FIU Fashion Forward

Over the past few weeks, a series of tropical storms and hurricanes have put FIU students on alert. Most recently, Hurricane Ike became a serious threat to FIU last weekend and forced students to think about their future hurricane plans.

While University-wide emergency plans are set in place, some students feel that not enough is done to keep them updated on emergency alerts which in turn does not give them enough time to make preparations.

“The safety factor wasn’t much of a concern to me as the timing factor was,” said senior Chrisa Jackson, a third year resident, barel-ly heard any updates on Hurricane Ike by Friday afternoon. Although he is a resident he would rather stay on campus than go back home. “I would prefer to stay here though. I prefer to stay with my friends instead of at home,” he said.

Those students who are encouraged to stay on campus during an emergency are assured to have hurricane proof windows, but are told to sleep in the hallways of their residential buildings and are not per-mitted to enter their rooms.

Just like FIU residents, FIU student employees are left to wonder what actions they should take and when. Some students living in FIU residence halls are campus bound, while other students have a home within the tri-county area, where they are required to return to during an emergency. “They’ll probably send something which is way too late. There are no prepar-a-tions,” Ragoonath said.

FIU residents are required to fill out a Hurricane Evacuation/Residence Hall Shelter Plan upon moving into FIU Housing.

The plan entails that stu-dent residents of Miami-Dade, Broward, or Palm Beach counties are not allowed into FIU designated on-campus shelters, and must find off-campus accommodations.

Students that are not residents in those counties can choose to weather the storm in off-campusor: on-campus shelters.

As with storms in the past, Pablo Lorenzana, a third year resident, barely heard any updates on Hurricane Ike by Friday afternoon. Although he is a resident he would rather stay on campus than go back home. “I would prefer to stay here though. I prefer to stay with my friends instead of at home,” he said.

Those students who are encouraged to stay on campus during an emergency are assured to have hurricane proof windows, but are told to sleep in the hallways of their residential buildings and are not permitted to enter their rooms.

Emergency hurricane alerts not providing enough prep time

Cheryl Malone
Staff Writer

I have not been contacted about developing any kind of parking plan that would limit residential students from parking on campus.

Bill Foster, director of Parking and Transportation

UM’s freshmen parking ban will not be imitated

Edward Morales
Staff Writer

After University of Miami announced this fall that residential freshman parking was no longer allowed, some FIU freshmen became worried a similar plan was coming to the University. Freshman Larry Bravo thinks UM’s policy makes no sense.

“T is a contradiction of the universal idea that when a student enters college they’re considered an adult, more responsible,” he said. “Taking vehicles away from the students would take away from that.”

Despite students’ initial fears, Bill Foster, FIU’s director of Parking and Transportation said there are no plans to ban residential parking. “T have not been con-tacted about developing any kind of parking plan that would limit residen-tial students from parking on campus,” Foster said.

Although Foster may have put some incoming freshmen at ease, students believe that the over-crowded parking issue still looms. “I think that they need to be building more garages, maybe start replacing lots with them,” said sophomore Jenni Hanlon. “T’s always faculty parking that doesn’t get used up and kids end up parking there as a last resort and getting ticketed.”

Finding parking might be a problem students can remedy if they’re willing to get some mileage under their feet. “Our parking problem is one of convenience, not supply,” Foster said. “Tere are always spaces available in the Panther Garage. Lot Five and in the overflow area on the north-east side of campus, but these areas are not looked at as convenient.”

Other universities, such as the University of Florida, have not yet announced any plans to move along with a similar strategy. T e situation with FIU appears to be tempo-rary, as the beginning of each semester is notorious for its amount of traffic, as well as during March, when T e Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition comes to town.

“The beginning of the Fall semester is always very busy, since students are on campus for a variety of reasons other than attending classes,” Foster said.

UM’s freshmen parking ban will not be imitated. Students might have to start thinking of them leaving angry comments on the Sun Sen-tinel Web site dealing with the residential freshmen parking banishment. Other students think that the university provides transportation services exclusively to its students to make it easier to get around.

