Future doctors to ‘set high standards’

Historic donation makes med school strive higher

DIANA JORDAN
Staff Writer

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine has taken anything but a hiatus over the recent summer months. Along with the commencement of classes, the college has continued making headlines due to the donations it has received, its community outreach, its faculty and the recent ties it has made with prominent medical institutions in South Florida.

One of the most notable developments within the college has been the $20 million donation it received from Dr. Herbert Wertheim, a philanthropist, physician and FIU benefactor.

The donation, which is the largest cash donation in FIU history, is eligible for the state of Florida’s Major Gifts Challenge Grant Program – which matches the grant, making it a total of $40 million.

As a result, the college has been named the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine to recognize the contributions his foundation, the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation, has made to FIU in the past.

“The (donation) is truly transformational not only for the College of Medicine but also for FIU,” said Debbie Mucanell-Powell, associate vice president for Advancement and Alumni Affairs for the college. “It is an honor to have Dr. Wertheim’s name attached to our college and to have him very involved as we continue to grow.”

According to Wertheim, the commitment the college has put forth to educate physicians in South Florida was a factor that carried much weight when deciding to donate the $20 million.

An additional $5 million donation was also received during the summer.

SFC-MC

Busy summer: new positions, programs

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff Writer

Summer saw the Student Government Council at Maidique Campus amass its efforts for the coming year. The executive branch sought to become what SGC-MC President Anthony Rionda called “the clearing house” for student problems: a decla-

The executive branch took a hard stance on cabinet members that were not working up to standard. According to Wertheim, the donation his foundation, the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation, has made to FIU in the past.

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University Park is now Maidique Campus

University Park Campus was renamed after President Emeritus Modesto A. Maidique.

The move to rename the campus was proposed during a June 12 meeting of the University’s Board of Trustees by Chairman David Parker.

“Board’s actions are an expression of our gratitude for his tremendous contributions to FIU and the community at large,” said Parker in a press release.

New loan program now federally funded

The University has switched its loan program from the Federal Family Education Loan Program to the Federal Direct Student Loan Program.

The new program is federally operated; it offers unsubsidized loans, Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students loans and loan consolidation.

VP steps down after 5 years

Steve Kelly, University registrar, will stay as interim associate vice president for Enrollment Management and report directly to Wartzok.

The Vice President of Enrollment Management stepped down after 5 years.

Jennifer Mwaisela-Rose, associate vice president for Risk Management and Environmental Health, died of cancer on Aug. 15. She had been with FIU for 19 years; she died at the age of 52. Mwaisela-Rose founded the Emergency Management Group and organized the emergency management system at the University.

Esteeemed staff member dies at 52

The Board of Governors has appointed former chairman of the FIU Foundation, S. Lawrence Kahn III, to the University’s Board of Trustees. Kahn replaced Rosa Sugranes.

New administration in Biscayne Bay Campus

Joseph J. West, former dean of the School of Hospitality Management and former Biscayne Bay Campus vice provost, announced his resignation from both positions in a University-wide e-mail sent on June 11. Since July 1, HM associate Dean Joan Remington has served as interim dean of the school. He has worked for the University since 1990.

IT’S OFFICIAL: President Emeritus Modesto Maidique (left) and University President Mark Rosenberg (right) at a tribute organized and attended by the University community to celebrate Maidique’s 23 years of service. At the tribute, held Aug. 3, Rosenberg officially became the fifth FIU president.

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Rosenberg begins search for vacant dean positions

DEANS, page 1

2009-2010 year, pushing the search into this year. It is unclear whether Elam stayed because the University could not find qualified candidates. These deans would oversee their respective schools and colleges, implementing the University’s academic goals. Search committees, consisting of faculty members, students and community leaders, inspect candidates and submit their selections for Interim Provost Douglas Wartzok’s final decision. In addition, R. William Funk and Associates, a consulting firm, was hired by the University to analyze credentials and narrow the pool of candidates. The firm specializes in recruitment for higher learning institutions, with Funk being credited for conducting over 300 searches, according to the firm’s Web site.

They are credited for participating in the searches that hired the current chairman of the Florida Board of Governors Frank Borgen.

According to the University, R. William Funk was paid $50,400 for each of the four searches, with a grand total of $201,600 being paid to the firm. This process is similar to the process FIU undertook in looking for its fifth president.

The search firm hired for that job was Greenwood/Ascher and Associates, based in Miramar, Fla.

The University claims that it was a financially beneficial decision to work with R. William Funk.

According to the University, search firms will charge one third of the hire’s salary, not including expenses. In this particular case, the expenses would have totaled $400,000. By having one firm conduct all the searches, the University will save $200,000.

“We usually like to start the process to have the advertisements out in the fall, meeting the candidates in later fall or early spring to make a decision to have someone that’s ready for the first of July, the beginning of the fiscal year,” Wartzok told Student Media.

Candidates that pique the search committee’s interest are invited to the University to meet with the administration and the committee. Based on this, a final decision is made by the University provost, who also consults with the president.

The search firm or search committee has been appointed to find a dean for SHMT at this time.

Currently, two candidates for the vacant position for CARTA will visit the campus during the early fall.

Valerie Morris, current dean of the School of Arts at the College of Charleston, is scheduled to visit the University from Aug. 31 to Sept. 1.

Candidate Bruce Ferguson, art curator at Arizona State University, has not set up a campus visit yet.

Funding brings Hijabi Monologues to campus

SGC, page 1

ity Relations member Jessica Padilla left for personal reasons, according to the chief of staff. The executive also helped create an internship program with the Department of Public Administration that will allow SGA members to take credited internships this fall.

The legislative branch passed a $3,000 allocation to bring the Hijabi Monologues to FIU. The amount represents about 12 percent of the Activities and Service Fee funds budgeted to SGA to use on events that serve the student body.

That amount still needs the signatures of the SGC-MC president, comptroller and Vice President of Student Affairs, Rosa Jones, to be approved.

The senate also passed a $300 allocation to Beta Alpha Psi to help finance a national conference trip by BETA’s executive board. The amount is a reduced number from the original $1,700 BETA asked for. The senate said the amount represented 7 percent of their discretion budget and sent it back to the Finance Committee, which is responsible for vetting fund requests. The legislative branch passed resolutions supporting the cheerleaders when they were prohibited and supporting student Myles Davis, who passed away this summer.

The senate additionally approved five associate justices. The judicial branch brought the outdated condition of the campus bylaws to the attention of the senate, prompting them to begin working on the document and updating it during the summer.

New committees in the senate don’t have their functions defined in the SGA constitution or bylaws. Those committees took it upon themselves to define their purpose and eventually add them to the bylaws. The deadline, set by Senate Speaker Helena Ramirez, is Sept. 14.

Chief Justice Juan Gil hosted procedural workshops for the student government and vowed to hold them to proper procedures.

