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WELCOME ABROAD



ALFONSO YEC/THE BEACON

International students from Universidad Technological de Honduras take a tour around the Modesto Maidique Campus. These students are looking at the campus to decide if they want to transfer and become future Panthers.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

New dean to point students towards University services

ASHLEY MARTINEZ
Contributing Writer

The Division of Student Affairs now has a new bridge to connect students and University resources.

The position of dean of students, which is new to the University, was created last month and serves as a way for students to learn and get more involved with already established resources on campus, such as Counseling and Psychological Services, Victim Advocacy Center and Disability Resource Center.

Cathy Akens, associate vice president of Student Affairs, was appointed to the position of Dean of Students this month.

"My position is really

intended to help create a culture of care about the well-being of students," Akens said.

Akens also said that it is important for her to voice the fact that there is help for students who are struggling in overcoming situations like family emergencies, separations or depression from feeling unhappy or unsuccessful with how their university career is unfolding.

The 2007 Virginia Tech incident also inspired the creation of this position, which is meant to direct students to different University services involving crisis management and academic and social counseling.

SEE DEAN, PAGE 2

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Carpool program an alternative for University commuters

DIEGO SALDAÑA-ROJAS
Staff Writer

Students may save gas money while benefiting the environment.

Students, staff and faculty who are part of the University's Department of Parking and Transportation Carpool Program have access to convenient parking on campus, such as the second floor of gold garage and may save money.

Participants can reduce the cost of fuel normally spent on commuting alone by dividing the cost of gasoline.

"Students save money and help the environment," said Director of Parking and Transportation Lissette Hernandez.

The site, www.get2fiu.com, allows users to track the amount of gas and emissions they are saving by sharing a ride.

"The site ... will keep that kind of information but they have to maintain it themselves," Hernandez said.

The program is not limited

"The carpool spaces are often open and I don't think many people know about it."

David Sanabria
Sophomore
Physics

to students who already have a carpool partner. The registration site has a feature that helps applicants find other people that want to carpool to the University.

In case of a personal or family emergency, the Department of Parking and Transportation is in partnership with South Florida Commuter Services to provide a taxi ride to participants through South Florida Commuter Services' Emergency Ride Home program.

The program offers participants

a ride home from campus and reimburses them for the taxi fare, with a valid receipt. The Department of Parking and Transportation must be informed before 4 p.m. and the reimbursement limit is \$50 a year.

To be eligible for the program, applicants must have a valid parking decal and be members of the University community.

To apply for SFCS' ERH program, visit the department's website, www.1800234ride.com.

Alex Suarez, junior and

psychology major, did not know about the carpool program.

"I never knew FIU did, honestly," Suarez said.

Sheyla Marimon, freshman political science major, does not think the carpool program has lessened the amount of parking taken up.

David Sanabria, sophomore and physics major, heard about the program, but did not know anyone participating in it.

Sanabria thinks the program

has done little to aid parking availability.

"The carpool spaces are often open and I don't think many people know about it," Sanabria said. "I think there should be an incentive; this could make it more successful."

All students interviewed by Student Media agreed that the carpool decal, sent to participants at no cost, and the availability of carpool parking are attractive features of the program.

Individuals can apply in person at the Department of Parking and Transportation or online at www.get2fiu.com. The site links users to the SFCS site which verifies the applicant's information and sends out a decal by mail between seven and 10 days.

As for any future plans to expand the program, "We would look at usage and work with SFCS for any expansions," Hernandez said.

-news@fiusm.com

IT'S NICE OUT



STEPHANIE MASON/THE BEACON

Fay Goldstein, President of a pro Israel group called Shalom FIU, and other members of the group take advantage of the nice weather and transform their usual Monday meetings into a Peace Picnic outside. Joined by campus rabbi, Rabbi Saj Freiberg, they welcomed others to join their picnic with food provided by Hillel Yad.

Agroecology program growing in grants

AGROECOLOGY, PAGE 8

The University was selected as one of 71 universities to receive the USDA's Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities designation.

Mahadev Bhat, professor in the Department of Earth and Science and co-director of the agroecology program, said the program helped the University gain awareness of important issues involving sustainable agriculture.

"Because of all these activities, the programs, our community engagement activities, I think we have increased the University's national profile in terms of agricul-

tural science education and research," Bhat said. "It has definitely played an indirect role in the University getting designated as HSACU."

During the summer, the program offers a week-long workshop for teachers in grades K-12 in which professionals from the University, the USDA and other agencies teach the students in agroecology.

The program also selects 10 high school students from both Miami-Dade and Broward counties to participate in a six-week internship program where they learn about sustainable agriculture and participate in hands-on activities.

