

Students can travel to Arizona and learn investigative journalism

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Volleyball gains respect after defeating Sun Belt rival

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SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 3

Sign up and share your stories about the troubles of diverse relationships – or hear those of others!

AT THE BAY PAGE 3



Foodgasm: Bianca Rojas tells you about the best Web sites to make you feel like a real foodie like her.

OPINION PAGE 4

Getting Schooled: Graduate school applications prove themselves to be tricky challenges.

OPINION PAGE 4



Did Roman Polanski's fame protect him from arrest?

LIFE! PAGE 5

Counseling Center provides service to stressed students during tough economy.

LIFE! PAGE 5

Karen O's vocals impressive on *Where the Wild Things Are* soundtrack.

SPORTS PAGE 8



Chestnutt putting the soccer team on the right track.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Relay For Life, Oct. 7, 6 p.m. Learn about how you can help relay the message of cancer awareness for free in GC 243.

Students for a Free Tibet, Oct. 8, 1 p.m. Stand up for a freeing cause with this meeting for free in GC 343.

Lecture by Steve Heine, Oct. 8, 3:30 p.m. See speaker Steven Heine give a lecture on International Relations, open to all students for free in GC 140.

Women's Studies Student Association, Oct. 8, 4:30 p.m. A general meeting for the empowerment of women in GC 343.

WEATHER



WEDNESDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 80 HIGH: 90



THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy
LOW: 80 HIGH: 90



FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
LOW: 79 HIGH: 89

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TAKE A STROLL



BURKE HILL/THE BEACON

PARTY WALKING: Fraternity and sorority members participated in the fundraiser "Stroll off for the kids," held by Dance Marathon on Oct. 5. Alpha Phi Alpha dancers won the men's contest and Sigma Lambda Gamma won the women's contest. Tickets were \$5 and all the proceeds were donated to Miami Children's Hospital.

Renowned doctor joins staff

Pelham to spearhead ADHD research team in Spring 2010

JULIAN PINHEIRO
Staff Writer

The University's Department of Psychology will partner with Dr. William Pelham to conduct a research program on children and adolescents with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder. The ADHD project will be part of a doctorate on clinical science and child psychology of the Child Anxiety and Phobia Program.

The goal of the doctorate is to hire a group of experienced and active clinical psychologists who have the potential to bring in grants, according to Dr. Wendy K. Silverman, director of the Child and Family Psychosocial Research Center at the University.

Pelham, along with a group of professors who specialize in diverse fields such as depression, oppositional conducts, anxiety and adolescent risky

problem behavior, will spearhead the program with the first group of students entering in the Fall semester of 2010, according to Silverman.

She added that the program will be one of the best in the country in providing graduate students with the best education in clinical science and child psychology.

The University has chosen Pelham to take charge of the ADHD program because, according to Silverman, he is a prominent figure in the ADHD field.

Pelham created the Summer Treatment Program, which is widely recognized as an innovative and successful model of treatment for children with ADHD according to the University of Buffalo's Department of Psychology, where he currently teaches pediatrics and psychiatry.

Pelham is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society. He was also past president of the Society of Child Clinical and Adolescent Psychology.

Pelham has authored or co-

authored more than 275 professional papers about ADHD and its treatment. He has studied many of the aspects of ADHD, such as the nature of cognitive deficit (including retardation or specific deficits in cognitive abilities such as dyslexia), peer relationships, diagnosis and family outcomes. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, it's estimated that 3 to 5 percent of children have ADHD. According to the WebMD Web site, many experts question whether children really outgrow ADHD, which means many adults could also have the disorder. Children with ADHD have symptoms such as inattention, hyperactivity and impulsiveness.

Adults who might have ADHD have symptoms such as low self-esteem, impulsiveness, substance abuse or addiction, procrastination, chronic boredom and depression.

The possible causes for ADHD are heredity, an imbalance of brain chemicals that transmit nerve impulses and head injuries such as concussions.

Pelham could not be reached for comments in time for print and he will begin his research in the Spring term.

Smoke-free campaign generates controversy

MEENA RUPANI
Staff Writer

The smoke-free campaign set for May 2010 stirred controversy among FIU students and staff.

Today, it is prohibited to smoke within 20 feet of any building in both campuses.

The initiative aims at making FIU a smoke-free, tobacco-free University: Students, staff, faculty and visitors will not be allowed to smoke within the premises of the University.

Katherine Pina, a senior majoring in political science and a non-smoker, disagreed with the initiative.

"I agree with the current policy that smoking should be allowed 20 feet from a building. But we need designated smoking areas like they have in the airports. The concern that I have is for my health, and I dislike that smoking is allowed where people are trying to eat outside," Pina said.

Another student and former smoker, Michelle Meulens, also disagreed with the initiative and called it unrealistic.

"Too many people on campus smoke and it would be difficult to control it. Even if we fined them, it wouldn't help the problem. It is a violation of rights to tell people what they should and should not do on a public campus," said Meulens, a senior majoring in international relations.

A faculty member in the Department of Political Science, professor Astrid Arraras said she believes that making the campus smoke-free would take much more time than less than a year, but it would be beneficial to all people who set foot on the campus.

"This is about changing people's behaviors and their minds about something; we are currently encouraging smoking on our campus. However, there are many places to hide on campus where people will still be able to smoke. More enforcement is needed. If people want to smoke they are allowed to leave the campus if they wish," Arraras said.

Diego Egana, a smoker, significantly disliked the campaign.

NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Free swine flu vaccines to be offered to public school students

Miami-Dade County Public Schools are planning to offer free H1N1 vaccines to public school students.

According to *The Miami Herald*, the program, which is being organized in collaboration with The Children's Trust, is being done to limit the spread of the illness, otherwise known as swine flu, during the coming winter.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identifies immunizing children as a key component in hindering the spread of H1N1.

NATIONAL

Gourmet magazine to publish its last issue

After 70 years of existence, *Gourmet* magazine announced on Sept. 5 that it will stop publishing.

According to CNN Money, the popular food magazine, published by Condé Nast, fell victim to declining ad sales due to the increasing popularity of food-themed television programming.

The magazine is expected to publish its final issue by the end of the year.

Failed execution in Ohio calls for re-evaluation of procedures

An Ohio inmate who was sentenced to death was granted a stay of execution as a result of a failed execution attempt.

According to *The New York Times*, inmate Lawrence R. Reynolds, Jr. was granted a stay of execution with no time limit as the state is re-evaluating its death penalty procedures.

A hearing is set for the related case of the failed execution of Romell Brown on Nov. 30, where Ohio's policy for prisoner executions will be addressed.

