Vehicle initiative program strives for more student parking

David A. Barrios
Staff Writer

University administration established a new vehicle policy in late July in response to several issues being faced such as budget cuts, conserving energy and limited parking on campus.

The new policy aims to create more parking for students by limiting the number of University vehicle spaces on campus. This will occur by removing department vehicles that do not fulfill new University vehicle guidelines.

“Limiting parking spaces for the golf carts and other vehicles will add additional student and staff parking spaces to our inventory,” said Bill Foster, director of Parking and Transportation.

“This will occur as the number of University cars, trucks and vans declines,” he said.

Foster says that that only a handful of State Vehicle spaces have been converted to regular parking, but he and Parking and Transportation expect the number to increase over the next few weeks.

According to Foster, University owned vehicles need to serve specific needs and be used on a constant basis. Criteria for a department to show sufficient need for a vehicle includes fulfilling the job functions of Public Safety, student compliance, student recruitment or for constant intra and intercampus transportation of the University community and handling of heavy or dangerous material.

“Constant means the vehicle is used daily,” Foster said.

Infrequent or sporadic needs will be handled by using the new University Vehicle Pool Program, in which the surplus vehicles will be housed and vehicles will be assigned departments based on levels of University prioritization.

A maintenance fee for the vehicle pool is being charged to all University departments as well. Although the new policy addresses the current parking issues at the University, the financial benefits of the policy cannot be overlooked.

“While the new policy’s intent is to clearly define the justification for a vehicle, the limited purchase of new vehicles and an anticipated reduction of the fleet will save the University significant dollars in purchase prices, gas and maintenance,” Foster said.

Also, the program is responsible for saving the Educational & General Funds over $300,000, and the Parking and Transportation expects more money to be saved in the future.

Director of Recreation Services Rob Frye is in charge of all the intramural games held at FIU. His department needs two golf carts to transport game equipment. Although the carts do occupy parking spaces, they have to be registered and paid for.

Even so, Frye understands why his department is still required to register the vehicles.

“For the most part, I think the policy makes sense. It does put some financial obligations on departments that have vehicles, for some things that they didn’t have to pay for before. But overall it makes a safer campus,” Frye said.

The results have been positive, according to Frye, with new vehicle
FIU and Florida Memorial University have joined forces and instituted a joint curriculum for nursing students. Florida Memorial, the oldest historically black university in the state, and FIU, which hands the most bachelor degrees to Hispanic students, are looking to boost the number of minority nurses in the state.

Under the new merged curriculum, students will have three different options for pursuing their nursing degree, two of which would allow students to get a degree in both nursing and biology.

SJMC Journalism students host their own segment on local television station

Journalism students from FIU will get the unprecedented opportunity to learn the basics of broadcast journalism by producing their very own T.V. show.

The morning show looks to center on student life and will feature the Sun Sentinel and other print media in three different platforms. The student-made segments will be aired on WSFL-TV 39 and its companion Web site next January.

NATIONAL

Hesitant Mayor allows residents to return to New Orleans after hurricane

New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin unwillingly agreed to allow residents to return to the city after many of the people who were driven out by Hurricane Gustav started coming back to neighboring parishes. Much of the region is still without electricity or working sewers. Most businesses will remain closed out through the week until further notice.

President George Bush has declared 34 of Louisiana's 64 parishes as disaster areas, whose residents are eligible for federal aid.

Police fire at Republican National Convention protesters in St. Paul

St. Paul, Minn. Police fired chemical agents and projectiles into a large crowd of protesters outside the Republican National Convention on Tuesday night. Individuals were seen, with the motor pool already established for University vehicles. Somebody has to dispose of it.

Now that specific bill provisions have been taken out, Rivera has vowed to fight for the travel ban, which he says has been fully within state power and looks to appeal the decision, according to the Miami Herald.

Amid all the criticism of the Cuban-American Revolution, students should have a sense of where they came from. Only then will they be inspired to do something.