Stephany Alvarez-Ventura,

agroecology program coordinator, said it's important to get the younger generations to understand more about agroecology.

"Right now a lot of people are disconnected with how food grows," Alvarez-Ventura said. "You can go to any elementary, middle or high school class and many of them still can't connect where food comes from or the benefits, for example, of natural remedies and herbs."

Krish Jayachandran, earth and environment professor and co-director of the agroecology program, organized, with the help of the faculty and students, an international collaboration between the University and Honduras.

The program provides an annual workshop for Honduran students of the National University of Agriculture to discuss agricultural issues.

The program conducts an annual Agroecology Symposium where the research conducted by the students in the is displayed and discussed with many influential authorities in sustainable agriculture and agricultural science.

During the symposium, speakers come to create awareness of sustainable agriculture issues, discuss new technology and scientific research.

"I've been able to get in touch with very respected and well-known scientists by traveling to places, having collaborations with other universities," Sanchez said. "So networking has been amazing."

-news@fiusm.com

Cathy Akens to serve as first Dean of Students

DEAN, PAGE 2

The University of Florida, Florida State University and Florida Atlantic University have similar positions in place.

Akens said often times students and members of the community are unaware of these services, and added that her position will serve as a guide to these services when in need.

"Sometimes students experience a medical or family emergency, and if they don't know about the support that they can get at the University, it can end up serving as an obstacle for them persisting in their course work," she said. "We want to be able to do this in a way that we can intervene before their issues become barriers to them."

Larry Lunsford, interim vice president for Student Affairs, said Akens was his best choice for the position because of her experience.

"She was the strongest Student Affairs member and was exposed to all type of scenarios with students," he said. "I have to be neutral in my position, but she, as the dean of students, can work with different students as an individual."

Lunsford also stated that her role would require her to "understand and represent the student's interest and look for the best solutions... to help the student feel better externally and internally."

Akens' previous experiences with

students include her involvement in emergency situations on campus, housing and residential life.

"In having that responsibility for students who live on campus, I encountered a lot of students who were struggling emotionally, psychologically or had been through some type of personal crisis," Akens said. "I think that all of those personal situations prepared me to be able to be in a position where I think I can really help students and help our campus community."

As dean of students, Akens also serves as chair of the Behavioral Intervention Team, which is made up of staff from different areas of the University who are responsible in responding to students of concern.

"If a faculty member tells us that they are concerned about a student in the classroom, we have a pattern of behavior or a student comes to our office and tells us that he or she has a personal crisis, this team is in place to manage the more complicated cases," she said. "They try as a team to look for the best response."

Akens' position is under the Office of Student Affairs, and her office is located on the second floor of the Graham Center.

"There are so many issues that can get in the way for a student, but when we can connect the resources with the student, we see them succeed and work through those issues."

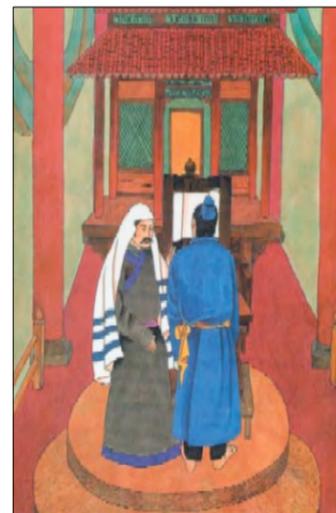
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FIRST TIME EVER OFFERED: REL 4312: THE JEWS OF ASIA AND AFRICA

Course taught by Research Professors Tudor Parfitt and Nathan Katz

Wednesdays, January 9 – April 17, 2013, 6:45-9:15 p.m.

at the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, 301 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach



The Jews of Asia and Africa will explore populations such as the Lemba of Zimbabwe, the Beta Israel of Ethiopia, and the Ibo of Nigeria, all in sub-Saharan Africa. Asian communities will include the Jews of Kochi, Mumbai and northeastern tribal peoples of India; Shanghai, China, a home in the 19th century to Sephardic Jews seeking business opportunities and refuge in the 1930s-40s to European Jews fleeing Nazi persecution; and a "Judaizing" movement in Papua New Guinea.

For students to gain different viewpoints, the course will feature guest speakers, including a visiting member of Zimbabwe's Lemba Jewish community, and employ different methodologies, from genetic anthropology to participant/observation findings.

For more information, contact nathan.katz@fiu.edu



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HALLOWEEN: OVERRATED



ILLUSTRATION BY HOLLY McCOACH/THE BEACON

THE BEACON | Editorial

Diversity, with exposure comes awareness

One of the myriad traps one encounters in assessing issues of race, ethnic or religious differences, and their influence on certain social platforms, is the dissonance of wanting to acknowledge – perhaps even celebrate – those differences while wanting, at the same time, to “look past” them.