-Compiled by Jorge Valens

SGC-MMC

Last committee description approved

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff Writer

The Student Government senate at Modesto Maidique Campus approved the final senatorial committee description left to be defined and voted in a new graduate senator at its Oct. 5 meeting.

Completing the slew of description-less senatorial committees, the Rules, Legislation and Judiciary Committee will now serve as the clerical wing of the senate.

The RLJC will review all legislation prior to their presentation to the senate.

The review will only focus on grammar, spelling, proper format and syntax.

"[The RLJC's] not changing context, but grammar," said Vignesh Doraiswamy, one of the sponsoring senators, during debate.

All legislation is due the afternoon of the Thursday before the Monday that it will be presented at the meeting.

Senators added a subsection that will allow a bypass of this stipulation with a two-thirds vote by the senate.

The description read, "Prior to the submission of legislation to the senate, this committee shall have the power to review the legislation to ensure the legality, proper format, spelling, grammar, references and syntax."

Law Senator Ernesto Rubi said he worried about the wording of the bill.

"It's permissive language. Shall doesn't mean have to," he said.

Doraiswamy told Student Media that the committee has the power to review it, but it doesn't mean they will.

"We'll tell them: 'Look, these are the following mistakes we found: you should put a comma here, a period here,'" Doraiswamy said. "The whole point is that we don't have to bring it up at the senate and save time."

The RLJC will also audit

rules and procedures and act as a check on the judicial branch, which presides over violation of the constitution and campus statuses.

The RLJC will review judicial reports and field any grievances brought on the judiciary. If a chief justice is to be impeached, the vice president will preside over the trial.

The council bill passed unanimously by oral acclamation.

Muhammad Azhar Saleem was elected by the senate as the new graduate senator.

He ran against Rodrigo Lozano. Both candidates presented on different days due to scheduling conflicts.

Lozano presented last week and was not present when the senate voted 26 for Saleem, zero for Lozano and two abstentions.

Saleem, a doctoral candidate in civil engineering, ran on the platform of finding funds for graduate students and making the payment of

research assistantships equal. Saleem said that when he was part of the Graduate Student Association, there were many applications they had to rejected because of lack of money.

"One way is to present numbers to SGA to increase the money they give the GSA," Saleem told Student Media.

Saleem said he will propose resolutions in response to graduate research assistantships that don't receive the same pay as others for the same workload.

"It is non-binding on professors or departments, but it gives them a voice," he told Student Media.

The senate was scheduled to confirm cabinet members but was unable since SGC-MMC President Anthony Rionda was in a meeting and couldn't present the choices.

A bill addressing the elimination of secret-ballot voting and an internal affairs bill concerning SGA office hours was postponed.

Students, faculty voice mixed opinions

SMOKE-FREE, page 1

"I think you will need designated smoking areas. It will be violated if there isn't significant security implemented. I was also not aware of the current policy. I also do not understand why there are ashtrays so

close to the buildings when we are not meant to smoke there," said Egana, a junior majoring in English.

Another smoker found outside the Graham Center where many were eating was for the campaign, but also explained that these

things will take time and will not occur right away.

"It is not possible for next year," said Jennifer Ezavia, a junior majoring in political science. "It will take at least two years for this to occur. I think people should be fined if they

violate the no smoking policy. People are attached to their money and will learn their lesson quickly if fines are implemented."

"When I look around I don't see many no smoking signs and I was not aware that I was breaking the current rules that are in place. However, if the campus was smoke-free, it may help smokers smoke less and less, which will in turn help them in the long run. The policy needs to be more clear and more signs need to be put in place to prepare current smokers for the new policy to come," said Mayra Delgado, a senior English major, while smoking.

Matt Gedvilas is a student who is not a smoker but is heavily in favor of the campaign. He explained that security will have to be implemented in order for the campus to remain smoke-free.

"There should be fines for people who break the rules. Security is needed for this, which would also give jobs to people who would be in charge of patrolling the campus for smokers. It would be hard to implement this year because much funding is involved and marketing. Fliers need to be distributed so students are made aware of what is to come," Gedvilas, a senior majoring in education and history, said.

For now, the completion of the initiative is dependent on budget approval and date approval by the FIU Operations Committee.

CORRECTIONS

In the article titled "Author shares stories on Haiti," Lesley Northup's name was misspelled. She is the dean of the Honors College.

That same article stated that Jayne Klein is the program assistant director of the Honors College. She is the program director of the Honors College at BBC.

In the article, Klein actually told the Overtown Youth Center about Danticat's books, and it was the children who were reading the book, not her.

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Lovers to share their dating stories

TIFFANY URRIOLA
Contributing Writer

Ocxanne Jean is a senior journalism major, and her family doesn't have a problem with her dating somebody who comes from a different background.

"Oddly enough, my mother would prefer me not to date within my own ethnic background. She would prefer me to date someone opposite. She loved it when I dated somebody different," said Jean, who is Haitian. Her previous boyfriend was half Italian, half black.

Unlike Jean, some students on campus have been in relationships with somebody their families don't approve of, or they know someone who has. Those students with experiences to share will have a chance to tell their stories at Dating Outside the Box, an expression contest organized by the Diversity Day committee.

Students will be able to talk about dating somebody that society, their families or peers don't approve of. Suzy Olivera, a criminal justice graduate student, had a difficult experience while dating somebody different. For her, it was a difficult and stressful situation.

"I'm Hispanic, he was black and my father's side of the family didn't approve of

him," she said. "He wasn't able to go to the house, and I had to deal with comments behind my back."

Her family's disapproval of her boyfriend eventually ended the relationship.

Students interested in sharing stories like Jean's and Olivera's must register and reserve a spot by Oct. 7 for auditions, which will take place Oct. 8 in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater in the Wolfe University Center.

Contestants need to submit and perform poetry, a speech or any kind of creative presentation on the subject.

"We are open to every story, but we are expecting non-traditional relationships - people who have dated somebody of a different ethnicity, religion and of the same sex," said Bronwen Bares, the event's organizer, and the coordinator of the Women's Center and Center for Leadership and Service at BBC.

The top three auditions will be selected to perform at the Diversity Day Luncheon on Oct. 20 in the WUC Ballroom. These performers will compete to win bookstore gift certificates valued at \$75, \$50 and \$25.

For more information, call 305-919-5360 or e-mail baresb@fju.edu.

Investigative out-of-state workshop

MELODY REGALADO
Contributing Writer

Students interested in journalism have a chance to travel miles away from the University to learn about investigative reporting.

The Investigative Reporters and Editors is hosting the Campus Coverage Project, an investigative reporting workshop for students, at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University from Jan. 7 through Jan. 10 in Phoenix, Ariz.

