Transit laboratory gets grant

The funds will link FIU with Miami airport via ‘greenway’

Elyse Coleman
Contribution Writer

A three-year partnership between the Lehman Center for Transportation Research, located at the Engineering Center, and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority will provide the University’s Engineering center with up to $500,000 in funds for transit research.

Dr. Fang Zhao, the acting chair of the civil and environmental engineering department, said professor Thomas Gustafson and the MDX are planning an advanced bus rapid transit system with a minimum 10 mile route projected between FIU and Miami International Airport.

“Tom has worked with the Lehman Center to study the feasibility of combining advanced transit-oriented development with high quality transit service,” she said.

Alfred Lurigio, director of engineering for MDX and an FIU alumnus, said he sees the partnership as a way for MDX to think outside the box to deliver projects.

“I think reaching out to a local state university bridges that gap by getting grad students involved,” he said. “Once studies develop, we’re curious to see where this goes.”

The projected initial minimum sustainable segment is planned to run between the Gold and Blue

Traffic Lab, page 2

Rush Hour: The Lehman Center for Transportation Research opened its Intelligent Transportation System Laboratory in May. It includes a video wall displaying traffic in real time. It became a congressionally designated University Transportation Center earlier this month.

Motion aims to bring back marching band

Francisco Maradiaga
Maureen Nino
Beacon Staff

The Student Government University Wide Council decided to bring back a marching band to the University, discussed ways to save student money and addressed a resolution passed by the senate in the Modesto Maidique Campus calling for a restoration of student government.

The UWC, comprised of both campuses’ student governments, met on Oct. 23 at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

According to Rionda, the previous marching band also had military inspired uniforms that were in need of a style update.

“Corps style marching bands march in a forward direction in a straight line and perform music in a constant tempo. According to Rionda, the previous marching band also had military inspired uniforms that were in need of a style update.

“What we have to do now is think outside of the box, we can’t go back to what we had,” he said.

SGA members also reviewed the spending of student money.

After reviewing the accumulated cash balance, which are the funds remaining from SGA accounts from previous years, Rionda estimated it is about $4 million. These funds are used for emergencies and student banners.

Rionda questioned why SGA spends $450,000 annually to operate the Aquatic Center at BBC after $1 million was spent from the accumulated cash balance to renovate it last semester.

Rionda recommended that the revenue accumulated from community membership fees be used and distributed into funding pool operations.

What Should be completely funded is the entire operation of a pool that’s used for athletic events? Should we be funding the entire operation of a pool that is used by the community? No,” Rionda said. “The students pay for everything. If the students don’t use it, we shouldn’t fund it.”

Community members who wish to use the recreational facilities pay for an annual membership plan ranging from $250 for basic membership to $340 for platinum, which includes full locker and towel service.

Neistein agreed with Rionda, saying the revenue generated from non-students using the pool should be used toward the pool facilities and its operations.

Efforts to save money can help allocate funding to necessary aspects of the University, Rionda said, which can eventually lead to more student enrollment.

“We lose vital services that we want our students to have and when we’re recruiting students they come down here and see the student union and they don’t see a blue ray theater, or ball rooms with the newest carpet or facilities that are a little outdated,” Rionda said. “Then they’re going to go to the next school.”

From this year’s $600,000 SGA budget, $300,000 were spent on reconstructing the University’s buildings.

Despite these renovations, Rionda said he fears that when trying to renovate buildings that are 30 to 40 years old, competition with new lavish build-ings makes it difficult.

“If our academics are the same level as any other university in the state, then the choice comes down minimally,” he said.

To save money and put it into good use for students, Rionda suggested ideas that can benefit both the budget and the students.

“This is where we can say, ‘Let’s put less people on duty and instead of hiring full time professionals, let’s give our students jobs,’” Rionda said during the meeting.

The UWC also discussed the resolution that the MMC senate passed
Harvard researchers accidentally poisoned

Six Harvard researchers were poisoned after drinking coffee tainted with a lab chemical.

According to The New York Times, an internal memo from the Ivy League University released on Oct. 25 pointed to a coffee machine near the researchers’ lab as the source of the tainted coffee, which contained sodium azide, a common laboratory preservative.

As a result of the tainted coffee, six researchers began showing symptoms such as dizziness and a ringing in their ears.

The researchers all worked for the Harvard Medical School’s pathology department and were using mice to test how diseases interface with the immune system.