Cuban spies led to travel ban creation

The travel ban was originally proposed by David Rivera, a representative in Florida's Legislature, on the eve of a scandal surrounding two former FIU employees, Carlos and Elsa A. Ibarra, who had admitted to being spies for the Cuban government.

Carlos A. Ibarra, who used to work for the Cuban Research Institute, made five different trips to Cuba from 1993 to 2003 under the organization. The only trip A. Ibarra made with FIU students was in 2000, with a group not affiliated with the University called Puentes Cubanos (Cuban Bridges). Now that specific bill provisions have been taken out, Rivera has vowed to fight for the travel ban, which he says has been fully within state power and looks to appeal the decision, according to the Miami Herald.

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Vehicle policy will have benefits for all

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College of Medicine does not have golf carts, the new policy certainly makes sense. It will cut down on dilapidated vehicles. Somebody has to keep them maintained, which they can do in the vehicle pool," said Robert Dollinger, assistant dean of Student Affairs at the College of Medicine.

"I don't want to see golf carts on sidewalks, getting in the way of pedestrians at the University. There also needs to be more rules as to where they can be parked, like in the perimeter roads or near the loading areas. This resolves a lot of issues," Dollinger said.

To justify ownership and usage of University vehicles, departments must fill out a justification form for each vehicle. Regulations outlined in the policy must be met and each department dean or vice president must then approve the form.

The Department of Parking and Transportation will then determine whether to put the vehicle in the pool or dispose of it.

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Travel, earn credits with National Exchange

MIKIALA C. TENNIE
Contributing Writer

Credit cards beware. Students can satisfy their wanderlust without maxing out thanks to the National Student Exchange program. The NSE allows participating universities to send their students to other schools in the United States and Canada, for either a semester or one full academic year, for the price of in-state tuition. “It’s a wonderful opportunity. The financial benefit and the fact that there is a coordinator to help facilitate them [at the host university] means they don’t have to go through the admissions process,” said Valerie M. organ, assistant dean of undergraduate studies and NSE contact at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

This opportunity includes a chance for students to see other parts of the country or Canada while earning credits towards their major. “The goal of the program is to expand student’s horizons, it’s a matter of learning different areas, cultures, academic programs and it’s a good way to open up internship opportunities,” said Jaime Perez, NSE coordinator for the last 18 months.

The application process involves an application fee of $150, two letters of recommendation, a personal statement explaining the student’s goals and intentions, as well as a list of at least three schools the student would like to attend. A minimum 2.8 cumulative GPA and full-time academic status are also required, Perez said.

Upon acceptance, a student would then participate in the exchange the following academic year. However, there are no guarantees that students will get to attend their first choice of school. “The more flexible a student is [in placement], the better experience they will have,” Perez said. “The host institution may be limited by how many students on options A or B they can accept. Each school makes their own decisions on that. It’s a first come, first serve as to where a student will go.”

Some options are two payment plans students can choose from. Option A consists of paying in-state tuition to the host institution. Option B allows students to pay in-state tuition directly to FIU.

Aside from tuition, an NSE student would also be responsible for food as well as room and board either on or off campus. FIU students who pay tuition, live on campus and have a meal plan would pay the same amount of money with exchange on this program.

“Students coming back from the program wonder why so many other students don’t know about the opportunity,” Perez said.

Rocio Perez, an FIU graduate with a double major in international relations and French, participated in NSE during the 2007-2008 school year. For a full year, she lived in Quebec and attended L’ Université de Sherbrooke.

“Instead of paying lots of money to go to Paris, I went to Quebec to learn French. I experienced Communist protests, and every night there was a sit down dinner for three hours. I’ve never done any of that before,” said Rocio Perez.

Interested students should attend one of six informational meetings conducted by NSE coordinators during this academic year. Three will be held on Dec. 3, Jan. 24 and Feb. 6. At the University Park Campus, meetings will be held on Dec. 6, Jan. 22 and Feb. 5.

“It makes students more well-rounded and grounded individuals. It plants the seed for them to be able to conquer other things, and is a building stone for their life as a young adult,” Jaime Perez said.

