Students adjust lives during financial crunch

DANIELLA BACIGALUPO
News Director

As students return to school this semester, they’ll notice that the University has gotten smaller while classes have gotten larger.

Still reeling from a statewide budget crisis, the University has spent the summer cutting degree programs, research centers and staff, placing enrollment caps and hiking tuition.

For students, however, this has meant changing academic plans from switching majors to pushing back graduation as they adjust to a university trying to deal with a financial bind and its commitment to students.

“I’ve had to stop working because the classes that are offered I have to take them at different times throughout the day,” said Christina Gonzalez, a junior majoring in elementary education. “I have to take as many classes as I can now because I do not know if next semester they’ll be there.”

Gonzalez represents the new type of FIU student—one forced to squeeze into overcrowded classes, even with the enrollment caps, or increasingly take online courses, as traditional course offerings disappear.

At the June 12 Board of Trustees meeting, where final budget recommendations were presented, top administration suggested cutting all academic programs by $26.5 million during a three-year span.

When the BOT approved these recommendations this meant that 23 degree programs would be phased out during the next two years.

This decision has left many students hanging on an academic thread. While some have chosen to switch majors, others are switching universities.

BUDGET, page 2

WHAT FINALLY HAPPENED
A special report on the state budget crunch and its effects on the University.
• Video interview with President Mallek; student and administrative reactions;
• a breakdown of the budget cuts;
• Guide of where FIU’s money comes from.

visit fiusm.com/specials/budgetcuts

Once on top, FIU past donors face healthcare fraud

SERGIO BONILLA
Asst. News Director

Carlos and Jorge de Céspedes, who agreed to donate $1 million to FIU Athletics in 2004, were charged in federal court with cheating Kendall Regional Medical Center out of several million dollars in a kickback scheme.

In addition to fraud, they were charged with hiding about $21 million in income in an unrelated case and evading about $8 million in taxes. They face up to 25 years in prison, reported The Miami Herald on July 22.

During a July 22 court appearance, they pleaded not guilty and a federal magistrate ordered their release on $250,000 personal surety bonds.

U.S. Attorney R. Alexander Acosta explained the Céspedes brothers’ predicament.

“These individuals had it all — success, money and the admiration of their community. But they tarnished their good names because they wanted even more than they already had and they wanted it the quick and easy way. As this case shows, the quick and easy way usually leads to jail,” Acosta said in a U.S. Department of Justice news release.

According to the news release, the healthcare fraud charges relate to a kickback scheme in which Kendall Regional Hospital paid Pharmed $2.5 million to $7.5 million worth of goods it never received.

Three hospital employees have already been charged in that case, and attorneys for the three say they are cooperating in the case.

Pharmed’s medical supply business had been struggling financially for several years and the company filed for bankruptcy last October. As a result, the company was unable to continue paying the $1 million it promised to donate to FIU.

The confidential donor agreement made between Pharmed and FIU noted the company had to pay FIU an unknown amount of money every year.

However, after the bankruptcy, the Pharmed Group was unable to complete the remaining payments.

The University changed the name of its Pharmed Arena to the FIU Arena this April.

“There was an agreement in place and [Pharmed] did not finish paying the amount,” Vice President of Community Relations Sandra Gonzalez-Levy said.

Pharmed was established in 1980 and was once one of the largest Hispanic owned

FRAUD, page 4
Cuts shrink course options, increase class sizes

Students protest the budget crisis during the May 22 town hall meeting.

The impact is that classes are filled to the top. Students just can’t get in,” M artinez said. The budget cuts’ biggest impact, explained M artinez, is that it has forced him to shrink his department of 35 full-time professors and 25 adjuncts by one-third, resulting in the reduced class offerings.

This close correlation between, on one hand, budget cuts and reduced faculty, and one the other, number of faculty and class offerings, has been felt in most departments throughout campus.

S ueff er, associate dean of academic affairs at the College of Engineering and Computing, said the E C has undergone “deep belt-tightening” and it has forced a reduction in classes, an increase in class sizes and a freeze in hiring adjuncts.

Luckier departments have actually added faculty. The English department, already one of the larger departments in the College of Arts and Sciences, will boast four new professors this year and offer more courses.

However, even with extra classes than last year, class sizes are still higher than the national average.

The department would have to add 30 additional sections to comply with national trends, English department Chair James Sutton said.

“ A traditional problem in our classes has long been over-enrollment and high [class] caps,” Sutton said. “ But because of staff additions if anything, we’ll hold the line.”

And it’s because of these additions that the department has been able to deal with a unique influx of students—a migrating group from the English education major in the College of Education and one of the programs cut over the summer.

Most faculty agree that there is only so much that can be done with a failing budget. Still, fears are rising that making the most of a bad situation is leading to a university that is not only shrinking in size but quality as well.

“We prided ourselves because we had smaller classes than these big time universities, like U.F. It had an attraction because there was that interaction with professors,” Levy said. “ It’s harder now.”

- $26.5 million
  of budget cuts for academic programs during a three-year span
  *Source: Board of Trustees meeting powerpoint presentation June 12, 2008

- 3,000
  students unable to come to FIU due to enrollment cap
  *Source: Modique, Miami Herald, Aug 17, 2008

- $11.60
  added per credit to tuition for students with 15 percent tuition hike
  *Source: CFO Vivian Sanchez, Miami Herald, June 20, 2008

- $1 billion
  needed in state funding to raise State University System to national average
  *Source: Modique, Miami Herald, Aug 17, 2008

Students protest the budget crisis during the May 22 town hall meeting.
Online tuition reduced, more classes offered

DANIELLA BACALGUPO
News Director

As recent national trends show students flocking to take online courses in order to avoid rising gas prices, FIU students have more reason to migrate online as a new state law has forced the University to lower online tuition fees. In 2008-09 the new law limits online fees to cover only operating expenses, which is a small decrease from the previous amounts.

Previously, FIU’s $299 fee paid for faculty salaries as well as the development and delivery of the University’s online courses, said Joyce Elam, vice provost of FIU Online. The new law limits online fees to cover only operating expenses.

The law, however, is a small section encompassed in a broad online learning bill that shows a growing statewide interest toward online programs at universities.

The price of gas will make [online courses] more attractive”, Elam said, “but our classes have been full in the past even before the economy went into its tailspin.”