UM’s Green U Initiative is a movement to protect and maintain the environ-ment. Sharing rides, using public transportation, and going carless could help students to reduce the impact of hurricanes on the environment.
HURRICANE, page 1

explains that various forms of staff and student information are offered. The University’s Office of Emergency Management, Emergency Committee, Housing and Public Safety work together to ensure information is spread throughout FIU.

Also, telephone conferences between departments, divisions and with the campus Chief of Police are under way during any emergency, Hamilton explained.

“At the Graham Center we individually inform our staff. We also have a meeting, and we also put signs in our electronic boards on campus,” she said.

As with the Sept. 5 “Preparations for Hurricane Ike” e-mails that were sent through the University e-mail system, students will receive continuous updates through e-mail and now the new “Panther Alerts” text messaging system.

But for some students these alert systems are not enough.

“You would think that with the money we spend living here that they could take that extra step to announce an evacuation with more time to spare,” Remington said.

- Paulo O’ Swath contributed to this article.

Students dissatisfied with current hurricane alert system

Car Concerns

• Make sure to have your car insurance documents handy.
• Make sure to have your insurance company’s phone number.
• Do not leave your car under trees or open areas. You might consider parking at a relative or a friend’s home if they can provide close parking.
• All of FIU’s parking garages will remain open so you might consider leaving your car there during the storm.

FIU students oppose less parking spots

PARKING, page 1

and riding bikes around campus are currently being encouraged.

Bikes decorated in the university’s trademark colors are being offered by the school and have already sold out on their first shipment.

Public transportation may provide students a means of mobility on the weekends, but come the holiday season, inconveniences are a possibility.

“I’m sure some freshmen probably think it’s unfair, especially those that don’t live too far and want to visit home for a weekend,” Paez said. “Now they have to find other ways to go home that are probably more expensive.”

Bravo shares the same sentiment.

“A lot of the freshmen would be upset at the administration because, in an emergency, they’d need a vehicle,” he said.

According to the Facilities and Management Web site, the 2005-2010 University Park Master Plan draft shows the construction of a new parking garage is in the works.

FIU must endure a series of budget cuts over the next three years, but according to the Capital Improvement Plan and Legislative Budget Request, the FIU Board of Trustees asked for $10.5 million toward the Facilities and Infrastructure projects from 2009-2010 through 2013-2014.

The director of the parking department at the University of Miami was unavailable for comment.

Visit our web site for the complete SGC-UP Notes

FIU students opposite less parking spots

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www.fi ums.com
J-students engage in multimedia project

DANIELYSA MARTINEZ
Contributing Writer

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication was approached by the Sun-Sentinel, and asked to help produce a new TV morning show and a Web site package.

The show, “SouthFlorida.com Live,” will premiere Jan. 5 on WSFL-TV 39. The site, SouthFlorida.com, will launch later this fall.

SIMC students will be responsible for many parts of these projects, which will be incorporated into existing journalism program courses.

Students in Jane Daugherty’s online news class, and Michael Sheerin’s special topics: multimedia videography class, will collaborate with the Sun-Sentinel by producing a two and a half minute video on political issues related to the 2008 presidential election.

Students in the online news class will be in charge of the reporting, while students in the special topics class will manage the production side of the project. Students from both classes will be interviewing students around campus about the issues that will drive them to vote in this year’s presidential election.

The main outcome of the video packages, according to Allan Richards, SIMC’s associate dean, will answer the questions, “Are students really coming out in this election, and what are the issues that are driving them?”

The final edited video will be available for viewing on the new SouthFlorida.com Web site on Oct. 15.

“What we are doing is changing journalism education, and responding to the choices and unknowns in the media. I find that extremely exciting," Richards said.

Sheerin’s class will have two crews of four students involved in this project. Shooting will start on Sept. 30, possibly finishing by Oct. 2.

According to Sheerin, the crews might miss some opportunities to shoot the interviews in campus.

