Anonymous donor offers $5 million

CHRISTINA VEIGA
Asst. News Director

The terms may be unclear, but FIU’s Board of Directors accepted on July 25 an anonymous potential donation of $5 million for its new medical school.

Presented with only an oral statement from University President Modesto Maidique, the board not only accepted the cash donation, but also according to The Miami Herald, it also assumed a “lifetime liability on two insurance claims” as a term for the gift.

It is not fully understood what this could mean for FIU, and Director of Media Relations Maydel Santana-Brazo said that she was not in the position to describe this special condition to The Beacon.

The Miami Herald also reported that Maidique reviewed the offer with attorneys, determining that the only risk associated with this donation is a $10,000 administrative fee.

Santana-Brazo could not comment as to what the fee would pay for, or where the funds would come from.

Though unconfirmed, Maidique also said the donor may have an endowed professorship named, which would allocate funds to help recruit top professors to FIU.

“Endowed professorships give the University a chance to attract a star in a field,” Santana-Brazo said.

Currently, Santana-Brazo said that the donor is in the process of making a final decision. If the gift is made, FIU will qualify for a matching gift from the state.

When the gift is complete, the donor’s identity may be revealed.

“I don’t know why the donor has remained anonymous, but I do believe he will eventually be identified,” Santana-Brazo said.

Dean explores sound art in South Pole

NICOLE ACOSTA
Asst. News Director

When Lesley A. Northup became the interim dean of The Honors College a year ago, she needed to find someone to replace her as associate dean. Eventually, Juan Carlos Espinosa was hired for the position in the fall of 2006. His qualifications: his previous experience at Miami-Dade College’s Office of the President and being a “Renaissance Man” involved with politics and sound art.

“We want people [on the faculty] who are in themselves what honors students in the Honors College should be, and [Espinosa] is a very good model for that,” Northup said. “He’s a very conscientious mentor who works closely with his students one on one to get job interviews and scholarships. Teachers who love teaching are usually the best teachers.”

Espinosa said he has two passions, one of them being his academic political science background and his teaching, the other being his sound art.

Born in Cuba in 1959, he migrated to Miami when he was six-years-old. After years of public schooling in Miami, Espinosa went on to earn a bachelor of arts degree in international relations from Florida State University in 1981.

After coming back to the United States to live in San Francisco for some time, Espinosa came back to Miami to teach in the mid 1980’s and went on to earn his masters degree at the University of Miami in 1995 and then his doctorate in international relations and comparative politics at the University of Miami.

Throughout this time, Espinosa was involved in Cuban and Cuban American studies, eventually becoming one of the founders of the Institute for Cuban and Cuban American Studies at UM and going on to give political commentary on the subject.

“I was not particularly interested in Cuban history and culture until I went to college. Later, I became obsessed with the history and culture of Republican Cuba. My passion is more a curiosity as to how Cuba ended up in the Arab-Andean, an art piece by Xavier Cortada that represents global climate change. Espinosa provided the sound art for the piece.
Senior loses life before graduation

MARTHA CHECROLES
News Director

Pre-physical therapy senior Daniel A. Matos, 22, died July 18 at his home in University Park.

His mother, Trini Blaya, found him dead on his bed hours after he died, when she went to wake him up to go to class. It is estimated that he died at about 10 a.m.

After an autopsy, the cause of death remains unknown. A pathology exam was conducted as well but results can take up to three months.

Matos had spent the night before playing video games at the house of his friend Danny Quinto, who was the last person to see him alive. He got home at 3 a.m., prepared to go to sleep, and lay down with his glasses on. This is how he was found.

“He passed away very peacefully in this sleep. There was no struggle, it didn’t look like there was any resistance,” Blaya said.

His family has ruled out suicide as a possible cause of death.

“There were a lot of things going on in his life that he was looking forward to. I don’t think he would be capable of committing suicide,” said his sister Lissette Matos, 30.

Matos, a graduate of Southwest Miami High, would have graduated next fall with a pre-physical therapy bachelor’s degree. He wanted to get into FIU’s physical therapy master’s degree program but was not accepted into it. He was considering taking a year off and reapplying next year, his sister said.

According to Physical Therapy Associate Professor Awilda Haskins, the program is very selective, admitting only 48 students per year. Haskins remembers Matos from a class last spring.