For the Fall semester, the reduction translates to a $199 fee for a three-credit online course, but Elam does not believe the change will deter students from enrolling in online courses in the first place.

Enrollment at FIU has grown exponentially since the program’s inception in 1999 and has peaked to 37,000 students in 2007-08, according to Elam. FIU’s numbers reflect a statewide trend. Enrollment in the same period reached a total of 290,000 students in 10 state universities.

As well as regulating online fees, the bill names bill establishes the Florida Distance Learning Task Force. The Task Force is mandated to present the Legislature a report recommending statewide guidelines for higher education online learning by March 2009. It will also ensure that online courses comply with accreditation standards, but questions about the quality of online education compared to traditional instruction has propelled FIU’s Faculty Senate to set up its own Online Learning Committee.

The price of gas will not make [online courses] more attractive but our classes have been full in the past even before the economy went into its tailspin.
Pharmed immersed in controversy

Pharmed Group Timeline

1987
Wyeth Pharmaceuticals sue. Settle out of court.

2004
Roche Healthcare stop supplying. Causes loss of $300 million in revenue. Pharmed Arena named.

2005
Commissioner Jose Diaz orders Jackson Memorial Hospital to give Pharmed Group preference.

2006
Brothers charged with hiding $21 million and evading $8 million in taxes.

2008

AmerisourceBergen sue for $1.2 million. Settle out of court.

University loses racial discrimination case

DANIELLA BACIGALUPO
News Director

University President Modesto A. Maidique reaffirmed the University’s commitment to diversity in a July 24 newsletter — just six days after a Miami-Dade jury ruled against FIU in a discrimination lawsuit.

The jury ordered the University to pay former employee Sean St. Louis $2.5 million for racial discrimination during the Contracts and Grants department’s dismantlement in 2004.

In 2003, the University had undergone several federal audits investigating the misappropriation of federal grant money in the Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technologies. Evidence of mismanagement at high administration levels led to drastic changes in the makeup of the accounting section.

The University created new offices and positions, including the hiring of a chief financial officer, reorganized departments and dismantled others and fired at least 20 HCET employees, according to Erika Deutsch Rotbart, St. Louis’ lawyer.

“We take allegations of this nature very seriously,” Maidique said in a statement responding to the verdict. “The University plans to appeal the decision.”

Visit the NEWS section of our Web site for more coverage on the discrimination case.

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STORM SURGE

From student to student
Campus hot spots fulfill your needs

KISHORE SAWH
Staff Writer

It’s back to school time and Biscayne Bay Campus opens its doors to welcome new faces as well as old ones.

“Starting off the school year can be a bit daunting,” said Daniels Aking, an engineering major.

That’s why below you will find a list acquired from a few student, staff and alumni voices to help you stride a bit more smoothly through the information jungle that is university life at BBC.

BEST PLACES TO MEET NEW PEOPLE:

“The best place to meet new people is at a On Point Poetry club gatherings and in the Wolfe University Center. OPP is known for its black history show, but members meet twice a semester.

“Everyone is really friendly and smart,” said Kerts M. Tous, OPP president.

Orientation is another place to meet bright new faces, as well as some more seasoned Golden Panthers.

“Go to freshman orientation. You can meet new young people every semester,” said Andrew Lyman, a graduate student majoring in hospitality management.

BEST PLACES TO STUDY:

“I like to study in the library. I just go into one of those empty cubicles, open my books and maybe even sleep,” said Lorraine Henderson, a freshmen majoring in business marketing.

Other quiet places on campus include various study lounges.

“I study in the study lounge in room 245 of WUC. It’s quiet and people respect that. And not much exterior sound comes through. I like that,” said Kertus M. Tous, a senior majoring in sociology and finance.

Other suggestions include the outside of the hospitality management building by the bay and in the swinging chairs outside the library.

BEST PLACES TO PICK UP Wi-Fi:

“I always pick up good Wi-Fi signal anywhere around the HM building,” said Marcello Pacotti, a senior majoring in hospitality management.

BEST PLACES TO NAP:

“At the back of WUC by the piano is [good] to take a nap in the big chairs,” said Ryan Lagos, a resident advisor at the Bay Vista dorms.

“In the library in one of the cubicles or empty rooms upstairs if they are empty,” said Stephanie Popko, hospitality management senior.

BEST THINGS ABOUT BBC:

“It’s all in the name: Biscayne Bay. It’s right on the water with nice views. I mean, I kayak behind here last week-end. How cool is that for college?” Lyman said.

“It’s so convenient. You can find close parking, unlike UP, and can meet up with everyone you know. It’s way more of a family environment,” Pacotti said.

Highly-awaited cafeteria brings new food, variety

PAMELA DUQUE
BBC Life! Editor

It will be located at the intersection of Academic 1 and the entrance to Wolfe University Center room 170-175. “We are really looking forward to the opening of the new facility,” said Cathy Akins, assistant vice-president of Student Affairs. “We think that it’s going to provide a different menu to our students, faculty and staff in our campus.”

The new facility will offer students a different menu with three new concepts: Blecker St., Moe’s Southwest Grill and Grill Works, which is familiar to the FIU community as one of the current locations at the existing cafeteria.

Blecker St. will provide students with a variety of choices including sandwiches like California turkey, tarragon roast beef and tuna. More select sandwiches have ingredients like hummus, feta cheese and Portobello mushrooms, and fresh garden salads.

Current locations at the existing cafeteria – Subway, Grill Works, Home Zone, Bene Pizza and Salad Garden – will be replaced by the three new ones.

The new facility will also offer cupcakes, cookies and pastries including danish and scones.

Student Affairs hopes to develop multipurpose student meeting rooms and a student recreation/game room at the location of the current cafeteria.

Madeline Baro, Assistant Director Media Relations

Student Affairs hopes to develop multipurpose student meeting rooms and a student recreation/game room at the location of the current cafeteria. Baro said in an e-mail interview.

New SGC-BBC agenda set for year

BARBARA QUIANO
Contributing Writer

The Biscayne Bay Campus Student Government Council set goals for the 2008-2009 school year aimed “to reach for the impossible,” according to President Ana Maria Silva.

The goals were revealed at the SGC-BBC school year kickoff meeting on Aug. 6 by Silva and Kenneth Paul, SGC-BBC vice president. The meeting was meant to formally introduce the student council officers and help them get to know with the faculty and staff through small discussions, games and food.

