

Game Notes
FIU vs. FAU
October 2, 2014

General

- FIU captains were **Demarkus Perkins, Michael Wakefield, De'Shawn Hazziez** and **Donald Senat**.
- Tonight's total delay was one hour and 50 minutes.
- In total, the Panthers have had three rain delays this season that have totaled 3 hours and 41 minutes (Pittsburgh – 49 minutes, Louisville – 62 minutes, Florida Atlantic – 110 minutes).
- FIU wins its first Shula Bowl since Nov. 16, 2012 and has now won three of the last four contests against the Owls.
- The last time FIU started conference play with consecutive wins was 2010, when it started 2-0 in the Sun Belt Conference.
- Richard Leonard was named the FIU MVP for the Shula Bowl while Lucky Whitehead is the MVP for Florida Atlantic.
- The last time FIU scored at least 38 points in a game was vs. Akron on Sept. 8, 2012 in a 41-38 overtime victory.
- The last time FIU scored 30 or more points in back-to-back victories was 2010 (at Louisiana, 38-17; vs. Arkansas State, 31-24).

Defense

- With four turnovers vs. FAU, FIU has now accumulated 21 turnovers, which currently leads the nation heading in to Saturday's games.
- With three recovered fumbles, FIU now has 13 total fumble recoveries through six games this season. That ranks tied for second in school history with the 2007 squad.
- Prior to the Leonard interception, Florida Atlantic had attempted 171-straight passes without throwing an interception.
- FIU's four returns for a touchdown on defense currently ranks second in school history, one off the 2005 squad, which had five.

Richard Leonard

- Leonard's 100-yard fumble return is his third return for a touchdown this season (two interceptions, one fumble). Those three returns tie a school record with Nick Turnbull, who had three returns for a touchdown on a fumble, punt and interception during the 2005 season.
- Leonard now has five career returns for a touchdown, passing Nick Turnbull (2002-05) and Lionell Singleton (2004-07) for second all-time in FIU history. He owns both 100-yard returns (kick, punt, interception or fumble) in school history. Below is a list of all of Leonard's returns during his career.
 - o 10/2/14 vs. Florida Atlantic: 100-yard fumble return
 - o 11/16/12 at Florida Atlantic: 100-yard kickoff return
 - o 9/6/14 vs. Wagner: 60-yard interception return

- 9/8/12 vs. Akron: 49-yard punt return
- 9/27/14 at UAB: 25-yard interception return
- Leonard becomes the first FIU player to return a fumble for a touchdown since Justin Halley did it on a 62-yard return at Troy on Oct. 20, 2012.
- Leonard's four interceptions this season ranks tied for second in program history with Johnathan Cyprien (2012), Justin Halley (2011), and Nick Turnbull (2003). The program record is five.
- His career interception total is now seven, which ranks tied for fourth with Justin Halley (2010-present) and Johnathan Cyprien (2009-12).

Offense

- Alex Gardner scored his first career rushing touchdown in an FIU uniform.
- With his 100-yard rushing performance, Gardner becomes the first FIU true freshman to tally multiple 100-plus yard rushing games. Gardner also tallied 138 yards vs. Wagner (9/6).