ستيفن باريتن، متهم بضربه وإلصاقه، نقل إلى غرفة نومه بعد أن نقل إلى الأغواط.Trevor Eden، الذي يبلغ من العمر 18 سنة، وGilberto Maanan، الذي يبلغ من العمر 17 سنة، وكلاهما من مدينة شارلوتسفيل، تم إلصاقهما بواسطة مارينو بيونديني، الذي يبلغ من العمر 17 سنة، وكمثال أيضاً على التفجيرات في الكتائب. في حين كان مارينو يقترب من الشرطة، توجه مارينو إلى باريتن وحاول تفجيره. التحقيق الأولي: يعتقد أن وقع الاعتداء في الميناء، حيث وجد الشرطة شابين يدربان على الاعتداء. من الممكن أن ينطلق الاعتداء وراء قناديل الشاطئ، حيث يمكن أن يتم استخدامها كأسلحة. 

عندما عاد الشابان إلى الميناء، اصطدم باريتن في عدة أوجه، بما في ذلك الرأس والرقبة. وبسبب الاعتداء، أخفق باريتن في تفيت ورمي المتفجرات. على الرغم من ذلك، تم إلصاقه بقيامه بعملية إلصاق. في الوقت نفسه، توجه الشابان إلى الميناء وحاولوا الاتصال بالشرطة، حيث أرسلوا إخطارًا بوجود امرأة تقدمت بهما.
Iran plans to achieve nuclear program legally

EDITH M. LEDERER
AP Wire

UNITED NATIONS—Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad announced that the issue of Iran’s disputed nuclear program is closed as a political issue, and said Tehran will disregard U.N. Security Council resolutions imposed by “arrogant powers” to curb its nuclear program.

Instead, he told world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday that Iran has decided to pursue the monitoring of its nuclear program “through its appropriate legal path,” the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is the U.N.’s nuclear watchdog.

IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei and Iranian officials agreed in July that Iran has decided to turn its uranium enrichment program over to the IAEA, and has committed to cooperate with the agency.

In an angry defense of Iran, Nicargua’s leftist President Daniel Ortega chastised the world leaders.

“It’s closed as a political issue,” he said, stressing that it is a legal issue “and therefore should have been examined solely within the framework of the IAEA.”

“However, certain big powers... have made every effort to turn a simple legal issue into a very loud, controversial, political issue,” he said.

While Iran is allowing the IAEA to inspect its known nuclear facilities, it no longer allows inspectors freedom to respond to “Iran’s provocations,” she said.

The world does not have to prove to Iran that it is building a nuclear bomb. Iran has to prove to the world that it is not striving towards such a bomb.”

In an angry defense of Iran, Nicaragua’s leftist President Daniel Ortega chastised the U.S. for seeking to restrict the right to enrich uranium, which is allowed under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Ortega said the United States, as “the only country in the world to have dropped nuclear bombs on innocent people,” had no right to question the right of Iran and North Korea to pursue nuclear technology “for peaceful purposes.”

“And even if they want nuclear power for purposes that are not peaceful, with what right does (the U.S.) question it?” he told the world leaders.
Suicide awareness walkathon to create dialogue

AWAWARENESS, page 1

Students will take advantage of basketball courts at Rec Center

EVELYN DIAZ
Contributing Writer

Students get on it every semester, with hopes of seeing their grades, picking their classes or paying for their courses. At FIU, student life revolves around PantherSoft. So one has to wonder, who are the masterminds behind PantherSoft and what do they have in store for students? One can find them near ROTC, hidden in a couple of portables, away from the madness of looking for parking or crowds of students.

Within the PantherSoft facility, 10 developers are FIU students. One of those full-time workers is Developer Eduardo Monteiro, a student working toward his master’s in computer science. Monteiro was a software developer for the School of Computing and Information Sciences at FIU during his sophomore year in college. Monteiro said.

“Toward having to work on large-scale systems, that serve thousands of people, but I didn’t want to work off-campus because I needed to concentrate on my education. PantherSoft was the best place to be,” Monteiro said. He soon became the lead developer for the MyFIU portal.

The focus that the developers at PantherSoft had in mind for MyFIU was to bring everything that is important in PantherSoft into one single page.

The process began Oct. 2006 and went live by Feb. 2007; a project estimating to about $180,000 to produce.

According to Vice President & CIO of the Division of Information Technology Min Yao in an email, the funding for MyFIU was provided by the University and the hardware was funded through a joint initiative between University Technology Services, Enrollment Services and the University Graduate School. The incidental costs were absorbed by UTYS Yao said.

