Neurology department gets renowned chairman

Dr. Jeffrey Horstmyer joins inaugural staff

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine recently named Dr. Jeffrey Horstmyer, a physician at Mercy Hospital, as founding chairman of the Department of Neurology.

“I am proud to be part of this inaugural faculty and work among such distinguished physicians and talented students,” Horstmyer said in a statement. “The Wertheim College of Medicine is well on its way to changing the way we teach and practice medicine and I am honored to be part of it.”

Horstmyer, a certified diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry Neurology, has held various positions throughout the South Florida medical community, including chief of the Division of Neurology at Mercy Hospital, president of the Mercy Hospital medical staff and Board of Trustees member, chairman of the Emergency Room Committee at Health South Doctors Hospital and member of the Dade County Stroke Consortium.

He has also worked extensively with multiple sclerosis causes and is a member of the Professional Advisory Committee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in South Florida.

Horstmyer is the founder and chairman of the Student Government Association and continued through the appropriation proposals for the Frost Museum and one for the Mechanical Engineering Department.

“The wasteful spending of student Activity and Services fees must come to an end,” read Sen. Adam Johnson, one of the sponsors of the resolution. The resolution called for SGC-MMC to commit to a promise to end wasteful spending. The debate began with the reading of the resolution. "In support of Smarter Spending in Regards to Student A&S Fees by SGA," that was sent to the Operational Review Committee, and continued through the appropriation proposals for the Frost Museum and one for the Mechanical Engineering Department.

SGC-MMC Vice President Mykaelle "Myka" Figueiredo mentioned in the meeting that some of those renovations and furniture were for her office, and she said she thought the current resolution was "lashing out at the administration." Figueiredo, however, supported the spirit of the resolution, while believing it needed revisions. The vice president told Student Media that the retreats were worthwhile, but that there also needed to spend their money inappropriately."

Some examples of wasteful spending mentioned in the “Smarter Spending” bill were the use of $60,000 for Campus Life Organization retreats. "Cutting unnecessary costs such as having retreats on campus instead of at a five-star hotel will give SGA a chance to save thousands of dollars," read Sen. Adam Johnson, one of the sponsors of the resolution. The debate began with the reading of the resolution. "In support of Smarter Spending in Regards to Student A&S Fees by SGA," that was sent to the Operational Review Committee, and continued through the appropriation proposals for the Frost Museum and one for the Mechanical Engineering Department.

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Disney buys Marvel Comics

The Walt Disney Company has purchased Marvel Comics, the popular comic book company, in a deal totalling $4 billion. According to CNN Money, the deal, announced Aug. 31, will give Disney the rights to over 5,000 characters. Some of the characters include Iron Man, Captain America and Spider-Man.

Marvel Comics still deals with various movie studios, including Paramount, and plans to honor these deals. Disney is expected to become sole distributor of all Marvel movie projects in the future.

Apple to reveal new line of iPods

Apple has announced a press event titled “It’s only rock and roll, but we like it.” According to Reuters, the event is expected to showcase a new line of iPods. Also expected to be released is a new version of Apple’s media management software, iTunes.

The event will be held on Sept. 9.

Internet addiction rehab program admits its first patient

Ben Alexander began his college career at Iowa last year, playing “World of Warcraft” 16 to 17 hours a day. He got a sense of fulfillment by playing as an alter-ego online.

“People always commented on how quickly I was progressing and that was a source of pride when I was playing,” Alexander explained to CBS4. “I was a lot more outgoing in the game,” he said.

According to a study published by CBS4, approximately 10 percent of people online could be addicted.

Seeking help, he went to a rehab program called an Addiction Recovery Program and was told CBS4.

Some of the characters include Iron Man, Captain

“Dr. Horstmyer is the latest example of the College of Medicine’s efforts to recruit Miami’s best and most community conscious physicians. His service and leadership have not been limited to the medical community, however, as he has worked with various sectors of FIU.”

He has served as a member of the FIU Foundation board of directors, chairman of the President’s Council and as a member on the advisory boards for the Frost Art Museum and the Biomedical Engineering Department. He has received awards from the Peñalver Clinic, Camillus House and the John Sirbo Clinic for providing neurological care to those who cannot afford hospital visits.

“I think it’s great that such prominent physicians are here to train and mentor us,” said medical student Gabe Thornton.

“In order to become physicians that will change the world, we need to have the best physicians educating us and Dr. Horstmyer is one of them.”

Horstmyer graduated from Emory University School and worked in real estate development. He later attended the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and performed his internship in neurology residency training at Jackson Memo-

Distinguished physician recruited

“It’s a great opportunity for veterans. It opens the door for [them] to go to graduate school.”

