**NCAA VIOLATIONS**

FIU admits athletics’ transgressions

**SERGIO BONILLA**
Sports Editor

The NCAA Enforcement Staff alleges that FIU lacked institutional control by placing inadequate systems and resources related to advising, monitoring the eligibility of student-athletes, and applying for NCAA financial aid and legislation.

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The University has hired three more compliance officers along with the Student-Athlete Academic Center doubling the number of tutors from seven to 14 along with purchasing new computers this year. Also more opportunities exist for student-athletes to take summer courses. FIU has invested about $250,000 towards improving the SAAC and its resources.

“This is a huge setback for the whole University,” Garcia said. “The only good thing is that we’ve put in the right systems to move forward.”

The NCAA reported that FIU violated bylaws concerning NCAA, page 11

**HONORING THE CHANCELLOR**

**MARIA CHERCOLES**
News Director

While the survivors of last year’s Columbus Day Regatta accident that killed two FIU students are still piecing their lives back together, they returned to the regatta site one year later with a new purpose.

“Need help? Just Light the Way” is the name of the campaign created by the accident survivors, relatives of the victims and their friends to raise awareness about the dangers of the ocean.

This, they believe, will help prevent more accidents such as the one that killed students Monica Burguera and James Noel Pou last year.

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**THE GIFT: HONORING THE CHANCELLOR**

Verene Shepherd and Erica Williams-Connell (right) for his contributions to the foundation at the Ninth Annual Eric E. Williams Lecture Oct. 5 at the Wertheim Performing Arts Center. Read about the lecture at www.beaconnewspaper.com.

**SHOW ME THE AUDIT**

Budget reporting system reformed

**BANKING TIME**

**KING OF CHEAP**

Budget reporting system reformed

**OPINION**

Burger King abusing workers

**BIG BRAWLS**

Mixed martial arts expands fanbase

**HALFTIME**

Football continues struggles

**SPORTS**

**TUITION**

Legislature to vote on increase

**CHARLIE GRAU**
Editor in Chief

The Legislature will vote on Oct. 12 whether or not to pass a 5 percent tuition increase for in-residence at all Florida public universities for the Spring 2008 semes-

ter. If passed, the tuition increase must survive a veto by Gov. Charlie Crist.

Also on the agenda, the Legislature to vote on are two separate bills that tie the price of tuition with the cost of living and a technol-

ogy fee up to 5 percent of tuition.

If approved, there will be automatic increases in the future that would reflect inflation levels.

Douglas Warzok, Vice President of Aca-

demic Affairs, said that tying tuition increases to the cost of living would provide universities better planning from year to year. If the tuition increase survives the governor’s veto, Warzok said that it would generate $2.5 million for the next full year and help offset the $3.7 million reduction that the University has to deal with this academic year.

FIU is slated to lose $7 million in state fund-

ing after the Legislature approved to cut $1.1 billion from the overall state budget to make up for a lack of tax revenue it has received.

“This tuition increase was long overdue,” said Pete Garcia, Athletics Director, who organized and focused more on education.

“We couldn’t let this happen again,” said Andres Perez, who survived the accident that took the life of his girlfriend of Monica Burguera and James Noel Pou last year.

“We couldn’t let this happen again,” said Andres Perez, who survived the accident that took the life of his girlfriend of four years, Burguera, and his roommate, Noel Pou.

The accident took place when their broken-down rental boat, which was being towed back to shore, was hit from behind by a 35-feet powerboat.

Together with Burguera’s family and about 100 volunteers, Perez spent last weekend’s regatta distributing flyers, t-shirts, hats and flashlights at 14 different marinas throughout Miami.

“We went through such a hard time that we don’t want anyone else to go through the same,” said Perez.

Perez, 21, is now trying to reincorporate into his life after having to drop from FIU last fall. The accident left him with a broken hip and pelvis that paralyzed the lower part of his body.

**REGATA, page 3**

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This, they believe, will help prevent more accidents such as the one that killed students Monica Burguera and James Noel Pou last year.

“We couldn’t let this happen again,” so we thought that by telling other people what happened to us and informing them about boat safety was the best way to prevent it,” said Andres Perez, who survived the accident that took the life of his girlfriend of four years, Burguera, and his roommate, Noel Pou.

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Carol Damian is an art professor turned super-sleuth. Art History Professor Carol Damian, recently helped the Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Broward County Sheriff’s Office identify Peruvian artifacts smuggled into the United States.

When a master’s degree in pre-Columbian Andean art and a doctorate in history, Damian became a knowledgeable resource for the two-year investigation that started in 2005. She had been conducting workshops with customs for a long time, helping them to distinguish authentic pieces of art from fakes. So when the ICE needed an expert eye in Peruvian art, they went to Damian.

“The expertise in identifying real art is developed by years of looking,” Damian said. “A scholar learns the specifics of a culture’s aesthetics. Peruvian art, for example, has a characteristic way of representing faces or deities in their art.”

Among the artifacts identified by Damian was a clay vessel that dated back as far as 3,500 B.C. There were also pots, vases, textiles, shrubs and various pieces of jewelry. Most of the artifacts were stolen from museums and galleries.

“The six guys that we have are very enthusiastic and talented,” Nguyen said. “[We] train them to have a good mentality [and] train them against other students.”

The practice sessions also focus on developing teamwork strategies, an important part of the challenge because three students have to work together at one computer during the competition, Irvine said.