Additional financial information was requested and directed to Media Relations by Associate Director Martha Castiello on Sept. 12. Media Relations still did not respond to Castiello by the time of publication, Sept. 25.

Students seem to be responding to the portal on PantherSoft. Just this month, according to Application Manager John Duran, 44,738 students were on the system, setting new records.

However, the most common complaint students have called UTYS support for is remembering their passwords. The students are required to change their password every three months.

“It is annoying that they make your change your password,” said Emacie Inguez.

According to an email from Sean Bossinger, a call-center manager with PantherSoft, during July 23 to Aug. 23, which is the lead-up to Fall term, PantherSoft received 9,225 calls. Of these, 3,930, or 42 percent, were requests for password resets.

Additionally, the login to one of the FIU or PantherSoft for this problem, but the fact is that PantherSoft is not responsible; it is done for security reasons, which the state requires.

Students would blame the login to their passwords, at times the system is down. Occasionally, this is done purposely. PantherSoft is taking severe measures might be in the program, due to hackers or other reasons.

Students will soon have to get used to an updated version of Pan- therSoft. The upgrade will take place by Fall of 2008. The company that owns PantherSoft, Oracle, requires the update.

“MYFIU is a function of the PantherSoft system; we introduced it to students in January 2007 and nothing is changing there. They have the PantherSoft Student Administration system, which was introduced in 2005, and we are the ones who are driving the most important reasons for the upgrade is to maintain support from our vendor,” said Yao.

According to Duran, students can expect improvements in the usability, education and staffing, financial service. Executive Director, Margaret Grossman, according to Division of Student Affairs Melissa Sabatier, will be involved with the update, which is to test and provide feedback.

The system will be around for a while, so students should just make sure to remember their passwords as PantherSoft keeps evolving.

GOING STRONG

Contributing Writer

The forum is meant to educate the public about suicide by discussing suicide signs, suicide prevention and suicide intervention strategies. The forum will also highlight the resources available both on campus and throughout the community for help with dealing with suicide.

Events will continue into the week with a “Journey into the Wild Divine” – a computer relaxation training technique based on biofeedback.

The event is free and open for all FIU students. It will take place on Monday Oct. 1 in the University Health Services Complex building. According to Grossman, participants will watch a computer animated journey that changes based on the feedback obtained through their vital signs, such as heart rate.

On Tuesday Oct. 2, students can learn to unwind with Anita Sahgal, a university psychologist with CPSC. Sahgal will be hosting a Stress Relief through Meditation event in GC 314 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. According to Sahgal, the event is meant to be an introduction to the practice of meditation.

“Even people who don’t have experience can come learn,” Sahgal said. “Anyone can use this because we all have stress in our lives.”

Sahgal suggests that students planning to participate in the event bring a mat or towel for the exercises.

Other events will culminate Wednesday Oct. 3 with Real Charac- ter Film, an upcoming program with CPSC that uses cinema to raise mental health awareness. The documentary The Truth about Suicide: Real Stories of Depres- sion in College will be shown from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in UBSC.

In the movie depicts exactly what people living with depression and suicidal tendencies go through everyday. Some stories end happily, others end tragically says Grossman.

“It grabs you,” Grossman said about the film. “It does a very good job of expressing what people do.”

The secondary goal of the event is to help raise money for the organizations helping to put on these events. The American Foundation and Mental Health Association and Psychol- ogy Advising Leaders have both helped raise money, though Grossman is not sure how much has been brought in.

But the main goal of the event is to benefit the students of FIU.
President to develop SPC-UP’s leadership role

Del Zoppo plans to revolutionize SPC by solidifying its new image of leadership development, quality programming and restructuring the organization. Any that try to run SPC can reach out to more students to get them involved, thus helping them gain more leadership experience through event organizing.

Del Zoppo also wants to accommodate to FIU students who want to be a part of events they’d like to attend; a goal she is willing to conduct extensive research for. “I ran for the SPC presidency because I truly love the SPC and what it stands for and does,” Del Zoppo said. “I love being able to work for FIU students and bring them good quality fun events."

This year, Del Zoppo was chosen to be the SPC president by its board members, with the normal elections process being forgone. According to SPC advisor “Chinie” Camargo, a taskforce of Del Zoppo wanted the experience and the leadership can join,” Del Zoppo said.

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Librarian still helping others after 29 years

Ben F. Badger Jr.
Asst. News Director

An author and painter, Susan Weiss has also become the Biscayne Bay Campus's South Florida encyclopedia becoming a librarian on June 1, 1978, according to Scott Kass, the BBC Head of Reader Services Department.