To look past them, however, to act as though they bear no influence, is to close our eyes to reality. While we can assuredly say that such differences do nothing to make any of us more or less human than any others, they do bring with them an exposure to different life experiences. A student from Azerbaijan and a student from Germany are identical under an x-ray, but with different cultural backgrounds come different values, different opinions, different attitudes.

Equality no longer means closing our eyes to these differences, but embracing them. And thus we commend the University – the administration as much as the students – in its strides toward that all-encompassing embrace.

The Beacon’s Oct. 26 issue reporting on the burgeoning Latino Student Union, already 100 members strong, and the blossoming presence of non-Muslim students participating in the Muslim Student Association’s Hijab-a-Thon at the Modesto Maidique Campus, implies the student body’s broadening appreciation for cultural differences and the deconstruction of stereotypes.

In the article “Non-Muslims embrace culture at University”, the reporter cited The Miami Herald with the growing number of 100,000 Muslims living in South Florida, the majority being of Latino descent.

While many of us may be indifferent or passive about the numbers, showing no interest in learning about these cultures on the basis that, wherever a person comes from or whatever they believe, we would treat them the same.

Such thinking cannot be of use in today’s times. Respect for another culture, on an ever-diversifying campus, will soon require more than just acknowledging the presence of it. We need to actually understand it, to know the outline of its history, its customs, its beliefs, adding in the unique ingredients for the University melting pot.

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What’s with all the horses and bayonets?

LOURDES GINART
Staff Writer

From these 2012 presidential and vice presidential debates have come catchphrases and quips –most noticeably “malarkey” and “binders full of women”— that have far surpassed that of the 2008s “maverick” and “rogue” one-liners.

However, during the last and final presidential debate, when Governor and Republican nominee Mitt Romney addressed the need for more naval ships, how the U.S. has fewer ships than it did at the start of the 20th century, President Obama replied with the debates’ most tweeted moment:

“You mentioned the Navy, for example, and that we have fewer ships than we did in 1916. Well, Governor, we also have fewer horses and bayonets, because the nature of our military’s changed.”

From this debate, not only did a great phrase arise, but the idea of returning to basic combat came to mind. So what if combat still majorly consisted of horses and bayonets? How would life for us, as students and citizens, be different?

Our military’s budget today is roughly at \$700 billion; if we get rid of most of our technology and strip back to Civil War weaponry, and the budget could be somewhere around \$200 billion considering the cost of a bayonet and horse for each of our 764, 591 current soldiers is \$100 per

bayonet and \$3000 per horse, as well as having housing, camps, food, uniforms, supplies, paycheck, and pensions included.

That leaves us with an excess of around \$500 billion. So where would this extra money go?

Back into our pockets, back into education.

Horses and bayonets may seem like a silly idea, but we would be getting more out of our education.

Class sizes would be smaller, more faculty could be hired, more colleges and schools implemented, and more degrees offered. Beyond that, tuition would also be significantly cheaper.

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Amendment no. 12: to pay, or not to pay

JONATHAN SZYDLO
Opinion Editor

On Nov. 6, when Florida citizens go to the polls and are faced with the task of deciding on the fates of 12 separate Florida State Constitutional Amendments, we, as students, of the State University System should give a bit of extra thought to the more relevant of the bunch, Amendment No. 12, titled “Appointment of Student Body President to Board of Governors of State University System.”

The proposed amendment calls for the revision as to how the student representative to the BOG is selected. If approved by Florida voters, the BOG would establish a council of student body presidents from the SUS schools and the chair of said council would sit on the BOG.

The Florida Student Association is an independent organization comprised of student body presidents of the SUS schools; all of which must pay an annual membership fee based on the enrollment of their respective institutions.

However, if the student body of a university does not pay its membership dues, it loses its seat of representa-

tion within FSA’s Board of Directors, as is the case with Florida State University.

As is, I see problems with both the current and the proposed method for the selection of our student representative on the BOG.

With the proposed amendment, the BOG itself will be organizing a council of student government presidents – under the purview of the BOG – whose chairperson would sit as a member of the BOG.

In 1975, FSA was established as a means of giving student representatives a degree of independence from the BOG, who was trying to take away control over the allocation of Student Activities and Service fee monies from student governments throughout the SUS.

Since then, FSA has been the main lobbying organization in the state of Florida within the state legislature, and has been able to do so as an independent entity from any respective SUS administrations.