For Sophomore Mario Consuegra, a member of FIU’s team, all that practice has paid off. “We are friends and we like to work with each other,” Consuegra said. But for the FIU students and coaches competing this year, winning isn’t the only goal of the competition.

According to Irvine, the ACM-ICPC is also important because it tests students on qualities that future employers look for. “It’s not so much that I care about the prestige of winning, but I really care about preparing students for top jobs,” Irvine said. “You see, that’s one of the things that’s really nice [about the competition], it’s a lot of students who do that. As students that do this, they’re much more ready to do a good job,” Consuegra said. “I think its going to be great for our careers and for the honor of the school if we do well in the competition.”

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For more information on the ACM-ICPC, visit http://icpc.baylor.edu/icpc/default.htm.

For more information on the FIU team competing this year, visit http://www.cs.fiu.edu/acm/competitionGroup/index.htm.
Fundraising banquet returns for second year

According to Gelok, planning for this year's event was much more organized than last year's. Initial planning started in August with weekly meetings.

A year ago, Orahood was still in a coma. While today she is awake and receiving physical therapy.

"She still doesn't have all her memories back and does not remember me," Messanotte said. "It really hurts but there is hope."

"She has gotten better," Gelok said. "This year we wanted it to be less about the accident and more about progress and drunk driving awareness."

The overall theme of "A Night For Molly" has been changed to a more lighthearted one according to Cleo Fernandez the Delta Phi Epsilon coordinator of philanthropy and co-coordinator of the event.

"Support for 'A Night for Molly' has been great," Fernandez said. "I'm so grateful to everyone who was shown support."

For more information on the second annual "A Night for Molly" see http://fiu.facebook.com/event.php?eid=12426145443

"I hope a lot of people show up," Messanotte said. "It's not just for Molly, but for everyone who has suffered because of drunk driving."

For more information on the event call 954-598-4573 for details.

PHOTO FINISH: Roger Mata finishes first at the 5K Fun Run/Walk event at the University Park campus. All proceeds of the event benefitted the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

RUNNING FOR CHARITY

"It was a difficult part of my life, but it's a chapter I want to close. I wanted to come back to FIU and finish my studies. It's difficult, but I'm here, fighting," Perez said.

The Burguera family is now trying to start a foundation to change and reinforce water safety rules.

The campaign was already affecting this year, Perez said.

Contrary to last year, no jet skis were allowed in the area this time. Also, a number of people were arrested Saturday night for drunk boating.

"Seeing so many of us volunteering, the gulf guards are realizing the size of the problem and now are enforcing more the rules," Perez said.

Opposite to what one would assume, Perez and Cardona still enjoy the ocean and admire boats. While distributing flyers, they couldn't take their eyes away from some of the luxurious boats entering the marina.

Perez said he returned to the accident site after recuperating to throw flowers in the water.

"It's like a car accident. Those things happen and it doesn't mean you won't ride a car again. You have to understand it could happen to anyone, anywhere," Perez said.

A earlier version of this story ran online Oct. 8 in our Web site www.beaconnewspaper.com

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SGC reveals budget report updates, changes

LUCY OROZCO
Contributing Writer

The Student Government Councils at the University Park and Biscayne Bay campuses changed the way they handle their yearly budget reports.

An evaluation was being made on the budget process and whether or not funds were being dispersed productively. Cassandra S. Andrade, SGC-BBC Vice President, said, “It is our duty to ensure that the money we allocate is utilized properly.”

Andrade said, “Both Sergio Kubasbaro Bolanos and Jonathan Doozan, the SGMG comptrollers, have been very instrumental in over-sewing this year’s expenditure. Furthermore, Student Government is looking into ways to evaluate this year’s allocations, so that we can better prepare for budget time.”

Andrade said that SGA has devised a new form and more detailed event audit form. With the previous form, organizations were limited in their responses. They were only required to check off boxes stating whether or not funding was adequate.

The new form asks questions as to the purpose of specific organizations events, whether or not the purpose was accomplished, what was positive and negative about the events and whether they feel the events should be done next year.

SGA has also developed a new mandatory form called the Conference Closure Report, in which organizations are required to answer questions detailing an overview of the conference, and how it is beneficial to students.

Jonathan Doozan, SGC-BBC’s comptroller, has researched how other state and national universities budget their money to improve student services.

University students currently pay an activities and services fee of $10.52 per credit hour.

This money is given to both University Park and the Biscayne Bay Campus’ SGC to disburse accordingly.

Most students don’t know that they are being taxed, and therefore don’t know what their money is being used for,” Doozan said. This means that the way the money has been disbursed might not be adhering to actual student concerns.

SGC’s A&S revenue for the 2007-2008 school year is $10,047,841 according to the Student Government Association’s Budget Report.

SGC promotes student involvement in the budget process; all of the University-wide Budget Committee meetings are open to the public.

“Students should definitely be more involved in the budgeting process,” said Katrina Saintable, SGC-BBC president. “We should let our voices be heard in votes and when SGA has forums, town hall meetings and even our general meetings, it is important to attend and participate.”

Andrade also stressed that student attendance at upcoming budget meetings is important to attend.

“Students have the right to know where the funds are going,” Andrade said. “I encourage students to utilize the services and participate in the various organizations and events that we fund, such as: Career Services, Center for Leadership, Volunteer Action Center, and the Women’s Center. I also encourage students to give us their feedback.”

The next SGC finance committee meetings will be held on Oct. 16 and 30.

All of the information discussed at these upcoming meetings will be available at the Wolfe University Center Web site, wuc.fl.edu.