“He really wanted to get into the program and become a physical therapist,” Haskins said. “He was an outgoing and diligent student, and a warm and caring person.”

Matos’ family is now trying to get a post-mortem degree from FIU.

“He was about to graduate and it’s a shame. He did so much work for it,” Lissette Matos said.

According to FIU student Derek Sorare, who knew him since elementary school, Matos enjoyed the outdoors and nature. Both joined the Boy Scouts in elementary school. While Sorare quit a few years later, Matos continued in the program as long as he could until, according to Sorare, “he was basically kicked out of it because of his age.”

Last June, Matos joined Sorare and other friends on a sailing and snorkeling trip through the Florida Keys.

“It was one of the last exciting things he did,” Sorare said.

While taking classes, Matos also worked at TGI Friday’s at the Dolphin Mall, where he is remembered as a caring person who would always stop working to help everyone else.

Coworker Nely Titart remembers one day when Matos sang Tainted Love in front of everyone else at the restaurant.

“He didn’t care what people thought of him,” Titart said.

His sister describes him as an intellectual who enjoyed gadgets, books and games. She remembers going to concerts together, taking turns in paying for the tickets. Nine Inch Nails was the last concert they went to.

“It was a little thing we had. If he couldn’t pay for the ticket, I would get him and he would get me next time,” Lissette Matos said.

“His friends were his passion,” said Blaya, and added that the funeral procession was so long she had to get extra police forces.

“There might have been over a thousand people there,” Blaya said. Matos was buried Saturday July 21 at the Our Lady of Mercy cemetery in the City of Doral.

In addition to his mother and sister, Matos is survived by his brother, his father, a stepfather, and two grandmothers.

New status provides extra funds for FIU

Associate dean uses modern media to explain war topics

SOUTH POLE, page 1

Estrella Espinosa, associate dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, is the author of “Soundtrack to the South Pole,” a new book that examines the music, art and cultural projects that have been undertaken in Antarctica.

Espinosa’s book, which is due out in September, explores the role of music, art and culture in the pursuit of scientific research.

She said her goal is to use the book as a tool for engaging with students and the public on the topic of Antarctica.

In her book, Espinosa examines how Antarctic science has influenced and been influenced by art and music.

She also explores how music and art have been used to communicate scientific findings, as well as to raise awareness about environmental issues.

Espinosa’s book is part of a broader initiative at FIU to use modern media to explain complex scientific topics.

She said her hope is that by using the book as a platform, FIU students and the public can better understand the scientific work being conducted in Antarctica.

Espinosa is a professor of musicology and a researcher in the field of Antarctic studies.

She recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation to study the role of music and art in Antarctica.

Espinosa’s research has focused on the use of sound and music to communicate scientific findings, as well as to raise awareness about environmental issues.

She said her goal is to use her research to create a new generation of scientists who are more engaged with the public and who are better equipped to communicate their findings.

Espinosa’s book, “Soundtrack to the South Pole,” is available for purchase online and at local bookstores.

The book has received positive reviews from science writers and fans of Antarctic studies.

Espinosa said she hopes the book will help to raise awareness about the scientific work being conducted in Antarctica and to inspire a new generation of scientists who are more engaged with the public.
Drama club lets students explore their artistic sides

**VANESSA A. ALVAREZ** Contributing Writer

Stephen Neal, FIU theater professor, sought to give the Biscayne Bay Campus students the opportunity to hone their social skills while learning the performing arts with the BBC Dramatics club.

The reason Neal was driven to help form the club was not only because there were no acting or theater classes being offered at BBC, but also because he remembered how acting changed his life for the better.

"I was able to overcome my shyness and by the time I graduated, I was one of the most popular and respected kids in the class," Neal said, looking back on how much of his success in life, to the caring teacher who reached out to me and to the self-confidence she helped me find through acting exercises and coming off the stage," he said. Neal was soon determined to pass on the gift his teacher had given him by agreeing to drive the force behind the club.

"It has been very good for the kids at BBC to exercise their passions for theater. The club has given people opportunities they may not have had before or access to," Neal said.

