OPINION

Ballen Bay exposures the realities and the price of trying to achieve instant fame.

SPORTS

Steve Mesa, Staff Writer

Students who live near the Pines Campus looking for something to do this weekend might want to head to the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival. The festivities of the 24th annual Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival (FLIFF) will commence tonight with the Southeast Premiere of TIMER, at the Miniaci Performing Arts Center at Nova Southeastern University. Starring Emma Caulfield (Buffy the Vampire Slayer), Jolek Williams (Poltergeist) and Desmond Harrington (Dexter), the movie is about a woman (Caulfield) who has a revolutionary biotechnological wrist implant and how she intends to meet her unknown soulmate with the help of this piece of hardware.

Each year, the FLIFF pays tribute to film talent and their achievements in the film industry. This year’s honorees will include actor Kevin McCarthy (Invasion of the Body Snatchers and cinematographer Mario Tosi (Carrie). Both of them will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award. Matthew Broderick (Ferris Bueller’s Day Off) will receive a Career Achievement Award. Matthew Broderick (Ferris Bueller’s Day Off) will receive a Career Achievement Award. Matthew Broderick (Ferris Bueller’s Day Off) will receive a Career Achievement Award. Matthew Broderick (Ferris Bueller’s Day Off) will receive a Career Achievement Award.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Miami City Ballet, Oct. 23, 8 p.m.

Watch a 30 minute documentary of Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy and the price of trying to achieve instant fame.

STUDENT Media.

More arrests during last home game

David Barrios, Staff Writer

Arrest numbers dropped significantly during last Saturday’s football game.

Three students were arrested during the Oct. 17 home game against Troy University, compared to 14 arrests on the first home game, according to FIU Public Safety.

All arrests were for underage drinking. Agents of the Florida Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco agency, who patrolled throughout the game and the tailgate that preceded it at FIU Stadium, made all the arrests.

No arrests were made by Public Safety.

According to the Athletics department, 10,142 students attended the game, in comparison to the 11,047 students who attended the last home game against Toledo University on Sept. 26.

During that game, 12 arrests were made for underage drinking while one arrest was made for juvenile drinking, or drinking under the age of 18. Public Safety also arrested one student who tried to enter the game without a ticket.

According to Public Safety, updated arrest numbers may be published by the Florida ART.

Underage drinking, on- or off-campus, violates the FIU Student Code of Conduct and state law.

Students charged will have to appear in court and comply with issued fines, community service or other designated punishments. They will also appear before the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution at FIU.

Lecture, page 2

Francisco Maradiaga, Staff Writer

Soledad O’Brien knows diversity.

As the daughter of an Afro-Cuban mother and Irish-Scottish Australian father, her own lineage is a melting pot of ethnicity and race.

The CNN special correspondent will come to FIU this coming Tuesday, Oct. 27 to speak about diversity.

The talk entitled: “Diversity: On TV. Behind the Scenes and in Our Lives,” will come on the heels of CNN releasing a new documentary “Latino In America,” in which O’Brien is lead reporter.

In the tie-in book Latino in America, which O’Brien co-wrote with Rose Marie Arce, she expresses her
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**LOCAL**

**Ft. Lauderdale commissioners to vote on 30- year FPL deal**

Fort Lauderdale City Commissioners prepared to take a final vote on a deal that would keep Florida Power and Light as the sole provider of electricity in the city for the next 30 years.

According to the Sun-Sentinel, those who opposed the deal filled City Hall to voice their concerns to the council and ask them to conduct more research into the matter.

Though commissioners had yet to vote on Oct. 20, the deal had won tentative approval back in September.

**Police investigating FMU security guard**

Florida Memorial University officials and the Miami Gardens Police Department are investigating an incident in which an FMU security guard pulled a gun on a student.

According to the Sun-Sentinel, a video tape taken by a student shows a security guard brandishing a firearm to a group of students while they stood outside a bathroom.

The security guard in question is on administrative leave while the investigation is still active.

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**NEWS FLASH**

**H1N1, page 1**

The vaccine, however, is surrounded by some fears and misconceptions.

“Some fears are justified, some are unfounded,” Loynaz said.

He noted that some people feel the vaccine was developed too quickly and is unsafe. However, he said the vaccine was developed from the current flu vaccine template. It has been tested and is safe.

A timetable for when the vaccine will arrive at FIU is still unclear.

Loynaz said that it all depends on when the county’s Health Department will deliver vaccines.