For more information, students are encouraged to stop by the BBC Campus Life office in WUC 141.

FASA preps students for business

FASA, page 3

experiences.

In the Mid-90s, the group began to protest the lack of recognition of the arts, and worked for the opportunity to have their voice heard, as well as a gallery space to showcase their work.

It was at this time that FASA was officially formed.

Rodriguez is looking into the club’s future, and has set many goals for FASA.

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In particular are more attention to the arts, empowerment of students through education, and building professional skills in students as they pursue a career in the arts.

“Today in Miami, it takes more than just cultivating your artistic voice, but also cultivating your business sense...”

Mariela Rossel, PR Representative for FASA

“Today in Miami, it takes more than just cultivating your artistic voice, but also cultivating your business sense...”
DOWN WITH THE KING

Harsh working conditions taint Florida tomatoes

ERIC FELDMAN
Staff Writer

Workers have not received any compensation for the increased cost of living in 30 years, and in order to make minimum wage, workers would hypothetically have to pick more than two tons of tomatoes on a daily basis.

Representatives of the CIW, who are also workers in the tomato fields of Immokalee, were recently invited as guest speakers to FIU and spent more than an hour speaking to Honors College students, in English and Spanish, regarding the conditions they endure on a daily basis—except for days that they are not lucky enough to find any work.

Students were told that, even though the work week for Immokalee workers can total up to 70 hours, they do not receive overtime pay. Their pay is determined by chips given to them by overseers who collect the tomatoes into a truck for each bucket turned in.

They are also not paid for the time they spend in the morning waiting for the dew to melt off of the produce or when the overseer does not believe that the bucket of tomatoes is filled high enough.

Social activism has never been my forte—with the overwhelming number of global injustices making it impossible to live a completely guilt-free life. But as I sat in the audience, a mere few feet away from the local workers who are directly responsible for providing the food I right here on campus, I felt that this was an issue that I could, and should, help to expose.

Social activism is an issue that I could, and should, help to expose. The industry is not the only entity to blame for the treatment of workers.

Modern-day slavery does occur, and according to a CIW report, there have been five prosecutions of slavery operations right here in Florida which involved the mistreatment of over 1,000 workers since 1997.

Other restaurants have complied with the demands of field workers and are still making large profits. It’s time for “The King” to do the same. BK’s motto is “Have it Your Way” and “my way” is food that has not been exploited from workers treated as sub-human.

For instance, freshman, Vanessa Vaquer, was asked about the consequences of texting while driving. She replied, “It’s extremely dangerous. Some people think they can handle it, but it is really worth your life?”

Nevertheless, she claims that she does sometimes text while driving. She even reported how she was close to having an accident due to this one time: “I was texting and I drove into the sidewalk by mistake.”

There are plenty of other stories of teenagers texting while driving, which have had different endings. Another article published in MSNBC, “Texting while Driving? U R so busted!” reveals the story of 18-year-old Ashley D. Miller who in addition to not wearing a seat belt, was texting while driving in Arizona last month. This resulted in her Ford pickup switching lanes and crashing against a PT Cruiser.

Even though Ashley survived the 40-year-old driver of the PT Cruiser, Stacey A. Stubbs, died. Cases like these have driven many government officials to take drastic measures. In May 2007, the first law banning texting while driving was passed in Washington. This so-called no-texting-while-driving law will go into effect January 1, 2008.

The implementation of anti-texting laws will make a tangible difference in preventing drivers from flagrantly endangering not only their own lives but the lives of others. It is a sad reality that a significant portion of the drivers traveling our streets will only practice caution when they are obligated to do so.
Indie musicians find home in local venues, MySpace

ELYSE COLEMAN  Contributing Writer

Underground music, once akin to a rite of passage for musicians looking to debut into the mainstream, has since become something of its own genre. Such music, which typically has a cult following instead of mass appeal, is not usually seen on MTV or heard on radio stations, but instead on college radio programs and MySpace.

Bands and groups are actually proud of this obscurity, but this type of music isn't as obscure as one might think, especially in South Florida.

Miami has a large number of independent groups. MySpace Music has 491 bands registered in Miami-Dade that are labeled as “Indie,” or independent from the mainstream. Included among them is Leading the Heroes (www.myspace.com/leadingtheheroes).

“They’ve been together 18 months,” said senior Andrew Julian, a close friend of drummer Nick Day. “They have a really different sound. If I had to compare it to anything, I’d say it sounds like how alternative rock sounded in 1992.”

Commercials are beginning to reach out more to artists unheard of by American audiences. One of the recent GEICO Cavemen commercials sampled the last 20 seconds of “Remind Me,” a song by the Norwegian electronic music duo Röyksopp. Vönüge commercials feature the song “Woo Hoo” by Japanese rock and roll trio The 5.6.7.8’s, who were also featured on the soundtracks for Kill Bill and The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift; the DVD for Kill Bill contains an extra where you can watch two of the three sets played by The 5.6.7.8’s during filming.

The rising awareness of underground music has even become apparent on television programming. Cartoon Network’s late-night programming block, Adult Swim, is known for its “bumps,” commercial bumpers featured in between shows made up of black cards with white text on them.

The background music for these bumps includes a wide variety of independent music, particularly groups under the Stones Throw Records music label, an independent hip-hop label; a listing of the music featured in the Adult Swim bumps is located on Bump Worthy (www.bumpworthy.com).

Outside of everyday media, students such as senior Daniel Molluzzo are finding out about underground music via local live performances.