Peter Velazquez, student

B. It will “create a new life for veterans” and “will offer opportunities the new G.I. Bill will offer.”

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Resolution passes to pay tribute to ‘Ted Kennedy

SGC-MMC, page 1

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SGA resolution

New Web site allows students to find, apply for jobs on campus

Julian Pinheiro, Staff Writer

Campus jobs may be convenient but can also be difficult to find. Now, thanks to a partnership, students will be able to view and apply for all the jobs on campus in one Web site.

The resolution acknowledged Kennedy’s pivotal role in the enactment of laws concerning education, immigration, cancer research and civil rights, to mention a few.

His nephew, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., will come speak at FIU as part of the SGA’s Student Media that the passing vote was twofold: one for his accomplishments, and one for his research and civil rights, to mention a few.

The Senate Speaker Helena Ramirez told Rep. Ana Garcia, the representative from the Frost Museum the motive for federal work-study positions.

She also hopes this initiative will put money in the hands of students and give them experience to improve their resumes.

According to Jimenez, around February 2009, 1,700 students were placed in student assistant positions while 350 students were placed in federal work-study positions.

Federal work-study is financed by federal funds; the hiring department will not pay the salaries of hired students.

Some jobs that need to be filled include a part-time receptionist, a course developer, a desk assistant, call center assistant and a program assistant.

According to HR, it is not mandatory for the student to have a résumé for most of student jobs.

To apply for a job, visit www.fujobs.org.

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Students struggle to enroll

TIFFANY URRIOLA
Contributing Writer

Between budget cuts, a tuition hike and University accreditation, students have had a hard time registering for classes. Students are so desperate to get into classes, that some have even offered money to their classmates to give away their spots.

“Over the summer, I was offered $500 by another student to get into the class that he needed in order to graduate,” said Roberto Bolona, a junior journalism major. “The 12 to 15 percent reduction in state funding has affected the 2009-2010 registration process, causing lines to form outside the Office of the Registrar earlier than expected.

This semester, the University has been further impacted by a 13 percent tuition hike, which took effect this Fall semester. The University is also going through accreditation, so everything, including class size, must meet standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Accreditation is a process in which a University is reviewed by SACS every 10 years to ensure schools meet the standards established by the higher education community.

“Budget cuts have affected the registration process, and there are less class sections of classes being offered,” said Steven Kelly, director of the Office of the Registrar.

This situation not only frustrates students, but also professors who are often seen as the bad guys when they drop students for missing the first day of class.

“The first day, four or five students showed up to class wanting to get in, so I have to strictly enforce the you-must-show-up-the-first-day-of-class policy,” said Neil Reesner, associate journalism professor.

Professors also feel there must be a limit on the amount of students each class can have, especially in upper division courses, in which students should receive

ENROLLMENT, page 5

Council tries to change frequency of meetings

Biweekly sessions suggested

MAUREEN NINO
Staff Writer

The Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus is required to meet every week as per its bylaws, but during their last meeting, some members tried to change that.

The first meeting of the fall took place Aug. 26. With all members present at the mandatory meeting, SGC-BBC President Shalom Neistein, shared his concerns about the senate’s attendance.

“It’s great to see so many faces,” he said.

At the meeting, members learned about a new proposition: having biweekly meetings, instead of the weekly meetings established by the campus bylaws.

“At the bay

“On the one hand, we will be more efficient. However, on the other, we will be placing too much emphasis on one meeting,” Neistein said.

Neistein gave a partial opinion about the change, so the gavel was passed to Christian “Cici” Battle, SGC-BBC vice president.

SGC-BBC emulates the structure of the U.S. government and follows Robert’s Rules of Order, a guide to parliamentary procedures which says that a partial opinion cannot be given by the chairman.

“It is a serious decision, and I think that the motion moving toward further consideration was a wise thing to do,” said Keisha Samuels, SGC-BBC internship coordinator.

“I think that the leaders of our council have our best interests at heart, and they would not have considered such a motion if it was not thought out and they saw that it might be more beneficial to the council members than not,” said Brian Skelton.

After a brief discussion about the proposal, Natalya Cohen, SGC-BBC senator at large, motioned to have biweekly meetings.

It was seconded by Tunia Williams, SGC-BBC graduate senator.

“I think that the number of meetings we hold should depend on their need to sufficiently reach our assigned goals,” Cohen said.

Otherwise, meetings tend to become redundant and that time can be allocated toward better ways of helping those we represent: the student body.

But some members disagreed. Robert Tassy III, SGC-BBC senator, is concerned that reducing the amount of times the council meets may delay any progress toward accomplishing assigned tasks.

“Council meetings almost force the council members to bring something new to the table. Either something new or an update on a project they are working on,” Tassy said.

Other members are confident that work will continue as scheduled with guidelines and specific deadlines that must be met.

“In Chapter 9 of the bylaws, under General Statutes, Robert Tassy and I wrote a set of rules the senate has already approved, which would create mandatory deadlines,” said Nikolay Chikshev, SGC-BBC lower division senator.

But Tassy is also concerned that lack of frequent meetings may minimize the amount of information that is shared within the council.