“What’s proving to be difficult is the logistics of it, because students in this class have jobs and other commitments,” Sheerin said. "SouthFlorida.com Live" will be a four-hour morning show and will air Mondays through Fridays from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. The format will consist of current news, presented from the students’ point of view, according to Sue Kawalerski, news director for WSFL-TV 39.

The show, “SouthFlorida.com Live,” will be a four-hour TV show, news and public affairs, because students in this class have jobs and different class schedules," Sheerin said. "We have to make sure we are educating in a world that doesn’t exist anymore," Richards said. “We are hoping that this will extend in some way, whether it be the same project or not, through the spring and beyond," said Ponte.

For more information regarding these events, please call (305) 919-5381.
Whether they can be trusted. In fact, to know who these people are and many cases is yes, but it’s impossible friend requests with unfamiliar picture toward, Facebook. You have new concern that has been voiced to me. Be so easily swayed just because picked a woman as his running presidential nominee John McCain upset about the fact that Republican conservative convictions and a lifetime Gov. Palin holds both strong convictions, and not the more narrow term of believ speaking here of the social movement, represent Sen. Hillary Clinton are for suggest that the choice was not to of place to have a ticket with two of these men may be elected to, during the one or two terms that either of these women reached the vice presidency, but that a woman no longer needed feminists to get there.” Out of all the opportunities to put diversity into the executive branch this election, Palin represents the truest form of victory based on ideology. And I must say, she has done quite the phenomenal job of getting acquainted with the public so far. As the governor of a state that knows energy, she certainly has the qualifications to help lead McCain’s “all of the above” energy plan – which emphasizes alternative fuels – while being realistic enough to realize that coal is not going anywhere during the one or two terms that either of these men may be elected to, and that more of it needs to come from U.S. sources. She has also done her part to rally in Sen. Barack Obama. Obama’s campaign, which has focused on preaching his good deeds in his community rather than his Senate term, is hardly impressive in regards to time in office and legislation passed. Since the announcement of Palin for vice president, Obama has begun throwing the “inexperienced” card at the Alaska governor (Pot? Kettle? Black? … Anyone!), but she has thusfar prevailed, painting parallel pictures of her and Obama in the sense that they rose up through the ranks, yet portraying experiences more valid than Obama’s in terms of judgment and character. “Being the mayor of a small town is a bit like being a ‘community organizer’ except with actual responsibilities,” said Palin in her acceptance speech, dutifully in her own defense. A bit eras, yes, but the Obama campaign needs to realize if you’re going to play with fire you should expect to get burned from time to time, especially if one’s campaign was originally founded upon being above negative campaigning. Republicans are hardly out of the cup of blame when it comes to hypocrisy. They can be seen as contradicting themselves on issues ranging from family values to qualifications for office in a scramble attempt to support their newly-named nominee from nowhere.

All in all, neither the GOP veep nor the Democratic hopeful have any right to call each other inexperienced, but Palin may be gaining the upper hand. The Palin angle has really made this contest interesting again. For now.

Legislators work to keep sex offenders off the

VERONICA TRUEBA Contributing Writer

So you turn on your computer and log on to MySpace, and right afterward, Facebook. You have new friend requests with unfamiliar pictures, and yet, you still want to make more friends, right? The answer to this question in many cases is yes, but it’s impossible to know who these people are and whether they can be trusted. In fact, they could be sex offenders.

In February, an article published in The Miami Herald reported how Florida senators believed the state’s sex offender laws “unfairly lump together sexual offenders the man who raped a 9-year-old girl and buried her alive.”

Despite these measures, sexual predators continue to lurk. The Web might have become somewhat safer, but sexual offenders can be found throughout the state and country. The Broward Sheriff’s Office Web site, http://sheriff.org/sexual offend/rapists/index.shtm, provides a sex offender locator system free of charge.

In response to an address, the locator system displays a map of the area where the location of a sex offender is. It also provides a basic profile of a sex offender.