“I had first seen The Blue Van perform at Studio A, but I later read a Fricke’s Picks column on them in Rolling Stone,” said Molluzzo.

Studio A, located on 60 NE 11th Street, spots itself as “Miami’s premier live music Venue and nightclub.”

For The Blue Van, Molluzzo went on to describe them as R&B meets 60s rock with a sound slightly reminiscent of The Who. Although clubs and bars are usual hangouts for live acts, other students are finding little-known music in rather unexpected places.

“I first heard Rhapsody [of Fire] while watching a pet twirling competition,” said senior Christopher Koward. “The only way I could describe it was Judea Pradesh meets Iron Maiden.”

More information on the band, which changed its name from Rhapsody to Rhapsody of Fire in July 2006 due to trademark issues, can be found at www.rhapsodyoffire.com.

Underground music isn’t free of controversy, however. There has been a growing concern about the pride that has surrounded underground music as of late.

To some fans such as junior Peter Castillo, it appears that now more bands are attempting to benefit from the increased awareness of independent music, contradicting the whole meaning of being "underground" to begin with.

“Underground music itself is used to be all about being different from the mainstream,” said Castillo.

“But it’s now come to be its own genre. It’s not the same as it should be. Now we have “indie” rock and people are now striving to imitate a lot of underground acts.”

DAVID SHAW  Contributing Writer

Many people wouldn’t consider getting punched in the face an exciting weekend activity, but mixed martial artist competitor and student Travis Miller proves to be an exception.

“In high school, I wrestled and played football. I don’t think any of those come close to Mixed Martial Arts,” Miller said. “It gets some hits in, too.”

Mixed Martial Arts (MMA), a combat sport involving techniques such as submissions and grappling, allows any fighting style that is in the boundaries of the competition’s rules, which might include boxing, judo and karate. The sport has gained tremendous popularity over the past years, and its impact has reached many students around campus.

Student Greg Cohen is a big MMA fan. Although he currently does not participate in martial arts, he’s proud of one of the premier MMA fighting leagues, the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

“I love UFC. It’s one of the only things I would watch on TV,” he said.

The Ultimate Fighting Championship took the highest pay-per-view ratings overall, overshadowing boxing events and the World Wrestling Entertainment.

“In an MMA fight, anything can happen. They can take it to the ground, they can stand or out of nowhere someone can get caught with a flying kick,” Miller said.

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As for The Blue Van, Molluzzo
The University of Miami's MBA Program has been consistently ranked by The Wall Street Journal and Financial Times. Which means you'll gain more than the knowledge to lead, manage and motivate. You'll be part of a renowned alma mater that can open doors across the nation — and around the world. And you can do it with the convenience of choosing from a One- or Two-Year program. Join us for a campus visit and find out why the University of Miami is the right choice for you.

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Round 2: 3/19/08
Round 3: 6/17/08

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Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124 and pick up an application.
Seinfeld creates buzz with interview

BUSY BEE: Comedian Jerry Seinfeld voices Barry B. Benson, a bee who uses the human race for stealing money from his fellow bees, in The Bee Movie. Seinfeld appeared at Miami Beach to promote the film, which will be released on Nov. 2 nationwide.

SHANNON FALCON Student Writer

A frizzy-haired Jerry Seinfeld stepped onto the red carpet of the Lincoln Road Regal Cinemas in Miami Beach sporting a casual, wrinkled white button down tucked neatly into pair of dark denim jeans.

With 50 Cent blasting through the stereo and a cluster of journalists waiting, the former sitcom star joked about how beautiful Miami’s weather had been and introduced clips from his new animated film, The Bee Movie, which will be released on Nov. 2.

He also sat down with reporters from college newspapers, including The Beacon, for a roundtable interview.

Seinfeld voices Barry B. Benson, a bee who decides to venture outside the hive and explore the outside world.

On a special trip outside the hive, Barry’s life is saved by a human named Vanessa, played by Renee Zellweger. As Vanessa and Barry B.’s friendship blossoms, B. discovers that humans are stealing honey from the hard working bees and mass-producing it.

Subsequently, he decides to sue humans for their crime.

Q: Why make a movie about bees?
A: Bees live a very structured kind of corporate environment. In fact, it’s like a little company hanging from a tree. They all have their offices and bosses and employees, with their duties and schedules. It’s so regimented.

They’re so fat with tiny little wings and produce honey – this product that lasts forever. I just find that it works. With “Seinfeld,” we wrote whatever we thought was funny, and I had senior citizens, kids and Brazilians approach me about the show.

We didn’t write it for them, but they still loved it. You got to love what you do and whoever likes it, likes it.

Q: How do you modify your comedy to appeal toward a more family-oriented audience?
A: I didn’t. I feel if it’s done right, it cuts across age lines, culture lines and ethnic lines; I just find that it works. With “Seinfeld,” we wrote whatever we thought was funny, and I had senior citizens, kids and Brazilians approach me about the show.

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Q: What projects do you have lined up next?
A: I don’t know. I don’t see any, but I never plan anything and I didn’t plan this. I just kind wait for things to hit me.

I have young kids, and I’m 53, I’m looking forward to spending more time at home – I mean, this was a big undertaking.

To other people, it might just be another one of those cartoon shows. It was very exciting to have someone like Renee Zellweger and tell her that I wanted someone like Renee Zellweger to work with and whose talent I just really have tremendous respect for.

I’m looking forward to spending more time at home – I mean, this was a big undertaking.

