ARE YOU READY...

Home opener full of extras for students

**MATTHEW MACKLE**

**Contributing Writer**

The excitement surrounding this Saturday’s football game presents an opportunity for the FIU Athletics Department to not only spark some fierce school spirit, but, as the game falls on Sept. 11, to honor those who were affected by the 2001 disaster and show admiration for the nation’s First Responders in the Police and Fire Departments, as well as the military.

Starting at 3 p.m., First Responders will be in front of the FIU Student Union with their rescue vehicles and will be available to answer questions and take photos. There will also be a K-9 unit, a mariachi patrol boat, Humvees, motorcycles, and a rescue helicopter. “They are here as a tribute to First Responders and the military. We want to pay respect to people who put their life on the line,” explained Heather Wight, assistant athletic director of marketing for FIU Athletics.

The game will also be preceded by the rolling-out of an American flag as large as the field. This will be performed by students and First Responders.

Before kickoff, the Golden Dazzlers, along with Roary the Panther, will be in parking lot 6 getting people excited for the game. Everyone is invited to this tailgate, which will feature music, giveaways, and other activities. The Athletics Department has also been working closely with the new FIU Marching Band to produce an especially inspiring event. The band has been working on a new playlist and practicing more than 12 hours a day before the start of the semester.

“I’m really excited about this. We’ve been practicing extra hard, every day of the week from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.,” explained Omar Bhau, captain of the new 120-person band.

The marching band and Panther Rage have also been working together to create some brand new cheers, and the clubs hope to create some new traditions this Saturday.

Additionally, the Athletic Department has developed a new incentive for students to tailgate, which will feature music, giveaways, and a rescue helicopter.

WHAT TO KNOW FOR THE GAME

**Game Information:**
- **Time:** 08:00 p.m.
- **When:** 09/11/2010
- **First 5000 students get shirts**

FESTIVITIES, page 3

2008 Record: 3-8
T-8th place in the Sun Belt Conference

2008 Record: 9-4
T-4th place in the Big East Conference

FIU students start first ever Quidditch club on campus

**MATTHEW MACKLE**

**Contributing Writer**

Stitches, beaters, seekers and keepers; the world of Harry Potter has teleported itself into real life through the imagination and enthusiasm of its fans, with the organization of a fictional sport called Quidditch.

The University has formed the first ever Quidditch club on campus. This will be the principal element of the Harry Potter Alliance, which is also being developed for the first time this semester. This is not a brand new concept. Many schools all over the country, including the University of Florida and the University of Central Florida have active teams.

The teams compete throughout the season with the hope of competing in the Quidditch World Cup, sponsored by The International Quidditch Association, a nonprofit company. This year’s World Cup will be held in New York City, and the FIU Quidditch team hopes to win it.

Fictionally, Quidditch is played by students who fly swiftly through the stadium on enchanted brooms, bashing against each other trying to score goals while spectators sneakily cast harmful spells on them to favor the team they’re rooting for.

In real life, non-magic people or “muggles” look forward to a time when flying on brooms is a reality, but, until that time, some adjustments to the sport must be made.

For example, there is an important element to the game known by fans as the “snitch” which is a flying golden ball that moves speedily through the stadium, and if caught, wins the game for the team who caught it.

The adaptation of this is an athletic runner dressed in gold.

“We incorporate the Snitch element by using what is called a Snitch Runner – a person who is basically a creative runner. A person that not only is fast but has the stamina to be running around for long periods of time, therefore being just as difficult to catch as a real snitch in the Harry Potter world,” explained Prutha Patel, vice president of the club and head of team Gryffindor.

The brooms remain a solid element in the real life sport and players must hold one between their legs for the duration of the game.

The brooms are of regulation weight and size and are made by Alivan’s, an online store that specializes in Harry Potter replications.

FIU Recreational Services has bought the brooms as well as jerseys for the team who wanted to see the club develop.

Harry Samuel DuVal III, a “chaser” (right), runs down the field after the Quaffle. Quidditch is unique in that it is a fast full-contact sport.

**GARCIA, page 2**

Garcia brings distinct leadership

**GABRIEL ARRARÁS**

**News Director**

Dr. Delia Garcia applied to work at FIU in 1979 as a coordinator for a bilingual education program and 31 years later she was named Interim Dean of the College of Education.