Certain logistical and liability issues are also being worked out.

Loynaz said that students, particularly those studying in the nursing field, have contacted UHS to help administer the vaccine to the University community.

While taking the survey, students who wish to volunteer in the distribution of the vaccine can submit their contact information.

He added that those who are not qualified for administering vaccines could also volunteer, as UHS needs personnel to help collect data and deliver vaccine shipments to different areas of campus.

All information collected from the survey will be confidential.

Recent studies published in Mexico and Canada suggest that the seasonal flu vaccine may have both positive and negative effects on H1N1.

However, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site, people who receive the seasonal flu vaccine are neither more nor less likely to contract H1N1.

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**TECH**

Barnes and Noble’s Nook prepares to compete with Amazon’s Kindle

Barnes and Noble announced the “Nook,” its entry into the electronic book reader market.

The device boasts two screens, one of which is an E-Ink screen and 2GB of memory and is 7.7 inches tall and 4 inches wide.

The Nook is also built with WiFi connectivity and can access AT&T’s 3G network to access an online library of over 1,000,000 books, newspapers and magazines.

It will go on sale in late November for $259 and will be a direct competitor to Amazon’s Kindle.

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**NEWS FLASH**

**LECTURE, page 1**

O’Brien to give free lecture on Oct. 27

The new documentary focusing on Hispanics in America is not the first time O’Brien has gone in-depth reporting on race, she also led the reporting for the CNN documentary “Black in America,” and its sequel.

The “Black in America” documentaries delved into assorted issues facing the African-American community, like education, relationships, AIDS and what it means to be black in America.

“I learned new things about the black community that I’d lived in and covered my entire life,” O’Brien wrote in her book.

O’Brien’s coverage has also included Hurricane Katrina, and the tsunami in Southeast Asia. She has received numerous awards in her career including a George Foster Peabody for her work with Hurricane Katrina and an Alfred I. DuPont Award for her coverage of the tsunami.

She is a graduate from Harvard where she majored in English and American literature.

“I think she will make a huge impact on FIU students,” said Christina Flores, lectures coordinator for the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus. “There has been a lot of positive buzz about Soledad and her appearance.”

SGC-MMC is sponsoring the lecture, which is free to all students.

According to Flores, the event cost $27,500.

The funds come from Activities and Services Fees which all students pay as part of their tuition. The lecture series has $76,150 of A&S funds allocated to bring in guests.

The lecture will be held at Green Library 100, starting at 5 p.m.

The venue was changed from the one circu-
ted on fliers to accommodate more people. The room holds a little over 300 people.

“We had many options for speakers,” Flores said. “However, Soledad’s diverse background, professionalism and knowledge were major deciding factors when choosing speakers.”

O’Brien is a veteran of the lecture circuit. She has spoken at other universities about journalism, diversity and her life.

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Comedians try to break stereotypes

LAURA DE LA FE
Contributing Writer

Like other students on campus, Gina Balthazar, a junior political science major, didn’t think that blacks and Jews had anything in common.

“I thought that black people would just look at Jews as just another type of white person,” she said.

Balthazar was one of about 50 students that filled the Mary Ann Wolffe Theatre at noon on Oct. 20 to watch the “Black Jew Dialogues” during “Diversity Day.”

“Enjoyed it a lot,” she said. “It makes your own eyes open to see how people view each other.”

The “Black Jew Dialogues” was created by actors Larry Jay Tish, who is Jewish, and Ron Jones, who is black, about three years ago as a funny way to start discussions about racism and prejudice. The award-winning duo has performed throughout the country and Europe. Their show features improvisations, prop comedy, humor and sketches to tell a story that starts hundreds of years ago in Egypt and ends in present-day America.

During their show at the University, they compared what it feels like to be a Jew in America versus being black.

“Be prepared to answer a question with a question, and to think that you live in your life — everything you did, should’ve done, and what your mother said you should’ve done is just to do it,” Jones told Jones during their skit.

Jones used various props, such as a ball and chain, a toy gun and an afro to respond to the question about Israel.

“Imagine that the very sight of you draws up negative images of who you are and what you’re capable of,” he said.

The actors also brought out puppets to show their feelings. Jones took his puppet and made him swing up as a representation of how he feels everyday the black community has an achievement in civil rights. He later let it drop as a symbol of how society’s prejudice puts him down. One of the skits also went back to Tish’s bar mitzvah, where he described how he was considered a man at 13. Jones said his manhood was very different.