“She developed a true interest of South Florida,” Kass said, “When we have a question we go to her.”

Kass said he has never regretted the decision to hire Weiss. She does not regret accepting the job, either.

“It’s a very interesting job,” Weiss said. “I get to help people with many different subjects. As the campus has grown, it’s who needs help finding information.”

Weiss received her undergraduate degree in History from New York University in 1971, a Master’s in Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University in 1972 and a graduate degree in History from the University of Miami where Kass greeted her.

Weiss herself takes a more humble view of her skills and knowledge. Her passion for Florida history culminated in the publication of her book Miami Bibliography, which was published in 1995.

The book is an extensive bibliography of different books, magazine articles, journals and other resources about South Florida. Weiss said it took her about 12 years to complete it.

Weiss said that there are many entries in the book that do not appear in general search of the FIU library databases because of their age. “This was before computers,” Weiss said. “We didn’t just have the databases. There are also older resources you probably won’t be able to find online.”

Her book is now available in its entirety on the FIU database.

Weiss’s current project is her “South Florida Studies and Reports Online” Web site. Unlike her book, this Web site is open to the public; only those with access to the FIU library network can view her book online.

Weiss’s idea for the Web site came about when affordable housing issues were raised and no one could find resources on the subject. She set out to find them and instead compiled much more such as references for topics on education, art and housing.

Kass said that, for the most part, Weiss has maintained her background as far as leadership is concerned. Her passion is for learning about Florida history and helping anyone interested.

“Her book is now available in its entirety on the BBC library.”

HIPS DONT’IE: Carol Coochi Kira, a teacher at the Aventura Arts Academy, instructs her students on the art of belly dancing. The class is part of the Fall lineup for BBC’s Dancing With The Wolfe, which includes salsa dancing, Hip-hop and ballroom dancing classes.

Club helps maintain Jewish identity

JENNIFER ROIZ
Contributing Writer

Hillel Second Generation is a national organization that began in September 2004 with the goal of bringing Jewish college students together in a social setting.

H2G offers events and activities on and off the University Park and Biscayne Bay campuses. H2G gives students the opportunity to learn about their Jewish roots and traditions. The main vision behind H2G is to inform the younger Jewish generation about the importance to preserve the Jewish religion.

H2G's events included Shabbat dinners, family gatherings on Saturday nights, the day of rest in the Jewish religion: a campout; a poker night; various athletic games such as soccer, basketball and tennis; and speed dating with students from other universities, an event where students talk for about a minute to meet new people or spend time with friends.

H2G focuses on social activities to give Jewish students the opportunity to socialize.

“I met a girl who had just moved here from Israel at one of our meetings. She was living here, [in South Florida] completely alone, and after attending one of our meetings [last July], she had a boyfriend and five friends by the end of the week.”

The club also promotes a free 10-day trip to Israel for Jewish students. The trip, Taglit Birthright, is sponsored by Taglit-Birthright Israel, a partnership of philanthropists, Jewish communities and the citizens of Israel.

Members must be between the ages of 18 and 26, and never have been on a peer trip. Any trip that is an organized group trip to Israel, such as a Jewish youth group trip for more than five days, Widrowicz said.

Registration for the December trip opened Sept. 5.

H2G’s building is located on 20488 Wes Dixie Highway, where students can take lessons in salsa dancing, cooking and Hebrew, among others.

H2G is funded by donations contributed by members or groups of Jewish community.

For more information call 305-692-8775 or e-mail widrowicz@h2gonline.org.
State funds should not finance religion

ERIC FELDMAN
Staff Writer

Two publicly-funded schools that recently began operating are causing controversy and forcing a review of the separation of church and state. The Ben Gamla Charter School in South Florida and the Khalil Gibran International Academy in New York City have a very unique purpose for schools funded with tax dollars—the study of religion.

The key component of this debate is the actual restrictions placed on the interactions of government and religion by the Constitution. A common misconception is that the Constitution provides for the “separation of church and state.”

In reality, the document only specifies that the Legislature cannot pass a law in favor of a specific religion, or condemning another. Despite the fact that the school’s official purpose is to teach religion, rather than endorse it, this very thin line has been challenged by critics of both institutions.

And it is no surprise that the critics of the Arab school and the critics of the Hebrew school are not necessarily from the same end of the political spectrum. According to the South Florida Sun Sentinel, Ben Gamla Charter School was forced to suspend teaching the Hebrew language, due to its inherent ties to religion.