IRE will select 75 students from across the country to attend this hands-on, three-day program, which includes workshops, brainstorming sessions and computer-assisted reporting classes.

The focus of the campus-specific training is to teach students reporting and interviewing techniques, how to analyze and read important documents, examine budget and funding documents, and use the Internet to examine local issues on a wider scale.

Participants will leave the workshop knowing how to get thorough the coverage of important issues, according to Mark Horvit, executive training director of IRE.

"It gives student journalists a chance to get concentrated training on investigative reporting techniques for better coverage of campus issues, and meet like-minded students from across the country," he said.

Neil Reisner, associate professor of journalism at the University's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, is a member and former training director of IRE.

According to him, the purpose of the workshop is to put students on the road to acquiring the skills they need to better dig into what is happening around them.

"Students will learn from some of the best of the best how to better cover campus issues for their campus newspapers," he said.

The workshop is sponsored by the Lumina Foundation for Education, which provides grants to expand access to education.

The Education Writers Association, an organization whose goal is to improve education reporting for the public, and the Student Press Law Center, that educates students about First Amendment rights, are also helping organize the workshop.

To apply for the program, students must

SPIRITUAL CELEBRATION



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

SUKKOT: Avremi Wolff, volunteer for Chabad FIU (right), and Harrison Kelner, junior in hospitality (left), speak about the Jewish holiday outside WUC Oct. 5.

complete an online form by Oct. 12 with a statement of 350 words about why they are applying and why they would benefit from the program.

They must also submit three work samples and contact information for two references.

Applicants do not need to be journalism majors, but they must have on-campus reporting experience and at least one year of school left to complete. All students chosen will receive a full scholarship covering travel, lodging and registration, as well as a stipend for some meals. For more information and the application form, visit www.ire.org/campus.

IRE is also hosting a

five-day computer-assisted reporting boot camp at BBC from Dec. 7 through Dec. 11.

For more information about this workshop, visit www.ire.org/training/bootcamps/5dayFIU.php

TO APPLY

- Complete an online form with a statement of 350 words on reason to apply.
- Submit three work samples and contact information for two references.
- Deadline to apply is Oct. 12.

Apply at:
www.ire.org/campus

FOODGASM

Web sites with recipes and tips for a real-foodie feeling

I love writing this column and being able to have jobs that revolve around the greatness of food. The best part: I never went to culinary school, or worked in a gourmet restaurant. I am a completely self-taught professional eater.

I always get asked the same questions. They ask me "Bianca, are you a chef?" Well, I have a job teaching undergraduate hospitality students how to bake, but as I've stated above, I've had no professional experience. I could definitely not compete on "Top Chef."

I am what I like to call a "recipe" chef. In my opinion, real world chef's can create recipes off the top of their heads, or recite ratios exactly. I, on the other hand, am excellent in the kitchen - when the

cookbook is in front of me.

But that was the old me. The new me still needs a recipe, but I now develop my own version by studying the food I am making. My constant readers have seen this recently with my "cilantro-churri". So the second question I get asked is "How do you develop your own recipes?" This brings me to the point of this article - the internet is a foodie's best friend.

There are so many recipes out there, so many Web sites devoted to the foodie, that we now have all the resources to cook and put our own spin on things.

The process begins by picking a dish that is inspiring me to cook. Then I surf the Web for the best recipes.

I have discovered that my favorite source for quality professional-esque recipes that are still do-able in a small home kitchen is <http://www.epicurious.com>.

"Epicurious" is not only a food blog, maintained by food writers and foodie journalists who write for publications like The New York Times, but it is a huge source of recipes from magazines like Gourmet and Bon Appetit. The name alone makes the professional foodgasmist in me smile. "Epicurious" is a made-up word, smashing the word epicure - meaning one with taste for food and wine, synonymous with gourmand and other food-loving related terms - and the word curious.

Once you have an idea for your dish, visit www.epicurious.com and input it into the search bar on the top right of the page. For instance, I want to make

potato salad to go with a nice grilled dinner. It brings me to a search result page of 231 potato salad recipes. I don't know about you, but with school and work, I don't have time to read 231 recipes. To make things easier, I sort the recipes using the drop down menu right above the recipes and sort by ratings. I trust the ratings system because it is other food lovers like me making and rating these recipes at home.

Once I have the recipes sorted, I move along to the bottom left side of the screen and refine my search by clicking on the clock symbol, which means quick and easy. This is when I start to compile my findings. Take three to five recipes that sound appealing to you and read them. This will give you a clear idea of what makes up a potato salad. Most likely,

these recipes carry a base of matching ingredients and cooking processes and vary only by a few flavor-modifying ingredients.

You now have the framework of the style of food you want to make, and you know what your palate likes and are able to manipulate these multiple recipes to fit your tastes.

With potato salad, I am very picky. I like tangy potato salad, none of that southern style sweet stuff, so I am more inclined to make the Lemony Potato Salad (<http://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/Lemony-Potato-Salad-354231>) and change it to what I like.

I add hard boiled eggs like in traditional American style potato salad, omit the sugar and add my favorite ingredient - cloves of minced garlic.

Other Web sites you should check out are: <http://www.allrecipes.com>, a Web site of recipes uploaded by normal kitchen folk like you and me, or for finding a place to eat out at, try <http://www.yelp.com>, which boasts "real people, real reviews," and of course, <http://www.foodnetwork.com>. After watching the Food Network all day long and falling in love with a certain recipe, as I did a week ago with Ina Garten's Easy Cheese Danishes, just visit this Web site to find the show and episode of the recipe you want.

Need help with a recipe or finding a place to eat? Bianca is here to help! Send any questions, comments or "Foodgasm" ideas to bianca.rojas@fiusm.com

GETTING SCHOOLED

Grad applications bring unexpected challenges

A prep book for my upcoming Graduate Record Exam sits on my bookshelf, barely used. Another GRE prep book for an accompanying subject test rests on my bed, waiting to be opened.

My exams are on Halloween (how fitting) and early November, and I've unfortunately learned that juggling five classes and other activities really eats up precious time that I need to study for my upcoming GREs.



IRIS A. FEBRES

While I should have anticipated these challenges earlier – after all, I've been through the SAT and plenty of Common Applications – I had no idea these applications for graduate school would be much more difficult to complete.

As I – and thousands of other poor, unfortunate souls – prepare my applications, I can't help but feel like I'm scrambling, even though most deadlines fall in mid-December and January (some of which are later than undergraduate applications).