The appointment, effective June 14, was made after the previous interim dean, Marie McDemmond, stepped down due to personal reasons.

“Dr. McDemmond provided both stability and direction for the College and I have full confidence that Dr. Garcia will similarly provide leadership with distinction,” stated University Provost Douglas Watzek in an email to the University community.

Garcia is currently chairperson and associate professor of the department of Leadership and Professional Studies in the College of Education. She is also the director of the Urban Education graduate program and has served as director of numerous family literacy projects that serve the needs of local schools in the area of family literacy in the South Florida community.

Family literacy and urban teacher education are two areas that Garcia has focused on throughout her career, receiving over $1 million in federal, state and foundation grants for these issues.

“That has always been my main area of research expertise, the whole notion of family literacy,” said Garcia in an interview with Student Media.

Garcia has sought out funding for several different family literacy programs that have been funded through the United States Department of Education, the Barbara Bush Foundation, the Florida State Department of Education and the Volunteer USA Foundation.

“I’ve spanned the gamut of both federal, state, and local funding,” she said.

**GABRIEL ARRARÁS, page 2**
Helen Ramirez, president of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus has announced through a press release that SGC-MMC will begin holding a multitude of student engagement forums that will allow students to voice their opinions in a safe environment relating to three issues: academics, campus safety and student services.

“Student affairs, academics, and campus safety are the main topics of interest on campus. Students want to know what is being done on campus that administration wants to hear their opinions,” said SGC-MMC Press Secretary Dean Williams.

According to the press release, the student engagement series will begin on Sept. 30 and continue in three parts throughout the rest of the fall semester. After the student engagement series begins, Ramirez will create a number of executive orders that will be specifically designed to address issues that occur during the events of the student engagement series.

“As an integral aspect of the engagement series, SGC-MMC is doing what it can to ensure that the respective university administrators are in attendance at the relative engagement town hall meetings,” said Ramirez.

Ramirez went on to explain that the University administrator’s attendance would be solely for ensuring that student services get proper representation.

Beginning Sept. 30, the SGA will hold the first of three parts to the engagement series. This first forum will focus solely on issues related to Academics, and will take place in GC 140 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. SGA has also confirmed that the University’s Provost, Douglas Wartzok, will attend the meetings.

The second installment of the engagement series will take place on Oct. 21. This installment will focus on issues related to campus safety, and will be held in GC 150 from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. SGA hopes Public Safety Chief, Bill King, will attend the meetings so he can hear student opinions.

SGA intends to hold the third installment of the series on Nov. 9. This final installment will include advice and information about Student Services. It will be held in GC 243, from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. SGA also plans to add up to four or five more focus groups coming in spring, including subjects that cover tuition and fees, parking and transportation and others in efforts to ensure that students are doing anything it can to make sure their student’s opinions are heard.

“The student engagement series will provide a safe, friendly environment in which students will discuss issues of most concern to them, which is the element that I am excited about working with and interaction with the members of the student body,” said Ramirez.

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8.0 million dollar Title V grant to support University

GARCA, page 1

“I have a very strong commitment in the process of bilingual education, and the needs of English language learning students because of my own experience,” said Garcia. “I was a student who came to this country without knowing the language so I understood the experience of what it is to be in a classroom where you don’t understand anything that is being thrown at you because of just the language.”

We have great faculty who are really doing incredible jobs as it relates to teaching, research and service... We have faculty that have received University wide awards as it relates to teaching, service and membership

Dr. Dalila Garcia, Intrim Dean of College of Education

More recently, Garcia was awarded a U.S. Department of Education, Office of Post-Secondary Education Title V grant of $2.8 million. The five-year grant will support FIU, as a Hispanic-serving institution, to expand its capacity to serve Hispanic-American students while providing opportunities together, and to start make professional presentations and manuscripts to publish in Journals, said Garcia.

In addition, there is also an opportunity for 11 administrators from Miami-Dade Community Colleges to pursue a doctorate in education, teaching and supervision. Individual need to meet certain criteria in which the scholar be Hispanic-American and coming from a low performance schools.

