRIAN TRUJILLO/THE BEACON

Freshman quarterback Alex McGough dives on a scramble looking toward the sideline for the first down marker. McGough ran for the only rushing touchdown against Marshall University, losing 45-13, Saturday, Oct 18.

VOLLEYBALL

Panthers look forward to climbing standings in final games of season

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After a quick home stand against Middle Tennessee State University and University of Southern Mississippi this past weekend, the volleyball team is back on the road for two conference games against Western Kentucky University and University of North Texas.

The Panthers unfortunately lost both home matches each going the distance to five sets. This hurt the team's spot in the standings as it dropped them to eighth in the standings, after being in fifth place, and now having a Conference USA record of 3-5.

This weekend's matchups won't get any easier as Western Kentucky is second in the Conference and North Texas is one spot above FIU at seventh in the standings.

Once again, the Panthers are under .500 and look to bounce back this weekend to even up their C-USA record

and solidify their mark in the standings to have a spot in the C-USA tournament.

This Friday, Oct. 24, the Panthers first opponent on the road trip will be Western Kentucky. Mentioned previously, they are one of the top seeded teams in the conference with a C-USA record of 8-1. They are also the first team in the conference to reach 20 wins. Their overall record is an impressive 20-5.

Going into the match against FIU, the Hilltoppers have won their last nine out of ten games. Earlier this season on Friday, Oct. 3, WKU played FIU here at home and easily swept the Panthers in three sets.

On the flipside coming into this match WKU will be facing a new and extremely improved FIU volleyball team. Since their first encounter, the Panthers were in the bottom of the standings and since then they are right in the thick of things and still climbing their way up in the standings. Still, this will be a

difficult match for FIU because WKU is still undefeated at home this season with a 9-0 record.

Recently FIU has been able to play deep into matches and hasn't been swept since playing WKU who leads the conference in sweeps. The Panthers have an opportunity to make a statement in the conference with a win against the Hilltoppers in this true David and Goliath matchup.

Two days later on Sunday, Oct. 26, the team will travel from Kentucky to Denton, Texas to take on the Mean Green. North Texas is only one spot ahead of the Panthers and exactly one game ahead of them.

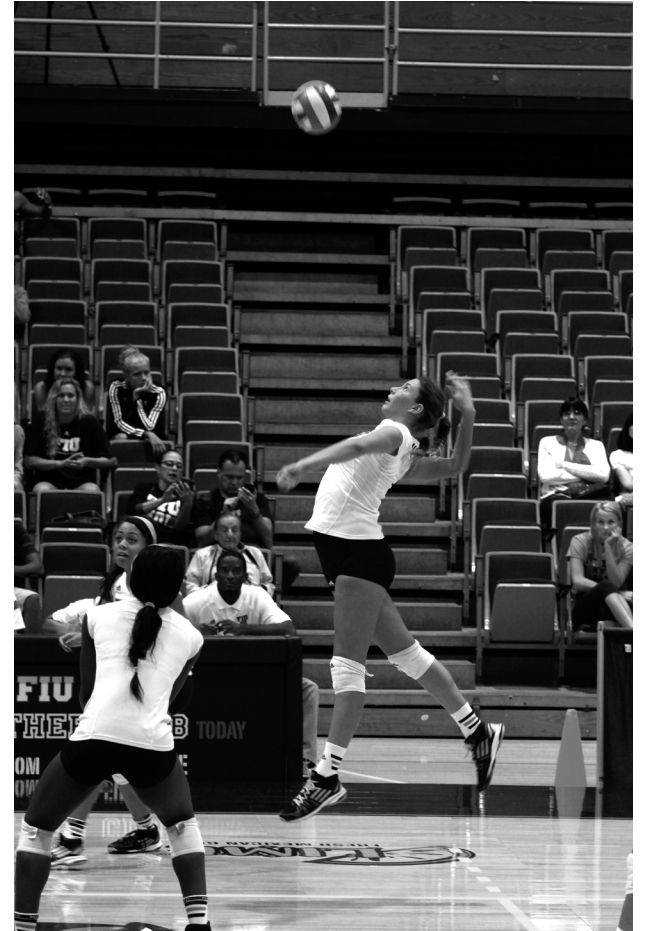
North Texas has been in a slump as of late losing six of their last ten games dropping them in the standings. Compared to WKU, North Texas has showed some problems lately when playing at home losing their last two matches. Still, their record at home is a solid 7-3.