The club, which began in 2002 as the goal to get more theater-related events at BBC, rapidly evolved into an organization specifically for non-theater major students who have an interest in exploring their artistic side.

"Dramatics members get their chance to participate in large-scale productions and activities such as Open-Mic Night, which occurs once every semester and gives members the chance to sing, act and recite poetry. They also participate in Ski Day, which is when they collectively pick a ski and perform it for anyone willing to watch. Plays such as: "Butterflies are Free," "Beyond Therapy," "The Odd Couple," and "Baby with the Bath Water," a comedy by Christopher Durang, have all been performed at BBC since the creation of the club. The club is funded by the Student Organizations Council and according to John Morris, Dramatics president, the actors participate in fund-raisers and even use their own props in the productions."

"For the last show we had, my parents came and recognized half the set," he said. "They kept on telling themselves "Ooh, I recognize that table cloth, I recognize that chair," Morris continued.

"Morris, a senior double-majoring in English and History, was one of the charter members of Dramatics. He and a few other students decided to create the club in the Spring of 2002 after taking Introduction to Acting with Neal. Morris says that without Neal, the club wouldn't have been as successful."

"Professor Neal is one of our biggest supporters. This club is his boy. He's our advisor, our mentor. If we ever need anything, he's always there," Morris said.

"According to Morris, to join Dramatics no experience is required. The only requirement is creativity. "Acting does not have to be the only interest. Some people come up to us and say 'I want to join but I can't act and that is okay because there's a job for anyone who wants to get involved. People can participate in the areas of production, make-up, and even stage," Morris said.

"Now, going on its fifth year, the club, which Neal dreamt would serve as a creative outlet for students, has also opened many doors outside of school for its members. Students like Heather Callam, former president of the club and FIU alumna, for instance, had the opportunity to participate in a short film while staying focused on her non-theatrical major. The mini-film titled "Spies," which she helped write, direct, produce, as well as act in, debuted at the first FIU Film Festival last Spring.

However, according to Callam, this was not the only thing she got from her active participation in Dramatics. "Dramatics allowed me to open up to people. It helped me come out of my shell and be around other cultures."

"I began participating in activities around school and eventually this lead me to become more involved in my community. While I am passionate about acting, I'm looking forward to either going on to law school or obtaining a masters degree in social work," Callam said.
Television used to manipulate consumers’ purchasing habits

JOY CLAHAR Contributing Writer

What is the impact of television on your life as an American? The important thing to understand is that the primary purpose of television is to advertise to the public, not to entertain, to inspire, to enrich, or to empower.

The big screen at the focus of your entertainment center is not intended to bring you what you want but to make you think that you want or need something you do not already have. It is a constant manipulation of your emotions by so much more than just a stream of commercials.

Have you ever taken the time to think about the effect of local news on the psyche? What does it accomplish, knowing that Paris Hilton went to jail, a store was held up, and someone was killed? It’s summertime in South Florida and that means a number of things. For those of you who do not work nine-to-five jobs, going outside during the day is only done when absolutely necessary and the air conditioner is on at full blast along with the television.

According to the A.C. Nielsen Co., the average American watches television more than four hours of T.V. each day -- or 28 hours/week, which equates to two months of nonstop TV-watching per year. In a 65 year lifespan, that person will have spent nine years glued to the tube. There is so much else to do, like prepare a better job, read, write or learn a new language. But for most people, television inevitably leads to only one activity: spending. You may think of television as cheap, convenient entertainment but the producers are making money because businesses are willing to pay them large sums to keep you in your seat for their commercials. Since they know that the public is there, waiting receptively for the return of their favorite show, they can sell you anything from toilet paper to prescription drugs.

College students are especially targeted by the media and because of their youth they are easily influenced. If a college student becomes addicted to his or her television, the ability of the media to manipulate the public should not be underestimated. In his book, An Assault on Reason, Al Gore gave an example of how this power is used not only to sell Downy toilet tissue but to influence voting patterns.

During his campaign for the presidency, campaign advisors were able to ensure Gore an 8.5 percent increase in the polls. This was all possible due to the implementation of mass advertisement schemes, which increased exposure and showed just how influential advertising could be.