Garcia was thankful and taken by surprise when Provost Wartzok asked her to step into the role of interim dean for the College of Education. Among her immediate goals for the position is to highlight the work of faculty in the College.

“We have great faculty who are really doing incredible jobs as it relates to teaching and service,” said Garcia. “Whether it is an award winning book or publishing articles in top tier journals; we have faculty that have received University wide awards as it relates to teaching, service and mentorship.”

Students while providing opportunities to graduate students. The other part of the grant has funding to encourage graduate students to publish with faculty.

“We have an opportunity to really work at that level of collaboration between faculty and graduate students so that we can engage in research opportunities together, and start make professional presentations and manuscripts to publish in Journals,” said Garcia.

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QUIDDITCH, page 1

“Most people have buried their inner child by age 22. [Quidditch] will be a great way to have some good old-fashioned fun,” said Claus.

He also spoke about the importance of the books themselves, saying “Harry Potter is a gateway into reading for many young people; some will read Harry Potter and nothing else.” In his English classes, Claus incorporates Harry Potter into some of the literary analyses.

The Harry Potter Association had their first meeting last Thursday, when students who were assigned to “the houses” in which the books divide the students based on their personalities and specific interests.

Instead of a magical “sorting hat” to do the work for them, the club used a specialized questionnaire that included questions such as “what would you do if someone called you a mudblood?”

Anyone interested in participating in the competition should contact any of the officers, or the Quidditch team on Facebook.
FOR SOME FOOTBALL?

The Golden Panthers open the season at home for the first time since their inaugural season and will look for their first win against a BCS team.

IGOR MELLO
Staff Writer

The Golden Panthers defensive unit will finally get a chance to debut its new schemes on Rutgers (1-0) tomorrow. Although there may be a level uncertainty on FIU’s side, the players and the coaches do believe that the defense has improved from last season.

One thing is for sure, Mario Cristobal’s team is eager for the season to start. This will be FIU’s first season opener at home as a NCAA Division-I school and has raised some concern for Savage’s targets, Muhamed Sanu and Mike Sanford fired from their posts after 2009 at Notre Dame and UNLV, respectively.

There are a few exceptions, which include veteran coaches who have already won several conference titles and had teams in BCS championship contention who are given a longer leash and the benefit of the doubt, but most of the time, it is a situation where coaches have to win within five seasons.

And that shouldn’t apply to FIU head coach Mario Cristobal. Not that he shouldn’t be expected to turn the Golden Panthers into a winner, but that he must win big within five seasons. For one, a building program like FIU should not operate under the pressure cooker of a BCS program. But most importantly, Cristobal has already come close to doing everything that leads to winning. And that comes last.

Making moves

Part of the reason Cristobal should be on an extended time table as opposed to his coaching counterparts in the dire situation he inherited at FIU. Besides the NCAA imposing a death penalty on Southern Methodist in 1986, FIU might have found itself in one of the worst situations of any Division-I team ever.

Although the results have yet to come in the form of winning, the situation off the field and around the team has improved drastically. When Cristobal took over before the 2007 season, the Golden Panthers had to give back nine scholar ships due to infractions in meeting the NCAA’s Academic Progress Rate’s requirements. The scholarship situation limited FIU’s ability to fill out its roster accordingly and was a shot to the team’s depth.

The only way to get the full experience is to be there in person, cheering on the Golden Panthers.

The Athletic Department expects the game to sell out fast so anyone interested in tickets should do so quickly at tickets.fiu.edu. They are offering free tickets to all the other FIU football home games to people who buy a $40 ticket for Saturday.
Team keeping quiet on starting quarterback

FOOTBALL, page 3

As of right now for field goals we’re going to use Jack Griffin. Even though we are starting with Jack [Griffin] today, all of those guys have done really well,” Cristobal said. While he has named Griffin the starter for the opener, he has not yet put him in charge of kickoff duties yet.

FAUCHER A GO

According to Cristobal, tight end Jonathan Faucher will be ready to play this Saturday. Faucher has been limited with a minor injury for most of the fall training camp. “He’s ready for as many plays as he needs,” Cristobal said. Cristobal has praised Faucher’s athletic abilities so much that he has even considered playing him on defense. “As much as he is on the offensive side of the ball,” he said. “He’s such a good athlete that we even thought about using him on defense.”