“We all become informed of what the cabinet, directors, senators, judicial and executive board are doing,” he said.

“We use that information to inform everyone else and to make decisions and plans accordingly.”

To avoid a lack of communication between the members, Chikshev suggested that other sources, such as e-mails, Facebook and Twitter, can distribute information they need.

“Checking e-mails should be a habit for any serious college student or any professional,” Chikshev said.

“There is no excuse for checking Facebook at a time that a day and not having enough time to check your own e-mail account,” according to Cohen.

Senators have access to technologies that make the option of canceling meetings very plausible.

“We live in a society that is swarmed with multiple forms of communication,” Cohen said.

“If things are planned out, we can use these to our advantage and improve our overall efficiency.”

The motion was

revoked from the table after the disagreement between members, and Neistein returned to his position as chairman.

The motion was then substituted with a discussion to have regular scheduled meetings that could be canceled when needed.

The council was also in disagreement with this idea, and the decision to cancel meetings was also rejected until further review.

At the meeting, members were also assigned goals that SGC-BBC hopes to achieve this year.

The goal deadlines will be set during the next meeting Sept. 2.
Less classes, holds affect registration

TIPS FOR REGISTRATION

- Check your University email often.
- Take care of holds before you register.
- Check your enrollment appointment date and time, and enroll as soon as it’s time.
- Meet with advisors before advising week to avoid lines.
- Pick your classes prior to your enrollment appointment.
- Put classes in the enrollment shopping cart.
- Press the “Validate” button in the enrollment shopping cart to make sure the classes will go through by your enrollment appointment.
- Pick your classes for the next semester as well.

ENROLLMENT, page 4

specialized attention.

“For upper division courses, we don’t get support from student aides,” said Gwyn Davies, assistant history professor. “Most of the history classes I teach usually have graduate components in them, so you end up with 45 undergraduates and five graduate students in one class.”

Not allowing overrides in order to accommodate more students in classes that are already filled is a situation that sometimes goes beyond the hands of professors, departments and the University itself. To meet different criteria for accreditation or state regulations, some departments are required to have a limited number of students per class.

“The fire code doesn’t allow us to have so many students in a classroom,” said Teresa Ponte, interim chair of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications. “Also, the accreditation board for the School of Journalism and Broadcasting has ever worked in. Didier Georges, a junior international business management major, made a mistake in his financial aid paperwork, but did not receive an e-mail notification. Instead, he realized there was a mistake while registering for classes through Panthersoft.

“When I was trying to register for classes, I realized I had a $531 hold,” Georges said. “It was an issue with the Financial Aid Office, and I just paid the bill. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have been able to choose the classes I needed.”

Kelly, however, considers FIU’s Financial Aid Office one of the most efficient he has ever worked in.

“In my 30 years of experience and after working in three different states, FIU’s financial aid office to me is one of the most responsive, giving out each year $230 million in aid,” Kelly said.

Kolby also emphasized that students need to check their University e-mail accounts in order to receive notices that could affect their registration status.

The Office of the Registrar’s call center has received 16,000 calls during the first week of August, compared to previous years, in which the number of calls was half that amount, according to Kelly. It is predicted that the amount of students in the University has increased, but the official amount will not be known until the end of the add/drop period, Kelly said.

“In my years of experience, every time economies have gone bad, the education population tends to rise,” Kelly said, adding that there will be less classes available for the amount of students who will need them.

Student Life

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Campus Life Fall Fest

Continuing the Fall Fest activities, students will receive free Chipotle gift cards on Sept. 3. That same night, the Biscayne Bay Campus Student Programming Council will host a comedy show from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. in Mary Ann Wolfe Theater. The event is free to students with Panther ID’s and $5 for non-students. On Sept. 4, SPC-BBC will collect canned goods from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Panther Square for the Feed Haiti Drive.

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

Fitness Center classes

The Fitness Center is offering free classes for students with a valid Panther ID.

On Train Hard Thursday, classes start with a Burst Your Abs from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Zumba from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Nitro Kick from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Self Defense and Core Training from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Yoga from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

On Fitness Friday, classes start with Cardio Strength from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Total Body Circuit from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and Mediation from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Compiled by Pamela Duque

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FULL FRONTAL

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- STUDENT ONLY EVENTS

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EMAIL YOUR NAME AND FIU PANTHER ID TO REGINA@THEWOLF.FIU.EDU AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD IS ON ITS WAY!
Marching band cannot be replaced

The elimation of the marching band five months ago was inevitable, since finding resources and support to keep it alive was impossible.

In an effort to save the band, I and other student members of a group of individuals who shared a love and passion for music – stood by the GC fountain at the Modesto Maidique Campus and played some tunes that characterize FIU's spirit and pride.

As we all performed as an ensemble, we asked anyone and everyone to sign a petition so that the band would be saved.