NASA to test launch world’s tallest rocket

NASA will be conducting a test flight of the Ares I-X, the world’s tallest rocket on Oct. 27.

Until recently, the rocket has been in its development stages. Its ultimate goal is to replace the aging space shuttle as the main mode of transportation for astronauts.

According to National Public Radio, the test launch of the 327 feet tall rocket will cost the space program $445 million. It is scheduled for launch at 8 a.m. EDT and has a four-hour window of launch.

INTERNATIONAL

Car bombs leave 160 dead in Baghdad

Thirty children are among the 160 people dead as a result of a series of car bomb blasts in Baghdad.

The bombs were positioned inside two cars and were detonated in unison at 10:30 a.m. local time. According to CNN, the Oct. 25 attacks were the deadliest the city has seen in over two years, injuring 540 people, among them three U.S. security contractors.

Gustafson said the $150,000 research facility currently employs seven actively engaged scientists and engineers and at least 100 student researchers. It’s most commonly used for basic research and teaching.

“Reach out to a local state university bridges that gap by getting grad students involved. We’re curious to see where this goes,” said Leslie Peredes, a senior mechanical engineering student.

Gustafson said the test greenways and vehicles would be conceptually similar to decongest the Dolphin Expressway, currently under way. Each task could take three to four months or up to one year to implement.

The first would be to define the work we do to initially receive, in a broad fashion, the project and all its components,” he said. “The second task would be to put additional planning details in place to ensure we can begin to estimate the costs that would be associated and the third task would be to complete the costing and refining of the project.”

The LCTR opened its Intelligent Transportation System Laboratory in May, which includes a video wall displaying traffic on Florida Department of Transportation roadways in real time, and became a congressionally designated Transportation Engineering Center earlier this month.

Gustafson said the $150,000 research facility currently employs seven actively engaged scientists and engineers to improve a vehicle for the proposed test greenways. He’s putting students into teams to decide how to work on design problems and build a prototype to be tested by the Industrial Advisory Board.

“We’re concentrating on building a project structure for a trolley and most likely concentrating on a specific area,” said Leslie Peredes, a senior mechanical engineering student. “The project is pretty big.”

STRETCH

YOGA: Graduate student Elena Amato, religious studies major, poses in the ‘Upward Bow’ position during Target Wednesday After Hours at the Frost Art Museum. The Yoga Club holds free yoga lessons Tuesdays at 8 a.m. for beginners and an intermediate course Thursdays at 8 a.m.
Center to focus on FIU tradition

Arthur "AJ" Meyer, the Coordinator of Building Development Alumni Association, who graduated in 2006. "For students, it’s to connect them with our alumni of kind to prepare them so they know what to expect after they graduate." In order to reach out to the younger alumni demographic, the organization created a subgroup called Young Urban Professional Alumni that targets those as "the tradition keeper" within the University since they are responsible for annual events such as the Trail of the Torch, which has recently brought together more than 1,000 students to kick off the Fall term. "This year SAA got a lot of phone calls because the theme for Homecoming happens to be ‘Keeping the Tradition Alive’, so everyone wanted to know ‘What’s the deal behind the Ghost tours?’" and ‘How did the kissing bridge and the Valentine’s tradition get started?’" said Assistant Director of Student and Campus Outreach Programs Dianne Cordova, who graduated in 2006 and is now finishing her master’s degree at FIU.

With the Alumni Center becoming a reality, FIUAA seeks to create a space where all of its events and programs can come together under one roof.

Former professor, admired reporter passes away at 52

Jorge Valens, Asst. News Director

Former FIU journalism professor Mike McQueen has died. McQueen most recently served as The Associated Press Louisiana and Mississippi Bureau Chief. McQueen passed away on Oct. 25 from complications with cancer and congestive heart failure, according to the AP. He was 52 years old.

According to the AP, McQueen had 30 years of experience in journalism and was a part of two Pulitzer Prize Winning news teams.

During the late 1990s, McQueen was the chair of the University’s School of Journalism and Mass Communications. "He was a wonderful teacher," said Lilian Lodge Kopenhaver, dean of SJMC, in an interview with Student Media.

Kopenhaver said that he was a “tough editor” and had “a love for journalism."

He began as a journalist in 1977 with the Tallahassee Democrat. Since then, McQueen served two terms with the AP, which he joined in 1980 as a reporter and editor. He then moved on to The Miami Herald in 1984, where he rose to become an assistant city editor.