However, FSA has evolved into an organization that follows a pay-to-play formula in which if one of the 11 – soon to be 12 – universities’ student bodies select not to

pay their membership dues, their voice on FSA’s Board of Directors, and in turn, the BOG is revoked. Currently, FSA only represents 10 Florida universities – FSU decided not to dish out the thousands of dollars in annual dues.

The problem with the casting of our respective votes on Amendment No. 12 on Nov. 6 is that we will be faced with choosing the lesser of two evils.

The first of the two evils is the current model for student representation which is chosen from an organization whose members are, to an extent, coerced into paying thousands of dollars in order to be heard; the second being that a council be formed by the BOG to select a student representative to sit on the BOG and the run the risk furthering the BOG’s own agenda and not that of the over 300,000 SUS students.

In other words, do we, as students, pay for independent representation, or do we vote for mandatory representation that runs the risk of drinking the Kool-Aid of the BOG’s own agenda.

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SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com.



TRADITION

Halloween, an evolving tradition around the world

KATHERINE LEPRI
Staff Writer

As one of the world's oldest holidays, the celebration of Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, is descendant of ancient religious and superstitious rituals that stem back centuries and across the globe.

"Halloween emerged as a harvest celebration," said Sarah Mahler, professor of global and sociocultural studies. "Halloween celebrates harvest time. It is embraced by people around the world."

Most scholars believe that western European harvest festivals and festivals of the dead with pagan roots, particularly the Celtic Samhain, originally influenced All Hallows' Eve.

Gaelic for "summer's end," Samhain was the most significant holiday of the Celtic year. The ancient Celts believed it was at this time, during the fall equinox, that the souls of the dead traveled into the other world.

The Celts believed that on Oct. 31, the boundaries between the worlds of the living and the dead overlapped, and the deceased would come back to life and cause havoc, such as sickness or damaged crops.

During the festival of Samhain, the Celts wore costumes of animal skins and heads and attempted to tell each other's fortunes.

"The typical ritual way of trying to fight some kind of force is the idea that by adapting some of the characteristics of the thing you are trying to combat, you are able to have power over it," said Leslie Northup, associate professor of religious studies at the University. "The original idea is that the rituals would appease these frightening beings."

"The notion that Halloween is purely a pagan holiday is incorrect," Northup said. "Halloween has very ancient roots in early Christian practices."

In the early Christian church, before Rome was distinguished as the center of Christianity, All Souls Eve signified the time when Christians would go to visit the graves of people they loved who had departed. This early Christian ritual, often referred to as refrigerium, was a common practiced celebration.

"The church did not necessarily promote it," Northup said.

It was not until the 8th century when Pope Gregory III officially designated Nov. 1 as All Souls Day, the day to honor all saints and martyrs. The evening before then became officially known as All Hallows' Eve and later Halloween.

Modern traditions of Halloween include trick-or-treating, pumpkin carving and throwing parties. Halloween parties, which became popular in the late 19th century, focus on games, foods of the season and festive costumes, and are now the most common way to celebrate the day.

"Trick-or-treating is a relatively new invention," said Mahler. "The treating part or trick part makes fun of death. It allows people to have identity freedom they don't normally have."

At FIU, both students and staff are more familiar with the cultural rituals than the religious based ones.

"We grew up in a rural community in Pennsylvania where it was very much a part of life," said Juliet Pinto, associate professor of journalism. "You got dressed up, and it was fall and you did the harvest festivals, all of it."

Unlike Pinto who grew up in a society that celebrated Halloween, Charlotte Hart, a student visiting FIU from Victoria University in Australia, did not grow up with trick-or-treating or dressing up in costumes until she went to parties as a teenager.

"It's no where near as big as here; there's not as much stuff," Hart said. "It's not like kids go around in the streets trick-or-treating [in Melbourne]. They aren't really supposed to do that."

This is Hart's first time celebrating Halloween in the U.S., and she is excited to get dressed up. She is going as a can of Diet Coke this year.

For 364 days out of the year, children are taught not to talk to strangers and definitely not to take candy from them. Yet on one day, Halloween, parents across the county encourage the reverse behavior.

Halloween is the one exception from daily routines when normal is flipped on its head like an upside down jack-o'-lantern.

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STYLE SIGHTINGS

How to have a wallet-friendly Halloween costume

Today is Halloween, and for any student on a college budget, spending your week's check on a \$100 costume you're probably only going to wear once is not ideal.

Thankfully, this is the one holiday of the year where your creativity can kick into full gear. This past week, MMC was crawling with students and alumni attending the football game and tailgate, but when the sun set and the moon came out, everyone seemed to shift gears from football fun to costume madness.

