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Florida International University

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ON A ROLL

Junior public relations major does an ollie with his skateboard near Deuxième Maison. Under the new restriction FIU-115, this practice is now prohibited on University property.

**Regulation restricts use of skateboards, similar devices**

**MARIELLA ROQUE  
Staff Writer**

A common sight on campus – the use of skateboards, similar devices and other high-risk activities – will now be regulated by University administration, effective immediately.

As per FIU-115, the University will designate the areas and purpose for which skateboards… and other similar devices may be used… on University property.

The regulation was initiated by Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell, and was passed by the board of trustees and the board of governors last month.

“We were seeing a much greater use of skateboards on campus and usage in areas that really were not safe,” Jessell said. “We were [also] seeing a lot of intentional damage done by skateboarders.”

Although not practiced by many, damage to University property caused by sliding down railings or scratching wooden benches “is criminal,” Jessell said.

According to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, if an individual is caught damaging University property or using a skateboard or a similar device inappropriately, sanctions may be imposed on the individual, including a written reprimand, fees and potential expulsion.

“I have noticed ‘No skating’ signs posted in areas such as [Deuxième Maison]… but no individual reinforcement,” said liberal studies senior Andres Wu. “I can use my board all over FIU-MMC… but do so knowing the limitations and lack of enforcement of University laws.”

The regulation limits the use of skateboards to “a means of transportation on sidewalks and while crossing the street at crosswalks.” Section C. (2) of the regulation explicitly bans the use of skateboards in garages and parking lots.

“The garages gave my friends and me a few scraps, but nothing to give FIU’s liability panic attack,” said senior in international relations Nick Van Halen. “The cops would tell us to leave at night in the garages and occasionally claim we were ‘banned’ from coming back.”

FIU-115 also prohibits parkour and similar acrobatics “on or about University property.”

“Normally you’re supposed to respect your training area and take care of it,” said international relations major Juan Navarro. “I don’t think [parkour] should be banned, just regulated.”

Limited exceptions will be made to the current regulation and must be pre-approved by the president or a designee.

“Skateboarding on campus has a certain allure due to the fact that most of Miami is flat and Modesto Maidique Campus has a variety of little hills,” Van Halen said. “I don’t see why there have to be so many restrictions.”

“This is no attempt whatsoever to discourage the use of skateboards; I think it’s fantastic. I wish I could do it,” Jessell said. “We just want people to be respectful of others and the property of the institution.”

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**Agroecology department earns federal designation**

**JENNIFER MARTIN  
Contributing Writer**

One of 71 in the nation and one of only three in the state, the University’s agroecology program is among those to receive the United States Department of Agriculture’s Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities designation.

“We are the largest graduating university out of all the Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities,” said Dr. Krish Jayachandran, co-director of agroecology in the Department of Earth and Environment, on why the University was selected.

Being among the institutions with this designation increases the University’s chances of receiving USDA grants. The grant money is then disbursed based on how many courses and degrees the University offers in agriculture and how many Hispanic students are enrolled in the programs. Formula-based funding is also available based on enrollment.

“This program will allow us to impact agricultural industry, both at the farm and at the production level,” said Dr. Mahadev Bhat, associate professor of environmental studies in the Department of Earth and Environment.

Currently, the University does not offer a degree in agroecology. Through the Certificate of Agroecology program, however, students are able to obtain a professional certificate in the field. With the funds received under the new designation, the program is looking to expand to a four-year degree, Jayachandran said.

The University also offers a master’s degree in environmental studies with students specializing in agroecology. According to Jayachandran, the University hopes to expand its graduate studies and produce more Hispanic Ph.D. graduates.

“Getting that recognition from the USDA… puts us on the national map in terms of programs that train students in food, agriculture and natural resources management,” Bhat said.

The University has yet to receive funding under the HSACU designation, but after the 2012 Farm Bill is passed, which allocates the funds for the designation, Jayachandran said it will only be a matter of time before these programs can get under way.

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Dr. Beach ranks top sandy spots

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

He swam in a volcano. Famous for his top 10 beaches in America list, Professor and Director of the Laboratory for Coastal Research Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, is also known as Dr. Beach. Leatherman has rated and evaluated over a thousand beaches all over the world. Leatherman began his career as an undergraduate doing surveys for storm damage. In 1991, he gave his first top 10 beaches list and has been doing it ever since.