While this argument is quite ludicrous, as public schools are prohibited by the Constitution to benefi t the public good rather than specific religion, or condemning individual groups with divergent beliefs, it should leave the study of culture to families—a place where such traditions and practices are better learned in the fi rst place.

Despite these rifts, however, the public school system needs to maintain a mostly unifi ed curriculum and theme which aims to benefi t the public good rather than attempting to appease individual groups with divergent interests.

Ben Gamla Charter School and Khalil Gibran International Academy may not be technically endorsing religions or prohibited by the Constitution, but it is inherent that the leaders of these schools will have certain biases towards the culture studied, that the controversy caused by these schools are detracting from the quality and reputation of public education, and that culture is a virtue best studied at home.

These schools are better left out of the equation.

Intifada is commonly associated with violence, though the principal defended it as simply meaning “shaking off.” An editorial which ran in The New York Sun stated the school was an attempt to appease the group of people responsible for September 11 and would “destroy us again.” While such a racially charged attack is not necessarily true nor appropriate, it does appear that these cultural schools are not the best thing for the public system.

Regardless of whether the schools do or do not endorse a religion, Diane Ravitch, a New York historian quoted in The New York Sun, was correct when she said: “It is not the job of the public schools to teach each ethnic group about its history.”

Until public schools can specifically designate a program for each culture practiced in the country—an impossible ideal that would create thousands of individualized schools—it should leave the study of culture to families—a place where such traditions and practices are better learned in the fi rst place.

The Ben Gamla Charter School in South Florida and the Khalil Gibran International Academy in New York City have a very unique purpose for schools funded with tax dollars—the study of religion.
As the temperature outside begins dropping and the days get shorter as summer gives way to fall, the movies that hit theaters this time of year seem to reflect the somber tone of autumn. While summer counterparts generally consist of more generally light-hearted fare, the movies that will make their way into the multiplexes across America in the coming months will be more serious, as studios look to that coveted Oscar.

That does not mean there isn’t going to be a little something for every type of moviegoer, as there are films for everyone this fall.

**THE DARJEELING LIMITED**
*(OCT. 5)*

Although another comedy being released on the same day, *The Heartbreak Kid*, starring Ben Stiller, will likely garner bigger crowds, it is Wes Anderson’s fifth film that is more likely to keep critics and audiences alike entertained from beginning to end.

*The Darjeeling* stars Owen Wilson, Adrien Brody and Jason Schwartzman as three brothers who have grown apart and are brought together by the death of their father.

They are joined in the cast by Bill Murray, Natalie Portman and Roman Coppola.

The film centers on the brother’s various attempts at growing closer amidst an array of unexpected events. Expect Anderson’s trademark wit and subtle humor to make this one of the best comedies of the season.

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**GONE BABY GONE**
*(OCT. 19)*

Joaquin Phoenix and Marc Wahlberg lead a stellar cast in this crime drama, based in New York City in the late 1980s.

Phoenix plays the manager of a Russian nightclub, the center of a narcotics ring run by the Russian Mafia, and Wahlberg plays his brother, an NYPD officer who followed in their Deputy Chief father’s footsteps in joining the force. When the brothers find out the mafia is planning on taking out their father, they join forces to protect him and take on a Russian gangster, played by Alex Veadov.

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**SAW IV**
*(OCT. 26)*

Another year, another Saw movie. Ever since the first in the grisly series debuted three years ago, audiences have been both mesmerized and terrorized, not to mention disgusted, by the film’s usage of incredibly graphic scenes of gore and violence, based around various painful and potentially deadly traps designed to test the victim’s worth.

While the last film ended with main antagonist Jigsaw apparently dead from his own designs, don’t expect that to be the last you see of him, as there’s an all new series of traps waiting for a few unlucky people.

Also, don’t expect a neat ending, as the directors have signed on for two more films following this one.

The Beacon will feature a movie roundup at the end of each month showcasing the next month’s films.
THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 27
WHAT: Strung Out
WHERE: Studio A
60 NE 11 Street
WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $15

WHAT: Chris Porter
WHERE: Palm Beach Improv,
580 S. Rosemary Ave.,
City Place, West Palm Beach, FL.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $16

WHAT: Art Jam
WHERE: Shoppes at Village Pointe
6006 SW 18th St.
Boca Raton, FL 33433
WHEN: 6 - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $35 - $60

WHAT: Open Mike Night
WHERE: New York Comedy Club
8221 Glades Road
Boca Raton, FL 33434
WHEN: 8:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $15

WHAT: Pop Star
WHERE: Revolution
200 West Broward Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
WHEN: 9 a.m.
WHAT: Auditions for the Next
Pop Star
WHERE: Carnival Center
for the Performing Arts,
1300 Biscayne Blvd.
WHEN: 3 & 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $20 - $50

WHAT: Viva La Bands
WHERE: Revolution
200 West Broward Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
WHEN: 5:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: How Much: Free
WHERE: Revolution
200 West Broward Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
WHEN: 8 p.m.
WHAT: Where: Revolution
200 West Broward Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
WHEN: 5:30 p.m.
WHAT: Revolution
200 West Broward Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
WHEN: 8 p.m.
WHAT: Revolution
200 West Broward Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432
WHEN: 5:30 p.m.