The University-wide Council, made up of the governments from both campuses, came together to create a committee to study the merits of special elections, as some see them as a waste of time and money due to their low student turnout. Special elections are held on a need basis while general elections have a set date.

SGC-MC also unveiled plans to make every current student part of the Alumni Association, effectively raising the numbers of the association and extending some benefits to students.

The constitution was also tweaked during the only meeting of the summer. The references to University Park were updated to Madison Campus, as well as eliminating the need for the UWC to meet on the last Wednesday of every month. It was changed to any deadline of the month. The follow-up UWC meeting was canceled due to scheduling problems.

For the full stories on this particular issue, go to www.fiusm.com.
Innovative program puts med students out in the field

MED SCHOOL, page 1

from the Green Family Foundation, a private, non-profit organization. This donation will be used to establish the Green Family Medicine and Society Program Endowment, which includes the NeighborhoodHELP program. In this new program, medical students will work with their fellow peers from related fields such as nursing, public health, social work, business and law, to monitor selected families’ health and well-being during the span of three years.

The students visited the areas where they will be working, which include Miami Gardens, Opa-locka and the Jewish community, on a bus tour on Aug. 13.

After the tour, they were invited to dine at The Mahogany Grille in Miami Gardens, where they met with community leaders to discuss the neighborhoods they will be working in.

On Aug. 12, the students also participated in the Miami Children’s Hospital’s Radio Lollipop Toy Drive and collected more than 100 toys and art supplies for their future patients.

The following step is to receive full accreditation in 2013. A work in progress since 1996, the college has outlined long-term goals and expects to eventually build an enrollment capacity of 480 students, graduating 120 students each year.

Although classes did not officially begin until Aug. 10, students participated in an elective medical Spanish terminology course over the summer and also attended lectures about topics such as depression and endometriosis, which offered students the opportunity to learn about developments in the field and to become acquainted with fellow classmates and faculty members.

Sharing the Health and Life Sciences building temporarily, the college was still able to participate in a groundbreaking ceremony when, on July 30, founders and deans traded their jackets for hard hats to initiate the college’s 18,000 square-foot Ambulatory Care Center, which will include both surgery and outpatient centers.

Clinical partnerships continued to be made when Baptist Health joined the list of institutions affiliated with the college. Other partner institutions include Jackson Health Systems, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Mercy Hospital and Leon Medical Centers.

The college was approved in 2006 by the Florida Board of Governors and the Florida Legislature for its nursing program, the college is also a recognized site for other students to follow and who will one day serve as the new kind of doctor we are educating at FIU.”

For the full stories from the summer, go to "www.fiusm.com".

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FIU The Wolfsonian
SGC-BBC, Wellness Center sets to relocate

MAUREEN NINO
Staff Writer

Months after the fitness center moved to the first floor, its old space on the third floor will become home to two campus organizations, bringing relief to staff and students alike.

The Student Government Council at Biscayne Bay Campus and the Health and Wellness Center will relocate to WUC 330 within the first two weeks of the Fall semester. An exact date has not yet been determined, according to Sholom Neisten, SGC-BBC president.

After half a million dollars were approved by the Student Government Association, Room 330, which was the location of the old fitness center, has been reconstructed and equipped to accommodate both organizations, according to Greg Olson, senior director of Student Affairs.

The funds for the reconstruction came from money saved from past years. “Previous terms have been saving because it’s something we’ve needed for some time now,” said Christin “Cici” Battle, SGC-BBC vice president.

The new SGC-BBC workspace in the third floor will include individual offices for four SGC-BBC members, including Neisten, Battle, Comptroller Robert Chung and SGC-BBC Advisor Rafael Zapata, as well as separate workspace for the remaining 30 council members.

The offices of SGC-BBC are currently located in WUC 141, inside the Office of Campus Life and Orientation. SGC-BBC members share office space, a small kitchen area, a copy room and conference room with the members of the Student Programming Council, Student Organizations Council, Panther Power, Campus Life & Orientation and peer advisors.

“SGC’s move will provide more space and better facilities,” Zapata said.

Although Neisten and Zapata currently have their own offices, Battle and Chung share one office. According to Battle, their current location provides very little working space and only six computers for the 30 council members, while the new office will accommodate 10 to 11 computers and more space to share.

“Council members will not get in each other’s way and will be able to get their work done efficiently,” Neisten said. “And now that SGA has its own space, members of the council will be able to take pride in what they do. There will be a sense of inspiration and enthusiasm with the members of the council.”

The remaining organizations will stay in WUC 141, but they will benefit from SGC-BBC’s relocation because there will be more office space available, according to Zapata.

For SGC-BBC members, the move was urgent. “It was imperative to have this space for SGC-BBC members,” Neisten said. “The old office did not have enough room for all of the council members.”

But even in a new office, and with more work space, SGC-BBC will share its location. The Health and Wellness Center will also relocate to Room 330.

Each organization will have its own office with its own entrance, but they will share one conference room. Students will be able to enter the Health and Wellness Center from the back of the WUC building, which faces the library, and enter the SGC-BBC office from the front, facing Panther Square.

“Sharing the location with the Health and Wellness Center will allow students to be more involved with both entities,” Battle said.

For the past 10 years, the Wellness Center was located in a leased, privately-owned building, which was isolated from student traffic, according to Dona Walcott, assistant director of University Health Services.

“With the new location, it will be more accessible to students,” said Walcott. “At least now we’re located on the main part of the campus with all of the other organizations.”

The Wellness Center will continue to provide students with health education and activities at their new location. Students will be able to get all of the health services that are provided at the current location, such as free assessments, regular physical checkups and blood tests.

“The move will help encourage students to go and take advantage of the Health and Wellness Center,” Neisten said.

Sharing the area may create better camaraderie between the two organizations, according to Zapata. Some students, however, are concerned that new students may struggle locating the new office.

“Although BBC is smaller than the Wellness Center, students may have trouble locating the new office,” Zapata said.

The SGC-BBC move will provide more space and facilities, according to Neisten. “This move will be beneficial to both entities,” Battle said.

The semester has officially begun, and along with meeting new professors and classmates, students will get a taste of the eating and housing options around campus – all for free.

Students will also have opportuni-
ties to learn about local restaurants and catering.

Local apartment complexes will be present to distribute rental information, a new feature that was not available at last year’s fair. This side of the event will give students a chance to research apartments close to campus if campus housing was not an option.

“If the apartment services are in a new partnership with FIU that originated at the Modesto Maidique Campus through Commuter Services,” said Ivy Siegel, coordinator of Campus Life.

The funding for the fair comes entirely from the restaurants and apartment complexes, whose services are being donated to the event.

For more information, visit http:// classifieds.fiu.edu.
New offices more spacious

MOVED, page 5

Modesto Maidique Campus, it can still be intimidating for a first-year student, who may not feel so comfortable walking around the school,” said Stephanie Valencia, a senior fine arts major.

But the staff believes students should be able to get acquainted with the campus, and learn where the different offices are located.