A great costume doesn't need much, just some ingenuity, confidence and perhaps a mask. Senior economics major Franco Diolivero understood that completely. Making use of some un-used bed sheets at home, he wrapped them around him

in a Greco-Roman style for a make-shift toga. Then investing less than \$30 at Party City, he got a classic facial armor mask and a plastic sword to complete his look as a gladiator.

Amanda Ortega, junior theater major, spiced things up as a Candy Corn Witch. Grabbing most of her costume from her closet, and her mother's, Ortega used spider web stickers and creepy rings to give her look a more traditional Halloween vibe. She did admit though to investing in her black and orange-stripped dress that she found at her local Goodwill.

Another Goodwill junkie was senior liberal arts student Shane Zaldivar. This student took things to the next level with his costume, doing it successfully and in stilettos. Zaldivar created his own version of the famous Poison Ivy from a Goodwill skirt and embellished bra, satin full length gloves and hand-made leafy bracelets.

To say the least, the possibilities are endless of do-it-yourself costumes, but if your closet seems to be lacking that final finishing touch, just head on over to your local Goodwill store and you'll be sure to find whatever it is you are looking for. If you don't, then you'll surely find something even better and for less than \$30.

-life@fiusm.com

COLUMNIST



ASHLEY GARNER



ASHLEY GARNER/THE BEACON

Senior economics major Franco Diolivero used bed sheets for his gladiator costume.

COVER TO COVER

Are you ready for the zombie apocalypse?

The undead can strike at any time. Little is known of how or when these flesh-eating monsters will ravage humanity. Refuge, whether it be bunker, condemned building or cramped closet can only keep you safe for so long.

Learn to fight back! Equipped with detailed illustrations and how-to's on handling any zombie situation, Max Brooks' "The Zombie Survival Guide" will give you the knowledge that can keep you and your fellow survivors safe from a muscle-tearing death.

Warning: being exposed to this book may also lead to symptoms of boredom, regret, and willingness to become the undead rather than reading more page. Mostly due to its amount of detail, men, women, and children who aren't zombie enthusiasts are advised to avoid this book entirely.

From beginning to end, Brooks has tailored "The Zombie Survival Guide" to possibly answer every zombie-related question. Divided into six chapters,

and condensed to 254 pages, this book covers topics from fighting techniques, recommended arsenals, to how the infected can be treated.

Though shelved as a funny read, the tone is surprisingly serious. Brooks adds suggestions like "Do not discount any section of this book as hypothetical drama."

To prove the validity of zombies, Brooks also says that studying recorded outbreaks will prove that every lesson in this book is rooted in historical fact.

As nonsensical as this book may seem at first, a reader who continues into the book will find that this "complete guide" under the mentioned state of the world, can actually work.

Overall, "The Zombie Survival Guide" is a fun read before the apocalypse and a must-read during the apocalypse. He may sound crazy and exhaustively detailed, but when hordes of the undead are closing in, it will be Brooks' wise words that will resonate in the still beating hearts of those sole survivors.

-marcy.diaz@fiusm.com

COLUMNIST



MARCY DIAZ

TOP FIVE

SCARIEST FIU COURSES

1. **MAGIC AND RELIGIONS**
This course will examine the role of magic, witchcraft, and the supernatural in various religions and cultural contexts.

2.

PHILOSOPHY OF DEATH

This course analyzes the meaning of death and man's attitude towards death and the dying.

4.

HOMICIDE

This course will examine the role of magic, witchcraft, and the supernatural in various religions and cultural contexts.

3.

STUDIES IN EVIL

Explores the explanations and representations of evil in the twentieth century, as manifested in literature, film, theology, and philosophy.

5.

RASTA, VODOO, SANTERIA

Critical and sociological phenomenological analysis of the history, beliefs, rituals, and social significance of Rastafarianism, Vodou, and Santeria on the Caribbean and the U.S.

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

Panthers earn third seed, to face Troy in first round



JONATHAN SEGAL/BEACON FILE PHOTO

The Panthers head into the Sun Belt tournament riding a five game winning streak in which they have scored 19 goals.

MICHAEL ORTEGA
Contributing Writer

After ending the regular season in a three way tie for first with North Texas (13-4-2 overall; 8-1-1 SBC) and Middle Tennessee (13-4-1; 8-1-1 SBC), FIU sets its sights on the Sun Belt Conference tournament.

Last season, the Panthers won the tournament last season against Western Kentucky on penalty kicks because of goalie Kaitlyn Savage's stellar performance. Head Coach Thomas Chestnutt believed that the team last year was very similar to this year, where each knew what they wanted.