I have unfinished Microsoft Word documents filled with thought dumps – attempts to become what's known as the personal statement. It is infamous; according to many graduate schools, the personal statement is perhaps the most important part of a graduate application.

Well, then. No pressure, right?

These crucial essays do not address specific prompts or topics. As a senior in high school, I would have to answer questions on what I had done those last four years. Now, within personal statements, I have to talk about what I plan to do as a scholar, perhaps proposing a thesis – a project which would take a substantial amount of time and dedication to complete.

With that said, graduate school applications are completely different monsters compared to their undergraduate counterparts. When researching undergraduate schools, I didn't really look into different programs and departments. At 17, I only considered holistic views of universities all over.

With graduate school applications, however, my investigations are more meticulous compared to years ago, forcing me to get to the nitty-gritty of particular programs. While I paid attention to what majors were offered for B.A.s, now I'm noticing faculty and where they've matriculated. Details, details, details.

But as I've registered online for access to applications, I've found that the most daunting factor of this application process involves confidence – or rather, my lack thereof.

The more research I do with these institutions, the less confident I feel; their Web sites flash acceptance rates and numbers I think I can't possibly break.

I'm constantly left wondering whether these endeavors are worth the effort. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the average stipend for graduate students is lower than what you would make when receiving unemployment benefits.

And while it's asserted that yes, you do make more money with a graduate degree than with just a bachelor's degree, there's still no guarantee. I have no idea what will be at the other side.

Though it's certainly different from vying for a B.A., the journey toward a master's degree is undoubtedly scary – but necessarily so.

Getting Schooled runs every Wednesday.

Polanski returns to the spotlight Director finally arrested

MATTHEW RUCKMAN
Asst. Opinion Editor

Some may recognize the name Roman Polanski. Others may remember his movies, like *Chinatown* and *The Pianist*. Few, however, may know of Samantha Gailey, the 13-year-old he pleaded guilty to drugging and raping in 1977. Polanski fled from the United States during his sentencing for the trial to France, where he could be sheltered behind the two countries' extradition treaty.

It was in France where Polanski remained, secretly traveling within the European Union while directing movies for more than a quarter of a century, all while eluding capture by the U.S. government ... until now.

Polanski was apprehended on Sept. 26 in Switzerland where he was scheduled to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award at a Zurich film festival. His fate is now uncertain but a clarion call has rung out from the Polanski's supporters and most have come out from under their rocks wanting forgiveness for the rapist.

Entertainment luminaries like producer Harvey Weinstein shrugged off Polanski's child molestation as a "so-called crime."

"The View" host Whoopi Goldberg opined that, "It was something else but I

don't believe it was 'rape' rape," despite the testimony of the victim that she said "no" multiples times and was 13.

Both have signed a petition for Polanski's release, along with others like *Spiderman* director Sam Mendes, *Ocean's 11* director Steven Soderbergh and step-daughter-marrying Woody Allen.

The failure to extradite was a crime of its own magnitude and seemed to state that fame is a mitigating factor.

Government officials within France, where Polanski maintains citizenship, echoed the ridiculous defenses to Polanski's Quaalude-laced violation.

The French foreign minister has weighed in also: "This affair is frankly a bit sinister. Here is a man of such talent, recognized worldwide, recognized especially in the country where he was arrested. This is

not nice at all."

Not nice indeed.

Here lies the controversy and the preposterousness of the whole ordeal. Polanski's 30-year-old case has brought to the forefront exactly how biased the judicial system and the entire world is toward celebrities.

In 1977, Polanski believed he was going to receive a lighter sentence because he was a successful director. When the judge signaled otherwise – that he would be treated like every other child molester – he fled to France.

France, because of his filmography, took him in and refused to extradite him back to the U.S.

Poet John Dryden said, "Successful crimes alone are justified." It seems he might be right in this case.

France's failure to extradite was a crime of its own magnitude and seemed to state, much to the contradiction of the old maxim that justice is blind, that being famous was in itself a mitigating factor. That one's fame means they are entitled to criminal privileges and above every other mere mortal.

It doesn't augur well for any civilized society. Equality – or at the very least an image of equality – in the eyes of the law should be maintained or we might as well give handicap parking to pop stars, our MasterCard commercial spots to celebrities and our sexual security to directors because, well ... they're famous. And that's reason enough.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Creative writing classes should be brought to MMC

As a student with creative writing aspirations, I was very disappointed to learn that aside from Intro to Creative Writing, there are no creative writing classes offered at the Modesto Maidique Campus.

I was looking forward to working with the renowned professors of the creative writing department, but it seems as if I won't have the privilege of studying under them anytime soon.

Many students find the commute to Biscayne Bay Campus very unappealing, but for students who don't have reliable transportation the commute is more than inconvenient; it is an obstacle that keeps students from taking the classes they really want.

I am aware that there is a bus that makes the trip, but the time it takes to get there and back, both by bus or car, makes scheduling classes next to impossible.

These difficulties may not sound

very grave to some, but I assure anyone reading that they can really be crippling to a student who has to balance work and school, or already makes a long commute to MMC, and is then expected to take a bus to BBC. The possible situations in which this commute becomes a real issue for students are more than I could list.

I realize that budget cuts have affected many departments, but I don't think it would be too much to ask for some of the creative writing classes to be held at MMC every semester.

In order to gain the support of like-minded students, I have started a Facebook group under the name "Creative Writing FIU." It is my hope that this group will help raise awareness of this issue.

Miguel Ovalles
Junior
English

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Vandalism must not be tolerated

Anger and frustration are what I feel when I approach my car in the housing parking lot and once again find that it has been damaged by promotional fliers.

This is a problem that has plagued housing residents who park in the housing lot. Almost every time I go out to my car, I find that people have put promotional fliers on the windows, and because I don't use my car every day, by the time I find these fliers, they have adhered to the windows of my car and are impossible to remove.

Because these fliers are damaging my property, the people that put these fliers there should be held accountable for vandalism. I know that I am not alone with this problem; I have often heard other residents complaining about this same issue.

I feel that it is time that FIU police take control of this matter and help stop the damaging of the FIU community's private property.

Cayce Wicks
Junior
English

DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

QUOTATIONATION

"The discoveries ... have added a dimension to our understanding of the cell, shed light on disease mechanisms and stimulated the development of new therapies."

The Nobel Assembly, presenting the Nobel Prize in medicine to three Americans

OPINIONPIECE

16K

The number of Cubans that visited the United States in 2008, a 53 percent increase over the year before.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give kudos to faculty? Or do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 240 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.