“It’s up to the individual students to be resourceful and to know where the offices are to assist them,” said Craig Cunningham, director of the Office of Campus Life & Orientation.

SGC-BBC members are already developing strategies to inform students about their new location and future projects.

“I was a little concerned about visibility, but now we’re hanging big signs and putting little panther paws to lead to the new office,” said Stephanie Valencia, a senior fine arts major.

“I don’t see SGA as being isolated,” said Natalie Cohen, marketing specialist for Campus Life. “It’s a social way for students to interact with one another.”

Welcome Week began Aug. 23 with a Freshman Convocation at the Modesto Maidique Campus’ U.S. Century Bank Arena.

The Office of Campus Life and Orientation will host a series of activities from Aug. 23 to Aug. 29 to welcome new and returning students back to school.

“It’s a way to kick off the Fall semester, and a great way for students to participate in one of the many events that Campus Life & Orientation puts on,” said Natalie Cohen, marketing specialist for Campus Life.

“I feel it’s good to know BBC and its events to meet people and the staff that potentially are going to be a big impact on whatever major one chooses,” said Nathan D’adesky, a freshman undeclared major.

Along with Roary the Panther, who will be greeting students around campus, the FIU Dazzlers and some athletes will also be present to autograph posters.

Students will have a chance to start off the day with a Gold Breakfast on Aug. 26, beginning at 9 a.m. in Panther Square. Pancakes, bacon, bagels, coffee and other items will be served, and at 4:30 p.m., there will be a Welcome Back BBQ, as well as arts and crafts activities, including picture frame decorating.

“I pretty much love food,” said freshman Nathan D’adesky. “It’s a way to meet people, so that’s pretty good.”

On Aug. 25, there will be a pep rally in Panther Square at noon.

“I feel it’s good to know BBC and its events to meet people and the staff that potentially are going to be a big impact on whatever major one chooses,” said Stephanie Valencia, a senior fine arts major.

On Aug. 28, there will be board games from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Panther Square. In addition to games, students will also be able to kayak on the bay for free.

Those interested should be at the bay by noon. There will be approximately five to seven kayaks available on a first come, first served basis, and each can seat up to two students.

The welcoming events, which are free to all students who have their Panther ID’s, are not just limited to the regular school week.

On Saturday, Aug. 29, students can take a tour of Miami at 1:30 p.m. After the tour, students can go on a Dance Cruise at Bayside at 7 p.m.

“I feel it’s good to know BBC and its events to meet people and the staff that potentially are going to be a big impact on whatever major one chooses,” said Nathan D’adesky. “The fact that there is going to be a dance at Bayside is like the cherry on top of the whole week!”

Welcome Week events are primarily funded by Activities and Service fees. Departments, such as the Student Alumni Association and the Office of the Vice Provost, are co-sponsoring the Freshman Luau.

For more information, contact Campus Life at 305-919-5804.

Additional reporting by Joshimar García.
The Beacon’s 2009 Housing Guide

Places to eat around campus
Greek Life/Student Activities
Housing etiquette
Key locations on campus
Intramural Sports
KEEP IT FRESH

The Fresh Food Company: putting an affordable stop to bad food choices

Do you find yourself awake at some point between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m., live on campus, and most importantly need food? If you answered “yes” to any one of those, there is an on-campus resource that will satisfy your hunger and provide a place to socialize—and they even do the dishes.

The Fresh Food Company is FIU’s primary source of grub on the Modesto Maidique Campus. It offers instantly available meal choices, mixed with the style of a Hibachi restaurant where they make the food right in front of your eyes and an all-you-can-eat buffet. The restaurant is divided into sections, including a grill, roastery, salad bar, pizza/pasta station, sandwich station and dessert bar.

Until recently Fresh Food only offered meals for students without special dietary needs. They did not have vegan or vegetarian options. Some of the features of Fresh Food Company are the order-your-choice pizza and pasta options.

Some of the features of Fresh Food Company are the order-your-own-omelette station in the morning, the-make-your-own waffle station, which is open all day, and the sandwich station where you can order your favorite sandwich for lunch or dinner.

Although the menu is always changing, they frequently host what are known as “monotony breakers.” These are basically themed events where they switch up the food for a day. For example, during the Super Bowl, they decorated the entire place for a Superbowl-themed menu, which is open all day, and the sandwich station where you can order your favorite sandwich for lunch or dinner.

All Access 7 ($1550): Unlimited meals at The Fresh Food Company.
Weekly 14 ($1350): 14 meals per week; restarts on Mondays.
120 Meals ($870): 120 meals per semester, meals reset every semester.

MealPass 20 ($155): 20 passes are granted and once 3 meal passes are left, 20 meals will automatically be added.

Hours of Operation: Monday-Thursday: 7a.m.–9p.m.
Friday: 7a.m.–7p.m.
Saturday-Sunday: 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

Some of the benefits to Fresh Food Company other than preventing starvation is that it’s a natural social spot. You can have breakfast, lunch, dinner and your favorite Sunday brunch with all of your friends. Even if you didn’t orga-

ize a big meal with people, chances are, there is someone you know inside.

Hungry for more information? Stop by GC 114, right next to the Fresh Food Company, for more info.

The Fresh Food Meal Options

1. Breezeway Cookies
   2. Subway Cookies
   3. Fresh Food Cookies
   4. GC Bookstore Cookies

The Cookie Mongers

Breezeway Cookies

Known lovingly as “crack” cookies, they are inexpensive, crispy outside and soft inside. They are like cigarettes in prison.

Subway Cookies

Pretty good, sometimes sour and it’s nice that they give you extra. Plus they get rid of the lunch meat taste.

Fresh Food Cookies

Hit or miss. Sometimes they are great and sometimes they suck. But hey, you can have as many as you like.

GC Bookstore Cookies

Delicious, but they are not nearly as good as the Breezeway Cookies.
Fraternities, sororities let students be part of close-knit communities

AMANDA BATCHELOR
Staff Writer

For incoming freshmen or first-time housing students, getting involved on campus can be something extremely convenient and rewarding.

For those struggling to adapt to college life, a fraternity or sorority could be just the ticket to feeling like you’re part of a community.

Every year, the first week of school features young women tabling for sorority recruitment. Then the fraternity men continue to table for a few weeks for their respective rush weeks.

Rush Week is the time period during which Greek organizations seek out and recruit new members of their organizations. It’s called Rush Week because it really is a “rush” to get to the end of it.

For sorority rush you are running from room to room in the Graham Center in an organized fashion. For the fraternity rush week the potential new members go to the different parties hosted by the fraternity men, such as barbecues and dance parties.

You really have to pick and choose which ones you go to so timing them all can be difficult. Sorority rush week is from Aug. 31 to Sept. 5. There is a $30 non-refundable fee for students who wish to participate in rush events.