Q: You’re an acclaimed stand-up comedian and sitcom star, but what made you transition over to animation?
A: It was really the film itself. Visually, it is so stunning to me and so interesting.

If I could take those images and put a different kind of comedy into it, I thought it would be a great combination. I didn’t know for sure, but I thought it’d be fun to try and I really wanted to do something different.

If I were going to get involved in a big project, it would have to be something new and different so it would be exciting.

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Honor society offers opportunities for psychology students to excel in major

OPEN AUDITIONS

MARTIAL ARTS, page 6

MMA overpowers wrestling, boxing in TV ratings

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 11

WHAT: Ricky Martin WHERE: The Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason Theatre 1700 Washington Ave., WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $37.50 - $251.50

WHAT: Sinbad WHERE: Kravis Center 701 Okeechobee Blvd., WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $20 - $85

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 12

WHAT: A Night For Molly WHERE: GC Ballrooms WHEN: 7:30 p.m. HOW MUCH: $15 each or a table for 10 for $125

WHAT: Puddle of Mudd & Saliva WHERE: Revolution 200 West Broward Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $22

WHAT: Mana WHERE: American Airlines Arena 601 Biscayne Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $22 - $97

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 13

WHAT: Dirty Dozen Brass Band WHERE: Culture Room 3045 N. Federal Hwy. WHEN: 6 p.m. HOW MUCH: $14.99

WHAT: Newsboys WHERE: BankUnited Center 1245 Davie Dr., Coral Cables, FL. WHEN: 7 p.m. HOW MUCH: $18 - $37

The program offers Greeks and other honor societies help with schoolwork. For more information on FIU chapter of Psi Chi, visit their web site at www.fiu.edu/~psichi and for information on the national society, visit www.psichi.org.

"Like everything in life, the Psi Chi experience is what you make of it," Gray said.

Earlier this year, PRIDE was purchased by the UFC, which is owned by casino moguls Lorenzo and Frank Fertitta. The mergers and dissolutions, though, are not an issue for fans such as Miller, who follows the sport regardless and incorporates MMA into his training.

"I hope to train as long as my body lets me," Miller said. For more information on the combat sport, visit ufc.com and www.sherdog.com.

WHAT: Blackman WHERE: Revolution 200 West Broward Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $25.50 - $97

WHAT: Puddle of Mudd & Saliva WHERE: Revolution 200 West Broward Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $22

WHAT: Mana WHERE: American Airlines Arena 601 Biscayne Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $22 - $97

WHAT: Chevelle WHERE: Revolution 200 West Broward Blvd. WHEN: 6 p.m. HOW MUCH: $21

WHAT: Newsboys WHERE: BankUnited Center 1245 Davie Dr., Coral Cables, FL. WHEN: 7 p.m. HOW MUCH: $18 - $37

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 14

WHAT: Puddle of Mudd & Saliva WHERE: Revolution 200 West Broward Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $22

WHAT: Mana WHERE: American Airlines Arena 601 Biscayne Blvd. WHEN: 8 p.m. HOW MUCH: $22 - $97

WHAT: Chevelle WHERE: Revolution 200 West Broward Blvd. WHEN: 6 p.m. HOW MUCH: $21

WHAT: Newsboys WHERE: BankUnited Center 1245 Davie Dr., Coral Cables, FL. WHEN: 7 p.m. HOW MUCH: $18 - $37

ჭ Compile by Kassandra Pool

MMA honor society offers opportunities for psychology students to excel in major

By BEN F. BADGER JR.

Asst. News Director

For those pursuing a degree in psychology, joining FIU’s chapter of Psi Chi, the national honor society in psychology, is one way to network with others and improve leadership skills.

“It is really a great opportunity for psychology majors or minors to enhance their college experience,” said Vanessa Montero, vice president of Psi Chi. “Not only will they be provided with great tools to become more competitive graduate school applicants, but they will also have the opportunity to network with other students.”

The national society was founded in 1929 for the purpose of encouraging, stimulating and maintaining excellence in scholarship, and advancing the science of psychology, according to the Psi Chi website. FIU’s chapter has been in operation since 1975.

According to the main branch, Psi Chi serves two major goals: to provide students academic recognition and to nurture that recognition by offering services and programs to its members that foster development.

“Being a member of Psi Chi has really assisted me in how to be a better candidate for graduate school,” said senior Ninamar Maupoon.

Post-undergraduate studies are so important to the society, that an entire portion of the Psi Chi website is dedicated to providing tips and information on how to get into graduate programs.

In order to join Psi Chi, a student must be pursuing a major or minor in psychology with at least nine credits, have attended three semesters at a college and have a cumulative GPA of 3.2 and in their psychology courses.

“I initially [joined Psi Chi] because I thought it would look good on my graduate school application,” said Stephanie Dominguez, community service chair. “However, by the time the first general meeting was over, I realized that this honors society was offering me much more than that.”

For many members of Psi Chi, joining the organization has changed their lives.

“I’ve grown by leaps and bounds as a person and as a leader,” said Kimberly Gray, president of Psi Chi. “I’ve discovered that I’m more tolerant, more tenacious and more steadfast than I could ever have imagined.”

Meetings are held every other Monday at 12:30 p.m. in Graham Center room 150.

Gray commented that in addition to the monthly meeting, weekly events for members are planned.

“Like everything in life, the Psi Chi experience is what you make of it,” Gray said.

For more information on FIU chapter of Psi Chi, visit their web site at www.fiu.edu/~psichi.