"Last year the team played great in the tournament, they knew what they wanted and they went after it," said Chestnutt. "They didn't want anything else than to win and finish the season on top."

This year the SBC tournament will be just as treacherous for the Panthers, who will be the third seed and will be facing Troy, the sixth seed (9-9-2 overall; 4-5-1 SBC) first on Oct. 31 at Mobile, Ala.

FIU defeated Troy earlier on the road in the regular season 2-1 in overtime. However, the game was not as close as it seemed, as the Panthers out shot the Trojans 26-7 and had more corner kicks, 12-1, than Troy. Chestnutt thinks that the team needs to continue its recent success both offensively and defensively.

"We need to continue with what we are doing both on offense and on defense," said Chestnutt. "We have a pretty good game plan in mind and we are going to get ready this week in practice."

One of the main focuses the team must continue with is improving the offense, which has scored 17 goals over the last

four matches. The offense did improve throughout the season, improving from averaging 10 shots a game to over 20 a game at the end of the regular season.

Forwards Scarlett Montoya and Chelsea Leiva, who have combined for 19 goals this season, must continue to push the offense and create opportunities for the rest of team, as well as forcing corner kicks and taking advantage of what the defense gives them.

On the other side of the ball, FIU's defense has been stout throughout the season, allowing just four goals over the last six matches against conference foes. FIU will have to contain sophomore forward Chelsey Williams, who leads Troy in goals with eight on the season.

"The girls have been practicing for this and have been ready for this all year long," said Chestnutt. "They are as ready as they can be."

Savage, who is about to play in her last Sun Belt Conference Tournament, must be ready for anything thrown her way. The Panthers have allowed the second fewest goals in the conference this season, 18, for an average of just one per game. Savage also ties for third in the conference with seven shutouts this season.

After the first four games on Oct. 31, the teams will take a break on Thursday to then continue with two semi final games Friday, Nov. 2. Then the last two teams will meet in the final round on Sunday, Nov. 4.

"I know the team is ready for this, they have been here before and are looking to come out the same way as last year," said Chestnutt. "They won't take any less than what they had last year."

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VOLLEYBALL

Blocks cannot push FIU past top Sun Belt teams

JONATHAN JACOBSKIND
Staff Writer

There is a bold saying in sports that defense wins championships; that is, unless your offense is not below average. This can be said for the FIU volleyball team that is fresh off of two consecutive losses against Middle Tennessee and No.19 Western Kentucky.

This was the second time the Panthers (7-17, 4-8 SBC) were defeated by both squads in the same weekend in the 2012 campaign. Despite the Panthers displaying a stout defensive resistance after posting a season high in blocks in both matches with 17, their inability to transfer their success in practice onto the games and level of inconsistency continues to haunt them.

"It has been the same problem this entire season with the level of inconsistency," Head Coach Trevor Theroulde said. "The thing is when we put the players in game situations during practice, we are not seeing that knowledge in practice transfer over to the actual game. We have been trying extremely hard to create those game situations in practice, but it seems that we come out and play at

high level and be great for one match, but then be very inconsistent the next match."

As the squad's defense continues to step up, the team's capability to create a consistent offensive attack has severely faulted as just one player, junior Kimberly Smith, has surpassed the .200 kill per set average with .219. Despite leading the teams with a .219 kill per set percentage,

that number is still below the average .250 kill percentage.

"Defensively, we are doing great, we are one of the best blocking teams in the country. We are holding teams under .100 kill per set percentage," Theroulde said. "Like versus Middle Tennessee we held them to a percentage of .067, but our hitters are

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MEN'S SOCCER

Panthers eliminated from postseason contention

BRANDON WISE
Sports Director

The year that started with so much promise has gone out with a whimper.

After starting the year with a five-game winning streak, the best for the program in the last 25 years, the FIU men's soccer team dropped seven of its last 11 matches and is now officially eliminated from going to the Conference USA tournament.

Despite its average 7-7-2 overall record, FIU is 0-6-1 in conference play and remains

the only team without a conference win.

After holding a 1-0 lead against the Memphis Tigers on Oct. 27 in the 55th minute, the Panthers conceded a goal 10 minutes later to Benjamin Ciosanski to tie the game. Ciosanski then put the dagger into FIU's postseason hopes with a goal in overtime.

The last time FIU won a conference match was Oct. 2, 2011, when the team took down the University of Kentucky 1-0 in overtime.

Part of the issue for the Panthers' late-season struggles has been the sub par play of their defense and freshman goalie Robin

Speigel, who gave up 15 goals over the past six games. Senior defender Anthony Hobbs saw limited action over the past four games, averaging just 37.2 minutes over the past five matches.