"He was just a fabulous journalist and had an unbelievable capacity for work and loved the craft," said Rick Hirsch, The Miami Herald’s senior editor for multimedia in an interview with The Miami Herald.

McQueen is survived by his wife Glenda, his son Otto, his brother Christoph and his sister, Nicole.

We’re taking our vision and what we want to see in the Alumni Center ... [like] ballrooms, meeting rooms, conference rooms, history of the University...

Arthur "AJ" Meyer, Coordinator of Building Development Alumni Association

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Marketing director elected for remainder of the year

Student clubs representatives and SOC e-board cast in their votes

MELODY REGALADO
Staff Writer

Student Organizations Council members elected their new marketing director for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year after the former director resigned Oct. 5.

Orane Carney, a senior advertising major, was elected marketing director in a meeting on Oct. 26 in the Wolfe University Center Room 159. The newly-elected marketing director said he’s been very involved in on-campus activities and is always around and easily accessible.

“I love promotions and marketing, and I try to pitch in everywhere I can,” he said. “You tell me what you need, and I’ll be your provider.”

Carney also works as building manager of WUC at the Biscayne Bay Campus and is a member of On Point Poetry, a student club under SOC.

Graduate student Mary Humphrey was the SOC marketing director since April 2009, but she officially resigned Oct. 5. Didier Georges, SOC president, said her reason for leaving was far too personal for him to elaborate on, but that her decision was mostly based on a tight agenda, according to an article published in The Beacon on Oct. 19.

“Somewhere along the lines of too much to do is probably a reason she had to step down,” he said to The Beacon.

In his new role, Carney will maintain the SOC display case, serve as liaison between SOC and The Beacon, report the events and meetings held by student organizations, and develop marketing materials to enhance student interest in SOC memberships and attendance at events, among other duties, according to the application package to the position.

“We were looking for someone who knows Photoshop, is flexible, and knows what the students want,” said Patricia Martinez, SOC vice president.

There were four applicants to the position, but only two candidates showed up to the meeting to make their speeches. Carney and Charlène Boscard, a junior in business management with a minor in marketing, were the only candidates present.

Mychal Milian, a junior in hospitality and tourism management, and Ksenia Shinkaryuk, a finance major, according to their applications, did not attend the meeting, but SOC board members read their applications out loud to club members present and reached Milian by phone for questions.

Shinkaryuk turned in her application, but was never reached afterward despite several attempts by SOC, according to Georges.

Each candidate brought different experiences and knowledge to the table. They had two minutes to present themselves, followed by a question-answer session by SOC members.

After discussing the pros and cons of each candidate, Georges reminded SOC members and club representatives to put personal opinions aside and vote for whom they thought could best represent SOC and fulfill the responsibilities.

Some of the clubs represented at the meeting were The Science Club, On Point Poetry, The Jewish College Learning Exchange, Public Relations Student Society of America, and Invitational Scholars Club.

Each club counted as one vote. Out of eight total votes, Carney received six.

“I think he won because he is extremely knowledgeable in Photoshop and even brought in a sample of his work,” Georges said. “He was also very memorable because of his charisma and how he portrayed himself."

He added that he was confident with the decision the students made and looks forward to working with Carney.

“This campus is his home,” said Ana Perez, a sophomore journalism major. “He knows the students and how to work with them. His passion and talent make him a perfect fit for the position.”

HALLOWEEN AT BAY VISTA HOUSING

Jade-Carman

Students can carve their own pumpkin in the community room at Bay Vista Housing at 7 p.m. on Oct. 29. Students will receive free snacks, drinks and a pumpkin to carve. Because of carving instruments and the pumpkin will be provided for free, the event will be on a first-name basis. All students are welcome.

Students from the David Lawrence Jr. K-8 Center will come to campus for some trick-or-treating at 7 p.m. Oct. 31. Students are encouraged to participate in the candy giveaway. A haunted house will also be set up, its exact location is yet to be announced, but students can also sign up to participate.

For more information, e-mail ffond001@fiu.edu.
Members pass resolution to bring back marching band

UWC, page 1

calling for the restructure of SGA to achieve better unity.

The resolution, a non-binding statement by the senate, gives examples of how to restructure SGA such as a one-president structure or totally independent student governments. It does not endorse a particular method.

Some in SGC-BBC feel the resolution is a veiled attack on the student government at BBC.