MANSION NIGHTCLUB PREMIERS DESIGNER’S LINE
THE CATWALK:
The Paul Frank fashion show held at
Mansion nightclub Sept. 19 debuted
many casual pieces for the spring/sum-
tmer seasons. Frank’s well-known
monkey character, “Julius the
Monkey” appeared on much of the
clothes and some models carried him
as a plush toy down the runway.

LEONCIO ALVAREZ
Staff Writer

Throwing some of the biggest parties in Miami is like clockwork
for Mansion nightclub personnel. Along with catering to the needs
of many of Miami’s most exclusive, the party epicenter also serves
as a venue for designers to show off their latest fashions.

Monkey enthusiast Paul Frank did just that on Sept. 19, when he
unveiled his Spring/Summer 2008 line.

The show began roughly at 1:30 a.m. when the lights went down
on a small runway that had been set up in the center of the main
dance floor. Even though the music and dancing briefly stopped to
start the show, the music choice throughout seemed to make people
forget what they had been doing for hours and get into the mood
for a fashion show.

Whether as a pattern on the actual clothing or as a plush toy
carried by the models, Frank’s ever-popular “Julius the Monkey”
character made an appearance on many of the ensembles showcased
down the catwalk.

Less is more was a theme noted from outfit to outfit, regardless
of gender. One male model appeared simply wearing a bluish beach
towel below his waist and that was it.

“I was surprised to see a guy wearing nothing but a towel and
being considered trendy,” said Isabel Moreno, a Mansion regular
who had no idea the show was planned for that night. “I had never
been there on a Wednesday before. I was not planning on
attending a fashion show.”

Another male model went back to a time when men
were not too scared to show a little leg with his khaki,
avove-the-knee board shorts.

Bright, Spring-inspired colors meshed with darker
earther tones as a common ground among models. This
combination proved effective, especially since the collec-
tion is supposed to satisfy two different seasons.

Mixing the seasons was a hit, but Frank missed when it
came to his idea of layering for the beach. Hoodies atop
of bikinis and tank tops are not good combinations in Miami’s
hot, humid summer.

And it’s because of that same treacherous summer that
Frank’s idea of layers for a hot day - as adorable as a hoodie
might be - should have stayed as just that: an idea.

The Capri was a highlight of the night, or so Frank
thought. The calf-level pant with a pattern of different
monkey faces dubbed as both a pajama pant and as a
casual piece.

If casual fashion is what you look for to fit your needs, then Frank’s fresh line could
be perfect for you.

A night of fashion yes and no’s came to an
end when all models took one last walk down
the runway, some kissing and cuddling with
a lovable “Julius” stuffed animal, proving
that despite not doing anything out of the
ordinary for fashion, Frank’s memorable
monkey is what keeps people interested.

“I think I would buy anything with that
cute little monkey on it,” said Jessica Ber-
mudez, an ex-model who believes Frank’s
“Julius” cannot and will not do any harm.

PHOTOS BY FERNANDO GARCIA/THE BEACON

– Compiled by Kassandra Pool
Women’s soccer faces season’s defining moment

There was one player who sent out the biggest message on the field Sept. 23 as the women’s soccer team took on Stetson University. She was on the bench most of the second half.

She didn’t score, assist or even suggest a formation change. Nor did she even speak English when she challenged her team.

Despite all of that, senior midfielder Francesca Chong gave her team the ultimate boost in the 52nd minute of the game when she challenged her team.

“As she screamed in agony, her teammates were taking a water break and wondering what was going to happen to their team-mate. One question most likely ran through all of their minds: "How are we going to respond to this?"

Good question, because when a teammate gets taken out of the game there must be some kind of renewed vigor when you step onto the field. So it’s about 12 minutes later, the Golden Panthers are taking the field once again.

For about the next 12-15 minutes of the game, the team was playing decent soccer, but it wasn’t really flowing much at all. There was a stretch where much of the passing was of the one-touch, spastic nature, which gave Stetson some opportunities.