There are companies, such as A.C. Nielsen Media, whose business it is to collect and deliver data on the demographics of television programming and commercial viewing to local stations, broadcast networks and, most significantly, advertisers. According to their website, measurement is only the beginning. The advertiser services group provides “unparalleled and objective, third-party insight into the media activity of advertisers and their competitors.”

Television, like almost anything else, can be a good thing when used in moderation. There is a variety of programming that educates on everything from history and engineering to nature and biographies. I was shocked the other day when my cousin’s five year old daughter explained evaporation to me and told me that she had learned it from kid’s television show.

There are entire channels dedicated to inspiring creativity in the kitchen, home improvement projects, and even adding a bit of spice to any wardrobe. But after getting a few ideas, true learning and fun comes from what you do with them.

But no amount of technical equipment or data analysis could give advertisers the power to achieve their goals without the consent of their viewers.

Do you want to earn a 4.0 GPA this semester, own your own home by age thirty, get in shape, have a healthier diet or even help stop global warming? Whatever your dream, ask yourself: is being in front of the 50 inch television right now getting me closer or farther away?

The next time you sit before that
Managing stress levels begins with managing one's life

As we all have experienced, some more than others, the side effects of stress can be worse for the body than others, and it would not be advisable to do so. Instead, we can learn to manage stress so that we can control our stress and its effects on our physical and mental health.

Now that a semester is ending and a new one is looming, it’s an ideal time to regroup yourself especially with finals around the corner.

While it’s true that today’s world is more complicated than yesterday’s, that’s no reason for stress to manage your life. But first, let’s define stress.

“Stress may be considered as any physical, chemical or emotional factor that causes bodily or mental unrest and that may be a factor in disease causation,” Stöppler said.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU’RE EXPERIENCING STRESS?

The American Institute of Stress (AIS) lists 30 common signs and symptoms, which include frequent headaches, neck ache, back pain, muscle spasms, sweating, blushing, poor sexual desire and anxiety.

Sometimes you may experience a few symptoms separately or a combination of many. Whatever the case may be, the key is to know that they are stress symptoms and identify the source.

WHAT CAN CAUSE STRESS?

There are a lot of factors that could contribute to anxieties in your life. According to eMedicineHealth.com, a first aid and consumer health information site, family history or even a traumatic experience (known as Post-traumatic stress disorder) can create stress.

If you are able to remove the source of the stress, which is rare, do it.

If an exam, event, job, or situation is causing you stress, you may create a series of steps to make it more approachable and easier to solve.

If it is a test that is bothering you, design a series of steps to make it more approachable and easier to solve.

On your day to search on the Internet, go to events, make plans where you can study or do something you enjoy doing.

HIGHLIGHTS:

• ACCIDENT & SICKNESS BENEFITS
• PHYSICIAN’S VISITS
• INPATIENT/OUTPATIENT HOSPITAL COVERAGE
• EMERGENCY ROOM BENEFITS
• MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS
• X-RAY/LAB
• PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
• MEDICAL EVACUATION/REPIARATION
• TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Please contact our office to discuss your needs:

Insurance for Students, Inc.
www.insuranceforstudents.com

600 Corporate Drive, Ste. 101 I Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334 I 954-771-5883 I 800-356-1235

Insuring Today’s Need for Tomorrow’s Future Since 1976

MODEL OF HEALTH, page 6

Anime Assembly
Yasumicon celebrates five-year anniversary

A guest voice actor has yet to be confirmed for the upcoming convention, but organizers are hopeful that they will be able to provide one because of the fans the actors bring in.

In addition to the three bands, the Consul General of Japan, Hiroshi Yamaguchi, will be using his violin to interpret anime theme songs. Despite all of the activities, some people attend the convention just to see familiar faces.

FIU alumni Juan Mendez III perceives anime conventions as more of a family gathering. “It’s a chance to see faces you don’t see everyday,” Mendez said. “A bunch of us cram into hotels. It’s a bonding thing like a family, a chance to go off and have fun.”

SERGIO BONILLA
Sports Editor

Japanese animation fans will be suit up as their favorite characters at the fifth annual Yasumicon Animate convention taking place Aug. 11 and 12 in the Graham Center and Green Library Auditorium. Hosted by the Anything Goes Anime Film Club, the convention is expected to achieve its highest attendance ever.

“We’re free—that’s our biggest pull,” said General Director Edwin Perodin.