The National Alert Registry is another useful Web site, which can provide detailed information about sex offenders for a $10 fee. This includes names, aliases, photos, home addresses and even offense details regarding sex offenders.

When it comes to sex offenders, it’s not always fair to assume they’re criminals.

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Though these are the minimal guidelines, state legislatures can pass more severe laws. In Florida, senators are set on the prevention of teenagers from entering the registry of sex offenders, but no measures have been taken to make consensual teenage sex legal. Even though a teenage couple might not be registered as sex offenders, they would still be prosecuted as juveniles.
Boredom Busters

Thoughtful shopping, careful planning can save our sanity this hurricane season

CHRIS TOWERS
Asst. Life! Editor

With the hurricane season well under way (and, frankly, going a little overboard in the last few weeks), now is as good of a time as any to build up some knowledge about how to get ready.

Living in South Florida, most of us have a pretty good idea of what to expect as far as preparing for a storm. Wait in a three hour line at Home Depot for plywood. Wait in a two hour line at Publix for water and Chef Boyardee ravioli (with the pop off top, please, because you will always lose the can opener when all you can eat is canned food.)

Then, after you are all boarded up, and once the wind and rain starts up, what do you do?

Watching the hypnotic satellite image on your computer monitor as the hurricane goes right over your house is only entertaining for about 12 hours, and it might also be a good time to brush up on your “Super Smash Brothers” skills; but once the power goes out, even the most sane person will start going stir crazy by the 38th hour in darkness and seclusion.

So you might have to get a little creative in order to keep yourself from suffering from cabin fever. Junior and psychology major Travis Carlisle’s family finds the opportunity to feast like kings during a storm.

The grill becomes the center of the family’s sustenance when the power goes out, and they feast on everything from steaks and burgers to mac and cheese, microwavable pizza and brownies.

“We put the grill in our garage and empty out the freezer, cooking all of the good food we’ve been saving for another time,” he said. “My dad will just grab a bag out and say, ‘Filet Mignon? Sure.’”

He also said his dad and him used to spend time during the storm sitting on their porch watching the inspiring power of nature as it ravaged their yard, though they mentioned they no longer have a porch so that pastime is behind them, which is probably for the best.

A common thread for most people is, obviously, spending some quality time with family – mostly due to being confined in a limited space with not much to do other than hanging out.

“I actually talk to my family,” said junior and political science and economics major Mike Costa. “I also have to make sure my younger sister doesn’t freak out.”

Speaking of siblings, the Parker Brothers probably make a killing off of the hurricane season, as board games are a popular response when asked how to pass the time during a storm.

If you are lucky enough to not lose power, then you are also lucky enough to not have to spend time with your real family, and can instead spend it with a surrogate family: television and video games.

“One time, I ate so many animal crackers during a storm that I didn’t want to eat them again for two years,” said senior and engineering major DC Alatorre. “All I did was sit there, watching the Food Network, drooling because all I had were animal crackers.”

Of course, anyone who has lived in South Florida long enough knows not to panic. If you do, you can end up frustrated and asking yourself why you bought 15 gallons of water for what amounted to a heavy rainstorm.

The real challenge is making sure you don’t lose your mind while stuck inside a boarded up house, feeling like a caveman and wondering what time it is because you can’t see the sun.

Thoughtful shopping, careful planning can save our sanity this hurricane season.

REVIEWS

(MUSIC)

Young Jeezy – The Recession

Classic Jeezy proves he is still a voice to be reckoned with

JONATHAN Ramos
Asst. Sports Editor

Since rapper Young Jeezy muttered his first few rhymes on the commercial scene in 2005 with former group “Boyz N Da Hood,” the Atlanta artist stood out among them with a flow as smooth as Boston Market’s mashed potatoes and a swagger as sharp as a Swiss army knife. After two platinum releases in Let’s Get It: Thug Motivation 101, and The Inspiration: Thug Motivation 102, the self proclaimed gun toting thug has cemented himself as arguably the most respectable street voice in the South.