Many professors bar the use of Wikipedia entirely, while others caution that it should only be used wisely and taken with a grain of salt.

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Many professors bar the use of Wikipedia entirely, while others caution that it should only be used wisely and taken with a grain of salt. Wikipedia strives for better accuracy

Wikipedia.org can tell the future. The site's online information source, which anyone can edit and modify, reported on Jan. 20 that Sen. Edward M. "Ted" Kennedy, who was at the time battling cancer, had died. Sen. Kennedy did not die until Aug. 25.

It is some of these premonitions, or vandalismis rather, that have caused the Wikipedia the non-profit organization which runs Wikipedia and other "Wikipedia" sites, to adopt a new policy on editing articles, according to an article from The New York Times.

"Wiki" is a generic term to describe any Web site that can be edited by any user.

According to the Times article, now any time a change is made to a Wikipedia article about a living person, the changes will remain invisible until a trusted senior editor approves the changes. All other articles can still be edited by anyone – for now, at least.

Wikipedia has long been the bane of college professors, who have begun to see the Web site cited more often in APA and MLA format in research papers where peer-reviewed journal articles once were cited.

This change in Wikipedia policy is welcome and overdue, I agree. I use Wikipedia for holding this off as long as they could: complete freedom to create, edit and delete is the only reason Wikipedia has amassed as much information of volunteers across the world sharing as much research and knowledge as possible has made it this far is simply fascinating.

Many professors bar the use of the site entirely in their class, while others caution that it should only be used wisely and taken with a grain of salt.

George Ackerman, a professor in the Criminal Justice Department in the College of Arts and Sciences, does not allow it at all. "It is not a valid source or reference in the educational world," Ackerman said. "Anyone, including a 5-year-old, can post the content to Wikipedia and it is never verified."

Despite some misuse of the site for classes, students do know to use it with caution. "I use Wikipedia for simplified explanations of things I don't understand," said sophomore Karina Prada, a nursing major. But I wouldn't use it as a source in an academic paper."

In fact, founder Jimmy Wales of Wikipedia, has cautioned against using his site for academic research.

"For God's sake, you're in college; don't cite the encyclopedia," Wales said at a conference, according to a 2006 Chronicle of Higher Education article.

Many professors bar the use of Wikipedia entirely, while others caution that it should only be used wisely and taken with a grain of salt.

Last year, and played the tunes that characterize FIU's spirit and pride.
Web site ranks FIU faculty among the best in U.S., based on student ratings

JANET CAREAGA
Staff Writer

At the start of a new term everyone is scrambling around trying to pick classes and one concern runs through the minds of students: What if I get a bad professor? If they don’t have a friend who has previously taken a class with the professor they are considering, many students turn to RateMyProfessors.com, which allows students to rate professors based on their opinions of the particular instructor. Some students use these ratings to help determine what to expect from their potential professors.

Based on student-generated professor ratings, the Web site compiles a top 10 list of universities with the top rated professors in terms of quality as well as the “hottest” professors and the top faculty members overall. Out of more than 6,500 schools listed on RateMyProfessors.com, FIU rated No. 6 in the top faculty category in 2008.

“The professors at FIU are all accessible,” said Ariel Rodriguez, a sophomore majoring in English and political science. “Based on student-generated professor ratings, the Web site allows students to rate professors based on their average rating from highest to lowest. When compiling this list, the Web site also made sure that by the end of the year, the so-called ‘hottest’ professors and don’t try to do what is best for their students. Some professors don’t even make themselves accessible,” said Ariel Rodriguez, a sophomore majoring in business administration.

For some instructors at FIU, these high rankings were far from shocking. “It doesn’t surprise me,” said Mariela Campuzano, an adjunct instructor and coordinator for the center for leadership and service. “We have a very diverse group of instructors. When I was an under- grad, I had some really good professors so I stuck around for my master’s. It was a really good experience,” Campuzano said.

In order to come up with the ranking, the Web site only used schools that had at least 30 professors rated. According to RateMy-Professors.com, all professors were verified as actively teaching in the current semester by each school at the time the lists were compiled. From the ones that had 30 or more rated professors, they took the average of all the professors that had at least 30 ratings. They then ranked the schools based on their average rating from highest to lowest. When compiling this list, the Web site also made sure that school size and number of ratings.

Although it appears thatRate-
Forgetful elephant star of game

ASHLYN TOLEDO
Staff Writer

As most of us know all too well, an elephant never forgets — well, almost never.

From developer Armor Games and programmer jmtb02, the same guys behind Grid 16 and Four Second Frenzy, comes This Is The Only Level: Adventures in Singularity, a free, online flash game that shows us what happens when one tiny, blue, forgetful elephant forgets every level of his game but the first.

It’s not an incredibly fresh level design. You’ve probably seen it all before.

The object here is to move the elephant from one side of the screen to the other while avoiding the spikes — or not.