This will be the first and

only time these two teams will matchup in the regular season so FIU needs to get the win in this match to place over them in the standings. North Texas' C-USA record is 4-5 but that should not fool anybody of their abilities because they have an overall winning record of 13-9 which shows they beat better talent outside of the conference as well.

This match and overall road trip is crucial for the Panthers but more importantly junior co-captain Lucia Castro who is on a hot streak right now leading the team in scoring. It is crucial that her play style spreads throughout the team as they are on the home stretch of the regular season.

One player can't single handedly beat these teams especially WKU. In these upcoming games, the Panthers have to show what they are truly made of because the balance of the season could be determined in these two games, whether or not the Panthers have a spot in the playoffs.



BRIAN TRUJILLO/THE BEACON

Freshman outside hitter/right side hitter Lea Montavon strikes the ball in the game against Middle Tennessee State University on Friday, Oct. 17. The Panthers lost 2-3.

Split weekend paves bumpy road for C-USA play

SOCCER, PAGE 6

Early fate proves true again

Glancing at the lineups for both teams this past weekend, a physical attitude resonated from both schools. Not one North Texan was undersized, while the Panthers have proved to use their smaller size to their advantage. A whistle blew and an upset victory was immediately the goal of each Panther.

"I thought we came out a little flat in the first half," said Chestnutt to FIU Athletics. "[North Texas was] opportunistic, that's the way they are."

In the first 45 minutes, the opportunities were flowing mainly towards the Panthers. In shots, NTU had all three of theirs on-goal, while the Panthers had five shots and four on-goal. The bar for the entire game was set early, though.

At the ninth minute, a two-on-one break formed for the Mean Green after a pass by senior defender, Marie Egan, was intercepted. One pass by NTU's Karla Pineda to Rachel Holden and a quick 1-0 lead presented itself.

Pressure settled in for the Panthers.

"There wasn't necessarily a lot of pressure [on] whether we were capable of winning," said Montoya. "There was a lot of pressure because we needed to win."

After facing an early deficit, the Panthers responded by cranking up the intensity and vocal nature of both their offense and defense. Senior midfielder Johanna Volz lit the fuse for the Panthers offense by sending a loud screamer at Mean Green goalkeeper Jackie Kerestine (six saves). That was just one of her two

shots, both of which came in the first half.

"The team always had their composure when we were down," said Chestnutt.

Mean Green prevails

A level-headed composure that was needed for the full 90 minutes. North Texas



BRIAN TRUJILLO/THE BEACON

Senior Forward Ashleigh Shim fights for possession of the ball against Rice University defender Mallory Radtke at the Friday, Oct. 17, game. FIU won 2-1.

Head Coach John Hedlund put the "mean" in Mean Green with his unsportsmanlike conduct. Actions that were taken so far as to be warned by Head Referee Christopher Spivey—shouting sarcastic remarks at both the coaching staff of the Panthers and each player as well, and purposefully

delaying the match by holding onto the game ball for far too long on a Panthers throw-in late in the second half.

The physicality of NTU didn't go unmatched, as the Panthers chose to rise to the occasion.

"I thought we did really well," said Montoya. "In the end, I thought we were

fighting for positions, trying to lift their heavy legs due to the scorching sunshine beating down onto the field. Shim, who continually had herself in position alongside Leiva, found herself receiving a ball deep into the Mean Green half. As Shim looked to turn, she was tackled with vigorous intention by an NTU defender. A whistle immediately blew, awarding a free kick at the top of the penalty box.

A strong wall of Panther and Mean Green ladies aligned in front of Montoya. No matter, as a rocket ignited and landed at the back of the net, passing Kerestine in the lower left corner at the 83rd minute.

"Well, we needed [the goal]," said Montoya. "The goalie just gave me that space and I took it."