“My mother said I’d be a man when I turn 18, get a job and move out of the house,” he said.

The pair also created a new term for an old concept: fearoetypes, which refers to how fear motivates people to come up with specific stereotypes.

“Courage is a key aspect to fight racism,” Tish said. “If human beings were invisible, we’d still find a reason to hate each other.”

At the end of the skits, Tish and Jones accepted one another, saying “I got your back” while linking one another.

“The reason we’re together is to make what happened in history happen everywhere,” Jones said. “The problem with conversations about this is that people are too afraid of offending someone, so they don’t say anything at all.”

ASHLEY SALAMANCA
Contributing Writer

Jeanette, who decided to not disclose her last name to protect her family, is the mother of a 9-year-old girl named Jamie. The fourth grader was born a boy.

“She wanted the good fairy to come with her magic wand and change her body into a body that resembled her sister,” she said. Jeanette, who was part of the panel at the Transgender Forum on Oct. 20 at Biscayne Bay Campus, praised “Diversity Day.”

She told students her story; one of her three children was born a boy, but never felt like one.

“She said my femininity first became noticeable when she was 15 months old, when she showed interest to feminine colors like pastels and pink, and insisted on being called a “good girl” rather than a “good boy,” Jeanette said.

“She knew,” Jeanette said. “She’s always known.”

Mariela Quintanilla, Delia and Lariann Garner said. “I was 14 when it happened,” Dumas said, referring to the Iranian students who were taken hostage during the Iranian hostage crisis.

As she shared stories about her family and life, she had the audience laughing out loud, even when the mood turned serious when she began describing life in America during the Iranian hostage crisis.

“I was 14 when it happened,” Dumas said, referring to the Iranian students who took 53 Americans hostage in 1979. “People hated Iran, and didn’t know about it.”

She also told the audience that one day, she had a refrigerator repairman come to her house when she was living in California with a bumper sticker on his car that read: “Wanted: Iranians for target practice.”

“She would just look at Jews as just a name,” Jeanette said.

“I think my story is easy to relate with, no matter what your background,” Dumas said.

Dumas hopes that her stories serve to “humanize Iranians and show people you don’t have to fear Iranians.”

“Who would buy a hateful bumper sticker?” she said.

Dumas author recounts her coming to the U.S. as a teen

LAURA DE LA FE
Contributing Writer

When Firoozeh Dumas first approached an agent with her idea of a humorous book about her experiences as an Iranian immigrant in the United States, she was given a flat-out no.

“The agent told her no one would buy a book about a Middle Eastern woman who wasn’t oppressed.”

Dumas, an Iranian native who lives in California, playfully told students on Oct. 20 in a presentation celebrating “Diversity Day” at the Biscayne Bay Campus that she was determined to do it.

“When you’re from my part of the world — Northern California — you believe in destiny.”

“So with that one “no,” Dumas wrote the Los Angeles Times and San Francisco Chronicle best-selling memoir, Fanny in Farsi. She later wrote Laughing Without an Accent.

During her four-hour long lecture in the Mary Ann Wolffe Theatre, she shared some of the stories from her first book with an audience of about 50 students and teachers.

“She was funny,” said Fabiana Ferrer, a freshman hospitality management major. “I wish we could’ve talked longer.”

Ferrer, along with other students taking the freshman experience class this year, read Fanny in Farsi as an assignment.

“I liked the book. My dad is just like hers when he came to America,” she said. Ferrer, whose father was full of optimism when he moved from Argentina.

“Fanny in Farsi is about Dumas’ journey to America from Adadon, on Iran’s eastern border, and her struggles to adjust to a new culture as a 7-year-old.”

In her book, she tells readers how she changed her name to fit in with her American friends, and how she didn’t bathe for two weeks when she was in summer camp because she wasn’t comfortable with the lack of shower curtains in the restroom.

Freshman Dominic Gale related to Dumas’ story of social adjustment.

“I’m from Jamaica, and when I came here, I found it hard to fit in,” Gale said.

Gale recently came to this country from Jamaica, and he said the hardest part of the experience was speaking with a heavy accent.

“The book got me to slowly accept it,” he said.

Dumas said the main message in her book is that the human experience is the same, and she wanted to share that thought with those who come to hear her speak.

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Balloon boy’ hoax a despicable act
Stunt taken to new heights

IRIS A. FEBRES
Opinion Editor

Balloon boy” in Colorado who apparently soared up into the sky, shocking parents. Recently a joyride gone wrong in America watched as authorities tracked the balloon down, only to find the child empty.