The ten issues that received the most concern at the meeting and were chosen as the SGC-BBC 2008-2009 detailed goals were:

- Addressing academic issues through surveys
- Increasing student communication with deans
- Providing links to access advising and a learning center for tutors
- Increasing campus security at BBC and Pines
- Ensuring better lighting and marketing public safety
- Improving library policies
- Making more rooms available for graduate and undergraduate students
- Executing a beautification project at BBC
- Improving business services at BBC, such as providing students access to the copy room, implementing customer service surveys, extending hours for the C-store on campus and adding more food and groceries
- Launching a two week SGA marketing campaign, to include going to specific colleges, visiting classrooms and attending orientations

SGC-BBC also aims to extend the new football ticket voucher system for UP and BBC. The system consists of tickets for the first football game of the year, given to students at Welcome Week.

Another goal is the completion of the BBC pool renovations. The pool is slated to reopen this Fall semester although a specific date has yet to be named.

“All of the repairs are coming out of the university wide reserve account… the amount of money left from every fiscal year, approximately $1 million for repair here at BBC,” Silva said.

All of the repairs are coming out of the university wide reserve account… the amount of money left from every fiscal year, approximately $1 million for repair here at BBC.

Ana Silva, President SGC-BBC
Services for personal development offered

RENE BOURSIQUOT, JR.
Contributing Writer

ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER

The FIU Academic Advising Center provides a myriad of services designed to provide students with specialized guidance in outlining curriculum requirements, developing plans of study and facilitating a smooth transition into any of the academic programs.

The Academic Advising Center is located at the Biscayne Bay Campus in Academic Center One, room 180. Call (305) 919-5754 or e-mail advcenter@fiu.edu for more information.

CAMPUS RECREATION

FIU provides students with recreational opportunities ranging from flag football, to water polo and kayaking. BBC’s Recreation Complex is a 70,000 square ft. fitness and aquatic facility, equipped with an aerobics studio that offers group fitness classes, yoga, massages and dance instruction.

All currently enrolled students are automatically Campus Recreation members and may attend classes free of charge.

Campus Recreation is located in the WUC, room 160. Call (305) 919-5678 or e-mail bbcinfo@fiu.edu for more information.

CAMPUS LIFE

Located in WUC 141, Campus Life focuses on enhancing students’ academic achievement through participation in a variety of FIU associations.

There are many areas in which students may choose to become involved, including Fraternity & Sorority Life, Homecoming Council, Honors Council, Student Government Council, Multifaith Council, Panther Rage, Student Organizations Council and Student Programming Council.

For more information, contact Campus Life at (305) 919-5804 or e-mail bbcinfo@fiu.edu.

FINANCIAL AID

A Financial Aid Administrator is available to assist students with financial aid concerns.

Assistance is available on a walk-in basis to answer general questions, distribute & accept application materials, and provide information concerning application procedures and general program requirements.

Located in AC1 100, the Financial Aid Office is open Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Tuesday & Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

A Financial Aid administrator can be contacted by telephone at (305) 919-5750, or by fax at (305) 919-5403.

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NEWS TEAM

NEWS DIRECTOR
Daniella Bacigalupo
daniella.bacigalupo@fiu.edu

ASSISTANT NEWS DIRECTORS
Sergio Bonilla
sergio.bonilla@fiu.edu
Julio Menache
julio.menache@fiu.edu
Paul O’Sathwaite
paul.oswath@fiu.edu
Christopher Khawand
chris.khawand@fiu.edu
Julia Cardenuto
julia.cardenuto@fiu.edu
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When Bill Legg was hired as offensive coordinator in March, FIU immediately made a substantial improvement to its offense, at least from an experience standpoint. Two things became evident: the offensive scheme needed revamping, and we needed a coach with experience at a big-time program.

Bill Legg has got it. A veteran of big-time programs since he began his career on the sidelines at his alma-mater, West Virginia University in 1986, this hiring is the equivalent of a Hail Mary for FIU. Let's face it: offensive coordinator James Coley just didn't cut it for the Golden Panthers in his one year at the position. Granted, he had a team full of freshmen and sophomores last year, but his offense still ranked last in every statistical category in the Sun Belt Conference except rushing offense and that was ranked 7th out of 8th.

Without turning Coley into a lame duck, Bill Legg guided Purdue as their offensive coordinator in 2006 and 2007 and achieved polar opposite results. In his two years at Purdue, the Boilermakers led the Big Ten in total offense and several other offensive categories as well. This is the kind of experience that coach Mario Cristobal embraces. "Coach Legg is a veteran who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him," Cristobal said. "He is a great

**2008 Football Schedule**

- **KANSAS**
  - August 30th
  - 7 PM
- **IOWA**
  - September 6th
  - 7 PM
- **SOUTH FLORIDA**
  - September 20th
  - 7 PM
- **TOLEDO**
  - October 4th
  - 7 PM
- **NORTH TEXAS**
  - October 11th
  - 7 PM
- **MIDDLE TENNESSEE**
  - October 18th
  - 7 PM
- **TROY**
  - October 25th
  - 7 PM
- **LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE**
  - November 1st
  - 5 PM
- **ARKANSAS STATE**
  - November 8th
  - 7 PM
- **LOUISIANA AT MONROE**
  - November 22nd
  - 7 PM
- **FAU ORLANDO STADIUM**
  - December 6th
  - 7 PM

**FOOTBALL PREVIEW**

AUGUST 25, 2008

**Luca Messina**
Asst. Sports Director

Big time coordinator brings Big Ten experience to FIU

**2008 Football Schedule**

@ Kansas  August 30th  7 PM
@ Iowa  September 6th  7 PM
South Florida  September 20th  7 PM
@ Toledo  October 4th  7 PM
@ North Texas  October 11th  7 PM
Middle Tennessee  October 18th  7 PM
@ Troy  October 25th  7 PM
@ Louisiana-Lafayette  November 1st  5 PM
Arkansas State  November 8th  7 PM
Louisiana at Monroe  November 22nd  7 PM
@ FAU Orange Stadium  December 6th  7 PM
BRUISING BACK

Reams looks to silence doubters, show full potential this season

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

As the football team continued to play during a scrimmage at University Park on August 12, something stood out in the midst of the typical hot and humid summer day in South Miami. Something was different on an offense that otherwise was dominated for most of the scrimmage, and most of training camp, for that matter.