VOLLEYBALL

Golden Panthers continue rivalry with UM

JOEL DELGADO
Asst. Sports Director

The Golden Panthers will be on the road once again, but this time distance will not be a factor. In fact, the team will not even have to exceed the city limits. Instead of a long bus trip or a plane ride, FIU (2-4) will be playing a three-game set at the University of Miami (7-1) for the Hurricane Invitational, culminating in a match against their cross-town rivals on Sept. 11 in Coral Gables.

No one is happy for the break from hotels and unfamiliar territory than Head Coach Daniela Tomic, who is grateful for the opportunity to focus more on improving her team in practice without the distraction of travel plans.

“We are looking forward to this weekend. We’re not playing here at home but it’s close,” Tomic said. “It’s nice to be able to jump in a car and drive just nine miles.”

Tomic has emphasized that there will be a great need for patience when dealing with a team that is still trying to get each course in experience.

So far the new-look team has struggled to maintain consistency, beginning the season with a sub par record after winning the Sun Belt Conference last season. “I’m disappointed because I didn’t feel like we competed the best we could,” Tomic said of the weekend trip last week. The Golden Panthers dropped two of three matches in the Iowa State Challenge from Sept. 3-4.

“We did some things better from our first week of play. We just have to be more patient,” Tomic added.

Natalia Valentin has elevated her game, emerging as a force for the Golden Panthers both on the court and on the defensive end of things. She currently leads the team in assists with 209 and is second in digs with 56.

As a team the Golden Panthers will be looking for four wins on a Rutgers team that hasn’t played NC State since 2007. “They don’t like losing to us and I don’t like losing to them,” Valentin said. “But if we think about that we are going to lose our focus on the game.”

But with those wins a distant memory and a roster filled with players who have not had a taste of a rivalry it will be a significant challenge to defeat a UM team that has started the season on a strong note, including a win over defending Sun Belt tournament champion Middle Tennessee.

And before the Golden Panthers face the Hurricanes, they have to face Bethune-Cookman on Sept. 10 and San Francisco just hours before playing UM to close out the invitational.

MEN’S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Thomas starts with stretch at center

JOEY CRUZ
Asst. Sports Director

Thomas and the men’s basketball new schedule is released.

The Golden Panthers will put a turbulent offseason behind them in the comforts of the US Century Bank Arena as they play their first five games of the 2010-11 season at home.

Unlike last season, the Golden Panthers open with less of a bang, however, playing against in-state teams below the Division-I level such as Florida Memorial and Barry University, followed by contests vs. Florida State, Utah Valley and Chattanooga.

The season opener against Florida Memorial will be on Nov. 12. FIU defeated the Lions 88-82.

“Florida State is definitely the biggest Florida school we’re going to play,” Forward Marvin Roberts said. “We were pretty close to beating them last season and we have gotten better.”

Last year, the Golden Panthers opened the season at the Coaches vs. Cancer Tournament against defending national champion North Carolina and lost their first three games.

This season, the Golden Panthers lone regular season tournament action will come in the form of the Global Sports Shoot-Out Tournament, which will host FIU,Louisville, Chattanooga, Marshall and Jackson State on Nov. 27.

This nine-matched tournament then last season’s Coaches vs. Cancer tournament, which hosted North Carolina, Murray State, FIU and James Madison. The lipsoidal tournament allowed North Carolina to an easy 88-72-win in 2009.

FIU will play 16 straight conference games, half of which are at home.

Out of 18 conference games last season, the Panthers lost 15, including their first found loss in the Sun Belt conference tournament to Denver.

“Our attitude this season is all about winning,” Roberts said. In order for FIU to have a chance at competing in their conference and the Sun Belt, the team must get their first win in the SBC. Fortunately FIU has the luxury of playing more games at home than on the road this season: 15 at home, unlike last season where the Panthers only played 11 home games and were put on long road game stretches.

ROBERTS SHAPES UP

FIU brings back a slew of rotation players from last season, including Phil Gary Jr., Stephen Weaver, Martavious Kee, and last season’s leading scorer Marvin Roberts. Roberts led the Panthers by scoring 15.6 points per game while shooting 41 percent from the field. Roberts was constantly battling minor nagging injuries last season, but played through almost all of them. This offseason he encountered some of those same injuries. Roberts has come back this offseason 12 pounds lighter and feeling better than ever.