He later received his Ph.D in Environmental Coastal Sciences from the University of Virginia. Leatherman has written several books, shared his expertise with Congress and was the co-producer of the award winning film, “Vanishing Lands.”

“I never thought to be a beach professor, but it turns out beaches are very important; there’s great economic value in beaches. The number one source of income in Florida is beaches.” Dr. Leatherman said.

When he finds beaches to be of great economic and recreational value, he also emphasizes the importance of maintaining beaches and being informed of coastal hazards.

“We need to learn the impact of hurricanes and how to combat beach erosion problems,” Dr. Beach stated.

This fall, he will be teaching a course called Coastal Hazards, GLY 4881, Tuesday nights. The class provides a better understanding of beach erosions, tsunamis, earthquakes and global warming.

“I really enjoy teaching this course. I use a lot of powerpoints and have thousands of color slides of beaches, actually 60,000,” Dr. Beach said.

Dr. Beach shared a brief summary of his beach rating recipe with Student Media. Clean water and sand should always be number one; look for a beach with fine sand, warm water and safety. It should also be a good recreational spot with the right mix of nature and development.

His all time favorite beach is Cape Florida, which came in 8th place on his Top 10 beach list. He contrasts it to the more lively South Beach and explains how it depends on it’s location.

“V anishing Lands.”

Represents from the 11 Florida public universities within the State University System attended the Florida board of governors meeting in Orlando, where the University was approved a tuition increase that places it first in the state in tuition cost.

Out of the eight universities that originally requested a full 15 percent increase in differential tuition, only four were approved. Among these was FIU with a vote of 10-6, the highest votes in favor of the four.

“Now that the primary source of income of public universities is student tuition and fees, the student now squarely bears the burden that the state legislature and the people of Florida in general should bear,” said Vice President of the Student Government Council at the Modesto Maidique campus Alex Castro in a press release.

The increase amounts to $608.70 for a student taking 30 credit hours a year. According to the University’s Chief Financial Officer Kenneth Jessell, with this increase, the University will be able to admit an additional 1,700 undergraduates and provide $6 million in need-based aid.

Differential tuition only applies to undergraduate students and 30 percent of it is used for financial aid. Unlike base tuition that is set by the Florida Legislature and approved by the governor, differential tuition can be pursued by the board of trustees of a university and then approved by the board of governors.

The board approved the Capital Improvement Trust Fund fee increases; FIU and nine other universities requested $2 increases, UNF an increase of $1.38 and FSU abating.

The board made an emphasis on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, encouraging students to fill out the form early in order to receive the maximum amount of aid.

“It is to the student’s benefit to complete a FAAS as soon as possible since some aid is generally on a ‘first come, first serve’ basis, especially with limited federal dollars available for disbursement,” said Kelly Layman, board spokeswoman.

While the three-day proceedings primarily focused on requests for tuition and fee increases, each university also presented a 3-Year Work Plan before the board.

Although this is the third year that universities are required to present a plan, this is the first in which they must follow a board template report for consistency.

The template is divided into three sections: strategy, which includes the university’s mission, strengths, key initiatives and investments; key performance indicators; key performance indicators; key strategies and growth moving forward,” Furtan said.

“Our focus was on FIU’s success and growth moving forward, Furtan said.

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Former FIU athlete charged with battery

BRANDON WISE
Sports Director

Pembroke Pines police arrested a former FIU women’s basketball player on July 3 and charged her with three counts of sexual battery.

Marquita Adley, an interim women’s basketball coach at West Broward High School, was accused of sexual battery on a sixteen-year-old member of her travel team. She was held on a $15,000 bond and released on July 4. Trial is pending in this on-going investigation,” according to Detective Alkie Kimbrell of the Broward County Sheriff’s Office.

Former teammate Fanni Hutlassa was shocked to hear the news.

“I know Marquita [Adley] well. She was my teammate and friend for five years,” Hutlassa said. “In my opinion, she is a really good coach, a correct person and has a professional coaching attitude, therefore, she would not touch a younger girl [in] any aggressive or offensive way. So no, I do not believe she did any of the things that she was charged with.”