The Panthers have also not fared well on the offensive, scoring only six goals in their last five games. Sophomore Quentin Albrecht has also cooled after starting the year with five goals in three games. In the last five games, the New Zealand native only managed one goal on 13 shot attempts.

While Hobbs may not have had much

success on the field recently, his off-the-field actions have not gone unnoticed.

The senior is in third place of the online fan voting poll for the senior CLASS award. The award is presented each year to the outstanding senior NCAA Division I Student-Athlete of the Year across nine different sports.

Hobbs is a finalist in a field of nine other men's soccer players and trails Scott Caldwell of Akron and Ryan Hollingshead of UCLA.

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GOLF

Freshman continues strong play, wins Pat Bradley Invite

TAREK HAMZEH
Contributing Writer

It's almost a shame that the fall leg of FIU golf is coming to an end because the Panthers are rolling through their opponents.

After placing first in the 2012 Wolverine Invitational and fourth in the Johnie Imes Invitational, the Panthers continued to display their dominance by winning the 35th Annual Pat Bradley Invitational held at the Cypress Links Course in Sarasota, Fla., on Oct. 21 to 23.

The Panthers put on a tremendous display of consistency by holding the lead after each day of the three-day, 54 hole-invitational. After leading Cincinnati by just one stroke after day one, the Panthers controlled their destiny over the next two days.

They maintained their consistency over the next two days, finishing the tournament with a

team score of 876 strokes, the second-lowest team score in the history of this event. They also dominated the field of play as runner-up. Cincinnati finished 26 strokes behind the Panthers.

After being named the Sun-Belt Conference Women's Golfer of the Month for October, freshman Meghan MacLaren won the individual medalist honors at the invitational.

She shot an astounding two-under (70) on the final day to record a one-over (217) for the tournament.

Her collegiate career is off to a stellar start, finishing at the top of the pack in two of her first three matches, winning her first match at the 2012 Wolverine Invitational in Ann Arbor.

After the Pat Bradley Invitational, Head Coach Pat Vogel raved about his standout freshman.

"MacLaren's confidence comes as no surprise to me. I knew I was getting a great

player when she chose to come to FIU," Vogel said. "After shooting over par for the first two holes of the tournament, I had no doubt she would be able to gather herself and bounce back. She is a very hard worker and her work is paying off."

Two other Panthers, senior Tania Tare and junior Shelby Coyle finished tied for fifth place overall shooting six-over par (222).

Coyle, last year's FIU Pat Bradley Invitational medalist, came into the final round in 15th place. She shot two-under (70) on the final day to make the biggest leap all the way up to fifth place.

Freshman Sophie Goldey came into the final round placed in second right behind MacLaren. She shot a 79 on the final day of the invitational to finish tied for ninth-place with a three-day score of 224. Senior Yolecci Jimenez finished right behind Goldey shooting a 225 over the three-day span. Freshman Carla

Jane rounded out FIU scoring by shooting a 237 leaving her in a tie for 41st overall.

"The team played so consistent throughout the tournament. We had four girls finish in the top 10 and we held the lead after each day of the tournament. Once we got out in front the pressure was on us and we responded," Vogel said.

The Panthers are currently finishing up the second day of the Rainbow Wahine Invitational in Oahu, Hawaii. FIU is the highest ranked team of the 12 schools competing in the invitational. This tournament marks the last one of the fall season for the Panthers and Vogel is pleased with how the team has played.

"The girls are working hard and more importantly, having a lot of fun out there and as long as they keep doing that, we should be just fine," Vogel said.

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Team looking for answers as season hits home stretch

VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 6

only hit .009, which is crazy. We are getting almost 35-40 errors a game. You cannot have those sort of things if you want to play at a high level."

To put things into perspective, FIU only has five players hitting above a dismal .100 kill per set average, with three players even hitting a negative hitting percentage.

It seems as if the new 5-1 formation assistant coach Travers Green recently implemented on the team may not have reached its full potential last weekend versus MTSU and WKU due to the amount of injuries the players are not fully recovered from.

"With the new formation, we simplified everything which worked out well for us but still our setters are injured," Theroulde said. "[Jessica] Egan did not play this weekend, she is still ill, Renele [Forde] is playing at 50 percent, she has a torn labrum and then Ashlee [Hodgskin] is still injured so now we have to play our hurt setters. It's almost like having a quarterback that doesn't practice the entire week but then the game comes forcing him to play."

Along with the level of inconsistency, not having a go-to scorer emerge from the squad has been problematic for the Panthers.