Yasumicon, composed of numerous concerts, contests and vendors, is a showcase of all things Japanese culture.

Unlike past years, the 2007 convention has a concrete theme: Natsu Matsuri, which is Japanese for “summer festival.” The name Yasumicon itself stems from the Japanese word “yasumi” meaning “vacation.”

“It’s a chance to come together as friends with the same interest,” Perodin said. Last year’s events included performances by Piano Squall, a musician who plays widely-known video game music on his piano, as well as sushi demonstrations and local shops selling DVDs and other memorabilia.

This year, AGA is introducing several new features for convention-goers.

“There are some new attractions like the ‘Meido cafe’,” said FIU alumna and Marketing and Public Relations Director Claire Daniels. “Akihabara is where major fans go and have girls in maid outfits serve coffee and Japanese snacks.”

Although the girls in maid costumes cater to the male contingency, the convention itself offers cultural events for everyone.

“I think it’s just a stereotype that mostly guys go to conventions,” said sophomore Kimberly Martinez. “I go to conventions with my friends, who are mostly girls, and I see a bunch of girls at conventions, too.”

Many participants take part in one of the convention’s largest events: the Cosplay contest. Cosplay is a Japanese subculture that involves fans dressing up as their favorite characters from different media such as anime or video games.

The contest requires that participants have a handmade costume and a live performance.

“People really get into their characters and come up with some wacky costumes,” said Cosplay judge Cristian Alvarraz. “This one guy had foam armor and it was really impressive.”

Attendees might have the opportunity to meet the voices behind the characters they love. Fans such as sophomore Lauren DiGiovanni enjoy meeting voice actors because it gives their favorite character more of an identity.

“I like to meet a character’s voice because you can see how the person acts,” DiGiovanni said. “You get to see that the way the person acts in real life is just like how the character acts.”

Last year’s star voice actor was Vic Mignogna, who has voiced lead characters on hits such as Full Metal Alchemist and D.N. Angel.

Fans such as sophomore Lauren DiGiovanni enjoy meeting voice actors because it gives their favorite character more of an identity.

“I like to meet a character’s voice because you can see how the person acts,” DiGiovanni said. “You get to see that the way the person acts in real life is just like how the character acts.”

Among the voice actors’ appearances were the voice actors of the characters from Naruto Shippuden.

Marti. “I go to conventions with my friends, who are mostly girls,” DiGiovanni said. “It’s a chance to see faces you don’t see everyday.”

Marti is the voice of the character Sasuke. The convention just to see familiar faces.

FIU alumni Juan Mendez III perceives anime conventions as more of a family gathering. “It’s a chance to see faces you don’t see everyday,” Mendez said. “A bunch of us cram into hotels. It’s a bonding thing like a family, a chance to go off and have fun.”
After more than 10 years of adventure and mystery, the story of Harry Potter, the Boy Who Lived, is finally over with the release of “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.”

In this last adventure, it’s up to Harry and his two sidekicks Ron and Hermione to solve the mystery of the three objects created by Horcruxes that each contain a portion of Voldemort’s soul. To make the mission even harder, the trio are forced into hiding when Voldemort takes over and makes our heroes into wanted criminals.

To further compound our heroes’ troubles, Voldemort spends most of the book looking for one of the three Deathly Hallows, a magic wand said to be more powerful than any other. The trio of objects were created by Death itself, whose legend says if you have all three objects, you will make the master of death.

The story is set at a very fast pace, for the sake of my own existence, I recommend that all just read the book and find out for yourselves – or you can train in Legimacy aka Google.

There are 11 new scenarios for gamers to experience such as Final Frontier, Fall from Heaven, and Next War – three of the most eagerly awaited scenarios; Final Frontier takes place in space and Next War introduces powerful new units and technologies.

With 11 new scenarios come 16 new leaders and 10 new civilizations that allow greater freedom, especially when you’re choosing leaders based on their traits and characteristics that give in-game bonuses.

If you want gold, BTS’s new corporate feature allows you to form a major corporation to make some money. To create one of these money-making machines, you must meet the required technologies and resources. As you spread the corporation, your opponents’ cities pay the costs and you receive the gold.