Fraternity rush week is from Sept. 14 to Sept. 18. Those weeks are only for the organizations that are under the Panhellenic Council for sororities and the Interfraternity Council for the fraternities. There are also the Multicultural Greek Council organizations to choose from.

Joining a Greek organization gives you the opportunity to hone your leadership skills. As a member of any of these organizations there will be many opportunities for you to hold a position, whether it be the president, social chair or even an extremely active member.

These all give you an opportunity to learn lifelong skills, and maybe even help you lead a more fulfilling college career.

“To be Greek is to make a difference in the lives of the people in the FIU community and also the community at large. If I hadn’t gone Greek I wouldn’t have had the opportunities for leadership that I’ve gotten. I wouldn’t have had the networking opportunities either,” said Anthony

RUSH, page 13

The organization must have a president, treasurer and CSO representative. A full-time professor and/or faculty member should act as the advisor for the club and must be stationed at MC or the Engineering Center. Finally, the club must have a constitution and/or bylaws.

In BBC, the club needs at least five members that will constitute the e-board and a faculty member or professor that is based at BBC and will act as advisor for the club. All new clubs receive $150 from CSO at MC and $200 from SOC at BBC.

The registration deadline for new organizations is Aug. 26.

The registration forms and more information can be found at the CSO and SOC Web site or their office in GC 2240 at MC or WUC 141 in BBC.

For the complete story and more info, visit fiu.com.
Dorm life do’s and don’ts

As new housing student, your first few weeks can be pretty hectic. As you try to adjust to life in college, many new people, places, and things to adjust to, it can be easy to forget Residential Life’s most important rules. Campus Life provides all students with a handbook each year. Throughout its various sections, students will find valuable information about living on campus as well as provide them with campus tools, such as a list of important numbers, and a calendar.

The handbook also contains Residential Life’s most important rules and regulations. Many of these policies apply to housing students specifically, though housing still abides by all of the University’s policies applying to the general student body as well. When moving in, you will be responsible for any damages to your room or any damages to your roommate’s room. The handbook says that the use of ceiling hooks is allowed. So, if you have purchased any ceiling hooks to enhance the stability or aesthetics of your dorm’s furniture, I suggest you return them to Bed, Bath & Beyond and get your money back.

Dorm life also has strict rules regarding over-night guests in the dorms. You would like to have a friend, family member or significant other stay in your dorm, they must fill out and submit a guest registration form to the front desk before their stay.

Housing students should also keep in mind that they are responsible for the actions and conduct of their guests. If your visitor enjoys eating mindless objects with a lighter and a beer in your dorm room, you will be held responsible. Smoke is prohibited in the dorms as it is prohibited throughout campus. Residential Life adheres to University guidelines on drug possession as well.

Keep your roommates informed and keep your dorm room tidy and clean. If your roommate receives complaints from the hall staff, you may lose points and have your room re-scheduled.

Dorm Life Etiquette Quick-Check

- Don’t make a mess
- Don’t leave your things unattended
- Don’t smoke
- Be respectful of others’ space

Don’t Prop Open Rooms or Doors, or Emergency Exit

- Don’t leave your things unattended
- Don’t study outside the library in the wee hours of the morning
- Don’t leave valuables in your car
- Use the buddy system when walking around campus, especially at night
- Utilize the Panther Tram, don’t just think “it’s a short walk I’ll be fine.”
- Get an officer escort if the Panther Tram is unavailable and you can’t find a buddy
- Students, faculty and staff should be aware and alert while on campus and note distress calls get the best of them
- Always be aware of your surroundings
- Keep track of your electronic devices’ serial numbers to better track them

If you lose something that could be construed as suspicious, report it to campus safety, do not try to be a hero.

In case of emergency while on campus, the FIU police can be reached at

Compiled By: Mikiala C. Tennie

Quick Tips For Dorm Life

- When out of clothes use Febreze
- Shampoo can be used as soap
- One pack of Ramen noodles goes a long way
- Use your computer to watch TV
- Bring your pillow from home
- Find secret study spots
- Your living room is not your bedroom
- Deodorant is your friend
- Hide an extra toilet paper roll under your bed
- Get all-one purpose cleaner, it’s more cost effective

Need to know: the rules of living in the University’s residence halls

RACHAEL CONDON
Assistant Residence Director

We have all run into issues with living with our roommates, whether they be in your family or in the case of this article, dormmates. Here are some tips to help you and your roommates get along.

Don’t be Compulsive for cleanliness.

I know that when living with a roommate we all have around the same number of money/credit balances. I try to take my advice, and even though I like things spotless, I decided not to get too much and let it go. I try to compromise with your roommates by either sticking to your cleaning schedule or helping to repair the holes.

If you don’t already know them. Even if you do know them, always be good to start with giving each other your boundaries. In this meeting, voice any concerns about your need for sleep. If you know you have an early class at the same time as another roommate, work out who gets the shower first and make sure that everyone is comfortable with the outcome.

Don’t be offended.

Don’t take it personally if your roommate says you to put your weightlifting upright in your room, such as cleaning the kitchen or sweeping the hallways, is the best way to deal with the cleaning issues.

Don’t be offensive.

Don’t make a mess.

Don’t be touchy.

Don’t be touchy.

Don’t touch your things.

Don’t be touchy.

Don’t do drug use or possession

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Places to be:
campus spots to keep in mind

Congratulations to incoming freshmen and new housing residents. Now that you’ve moved in and gotten used to your dorm, the question that lies is simple: Where do I go now?

Here is a list of 10 important places on Maidique Campus that you’ll be spending a lot of time at or that you should know about:

Green Library: The tallest structure on campus, housing one of the largest libraries in the state, the Steven and Dorothea Green Library is host to hundreds of thousands of books, along with an extensive music and film collection. Also, in between exploring Beethoven and James Joyce, you can go downstairs to the Starbucks – one of the two on campus.

FIU Bookstore: In the Estein Graham Center, the on-campus bookstore doesn’t just sell textbooks: you’ll find FIU memorabilia throughout the store from shirts to posters along with hundreds of other books in the vein of a mini-Barnes and Noble. On the second floor, you’ll find the other Starbucks on campus where you can pay $7 for a turkey and cheese panini.

Food Court: Also in the Graham Center is the food court. Franchises like Burger King and Subway rub elbows with Café Bustelo and even a sushi stand.

Fresh Food: All-you-can-eat buffet style dining, with a daily revolving menu. Experiment with Asian stir fry or chicken and dumplings. If all else fails, there’s always pizza and soft-serve ice cream. Approach with caution.

Wertheim Performing Arts Center: If you are looking for culture while you live on campus, this place is definitely worth checking out, with theater performances held there by FIU’s theater department along with music performances being held throughout the year.

Registars Office and Student Financials Office: Not necessarily the places you’ll want to visit, but you’ll probably have to in your three to six years at FIU.


FIU Bookstore: Your one-stop shopping center for textbooks and FIU memorabilia.