DAILYQUERY

Oscar-winning director Roman Polanski is facing jail time in Switzerland for his 1977 rape. Do you think after 30 years Polanski should be imprisoned, given his artistic contributions to the film industry? Let us know! Send responses to opinion@fiusm.com

Counseling center offers free help

JANET CAREAGA
Staff Writer

For students dealing with difficult issues relating to their family, relationships or finances, there are professionals on campus that are able to help. The Counseling and Psychological Services Center is a resource available to all students. They offer help with issues like low self-esteem, conflicts within the family and stress management.

Last year, the CPSC served 1,167 students, providing 7,660 hours of service. This semester, on average, the center sees about 12-14 walk-in students a day in addition to those who have scheduled appointments. Rowena Ramnath, Psy.D, one of the CPSC's psychologists, says there have been more students on average this semester than in previous semesters, in part because of the state of the economy.

"The University has registered more students this year than in the past. Also, the economy has lots of students stressing. Stresses related to finances, loss of jobs, or even having family members who have lost their jobs has affected students," said Ramnath, the assistant director of the Counseling and Psychological Services Center and the Forensic and Outreach Services.

For students who feel stressed, overwhelmed or anxious, be it about school or family, the CPSC offers computerized programs like Emwave or Biofeedback,

which help users become more relaxed.

For some students, it's the personal interaction that makes the center so effective.

"The entire staff was warm and I felt like they were really there to help me. I was surprised how easy it was. It's a really good service that a lot of people can benefit from. If you just need someone to talk to, I would recommend it," said Alexandra Tercero, a junior majoring in accounting who has visited the CPSC.

For those worried about their privacy, the center keeps personal information regarding counseling completely confidential. To release any information, they need the patient's written consent. But there are some exceptions, according to Florida state laws. The only exceptions to this rule are if the person has any intent to harm himself/herself or someone else, or if the therapist receives an order from court to release information. Generally, however, counseling is kept secret.

Students in need of counseling can just walk in and be seen right away or make an appointment. The center's office hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and walk-in hours are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., except on Thursdays. To schedule an appointment or for more information, pass by the office located in the Health Services Complex Room 270.

The CPSC also holds events in addition to personal counseling. One of the upcoming events they will be hosting is the National Depression Screening on

Oct. 8 at Modesto Maidique Campus from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in GC and Breezeway. They will also hold a similar event at Biscayne Bay Campus on Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center. At the event, students can get a free depression screening from a clinician. The CPSC will also be co-sponsoring the 2009 Miami-Dade Out of the Darkness Community Walk with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on Nov. 14 at the MARC building. The walk is to prevent suicide by showing support for those dealing with severe depression and to raise money for suicide prevention research. For more information on the events CPSC is hosting, you can call them at (305) 348-2434.

The Counseling and Psychological Services Center

Location:
Health Services Complex
Room 270

Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Walk-In Hours:
Mon-Wed, Fri
9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

POP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

'Music chauvinist' prefers male singers

My girlfriend called me a "music chauvinist" today.

We were listening to the soundtrack for the new Spike Jonez movie, *Where The Wild Things Are*, and I reiterated some thoughts I've shared before on how I generally just don't enjoy Karen O, who sings on most of the tracks.

Essentially, aside from one spine-crushingly awesome single ("Maps"), very little of the stuff Karen O has ever done interests me. We saw the Yeah Yeah Yeahs at the most recent Bonaroo music festival over the summer and I ended up leaving before the set was through because I

just didn't care for her or the band.

I wish I could say she's wrong in her assessment of my music listening habits, but she isn't. I wish I could say it is a single instance regarding just

Karen O, but the truth is that, for whatever reason, I rarely find myself enjoying female singers (with the exception of Rumours by Fleetwood

Mac, probably). Oh sure, I'm a sucker for a great pop song sung by a female singer, but my appreciation for the fairer sex's musical achievements doesn't extend too far beyond lightweight fare like Kelly Clarkson. I've always felt a mascu-

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COLUMNIST



CHRIS TOWERS

INTERVIEW

Hijabi Monologues shed light on Muslim issues

GANAVYA DORAISWAMY
Contributing Writer

In early 2006, the founders of the "Hijabi Monologues" – a spin-off of the "Vagina Monologues" about Muslim women who wear head scarves – were travelling with their friend, Dan Morrison. A conversation regarding the perceived demeanor of women who wear the Hijab (the head scarf) lead to the project that aims to provide veiled women in the United States a voice.

The play was staged Oct. 2 at FIU and was organized by the Council on American Islamic Relations, Amnesty International, Student Government Council at MMC, the Women's Study Center (FIU), the Women's Study Student Association at FIU, the Students' Coalition for Human Rights at FIU, Sociology Honors Society and Alpha Kappa Delta. *The Beacon* had the chance to talk to Sahar Ullah, who wrote the play, and May Alhassen and Zeenat Rahman, who performed in the show.

The Beacon: Thank you for your time. So, how did the story begin?

Zeenat Rahman: It started off with Dan being in a car packed with women wearing the Hijab. There were stories being told, and we decided we needed a "Hijabi Monologues."

Sahar Ullah: (Laughs) I was sitting on Zeenat's lap at the time, I think. We were having a conversation with Dan, and how he was wondering

if we ever would have been friends – veiled women look so unapproachable. He wanted everyone to understand the side of us that he saw.

TB: The stories that were narrated were all true. Did you choose the most dramatic submissions you got, or have you experienced these things first hand?

Jamarah Armani: I was a teacher in New York. I remember during the Sept. 11 attacks, I had to quit my job because the parents came and pulled their children from my class. These were people of my own color and race. Discrimination was purely based off of my religion, and the fact that I veiled myself.

ZR: These situations aren't clichés. It's pretty common.

May Alhassen: I interned for a congressman in California. That's a pretty liberal state, right? I was answering phone calls once when this lady called in. She didn't know the person on the other side – she had no idea I was Muslim – and started reporting a potential national threat.

I asked her where she got this information from, and she said she had gone to the library and read a book in which the name Mohammed was mentioned, and said something about the people sounding crazy and talking about prophets.

She argued that "the book was written in 1926 and people didn't lie back then."

After some time, I asked her for

her address to send out a form in which she could report it. She started giving it to me, and then said, "I don't know ... I just might find anthrax in my mailbox."

SU: It was our friend's father who was incarcerated. He had never owned a weapon in his life. He was acquitted and still not released from jail.

JA: Not everyone will come up to the stage. We do have serious stories. But like Zeenat said, all this is common.