Applications are due Feb. 21, 2008. For more information, contact Jaime Perez at (305) 348-1292 or visit www.undergrad.fiu.edu/wise.

Bon voyage to your friends and teachers as they step out of Florida for a semester at the University of Sherbrooke.

Like many of you, I grew up in South Florida struggling to find some entertainment to pass the time. I am officially bored of always going to the movies and the same old chain restaurants with my friends. I dedicate this column to finding the best things close to the Biscayne Bay Campus that you may not have visited yet.

Normally, I start the semester by spending hours with my friends on the over-sized couches at the Student Center. I thought there was a better way to spend time together and catch up. But recently, I started thinking there must be other means of connecting with friends.

Don’t get me wrong, I love a good cup of coffee. However, the best part of friendship is sharing things, and coffee is not one of those shareable drinks.

Luckily, there are plenty of other places around BCC, with a more intimate setting than drinking coffee in front of each other.

My best friend, Alex, and I recently went to the Melting Pot restaurant after prematurely leaving a horrible party. As we discussed the headache we had from spending the night with former high school classmates, we no longer wished to see, we had added the treat of a fondue pot sitting between us. For those who don’t know, fondue is a Swiss dish that involves melting cheese or chocolate in a pot. You usually dip bread, fruit or vegetables inside the hot dip.

A lexia and I dipped strawberries, marshmallows and pieces of cake into a chocolate turtule fondue. The dim lights and candles in this restaurant create a romantic vibe, so I encourage couples to go there though it’s also perfect for a first timer.

The Melting Pot can be a little expensive and maybe you want to pinch a few pennies and not spend as much on dinner. Don’t fret, there are other cheaper places to share a meal that are close by.

P.F. Chang’s China Bistro is an Asian fusion restaurant that prides itself on their family-style meals that pretty much force sharing. Last week, when I was dying to tell my friend Jessica about my summer vacation, we went there for the first time.

The food was placed in the middle of the table and we had the option of eating as much or as little as we wanted, without having to commit to a specific dish. The atmosphere of P.F. Chang’s is welcoming and encourages conversations about virtually anything. The good thing about gorging and catching up with friends is that it can be done under any setting, even when there is no air conditioning.

Karma, my Maltese Poodle and Coco, Jen’s Yorkie, came along when we met up at East Grandy Park, a small dog park where you can walk around with your favorite human and canine friends. Parking is cheap, and on the day we went there was no admittance fee.

This park is perfectly located along the banks of Maule Lake and the Oleta River and there is a small boardwalk to stroll while taking in the breezes. Even those without dogs can have fun at this quaint picnic and dog-walking spot.

Your friends are going to be your support system for the rest of the school year. They are the people you will complain about teachers to and celebrate all of your accomplishments with. Start the year off right and share a meal, go for a walk together or have your dogs become friends. Do whatever it takes to connect and start the bonding.

Read Weekends with Paradise every other Friday for more tips on places to go in the North Miami area.

STEP RIGHT UP: Biscayne Bay Campus’ Student Programming Council kicked off Fall Fest, a week of games and activities, with an Americanfair day Sept. 3. Students could toss bean bags and basketballs for prizes at the carnival booth (top). Juniors Melissa Sins and Melissa Duremaume spin out in the “Twist Spin” (middle). Pie eating contest winners took home $15 gift cards (bottom).
Smarter decisions necessary during recession

JAIME RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

If you’ve been feeling pain at the pump and in your wallet, I’m sorry to tell you, but it’s not going away any time soon. Not to be a bearer of bad news, but don’t expect this financial crisis taking place across the country to disappear quickly. In fact, the dreaded global downturn is now beginning to emerge in international markets as well, and it’s better for us as students to be prepared and manage our finances in a proper manner with these times ahead of us.

This financial crisis is now a global financial crisis, and as far as the U.S. is concerned, it wouldn’t be farfetched to say that although we’ve seen major issues, the worst is yet to come.

The last few weeks have been brutal for the housing sector, worse than the two previous quarters.