Entering the 10th rushing play of the day, senior running back Julian Reams was on his way to being taken down by a throng of Golden Panther defenders. As Reams received a toss to the right and was met by a swarm of white jerseys, he proceeded to reverse his course to the left and turn the play into a 54-yard display of power and speed.

Something looked different in Reams game in comparison to past seasons.

“He looks more aggressive,” cornerback Anthony Gaitor said. “He’s more explosive now when he runs, and he runs physically and hard.”

POTENTIAL

Entering his last season, a sense of urgency has overcome Reams.

“Coaches would ask me one-on-one what I want to improve on and I said everything, because from my freshman year with the media it’s always been a potential thing,” Reams said. “But now I’m in my last year, so when is the potential going to show?”

Reams used that motivation to increase his focus during the offseason, and use it during pre-season workouts.

“I was just more focused this offseason, because last offseason my son was born so my head was somewhere else, I was in the real world,” Reams said. “Now I’m back and I’m focused.”

Though his mind was on the newest member of the Reams family, he decided he wanted to block out all distractions entering this summer and prepare for a breakout season.

Reams’ father, Alexander Reams, takes a more quiet approach from the sideline and lets the coaches do the football work, but as Julian’s main supporter he has seen the change. Although not too much of his routine has been different, he has been more steadfast in his devotion.

“He’s always been committed and done what’s asked of him, but his weight program has picked up and he’s been very intense about that,” his father said. “A big motivating factor was also not to get too far out of shape.”

Reams’ weight and strength have been a common topic among those close to the team.

“I am just reading plays better, and I’m re-vamping the 2007 uniform, and saw even have a chance to wear the school uniform,” they echoed when asked which uniform they liked more.

“He’s always been committed and done what’s asked of him, but his weight program has picked up and he’s been very intense about that,” his father said. “A big motivating factor was also not to get too far out of shape.”

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“He learned that once the hole opens he has to go, and he’s more advanced now where he gets the ball and goes to make a big play,” Gaitor said.

Reams agreed.

“I am just reading plays better, and I’m reacting quicker than I usually do,” he said. “I did the same things before, but I wasn’t able to react naturally humble Reams might do more often.

Potential thing that never came out,” he said.

As Reams continued to play during a game last season. He finished with 274 yards last season.

PUNISHING RUNNER: Senior running back Julian Reams barrels through a Troy defender during a game last season.

“Because that’s the way it should be.”

Reams said he wouldn’t be a typical sideline screamer, but he will do what it takes to make his mark at FIU during his last season.

“Our expectations are real high for this year as far as running backs, we are trying to be leaders, and me and A’mod [Ned] are both trying to get a stack this year, which is 1,000 yards.”

Regardless of numbers, Reams just wants to clarify one thing.

“I just don’t want people to think it was just a potential thing that never came out,” he said.

Golden Panthers ditch old uniforms for new threads

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“I am just reading plays better, and I’m re-vamping the 2007 uniform, and saw even have a chance to wear the school uniform,” they echoed when asked which uniform they liked more.

“He’s always been committed and done what’s asked of him, but his weight program has picked up and he’s been very intense about that,” his father said. “A big motivating factor was also not to get too far out of shape.”

Reams’ weight and strength have been a common topic among those close to the team.

“He learned that once the hole opens he has to go, and he’s more advanced now where he gets the ball and goes to make a big play,” Gaitor said.

Reams agreed.

“I am just reading plays better, and I’m reacting quicker than I usually do,” he said. “I did the same things before, but I wasn’t able to react naturally humble Reams might do more often.

Potential thing that never came out,” he said.

As the football team continued to play during a game last season. He finished with 274 yards last season.

PUNISHING RUNNER: Senior running back Julian Reams barrels through a Troy defender during a game last season.

“Because that’s the way it should be.”

Reams said he wouldn’t be a typical sideline screamer, but he will do what it takes to make his mark at FIU during his last season.

“Our expectations are real high for this year as far as running backs, we are trying to be leaders, and me and A’mod [Ned] are both trying to get a stack this year, which is 1,000 yards.”

Regardless of numbers, Reams just wants to clarify one thing.

“I just don’t want people to think it was just a potential thing that never came out,” he said.
Whitewater Rafting and Caving in West Virginia

**TRIP DATES:** Thursday, Sept. 25 - Sunday, Sept. 28

**REGISTRATION BEGINS:** Monday, August 25

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Wednesday, Sept. 17, 5:00pm, RC 103
(Monday, Sept. 8 for earlybird rate)

**COST:** $325 FIU students / $350 Non-students ($25 discount for earlybird registration)

**INCLUDES:** Round-trip bus, 3-night lodging at Microtel Inn & Suites, rafting & equipment, lunch on the river, and cavern tour.

**MAXIMUM # OF PARTICIPANTS:** 50

BBC Campus Recreation & UP Recreation Services offer you a West Virginia adventure to treasure - whitewater rafting and cave exploration. If speeding down the Lower Gauley River and touring the Lost World Caverns sound like good times for you, this is a trip you won’t want to miss. This trip is perfect for ALL LEVELS of experience. Departure scheduled from both BBC and UP campuses. For more information on this and other Adventure Recreation trips, contact Matt O’Connor (UP) at (305) 348-7530 (matthew.oconnor@flu.edu) or Warren Shaw (BBC) at (305) 919-4595 (shaww@flu.edu). Space is limited so register early!

Other Recreation Services Adventure Recreation Trips for Fall 2008:
- Miami Dolphins Game (vs. San Diego Chargers on Sun., Oct. 5)
- Kayaking on the Bay (TBA) • Indoor Rock Climbing (TBA)

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- Step
- BellyDance
- BodyCombat™
- BLT + Core
- 20/20/20
- Women on Weights (WOW)
- Boot Camp
- Yoga
- & more!

Pick up a schedule at the Rec Center, or go to www.fiu.edu/~camprec/ClassSched.htm

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**FALL 2008 CLINIC DATES**

- **Softball:** 9/2 - 4/6 - 8pm or 8 - 10pm, Rec Center (RC) 102
- **Flag Football:** Sept. 9 - 11/6 - 8pm or 8 - 10pm, RC 102
- **Volleyball:** Sept. 23 - 25/6 - 8pm or 8 - 10pm, RC 102
- **Indoor Soccer:** Sept. 30 - Oct. 2; 6 - 8pm or 8 - 10pm, RC 102

**BENEFITS**

- Good pay; flexible hours
- Work multiple sports
- Play on off-days
- Experience not required - will train
- Gain confidence!
- Become a leader!