There’s really no penalty for dying other than seeing your little elephant’s corpse on the screen for a while and watching the death counter climb, mockingly, in the lower right-hand corner of the computer screen.

Along the way you’ll (usually) need to press the “requisite” button in case your boss walks by your desk or the commercial break has just started. If you get stuck, there’s a panic button to reset the level.

But, for everyone with a sense of humor and a couple minutes to spare, you can find This Is the Only Level: Adventures in Singularity and Achievement Unlocked at armor games.com or at jmtb02.com under the games tab.

With 100 achievements up for grabs, there’s plenty here to distract you from the fact that this game isn’t really a game at all.

Don’t worry though, you’ll earn the first four just for starting the game. To get a sense of things, practically every time you touch your keyboard, you’ll be awarded another achievement.

Achievement Unlocked is a non-game that playful mocks a recent trend in gaming that has gamers everywhere obsessed with virtual trophies and gamer scores.

With 100 achievements up for grabs, there’s plenty here to distract you from the fact that this game isn’t really a game at all.

So, if spikes, buttons and a jumping elephant with a poor memory aren’t enough to get you to want to play these games then, well, don’t.

But, for everyone with a sense of humor and a couple minutes to spare, you can find This Is the Only Level: Adventures in Singularity and Achievement Unlocked at armor games.com or at jmtb02.com under the games tab.

Normally, you are asked to repeat the same level with a slightly different set of rules. The controls may be reversed. They may change altogether. You may be thrust into a powerful head-wind or find that gravity has suddenly turned against you.

There are hints at the bottom of the screen to guide you and a pause button in case your boss walks by your desk or the commercial break has just ended. If you get stuck, there’s a panic button to reset the level.

If you’re really taken by this little guy, you can check him out in his first game, Achievement Unlocked.

Alas, there is still just one level to play through but, in this case, your goal is simply to unlock every last achievement.

Don’t worry though, you’ll earn the first four just for starting the game. To get a sense of things, practically every time you touch your keyboard, you’ll be awarded another achievement.

Achievement Unlocked is a non-game that playful mocks a recent trend in gaming that has gamers everywhere obsessed with virtual trophies and gamer scores.

Every RA has moments when they realize the job is a lot more trying than it might seem: when we’ve spent more than 18 hours spread over two weeks painstakingly decorating our halls for our residents, only to have some drunkard rip them all down without a second thought.

Or even when those very same students we work so hard for inform us that we’re slackers out to get a free room and crash their parties.

At those times, the experience of being an RA can only be justified through our common love for our peers, our duty and, most importantly, our residents. It is that love that sustains us when we otherwise might lose our cool or become overwhelmed.

So the next time you see your RA, take a moment to consider all that they do, not for their sake, but for yours.

Students living in residence halls should realize what may sometimes seem bothersome or invasive is actually genuine concern, and that the appreciation we feel from our residents is what makes all of our efforts worthwhile.

A large chunk of what we do as RAs goes above and beyond the average work shifts.

In no way is being an RA a normal nine-to-five job. If it were, more than half of the time tracked would be considered overtime.

Apart from the long hours that come with being an RA, there are individual incidents that prove extremely frustrating.

Every RA has moments when they realize the job is a lot more trying than it might seem: when we’ve spent more than 18 hours spread over two weeks painstakingly decorating our halls for our residents, only to have some drunkard rip them all down without a second thought.

Or during 14 hour days of training that all resident assistants must attend for two weeks in order to be prepared to deal with any and every situation that may happen.

But, most importantly, there are times when our residents show us just what we’re working for.

With 100 achievements up for grabs, there’s plenty here to distract you from the fact that this game isn’t really a game at all.
Some other long-term goals the housing senators hope to accomplish include a digital bulletin board, an expanded recycling program and more awareness of SGA and RHA within the housing community.

“We hope in the next year to partner with Residential Life in improving events and areas within the housing quad and providing better information and communication between residents and on-campus events,” Rionda said.

The housing senators also aim to complete several other objectives. Some of these short-term goals include increased student attendance at sporting events, increased student activity at sports games, an RHA Web site and an improvement of basic housing facilities.

SGA expects that these improvements will help foster a greater sense of community for those living on campus. Both housing senators say they are determined to make students residing on campus feel at home and comfortable in the residence halls.

The benefits of living on campus are numerous, and many of them have little or nothing to do with SGA. Resident students enjoy access to computer labs, study groups and academic advising.

Each student has access to high speed Internet and cable TV in his or her room and campus police and residential staff are available 24 hours a day.

Due to their close proximity, housing students are able to easily attend sporting events, movies, concerts, SGA or club meetings and any events that may be happening on campus. With the help of Residential Life, SGA aims to make sure each housing student takes full advantage of all the opportunities offered.

Google looks to Web for storage

With Google’s development of the “Chrome” Web browser and rumors that it will serve as the primary interface for a future operating system, it looks like Google is taking steps to become something more than just a search engine, it wants to be a computer. But, I’m not sure this is the way to go.