The defense regained its composure first and provided a strong wall, while the attacking third overcame the mental hump from Chong’s injury.

After this brief lapse, the talking became louder, passing was cleaner and the spacing was spreading the Stetson defense — providing multiple chances and making this a game to really watch once again.

Of course, Stetson did what all good teams should do — they fought back. With both teams slugging it out, the midfield became a battlefield (which isn’t really all well for the pitch; the wing right above the midfield was worn out by rain).

At the 82nd minute Stetson broke through, tied the game and put the Golden Panthers in another difficult position.

This time there was no room for thinking, but there was enough time for another goal.

Freshman forward Claudia Cardenas stepped up in the 87th minute and made a picture-perfect goal, which wasn’t the flashy bullet into the upper 90, but a lofty chip shot that sailed into the back of the net.

That was enough to seal the game.

So everything worked out well in the end, right? On paper everything did. Winning is the best deodorant. It covers a multitude of short-comings and can give pride to even the ugliest wins.

However, Chong’s injury will require season-ending surgery and end her career as a Golden Panther.

The game could’ve definitely gone the other way because up until that 52nd minute, FIU didn’t look like it was attacking for that all-important insurance policy and missed many chances throughout the game.

If I had to give a rating through the first five games of the season, I would definitely give this team a “good.” Responding in a very positive fashion and having a freshman with her first multi-goal game in her college career all merits a “good,” for sure.

With more efforts like this, fans can be sure that this team won’t be called “the best team you’ve never heard of.”

SPORTS REPLAY

WOMEN’S TENNIS

The women’s tennis team started off the season successfully with a strong showing at the Gator Fall Classic in Gainesville, Sept. 21-23. The team locked strong, as they took matches from the North Florida, South Florida, and No. 7 Florida.

The weekend began with freshman Liset Brito, the 2006 4A Florida individual State Champion as a senior at Miami Senior High School, making an impressive debut.

She teamed with senior Egle Petrua kaitė to take down North Florida’s team of Natalia Sanchez and Victoria Krook by a score of 8-2.

Brito then took down the No. 106 college, Whitney Benik of Florida. Brito fell behind in the first game, but rallied back to defeat Benik 5-7, 6-2, 1-0 (11-9).

FIU also received a doubles victory from the sophomore team of Priscilla Castro and Maria Paz, who defeated North Florida’s Maria Melihova and Vanessa Sanchez.

In singles, however, the team was not as successful as they dropped 4 out of 5 matches on Friday, with Brito being the only player who was able to grab victory.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, Brito and Petrukaitė again had a good day, upsetting UF’s 7th ranked team of Csilla Borsanyi and Diana Srebrovic by a score of 8-5.

Unfortunately, the Golden Panthers other doubles teams did not fair as well against UF’s powerful squad as Castro and Paz fell to the 52nd ranked pair in the nation and senior Marianna Cutuk and sophomore Maria Jose Vallasciani lost to the 31st ranked pair.

In singles, FIU took 3-0 of 5 matches from USF.

The weekend ended with Brito and Petrukaitė again overpowering their opponents, this time over USF’s Liz Cruz and Icri Rai, by a score of 8-3. In showing their dominance this weekend, the pair moved up to the No. 41 ranking in the country.

The Golden Panthers split six matches with UNF later on in the day, finishing up a solid weekend for the squad overall.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

The men’s basketball team released its 2007-08 schedule Sept. 25 with one of the highlights being a seven-game home stand to open the season.

Beginning on Nov. 12 against Florida Tech, the team will take on Kennesaw State, South Florida, Robert Morris, Florida Gulf Coast, Buffalo and Miami in front of the home crowd at Pharmed Arena.

Following the final game of the home stand Dec. 8, the team will have a week off for fall semester exams before opening conference play on the road at Arkansas-Little Rock and Middle Tennessee State.

After that short road swing, they return home to take on 2006 NCAA Final Four participant George Mason before taking on Purdue and Kentucky in back-to-back road games.

The season features 17 home games for the team, the most in school history.

With Miami, USF, and George Mason traveling to Pharmed, the team expects good crowds to turn out to watch the Golden Panthers take on these competitive teams.

Compiled by Chris Towers

Thank you for reading Every Monday and Thursday
Football travels to take on Blue Raiders

The Golden Panthers will take on Middle Tennessee State, the reigning Sun Belt Conference Champion, Sept. 29 at Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Unlike FIU’s first four match-ups, this time they will be taking on a team with a losing record.

Middle Tennessee and FIU are both 0-4 and someone will leave the field with their first win.

Coming off a 55-3 loss to Kansas, FIU has a few positives it will need to expand upon in order to beat the Blue Raiders.