Food Court: A wide array of food options at your disposal.

Fresh Food: A buffet-style dining option.

Wertheim Performing Arts Center: A venue for theater and music performances.

Regular library hours:
Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 1 a.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 1 a.m.

Green Library:
Fall and spring hours:
Mon-Thurs: 6 a.m. - 12 a.m.
Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Rec Center:
Fall and spring hours:
Mon-Thurs: 6 a.m. - 12 a.m.
Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Frost Art Museum:
Also known as “The Cage”, this newly renovated, 20,000 seat facility houses the Golden Panthers basketball team.

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2009 Housing Guide Page 12
Junior Yendi Gonzalez had not played in an in-game pressure situation with fans cheering since he was a high school basketball player three years ago.

So when his team needed him to take the game-winning shot of the 2009 Spring intramural basketball championship match, he gladly embraced the challenge as well as the screaming fans.

Gonzalez propelled PIKE to a one-point victory against the Men’s Open League champions; PIKE had won the Fraternity League Championship the day before.

“I got an easy jumper with a second left,” Gonzalez said. “Our fans went crazy. It was two days in a row of championships.”

5-on-5 basketball is one of many intramural team sports, tournaments and competitions offered by the Rec Center every semester. This fall, students can join team sports like indoor soccer, 7-on-7 flag football, volleyball and softball. Spring sports include 7-on-7 outdoor soccer, 5-on-5 basketball, 4-on-4 flag football and several other tournaments.

Given each team displays appropriate sportsmanship throughout the season, all teams quality for the playoffs. Championship teams may not hoist a trophy, but they do receive T-shirts.

“They’re all competing for that magnificent championship T-shirt at the end of every year,” Director of Recreation Services Rob Frye said.

Every sport has different requirements in terms of the number of players needed. Intramural Club Sport Coordinator Matt O’Connor said the easiest way to form an intramural team is to already have enough people ready to join. But students unable to form a team can be placed on a free-agent list and are assigned to different squads.

“If you’re serious about wanting to play a sport, it’s pretty much 90 percent guaranteed that we’ll find a team for you if you don’t have one,” O’Connor said.

Deadlines to form a team vary but students should prepare to have their squads ready by September. The first entry deadline this fall is Sept. 2 for softball.

Teams must present a $30 forfeit bond to ensure students will show up to the scheduled games. The $30 are returned if the team plays all its games and does not cancel any contests.

Some of the students Gonzalez competed against during intramurals are players he opposed in high school.

“We get a chance to compete again, get that competitive nature again,” Gonzalez said.
Plenty of fun things to see and do outside GC

JANET CAREAGA
Contributing Writer

Although the Graham Center can sometimes seem like an inescapable black hole, surprisingly enough there is a big world outside there.

Finding an available computer in GC can sometimes feel like winning the lottery. They always seem to be in use. Luckily, there is a computer lab on the fourth floor of Primera Casa that many students do not know about. If you're looking for a computer that is almost guaranteed to be available, this is the place to go.

Like GC, the Recreation Center can sometimes be very crowded. If you want to exercise outdoors or just like to play sports, there are recreation facilities by the Panther Garage. They have basketball and tennis courts as well as softball and soccer fields.

There are plenty of options for the artistically inclined as well. The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum (formerly The Art Museum at FIU) opened in 1977. In November 2008, the museum moved to a new facility located next to the MARC Pavilion. The museum has nine galleries, three of which are for permanent collection and the other six feature temporary exhibitions.

The Wertheim Conservatory is a public display of rain forest plant species from around the world with the intent to display tropical species that cannot be grown outside in the Miami climate. The Conservatory, which is run by the Biological Sciences Department, is located next to the Engineering and Computer Sciences building. It is currently open to visitors Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and for special events.

There is a lot to see and plenty to do on campus. So when you find yourself bored in your dorm room, do nothing. Go for a stroll around campus and check out all the university has to offer. Everything is within walking distance after all, and most importantly, it's free.

Research online sites to avoid buying overpriced textbooks

ANA AROCHA
Staff Writer

If you are a recent high school graduate that has always relied on your parents’ pocketbook for the necessities, you might immediately flock to the FIU Bookstore to purchase your textbooks. But if you are like the rest of the college student population, you probably search for hours until you find the best prices.

Sure, buying your books at the bookstore is the easiest option and will ensure that you purchase the right edition, but most of the time the prices are unfairly inflated. If the textbook is not custom-made for FIU, you can find a better price elsewhere.

Used books will always have the cheapest prices. If you can live without the crisp smell of a new biology book, do not bother wasting the money on one. There are plenty of used books in almost new condition, some of which can actually find reasonably priced at the bookstore, if you know how to look.

First, find out exactly which books your professor has specified for your course. This can be done through the FIU Bookstore Web page or by referring to the syllabus your professor hands out the first week of class.

Next, hit the Web. There are tons of online marketplaces that specialize in college textbooks. But do not waste your time logging onto each one and comparing prices; FetchBook.info will do it for you. This page compiles a list of the cheapest prices with links that allow you to jump directly to that store to place your order. The only downfall to this site is its rather limited description of the condition of the books. This is where sellers will list items at a very low price to beat out another book of the same condition. This is where detailed descriptions of the books come in handy.

Both marketplaces might have used copies of a book you need, but the one on Amazon.com might not have any writing in it while the one on Half.com does. The seller grading system in both sites is useful and should be utilized, as it will tell you how reliable the seller is when it comes to timeliness and honesty in their condition descriptions.

If you have found the right book for the right price, compare it to the online FIU Bookstore. All of this research might be time consuming, but saves your wallet.

Where to look:

- FetchBook.info
- Amazon.com
- Half.com
- FIU Bookstore (For used Books)
- Chegg.com (Textbook Rentals)
- Ebay.com
- Betterworldbooks.com
- Campusbooks4less.com

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University infrastructure, established programs should take priority

Dr. Mark Rosenberg has large shoes to fill. With a University facing a crucial budget and operational needs, critical attention, it is up to Rosenberg and whomever he hires to create a successful legacy for the years ahead.

It cannot be argued that Maidique has overseen and initiated legendary programs for the University. It is up to Rosenberg to maintain and cultivate these programs, including those belonging to the College of Medicine, the College of Law and the Athletics department.

Which brings us to this point: the University should focus on maintaining and improving current programs better instead of creating new programs. The University already has a wide variety of programs due to Maidique’s efforts.

In order for FIU to become the recognized and respected university it wants to be, it needs to establish priorities and build upon their present strengths.

Along with this, the current infrastructures within the University’s colleges, schools and major offices need improvement. These offices are currently within the offices of financial aid and the registrar is currently suffering. Long lines and wait times plague students as they attempt to find out information about their financial aid awards and registration status.

The advising department is also overcrowded, hindering the guidance students need for their academic plans. Because of the University’s enrollment of more than 30,000, class-rooms and desks are crowded while courses are cut from selection thanks to budget cuts.