Jeezy returns to the booth with his third LP The Recession, with leading single “Put On” featuring Kanye West as the anchor for the album. But before the West assisted hit, which comes late in the album, Jeezy pumps more of the hardcore street music that has got him where he is today.

With a window shuttering instrumental engineered by DJ Toomp, Jeezy comes just as hard as ever with the intro to the album. To follow that, Jeezy welcomes himself on “Welcome Back,” where he effortlessly flows over a faster beat offering. Oh yes, he is back.

Catch me in my black Tee, but my business man / catch me at the kitchen table weighing up my buis.
Google Chrome: Google rides Chrome with new browser

ERIC FELDMAN
Opinion Editor

When I first heard that Google had released a new Web browser, Chrome, I became pretty giddy.

Everything else Google has touched has become an intuitive piece of Internet gold. Google's G-mail interface was a tenfold improvement in organization and usability over other Web-based mail programs that are still struggling to keep up, and Google Maps can help you find your way by showing you what certain streets actually look like from the ground.

So what would it be like to use these applications from within a browser also made by Google?

My first thought after installing and loading a couple of my favorite sites with Chrome was: To whom exactly is this browser's design aimed at? The thing that will stand out the most upon opening Chrome is its minimalist nature.

When the page is maximized, the title bar (where “File,” “Edit,” etc are usually found) is hidden, and the status bar (normally at the bottom of the screen which tells you where your browser is getting information from, as well as the load status of a page) is also suspiciously missing.

The fact that the search bar has been combined with the URL bar further cemented the first perception that there is simply not that much going on in this browser.

One of the most visually exciting (and perhaps slightly useful) features is that when you open a new tab, rather than seeing a white page, you get a listing of all your most frequently visited sites, complete with screenshot previews. Now, granted, this is all not sounding too positive, but let me remind you that if you open a Javascript application in one tab and are working on a research paper or download browsing history or download files, Chrome addresses this.

One of the most visually exciting (and perhaps slightly useful) features is when you open a new tab, rather than seeing a white page, you get a listing of all your most frequently visited sites, complete with screenshot previews.

While Chrome's Web site states that this is "to plan surprises like gifts or birthdays," I think we all know what this mode’s most prominent use will be.

It is no surprise that bloggers are already dubbing it porn mode, especially considering the creepy logo of a man wearing a cloak that is peering at you from the top of every page you view in incognito mode.

So why isn’t Chrome my default Web browsing application, at least yet?

This week, I also finally downloaded Firefox 3. I know that I am a bit behind the times in getting this, but I have a bad habit of clicking “Cancel” whenever any sort of box tells me that there are updates that I should install to any program.

And after years of Firefox, I am simply not ready to switch yet, being all too familiar with Mozilla’s new features and countless user-developed add-ons and themes. This represents Google’s clearest shot at making headway for market share against Microsoft’s Internet Explorer and Firefox, the leading choice for those who don’t use what comes prepackaged with every PC.

Like all Google products, Chrome is innovative and worth a look. The Beta version is available now, but let me remind you that there are still updates that I should install to any program.

One of the most visually exciting (and perhaps slightly useful) features is when you open a new tab, rather than seeing a white page, you get a listing of all your most frequently visited sites, complete with screenshot previews.

TECHNOLOGY
Volleyball carries hot start into home court tournament

JONATHAN ALPERT
Staff Writer

Off to its best start ever, the women’s volleyball team will host the FIU tournament Sept. 12-13th. At 6-1, the team looks to be creeping closer to a spot in the Top 25. This tournament is the first chance for fans and students to check out an exciting and competitive team, filled with passion and personality, at home this season.

The teams playing are FIU, Oral Roberts, Central Florida and Pennsylvania. The outside hitter combination of Yarimar Rosa (FIU’s all-time leader in kills) and Ines Medved could be the best in the Sun Belt conference. Setter Natalia Valentin’s performance has been a pleasant surprise with 3 matches with at least 40 assists.