Up until 2004, Google sought to make the end user experience for Windows and Mac better. With applications like Google Desktop, that seamlessly merged Web and local computer searches, Google did just that.

It was where Google shined; it was the No. 1 search engine on the Internet and its information services, like Google Maps and the satellite imaging program, Google Earth, made it the go-to source for information on the Web.

Google has single-handedly redefined computing. It has changed the way we use and explore the Internet. Just as it did then, Google is now seeking to redefine the way we use our computers by making a move toward “cloud computing.”

The idea of cloud computing has been around for a long time. It revolves around the notion of a computer accessing the Internet, or “the cloud,” for the bulk of its applications, computing power and storage. This has many phases: you can access the information from anywhere and you really don’t need a full computer to access it, a very inexpensive netbook would do.

But, with advantages come disadvantages. Cloud computing doesn’t allow the end user to physically keep their data.

So, any embarrassing pictures of that trip to Vegas will be stored on some distant server, controlled by someone else, rather than in a folder on your hard drive named “work stuff.”

Another factor is stability. Recently we saw a few cyber-terrorists launch denial of service attacks against Facebook and Twitter, bringing those services down for hours.

Similar attacks could prevent people from accessing their information as well.

And, if it’s information that is more important to you than your status updates and crops you have to cultivate on Farmville, that could be a problem.

Google has been slowly moving toward this idea in almost every facet of their business.

In July of this year, Google officially announced that Google Docs and GMail, its answer to Microsoft’s Office Suite, would be officially out of beta.

This was a big move that struck a fear in Microsoft and forced Apple to take iWork, its productivity software package, online as well. No doubt a move to show business users Google’s viability in that market.

I will concede to the fact that Google’s online programs are very successful, convenient and practical. So much so that recently I have grown to love Google Docs – I’m actually typing this very column on it right now.

But, it took me a long time to trust this whole idea of storing my information on the “cloud.” I still back everything up on a cloud optimized netbook it would never be what Google wants it to be.

Too many people, myself included, are too dependent on having everything in one place – particularly, one place we control.

More importantly, applications like Photoshop and Premiere will never jump to the cloud and, if you tried to run them only on a cloud optimized netbook it would explode with the force of a thousand suns.

People like power computing, they like hard drives and they especially like the information on those hard drives.

Though cloud computing is convenient, it is also limited. Google should stick to what it does best – making power computing and the Internet best friends.
No. 21 ranked Wildcats prove too much to close weekend

The set saw a number of tie scores, but the Golden Panthers pulled away late in the set to secure a 25-21 win with the second set going into the third set.

The third set proved to be all FIU as the team jumped to a 13-5 lead to start the set. West Carolina never got closer than six points after that; 2-0 lead going into the third set.

Senior Olga Vergun led the Golden Panther attack with a team-high 12 kills and Natalia Valentin led the team with 32 of the team’s 38 assists for the match.

FIU 3, NORTHWESTERN 2

The two teams fought back and forth, battling to several ties before the Wildcats pulled away for a 25-16 set victory and evening the match at 1-1.

The third set saw more of the same, and even though the Golden Panthers fought hard to counter, it wasn’t enough to stop the Wildcats from taking the third set 25-17, giving them a 2-1 match advantage.

The squad evened the match at 2-2 with a critical 25-22 fourth set victory, setting up the stage for a fifth and final set.

The Golden Panthers carried the momentum from their fourth set victory into the final set, never allowing the Wildcats to get the lead in the set before route to 15-11 fifth set win and a 3-2 match victory over Northwestern.

Isadora Rangel finished the match with a team-high 20 kills for the match. Natalia Valentin turned in another solid performance, leading the team with 6 blocks and 53 assists, both team-highs.

The Golden Panthers defense was entrenched in a pivotal set 25-17, giving them a 2-point lead going into the final set, never allowing the offense to minimal gains for most of the team’s third prepace scrimmage on Aug. 28.

The defense allowed only two scores, both of which occurred when the offense started inside the defenses’ 20-yard line.

It rebounded from a lackluster performance in the second scrimmage, in which they allowed 158 rushing yards.

Coach Mario Cristobal said the defense is going to have an advantage when third stringers play each other, but the first and second teams made strides.

“One and two’s defensively did real good stuff,” Cristobal said about his first and second team offense. “I think with threes naturally you’re going to have the defense be a little bit ahead. But I think ones and twos exchanged blows pretty well.”

The scores came from Kendall Berry, 11-yard run, and Treanard Turner on a one-yard push at the goal line.

Berry had five carries for 24 yards and Turner took five handoffs for 22 yards.

The longest passing play of the day was a 29-yard completion from Paul McCall to Elliot Dix. McCall threw for 15 yards but Wayne Younger led all quarterbacks with 50 yards and completed four of his five throws.