The Beacon is confident that Rosenberg, with his new administration, can accomplish necessary improvements within the University’s infrastructures. In contrast to former University president Modesto Maidique, whose background is in business, Rosenberg has an extensive background in academia. Rosenberg first became part of the University community in 1976 after acquiring his doctorate and became a professor, joining the faculty as an assistant political science professor. His familiarity with how the University works will surely serve as an asset to his vision for the future of FIU.

Rosenberg ascended the ranks over the years to major positions within the University administration, which further prepared him for the presidency. In 1994 he became acting dean of the College of Urban and Public Affairs and in 1999 he was acting president of Academic Affairs and in 1999 he was acting president of the State University System. Rosenberg’s 30-year experience in academics has prepared him well for filling Maidique’s seat during such a critical time.

As evidenced by unfilled positions and interim officials, Rosenberg is well on his way to implementing the administration that will oversee the growth and evolution of the University. The Beacon has high expectations for Rosenberg and his staff, and we assure our readers that we will closely monitor what he does as the University’s new president.

Board should fight rate increases

ERIC M. FELDMAN
Staff Writer

The power is in your hands, but not for long, if the proposed rate increase by Florida Power and Light is out of your budget.

Even if you do not directly pay an FPL bill, you may still feel the effects: many eateries and shopping outlets may pay about 30 percent more for electricity, and thus charge their customers more to compensate.

The proposal states that, starting in January 2010, for 1,000 kilowatt hours per month, FPL will charge customers an additional $9.71. The following year, that price will increase to $12.40. The hikes are meant to acquire revenue for FPL to reno- vatate facilities and infrastructure. Rolling over and taking higher prices now just means they will have more power to keep increasing rates in the future.

Though this is the first rate hike by FPL in 25 years, is it really that bad? I cannot answer that question without a master’s degree in accounting and access to the company’s books, but staying on top of the local news wire certainly presents some issues.

The rate increase is being opposed by the Public Service Commission, an appointed state governmental board with the purpose to ensure that utilities are not detrimental to the public. This is significant because the PSC has shown little to no opposition to any of the “fees” that FPL has added on to its bills in years gone by.

These fees have raised FPL bills significantly while still allowing FPL to keep its per kilowatt-hour rate unchanged. According to The Miami Herald, the process to change rates is much more difficult than the one to add fees. Essentially, FPL has been getting more money from each bill the easy way, and the PSC has let it slide.

While the fees cover specific expenses of the utility, base rates cover the company’s payroll. Arguably, payroll is any company’s most controllable expense, especially when, according to the Sun-Sentinel, that cost totals $84 million in compensation costs for 2008, including millions in over-time and bonuses.

It’s difficult to say if any of that $84 million could be redirected from excessive pockets in place of collecting over $1 billion from customers’ pockets through the rate increase, because while, as of now, the executive compensa- tion is not public, but the PSC is entering a legal battle with FPL to release the numbers.

I’m a capitalist and don’t want the government putting limits on what people can earn, but sometimes, when an industry is obli- gated to all of the public when they control something that we all need, the stakes are changed. FPL is indirectly blaming the government for needing to raise rates by citing “clean air regu- lations” and “greenhouse legisla- tion” as part of the reason for more needed revenue, according to The Miami Herald. FPL insists that fuel costs will go down in the coming years and this will offset the rate hike, but a Palm Beach Post editorial states that “the higher rates would be guaranteed, but the savings would not.”

Sometimes rate increases are necessary, but the PSC should stand its ground in making sure that it is in this case by getting executive compensation figures and negotiating a rate that is fair to the public.

Available forums provide students opportunities to speak

IRIS A. FERBES
Editor Opinion

Aside from the comment boxes available at the Student Government Association office (located in GC 212), as well as SGA-sponsored forums held throughout the year, options are limited for students to voice concerns about how the University is run and how their money is handled (say, fees allocated for activities and services).

While I encourage you to attend these forums whenever possible, I also suggest you submit your thoughts on our University, no matter how critical.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Got a problem with parking? Want to give thanks to a faculty? Do you just have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts to the opinion@fi usm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 154 or WRC 134. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, and year.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is comprised of the administration that will oversee the growth and evolution of the University. The Beacon has high expectations for Rosenberg and his staff, and we assure our readers that we will closely monitor what he does as the University’s new president.

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QUOTATION

“Failing prices are not part of the problem, they’re part of the solution.”

Economist Lawrence Yun at the recent affordability of U.S. homes

All students are invited to submit Letters to the Editor to The Beacon. With a letter, you can address articles that have been published in the paper and bring forward issues that are pertinent to the student body. If you think you have much more to say, then we welcome you to contribute to our feature, The Soapbox. We invite all University officials and student leaders to write about their expectations for FIU and what they want out of their community.

It is imperative for us as students and members of the University community to take an active role in shaping our school, and, with the Opinion section, this is more than possible.
Government should launch NASA cuts

FIDEL LEBLANC
Staff Writer

NASA has come far since the Apollo 11 moon mission in 1969, launching countless programs and forays into the icy vacuum of space such as Voyager I’s reconnaissance missions to Jupiter and Saturn. But curiosity about our otherworldly neighbors – such as Mars and beyond – has taken quite a dip recently.

Other than the launching of the International Space Station, no huge, groundbreaking events in space exploration have taken place since Neil Armstrong hopped out onto that rock 40 years ago.

Now, in the midst of trying our economic times since the Great Depression, the government is coming under fire for reportedly preparing to cut $70 billion dollars from the space program. However, thinking in contemporary terms, I doubt that NASA and the space program are at the forefront of priorities, for both the government and the public.

Space exploration is “no longer the inspiration of a nation” according to Sen.

Romney Manassa
Contribution Writer

There’s no denying that difficult life has been for everyone since the recession began. It has been a pop culture phenomenon to reference the troubled times, especially if you’re a student.

Let’s face it: even before this recession dried up (or marked up) a lot of loans and triggered higher tuition rates, times were still pretty hard. It’s hard enough to get a degree as it is, without spending all these years cramming and studying while the temptation of our youth and independence beckon us away.

But on top of that, most of us don’t have the money to support our education, which we are individually driven to work a job (or two), taking on debt, or both. It certainly doesn’t help when you take into account that we’re the generation that will soon inherit this world and all its problems; whatever you’re getting your degree in, someone in the future will need your ideas and services.

Most of the greatest figures in the world – our leaders, scientists, philanthropists, etc. – were at some point students, just like us, probably juggling the same concerns and difficulties.

With this in mind, it’s all the more tragic that, despite all this pressure and struggle, we’ve largely become a free-ranging generation; we want our degrees (whether driven by want of fame, money, success, or otherwise) for almost nothing.

Despite the obvious scientific implications that space travel brings, it isn’t beneficial to the ailing economy whatsoever.

Jay Rockefeller. The funds that would go toward sending Americans to different destinations in space isn’t readily available for something that will not directly benefit the American people.