Educate-PsiChi and for information on the national society, visit www.psichi.org.

Miller has trained for more than five years at the Freestyle Fighting Academy, located across the street from University Park’s east entrance. Its Web site, www.floridamartialarts.com, boasts itself as a world class gym and hosts fighters who are currently having successful careers in professional MMA circuits.

“When I got started in MMA, it was 2002 before the sport got big. Back then, you’d say you’re in Mixed Martial Arts and people would be like, ‘oh you’re in the WWE or [some other wrestling league].’ Now you say you’re in MMA and people understand,” Miller said.

MMA is not just an all-out fight, however.

“The thing with fighting is that no one wants to see an actual fight. It’s brutal. MMA is more entertaining. It’s more fun to watch, more commercial,” said Edelberto Hernandez, a junior who has a background in wrestling.

The initial UFC had very few rules. According to www.mma.org, the only rules were no eye gouging, biting and fishhooking.

It was only just before the UFC was bought by Zuffa Inc., an American sports production company, that the sport has developed many of the rules and forms that are popular in today’s MMA.

Some fans such as Miller, however, don’t agree with certain competition regulations.

“I’m not exactly for all those rules. I can understand some rules: no fishhookos, no eye gouging, no punches to the groin. [But] in almost all matches, if you’re standing, you can’t strike a dowedn opponent with elbows or knees; in can’t even punch them some times,” Miller said.

Currently, MMA is in a state of flux. Different leagues exist, but some are being dissolved or united.

Earlier this year, PRIDE was purchased by the UFC, which is owned by casino moguls Lorenzo and Frank Fertitta. The mergers and dissolutions, though, are not an issue for fans such as Miller, who follows the sport regardless and incorporates MMA into his training.

"I hope to train as long as my body lets me," Miller said. For more information on the combat sport, visit ufc.com and www.sherdog.com.
SPORTS

WOMEN’S SOCCER

Looking for their first win in four tries in the Sun Belt Conference this season, the Golden Panthers Women’s Soccer took on the Pioneers of Denver University on October 7 at University Park.

In what would prove to be a defensive struggle, the Golden Panthers continued their sloppy play, and shot themselves in the foot early when senior defender Kristin Hurst put the ball into the FIU goal for and own goal during the 14th minute.

This score was all the Pioneers would need, as the Golden Panther offense failed to muster up much of an attack.

The team managed just 2 shots on goal during the entire match, from sophomore midfielder Marina Pappas and junior midfielder Amy Jackson.

Both shots on goal came during the same span of time, as Pappas launched a free kick that bounced off the crossbar during the 74th minute. Jackson controlled the rebound and fired a shot that was turned away by the DU goalkeeper.

Senior goalkeeper Madeline Gannon had a strong game, saving 5 shots before allowing 2 goals in the final 3 minutes to sink the Golden Panthers for good.

Pappas missed another scoring opportunity in the 77th when she had a wide open net and the opportunity to tie the game up, but missed the wide right.

The loss dropped the team to 2-6-1 overall and 0-4 in the Sun Belt. With just 8 games left in the season, there is not much time to turn the season around, but with 7 games still remaining against conference foes, the season isn’t nearly over yet.

The Golden Panthers next game will be on October 12 against the Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks at University Park.

CROSS COUNTRY

On October 6, the Golden Panther cross country team took part in the 12th annual Disney World Cross Country Classic in Kissimmee, FL.

The best performer for the women’s team was Senior Paola Reategui, who placed 12th out of 44 and 693 athletes participating. The next meet the Golden Panthers will compete in will be the Stetson Invitational on October 11 in DeLand, FL.

NEW COACHES

Athletic director Pete Garcia announced on October 8 that he had finished the search for head coaches with the hirings of Carlos Casely as the men’s tennis head coach and Eric Campbell as the cross country/track and field head coach.

Garcia didn’t have to go far to find Casely, who served as the top assistant coach during the team’s last 5 seasons, which included 3 straight Sun Belt Conference championships in the last 3 years and appearances in the NCAA tournament.

The tennis team has been one of the few consistently successful programs at the school over the last few years, with 5 appearances in the NCAA tournament over the last 7 years.

They finished last season with a 19-5 record and a No. 30 national ranking.

Campbell was a track and field star in high school at Miami Northwestern High during the 90’s, and was a national champion in the triple jump in 1996. He joined the FIU cross country/track and field coaching staff prior to the 2005 season, and worked as an assistant during that time.

He worked with numerous talented athletes and was credited with helping Naim Yisrael and Donita Harmon become Sun Belt champions, and in the case of Harmon, a participant in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships last season.

Both of these coaches will look to help their up and coming programs continue their rises to prominence on the national scale.

 compiled by Chris Towers

Volleyball streak ends with back to back road losses

RENALDO SMITH

Staff Writer

With her team riding high on a nine- game win streak, women’s volleyball coach Danijela Tomic heightened intensity in practice in an attempt to keep the team focused.

Unfortunately, her efforts proved to be no match for human nature, as the Golden Panthers dropped both of their games on the road against Sun Belt Conference foes North Texas and Denver Oct. 5 and 6, respectively.

“I was very upset after those two losses because I didn’t think we competed the way we should have,” Tomic said. “Nobody likes to lose, but there is a difference when you lose because you didn’t leave everything you have out on the court. I don’t think any of us felt like we played our best after those games.