Neistein called the resolution “unequivocally threatening” to the BBC government in a previews interview with Student Media.

Rionda vetoed the restructuring resolution during the last SGC-MMC cabinet meeting on Oct. 21.

The resolution passed with a margin of 20 for and six against, the original vote had enough votes to override the veto (two-thirds of the senate).

During the UWC meeting, Rionda ripped up a copy of the resolution and called it “a piece of s--t.”

He stressed the impracticality of having one president commute between both campuses, and referenced an analysis commissioned by his predecessor, Arthur “AJ” Meyer, that also affirmed the need for two campus governments and distinct leaders.

That analysis sought to find if it was feasible to run the student government under one president. The heart of the report asked if there should be a single student body president servicing both campuses.

“This is easily answered in a single word: No,” starts the analysis’ response.

The analysis was conducted by W. H. “Butch” Oxendine, Jr. at the time a managing partner at The SG Consulting Group, and executive director of the American Student Government Association, and it was based on interviews with members of SGA, Student Affairs and Student Life.

It found that the two campuses had very different student bodies, climates and cultures, and should therefore have different governing bodies.

“It is unrealistic for a single student government president to adequately represent BBC because of the distance between campuses, time for travel and lack of knowledge of the intricacies of that specific campus,” stated the analysis.

The report also suggests that a move to a single presidency would be “disastrous” in public relations as BBC would feel “slighted” and would add to the pre-existing “inferiority, step-child complex” the campus suffers from.

SGC-BBC Vice President Christian “Cici” Battle asked at the meeting if MMC senators had read this analysis.

“I feel if the senators would have read this, they would have thought twice before making this resolution,” Battle said. “I feel they were misinformed, because they don’t have the proper information to make such a claim.”

Rionda agreed the senate should read the analysis and said he would make it available.

Rionda apologized on behalf of his administration over a comment the MMC comptroller, Christina “Raven” Morales, made during an Oct. 7 Finance Committee meeting calling for the burning down of the BBC campus. The SGC-MMC president stated that it was obvious there was no intent to burn down the campus.

“It was said in the context of a joke,” Rionda said.
GOING SCHOOLING
Language hurdle must be addressed

A study at the University of California, Berkeley – which will be published this week – found that children of Hispanic immigrants fell behind in linguistic and cognitive skills, despite being born on par with American children at birth. As reported by The New York Times, the study revealed a gap in mental development, which contradicted the assertion of Hispanic mothers raising healthy children.

The study’s authors suggest one possible reason for the trend: many Hispanic mothers have “less formal schooling than the average American mother,” regardless of race. I sum up another possible reason: language barriers. Growing up in Miami has allowed me to observe my peers with similar, familiar backgrounds. For them, there wasn’t a problem when I was elementary and middle school, we spoke English in the classroom because we had to.

But we lived in two completely different worlds: the outside world, where the English language was a requirement and any other language a burden; and the world inside the home, where Spanish was dominant, though English peeked through our home in television sets, movies and books.

I grew up in two separate households. In one, we – me, my mother, father and younger brother – spoke English. In another – where it was me, my brother, mother and grandparents – we spoke Spanish.

It was a life of opposites, which I blamed our generation for caring about the world so much, than some boring story about a drought in some country.

People would rather read or watch something entertaining than something about a drought in some country, by the media.

Television news is mainly dominated by entertainment news and gossip as well.

Most of the time the news will be reporting on who is looking up with whom, who is breaking up with whom and which baby Angelina Jolie is adopting from Africa.

It’s good she’s trying to help people, but I don’t need to know that she’s naming the baby Zahara.

This is not to say that there is a lack of real news in the media, but people would rather read or watch something entertaining than some boring story about a drought in some country, we’ll never visit.

I don’t blame the media for this problem. These agencies are a company trying to make a profit. They need a revenue to pay their employees.

With readership and circulation numbers dropping, they’re merely trying to reach out to us with the news we want, so they can sell their product.

While they have a responsibility to report on important issues, if nobody picks up a newspaper or watches the news, there won’t be any money to report on important issues.

I blame our generation for caring about the unimportant details of the lives of Jon and Kate, who we were never going to meet.

And as soon as other some tragedy or fiasco comes up, we will forget all about them and their 15 minutes of fame.

JORDAN ROSENTHAL
Contributing Writer

Throughout the past few years it has been hard not to notice the tough time our nation is facing. Personally, my life has changed drastically after the crashing of our economy, but I know I am not alone. Money – or rather, the lack thereof – has become a major topic of discussion.