As a resident to my brother and me, I have no concerns. We can’t spend money on programs that are not absolutely necessary. Despite the obvious scientific implications that space travel brings, it isn’t beneficial to the ailing economy whatsoever.

Some say integration to society is not being taken away any more: this relocation of resources to more pertinent issues may have been avoided if the public had shown more support in NASA’s escape.

I’m not saying that we should completely eradicate the American space program. Instead, we should fund it slowly, in small increments, while allocating funds to the real, impacting issues of the day such as the aforementioned economic situation.

Once we come out of this recession, as long as that may take, then we can start pumping more money into the program. But for now, space exploration must be pushed down the list of priorities.

DIFFICULT TIMES
Despite recession, studies should be a priority

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As a resident to my brother and me, I have no concerns. We can’t spend money on programs that are not absolutely necessary. Despite the obvious scientific implications that space travel brings, it isn’t beneficial to the ailing economy whatsoever.

Some say integration to society is not being taken away any more: this relocation of resources to more pertinent issues may have been avoided if the public had shown more support in NASA’s escape.

I’m not saying that we should completely eradicate the American space program. Instead, we should fund it slowly, in small increments, while allocating funds to the real, impacting issues of the day such as the aforementioned economic situation.

Once we come out of this recession, as long as that may take, then we can start pumping more money into the program. But for now, space exploration must be pushed down the list of priorities.
### Intramural Sports

**Team Sports**
- Softball League
- Flag Football League
- Volleyball League
- Indoor Soccer League
- 3-on-3 Basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Entry Deadline</th>
<th>Captain/Mtng</th>
<th>Begins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Softball League</td>
<td>Weds, Sept 2</td>
<td>Tues, Sept 13</td>
<td>Mon, Sept 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag Football League</td>
<td>Weds, Sept 8</td>
<td>Thurs, Sept 15</td>
<td>Mon, Sept 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volleyball League</td>
<td>Weds, Sept 23</td>
<td>Thurs, Sept 29</td>
<td>Tues, Sept 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Soccer League</td>
<td>Weds, Sept 30</td>
<td>Thurs, Oct 1</td>
<td>Mon, Oct 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-on-3 Basketball</td>
<td>Tues, Nov 24</td>
<td>Throne, Nov 24</td>
<td>Mon, Nov 30</td>
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<table>
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<th>Tournament</th>
<th>Entry Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>NBA Pick'em</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>MLB Pick'em</td>
<td>Mon, Oct 5</td>
<td>Tues, Oct 6</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Weds, Oct 14</td>
<td>Fri, Oct 16</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paint/Pass/Kick</td>
<td>Mon, Oct 19</td>
<td>Mon, Oct 19</td>
<td>Oct 29 &amp; 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Sports Expo</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Fri, Oct 16</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KickSuits Basketball</td>
<td>Tues, Dec 1</td>
<td>Tues, Dec 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Throw ShootOut</td>
<td>Weds, Dec 2</td>
<td>Weds, Dec 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCAA Football Bowl Challenge</td>
<td>Fri, Dec 11</td>
<td>Fri, Dec 11</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOURNAMENTS**
- **MR & MR Pick-em**
- **NFL Pick'em**
- **Tennis**
- **Paint/Pass/Kick**
- **International Sports Expo**
- **KickSuits Basketball**
- **Free Throw ShootOut**
- **NCAA Football Bowl Challenge**

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**FALL 2009 CLINIC DATES**

- **Softball:** Sept 1 - 3, 7 - 10pm, Rec Center (RC) 102
- **Flag Football:** Sept 8 - 10, 7 - 10pm, Rec Center (RC) 102
- **Volleyball:** Sept 22 - 24, 7 - 10pm, Rec Center (RC) 102
- **Indoor Soccer:** Sept 29 - Oct 1, 7 - 10pm, Rec Center (RC) 102

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Fall sports programs will gain prestige this season

Coaches will recruit, be mentors to players

year, the question has to be asked whether that giant is about to awaken, or if it is going to hit the snooze button for another year.

This is the year a lot of FIU sports are expected to make a big step, and there are going to be some signs to watch out for if the giant is rousing from its slumber.

FOURTH TIME’S A CHARM?

Senior outside hitter Yarimar Rosa has been a three-time All American for the volleyball team and was named the Sun Belt Player of the Year after leading the team to a regular season Sun Belt title and an appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

Despite that success, the team still found themselves disappointed with their early exit in both tournaments, and have been taking part in what have been described as grueling practices in the Fall.

If Rosa does manage to improve, it can only help a team that should be going into the season as conference favorites.

Finding replacements

Three Golden Panthers teams lost their top weapons prior to graduation, as basketball forward Freddy Asprilla, men’s soccer leading scorer Cuban Cardenas and left the teams for various reasons.

Whether it was because they were disgruntled due to a coaching change or trying to make their mark in the professional ranks, each of them has left a huge hole for their teams to fill, and it will be very difficult for them to be replaced.

While football and volleyball are looking to take the next steps, these three fall sports face great obstacles in replacing these great players.

Isiah’s foundation

One coach who is looking to establish a strong base is new volleyball coach Isiah Thomas.

The NBA Hall of Famer was brought in in April to revive a basketball program that had seriously struggled in recent years, as well as revive a career for him that hasn’t been too strong recently, and there has been a palpable excitement around the team since the hire.

The biggest thing for him is building a roster with his vision, and he’s brought in a number of highly touted recruits to achieve this end. Over recent months, there has been a slow of big commitments coming in, including the first five-star recruit in FIU basketball history for the 2011 class.

Thomas’ NBA background and contacts represents a big recruiting tool, and watching him finish filling out his roster by November is going to be interesting. Despite the loss of Asprilla, Thomas is looking to compete now and also build a strong program for years to come.

Coaches, page 20

needs to get done.”

Helping hand

Also helping Thomas as an assistant is Holloway, who began his basketball career as a player at Lindsey Wilson College in Kentucky, where he played for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division I. His career there was cut short due to injuries, so he started coaching there as a student-assistant instead.

“I enjoyed what I was doing. I just wanted to be around basketball,” he said.

While at Lindsey Wilson, he also earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and chemistry. Holloway was then a graduate assistant coach at Wesley College, a NCAA Division III school. After stints overseas as a player-coach for professional teams in Switzerland and Germany, he came back to the United States, where he eventually got in touch with Thomas through a mutual friend.

Holloway will be assisting Thomas with recruiting, but he said he’ll focus more on international recruiting because of his experience overseas. He’ll also be developing and coaching the Golden Panthers’ post-players.

Perimeter play

Eddie, like Holloway, played professionally overseas, but in San Morino, Italy for two years.

He began his coaching career at Detroit Cody High School in 1976, after he graduated with a degree in business education from Northern Michigan University. He was an assistant coach at Detroit Cody for 10 years.