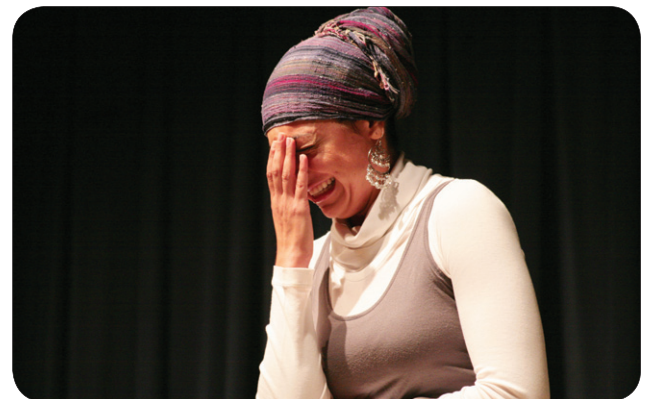
TB: There's a fine line that separates hate speech from freedom of opinion. Do you have any advice for any discriminated students here at FIU?

ZR: People who justify their hate speech with their freedom of speech don't know its definition. Hate crime or anything that can cause harm to someone can't be defined as another viewpoint.

SU: The problem with complaining about other groups not helping is whether or not you have helped them.

MA: I cannot speak for all groups, but I know that a few sections of the Islamic community feel that society isn't helping their cause out – but they're not looking at other people's problems.

JA: You have to realize, this isn't the first time this is happening. The African American community was oppressed. It's happening everywhere – it's not just the Muslims. We all need to join hands.



MEGAN KELLEY/THE BEACON

HIJABI GIRLS: Performers from the Hijabi Monologues take the stage on Friday, Oct. 3 at the Green Library. For more photos of the performance, visit fiusm.com.

Diverse background gives theatre professor an edge

ADRIANA RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

When asked about Professor Michael Yawney, many students point to two qualities: he is an eccentric man and he is one of the most creative and knowledgeable men at FIU theatre.

Professor Yawney firmly believes that while theatre is its own art form, it is derived from many fields of study.

“Art teaches the world how to think and how to see. Theatre, among the arts, is unique because it pulls everything together. It’s visual, it’s verbal. The study of literature, visual art, anthropology; it’s important because you’re presenting worlds that are different than the one we’re in. It’s an art form that can contain everything.”

Many students appreciate that he allows

within different arenas of theatre – acting, directing, play-writing and much more.

He has even worked as an astrology columnist for *Playgirl* magazine, something from what he called his “checkered past.”

This experience, he says, gave him the resources to become a theatre professor.



YAWNEY

“Being an artist in the theatre, you’re always teaching because you’re working with other people. It’s a collaborative process. Teaching is just natural, it comes out of it,” Yawney said.

Yawney’s students have taken note of his experienced background.

“He likes people to get on their feet and start doing things. He wants you to do everything, not just be an actor. Be a theatre connoisseur,” said Michelle Fraioli, a senior theatre major.

“The lectures that he gives, they are about his own experiences with actual artists and directors that we see in theatre books every day,” Pozo added.

Though it focuses primarily on the basics, Yawney said he believes that most theatre professors love to teach Intro to Acting.

“It’s a really exciting class. When you’re dealing with non-majors, they bring a lot to class and don’t have any preconceptions,” he said.

When asked about the recent budget cuts affecting the school, he said that it wasn’t really taking a grand toll on the professors because, “as artists, we know how to get along with no money, we’ve done it.”

In the end, he said his goal as a professor is all about the development of students, not just as actors, but as people.

“You teach students all these skills but what we really want, whatever we want, from whatever we’re teaching, is all about the development of a person. Whether you’re teaching theatre, pre-law or religious studies, a lot of the students will follow through with a career in that field, a lot of them won’t.

“What you hope will stay with them are the values, the intellectual discipline and, really, a way of seeing the world. That’s what I think, as a teacher, is the most valuable thing you can give and also the most long-lasting to the student,” Yawney said.

It’s really an exciting class. When you’re dealing with non-theatre majors, they bring a lot to class and don’t have any preconceptions.

Michael Yawney, professor
Theatre Department

students to speak their minds.

“He always allows us to say what we want, and he values every opinion,” said Carolina Pozo, a senior majoring in theatre.

Senior Jonathan Ramos, who is majoring in acting, credits Yawney’s best teaching attribute as “pushing us to not be afraid of failing and to just take risks.”

Yawney came to FIU with a background in theatre. Spending a good portion of his life living amid the New York theatre scene, he worked for many different theatre companies that he says taught him to work



JOIN OUR STAFF!

The **BEACON** is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

Karen O captures spirit of Jonez’s upcoming film

POP, page 5

line voice expresses a much broader range of emotion that is more useful when I like my music serious.

So it must be said that I’ve actually been extremely surprised with how much I’m enjoying Karen O’s take on Maurice Sendak’s classic tale.

The *Where The Wild Things Are* adaptation by Jonez has surprisingly become one of the more highly anticipated films of the year, especially among the, for lack of a better term, hipster crowd. So, it makes sense that Karen O would get tabbed for this soundtrack.

What has always bothered me about the Yeah Yeah Yeahs is how all over the place their music is, and how Karen O seemed to follow this in her singing.

On the soundtrack, thankfully, she reins it in, and I’m surprised at how beautiful her voice sounds to me.

There is a sweetness to her singing here that really lends itself to the mood of the songs, which venture far more into the twee pop realm than anything else she’s ever done.

Excerpts from the movie help tie the album together, as with “Rumpus” which features the crowning of the main character, Max, as the king of the Wild Things. Max then declares the beginning of the “royal rumpus”, a joyous song that sounds a little like what the Arcade Fire would sound like if they were a band of merry children instead of morose Cana-

dians. The songs don’t all veer into the childlike, with the surprisingly mature “Hideaway” being a prime example. The melody echoes John Lennon’s “Jealous Guy” and the sparse arrangement allows Karen O to show an uncommon delicateness.

On the whole, the soundtrack should be a good compliment to what is expected to be a very good movie. It seems to fit the mood of what the film is going for, deftly mixing the childlike nature of the original story with the somewhat more mature take Jonez is going for.

Unfortunately, I’m not sure this album does much for changing my opinion of female singers. Karen O is good here, but it still ventures into pop enough for me to change my mind. Sorry, ladies. It’s not you, it’s me.

Pop & Circumstance is a bi-weekly column discussing all things pop music.



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COMPANIES
TO WORK FOR 2009

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PERFORMERS OF THE WEEK



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

SPIKING AT THE RIGHT TIME: Yarimar Rosa totaled 43 kills vs. Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee. She averaged 5.4 kills per set. Rosa led the nation in kills per set last season and is at 5.62 so far this season.



T.Y. HILTON

T.Y. Hilton continues to be the Golden Panthers' biggest weapon on offense. He caught 11 passes for 117 yards and a receiving touchdown. He has scored in every game this season so far.