As search parties were sent to find the child, we feared the worst.

Hours later, CNN announced the boy’s hiding in the attic of his home. Falcon “Balloon Boy” Heene was safe and sound.

But instead of grateful signs of relief, viewers were outraged.

Perhaps no one understands this more than Gov. Jon Corzine of New Jersey. At a whistle stop (170 without his beard), Corzine has seized upon can’s girth in television ads while using phrases like, “Christ likes to throw his weight around.”

Some might call this a juvenile attempt by Corzine to pull ahead of his opponent in the polls, who has led him for much of the summer.

Yet the ads, some of which also include frivolous and appalling attacks on Christie for his support of the insurance industry, raise a number of deep, philosophical questions.

What kind of an example would Gov. Christie set for the children? As it is, many of the television characters targeted at children are overweight, from Barney to Cookie Monster.

What would happen if that long admired and sought-after post – governor of New Jersey – were to fall into the hands of a fat man?

Of course, the menace of chubby babies extends far beyond the Garden State. Even in Florida, a state known for its large elderly population, infants are nearly ubiquitous, congregating in day care centers and with the millions of contributions insurance companies are currently giving to Congress, we can...
Video game convention hits Miami

INFINITE BITS, page 1

people won’t even know existed.

Cutler said he’s hoping to attract gamers of all types — from hardcore gamers, to retro gamers who have put their gaming life on pause and even casual gamers.

“We wanted to take great care of this event because we’re gamers,” said Marlene Monzo, vice president of Infinite Bits. “We have an idea, as gamers, of what we would like to see at a show.”

For those who don’t want to shop or partake in tournaments, the convention will also be a host for Twin Cuba Libres and music video producers. I’m sitting outside of Spris, a trendy pizza restaurant located on 731 Lincoln Rd., while enjoying my beer and pizza vegetariana with my female companion. I set down my beer and notice a chubby little girl standing at our table with a crumpled envelope and rehearsed pitch:

“Do you want to make a donation to the Boys and Girls Club of America?” she says.

“Umm, sure. I have, like, two extra dollars. Is that enough or is there a minimum?”

“Any little bit helps,” she says to me with a shrug, almost in a way that makes me believe that she is just repeating what she’s been told in spite of her own growing cynicism. I smile and just give her the $5 bill instead.

“That’s a great answer,” I tell her while reaching for my wallet. “You’re a smart girl. Do well in school, OK?”

“Thank you,” she says.

But it’s not just about the food and the drinks and the music. It’s about the community that is created at these events. It’s about the shared experience of enjoying something together.

The bartenders know their beers, and the quality of this bar has stayed strong. Hike (beers used to be $3), the spirit and in film.

There was one element missing: purpose. Any movie requires a purpose with plot and defined, interesting characters that fuel the road from point A to point B in the story and who keep you emotionally invested. Purpose isn’t just for soft movies like Citizen Kane or Doubt. Take a great action film like The Dark Knight or Die Hard. You’ve not only got great stories with a sense of immediacy about them, you’ve also got characters; Bruce Wayne, John McClane, Hans Gruber or The Joker. They all have motivations and it draws you further into the film.

As I walked out of this great, big, bustling behemoth of a film, I felt nothing.

The plot was a mess.

About two years after the end of the first Transformers film, Sam Witwicky (LaBeouf) is off to college, still with his girlfriend Mikaela (Fox), the “hot” girl who wouldn’t give him the time of day during the first film but then fell in love with the awkward teen after he managed to save her life and the world in the process.

Mikaela can’t afford college, so she stays in their hometown to work at her father’s auto-repair shop.

Mid-quarter, Witwicky has a mental breakdown as he starts writing in Cybertronian language uncontrollably. Calling on her, Witwicky has once again become the target of the evil Decepticons, led by Megatron, who are seeking to revive their leader, The Fallen.

So they run around the world, fight on top of mountains and in the city, while reaching for their picture.

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Career Achievement Award and Michelle Monaghan (Eagle Eye) will receive the Star on the Horizon Award. On Oct. 24, Monaghan will attend her new film, Trucker, where she plays a woman trucker whose life changes when her estranged 11-year-old son shows up on her doorstep.

On the same evening, actor Michael Jai White (Spawn) and director Scott Sanders will attend the screening of Black Dynamic, a spoof of the blaxploitation films of the 1970s, wherein White is an action legend who is looking to exact his revenge on the man that killed his brother.