Besides those few plays, the defense was in control for most of the scrimmage.

Cody Pellicer had two sacks, and Armond Willis had 1.5 sacks for the defense.

GOLDEN PANTHERS FOOTBALL

Defense continues to make strides; new rule on helmet-to-helmet contact

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

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Aaron Davis intercepted a Chris Shrippa pass to end the scrimmage.

NEW RULE

The NCAA has placed a new rule in order to reduce helmet-to-helmet contact on tackles this season. A hit with those circumstances could result in suspension going forward. The Golden Panthers will have to adjust to the rule to avoid such punishments.

“You saw a couple of fantastic plays from our safeties,” Cristobal said. “I wouldn’t say fantastic because they still caught the ball. They are going to stay as aggressive as they always have been, just they have to drop your pad level a little bit more so that there is no helmet to helmet contact. It changes football dramatically but we have to continue to get better and follow the rules.”

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Aaron Davis intercepted a Chris Shrippa pass to end the scrimmage.
Rugby Club returns to campus, opens season on Sept. 26

SERGIO Bonilla
Sports Director

He coached a rugby team comprised of navy seals and green berets to compete in an international rugby tournament while stationed in the Philippines last August.

In a span of two weeks, U.S. Navy Public Affairs Officer Gabe Puello prepared military men with no prior experience playing rugby.

“They’ve got a lot of experience teaching guys from scratch,” Puello said. “In the military, all the guys I played are rookies – guys that never played before.”

Now, Puello hopes to do the same for the FIU Rugby Club as the team gets ready for its first game against the University of Florida’s club, Sept. 26.

Puello was the club’s founder in 1988, but he returned to coach the team three months ago while in active duty with the U.S. Navy. The club was inactive from 1991-2000. It returned in 2001 but was inactive in 2007. It became an official club through Recreational Services.

The school recognizes the club as active, but its members hope it can become an intramural sport through Intercollegiate Athletics and Under Recreational Services.

For now, the team will play anyone willing to face them. This semester they will play Florida Atlantic, South Florida, Miami and Florida.

HOPING TO TACKLE

Junior Jacques Rozier joined the team about three weeks ago. During a practice the team got a chance to work on tackling.

Rozier did not make the practice and could not be more upset.

“I was so mad because I wanted to get out there and start tackling and everything because that’s part of [the game],” he said.

Rozier is one of the smallest players on the team, and his friends give him a hard time about his small frame. When he tells them he is going to play for the club, he receives a general response.

“Why? You’re so little. I want to try it just to see what it is about,” Rozier said.

GOOD HIT

Senior Denis Tavita joined the team two years ago and has some fond game memories.

“During a tournament in Fort Myers Beach, the ball got by really high, I just laid one into his chest,” Tavita said of one of the biggest tackles he has ever administered while playing rugby.

Tavita also noted how different rugby is from American football. Forward passes are not allowed in rugby. Football defenders try to stop the offense from advancing the ball. In rugby, the ball changes possession following every tackle and no blocking is allowed.

Rugby teams also start 15 players while a football teams starts 22 on offense and defense.

This season, the FIU club will be playing games with two 40-minute halves and no substitutions.

This part of the reason Tavita describes the game as “non-stop.”

Puello also noted that there are many misconceptions that label rugby as a barbaric sport.

In his 26 years of playing, including tournaments on every continent except Antarctica, the worst injury he’s sustained is a dislocated finger.

Puello said the most dangerous position in rugby is the scrum.

This is when opposing players interlock heads to regain position of the ball after a penalty or out of bounds play.

“Me, as the coach, that is the most technical position that I’m going to coach,” Puello said of the scrum.

The 26-year veteran said the hits in rugby aren’t as dangerous because of the technique and nature of the hits. Players are taught to wrap their opponent rather than ramming opposing players with a shoulder shot.

“Obviously, if I don’t have pads and you don’t have pads, I’m not about to dive at you,” he said.

MEMBERS WANTED

This year’s squad has 20 members ready to tackle without padding, but Puello said the club needs more student members and organization to become part of the United States of America Rugby Football Union.

The team needs at least 25 members before joining the union.

If the team does join, it will be able to full play seasons against other universities and have a greater chance of becoming an FIU intramural sport.

While the club seeks more students other than club President Hector Gomez to organize the team, Puello expects his team to be prepared for a full game of body contact by Sept. 26.

“I’ve got a lot of beginnings,” he said. “I only need about two weeks to get them ready for tackling.”

ON THE ROAD, page 12

Volleyball’s postseason aspirations rest on building early season confidence

ON THE ROAD, page 12

hitter, felt the same way.

“We prepare for every game the same way. Every game is the most important game.”

OBSTACLES, OPPORTUNITIES

Coach Danijela Tomic sees the advantages to having a difficult road schedule that can help carry and strengthen the team.