He then coached Team Detroit, an AAU team, from 1985-2005, before becoming an assistant coach at Central Michigan University in 2006.

His next stop is FIU, where he’ll be assisting Thomas with recruiting and developing the team’s perimeter players. He said that like Alauddeen, he’ll also be offering academic guidance to the players.

“We want to develop a positive environment and make sure our guys are coming out with degrees,” he said.

Developing Pro’s

Thomas hired Anderson as his first staff member, and he has worked and helped many amateur players reach the professional ranks.

Anderson started his coaching career in 1995 at Paris Community College in Texas. He also held coaching positions at McNeese State – his alma mater – Tulane, Louisiana, the University of New Orleans, the University of Texas, the University of Miami, Texas Christian University and Southern Methodist University, according to FIU Athletics’ Web site fiusports.com.

Several calls and voice-mails to Anderson were not returned.

During his tenure at Miami, Anderson coached James Jones, who is currently a forward for the Miami Heat, Guillermo Diaz, who was a second round selection by the Los Angeles Clippers, and Robert Hite, who spent time in the NBA playing for the Heat and New Jersey Nets.

The Golden Panthers’ regular season begins in November.
Kickers vie for top spot; veteran punter returns

SPECIAL, page 20

the freshman All-American. “I’m used to it. I did it in high school so I don’t think it’ll be a problem doing it now.”

KICKING BATTLES

Kickers Jack Griffin and Dustin Rivest are clashing for the starting spot this season. Last season, Rivest was awarded the starting spot. He connected on 12 of his 19 field goal attempts with a 43-yard kick as his longest make of the season.

But Griffin is fighting for his chance to play, according to Cristobal. “Dustin and Jack are competing for the spot. Dustin is leading in field goals by a slight edge, and Jack is leading in kickoffs,” Cristobal said.

Punter Carlos Munera earned an extra year of eligibility as a fifth-year senior. He received a medical redshirt from the NCAA. Last season, the punter averaged 41.1 yards per punt. Along with Hilton, Munera was a 2009 Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference team selection.

“This is very important to him, he wants to be a great player, any time you’re forced to sit out, especially for an administrative issue it’s painful, but he stayed in shape, and worked hard,” Cristobal said.

Golden Panthers have several scoring options

MEN’S SOCCER, page 20

Cabas,” Eketebi said. But in addition to Cabas and Tamburus, a recent signee has come into the spotlight during the preseason practices for 2009.

“From what Sebastian [Frings] has been showing, he can definitely crush a ball,” said coach Eketebi. “Sebastian has been baptized by fire because coming from Germany, the first game he plays is going to be in 90-degree weather, but we can manage that.”

YOUNG GUNS

In addition to Frings, two other players have stood out as potential candidates for the playmaker title. “Anthony Hobbs did a really good job in the center of the defense, and Nick Jones has made me really pleased with what he can do in the backfield,” Eketebi said.

Midfielder Bruno Barbosa thinks that the talent level is equal. “I believe the players coming in this year have the same potential [as the departing seniors], and we have some good players coming in from injury,” Barbosa said. “I think as time goes on, they will step up for us.”

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HIGH HOPES

Two of the team’s best weapons are gone, but Eketebi feels no differently heading into this season compared to years passed. “I expect nothing less than making a run for the Sun Belt Conference championship,” Cabas said.

For Eketebi, the pressure level is the same as when he was on the pitch himself. “The goals are the same,” said Eketebi. “They were my goals as a player here, and they are my goals as a coach.”

Day one

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SPECIAL WEAPON

Hilton to be starting receiver, return man

JOEY CRUZ
Contributing Writer

Change will not be a factor this season for Golden Panthers coach Mario Cristobal's special teams unit.

“Our special teams are very productive. Our point of emphasis for us obviously is that we had a good return game last year,” Cristobal said. “A lot of that was due to us getting better schematically and of course No. 4’s God-given gifts.”

No. 4, T.Y. Hilton, is not the only return man capable of doing damage.

There is more competition this season on special teams, especially from the kick return position.

During a White and Green scrimmage – 30 plays in which two special teams play against one another – wide receiver Junior Mertile returned a kick back for a touchdown to give him the win.

Assistant Coach Alex Mirabal chose Mertile to return the kick despite chants of “T.Y., T.Y., T.Y.” Mertile made Mirabal look like a genius as he sped past the green team for a touchdown.

“Junior took it personal that coach Mirabal picked T.Y.,” Cristobal said.

T.Y. HOLDING HIS OWN

Still, the added competition does not mean Hilton is not going to be this season’s main kick and punt returner.

Last season, Hilton led the Golden Panthers in kick and punt returns, and he recorded one kick and punt return touchdown. Hilton notched 1,107 combined return yards. He also led the team receiving with 1,013 receiving yards and seven touchdowns as a freshman.

Even though he is the clear No. 1 receiving option, Hilton still has high expectations for how he can contribute on special teams this season.

“I figured I was going to have a lot of responsibilities anyway; I’m ready for the challenge,” Hilton said.

This workload is nothing new for Hilton to be starting receiver, return man.

"We did lose two big-time players," said junior forward Steven Hilton to be starting receiver, return man.

"You have a new med school building, a new residence halls; the list goes on and on.

When it comes to Athletics, the recent history has been about building a steady foundation. A slew of new coaches has helped Athletic Director Pete Garcia build the foundation he has wanted in recent years, and now everyone is looking forward to taking the next step.

The University is often referred to as a “sleeping giant” by its Athletics supporters, massive potential fan base, sporting hot bed and an enthusiastic staff. Coming into this

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Thomas fills staff with experience

JONATHAN DAVILA
Staff Writer

During a summer featuring many changes for the Golden Panthers men’s basketball team, Coach Isiah Thomas wasn’t only recruiting players.

He was also busy hiring his coaching staff.

Thomas hired Hashim Ali Alauddeen as the director of basketball operations, Frank Holloway and William Eddie as assistant coaches and Anthony Anderson as the associate head coach.

Thomas’ staff will be developing players’ skills, recruiting and overseeing their academic progress.

Alauddeen made a name for himself in the basketball world by being one of the co-founders of Slam-n-Jam, a California-based youth basketball program aimed at student athletes. He was the head coach of the Oakland Soldiers, an Amateur Athletic Union team sponsored by Slam-n-Jam.

He holds a bachelor's degree in African diaspora studies, which he obtained from the University of California at Berkeley in 1991. In an interview with Student Media, he said he has also been a teacher and academic coach for NBA players such as Shareef Abdur-Rahim.

“I like teaching. I’m teaching a First-year Experience course here,” he said.

Alauddeen will have a similar responsibility on the men's basketball team; he'll be like a tutor and mentor to the players to make sure they are on track toward a degree. He said Thomas told him, “I want you to make men out of our players.”

Aside from monitoring the players’ academic progress, Alauddeen said he would be “assisting Isiah Thomas in anything that he