UNIT 3, FIU 0

North Texas (6-13, 2-3) delivered a near- flawless performance, making easy work of the Golden Panthers in a 3-0 (30-25, 30-26, 30-23) win. Sophomore All-American Yarimar Rosa led four Golden Panthers in double figures with her 15-kill, 11-dig performance, but it wasn’t nearly enough on a magical day of sorts for North Texas.

Finishing the game at a .402 clip, the Texans notched its seventh-best hitting percentage in school history, making just seven attack errors over the duration of the match. The Golden Panthers played well, finishing the match with a .303 hitting percentage but they simply could not stop North Texas on the other end of the court.

One bright spot was senior Anaity Smy- manus, who complemented Rosa with 12 kills on a scorching .476 hitting clip. Sophomore Olga Vargan and freshman Ines Medved had ten kills each.

According to Tomic, it was poor com- munication that led to the streak ending.

“Against North Texas, I thought our pass- ing really broke down and that’s why we didn’t have a good game,” she said. “They had a perfect match and there was just no way we could stop them. They had their best match of the year against us.”

DENVER 3, FIU 1

Two days later, the taste of disappointment grew greater after Denver pulled off a 3-1 (30-32, 30-22, 30-23, 30-20) shocker. The Golden Panthers seemed poised and focused after pulling off a tough 32-30 first set win, but once Denver adjusted its game plan, the Golden Panthers failed to respond for the remainder of the match.

Once again, Rosa led the team with 21 kills and 15 digs in the loss. Medved reached double-figure kills for the second time in as many games with 11 and senior setter Keita Oliveira distributed 47 assists. Alyssa Hampton highlighted Denver’s offense with 20 kills and 16 digs. Kim Muller added 19 kills and Holly Benson did her part with 13.

Despite the two tough losses, Tomic said she is still optimistic about the rest of the season.

“Now we have to learn from this,” she said. “We have to turn this experience into something good. We played two very good teams but we didn’t respond and play up to our potential. Whoever we play is going to bring their best game against us so we have to be on the defense always.

“I would rather take two losses now than trying to take it in November in the tournament.”

One bright spot is the Golden Panthers (11-4, 6-2 SEC), who will play arguably the two most important games of the regular season when they take on conference rivals Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee at Pharmed Arena on Oct. 12 and 13, respectively.

CLASSIFIEDS

JOBS

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Undercover Shoppers Earn up to $150 per day. Under cover shoppers needed to judge retail and dining establishments Exp. Not RE. Call 800-722-4791.

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JOIN OUR STAFF!

The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy.

Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.

So you know...

During the 2004-05 through 2006-07 academic years, the NCAA alleges that FIU incorrectly applied NCAA financial aid legislation; the following teams exceeded NCAA financial aid limits as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Excess</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men’s soccer</td>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s soccer</td>
<td>2004-05</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s golf</td>
<td>2005-06</td>
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This allegation provides the foundation for a charge of a lack of institutional control.
NCAA requests records of ineligible student-athletes

NCAA, page 1

full-time enrollment, the five-year rule and progress-toward-degree requirements.

Thirty-seven student-athletes, who enrolled prior to Aug. 1, 2003, competed while ineligible or failed to complete enough credit hours to fulfill the progression-toward-degree requirements.

Fourteen of those 37 student-athletes from fall 2005 did not complete an average of 12 semester hours in their Fall and Spring semesters or a total of 24 hours since the previous fall term.

During the 2004 football season, a student-athlete (not yet disclosed) was permitted for a sixth year of eligibility exceeding the five-year rule.

In addition, FIU incorrectly applied NCAA financial aid specifications from the academic years 2005 through 2006-2007, resulting in the soccer, women’s soccer and women’s golf exceeding NCAA financial aid limits. Thus, FIU violated NCAA bylaws that stipulated that each specific sport has a financial aid award limit.

An infusion report from Aug. 25, 2005 showed that FIU broke NCAA rules. Therefore, the allegations are the second NCAA violation involving FIU violating NCAA bylaws and is now subject to penalties under repeat violators, which may include the prohibition of some or all student competition in two seasons.

“We are resilient and confident that we can overcome this,” Garcia said. “President Maidique has been in constant communication with the NCAA President Miles Brand.”

Presently, the allegations are major violations, but the University may send evidence within the written response to reduce the allegations to secondary violations.

Self-disclosure is considered when determining the penalties issued. Every sport except football is in focus.

The Golden Panthers in loss

OFFENSIVE WOES CONTINUE FOR GOLDEN PANTHERS IN LOSS

LUCA MESSINA

Staff writer

The Golden Panthers (0-8-2, 0-2-0 Conference USA) lost a match marked by an insufficient offensive attack and an unusual shaky defensive performance to the South Carolina (8-3-4, 2-0-0 C-USA) Oct. 7 at University Park. FIU started off very strong in an effort to score but was unable to keep up after an early goal by its conference foe, ultimately losing 3-1.

“I think we played well up until that first goal at the 36th minute mark,” said coach Munga Eketibi. “As soon as that ball went in it was like déjà vu all over again. We have only scored five times in 10 games this season.”

As usual, USC made it 1-0 in the 36th minute as sophomore Jeff Scannella netted his fourth goal of the year with a shot that sailed past FIU goalie Kyle Thomas. The goal put a damper on FIU’s energetic attack heading into halftime.

The second half was marked by mistakes on both sides early but neither team was able capitalize in certain situations.

After a goal by freshman Blake Brettenschneider that put USC up 2-0, FIU had a number of defensive lapses that easily could have put the game out of reach.