As college students, we are not exempt from the effects of this recession.

With the high cost of tuition, and financial aid decreasing, many students face the problem of how to pay for classes. Some may try to pick up part-time work, but opportunities are not obvious ways to conserve money with the help of FII.

If you are having a tough time in a class, you can always head down to the Learning Center in the Green Library. Instead of spending $30 an hour on a tutor, the Learning Center is a completely free tutoring service that is available to all students for almost every subject.

The University also offers shuttled bus rides back and forth from its main campus to the Biscayne Bay Campus for a $4 round-trip fee. Putting money on your Panther ID card can also earn you bonus Pantherbucks. These Pantherbucks can be used at any of the food locations on campus. Aside from earning extra Pantherbucks, you are saving your car a trip to the gas station.

Many may find the phrase “college student” synonymous with “broke,” but it does not have to be this way. There’s no reason to complain about money when we are sitting here practically throwing it away. I believe we need to take responsibility, and learn to be smarter with our money.

Careful planning can lead to fuller pockets.
Student duo forms local instrumental indie band

MONICA PUERTO

Two FIU students are trying to become the new kings of the indie jungle. Freshmen Volodymyr Rychko and Rostislav Vaynshtok, also known as Vlad and Steve, form the local band Fight Like Animals. Born and raised in Ukraine, the duo came together in the early summer of 2009.

Since then, they have been signed to Grannie Ann Records and featured in The Lead Miami Beach magazine. Steve (Rostislav), recognizes the impact of being featured.

“The added push it gave us seriously impacted our work ethic and the love for what we do, seeing a positive review of it, and noting how many people were exposed to it.”

Steve is the 19-year-old, V-neck wearing guitarist who, with musical instrument digital interface, comes up with electronic beats that are from a slew of synthesized notes.

Vlad (Rychko), the 17-year-old martial artist, plays the electric guitar and uses his PSP to synthesize drum and synth patterns to play over.

The music the band produces is purely instrumental.

“It’s just a choice we made, not to have vocals,” Steve said.

When asked about the name of their indie project, Steve stated that it was inspired by a painting he saw depicting two men, one with the head of a tiger and the other of a rabbit, in a knife fight.

For their first show, they didn’t just put their foot in the door; they were thrown right into it by opening for a well-known band from San Diego called Shining Through.

For Vlad it was a real eye-opener. For Steve, it was his first show and no experience will ever compare to co-headlining with a touring band.

With their agent’s help, they are hoping to tour alongside another San Diego band, Weatherbox, who is signed to Doghouse Records.

Nabil Meo, band member of I Set My Friends on Fire, has been seen in various shows such as Warped Tour.

His advice to advancing musicians: “To newer bands I’d say be prepared to get your ass handed to you, or if you are that touring is not for the faint of heart. Basically, touring is like some kind of hard drug that you can’t get out of your system—that is of course if you don’t die from it first.”

Along with all this planning, Steve and Vlad are committed to finishing their bachelor’s degrees and graduating in 2013. Steve is majoring in public relations while Vlad is in pre-med.

Being in a band is a time-consuming commitment. When they are not in school, Steve and Vlad are either booking shows, e-mailing companies to sponsor them, working on press kits or coming up with new material.

The fruits of their labor are on route to being accomplished, as they are currently recording for their album Cave Dwellers. They are hoping to have it in stores by November. The album artwork and concept is a creation of Vlad and Steve are especially grateful for their fans.

“We as a band don’t consider people who like our music fans, but rather friends that we can play for and hang out with after shows,” said Rychko.

HALLOWEEN COMMENTARY

The Top 10 most popular costumes for Halloween 2009 draw from pop culture

ISABEL MAZA

Last year’s Halloween parties were filled with dozens of Sarah Palin, Amy Winehouse and “The Jokers” walking around. Pop culture was the costume theme last year, and it looks like the trend will continue in 2009. Halloween is all about being over the top, and this year’s partygoers will have to work a little harder to upstage 2008’s costumes.

I’ve compiled a list of my predictions for what will surely be among this year’s most popular Halloween costumes.

10. BARACK OBAMA

To perfect this outfit, all that is needed is a nice suit, a buzz cut, and for those overzealous dressers, a pair of big cans. Many costume stores are even selling an Obama mask, although home-made costumes are usually much more entertaining.