A according to Merrill Lynch, CEO Herbert Allison has stated in an interview on CNBC’s “Fast Money” that investors threw away shares of home funding giants Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae in record numbers this year. I reddie Mac and Fannie May own half of the nation’s mortgages and the government, as a form of damage control, may nationalize these two companies.

So, with all of this having been said, I ask the University community to please slow down and watch out for pedestrians.

Georgiana Hall
Astronomy Lab Manager
Department of Physics

With inflation increasing, it would come as no surprise that most commodities will stay where they are in value, if not grow. And yes, this includes gasoline prices.

So if you are tired of seeing $4.99 per gallon at the pump, get used to it – but it will more than likely not go higher than $5.10 or $5.15, according to Chevron’s CEO David O’Reilly.

To international business major, Julian Gastelumbo, the government hasn’t done enough, or not as much as it can for the national financial crisis.

“Draging on the economy even more than necessary is the weak dollar. Why hasn’t this administration done more to pump up the dollar?” Gastelumbo said.

To some, such as current CitiBank Latin America Account Executive and FIU alumni Sergio Barahona, part of the problem with the economy was brought on by the people themselves who counted on non-existent capital as investment.

Now, areas hit like South Florida have to hang on.

“Some of these people are in economic troubles now, and this includes many of my friends at FIU,” Barahona said. “They took the money available, used the government backing for these unstable bonds. They took on unprecedented risks by keeping these mortgages in their own portfolio instead of selling them out to the market, and basically ignored the red flags.”

Red flags can be avoided when handling personal finances.

LOOK FOR ELECTION UPDATES EVERY FRIDAY

Have something to say about the pending presidency? Contact us at eric.feldman@fiu.usm.com and we’ll give you 300 words to share your opinion with the FIU community. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

2008 ELECTION UPDATE

The Democratic National Convention, which ended on Aug. 28, focused on extravagant, with the stage that Obama used to accept his nomination being built by the same designer who has done sets for Britney Spears. Many commentators such as New York Times Maureen Dowd have noted a lack of unity among a divided party over the delegate delegates that decided the party’s primary.

On the Republican front, the first day of the convention was largely toned down due to the impending Hurricane Gustave heading toward New Orleans. The GOP focused on providing relief to the gulf coast state that was gutted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, in order to avoid the political faux pas of celebrating during a potential natural disaster. The convention already had less fanfare than the Democrats’ by design, a move intended to perpetuate McCain’s portrayal of Obama as too much of a “celebrity.”

-Eric Feldman
Opinion Editor

FIU students will be indirectly affected in a major way, for our state is only one of three in the country officially in an economic recession, according to Senior Economist for Wachovia Financials Mark Viteri in an article published in the St. Petersburg Times. The other states are Nevada and Michigan.

To make matters worse, the hurting economy is now going overseas – but what has arguably kept our country afloat is our weakening dollar.

Our dollar has allowed the U.S. economy to export to international markets that were never able to acquire American goods and commodities. The dollar was cheap while the euro and other economies were strong.

Unfortunately, this cushion is now ending and the inflation will now balloon emerging markets.

“Doesn’t look very good,” Giraldo said. “The one thing that we can hope for is that the government initiatives start working sooner rather than later.”

If we use the proper tools and make sound financial decisions, we can adapt to these unstable times by living within our means.

JAIME RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

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-Eric Feldman
Opinion Editor
Fraternity takes care of business

KASSANDRA POOL
Staff Writer

Wearing black and silver, Delta Sigma Pi takes pride in their accomplishments as one of the largest business fraternities on campus. Founded nationally in 1907 at New York University, the fraternity is over 100 years old with 260 chapters and over 220,000 members internationally. The FIU Xi Omega chapter was established in 2004.

This past spring, the organization was awarded the Student Organizations Council’s “Rising Star Award” among 170 clubs. The organization focuses on hosting professional events as well as participating in several leadership development activities, volunteering for community service projects and promoting brotherhood through several social activities.