OLGA VERGUN

This has been a nice season for Olga Vergun. She leads the team in kills, and she was instrumental in helping the Golden Panthers defeat Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee this past weekend.



ANTHONY GAITOR

The local product from Northwestern is showing signs of being the ball hawk he was last season. Anthony Gaitor intercepted a pass in the first quarter against Louisiana-Monroe. It was his second game in a row with an interception. He had five last season.



KATRINA ROSE

Katrina Rose scored a goal and got an assist vs. North Texas to help the Golden Panther tie. The team is 2-0-1 in its last three games. She has scored three goals this season, which is good for the team lead.



KAITLYN SAVAGE

The freshman goalie got her second shutout of her career against Denver. The Golden Panthers defeated Denver 1-0. It was the first win for FIU over Denver in nine years. She had four saves in that game. She also had five saves vs. North Texas.

SWIMMING & DIVING

Squad opens season with loss

CHRIS GREEN
Staff Writer

The swimming and diving team opened up its season on the road against Florida State on Oct. 3 with a 137-89 loss.

Danielle Sneir, Krissy Metka, Kariann Stevens and Colleen Neubert opened up the meet with a time of 1:55.65 in the 200 meter relay.

FIU's best finishes came in the form of fifth place finishes from Nicola MacKenzie and Kayla Derr in the 1,000 and the 200 meter free-style respectively.

The Golden Panthers also captured victories in the 100 meter backstroke and breaststroke by Sneir and Erin Pavlick.

The next meet for the Golden Panthers is the Houston Invitational on Oct. 9-10 in Houston, Texas.

MEN'S SOCCER: MARSHALL 2, FIU 1

Frings' goal not enough as Golden Panthers fall

ANA DIAZ
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers men's soccer team led 1-0 headed into the half but in the 64th minute, the team had a tough time keeping its lead over Marshall.

FIU's offense was unable to break through Marshall's defense and did not score in the second half.

"In the second half, they came out with just as much power; we just didn't follow up what we did in the first half in the second," midfielder Sebastian Frings said. "We did not have the same power."

The Golden Panthers scored first in the 14th minute of play. Steven Jair Cabas crossed the ball from the left side of the field to Frings, who received the pass from the goal post and followed up a shot to the back of the net, giving him his sixth goal of the season. However, Frings feels him and the team need to condition more as the Golden Panthers fell 2-1 on Oct. 3 at home.

"If we keep getting tired like this, it's impossible to win," Frings said.

The Golden Panthers also continue to be plagued by injuries.

"This is a tough one to swallow, not only did we lose on the scoreboard, but physically as well," said Golden Panthers coach Munga Eketebi.

Heading into the game, the Golden Panthers were missing three players. During the game, Nicholas Jones and Cesar Deoliveira had to be substituted due to injuries.

"We are hoping that in the 10 days off we will get players back. We need a couple back, but unfortunately the training room is still full," Eketebi said.

Although Diego Tamburus managed to play 57 minutes after five months of treatment for an injury back in March.

"I am much better, but right now I am not in shape at all. Two weeks ago I was finally back to 100 percent," said returning player Tamburus.

As players recover, Eketebi is still not at ease about the lineup.

"Unfortunately for some of these guys it's mid-season, but for some it's like preseason, except now it's preseason on the job," Eketebi said.

During the second half, Marshall (5-4-1) came away with the win after Devin Parkins headed a goal assisted by Diego Ayala with 26 minutes left in the game, followed by a second goal rebounded off the keeper six minutes later by Dustin Dawes.

"We did not have enough bodies to compete in the second half," Eketebi said. "The first half we were up 1-0 and dominated and during the second half we pretty much fell apart."

Tamburus was disappointed that the team had several chances to score and did not capitalize.

"We just have to fix a couple of spots in the field. We cannot miss some of the goals we did today. We missed three to four good opportunities and we also can't give up such easy goals like we did today," Tamburus said.

In the final three minutes of the game, the Golden Panthers stayed strong by obtaining three solid shots.

Tamburus kicked the ball from the corner to Cabas, but the header went high. Tamburus tried two shots of his own, including a breakaway from the right side, but both went wide left.

"For now we have to keep our heads up, practice a lot this week and see what happens in the next game for us. Today we should not have lost. It's the second game we lost at home. We can't lose again, it's only eight games and if we lose then it's pretty much done," Tamburus said.

The Golden Panthers are at a (3-6-0) and return to the field on Oct. 7 when they host rivals UCF Knights at 7 p.m.

Team sees improved mentality

CHESTNUTT, page 8

"Are we continuing to do the things that are going to get us to the next level? We can't be comfortable with winning one weekend or being down because we lost the next weekend," Chestnutt said. "Are we getting more than work ethic? Are we getting the mentality of focusing on the process of things and not necessarily the outcome of things? As we're building that culture, that's the things we have to take a pulse on each day."

NEVER-ENDING CONTRIBUTIONS

Not only are Chestnutt's players pleased with his plan to build the team on the field, but are also thankful for his contributions off the field.

"I think since I first started and coach first started we've seen a lot of improvements," Pappas said. "I think he's expecting us to build upon the success we've already had and get even better results. He's not just a coach. He's on the job 24 hours and he never stops. He'll do anything for us and he's a good leader."

Chestnutt, who at practice can usually be seen alongside his canine friend Rudy, wants to make sure that his team has a strong support system for any situation that may occur.

"As a coach you wonder where your job



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

WORK ETHIC: Head coach Chestnutt demands a higher level of focus from his players, and it is starting to pay dividends.

begins and ends, and that seems to get blurry. You're their coach on the field and off the field you try to build team chemistry within the group and within the staff. There are problems that come up with players who are away from home, they need someone to talk to, and as a coach I think that's a role you play."

Chestnutt emphasizes academics while rebuilding



CHRIS GREEN/THE BEACON

CHANGING THE CULTURE: Coach Thomas Chestnutt is trying to lead the Golden Panthers to a winning season.

STEPHANIE GABRIEL
Staff Writer

For women's soccer coach Thomas Chestnutt, it isn't just about winning.

Before being hired at FIU, Chestnutt served as the assistant coach for the women's soccer team at Fresno State. He played a large part in the Bulldogs' recruiting and was also responsible for overseeing the team's academic success, something noted by his current players at FIU.

"Coach always emphasizes that academics is No. 1," said senior midfielder Amy Jackson. "He makes sure that we get things done off the field as well as on the field. He's had one-on-one tutoring sessions with some of the girls and he's always open to communicating; if you need help he's always there."