9. LADY GAGA

Although Lady Gaga is known mostly for her musical accomplishments, she is also famous for her ridiculous outfits. Those planning on dressing up as the top-selling artist have the freedom to do just about anything with their costumes. Her VMA outfits will surely be the most popular inspiration, and various Web sites even offer “How to” articles on how to make the perfect Lady Gaga costume.

8. MICHAEL JACKSON

The King of Pop has always been a common outfit, but the costume’s popularity will surely skyrocket this year. Declared celebrities are usually hot Halloween costumes, as shown by Heath Ledger’s “Joker” last Halloween.

Not only is Michael Jackson a fun costume, he’s also ready to make. All you need is a hat, a glove, and a flashy jacket,” said junior public relations major Silva Revilla.

7. EDWARD CULLEN AND BELLA SWAN

The Twilight pair is perhaps the most famous fictional couple of the moment, and fans everywhere will surely be donning this duo costume.

For Greek organizations, membership isn’t just about helping.

The Kappa Gamma chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha at FIU has been partaking in many volunteer programs in Miami, from holding blood drives at their fraternity house to fund-raising for Mothers Against Drunk Driving. They have been recently recognized for training Special Olympic athletes in tennis.

The United States Tennis Association named PIKE their 2009 USTA Florida October Volunteer of the Month.

“Not knowing what to expect when a fraternity volunteers to help you with Special Olympics athletes, I have to say I was never more surprised by a finer group of young men,” said USTA Florida Tennis Program Coordinator for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, Cathy Nordlund. “This group of men were so patient and giving to all the children. Not knowing how to play tennis did not stop them from assisting the tennis pros and lending their support. They are now the first that I call any time I need help with an event.”

They were first approached for the idea of training these Special Olympic athletes from a PIKE brother’s mother, who asked them to assist for one Friday at the Tamiami tennis center to help train the athletes for the tennis portion of the games.

“I was really excited when PIKE was given the opportunity to help with the Special Olympics,” said Ricky Alfonso, a brother of PIKE. “I gave us a chance to give back to our community. PIKes are pretty active on campus and the Special Olympics was the perfect opportunity to do something away from FIU.

Helping those kids prepare for their particular events in the Special Olympics is an incredible feeling and I know we are anxiously waiting to do it again from FIU. Helping those kids prepare for their particular events in the Special Olympics is an incredible feeling and I know we are anxiously waiting to do it again from FIU.

PIKE was originally replacing the FIU women’s tennis team in volunteering because they had a prior obligation, but after their four-hour session of practice, the USTA asked PIKE to continue helping train for the games.

The Special Olympics this year was held in the spring at Miami-Dade College.

“Working with the Special Olympics Organization has truly humbled me,” said Gabriel Fernandez, a brother of PIKE. “I’ve participated in the Special Olympics many times. The happiness those kids express when they are participating is beyond belief. I encourage everyone in partaking in these events because it will change your outlook on life.”

After the Special Olympic Games, PIKE worked another event in Tamiami where they assisted the USTA in their jump start program by helping them promote junior tennis at a park. This was when they were first told they would be under consideration for Volunteer of the Month.

PIKE will be volunteering for the Special Olympics again this spring. At the competition they assist the athletes by being their “hugger” for the day. Their job is to help them as their coach, help them warm up, take them to each of their events and take them to different activities in between their events.

For more information about how you can get involved, contact Gabriel Fernandez at gabrielpek@aol.com.
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5pm – 11pm
5pm – 11pm
5pm – Midnight

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It's interesting to see how religion can be found in movies that you wouldn't expect it to be in.

Erica Lopez, Sophomore
Biology major

Halloween costume inspiration

I dressed as Edward for a costume party, and I wore hazel contacts and gelled my hair so that it stood up. I also used some costume makeup to make the outside of my eyes look kind of red,” said senior and architecture major Gessica Bello.

The most important rule of Halloween day is to mean people won’t still make fun of it. "Swine Flu" can be made into a costume by dressing up in a pig mask and scrubs. Surgical masks are recommended.

5. TAYLOR SWIFT AND KANYE WEST

Another sure-to-be-popular couples costume this year is Kanye West and Taylor Swift. Fans can recreate the VMA feud by creating their very own "Moon Man" award and imitating the celebrities’ outfits from the infamous night. Kanye’s shutter shades are a must.