“Our team matures faster than any team I’ve coached, felt the same way. We prepare for every game the same way. It helps the team. Good teams win on fans,” Tomic said. “It helps carry and strengthen the club as active, but its members hope it can become an intramural sport through Intercollegiate Athletics and Under Recreational Services.

For now, the team will play anyone willing to face them. This semester they will play Florida Atlantic, South Florida, Miami and Florida.

Running Wild: The rugby club, which practices in Tamiami Park, is looking to move on campus as an intramural sport.
VOLLEYBALL

Strong start: team takes two out of three

JOEL DELGADO
Contributing Writer

All-American Yarimar Rosa was out of the lineup with a strained thigh muscle, but the Golden Panthers volleyball team still managed to win two out of three games on the road.

The first two games were not a problem for the team, but No. 21 Kentucky overwhelmed the Golden Panthers who played without one of the top outside hitters in the nation.

Despite the two wins, Coach Daniella Tomic believed that there was room for improvement.

“We didn’t play well,” Tomic said. “We beat them, but I don’t think we played well. We have to be more consistent. We have our moments of brilliance and then we look so bad. Good teams, championship teams, cannot go up and down so much.”

FIU 3, WESTERN CAROLINA 0

The Golden Panthers (2-1) opened up their season with a three-set sweep over the Western Carolina Catamounts in the Kentucky Classic in Lexington.

The first set was a back-and-forth affair with the teams exchanging the lead before the Golden Panthers burst through with an 8-1 run to give them a 15-11 advantage.

Western Carolina would close the gap, but the Golden Panthers managed to get the better of the set as freshman Chanel Araujo capitalized on a service ace to end the first set with a 25-19 score and a 1-0 match lead for the Golden Panthers.

The Golden Panthers struggled to produce early in the second set as West Carolina took advantage to take a 4-0 lead.

That changed when junior Ines Medved, with an assist from junior Natalia Valentin, recorded the first kill of the set for the Golden Panthers and sparked a comeback for the team.

“Natalia is the engine of our team,” Tomic said. “She came up big in crucial times; she always steps up and delivers.”

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WOMEN’S SOCCER

Golden Panthers lose to Florida, tie Florida Gulf Coast

CHRIS GREEN
Staff Writer

Coming off their first season-opening win since 2001, the Golden Panthers women’s soccer team took to the field against No. 7 Florida and Florida Gulf Coast from Aug. 28-30.

While the offense failed to score a goal, the defense was able to hold both opponents to 155 scoreless minutes over two games.

UF 3, FIU 0

After defeating Stetson University 3-0 on the road, the Golden Panthers (1-1-1) faced the Gators on Aug. 28 in Gainesville.

“The first half, we played really well,” said senior Amy Jackson. “But in the second half, we just made a lot of mistakes and they capitalized.”

In the first half, the Golden Panthers outshot the Gators six to four and held the team to a scoreless half.

Gators goalkeeper Katie Fraine was able to keep Panthers Mayara da Fonseca Bordin, Marina Pappas, Deana Rossi, and Kaley Durrance from putting the Golden Panthers on the board.

However, the Gators came alive in the second half, scoring three times to seal the game.

“They worked hard throughout and at this part of the season, to perform that way I think speaks volumes,” said Coach Thomas Chestnutt to fiusports.com.

Gator Lindsay Thompson made her first goal of the season at the 61-minute mark, giving them a 1-0 lead.

Golden Panthers freshman goalie Kaitlyn Savage recorded seven saves against the Eagles.

“Our defense kept us in the game for sure,” said senior Marina Pappas, who lead the FIU offense with three shots on goal. Pappas, however, couldn’t find a reason as to why her shots never found the back of the net.

“I was aiming the ball appropriately. I was hitting the ball hard enough. I don’t know,” she said.

Chestnutt said the main reason his team wasn’t able to notch a victory over Gulf Coast was because they couldn’t take advantage of early opportunities.

“We had a lot of chances early on in this game,” Chestnutt said. “Again, that’s soccer. If you get early chances, you need to put one of them away, otherwise it could come back to haunt you.”

FIU goes on the road to Tampa to face South Florida on Sept. 4 and then faces Central Florida on Sept. 6.

Road games crucial early on

JOEL DELGADO
Contributing Writer

With another season underway, the Golden Panthers volleyball team is starting its 2009 campaign the same way it has the last three seasons: on the road.

The Golden Panthers have managed to get off to a fast start on their way to the conference championships in 2007 and the NCAA tournament in 2008.

Despite what appears to be a daunting road schedule to begin their season, which included a loss to No. 21 Kentucky, the team understands how important it is to get the season started right from the foot.

“We want to start strong and it’s really exciting to beat someone in their own house,” junior setter Natalia Valentin said. “If we started at home, it would be the same way. But since it’s the first tournament, we are more focused.

“When we start strong, we want to keep winning. We prepare to win every game.”

Ines Medved, a junior outside