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STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

It’s not always cheaper by the dozen

Lourdes Ginar Contributing Writer

Home to 11 public universities, Florida will soon open its arms and empty its pockets to welcome a 12th, Florida Polytechnic University.

Originally known as the University of South Florida Polytechnic in Lakeland, Florida, Governor Rick Scott and the Board of Governors decided that the USF-Lakeland campus should become a stand-alone university. Senator J.D. Alexander, chairman of the Florida Budget Committee, who is in his last year in office, brought the idea forward. Senator Alexander has pushed for the independence of USF Polytechnic, a move Pan Ioro, former Tampa mayor, calls “a legacy project.”

FPU has drawn some negative attention for several reasons, but most criticism is directed toward FPU’s expenses, which are now $5.1 million above budget, according to the Miami Herald. The extra expenses come from taking the accreditation and enrollment process off of its original five-year plan and pushing for a 2013 deadline.

Aside from rushing the accreditation of FPU, the decision to give one man, Senator Alexander, enough power to push for and create a university in a matter of months seems to be a poor choice on the state’s behalf.

USE the very institution that has to pay FPU’s bills for an indefinite amount of time, will be losing 8 percent of its financing during the 2012-13 fiscal year. After Florida Atlantic University can also be undergoing a teach-out program through USF in order to properly transition students and faculty throughout the next year.

Furthermore, FPU will be under the guidance of the University of Florida as it tries to get its own accreditation, according to an article in the Naples News. However, it’s the air of hypocrisy that has left many students, professors and officials upset and confused.

Scott has supported and signed off on the separation of USF Polytechnic in order to increase the amount of students enrolled in science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs. However, UF’s Department of Computer and Information Science and Engineering was nearly eliminated, if not for the students and field professionals who protested against its elimination. Now, UF faces the possibility of closing several libraries, laying off non-tenure faculty and cutting back on the engineering department in order to deal with a $38 million budget cut, after already dipping into reserves the previous year.

All 11 universities are due for a total of $300 million in cuts for the 2012-13 budget plan, including money set aside for FPU’s growth. Although UF, USF and Florida State University may be taking the largest cuts, the University does not go unaffected.

In a town hall meeting, President Mark Rosenberg addressed the University’s $24 million budget cut, the largest cut in the University’s history. Despite the considerable budget cuts, Rosenberg seemed confident about the University’s future. Although the University’s “World’s Ahead” program may face some difficulties, Rosenberg boasted about the University’s new classrooms, residence halls and the 110 new faculty hires.

In order to cope with the budget cut while managing campus growth, the University will dip into its reserve funds and possibly hike up tuition, if allowed by state legislature. Amusingly enough, Scott does not believe in tuition hikes. Instead of raising tuition costs for schools to balance a budget, Scott would rather have the schools face department closures, loss of faculty and halt their growth.

Tuition hikes are never a fan favorite, but speaking as a student, I would prefer an increase in tuition than losing a college that houses my major. Though tuition hikes are not something to anticipate, I would much rather pay up.

Edward Padron, Miami Dade College, President said it best: “At a time when institutions are growing and trying to serve a lot of students… the state continues to disinvest in education. There should be no question that, at this point in America today, investment in higher education is paramount.”

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Patricia M. Hand

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OPINION

Letter to the Editor

Going green, but where’s the green going?

There is this Italian song, from the 60’s...let me translate...“...the years went by, but eight is a lot...yet, that young fellow climbed up the hill...comes back and doesn’t find the friends he once had...only houses on houses, bricks and concrete...practically the grass was, now there is...a city...” I’d always boast of my university to my friends in Italy: “you have the time to look around...find the friends he once had...”

You see, this hill was before the orange light, the sun beams over that little field...I heard a bell...in four years, I have seen them shrinking, and the recycle bins, but...what about the brand-new TV screens? – I read the newspaper, the Oracle. However, it’s the air of hypocrisy that has left many students, professors and officials upset and confused.

The years went by, but eight is a lot...yet, that young fellow climbed up the hill...comes back and doesn’t find the friends he once had...only houses on houses, bricks and concrete...practically the grass was, now there is...a city...”

I’d always boast of my university to my friends in Italy: “you have the time to look around...find the friends he once had...”