In the original Civilization 4, espionage was disregarded and underrated. In BTS, espionage has been completely overhauled. You can now accumulate espionage points and perform espionage missions that involve poisoning your enemies’ water supply or even starting a city revolt.

In real life, a nation isn’t always stable, so BTS presents random events that occur throughout the game, ranging from a wedding between members of two nations or a volcanic eruption. If you happen to hate having to endure a seemingly everlasting game, then just buy everything you would have had through the advanced start feature. This allows you to skip 6000 years while having a powerful empire.

The visual graphics and sound in this latest expansion have been extravagantly updated and deserve recognition. Civilization 4 was and still is a great game, and this expansion pack makes it even greater with loads of new content and features to play around with. Because of the innovative new features as well as the introduction of fun novel scenarios, Civilization 4: Beyond the Sword truly is the largest Civilization expansion in the franchise’s history.

There are 30 songs in this game, with the quality of some cover songs not being very accurate. Some of the fret (note) patterns were fun to play, but the actual songs can be a headache to hear. Although some characters and unit/palace/mission venue images were given the ‘80s makeover, everything else remained the same.

A $50 price tag for 30 songs and few unlockables is too pricey – this game should have been sold for less. Guitar Hero Encore: Rocks the 80s will keep you playing for a while, but you want to go back to Guitar Hero II eventually.

Stress linked to low sex drive

MODEL OF HEALTH, page 5

connections and work with the problem. By not doing anything, the problem gets bigger and you feel guiltier.

WHY MANAGE STRESS?

Stress has to be taken care of in its early stages because it can have dangerous consequences on, for example, your immune system.

When you are weak, you become more vulnerable for disorder and physical disorders that have been linked to stress including depression, anxiety, heart attacks, stroke, hypertension and immune system disturbances …

To get your mind off of stress, Stöppel recommends exercise, relaxation, meditation and yoga.

The AIS also recommends activities such as yoga and aromatherapy.

From all these recommendations, you need to apply the ones that work for you because each person is different and consequently reacts differently.

In all, for persons to be managed, you have to actively seek activities and the motivations to help yourself.
Cristobal and staff plan to change attitude of team

FOOTBALL, page 8

scores, FIU will lose nine scholarships in football, two in men’s basketball and one in baseball.

Baseball scored the worst, with 850, and was placed in the top 10 percentile nationally, which means that 90 percent of Division I schools were better at graduating players.

“Receiving help graduating players was a long time coming,” said former FIU baseball head coach Danny Price. “This past year was the best year academically. Help was being given away like Kool-aid.”

The baseball team scored 870, and the football team scored 889.

The NCAA currently has retrieved nine scholarships from FIU. The remaining three scholarships will be lost in the Fall.

The Athletic Administration has made decisions to make sure that its athletes do not lose any more scholarships in upcoming years.

The Athletic Department hired a consultant firm, Bond Schoeneck King. Garcia says they reviewed all of FIU’s academic systems including personnel and our resources.

Legal Counsel Christina Mendoza is the architect of a plan approved by President Modesto A. Maidique. Mendoza was not available to comment on the plan due to a visit to Tallahassee, but Garcia says the plan is one of the measures the administration is taking in order to amend the past administration’s errors.

“We’ve made a commitment for student-athletes to be able to take financially 15 credits instead of 12 during their regular terms,” Garcia said. “We’ve also made a commitment for student-athletes to be able to take summer classes.”

Price states that in past years, it was difficult for student-athletes to take summer classes, but that this year summer classes were offered to those athletes whether they needed it or not.

Former golden panther baseball infielder Brian Pullin said that the coaches and administration stressed academics equally every year at FIU.

However, the last few years he said he saw administration help students more.

“My last year, the academic center had so many resources,” said Pullin. “At that point I already knew what I was doing, but that extra help would’ve helped me out when I was younger.”

The amount of services available to students dictated how athletes would perform in the classroom more than the coaches according to Pullin.

In addition to the APR, the NCAA is taking note of what type of initiatives schools are taking to losing scholarships.

It is possible to appeal past APR scores, but Garcia stresses the importance of looking ahead.

“We could appeal, but we’re looking toward the future,” he said.