One of those mistakes was when an FIU defender threw his body in front of the goal to prevent a score because Thomas was on the ground after blocking a previous shot and leaving the net wide open with several USC players swarming.

After falling to score numerous times, the Gamecocks would score again in the 67th minute to put the game out of reach at 3-0.

The defense has been the weakness, but the offense has been pretty solid for the Golden Panthers this season.

BIG BAT: Sophomore Tyler Tovar heads the Preferred Outfielder by All-Americans, by the same token it can make talented talent look quite pedestrian. The line has been the main cause of deficiency for the offense, as it finds itself unable to find any rhythm due to the manhandling it is receiving from defensive lines.

FOOTBALL, page 12

Freshman John Ellington has been a nice surprise, but an inability to get receivers open down field has resulted in opposing teams stacking the box and sending blitz packages that FIU is simply not good enough to respond to.

OFFENSIVE LINE

An offensive line can make mediocre players look like All-Americans, but by the same token it can make talented talent look quite pedestrian. The line has been the main cause of deficiency for the offense, as it finds itself unable to find any rhythm due to the manhandling it is receiving from defensive lines.

Problem should be fixed, the team will find itself in a lot more games and be in the best position to take home a victory this season.

DEFENSIVE LINE

While serviceable, the line has met expectations but not exceeded them. Against superior athletes, such as MTSU’s Dwight Dasher, containment has been continually lost and big runs have been broken as a result. While certainly not the biggest issue, it will need to play smarter and find a way to slow down superior players.

LINEBACKERS

Missed tackles have been the largest problem for this squad, although Scott Bryant, Michael Dominguez, and Ryan Martinez have ably handled what was supposed to be the position on defense with the biggest question mark. Like the rest of the defense, they will need to avoid giving up big plays that has been one of the downsfalls of the team this season.

SECONDARY

The biggest concern on the defense and possibly on the entire team because of poor tackling, poor coverage and poor play overall, which has resulted in opposing quarterbacks routinely passing for over 200 yards a game and throwing long touchdown passes.

What was supposed to be the strong point of the defense has been the worst, and it will need to correct itself quickly in order for this team to have any chance at winning.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Special teams has been a double edged sword for the Golden Panthers, as punter Chris Cook is one of the best in the nation and demonstrating professional potential. He is the reason the scores are not more outlandish than they already are. Meanwhile, muffed punts and short returns have been a constant for this squad, as starter Lionel Singleton was bunched after fumbling three punt in the opening game against Penn State. While Ellington has been serviceable as a return man, there is no potential touchdown threat that opposing teams need to worry about, which greatly hinders the chances of any sort of big return.
Season’s first half concludes with nation’s longest losing streak

MIDSEASON REPORT

For a team that failed to win a single game last year, high expectations were set forth for the 2007 FIU football team.

The hiring of athletic director Pete Garcia and head coach Mario Cristobal, along with a complete overhaul of the coaching staff and a new stadium looming overhead, culminated in more than a few unjust predictions for the season.

Although the record, along with the scores in each game, speak for themselves, several important factors played into what has so far been a disaster of a season as we reach its midpoint.

First and foremost is the sheer difficulty of the schedule leading up to conference play. Not only are the University of Miami and Penn State two national stalwarts whose success has been well documented throughout the past decades, but Maryland is receiving national exposure with its upset of No. 10 Rutgers. Kansas, meanwhile, is 5-0 and took out a Top-25 team in Kansas State.

While few expected a win during these first four matches, it is the two most recent games against Sun Belt Conference rivals Middle Tennessee and Troy that are reason for panic leading into the second half of the season.

The Golden Panthers were overwhelmed against the Blue Raiders Sept. 29, giving up 47 points in the first half alone. A glimmer of hope appeared against Troy, the defending conference champions, as the team put together its finest drive of the season in the first quarter and finished with its first rushing touchdown of the year. From there, unfortunately, the team reassumed its typical role, losing the game 34-16.

That being said, the team still has a chance at redemption, as every game here on out save for Arkansas presents what should be a competitive game for the Golden Panthers.

Before they are picked to win any games, however, they will need to demonstrate cohesiveness on offense and an ability to score points, be it from turnovers, scoring drives or special teams.

The team will also have to maintain its performance throughout the game and not in sporadic spots, which is an obvious quality of a bad team.

With that said, let’s evaluate every position as we reach the midpoint of the season.

QUARTERBACK

Give head coach Cristobal credit for sticking to his guns and not benching redshirt freshman Wayne Younger despite extended periods of rough patches and the worst ranked offense in Division I-A football.

While his decision-making at times has been questionable, his athleticism has kept many broken plays alive and even created opportunities that would not have been possible with the other quarterbacks.

Younger is the right fit for the rest of the season as the offensive line is the team’s biggest question mark and the other quarterbacks do not have the mobility needed to be successful with such insufficient protection.

RUNNING BACKS

While Julian Reams stood out during training camp, his success in practice has failed to translate to the games as he has yet to have any notable carries. Part of the problem stems from being hit in the backfield within moments of being handed the ball, and it is extremely difficult to be a play maker when there are not even small holes to run through. A’mod Ned has been almost heroic in his efforts to simply get back to the line of scrimmage most plays, and one can’t help but wonder how good he could be given the opportunity to create plays. He is the most talented player on the offense and needs to touch the ball at least 20 to 25 times a game.

WIDE RECEIVER

While deep at the position, the lack of any real game breaker has plagued this squad from the start.

FOOTBALL, page 11