We no longer have a university, a home, a college, a home. We are no longer the fields, the grass, the orange light, the sun beams over that little field...I heard a bell...in four years, I have seen them shrinking, and the recycle bins, but...what about the brand-new TV screens? – I read the newspaper, the Oracle. However, it’s the air of hypocrisy that has left many students, professors and officials upset and confused.

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I’d always boast of my university to my friends in Italy: “you have the time to look around...find the friends he once had...”
I look forward to helping people feel the connection to their lives and immediate concerns and how that connects to each other and the world wide web of life and all the beautiful life sustained on it and how their lives are not separate from nature, but a part of it.

Heather Woodbury, Novelist & Play Writer

In the same way that tuning into television shows or going to see the latest Star Wars film was fun, episodic theater tends to do that, said Woodbury.

“I did a lot of serialized plays back in New York. We wanted to make going to the theater fun, in the same way that watching television shows. I wanted to make a story that was entertaining, as cable television that tackled these issues. It’s a part of it. A way, but I also hope people will think about the world we all live in and maybe think about how to be proud of where they study. It’s something I’ve developed myself by walking around and imitating people or listening to people being interviewed on the radio,” said Yawney. “It’s having you walk down the street talk to people, sometimes I go on vocal rest after a performance.”

The production, which lasts 12 hours total, has also forced Yawney to stretch his imagination to its utmost limits. “It’s like walking a tightrope. Throughout the play we have to tell an epic story using the simplest of means,” said Yawney. “My job is to make the story thrilling in every moment; it is hard enough to do that for 90 minutes.”

Woodbury has made sure, however, that those who see the watch the installments sparingly can enjoy the play as well. “What we have tried to do is craft each installment; each evening has its own dramatic arc as well, repeating important elements of the plot in future installments, like a recap, so it makes it more satisfying as you keep going,” added Woodbury.

Above all, “Blue Girl” is extremely proud of UF’s athletics. She explains how supportive she is of UF’s football team, claiming that a lot of people don’t realize we are only a decade old. "With Mario Cristobal's help, and T.Y. Hilton’s help even, we have come a long way. We went to our first bowl game and we won our first conference championship. UF is going in the right direction," said Tessene.

It is certain that UF needs to overcome the “commuter school” stigma and student’s need to learn how to be proud of where they study. They can learn a thing or two from “Blue Girl.”

“Don’t be scared to come up to me. I am a college student just like you,” said “Blue Girl.”
“Moonrise Kingdom” captures the essence of childhood romance

 Wes Anderson’s films have always walked the thin line between realism and fantasy. Some like “The Royal Tenenbaums” and “The Darjeeling Limited” foot grounded the reality of life, taking its own time to focus on dysfunctional familial relationships through dark humor. Others, like the animated “Fantastic Mr. Fox,” seem straight out of a children’s pop-up book, immersed in fantastical situations that could never be real.

In comes “Moonrise Kingdom” - arguably Anderson’s best film to date - which kicks in right over that line, blending reality and fantasy beautifully in this engaging tale of childhood romance. “Moonrise Kingdom” is set on the island of New Penzance during the summer of 1965. Here we are introduced to the love story between Sam (Jared Gilman) and Suzy (Kara Hayward). Sam, an orphaned member of the Khaki Scouts, and Suzy, the “troubled daughter” of two unhappy lawyers, decide to run away together after watching Jason Schwartzman, Bob Balaban and Edward Norton from a large group of Khaki Scouts to the island police.

This decision leads to a missing of everyone on the island to find the kids, form a large group of Khaki Scouts to the island police. As per usual, the film is filled with Anderson’s signature style. Each scene is meticulously crafted, utilizing symmetry and bright color palettes more often than not. A few tracking shots establish certain important locations, whether it’s in the form of showcasing Suzy’s house during the opening credits, or watching Jason Schwartzman walking with a bunch of kids through a camp.

Its costuming and set design remains consistent with the stylistic approach Anderson’s films usually take, and both work well within the sixties period that the film is set. It might seem like an uncontentious period piece, but it is a rare fine one that pays close attention to detail, regardless of if being in the non-existent island of New Penzance.

There are some that may complain that “Moonrise Kingdom” features style over substance, a frankly outrageous claim. While the idea of childhood romance may not seem appealing to most, Anderson and Roman Coppola’s writing works hard at mixing humor and drama to provide a genuinely interesting adventure, full of tension that some of his older films lack.