6. SWINE-FIU

The craze over the swine flu epidemic may be dying down, but that doesn’t mean people won’t still make fun of it.

Once a couple comes, single people will be more popular than ever. Stores are even selling the classic "Kate Gosselin" wig. The eight children from the Octomom costume can also be used.

2. JON GOSSELIN

Perhaps the most simple costume of all, the only thing needed is an Ed Hardy T-shirt. Leave the kids at home.

1. BALLOON BOY

Hardcore Halloween fans are expected to go all out for this costume.

This list is just a prediction of what Halloween will look like this year, but there could be some surprises. When dressing up this year, just remember the most important rule of Halloween costumes: originality is key.
MIND OVER MILEAGE
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The defensive end had two sacks and two and half tackles for a loss in the Golden Panthers 27-10 loss to Arkansas State. The senior also helped force a fumble.

The outside hitter recorded a double-double in the Golden Panthers 3-0 win over Arkansas State. The freshman had a team-best 14 kills, 10 digs along with a team-high four blocks, and hit .429 for the night, recording just two errors in 28 total attempts.

The freshman goalie recorded her fourth shutout of the season in the Golden Panthers’ record-breaking 10 loss to Arkansas State. The senior also helped put the ball, I got really excited and I was able to do that tonight.”

Hjorth-Stalgren records goal, assist in second game back from injury

The second half saw a record 11th nutt gave freshman goalkeeper Savage a rest, replacing her with sophomore Melanie Ramos. The FIU defense was able to keep Raimo out of pressure situations, as she faced only one shot in her first 10 minutes of play. However, Arkansas St. was able to get on the board after a miscue in front of the net resulting in an own goal for the Golden Panthers.

The Red Wolves would make the home crowd uneasy as they continued their rally with another goal 64 seconds later, leaving the score 3-2 with roughly five minutes to go.

The Golden Panthers would hang on to yet another record-setting victory, stretching their unbeaten streak to nine.

In addition to the victory, FIU was able to take advantage of North Texas’ loss to Western Kentucky earlier in the day and catapulted to first place in the Sun Belt Conference standings.

“Ah, it’s Success,” Thompson said. “I just happened to be in the right spot. We controlled the game just like we did against Memphis for the most part. I think we shocked South Carolina with how organized we were.”

Additionally, the Golden Panthers have noticed their increase of communication and feel it has contributed to their improvement during matches as well.

“At the beginning of the year it was only one, two or three of us talking, but now everybody is starting to talk and work as a team,” Hobbs said. “That’s what we need, we cannot win with individuals, we need to compete as a team and communication is helping.”

Regardless of the tie, the Golden Panthers have gained confidence throughout the season as injured players have come back and have slowly adjusted with the team.

Midfielder Diego Tamburis said the team would have more than five wins if the Golden Panthers played against other opponents the way they played vs. the Gamecocks.

“They have a solid and organized team, but I don’t think they have a team to make the conference final. If we played like we did yesterday all our games, we could be in the title,” Tamburis said.

The Golden Panthers will return to FIU Soccer Stadium on Nov. 1 to host Kentucky at 1 p.m. for their final home game of the season.

MAKING A STATEMENT: Madeleine Hjorth-Stalgren scored her first career goal and had an assist in the Golden Panthers 3-2 win over Arkansas State. This was her second game back after being out for nine games with an injury.

INJURY REPORT
The final player, Knight, has been struggling with an injured back since her arrival. The injury is something doctors found to be genetic.

The 5-foot-9 guard was recruited from the First Academy in Orlando where she was named MVP her senior year. Lauren Thomas, who is the daughter of men’s basketball coach Isiah Thomas, decided not to play this season after sustaining a knee injury that doctors told she could have her limping for the rest of her life if injured again.

The new additions, along with veterans, will open their season with an exhibition against Nova on Nov. 6 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena, followed by their regular season opener at North Carolina State on Nov. 13.

When asked if she was confident that she had successfully filled the spots of last season’s departed seniors, Russo simply replied: “I think we’re going to fill the spots pretty well.”
**Wins over Arkansas St., UALR vaults FIU to first place in Sun Belt standings**

**CHRIS GREEN**

Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers women’s soccer team (10-5-3, Sun Belt 6-1-1) headed into the weekend hoping to break several program records against the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State. With two victories on Oct. 23 and 25, the Golden Panthers set new team records.

**FIU 1, UALR 0**

FIU sophomore forward Thaisa Moreno made it clear that she knows what she is capable of.