Chestnutt was hired by FIU in 2007, and has yet to guide the women's soccer team to a winning season. However, he is building a foundation and he's earned the utmost respect from Jackson.

"I think because we see how much he puts in, we not only want to succeed for ourselves but him as well," Jackson said. "He's a role model and a great support base. I think because of that he's highly respected."

THE PROJECT

Since his arrival at FIU, Chestnutt emphasized that he's building a culture that will bring success.

"I feel like now we're establishing a culture in the program in terms of work ethic, leadership, accountability and success. We're putting these things together to have success in the program," said Chestnutt. "Being in the city of Miami where soccer is pretty prevalent, although not highly developed on the women's side, the culture is still here."

This season the team has started out with a record of 4-5-3, with two wins coming against conference opponents Western Kentucky and Denver who are top teams in the C-USA.

"We have a preview before each game and how we need to prepare for it. He gives us a pre-game speech and gets us really pumped up," senior midfielder Marina Pappas said. "Everything he does, he's not only looking to be the best but always do the right thing."

TRAVELING SUCCESS

After earning his degree in biochemistry from the University of Dayton, the center midfielder set off to Tampa

QUICK FACTS

- Chestnutt was born in Germany and moved to New Jersey.
- Played collegiate soccer at the University of Dayton in Ohio for three years.
- Worked with UF women's team as assistant and coached UF men's club team.
- The UF women's team went to the Final Four in 2001 and to the NCAA Quarterfinals in 2003.

Bay to play professionally for the Cyclones in 1996 before returning back to Germany to play for FSC Lohfelden.

With academics being his main motivation, Chestnutt decided to return to college in 1998 to earn his master's degree in engineering mechanics from the University of Florida. The more he thought about it, starting a coaching career made the most sense.

"I decided I could have continued to play soccer and live comfortably and then scratch my head later as to what I'm going to do or I could stop playing and start going to grad school, that was my decision," Chestnutt said.

OVERCOMING THE CHALLENGES

Chestnutt acknowledged the job at FIU would be a

challenge but he says he has developed a four to five-year plan that should make them a top contender in the conference. The team was 12th in the conference in Chestnutt's first season. The Golden Panthers were sixth last season – their best conference record since 2001.

"I knew that there were going to be a lot of challenges but I thought with the right support we could make a transition," he said. "I thought that we should be able to compete at the top of the conference."

The Golden Panthers finished 4-4-3 in conference play in 2008. Chestnutt seemingly thinks his team has the talent to win a conference title this year but has concerns about the work ethic of his players.

CHESTNUTT, page 7

WOMEN'S SOCCER: FIU 2, NORTH TEXAS 2 (2OT)

Golden Panthers' win streak ends with tie

CHRIS GREEN
Staff Writer

When looking at the Sun Belt Conference standings this season compared to last, it's easy to see why FIU's women's soccer team would be satisfied with the 1-2-1 record.

However, after North Texas scored twice with seven minutes to play on Oct. 4, nobody was happy.

The Golden Panthers had held a 2-0 lead against a team that scored six goals in the past two games. On their way to a third straight victory, the defense collapsed and North Texas capitalized.

"I'm not happy with how we ended the game," said FIU coach Thomas Chestnutt. "I felt like at that point, with 15 minutes left in the game, we did a poor job of managing the game."

FIU's scoring began 17 minutes into the contest after a perfectly placed corner kick by Casey Thames was headed into the net by Katrina Rose for her third goal of the year.

"It was a whole team effort," said Rose. "If it wasn't for the cross, it wouldn't have happened, and if April wasn't on the ball, she wouldn't have scored."

At the half, FIU led 1-0.

FIU's second goal came after Rose ran the ball down to the North Texas end and passed it right across the front of the net where April Perry was waiting. The goal was Perry's first of the year.

However, the crowd would soon be hushed as North Texas scored on a bizarre goal at the 79:18 mark.

Less than three minutes later, Kendall Juett connected on another goal for North Texas, tying up the game at two apiece.

"I think we have to realize it's a 90-minute game, plus overtime," said midfielder Amy Jackson. "We didn't hold on to it for that full 90 minutes."

Although the game went into double overtime, neither side seemed to be able to come up with any clean chances at a goal, and the game ended in a 2-2 tie.

After four conference games, FIU stands at 2-1-1, a statistical improvement from last year's record through four games of 0-3-1.

"2-1-1 is a big change, so we're very happy with that. We have to look at the bigger picture," said Chestnutt. "As a staff we're happy with what our girls are doing."

The Golden Panthers go on to finish their four-game home stand next weekend vs. Louisiana on Oct. 9, and Louisiana-Monroe on Oct. 11.

VOLLEYBALL: FIU 3, WESTERN KENTUCKY 1

Tomic: We deserve to receive Top 25 votes

JOEL DELGADO
Staff Writer

Predicted to finish first in the Sun Belt East Division, the Golden Panthers (14-2, 4-0) needed to beat the tougher teams in the conference in order to justify the preseason prediction.

So far they have.

FIU defeated the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders (9-7, 2-1) in a four-set match on Oct. 4 at U.S. Century Bank Arena to extend its seven-game winning streak and remain undefeated in conference play.

"I think this weekend showed the reason why we were selected to win the conference this year," Golden Panthers coach Danijela Tomic said after her 100th victory of her career. "And I also believe that we deserve to at least start receiving votes for the Top 25. We don't have control over those rankings; we only control how we play."

Setter Natalia Valentin has been helping the Golden Panthers offense get back into a rhythm after playing 11 games without Yarimar Rosa.

"With this win we are way ahead," Valentin said. "We are not going to lie back; we are going to keep working hard, getting better every single day."

Tomic was pleased with how the team capped off the weekend and got her the 100th win.

"It was a hard fought match, and we knew coming into it that Middle Tennessee was playing better and better," Tomic said. "Against us they always play well, so we expected a match like this, point for point, and that's what happened."

After the Golden Panthers took the first set, the Blue Raiders came out strong in the second set in what became a back-and-forth affair between both teams. Despite the opportunities FIU had to take a two-set lead, Middle Tennessee managed to break through and even the match.

"We kind of relaxed a little bit," outside hitter Olga Vergun said. "We didn't have the intensity at the end of that set."

The Golden Panthers would thwart the Blue Raiders in the next two sets with Yarimar Rosa delivering the final two kills in the fourth set to prevent Middle Tennessee from forcing a fifth.

Rosa led the Golden Panthers offense with a team-high 20 kills. Vergun added 15 kills and Valentin had 44 assists to help bolster the FIU attack. On defense, Chanel Araujo had a solid game with a team-high 15 digs.