Call the IM Sports Office at (305) 348-1054
While the Golden Panthers are experienced on offense, the position features mostly underclassmen.

Junior Jeramy Dickerson will look to improve his overall game, including his ability to run with the ball, and to improve his consistency to be able to run with the ball, and to improve his consistency.
Linebacker may not look the part, but plays it.

JONATHAN ALPERT
Staff Writer

Scott Bryant may not look like a linebacker, but when running backs feel one of his blinding hits at the line of scrimmage, the pain changes their mind.

The true sophomore has a contagious smile that livens up the locker room. However, once the shoulder pads are slipped on, helmet is strapped, and bodies start flying, his attitude changes.

That’s the surprise. One of the least physically intimidating players off the field is one of the most ferocious on it. The 5-foot-11, 205-pounder led the team with 91 tackles last year.

“I am all about one thing on the field, I’m about winning, because we don’t practice just to practice, I’ll go out to eat with the guys, talk to the guys, joke with the guys, but on the field, you need to focus, all the smiles drop.” Although he has fun playing football, Bryant said he is committed to building a winner at FIU.

He credits head football coach Mario Cristobal with creating the ideal learning environment, academically and athletically.

“Coach [Cristobal] is developing a championship program, building it from the ground up. Whether it’s academics, facilities, [Coach Cristobal] is giving us everything we need so we can get onto the field and develop as men,” Bryant said.

Growing up in Lakeland, Fla, Bryant lived with his mother and four brothers. Ever since he was little, he has been attracted to the game of football.

“I carried around a football with me everywhere I went, as far back as I can remember,” Bryant said.

He’s always been a linebacker, from pee wee to high school and now at FIU. There few positions in football that athletes are born to play. Some positions require not only more work, but a field sense, an intution, that can’t be taught.

As the field general of the defense, the middle linebacker is the pulse and the anchor. The defensive line’s primary focus is the rushing the passer and stopping the run. Linebacks are aware of running backs and receivers faster and more agile than them, while being blocked by offensive lineman that outweigh them by upwards of 100 pounds while calling the defensive adjustments.

“I don’t really think about size. I just focus on technique: what I’ve studied, and what the coaches taught me….I’m not the biggest, fastest, or strongest, so I’m not going to try and overpower anything or bulldoze anybody; I’m not that type of linebacker,” Bryant said.

In addition, the middle linebacker position requires Bryant to anticipate, and offset the frequent mismatches he faces. Scott Bryant shares that responsibility with the rest of the upperclassmen on the defense: just as when he and other players were coming into their own, the previous group of leaders mentored them.

“I focus on being a student of the game, and look forward to learning more: staying in the film room, learning how to make more plays. It’s my responsibility to know and to share my knowledge,” Bryant said.

MESSINA, page 7

Last year was the first year for this coaching staff to have these kids and it was a different way of doing things,” Legg said. “It was a different mentality and a different approach than they had done before. I’m not saying one was right and one was wrong, I’m just saying that it was different.”

Besides his vast experience, Legg believes that he has adjusted his version of the spread offense to the talent of this team and has made it more understandable for the players. From a distance, the most closely monitored part of Legg’s offensive work will be whoever is left standing in the quarterback competition between junior Paul McCall and sophomore Wayne Younger, and how that chosen quarterback performs. But if you look closely, he should be judged for his ability to get the best out of both the seniors and the up and coming youngsters on the team. If he can successfully blend the two, the offense will be dramatically improved.

This year is different this year because it has both prototypes and potential in both as well. Senior running backs Julian Reams and A’mod Ned are returning and looking to further contribute and at the same time, there is a nice crop of young receivers like freshmen T.Y. Hilton and Junior Mertile as well as sophomores Greg Ellingson and Marquis Rolle. Look for an intriguing position change in senior Alonzo Phillips converting from cornerback to wide receiver. If Phillips succeeds, then Legg will look even more like a genius.

This hire gives the Golden Panthers a leg up, no pun intended, at least in the preseason. There is certainly no guarantee that Legg can translate his successes over from Purdue; coaches aren’t always miracle workers either. At the very least, the hire is a fresh face that has been around the block.
Alcohol misuse expected if age limit decreases

Iris A. Fereb
Asst. Opinion Editor

Like an ant trapped in a pitcher of beer, academia will be drowning in debate over alcohol, due to a petition signed by over 100 university presidents asking for a decrease in the U.S. drinking age.

The signees of the document claim that a lower drinking age would better equip them to educate their students about responsible drinking. While some college students believe that the 21-year mark is ridiculous, others stand firm in the fact that the age limit has saved thousands of lives.

As of Aug. 21, only two educational institutions in Florida have signed the petition so far: Saint Leo University and Eckerd College.

I encourage this debate not because I think the drinking age should be lowered; in fact, I believe it should stay at 21. If people are drinking while underage now – say, at 18 – who’s to say that more 16-year-olds won’t drink if the limit is lowered from 21 to 18?

I know I’m probably in the minority here; I’m a few months shy of the big “2-1” and I don’t drink alcohol. But alcohol would be even more accessible for purchase – and to minors – if the drinking age were reduced.

If alcohol were to be more accessible to minors, then there’s a greater chance of underage drinking and accounts of DUI.

The petition is part of the Amethyst Initiative, a Vermont-based movement founded by former Middlebury College president John McCardell.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, a group that supports the current drinking age, is not pleased with the petition.

According to a press release on the MADD Web site, the petition is a “misguided initiative” that utilizes misleading information for support of a lowered drinking age.

“The science behind the [current drinking age] unequivocally shows that the 21 law has reduced drunk driving and underage and binge drinking,” said MADD National President Laura Dean-Mooney, according to the press release.