_setup of sporting events a crucial, overlooked process

This coming Fall, FIU Athletics will embark on another season of Division I NCAA sports. What many may not be aware of is the amount of preparation involved that allows all the teams to play throughout the season.

The Facilities Department is in charge of setting up sporting events. It handles everything from basketball at the Pharmed Arena to setting up outdoor sports including baseball, soccer, track and even swim meets at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Setting up the Pharmed Arena for a basketball game will normally take a crew of two to three workers about three hours.

Perhaps the most challenging tasks the department has is setting up the numerous high school graduations, which are held every year at the Pharmed Arena.

“When we do graduations it’s more of a full day setup. We start in the morning and put the carpets down. Then we go to the stage to get the drapes that go all the way around – it’s quite an extensive setup,” said John Eckart, assistant director for Facilities.

This football season is going to be played in the Orange Bowl due to the ongoing construction of the FIU stadium and the Golden Panthers will play University of Miami on Sept. 15.

Working with the Orange Bowl staff will bring some changes since its own staff will do most of the setup.

According to Robert McDaniel, assistant athletic director for Facilities, “When we do the events at the Orange Bowl we’re responsible for setting up sponsors signs and the instant replay set-up. We set up the instant replay equipment and they have officials in and out of the stands.”

Event setup is not all moving basketball hoops and preparing bleachers, though. The ticket office takes part in an essential part of setup.

The office handles sales and fans wanting to buy seats for events, it is also in charge of the giant inflatable Roary that football players run out through during the beginning of each game.

“It will take us about 10 to 15 minutes to inflate it and it takes a good 20 minutes to deflate and wrap it up,” said Drew Agustei, the FIU ticket office manager. “Sometimes it takes a half hour just to pull all the air out.”

The ticket office will also set up tables and attend to the needs of visiting teams. It also tries to get more people to the games by offering deals like two sets of season tickets for $100 for students and $50 for faculty.

The offer will be in effect this season at the Orange Bowl and for the 2008 season when the new stadium is complete.

CLASSIFIEDS

JOBS

Earn up to $5000 or more while helping infertile couples start a family. Healthy non-smoking females 21-32 (egg donors) and 21-42 (surrogates). Call Sara 954-987-5802 (Agency)

Certified notary will perform marriage ceremonies for $75. Call Margaret at 305-807-6766 (Agency)

Telemarketing EZ products, part-time, good English skills, 305-551-5629, near FIU campus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

White 87 Monte Carlo SS for sale. 305 H.O., headers, exhaust, rebuilt transmis-

sion, clean inside and out. Brand new paint job. $5,000 or obo. Call 305-753-0838 for more information.

ROOM FOR RENT Pent house apartment, 10 min from FIU, full kitchen use, nice view, security, pool, Jacuzzi, gym, laundry. Available now. $400 month. Call 305-905-4999.

CHEERLEADING: Golden Panther fans support their team at the Orange Bowl during the 2006 football season. FIU will play all its 2007 home games at the Orange Bowl.

CARTER MARSHALL/THE BEACON

Setup of sporting events a crucial, overlooked process

This coming Fall, FIU Athletics will embark on another season of Division I NCAA sports. What many may not be aware of is the amount of preparation involved that allows all the teams to play throughout the season.

The Facilities Department is in charge of setting up sporting events. It handles everything from basketball at the Pharmed Arena to setting up outdoor sports including baseball, soccer, track and even swim meets at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Setting up the Pharmed Arena for a basketball game will normally take a crew of two to three workers about three hours.

Perhaps the most challenging tasks the department has is setting up the numerous high school graduations, which are held every year at the Pharmed Arena.

“When we do graduations it’s more of a full day setup. We start in the morning and put the carpets down. Then we go to the stage to get the drapes that go all the way around – it’s quite an extensive setup,” said John Eckart, assistant director for Facilities.

This football season is going to be played in the Orange Bowl due to the ongoing construction of the FIU stadium and the Golden Panthers will play University of Miami on Sept. 15.

Working with the Orange Bowl staff will bring some changes since its own staff will do most of the setup.

According to Robert McDaniel, assistant athletic director for Facilities, “When we do the events at the Orange Bowl we’re responsible for setting up sponsors signs and the instant replay set-up. We set up the instant replay equipment and they have officials in and out of the stands.”