Currently, with 25 members and 80 alumni, the co-ed business fraternity will recruit new members beginning on Sep. 5 - 15. Each member lives by three principles: professionalism, brotherhood and giving back to the community.

Through these principles members have the opportunity to meet and network with professionals and other students with similar career goals.

For member Andrea Lee, a sophomore double majoring in finance and management information systems, becoming a member has been a memorable experience thus far.

“It is a great feeling when you are surrounded by people with ambitions similar to your own as well as those who can offer advice on how you can make your dreams of success come true,” she said.

According to Senior Vice President Prerna Sood, their goal this year is to expose Delta Sigma Pi to the FIU business community and to become the link between the professional world and business students.

DELTA SIGMA PI, page 6

Lead your party to victory on the Campaign trail

The 2008 election year already holds historical significance for reasons. For the first time in history we are almost assured that one of the candidates on the winning ticket will be something other than a Caucasian male.

The 2008 election year already holds historical significance for reasons. For the first time in history we are almost assured that one of the candidates on the winning ticket will be something other than a Caucasian male.

Among these candidates are Sen. Barack Obama or Sen. John McCain, and former presidential nominees Hillary Clinton and John Edwards.

With all the attention on the recent conventions and vice presidential nominees, a slew of predictions has flooded the media.

Luckily, the brilliant team at THUP Games has created a program that promises to revolutionize the art of campaign prediction.

Campaign, an online, turn-based tactical game, takes the genre in an interesting direction by using the ‘08 election as their premise and pits the two candidates against each other in a race for national dominance.

There are two modes of play available, a single player campaign and an online multiplayer option.

At the start of the single player game, players can choose between the easy or hard difficulty settings. Then, you must choose your candidate, Sen. Barack Obama or Sen. John McCain, and form a campaign staff. Each of the members you choose to select have different special abilities that allow you to customize your plan of attack.

Once you have your staff members selected, the goal of the game is simple - capture territory to earn money which you then use to perform your party member’s special abilities. Multiple player rules are the same but an alternate “bribing” of your party does not necessarily mean the opposing one - that may allow the game to begin sooner. You can also create a password protected match so you can play a match against a friend.

Gameplay is pretty much exactly what you would expect from this genre. You move your units throughout the grid capturing specific areas. Once every space in a given territory has been captured by your party, the territory belongs to you and the opposing party cannot move on those spaces as long as you are in possession of it. A scored territory is represented by the color associated with your party.

Campaign does a great job intertwining the tactics game with the political theme. There are a lot of clever metaphors here - mud-slinging attacks, hatchet men and attack ads to name a few. Even the music is straight out of the newsmroom.

Everything adds up to make an incredibly entertaining, completely free gaming experience. Join in on your party’s campaign efforts and help America predict the winner at www.campaigngame.us/index.php.
Business brotherhood begins recruitment

DELTA SIGMA PI, page 5

With this goal in mind, the group has set up a series of events throughout the month of September to attract and inform business students about Delta Sigma Pi.

Their first recruitment event will take place this Friday at 8 p.m., in Dolphin Mall at T.G.I. Friday’s. Where interested students will have the opportunity to meet the brothers of the organization.

On Tuesday Sep. 9, the group will be hosting an informational session featuring professional speakers from national companies such as American Express and Allstate in Graham Center 325 at 8 p.m.

Concluding the presentations, attendees will have the opportunity to once again meet the brothers and learn how to get involved.

Students interested in becoming a member of the organization must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and currently be a business major in the University. Both undergraduates and graduates are welcome to join.

For more information, students should e-mail deltagipecruitment@gmail.com.

Other events include a game night at Dave and Busters at Dolphin Mall that will be held on Sep. 12 at 8 p.m.

Their last event is titled “How to Survive in the Corporate World” with professional speakers from the Atlantic Coast Group and Enterprise on Sep. 15 at 8 p.m.

Whether it be to improve your public speaking skills or get a job opening, the organization is steadily growing and will be celebrating its fifth year on campus this February.