“I’m lighter, quicker and more agile,” Roberts said. “Injuries shouldn’t bother me this season.”

“Last season, most of the ball possession at the end of the game was controlled by Roberts, pulling a big load on his back to score. “I think I’ll still be the guy,” Roberts said. “I’ll have a lot more help this season.”

This drew him many double teams and forced him to take difficult shots due to the lack of scoring from all other players on the team. Last season FIU shot a measly 41 percent from the field and 28 percent from 3-point range.

MEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

FIU MEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE
Nov. 12
Nov. 15
Nov. 18
Nov. 20
Nov. 27
Nov. 29
Dec. 1
Dec. 4
Dec. 12
Dec. 18
Dec. 22
Dec. 28
Jan. 2
Jan. 6
Jan. 9
Jan. 13
Jan. 15
Jan. 20
Jan. 22
Jan. 27
Jan. 29
Feb. 3
Feb. 5
Feb. 10
Feb. 12
Feb. 19
Feb. 24
Feb. 26
OPPONENT
Florida Memorial
Barry
Florida State
Utah Valley
Chattanooga
Marshall
Louisville
Jackson State
Bowling Green
Sam Houston State
Florida A&M
Utah Valley
UM
Arkansas State
South Alabama
North Carolina
Davies
UALR
South Alabama
Western Kentucky
Middle Tennessee
Troy
Florida Atlantic
Louisiana
Middle Tennessee
Florida Atlantic
Western Kentucky
Troy

SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY LEAGUE

Cristobal following Schiano’s example

CRISTOBAL, page 3

906, with the team avoiding severe penalties of any sort.

With improvements in NCAA requirements, academics, facilities, and recruiting, Cristobal has basically put the program in position to contend for a conference title every season. Disappointment and anger from fans for last season’s disaster has brought about short sighted whispers about Cristobal’s job security. For the next few years, that should not be in consideration barring an unforeseen debacle.

THE RUTGERS BLUEPRINT

As an assistant coach at Rutgers from 2001-2003 under Greg Schiano, Cristobal went through three seasons in a similar rebuilding process. The Scarlet Knights went 8-27 in Schiano’s first three seasons at Rutgers.

FIU’s record after three year’s with Cristobal in charge: 9-27.

Granted, success in the Big East Conference is different than winning in the SBC, but Schiano has since made five bowl games, winning four of them on a Rutgers team that has risen to respectability.

“We’re about on pace, similarly to the situation at Rutgers,” Cristobal said of the comparison. “On a timeline scale, obviously, they’re a little ahead as far as win and loss schedule.”

It’s not about putting unwarranted faith in Cristobal, it’s about letting his vision play out in a real time frame, especially when all the aspect of success except actual wins are in place.

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SPORTS

The Beacon – Friday, September 10, 2010

4
FALL FOR THE ARTS
Arsht Center Festival infuses culture into Downtown

TATIANA M. PANDIANI
Contributing Writer

To mark the beginning of Fall, the Adrienne Arsht Center is going to become the center of Miami’s Art Community.

On Sept. 12, the Adrienne Arsht Center will be hosting Fall for the Arts, a collaboration between the Adrienne Arsht Center, The Miami Herald, El Nuevo Herald, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

“Many of us at the center had been talking about organizing an event like this for a couple of years, and this September, many missions and goals all lined up at the same time—making this year a great time to implement it,” said Andrew Goldberg, vice-president of marketing at the Arsht Center.

It will be an opportunity for all of Miami to come together and celebrate the rich diversity of Miami’s arts community.

“The Adrienne Arsht Center’s mission is to serve as Miami’s new ‘town square’ and Fall for the Arts is meant to represent this vision coming to life — bringing together thousands of residents from all over South Florida to celebrate the diverse and dynamic Miami arts community,” said Suzette Espinosa Fuentes, the Public Relations Director at the center.

Fall for the Arts will serve as a conductor of the synergy of so many arts and service organizations coming together and, it’s organizers hope, ultimately create a great collective energy to kick off the start of the arts season.