"It is very difficult to have a bunch of players who have been

role players their entire careers and ask them to step up and take on a role as a leader and a go-to scorer," Theroulde said. "It is almost like asking Mario Chalmers, who every so often may play a brilliant game, to carry the team night in and night out. That's why you rely on your starters like LeBron James, Dwayne Wade or Chris Bosh."

The Panthers are now preparing for another grudge match as they will take on Florida Atlantic in the third straight home match this Saturday, Nov. 3. The Panthers defeated the Owls 3-2 nearly a month ago in Boca Raton, Fla. First set is slated for 6:30 p.m.

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SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT, ARTS AND SOCIETY

Sustainable gardens outside the farm, in the University



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

The Agroecology Certificate Program at the University gives students scientific and practical knowledge of issues that emerge from the relationship between natural resources, agriculture and urban development. The program built an organic garden at the Modesto Maidique Campus with the help of students in 2008. The garden gives students of the program a hands-on approach. In 2010, the USDA named the University's organic garden a People's Garden. To receive this, the garden had to be ecologically sustainable, be maintained by the community and benefit the community.

SOMAILY NIEVES
Contributing Writer

Agriculture is not always limited to a farm. Sustainable agriculture considers its impact in the environment, society and the economy. This is agroecology.

The Agroecology Certificate Program at the University gives students scientific and practical knowledge of issues that emerge from the relationship among natural resources, agriculture and urban development, with emphasis on the importance of ecologically sustainable agriculture.

The certificate program includes 18 credit hours in agroecology courses, internships, scholarships and research to prepare students for the workforce.

The United States Department of Agriculture gave funding to support the beginning of the agroecology program in 2005 and then gave financial support through the Hispanic Serving Institutions grant, Multicultural Scholars program and the National Needs Fellows program.

The agroecology program received a multi-year, multi-institutional HSI grant called the Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agricultural Education, a grant scholarship for students.

Daniella Vargas, a junior studying biology and president of the Student Farmworker Alliance, is part of the agroecology program and received the FCCAE scholarship.

"It's really strict, but it's really good because it pushes the boundaries and it does open doors to research," Vargas said.

The program concentrates on lectures and classroom experience. The agroecology program built an organic garden at the Modesto Maidique Campus with the help of students in 2008.

The garden gives students of the program a hands-on approach.

Vanessa Sanchez, a graduate student of the agroecology program and environmental studies, enjoys the hands-on aspect of the program.

"The program is great because it allows you to actually do things yourself and it helps you to understand things better," said Sanchez. "You can sit in a classroom for hours and not learn much, but when you get to do things is when you see the effects and how things work."

In 2010, the USDA named the University's organic garden a People's Garden. To receive this designation, the garden had to be ecologically sustainable, be maintained by the community and benefit the community.

SEE AGROECOLOGY, PAGE 2

Oktoberfest in November BREW club hosts beer expo in Kovens Center

SHANNON COPELAND
Contributing Writer

October might be over, but the Oktoberfest is still on for beer lovers.

The Biscayne's Renowned Engineers of Wort club under the umbrella of the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management will host the first Biscayne Brewers Expo set for Nov. 4 at the Kovens Center, serving beer with ingredients ranging from wheat to oats.

The event will be held from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and will be open to anyone over 21 years of age. Participants need to bring their IDs.

Tickets are \$20 for Florida International University students and \$35 for non-FIU students. Tickets at the doors will be \$35.

"Guests will be treated to good beer, while overlooking the bay at the Kovens Center," said Zhi Long Yang, vice president of BREW.

Bread, pretzels and nuts will be served but a special ingredient is going to be added.

"Actually, instead of water, we will use beer to make the butter and the mustard as

well," said Yang.

The Brewer's Expo is a celebration of Oktoberfest, which is a 16-day festival to celebrate beer which originated in Munich, Bavaria in Germany.

The event is meant to create an awareness and appreciation of beer and how it's made.

"Usually people would just chug down beer, but some enjoy it and they want to know what's in it; that's what we want," said Yang.

All beer showcased by the BREW club is authentic from the ingredients to the expected taste.

Along with the BREW club, Cigar City Brewery and Due South and other local breweries will showcase their beer, which will be served at 5 oz per person.

A large turnout is expected and tickets are limited due to a maximum capacity of 300 patrons.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting the Facebook page, www.facebook.com/BREWFIU or by visiting their official webpage, www.biscaynebrewersbash.com.

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KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE? VOTE!



SANA ULLAH/THE BEACON

Mimi Pink substituted speaker Laurence Fishburne on Oct. 29. Pink worked a few decades in the non-profit sector focusing on education and performing arts. She committed to the Obama campaign in Feb. of last year. She spoke on her personal experiences as a campaign volunteer which included knocking on 500 doors by herself.