FIU policy states that individuals under 21 cannot purchase, consume or serve alcohol on the University premises. The Beacon does not encourage drinking on campus and does not endorse statements counter to FIU’s alcohol policy. In our first issue, we explore all the aspects of alcohol and how it relates to students nationwide. As our writers weigh in on the issues, feel free to weigh in by dropping me a line at opinion@fiusm.com. - Eric Feldman, Opinion Editor
**Have a story to tell?**

Join Student Media

Whether it’s University President Modesto Maidique, an incoming freshman, a six-year-old senior or the custodian who cleans the Graham Center late at night, everyone has a story to tell. It’s important for these stories to be told, because they’re your stories. During a time of budget cuts, academic programs being eliminated, a growing Athletics department and a new College of Medicine being built, it’s important for these stories to be told, the FIU community informed and his-story recorded.

That’s where Student Media comes in. Student Media is comprised of The Beacon, WRGP Radio FM 93.5, The HUSM.com and FIUSM.com. With each of these three different mediums, students, faculty and administrators have access to news that suits them best. During a time when the University is changing and growing rapidly, it is vital for us to inform the school community of decisions made on a daily basis.

It is our job and our responsibility to inform the University community of these decisions and how they affect us as students. Whether it’s the Student Government Association’s decision to fund a new club or the Board of Governors raising tuition by 5 percent, we believe this information needs to be in the hands of students.

Our main focus at The Beacon is to report and analyze University administration and student decisions because it is the decisions of our elected officials that affect our lives while we attend FIU.

Since our elected officials get paid with our tax dollars and student leaders get paid with our student fees, it is important to hold them accountable for their actions. All the decisions they make are supposed to be made in the best interest of the student body and FIU.

Student Media serves as FIU’s watchdog to make sure it keeps the interests of both students and the University in mind.

On the front page of each issue of The Beacon, we have a slogan that reads, “a forum for free student expression at Florida International University.” That’s another role The Beacon serves the student population — we offer a medium for students to freely express themselves.

The Beacon also offers students a chance to try new things they may never get a chance to do; students who love sports can cover FIU Athletics and interview student-athletes. Photography majors can get their pictures published in The Beacon, and FIUSM.com and art majors can submit editorial cartoons, graphics or comic strips. Movie and art lovers can write reviews for Student Media.

And since we’re a student-run organization, we may print mistakes. Whenever this happens, we don’t mean to do it purpose or with any malice. We appreciate it when readers point out any mistake so that we can avoid making that same mistake in the future.

We’re always willing to publish any critique submitted, no matter how harshly it’s written, even if we disagree with the opinion. We’re here to serve the University community and anyone who has any suggestions for us.

This is your paper. Tell us your stories.

That’s why we’re here.

Charlie Grau can be reached at charlie.grau@fiusm.com.

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**OLGA VELEZ**

Contributing Writer

Fifty Republicans in Congress are trying to get Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi to call Congress back to session in order to quickly solve the nation’s energy crisis.

During a time when the 110th Congress went on its annual 5-week summer break before coming to an agreement on how best to solve the problem. Although the energy crisis needs immediate attention, I believe this Congressional recess is necessary. During this break, all members of Congress should realize the importance of coming to a compromise on how best to solve the nation’s dependence on foreign oil and rising gas prices.

The break comes after the House of Representatives voted against an amendment enacting the American Energy Act included in the new Appropriations bill, which would have called for opening the Arctic coastal plain to drilling, allowing development of oil shale resources and increasing the supply of gas by allowing the constitution of new oil refineries.

Most Republicans would not vote for an amendment that did not include offshore drilling while most Democrats would not vote for an amendment that did. This dispute between parties could only be solved by members of Congress going to their districts and seeing that people in America are suffering partly due to the high cost of fuel and that a bipartisan plan needs to be put into place now.

However, there are still some 50 Republicans in Congress who refuse to take the much needed vacation and choose instead to remain in Congress and protest.

“It is just simply wrong for Congress to take a 5-week paid vacation when so many families are struggling under the weight of $4-a-gallon gasoline,” said Republican Rep. Mike Pence in an article from The Economist.

Even though Pence makes a point in saying that Americans are struggling under the high cost of fuel, calling back Congress would not change anything. If an agreement cannot be made between parties as to how best to solve the problem, then there is no point in calling back Congress.

The protesting Republicans also believe this will not only draw attention to the issue at hand, but also prevent Pelosi to call Congress back in session.

“We realize not everyone can be in Washington next week,” said Republican minority leader John A. Boehner of Ohio in a blog from The New York Times. “But if you can, be we ask that you come to the Capitol, join our colleagues, and lend your voice.”

However, it does not look like these protests will convince Pelosi to call Congress back in session.

According to the blog, Pelosi described the protests as engaging in the “war dance of the hand Republicans on tackling the energy crisis facing this nation,” said Rep. Roy Blunt of Missouri in the same Washington Post article. That is exactly what seems to be happening. Pelosi has reversed her policy on offshore drilling during the break.

Pelosi even offered to hold a vote in the House to extend the offshore drilling ban in certain coastal areas. Most Republicans would agree to a bill that also includes benefits for renewable resources as shown in the previous amendment that failed by 50 Republicans in Congress.

**Since Congress will not be called back, these Republicans should go home and speak with their constituents to see what they think about the issue.**

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**REPS TAKE A REST**

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**Since Congress will not be called back, these Republicans should go home and speak with their constituents to see what they think about the issue.**

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**SEND US YOUR LETTERS**

Letters to the Editor can be sent to opinion@fiusm.com. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 300 words and include the writer’s full name, year in school, major department and a valid phone number for verification purposes. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints.
LUCIA SASTRE
Staff Writer

Studying Abroad are two words that, for some, may sound scary or even out of their reach. Many students at FIU seem to be reluctant about leaving their comfort zone in order to experience something new. Other students complain that studying abroad is too expensive, or that it will interfere with their majors. Some even say that it is not worth it or that it’s better to wait until after graduation. But for those students and teachers who have actually travelled and chaperoned abroad, those thoughts are not remotely close to the truth.

“I believe that I speak for the 31 of us when I say that we had an eventful time visiting the medieval sights, meeting the warm-hearted people, shopping in the local markets, listening to popular music, tasting the culinary delights and participating in the various cultural activities the region of Umbria has to offer,” said the director of Passport to Italy, Angela Bronsburg.

Bronsburg further emphasized that on their trip abroad to Perugia, Italy this past summer, participating students had the weekends free to tour Italy, while on the weekdays they attended the Universita' per Stranieri, one of Umbria’s oldest, where they immersed themselves in language and/or culture classes taught only in Italian by local instructors.