“When asked what she was thinking when she was called to make a penalty shot on Oct. 23 versus UALR, her answer was simple. “I was going to score,” Moreno said. Moreno’s 30 minutes into the game was all the Golden Panthers needed in their 1-0 win over the Trojans (6-10-1, 3-5-1).”

The win extends FIU’s winning streak to five games. The Golden Panthers also broke the record for most conference wins in a season.

Sophomore April Perry was the first to have a look at the opponent’s goal as she took a shot roughly nine minutes into the game, but sailed it wide left. Senior Amy Jackson, and sophomores Moreno and Katrina Rose each had looks at the net after, but all missed their marks. Then, with a little over 10 minutes to go in the half, Moreno was given a penalty kick that she easily put past UALR goalie Jane Picarelli.

“I wasn’t nervous,” said Moreno of her first penalty shot of the season. “We have been doing those a lot in practice so I wasn’t worried.”

In the second half, FIU held UALR to its side of the field for most of the game. Although the Golden Panthers had shots by Deana Rossi and three corner kicks by Perry, UALR was able to hold off the FIU offense.

Goalie Kaitlyn Savage had three saves to notch her fourth shutout of the season. The victory extended the Golden Panthers’ unbeaten streak to eight, and advanced to the next game, and we were to notch her fourth shutout of the season.

**WINNERS’ SOCCER, page 11**

**Golden Panthers map 8-game losing streak**

**ANA DIAZ**

Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers men’s soccer gave the South Carolina Gamecocks (7-5-3, 2-1-2), ranked fourth in the NCAA South Region poll, a challenge on Oct. 24. As the season comes closer to an end, the Golden Panthers are coming together stronger with injuries healing and starting players coming back from the training room to the field.

“Unfortunately our record does not reflect what we have, but like I said we can play against anybody and these are one of those games that proves it,” said Golden Panthers coach Munga Eketebi. “We still have one or two key players that could help, but we have a lot of players back and that plays a dividend. I think we should have won tonight.”

The Golden Panthers (5-9-1, Sun Belt 0-5-1) drew a 0-0 tie after going to two overtime against South Carolina at home. Moreno and Katrina Rose each had looks on the scoreboard with a nil-nil [0-0].

Approximately 35 minutes into the first half, Thompson stopped South Carolina from making a shot on goal, helping goalkeeper Phillip Lamarre.

“Honestly I thought the ball was in the...”

**MEN’S SOCCER, page 11**

**New players look to help turn around team’s fortune**

**STEPHANIE GABRIEL**

Staff Writer

After a disappointing 6-24 record last season, the Golden Panthers women’s basketball has a lot to prove this season. But if they plan to improve their record, the Golden Panthers will have to do so with five new players, including Finda Mansare’, Carmen Miloglav, Rakia Rodgers, Sahina Salam and Erin Knight.

Mansare’, a 6-foot-1 forward from Budapest, Hungary, says the transition to FIU has not been difficult, even though this is her first experience in America.

“There are a lot of people [on the team] who made it easier for me.” Mansare’ said. “Everybody is so helpful and nice so it hasn’t been bad.”

**EUROPEAN CONNECTION**

Mansare’ previously played with senior Fanni Hutlassa on various national teams in Hungary and says that Hutlassa is one of the reasons the transition has not been difficult.

When asked about her style on the court, Mansare’ says she’s not like most post players.

“I’m more athletic. I run a lot of fast breaks. I’m not like most of the big girls who play under the basket.”

Coach Cindy Russo expects Mansare’ to play major minutes in her first season as a Golden Panther.

Miloglav is another player who will look to contribute right away.

The 5-foot-7 guard from Croatia also has previous playing experience with a couple of her teammates, Monika Bosilj and Maja Krajacic, who were also recruited from Croatia just a few seasons ago.

Miloglav was named the Best Shooter at the 2009 Junior Championships in her home country. Russo said that Miloglav is point guard material but can also play the shooting guard position.

“She’s an extremely hard worker and plays great defense,” Russo said.

Although Russo spoke well of all her new recruits, the one that she is highest on is Rodgers, a transfer from Hofstra University.

**I can’t say enough about Rakia. The level changes when she’s on that court, she is very intense. She’s one of the best athletes I have ever worked with.**

Head Coach Cindy Russo on Rakia Rodgers

**BASKETBALL, page 11**