Simple and to the point, akin to the orchestration of her second goal on the 2014 season.

A tie was imminent, as both sides kept sending balls to each others' back lines. Four minutes after the equalizer for the Panthers, a questionable penalty kick was given to Mean Green's Karla Pineda. Freshman midfielder Courtney Phillips chased down Pineda at the top corner of the penalty box. Just as Phillips reached her mark, Pineda furiously turned, making hard contact with the Arlington, Texas, native.

"An unfortunate challenge in the box gifted [North Texas] a [penalty kick]," said Chestnutt. "And obviously they buried it."

At the 87th minute, a 2-1 lead held true until the final whistle. The Panthers, now 7-7-1, 2-3-1, still sit outside the top eight at No. 11 in C-USA. North Texas moves to 11-4-1, 5-1-1 and maintained their top-spot in the conference.

always the better team."

Montoya mentioned that sometimes physicality causes fouls and four were served to NTU versus the Panthers' three. A game-changing foul came at the 83rd minute for the Panthers, though.

During the second half, both teams were

ASK!: A LIFE HACK



KRONO LESCANO/THE BEACON

TOP: Orlando Arnosa (left), Jarvis Lawhorn (middle) and Ricardo Sanders (right), all juniors studying broadcast media, work on homework using the resources available at the library's ASK! Center.

LEFT: The recently opened ASK! Center offers technical assistance, tutoring services and writing services to students.

Finding truth in Buddhism

STRAIGHT-UP
ALEX



ALEXANDRA
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I never identified with a religion as a child. My family raised me a Catholic, but I chose a different path after questioning everything I learned in religion classes and in church.

I took a couple religion courses in college and realized that I could choose my own belief system. It was not until I embarked on a year-long spiritual journey that I came across Buddhism.

Last year, I enrolled in a "History of Buddhism" course and it opened my eyes completely. I wanted to learn about the lessons taught by Buddha, known as Siddhārtha Gautama or Shakyamuni.

I moved from New Jersey to Miami and met some students whose families practiced Buddhism. That's when I learned there are various ways to practice Buddhism. However, the primary Buddhist practices are kindness, honesty, generosity and awareness of the world – which were some of the main aspects that attracted me to the

religion.

Beliefs are a choice for every person to make, either when they are young, in college or even later in life. But nobody should feel forced to belong or follow a religion that they don't believe in.

Buddhism has given me sense of responsibility by teaching me there is no higher power controlling my destiny and that fate is not arbitrary, but rather, I create my own life path.

Another thing I admire about Buddhism is, historically, it has never been the center of war – which cannot be said for most other popular religions. Buddhism doesn't degrade other religions. It doesn't teach that one religion is right and the others are wrong. For Buddhists, there is no hell as is taught in many religions, because we are already damned by our egos that constantly desire happiness.

Meditation is also a tool used by Buddhists to transform the mind. After meditating several times, I have been able to develop a more positive and peaceful state of mind.

If students are not gung-ho about becoming Buddhist from this article, they could still benefit from Buddhists

“ My family raised me a Catholic, but I chose a different path after questioning everything I learned in religion classes and in church. ”

practices like meditation. The Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center offers free yoga classes for students and faculty, which have helped me release the tension in my muscles and relax my mind.

I have studied Buddhism for two years now, but feel there is more to learn. I no longer find myself searching for happiness and peace because Buddhism has helped me find this.

However, the takeaway is not to practice or study Buddhism. Just remember to follow what gives you certainty in life. For some it's science, for others it's religion. What matters is that you feel comfortable with, and are true to, yourself and your beliefs.

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BBC Campus Life goes to Halloween Horror Nights

FIUSM STAFF

The Office of Campus Life at Biscayne Bay Campus has planned to take students to Orlando for the Halloween-themed amusement park this week.

For \$25, students get to hitch a ride with

Campus Life from BBC up to Orlando at noon this Wednesday, Oct. 22 to attend Halloween Horror Nights.

Students will spend Wednesday and most of Thursday in Orlando and arrive back at BBC on Thursday, Oct. 23 at midnight.

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