Students can expect a full day of opportunities to learn more about the local arts community, get involved, volunteer, and buy tickets to more than 50 shows.

FIU will be a big part of the event, with the College of Architecture and the Arts having a table at the event.

Partnering with the Adrienne Arsht Center is an opportunity to present the many talented students and faculty at the school. CARTA’s participation will showcase the creative endeavors of students and faculty.

Due to the downtown location, FIU’s presence will be extended to new audiences and fellow arts and cultural organizations.

“The college’s faculty and staff operate in a dynamic environment where interdisciplinary collaboration is encouraged and where such connections spur creativity and knowledge,” explained Brian Schriner, dean of the College of Architecture and the Arts.

“We will represent FIU with pride and deliver the message that the Arts & Culture at FIU are ‘Worlds Ahead.’”

At this table, stop by to take a printed calendar of concerts, theatre shows, art exhibits, and design lectures taking place at the University this semester.

There will also be opportunities for visitors to speak with students about these productions and purchase tickets.

FIU’s museums will also be present at the event. The Frost will have a table presenting information regarding the publications and events happening this Fall.

Exhibition and program information as well as membership and University info will be available.

FESTIVAL, page 6
Discount tickets offered at festival

FESTIVAL, page 5

As Carol Damian, director and chief curator at the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum highlighted, “[Fall for the Arts] is part of a community art event and we want to participate with all the other cultural institutions. It brings us recognition within the group that will include every major institution in South Florida.”

The Wolfsonian Museum will participate with two-for one admission passes, tickets for purchase and membership brochures.

The upcoming season includes the exhibition, Speed Limits, which asks critical questions about the impact of speed on our daily lives, as well as Very Wolfsonian Weekend, an event celebrating the museum’s 15th birthday.

Be sure to pass by their table to pick up a student membership packet and more information.

If students are interested in volunteering throughout the day, they may be eligible to earn “service learning hours,” which can count toward coursework.

During the day, student group discounts will be offered by the Arsht Center for Pandemoniumus – a new show from STOMP – as well as for most Broadway shows. Plus, for each Broadway production there are free student group pre-shows, where students have the opportunity to learn more about the show and meet cast members.

Another fun element is an epicurean adventure. Thirteenth street will be shut down with a parade of gourmet food vendors, hosted by Burger Beast, offering a delicious array of food for purchase – culinary treats from burgers to tacos to ice cream.

In addition, Fall for the Arts will feature two outdoor performance stages with music and dance performances running all day long.

Grammy Award-winning Latin funk bank OZOMATLI is headlining the festival.

The performances will be varied, including break-dancing, folkloric dance and music from Peru, local Miami reggae Jahite, and New Orleans’ number one funk ambassadors, folkloric dance and music from Peru, local Miami reggae Jahite, and New Orleans’ number one funk ambassadors.

FASHION WEEK

JANET CAREAGA Staff Writer

Chatter, cocktails, laughs, and fashion. No, it’s not a girl’s night in; it’s Fashion’s Night Out.

Major cities around the world are buzzing with excitement about the second annual global initiative, Fashion’s Night Out. This year’s event takes place tonight, Sept. 10 from 6 to 11 p.m. at participating sites.

The event is meant to be a celebration of fashion and help the retail industry. There will be goodies for shoppers but no Fashion’s Night Out discounts because the event is made to celebrate fashion in its true form: regular price.

The Wolfsonian-FIU is throwing a joint event with the Emilio Pucci store to celebrate the launch of the coffee book, Pucci.

Last year in New York City and other fashion capitals around the world, designers, celebrities, movie stars, models and fashion editors held unique and exciting fashion inspired events and performances in support of the local public.

In 2009, retailers saw a surge of new shoppers and increased sales for Fashion’s Night Out and shoppers enjoyed the street-party atmosphere while providing the fashion industry a much-needed lift.

The 2010 edition of what is being called the biggest fashion party in history promises to be just as grand, splurge inspiring and full of even more stylish surprises.

Fashion’s Night Out was created by the fashion industry and Vogue magazine and each participating city puts their own spin on the event to remind shoppers what the fashion industry is all about and why they love it.

In Miami, the biggest events will be held at the Village of Merrick, the Bal Harbour Shops, and Aventura Mall.