“In Delta Sigma Pi you are more than just a member of a fraternity, you are a member of a family,” Lee said.

Web site helps users find fall looks for less

CLAUDIA SANTANA
Staff Writer

Carrie Bradshaw, the main character from “Sex and the City” once said, “I like my money right where I can see it, hanging in my closet.”

Although the idea of a packed closet might seem alluring, college students living on scholarships and loan money often cannot afford this luxury.

“Since I am on a teacher’s salary, I always try to shop at discount stores like Kohl’s or Marshalls when I am on a tight budget. You can find so many cute things for cheap [prices] if you really look,” said Pamela M. B., a senior majoring in special education who also works as a substitute teacher.

With fall quickly approaching, it might be financially difficult to keep up with new trends while getting rid of old ones.

This is why users of StyleEeder.com, a website that helps users find fall looks for less, have put together a list of ways to adapt your wardrobe and wallet for the upcoming season.

The Web site is an online community for budding fashionistas. Whether it be to find Fall jackets or save them for next summer, the site is an online community where users can share their looks and rate them.

The top ten list, compiled by members of the site, is a mix of retro looks with cold weather necessities.

1. Skinny jeans do not have to be put away just yet. Form-flattering clothes are coming back.
2. For a funky look, pair boots with tights.
3. If you wish you were born in the 70s, then you are not alone. Good news – the 70’s are back.
4. For a classic look for school or work, stick to neutral colors. Black, white and grey are easy colors to shop for, and they can be mixed and matched while still looking business casual.
5. Skinny jeans do not have to be put away just yet. Form-flattering clothes are coming back.
6. Whether it be to find Fall jackets or save them for next summer, the site is an online community where users can share their looks and rate them.

No matter what the size of your wallet or closet is, by mixing and matching previous seasons with new Fall trends, you can be fashionable without breaking your budget.
Golden Panthers to play in FIU tournament next week

VOLEYBALL, page 8

year, she started cheering from the bench, and now she does it on the court. They make my job easier, "Tomic explained.

Outside hitter Yarimar Rosario was recently named Sun Belt Player of the week in addition to Presseas conference Player of the Year and was named to the preseas all conference team.

Ogba Vergun, who was also named to the Presseas all conference team, along with Rosaa, make up the best outside hitter team in the conference, according to Tomic.

With the maturation of the returners and some key additions, coach Tomic expects a strong season, but she is not overlooking the challenges faced going through a season. According to Tomic, confidence and continuous high energy on the court is key to winning, which she expects. "We go into every match expecting to win, we have no major weaknesses, we have things to work on, but just keep doing things.

FIU hosts the FIU tournament September 12-13.

The teams involved are UCF, Penn, FIU and Oral Roberts.

Editor's Note: For live updates and game notes from the FIU vs. Iowa football game, Sept. 6, from Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City, long on to FIUSM.com at noon, and tune in to Panther Spots Talk live Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. for up to date Golden Panther sports on Radio F.M., 88.1/95.3/96.9.

FANTASY FOOTBALL COLUMN

Mid-to-late round picks can win your league

JONATHAN AlPERT Staff Writer

With the NFL season coming to a head, Fantasy Football is now a big priority in people's lives.

Not taking anything away from the student's schoolwork (yeah, right), Fantasy Football is a great way to familiarise your self with NFL teams and players you wouldn't normally follow.

This week is very draft heavy, and most followers of Fantasy football know who to draft in the mid to late rounds.

I'm not going to tell you where to draft Tom Brady, or Reggie Wayne, I'm going to try and help you win your league, which is done between rounds 5 and 16.

FIVE PLAYERS TO WATCH

Kevin Smith: Running back, Detroit

Even though I like staying away from rookies, Kevin Smith is no brainier. At U.C.F, he averaged over 30 carries a game, and has looked good in the first three games, but we already knew this.

He is a workhorse, and will be the starting running back in Detroit. In a point reception league where yards gain do count,

The early rounds, Kevin Smith is a good mid-late round sleep- er and will be a serviceable number two running back. (Look to draft between rounds 5 and 7).