“Needless to say, I can personally tell you that one of my favorite moments was participating in a Master Class at the Perugina [chocolate factory]. ‘The art of making chocolate’ was not only instructive, but also incredibly fun. As you can imagine, we each had our own workstation and lots of chocolate to play with,” recalls Bronsburg from the trip.

The Office of Study Abroad ensures safety and protection to those students traveling.

“There are orientations when students get to their destined place and when they come back. This makes students feel safe when they encounter adjustment problems,” said Director of the Study Abroad Programs, Liza Carbajo.

“Personally, I believe traveling abroad is a life changing experience. Most students in Miami have never been abroad and are accustomed to the culture here. Those students are the ones that benefit the most from the trip. When they come back, they have a new way of seeing the world,” said Carbajo, who also got the chance to travel abroad to Genoa during an FIU trip.

The Office of Education Abroad offers several programs consisting of many different countries. There are eleven countries to choose from and about 20 programs to consider when travelling abroad. If financial aid problems are preventing you from going, then opt for the OES scholarship. “It ranges from $300–$500, and is especially designed for summer programs. [Students] can download the application on our Web site,” Carbajo said.

A student may consider a destination abroad according to his or her major, or their language proficiency, but this isn’t the case for everyone.

Guadalupe Juarez, a junior and an education major, studied abroad in Perugina without previous knowledge of the language.

“I've never taken Italian before. When I first got there I was scared because I didn’t know anyone, but as time went on everyone got really close, and I even learned enough Italian to defend myself,” she said.

Making chocolate, touring on the weekends and visiting medieval sights are things you don’t do everyday. For some this may seem like long a lost dream. For others it may seem too good to be true. But in reality all it takes are the guts to jump on a plane and say, ‘I’m ready for a life changing experience.’

For more information on Study Abroad programs, visit: http://ois.fiu.edu/.
Dear Freshmen,

Welcome to FIU!

You waded through four years of assigned, silent reading, standardized testing and gym coaches turned math teachers, all with your eyes on the eventual goal of going to college. Congratulations.

Surviving your first year of college can be a bit of a challenge, so The Beacon is here to provide you with some tips to make sure you don’t become one of those statistics your high school guidance counselor warned you about (“98 percent of all people who go to college drop out,” etc.).

DOUBLE CHECK EVERYTHING

You are one of 37,000 students in this university, so it’s easy to get lost in the shuffle. Anytime you have to deal with the university in any way, shape or form with regards to paperwork, the onus is on you to make sure everything is in order.

Every year, there are horror stories about people losing financial aid or not graduating on time because of some minor error on their part. Don’t be that person. Make sure you know your record better than anyone, it will come in handy.

GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS

The easiest way to lose interest in your school (doesn’t matter which one), is to not get involved. Frat life may be the avenue you decide to choose, or maybe the Anime Club is more your style, but either way, explore what your fellow students have to offer. Intramural sports are an excellent opportunity to get involved, for example.

The rules are a little different if you live on campus, because it’s a lot easier to be involved, so you should take full advantage of this fact. Take advantage of events in your building and don’t be shy. You are surrounded by a few thousand people in close proximity, so you are bound to find people with similar interests as you.

WORK HARD ...

You are here to learn, after all. This isn’t high school, and you can’t coast by not doing your reading. If you’ve got a project, start it early and do it right. If you play your cards right and find a major you are passionate about, most classes won’t feel like as much work as they are.

A planner is pretty much your lord and savior if you want to make it through your classes. Keep the same schedule every day, or break the day up into units, or however you want to do it. However you plan, make sure you follow it and it will become second nature.

... BUT DON’T WORK TOO HARD

Sure, academics are important, but so is keeping your sanity. So try to find a balance between work and recreation.

You don’t want to be the person who is completely burned out by the time finals week comes around, so make sure you pace yourself. Cramming during finals week works for some people, but it is often more stressful than it is worth.

DON’T BITE OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW

If you have to get a job, don’t work too many hours. Don’t take 18 credits in a semester and don’t take too much of one subject at the same time.

EXPLORE DIFFERENT SUBJECTS

Freshman year is the time when you are supposed to find what your major is, so don’t be afraid to diversify. If you are interested in German art or Alexander the Great’s military conquests, there’s probably a class for it. Look it up.

DO WHAT YOU WANT

This is, really, your first chance ever to really do what you want to do, so take advantage of it.

Everyone’s experience is going to be different, so make your own, and don’t let your parents or friends or anyone decide how yours is going to be.

Seven suggestions for a successful first year in college
Week of Welcome reaches an all-time high

NIKKI PEREZ
Contributing Writer

With its theme as “Panther Air: Prepare for take off,” this year’s Week of Welcome is aimed at offering students an enjoyable journey to their degree by opening the doors of the FIU community and offering early opportunities to get involved on campus. The Week of Welcome, formerly known as Welcome Week, launches Friday, Aug. 22 at 8 p.m. with move-in, and ends Saturday, Aug. 31 at 1 p.m. with a bus tour around Miami.

WOW will be full of exciting events and fairs for new incoming students to get a taste of FIU, such as freshman convocation, pep-rallies, after-parties, dances, probate show and much more.

“This week of events is ideal for freshmen looking to meet other freshmen, get involved on campus and gain an understanding of what it is to have panther pride,” said vice president of development for Student Affairs, Dr. Robert Dollinger. “It is to have panther pride,” said vice president of Development for Student Affairs, Cristina Rodriguez.

SIC will be hosting two events throughout the week which included an Iron Man movie presentation on the lawn, Saturday, Aug. 23 at 8 p.m. and an appearance by comedian/magician Justin Kedibele in the GC Ballrooms Aug. 25 at 8 p.m. Kedibele is a highly anticipated guest since Campus Magazine named him “Entertainer of the Year.”

All events in the Week of Welcome are absolutely free and are for the benefit of students’ engagement on campus. Those attending can look forward to free food and gifts. All students will get an opportunity to receive one of the train giveaways – airplane key chains.

“FIU has much to offer, and we urge our students to enjoy their experience here.” The Week of Welcome will also present its fourth annual Trail of Torch event. “FIU has much to offer, and we urge our students to enjoy their experience here.” The Week of Welcome will also present its fourth annual Trail of Torch event.