Hundreds of stores are participating and hosting in-store events while partnering with local charities or cultural organizations to donate proceeds to these causes.

FIU’s Wolfsonian Museum will have its own part in Fashion’s Night Out as well. The Emilio Pucci Boutique at the Bal Harbour Shops will be celebrating the launch of Pucci from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and 15 percent of the all the proceeds will benefit The Wolfsonian.

Aventura Mall will be having their own fashion show, cocktail reception, fashion previews, contests, promotions, and more. Some of the participating stores include: 7 for All Mankind, Macy’s, Nordstrom, Banana Republic, Guess, Michael Kors, and BCBGMaxAzria.

“We are one of the main fashion designers out there,” said BCBG of Aventura Assistant Store Manager Carrie Schaffer about participating in the event. “It is especially important for our store to participate because we are such a big name in fashion.”

BCBG along with dozens of other stores in Aventura Mall will be providing champagne, gifts for purchases over a certain amount, extended store hours, and special preview emails to those customers on their email mailing list.

“Out our New York stores do it and Miami compares to any other fashion capital,” said Milica Vilikovich of Betsey Johnson at Aventura Mall. “We’re involved with it because it is good for fashion.”

To build the hype and spread the word on news and events leading to Fashion’s Night Out, they have their own Twitter page as well to trend the topic.

One of the biggest preview events was Fashion’s Night Out. The show fall preview fashion show on Sept. 7 at Lincoln Center in New York City.

Alessandra Ambrosio, Gisele Bundchen, and Naomi Campbell are just a few of more than 150 top models who appeared in the show hosted by Vogue Editor-at-Large Andre Leon Talley and Model Hanneli Mustaparta. It was webcast live for those who could not make it to the sold-out show in NYC.

Everyone is invited to the fashion party tonight but for those who cannot make it out or those who can’t get enough, CBS will be airing a Fashion’s Night Out primetime special on Sept. 14 at 10 p.m.

The special will be hosted by Emmy-award winner Neil Patrick Harris and take an in-depth look at Fashion’s Night Out, interviewing celebrities like Justin Timberlake, designer looks from De la Renta and Diane Von Furstenberg, and going behind the scenes at the fashion shows and store events.

Top fashion icons, the fashion industry’s most promising new talent and well-known names from movies, music and modeling will be among those to be featured in the special.

Any fashionistas should not make the mistake of missing out on the Fashion’s Night Out events, whether it be out in the stores or in the comfort of the living room. Fashion history will be made tonight and everyone can be a part of it.

Designer Betsey Johnson at her spring 2010 fashion show during last year’s Fashion Week in New York.

COURTESY OF BETHESDA BANNER CENTER

FRI, SEPT. 10

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

Friday night movie; presented by the GMC-WMC
WHERE: 5 and 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GMC 140

JAPAN CLUB Fest meeting of the semester
WHERE: 5 - 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GSL 305

FIU VOLLEYBALL

Vs. Bethune-Cookman at the Hurricane Invitational
WHERE: 12:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: BankUnited Center, Coral Gables

FIU VOLLEYBALL

@ Hurricane Invitational
WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

FIU FOOTBALL

Panthers host Rutgers
WHERE: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Dade Co. Stadium

LEADERSHIP GALA 2010 Awards ceremo-

nial
WHERE: 7 - 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: GC 243

FIU SOCCER

Vs. Wofford
WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

VIETNAMIZATION EDUCATION TRAINING

For those interested in educating their peers.
WHERE: 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Soccer Complex, 11730 Biscayne Blvd.

FALL FOR THE ARTS

Carnival of the arts season opener.
WHERE: 12 - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Cooper Center, 1300 Biscayne Blvd.

LINCOLN ROAD FARMERS MARKET

WHERE: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Lincoln Road, between Washington and Meridian Aves.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 12

JUSTIN KRAMON @ BOOKS & BOOKS

WHERE: 9 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: 265 Auburn Ave.

FIU SOCCER

FALL FOR THE ARTS

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14

FIU SOCCER

WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: 265 Auburn Ave.