On Oct. 25 you can see Lessons from South Africa, the documentary on HIV/AIDS developed by FIU associate dean and associate professor of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Allan Richards, Richards appreciates that the film is being screened at the festival.

“I’m very grateful . . . . It’s an important message,” Richards said.

He encouraged students to see the film and spread the word about the dangers and prevalence of AIDS in Miami, which ranks third among U.S. cities in infection rate.

On Oct. 29, Frank Vincent and Valentino Narcissi, stars from “The Sopranos,” actor Mike Starr (Dumb and Dumber) and director Brian Caunter will be in attendance for the screening of Chicago Overcoat, an organized-crime drama about an aging hit man and a washed-up detective who are looking to settle an old score.

On Nov. 1, Broderick will attend the premiere of his movie, the ironically titled Wonderful World, which is about a proof-reader who is a deadbeat father addicted to marijuana, and who is also the most negative man alive.

Throughout the festival, there will be receptions and parties where guests will get to a chance to meet filmmakers and actors.

Some of the parties include the Black Dynamic party at Bova Prime on Las Olas and a Chicago Overcoat pre-party at Carrabas’ Italian Grill and post-screening party at The W. Aside from the opening night screening, all screening will be held at Cinema Paradiso, 503 SE 6 Street in downtown Fort Lauderdale.

Tickets are available to purchase now through the Web site, www.FLIFF.com. You can also call 954-525-3456. Additional reporting by Chris Cabral.

Come by our booth and enjoy FREE PIZZA and a chance to win a NINTENDO Wii!

When: Tuesday, October 27th & Wednesday, October 28th

11:00am – 2:00pm

Where: Graham Student Center

If you come by the booth, you will have a chance to enter to win a free Nintendo Wii! The winner will be announced at an Army Officer Panel Discussion on October 28th and you have to be present to win! Please visit请问 Link for more information on becoming an Officer in the United States Army.

‘Transformers’ not worth watching

TRANSFORMERS, page 5

awkward “nerd” who wins the girl and learns a little something about himself during the first film and doesn’t do anything during the second film. Mikaela is the girl that used to be the “bad” girl but learned to be “good” in the second film. Sam’s parents (Kevin Dunn and Julie White) are “stupid” and “quirky” but “loving.” These are not characters, but stereotypes, written out of laziness. There is not one sincere emotion or idea or concept about plot throughout the entire film. Americans hack auteurs, Director Michael Bay has managed filmmakers to do able to do before: create a brand name. You know a Michael Bay movie when you see one just like you know a Hitchcock movie or Peckinpah work: slow motion, large explosions, American cars, beautiful women sweating in slow motion, even larger explosions.

Consistently, Michael Bay’s movies since 1995’s Bad Boys have become larger. Look at The Rock, Armageddon, Pearl Harbor and Bad Boys II. They have certainly not gotten better.

Call me a snob, but I won’t be recommending this week’s movie.

“Is It Worth It?” is a weekly feature rating the relative quality of films screened by SPC. ‘Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen’ will be showing in GC 140 at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Festival to screen new films

FESTIVAL, page 1

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2009

“WHY THE DALAI LAMA MATTERS” LECTURE

Dr. Robert Thurman, professor of Tibetian Buddhist Studies, lecture

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: The Wertheim Performing Arts

SET TO MANUAL EXHIBITION

Exhibitions open are diverse media

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: gall Cab

MIAMI CITY BALLET

Enjoy the Ballet at the Opera House tonight!

WHERE: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $59.169
WHERE: Doral Ball Opera House

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2009

TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN

FilM MARATHON

Preview films/documentaries about contemporary artist.

WHERE: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: The Frost Art Museum

TAT’S ANNUAL HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

Acoustic and electric music, plus, an acoustic night.

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $15
WHERE: The Azimor

MICAS’S BIG BANG

Enjoy a gala fundraiser with live music, art, dancing and an open bar!

WHERE: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $30
WHERE: Miam Science Museum

HOME MOVIE DAY 09

A celebration of from 16mm home movies and amateur film.

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Tower Theatre

STRYPER

Catch a show by this heavy metal band!

WHERE: 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $22
WHERE: Culture Room

LESSONS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Watch a short documentary created by Allan Richards, the associate dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. The documentary focuses on the AIDS crisis and how people can help.