Last week, quarterback Wayne Garcia sped by the FIU defense and took on goalkeeper Michael Anderson one-on-one to give Navy the game. Garcia sped by the FIU defense and took on goalkeeper Michael Anderson one-on-one to give Navy the 2-1 lead.

The Golden Panthers are facing the toughest opponents FIU has ever faced.

Now, the Golden Panthers’ season truly begins against Sun Belt Conference opponents.

Up to this point, by just looking at statistics and scores, the Golden Panthers are at best just as bad as last year’s team. However, fans have yet to see a game that truly gauges the difference between the 2006 and 2007 teams.

If the Golden Panthers would’ve played Penn State and Kansas last year, chances are the results would’ve been almost exactly the same.

Playing the same conference teams they saw in 2006 allows fans to see if the team has changed from that year. More importantly, playing SBC opponents will not pressure the Golden Panthers as much as playing against schools with decades of history and excellence.

The Golden Panthers have learned anything from their defeats this season. This is the most critical juncture of the season. If the Golden Panthers manage to rectify their season by winning against SBC opponents, then it will be the first tangible sign that FIU has a chance of turning around the program in the next few years.

However, if the Golden Panthers continue to struggle, then the immense losses were for naught and they will have trouble convincing fans they will be improving in the upcoming years.
Volleyball, page 12

Game with 11 kills of her own. Freshman setter Natalia Valen-

inin continued to blossom in the Golden Panther offense, deliver-

ing a match-high 36 assists to go.

along with 12 digs. The three-set victory for the Golden Panthers

was nothing short of dominant.

They held the Ragin Cajuns to a dismal .068 hitting clip and the

12 points allowed in the final set was the lowest allowed by FIU

since the 30-point rally system was implemented six years ago.

On Sep. 22, the Golden Pan-

thers used somewhat of a differ-

ent formula against New Orleans, but the result was exactly the

same. This time around, veteran

setter Keila Oliveira orchestrated the offense to a 3-1 (30-23, 21-30, 30-

22, 30-24) win. Her match-

high 36 assists fueled a balanced

attack highlighted by four Golden Panthers in double figures.

Once again, Rosa led the way

with a match-high 20 kills and

10 digs, sophomore Olga Vergun

was just two behind Rosa with

18 kills, junior Anita Szymanska

came through with a season-

high 16 kills and Medved had 13

kills. Junior Mariana Drumeva

had a solid performance as well

with a match-high 17 digs in the

victory.

In the opener to their weekend

marathon, the Golden Panthers

made easy work of Louisiana-

Monroe with a 3-0 (30-19, 30-

14, 30-27) lopsided. The always

consistent Rosa pounded 13 kills

and eight digs.

Vergun added 11 kills, making

good on half of her attempts.

Drumeva put her stamp on the

game with four aces and a team-

best 10 digs. Oliveira added a 34-

assist, four-ace performance.

In all of the games over the

weekend, the Golden Panthers

came out and set the tone early

in the first set, an easy way to

tagger the opponents. Early

in the season at the Cal Molten

Classic in California, it appeared

as though some inconsistency

from last season had trickled

over onto this campaign. But after

the team’s performance in a tough

three-game stretch in three days,

it looks like the team is well past

the mindset of taking any oppo-

nent for granted.

Tomic certainly hopes that

is indeed the case and is look-

ing forward to the team’s home

opener Sept. 24 against Troy.

“Last year, we always started

slow and I thought it took us

a while to get in the rhythm of

our offense, but so far this year

we struggle a bit in the second

game,” she said. “It seems as if

when we win the first set rather

easily, we let the team get back

in the second game. We are still

not as consistent as we would like

to be, but it is the first weekend

of conference play and we have

a long way to go.

“I can tell you that I am excited

and I know our players are excited

for the first game at home. It has

been a while and I know our fans

are excited and can’t wait for us

to play. I think we have built a

nice fan base and we expect a

good crowd. The girls work really

hard and they get motivated when

people come to support them.”

Golden Panthers overcome

injury to salvage home win

Soccer, page 12

On the other hand, the Golden Panthers saw little

chances because of their inability to control the ball.
The Racers physically bullied the Golden Panthers on

offense and defense.

Freshman forward Claudia Cardenas had a chance to tie

the game when she had just one Racer defender

behind her. She dribbled the ball towards the penalty

box as the goalkeeper began to run towards her. The small window of opportunity to score closed on Carde-

nas when she hesitated just enough to have the defender

and goalie converge on her as they took the ball away.