DeSean Jackson: wide Receiver, Philadelphia

Rookie wide receivers are usually kryptonite in fantasy football, but Jackson has moved up depth chart with the Kevin Curtis injury, and Reggie Brown has not developed as the number one, the eagles thought he would become.

He was a highlight reel machine in college at Cal, and will do the same in the NFL.

He can also help on special teams, and he can help in leagues that special-teamers in consideration a little more. (Rounds 10-12)

Patrick Mamme: Running Back, New Orleans

Reggie Bush cant carry the load on offense by himself (2007), and Deuce Mc Hitter is coming off a ACL and M c fracture surgery on his knee.

There is no precedent for 29-year-old running backs coming off multiple knee surgeries succeeding in the NFL.

The NFL has shown his talent in the pre-season, running in between the tackles, and catching the ball out of the backfield. Watch out for him in the late rounds, and in 10 team leagues, pick him off waivers.

Patrick Crayton: Wide Receiver, Dallas

Crayton has been in the Cowboys offensive system for 3 off-seasons, and looks to develop into the #2 receiver opposite Terrell Owens.

The Cowboys are a wide receiving corps, and look to Crayton to build on last year, where he showed glimpses of a solid number two receiver in the NFL. (Rounds 8-10)

Randy Mc Michael: Tight end, St. Louis

Darren Tapp is a quick receiver when reading this, but his truth is, new offensive coordinator A Saunders has a reputation of relying heavily on tight ends.

In Washington, he made the most of a career as a pro bowler, and in Kansas City he used Tony Gonzalez to his full potential. Randy McMichael is very athletic, and will be used over the middle of field with Torry Holt and Steven Jackson.

Catch the Fantasy Five column every Friday in The Beacon and Thursday's at 12:50 on Radio F.M.

Women's soccer looks to pick up first win against FSU

AURIDINA BIGOS Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers are rebound- ing from two upsetting losses against the University of Miami and the University of Buffalo over Memorial Day weekend.

Beginning the season 0-3 is not what players and coaches hoped for, however, the Golden Panthers are pinpointing key elements that need improvement in order to conquer their upcoming opponents.

When playing at high temps, you get exposed if you're not jelling and fluid," said second year head coach Thomas Chestnutt, "we need to match the tempo of our opponents early and then slow down the game a little when we're needed.

These elements will be crucial as the Golden Panthers travel to Tallahassee on Sept. 5 to play against 2007 National runner-up Florida State.

Until then, the girls will be practicing and mending mistakes made in their big matches in Miami.

The Golden Panther's last win over cross-town rival, the Hurricanes, was in 2001. The University of Miami had an automatic advantage with an all-time 3-6-1 over the Panthers.

The final score of the Aug. 29 contest at Cobb Stadium in Coral Gables was 2-1. The result of the game was not indicative of how close the match actually was. The Golden Panthers put up a fight after coming out with a 3-1 loss in the season opener against Florida Gulf Coast.

"Competition was a little bit stronger, more athletic, and more technical than what we played last weekend," said head coach Thomas Chestnutt.

The Golden Panthers kept the hurricanes scoreless throughout almost the entire first half until Miami scored in the 41st minute when Julianne Rickevicker knocked it in a rebound off a shot by Paulette Chambers.

"There is a rule in soccer to not let the other team score within the first and last five minutes of a half," said junior Marina Pappas, "and we broke it by letting them [the Hurricanes] in with only four minutes left until halftime."

The late score in the first half sent the Golden Panthers into halftime trailing 1-0 with a handful of crucial goals to save and numerous failed attempts.

"The momentum of the game was taken from us and given to Miami into the second half," Chestnutt said.
FIU faces another road challenge in Iowa after opening loss

LUCA MESSINA
Asst. Sports Director

With their first game behind them, the FIU Golden Panthers (0-1) are set to travel again to face the Hawkeyes at 12:30 p.m. CDT this time to face the Iowa Hawkeyes (1-0), a team that was 6-6 last season and is 1-0 after trouncing the University of Maine 46-3 last weekend at home.