Head coach Danijela Tomic knows she has a good squad, but she understands it is currently in the first of three bye weeks. “We'd like to settle on one more permanent starter and avoid having two will assume a permanent starting role,” Tomic said. Even though McCall will continue to start games, Cristobal will continue to throw Younger into action in similar situations like the one last Saturday but eventually one of the two will assume a permanent starting role.

“We'd like to settle on one more permanent starter and avoid having two will assume a permanent starting role,” Tomic said. “We are not going to be a surprise for anybody, but we'll have to look at the film,” Cristobal said. Despite struggling and being demoted at halftime, McCall played most of game against Kansas and in that scenario, Younger barely saw the field.

McCall finished 10-for-28 for 73 yards and two interceptions while Younger was 0-for-1 with two carries for 10 yards.

FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

Amid speculation, Cristobal sticks with McCall as quarterback

LUCA MESSINA
Asst. Sports Editor

After the Sept. 6 contest that saw sophomore quarterback Wayne Younger relieve junior Paul McCall in the second half, head coach Mario Cristobal shot down any notion of naming Younger the new starter despite his improved performance from the opening game against Kansas.

“A game like this [Iowa] is good for a guy like Wayne because he could escape and be creative on the run and he moved the football and did some good things. It doesn’t change anything: we’re still going in with Paul as our starter.”

Younger arrived in the second half against the Hawkeyes and finished 11-for-20 for 107 yards and no interceptions while McCall struggled from the first snap of the game in going 8-for-16 for 55 yards with two interceptions. Both quarterbacks were sacked three times.

Cristobal mentioned that throwing Younger into the mix was pre-mediated and due to the given circumstances of the game.

The Golden Panthers trailed 35-0 at halftime and failed to generate any type of significant offense.

“We feel, like we had said at the beginning of the season, that we have two guys that could play football and Wayne was getting hot and it was a better match up game for him to play in,” Cristobal said.

Younger didn’t think much of the in-game promotion either.

“It was not like I was trying to impress anybody, I was just trying to play ball,” he said.

Even though McCall will continue to start games, Cristobal will continue to throw Younger into action in similar situations like the one last Saturday but eventually one of the two will assume a permanent starting role.

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RUNNING BACK OK

Senior running back Julian Reams suffered a concussion just prior to the half and did not return but will be available for the next game.

Just before the injury, he rushed for 24 yards on 5 carries and is only 54 yards from 1,000 for his career here at FIU.

HOME AGAIN: Preseason Sun Belt Player of the year Yarimar Rosa leads the Golden Panthers on to the FIU Arena floor for the first time in 2008 on Sept. 12

SPORTS COVERAGE ONLINE AND ON AIR

Get the latest FIU sports news by reading The Beacon every M-W-F, online at FIUSM.com or by listening to Panther Sports Talk Live every T-R at noon on WRGP Radiate FM (88.1, 95.3 and 96.9).

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Editor’s Note: Check FIUSM.com Sept. 15 for a full virtual tour of the brand new on campus FIU football stadium and for news, sports, and university updates everyday!
Fantasy Football: Surprise offenses prevail in first week

JONATHAN ALPERT
Staff Writer

The NFL season kicked off incredibly reminding everyone how boring baseball was and how captivating Sundays will be for the next 4 ½ months. For fantasy football participants, week one provided some surprises, but their offense won’t lose much. Randy Moss, Wes Welker, Lawrence Maroney and Co. are still healthy (and should all be in your starting lineup), and motivated to show they can win without Tom Brady.

Matt Cassel QB, New England Patriots- Attention all Tom Brady Owners, drafts aren’t won or lost with you’re first or second round picks. The Pats aren’t going to win a superbowl, but their offense won’t lose much. Randy Moss, Wes Welker, Lawrence Maroney and Co. are still healthy (and should all be in your starting lineup), and motivated to show they can win without Tom Brady.

All Cassel has to do is throw these guys the ball, it shouldn’t be a problem, don’t be scared to start him. The Patriots will still look to throw 60 percent of the time and score plenty of points.