Murray State would score again when Katie Wilson

passed defenders and doubled the score with a shot

past goalkeeper Madeline Ganmon.

The only offensive score

for the Golden Panthers

would come late in the contest when freshman midfielder

Kassandra Sorzano softly kicked the ball over the head

of the Racers goalkeeper.

With only ten minutes left in the game, the Racers defense shut down the Golden Panthers to seal the 2-1 vic-

tory.

FIU 2 Stetson 1

Unlike the previous game, the Golden Panthers were the

aggressors and played physically against the Hatters from

the start. Cardenas, who did not capitalize in a one-on-

one matchup with the goalie the previous game, put the

Golden Panthers up with a shot from outside the penalty

box in the 17th minute.

The rest of the half con-

sisted of defensive struggle

and the Golden Panthers led

1-0 to begin the second half.

In the 58th minute of play,

junior midfielder Maria Gaul-

dron passed an accurately

placed ball at the feet of

Cardenas as she ran toward

the goal.

However, Hatters goal-

keeper Andrea Garayol dove

on the ball before Carde-

nas could shoot. Freshman

midfielder Kaley Durrance

was passing the ball well

to her teammates most of the game. Then, the Hatters’ Natalie Simon,

who had barely played in the

game, found her way to the

goal.

In the second half, the Golden Panthers lost senior

midfielder Francesca Chong to a knee injury. With eight

minutes left to play, sophomore midfielder Michelle Casadevall crossed the ball to Cardenas as she chipped

the ball over the goalkeeper

and into the net for her second

score of the match.

JOIN OUR STAFF!

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and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you

have an interest in writing, photography or even

grammar, don’t be shy.

Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210

and WUC 124.
FOOTBALL

No problem opening conference play

RENAルド SMITH
Staff Writer

It is OK, Golden Panther fans. You can look now.

The four-game, out-of-conference massacre that begins the season is finally over.

FIU wasn’t expected to win any of their first four games before the 2007 campaign started, but few people expected to see the Golden Panthers give up more than 50 points in half of those games. The Golden Panthers’ defense is what keeps games competitive, but they have not been able to hold off sound passing attacks.

Kansas quarterback Todd Reesing is the latest passer to dissect the Golden Panthers’ secondary, as he set the single-game passing record for a sophomore Jayhawk with 368 yards in the 55-3 stomping Sept. 22.

Mental lapses have become routine during the 16-game losing streak, but they have been magnified against tough opponents such as Penn State and Kansas. The Golden Panthers’ defense has helped extend opponents’ drives allowing a blocked punt for the first time in team history, as they lost 55-3.

Golden Panthers finish tough stretch, prepare for conference opponents

It is time to prepare for conference opponents.

The full game story can be found at beaconnewspaper.com.

VOLLEYBALL

High spirits: Women’s volleyball celebrate after sweeping three Sun Belt Conference rivals Sept. 21-23. They have compiled an 8-2 record without playing a home game this season.

While it is OK, Golden Panther fans, you can look now.

The four-game, out-of-conference massacre that begins the season is finally over.

An impressive 22-7 record, the tight-knit squad looked more than comfortable sporting the bull’s eye on its back Sept. 21-23 in New Orleans.

The team’s 3-0 (30-20, 30-27, 30-12) win over the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin Cajuns on Sept. 23 was the finale to a string of strong performances to open this season’s Sun Belt Conference schedule.

“I am very proud of the team, because this was easily one of the toughest weekends in the conference,” said coach Daniela Tomic. “To be able to win three games in three days in the fashion that we won them shows that we are physically were we want to be and also that we are mentally tough. We took two matches 3-0, and another one 3-1 so that was impressive.”

Sophomore All-American Yarimar Rosa was in explosive form as usual with a team-high 13 kills against the Ragin Cajuns and freshman Ines Medved made it into double figures for the ninth time.

Despite the heightened expectations, the tight-knit squad looked more than comfortable sporting the bull’s eye on its back Sept. 21-23 in New Orleans.

The annual series against tough opponents such as Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin Cajuns, Arkansas State (5-3) and Stetson (2-3-1) Sept. 21-23.

The Racers are mentally tough. We are mentally tough. We are physically where we want to be and also that we are mentally tough. We took two matches 3-0, and another one 3-1 so that was impressive.”

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Mental lapses have become routine during the 16-game losing streak, but they have been magnified against tough opponents such as Penn State and Kansas. The Golden Panthers’ defense has helped extend opponents’ drives letting them record a 50-percent conversion rate on third down.

Secondary play is usually what allows third down conversions and blown coverage and missed assignments during play have plagued