Students are expected to attend and enjoy WOW, but they are also encouraged to consider becoming a team member of the committee that puts it all together.

Those who will be sophomores, juniors or seniors for the 2009 Week of Welcome are invited to pick up more information at the Office of Orientation and Commuter Services.

“I wanted to get involved with WOW because I wanted to be a part of one of the biggest weeks on campus,” said committee member Jessica Liana-Marie Okon. “There is a lot of involvement with being part of the committee and it has been really great working with some people.”

To take part in WOW, all attendees must show a valid Panther ID and have the enthusiasm to meet new people.

“I would like to end WOW knowing that the freshmen had a great first week of college and felt welcomed into the FIU family,” Okon said.

Fresh Food offers healthier eating options on campus

FIU students flocking back to campus might have financial aid, book purchases and courses to worry about, but there should be one more thing on their list—healthy diets.

As everyone knows, eating right and being physically active are essential to a healthy lifestyle and help reduce your risk of many chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and certain cancers and increase your overall physical and mental health.

FIU students both commuting and on-campus residents might wonder what healthy choices the University offers them. The best place to be food-conscious might be The Fresh Food Company. Fresh Foods’ food program is the best place to be food-conscious.

While dining out, select steamed, grilled or broiled dishes rather than fried or sautéed entries. While dining out, select steamed, grilled or broiled dishes rather than fried or sautéed entries.

Fresh Food Company

The “Just4U” menu includes daily vegetarian and organic food options, and all selections are developed and evaluated by culinary experts and organic food options, and all selections are developed and evaluated by culinary experts.

The best way to provide your body necessary and balanced nutrition is by eating a variety of nutrient-rich foods while staying within your daily calorie needs.

The best way to provide your body necessary and balanced nutrition is by eating a variety of nutrient-rich foods while staying within your daily calorie needs.

The healthy diets emphasize fruits, vegetables, whole grains, fat-free or low-fat milk and milk products, lean meats, poultry, fish, beans, eggs and nuts. Food choices should also be low in saturated fats, trans fats, cholesterol, salt (sodium) and added sugars.

It is often difficult to follow a healthy nutritional regimen due to our fast-paced lifestyles which often leave little time for meal preparation. Rather than simply resorting to fast food or salty packaged meals, you should plan ahead while at the supermarket by buying a variety of nutrient-rich foods for meals and snacks throughout the week.

While dining out, select steamed, grilled or broiled dishes rather than fried or sautéed entrees. While at work, school, or simply relaxing at home, eat snacks consisting of fresh fruit, raw vegetables or unsalted nuts to help avoid eating less healthy snacks impulsively.

Finally, it is imperative to eat an appropriate number of calories based on your age, activity level, basal metabolism (e.g., pregnancy) and whether you’re trying to gain, maintain or lose weight.

A total of 2,000 calories is the average energy intake for most people but this amount should be less for inactive people and increased for physically active people and during early adolescence or pregnancy.

Most packaged foods have a Nutrition Facts label which you can use to make smart food choices quickly and easily for those late night munchies during study sessions.

Since everyone’s medical history and nutritional needs are different, you are urged to discuss this with your health care provider or a registered dietician to determine a healthy diet plan that is appropriate for your age, activity level, weight goals and medical condition.

To your good health — Dr. Bob Dollinger

The best way to provide your body necessary and balanced nutrition is by eating a variety of nutrient-rich foods while staying within your daily calorie needs.

Dietary Guidelines for Americans

KEY
Fat (Naturally occurring and added)
Sugars (Added)
These symbols show fats and added sugars in foods.

Eat dark green veggies, such as broccoli, spinach and green beans; orange veggies, such as carrots, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin; and beans such as pinto beans and kidney beans.

Ensure that at least half your grains are whole by consuming at least three ounces of whole grain cereals, breads, crackers, rice or pasta every day.

For an average 2,000 calorie a day diet, you should consume two cups of fruit each day.

Choose lean meats and poultry as your major sources of protein. It is best to either bake, broil or grill it.

Minimize consumption of saturated fats, salt and sugars.

Consumes three cups of low-fat or fat free milk.

Dr. Robert Dollinger is a registered doctor and the Assistant Dean at The College of Medicine.
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<td>WHAT: Kayaking on the Bay WHERE: FIU BBC Bay WHEN: 12:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
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<td>WHAT: Asian Student Union General Meeting WHERE: GC 140 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
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<td>WHAT: Welcome Back BBQ WHERE: GC Panther Square WHEN: 11:30 am HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Mardi Gras WHERE: GC Pit WHEN: 11:00 am HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Student Organization Deadline WHERE: GC 240 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Student Alumni Association Trail of the Torch WHERE: UP Housing Quad WHEN: 7:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Alternative Spring Break Site Leader Priority Deadline WHERE: GC 240 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
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<td>WHAT: SPC &amp; WOW present: Magician &quot;Justin Kredible&quot; WHERE: GC Ballrooms WHEN: 8 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Panhellenic Council Information session WHERE: GC 150 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: College Republicans Kick-Off event WHERE: GC Ballroom WHEN: 10:00 am HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Caribbean Student Association General Meeting WHERE: GC 150 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Last Day to have passed CAT-CLAST for Fall Graduation WHERE: GC Pit WHEN: All Day HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHAT: Meet your Dean WHERE: GC West Ballrooms WHEN: 11:00 am HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Panhellenic Council Information session WHERE: GC 150 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Leaders Of Tomorrow General Meeting WHERE: GC 340 WHEN: 1:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Dance Marathon General Meeting WHERE: GC 314 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Accounting Association General Meeting WHERE: GC 150 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHAT: Welcome Back Week Pop-Rally WHERE: Betty Chapman Plaza WHEN: 12:00 pm</td>
<td>WHAT: SPC General Meeting WHERE: GC 305 WHEN: 3:30 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Leaders of Tomorrow General Meeting WHERE: GC 340 WHEN: 1:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Student Alumni Association Trail of the Torch WHERE: UP Housing Quad WHEN: 7:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
<td>WHAT: Muslim Student Association General Meeting WHERE: GC 305 WHEN: 1:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
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<td>WHAT: Panhellenic Council Information session WHERE: GC 150 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
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<td>WHAT: Panhellenic Council Information session WHERE: GC 150 WHEN: 6:00 pm HOW MUCH: FREE</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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