FIU’s new spread offense did not result in an improvement against Kansas but offensive coordinator Bill Legg hopes that a second attempt will prove successful.

The offensive general has experience against the Hawkeyes as he was the co-coordinator for the Purdue Boilermakers last season when they defeated Iowa 31-36.

In that contest, the Boilermakers accumulated 431 yards of offense, 215 of which were throws. Including last season’s victory, Purdue was 2-3 against Iowa while Legg held his post.

Junior Paul McCalli is likely to start again with sophomore Wayne Younger, also in the rotation. McCalli finished last week 10-for-28 with 73 yards and two interceptions.

If he cannot substantially help generate some sort of offensive movement, it could be an easy afternoon for the Hawkeyes.

The defense managed just 139 yards as senior A’mad Ned led the way on the ground with 12 total yards as senior A’mad Ned led the way on the ground with 12 total yards as senior A’mad Ned led the way on the ground with 12 total yards as senior A’mad Ned led the way on the ground with 12 total yards as senior A’mad Ned led the way on the ground with 12 total yards. The running game for Iowa was not on the same level.

The Hawkeye defense last season was average but particularly excelled at rushing defense, averaging just 122 yards a game against the unit which was third best in the Big Ten.

Overall, Iowa ranked fifth in total defense but this year the unit will rely on youngster to produce results.

The linebackers led the team in tackles last season and of them, A.J. Edis, is returning.

Two players that FIU should be aware of are senior defensive tackles Mitch K ing and Matt Kroul.

Although the defense is not outstanding, they can expose the FIU offense. They clearly had their way with M aine and if Legg cannot figure out a way to manipulate the unit with FIU’s talent, there is danger of the Golden Panthers scoring shut down.

DEFENSE

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OFFENSE

FIU defense struggled last week with talented Kansas quarterback Todd Reesing.

This week, the unit will be facing a team that has another quality quarterback, Jake Christensen.

Last week, the junior finished 9-for-15 for 122 yards with a touchdown and an interception.

The running game for Iowa seemed unclear at the start of the season before Shonn Green began the season making a statement. Green rushed 22 times for 109 yards and a touchdown.

Freshman Jewell Hampton started his career strong with 9 carries for 46 yards and two touchdowns last week.

Paki O’Meara excelled during spring ball and had a decent showing last week with seven rushes for 23 yards and a touchdown. He also caught two passes for 27 yards.

The receiving game struggled last but is more experienced this year with Andy Brodell, Trey Stross and tight ends Tony Moeaki and Brandon Myers.

The Iowa offensive line struggled to stay healthy and finished last in sacks in the Big Ten which, in essence, did not do the ground game much justice.

If the FIU linebackers can penetrate the offensive line, something they struggled with last week, they can contain the Hawkeye offense.

Overall, the offense is dangerous but, based on last season, has shown signs of vulnerability.

While they did managed to score 46 points in their opener, it was against an FCS team that clearly wasn’t the same level.

TOMIC

Tomic isn’t the only one who thinks highly of her team, the squad has received 9 Top 25 votes after upholding 19th ranked Clemson to win the Big Orange Bowl and taking care of business against Furman, Syracuse and Charleston Southern.

This is Tomic’s 4th year at the helm of FIU Women’s volleyball, her first season where all the athletes are her recruits.

“I look for passionate players. Bottom line is, some players aren’t for me,” she said. “I took a few years to develop the [winning] culture I wanted here.”

Tomic expounded that FIU’s continued success relies heavily on maintaining focus. She doesn’t let her squad bask in a win, or focus on a loss for too long.

“Its not hard to keep them grounded. We have a 24-hour rule…win or lose, you move on. The coaches always find something to do better, we can always improve.”

Tomic has helped develop a core group of players to rely on to lead the squad. “Mariana [Drumeva, Sr] and Yari [Rosa, Jr] aren’t vocal leaders.

Natalia [Valentin, So.] has emerged as the vocal leader. Last