Event setup is not all moving basketball hoops and preparing bleachers, though. The ticket office takes part in an essential part of setup.

The office handles sales and fans wanting to buy seats for events, it is also in charge of the giant inflatable Roary that football players run out through during the beginning of each game.

“It will take us about 10 to 15 minutes to inflate it and it takes a good 20 minutes to deflate and wrap it up,” said Drew Agustei, the FIU ticket office manager. “Sometimes it takes a half hour just to pull all the air out.”

The ticket office will also set up tables and attend to the needs of visiting teams. It also tries to get more people to the games by offering deals like two sets of season tickets for $100 for students and $50 for faculty.

The offer will be in effect this season at the Orange Bowl and for the 2008 season when the new stadium is complete.
Academic Agony

FIU faces long-term academic penalties

SERGIO BONILLA
Sports Editor

No school in Division I will lose more scholarships this year than FIU. A total of twelve scholarships will be lost due to inadequate graduation rates calculated by the NCAA. However, the Athletic Department is making changes toward improving and preventing FIU from meeting academic standards.

The Academic Progress Rate is a system implemented by the NCAA in order to assure that athletic programs are graduating their players up to a fixed standard.

“We have not met the standard the NCAA put in there,” said Athletic Director Pete Garcia.

APR is a system that is calculated by giving points to each team based on the number of players in respectable academic standing and on the number of players who remain in the institution.

The minimum score a team can record without losing any scholarships is 925, which indicates that the team’s athletes earned 92.5 percent of all possible points and that the team is on track to graduate 50 percent of its athletes.

If a team scores less than 900, it cannot replace scholarships even if an academically ineligible player leaves the team.

“Unfortunately, the way the APR is it keeps holding that data,” Garcia said, “It takes a number of years to dig yourself out of that hole, but this administration has made a commitment to not let that happen again.”

This year, three FIU teams scored less than 900: baseball, football and men’s basketball. Due to the low APR, baseball and football were cut out for him in determining his offensive general for 2007. The competition for the spot is likely to be between sophomore Paul McCall and redshirt freshman Wayne Younger. McCall, who saw limited action in game play last season, played decently in the Spring Game back in April, but his performance was overshadowed by the upset Younger who put up impressive numbers.

Wayne finished the game with two touchdowns and 88 rushing yards in leading the offense to a 28-17 win. If Younger continues to impress in camp and show the grit that Cristobal desires, the job is his to win. Will McCall pull off the upset or will Younger outlast him?

As far as the running game goes, FIU will also focus on solidifying this position in the upcoming weeks. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

The Academic Progress Rate is a system that is calculated by giving points to each team based on the number of players in respectable academic standing and on the number of players who remain in the institution.

The minimum score a team can record without losing any scholarships is 925, which indicates that the team’s athletes earned 92.5 percent of all possible points and that the team is on track to graduate 50 percent of its athletes.

If a team scores less than 900, it cannot replace scholarships even if an academically ineligible player leaves the team.

“Unfortunately, the way the APR is it keeps holding that data,” Garcia said, “It takes a number of years to dig yourself out of that hole, but this administration has made a commitment to not let that happen again.”

This year, three FIU teams scored less than 900: baseball, football and men’s basketball. Due to the low APR, baseball and football were cut out for him in determining his offensive general for 2007. The competition for the spot is likely to be between sophomore Paul McCall and redshirt freshman Wayne Younger. McCall, who saw limited action in game play last season, played decently in the Spring Game back in April, but his performance was overshadowed by the upset Younger who put up impressive numbers.

Wayne finished the game with two touchdowns and 88 rushing yards in leading the offense to a 28-17 win. If Younger continues to impress in camp and show the grit that Cristobal desires, the job is his to win. Will McCall pull off the upset or will Younger outlast him?

As far as the running game goes, FIU will also focus on solidifying this position in the upcoming weeks. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?

With the above critical positions to be determined, FIU will look to tackle other questions as well. Junior A’mod Ned led FIU with 445 rushing yards last season, but had seemingly lost his status as the incumbent starter to fellow junior Julian Reams, but Ned’s job hasn’t officially been taken from him. Reams had 104 carries for 325 yards and three touchdowns last season. Who will assume the starting position or will a dual back up situation arise?