FIU FOOTBALL

Panthers host Rutgers
WHERE: 6 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Dade Co. Stadium

FIU SOCCER

Vs. New England College
WHERE: 12 - 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

FIU VOLLEYBALL

Vs. FIU Hall of Fame
WHERE: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

FIU FOOTBALL

Panthers host Rutgers
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WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium
Online fees pricey and discouraging

GIOVANNI GONZALEZ
Contributing Writer

Online classes continue to grow in popularity and the University continues to mistakenly charge for them.

In recent years thousands of students have opted to take their classes online instead of showing up on campus.

According to Deanne Butcher, FIU’s Assistant Dean, over 44,000 students have enrolled in online classes at FIU since the university adopted the online class style in 2001.

FIU currently charges a fee of $199 on top of regular tuition to take a class online instead of in a classroom on campus.

Furthering your education through the web is a convenient alternative for countless reasons but such a large fee isn’t necessary.

With a selection of over 100 mostly undergraduate classes, it can be enticing to lighten the load of time and money spent traveling to campus or never have to worry about being late to class.

Yet the fee is likely to discourage many students from taking the plunge into a web based learning experience.

At nearly $200 the fee appears exaggerated and comparing it to other state campuses only reinforces this. Universities such as FSU and UM have no extra cost for choosing to take a class online instead of on campus while UF charges about $100 and MDC only $55.

The fees could be in place to recoup the cost of converting a class to web based format, teacher training and course development, or even regain from previous budget cuts.

With class sizes up to twice as large as on-campus classes, most grading done automatically and no physical attendance on campus, it seems the university would be saving money using online classes after the initial conversion investment.

Other campuses have found ways to deal with their costs while maintaining a lower or nonexistent online class fee. FIU’s budget management should revise their strategies if they want the online class trend to keep growing, such as using the newly implemented “Tech Fee” for these purposes.

Those who pass on the online learning trend won’t have to deal with the lack of face time with teachers, flimsy structure that online classes offer, and lack of interaction with other students.

Yet, it seems counter intuitive that a learning system with less structure and interaction would actually cost the student more.

Still, it is easy to see why taking at least some classes online is convenient and beneficial to students.

With tuition as high as it’s ever been it seems unfair to place the burden so heavily on students who may have no other choice than to take their classes online due to schedule conflicts or class availability. Every university student knows how frustrating it can be when necessary classes are full or not available until next semester, or even next year.

The registration process used by FIU further impedes students without early registration. Students may attempt to register for a class at the first available opportunity only to discover the class is full, and find the online version to be their only other option.

Online class fees, as they are now, can put distance learning students at a financial disadvantage and deter students from attempting an online class entirely.

FIU’s budget management should find other ways to make up their online costs, as the fee isn’t justified, unnecessary, and causing the University harm by missing an opportunity to help deal with overcrowding.
The relationship between the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management and China continues to grow as the country will host a Wine & Food Festival on September 18.

The event, traditionally held in Miami for several days, will be a one-day event in Tianjin, China to benefit HTM’s China Program.

Tianjin is a port city located approximately an hour and a half southeast of Beijing and is the third largest city in China. The festival will take place in the Italian Style Town, a district of Tianjin.

HTM and the Tianjin University of Commerce already share a joint program called the Marriott Tianjin University FIU Hospitality and Tourism Management China Program.

“It is Dean Remington’s vision to offer our students in Tianjin China a real experience to our students in North Miami Beach. Now I’m not going to lie, I hate paying a $20 cover fee plus the $20 I was determined to burn copies of the Quran on Sept. 11.

Wealth management education sanctioned by the Chinese Ministry of Education. It is a self-supporting program, meaning no Florida funds supply their school, but its accreditation comes from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Remington noted that the campus is indicative of the strong commitment between the University and Tianjin.

The campus is a permanent 450,000 square foot facility with dorms, classrooms, kitchen, wine labs, an auditorium, two 100-seat computer labs and more. The first class enrolled in the fall of 2006 with less than 40 students.

The sponsors for the 2010 China Wine & Food Festival Tianjin are various international and Chinese national companies, including the Tianjin University.

The Westin Hotel will be the headquarters for the event, Diageo, out of London, Torres Wines, Tiangao Beer and other local restaurants will be on hand.

For more information on the China Wine & Food Festival Tianjin, visit chinawineandfoodfest.com.