Felix Jones, RB, Dallas Cowboys- Besides scoring a touchdown on his first carry, Felix Jones did well in garbage time last week, earning him a share of the carries with Marion Barber. Barber’s rib injury will increase the role of Jones earlier than most people expected.

The Green Bay Packers offense- Aaron Rodgers, Ryan Grant, Greg Jennings, and Donald Driver will have a field day against the terrible Lions Defense. Last week, the lowly Falcons scored 34 points on the Lions. This Packers offense is full of firepower, and coming off an impressive win against Minnesota, green bay wont be afraid to let fly with newly appointed Aaron Rodgers at the helm.

Chris Johnson RB Tennessee Titans- Tennessee is playing Cincinnati and their terrible defense. With Vince Young hurt Kerry Collins can open up the offense for the Titans, and look for Chris Johnson to better his 93 rushing yards, 3 receptions 34 yards and a touchdown from last week. This rookie had the fastest time in the combine and has not disappointed so far, and for owners who took a flyer on him late in the draft, congratulations.

Players to Stay Away From

Matt Hasselback QB, Seattle Seahawks- His back isn’t right, all of his receivers are hurt and the running game hasn’t been established, Enough said.

Derek Anderson QB Cleveland Browns- The Browns begin the season with a tough stretch of scheduling, first Dallas, now Pittsburgh.

Hold off one more week, and it will be smooth sailing for the Browns’ offense soon enough.

Chad Ocho Cinco WR Cincinnati Bengals- Chad Ocho Cinco is in a bad situation, but you would think he would still put up numbers.

He caught one pass against the aging Ravens Defense and will not do well against the stingy Tennessee Defense.

Willis McGahee RB, Baltimore Ravens- A bum knee limited him to zero carries last week, and expect the Ravens to go with running back by committee.

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

As junior Joey Iglesias rushed the Graham Center during the first week of the semester, he shared a common sentiment among students the first few days of class.

“I wasn’t sure where to get my voucher,” he said.

Leading up to the football home opener against the University of South Florida on Sept. 20, FIU is in the final stages of preparing its new on-campus stadium for the game. Despite the excitement leading up to the event, there has been questions among students concerning acquiring their vouchers.

Assistant athletic director of ticket sales and operations Steve Cisco explained why the process has been the way it is, which includes getting a voucher at FIU Arena instead of a ticket.

“The reason for the voucher is we want to keep the number of tickets out that are available,” he said. “We want only students to be attending this game and we didn’t want a lot of tickets out there.”

With a voucher students are guaranteed to get into the stadium, but it is not a ticket with a reserved seat. Cisco believes the system will work for one main reason.

“The biggest reason is if you give a ticket and it is a reserved seat number and that person does not show, you can’t use it for anyone else,” he said. “Here if we give a voucher and they don’t show we can still fill those seats with students.”

FIU students can get their vouchers at the FIU Arena in room 111 until Friday, Sept. 12. The Arena is on-campus behind the student Recreation center.

The reasons that tickets are being distributed mostly at the Arena, instead of a place with more of a concentration like the Graham Center, is due to past failures of ticket distribution attempts.

“If students come and make an effort to pick up a voucher we know that there is a good chance they are going to come to the game,” Cisco said. “We have handed out tickets in the GC [Graham Center] in the past and students don’t show, so because of their lack of support in the past we have decided to go this way.

If a FIU student wants to bring a guest to the contest they will have to purchase season tickets, due to the limit of only one voucher per student. The Golden Panthers will try to win their second straight home game overall against USF. Over 5,000 vouchers have been distributed so far.

Students need vouchers to attend USF game, here’s how to get them

How to Get Your Ticket Vouchers

FIU vs. USF, Sept. 20

• Report to FIU Arena ticket office, room 111, any weekday until Sept. 12
• Bring an FIU Panther ID
• Claim voucher, only one per student
• Come to the stadium and present your voucher for admission on Sept. 20

-Copied by Jonathan Ramos

Contact Us
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Sports Director
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