WHERE: 11:45 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Cinema Paradiso

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009

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HOW MUCH: $15-154
WHERE: Adrienne Arsht Center

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WHERE: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: The Castle Lounge

ACOUSTIC NIGHT

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WHERE: 9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: John Martin’s Pub

Compiled by Mariana Ochoa. Get an event you want featured? Send an e-mail to mariana.ochoa@flaun.com.
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BIANCA L. BEACON PHOTO

Golden Panthers face Red Wolves after last season’s 1-point win

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

FIU quarterback Paul McCall wanted to make an adjustment.

So before the Golden Panthers’ (1-5, 1-2 Sun Belt) fourth game in conference play at Arkansas State (1-4, 0-2) on Oct. 24, McCall changed his appearance. The senior let go of most of his hair, and cut it in favor of a mohawk style.

“We needed a little change around here. I thought it was adequate for the game at hand; it’s a little more serious,” McCall said. “You don’t want to use a cliche, but this is definitely a make-or-break game for us.”

McCall is among the Sun Belt Conference leaders in efficiency (.120), passing yards (1,461), and touchdowns (11). While wide receiver T.Y. Hilton and Greg Ellington are both in line to have their best seasons as well. But McCall has done most of his damage while facing constant pressure, and the Golden Panthers are near the bottom of the conference in sacks allowed.

Protecting McCall, who was sacked six times in the loss to Troy on Oct. 17, will be especially important when Preseason Sun Belt Conference Defensive Player of the Year Alex Carrington takes aim at FIU’s signal caller.

The Red Wolves’ defense is first in the SBC in scoring and total defense, led by an imposing defensive front. The Golden Panthers defeated The Red Wolves by one point last season on a late touchdown pass from Hilton to Junior Mertile, a memorable play that kept FIU in SBC contention late last season.

MORE MACK

Last week, Golden Panthers coach Mario Cristobal had to take McCall out for a series in favor of backup Wayne Younger after a Troy defender pummeled him.

“We have to make sure that when guys are going to come free, we put our quarterback in a good situation where we could get rid of the ball,” Cristobal said. “Or we have to have someone in there to block someone that’s coming.”

On an offensive line that has already seen significant shuffling since the season started, Cristobal said that junior guard Cedric Mack will see more playing time. Mack, who was part of the Golden Panthers 2008 signing class but was not cleared to play by the NCAA last season, is a former three-star prospect, according to rivals.com.

“He’s come on strong these last few games,” McCall said. “I saw him in the Western Kentucky game and this last game vs. Troy, and he was bouncing around and screaming at people. When other guys aren’t performing we need to have that depth to be able to have guys step up.”

While Mack and the Golden Panthers offensive line look to keep McCall on his feet, the defense has held opponents to four goals in the last four games.

“We need a little change around here. You don’t want to use a cliche, but this is definitely a make-or-break game for us.”

Paul McCall, Quarterback

WOMEN’S SOCCER VS. UALR 7 P.M., VS. ASU 1 P.M.

CRISIS GREEN
Staff Writer

History could be made on Oct. 23 as the Golden Panthers’ women’s soccer team looks to set a new school record for most conference wins in one season vs. the University of Arkansas-Little Rock at home.

FIU tied the current mark of six vs. Troy and South Alabama to extend the team’s seven-game undefeated streak. Heading into the final three games of the season, Coach Thomas Chestnutt hopes the hard work from the entire season will pay dividends at the season’s finish.

“We had a plan coming into this season,” said Chestnutt. “We still have things that we are working on as we go into the final section of the season.”

The three-game homestand, which starts with a conference matchup with UALR on Oct. 23, marks the end of a major turnaround from 2008. Going wireless until the final six games of the season, the Golden Panthers looked dismal after an extremely slow start but ended the season on a high note.

Now, nearing the end of the season, the Golden Panthers are riding a four-game winning streak and currently sit third in the Sun Belt Conference standings.

The only two teams ahead of FIU are Western Kentucky and North Texas.

FIU gave WKU its only Sun Belt Conference loss, and is the only conference team to not lose against UNT.

For seniors Marina Pappas and Amy Jackson, finishing the rest of the year with the wins would be a perfect ending to a turnaround season.

“We have worked really hard,” said Pappas. “It’s good to see us winning again.”

For Jackson, the current focus is still on individual games with three to go.

“We have to take it one match at a time,” said Jackson. “The conference tournament is one game at a time, so it’s the same mentality as we are in right now.”

If FIU wins at least one of their final three games it would be the single greatest conference record turnaround in school history for the team.