Certain moments between the children seem straight out of a fantasy - running through a lightening field, dancing together on a beach one knows about and telling stories to new friends like Wendy might have done for Peter Pan and the Lost Boys - and yet, Anderson does not stay away from placing them in adult situations.

Both writers seem to know better than most how much children long to engage in the adult world, be that sexual exploration or simply mindless violence, regardless of how unhappy those adults around them might seem.

While capturing the essence of childhood, “Moonrise Kingdom” features one of the best ensemble casts in ages. Every child in this movie knows exactly what they’re doing, which is rare for a movie that features a cast with this many young actors.

Both Hayward and Gilman perform excellently, never allowing any of the adults in the film to take the spotlight off them. An all-star collection of actors, including Bill Murray, Frances McDormand, Edward Norton, Ben Whish, Tilda Swinton, Jason Schwartzman, Bob Balaban and even Harvey Keitel, comprise the adults of “Moonrise Kingdom.” While some might complain that their characters don’t get the development they deserve, it is something that fits further into the childhood world that Anderson has created. Children can see glimpses of the issues that adults face, but they can never truly understand just what it is that makes them so unhappy.

Regardless of this, all of the adults dish out solid performances, especially Murray and Norton, who know just how to twist your heart with just a few words and facial expressions. Schwartzman’s “Cousin Ben” does some much needed humor to the older bunch, engaging with the children and delivering some of the funniest lines of the film.

Anyone who has seen one of Anderson’s previous films will know just how impressive his soundtrack selection tends to be, but “Moonrise Kingdom” fits it out of the park with a stunning collection of Alexandre Desplat’s work. In addition to pieces of music like “Simple Symphony’s Playful Pizzicato” and the introduction to “The Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra,” Alexandre Desplat provides a simple but enchanting score that enhances the child-like nature of the film.

Some will complain about it being too “Wes Anderson-y,” but “Moonrise Kingdom” does an excellent job at capturing the spontaneity and naivety of childhood romance.

Reel to Reel is a weekly movie review column, email at juan.barquin@fiusm.com.

Novel brings life blue-haired heroinoe

Closing portals, demon made wishes and a blue-haired girl prowling the streets of Prague to fulfill unworlde deeds are only beginning glimpses of Laini Taylor’s “The Daughter of Smoke and Bone.” This novel will definitely send readers into a whirlwind of imaginative flight, action and adventure, full of tension that some of his older films lack.

Brimstone, brute monster and father-figure to Karou, manages to pry an unexpected smile from his adopted daughter’s antics. With extremely facial expressions. Schwartzman’s “Cousin Ben” brings some much needed humor to the older bunch, engaging with the children and delivering some of the funniest lines of the film.

Regardless of this, all of the adults dish out solid performances, especially Murray and Norton, who know just how to twist your heart with just a few words and facial expressions. Schwartzman’s “Cousin Ben” does some much needed humor to the older bunch, engaging with the children and delivering some of the funniest lines of the film.

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Sunny Isles beach, fl.

Sunny Isles is known for its recreational activities on the shore and off shore too.

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FOOTBALL

Coaches weigh in on new playoff system

LUIS D. GUTIERREZ Contributing Writer

Division I college football finally has a playoff system.

Vietnam-born Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick alongside all eleven conference commissioners, the playoff system was approved by a presidential over-sight committee on June 27.

Set to embark in 2014, the new four-team playoff system will help to determine college football's national champion on a yearly basis through 2025. Head coach Mario Cristobal believes this is a step in the right direction.

"The initiative to create a system that allows for a championship to be settled on the field is a very positive one for college football," Cristobal said in an interview with student media.

However, Cristobal did express uncertainty with how the system would work upon arrival. "Without us having all the details of how it’s going to work out and not having one season of having a playoff to certainly leaves some question marks," Cristobal said.

The playoff would consist of four teams chosen by a distinct selection committee, which has yet to be determined. Assembling a proper selection core with the correct personnel would be considered essential in the development of a playoff.

University of Texas-San Antonio, which will be moving into Conference USA with FIU in 2013, will also start to feel the effects of this format. Head coach Larry Coker emphasized in a local radio interview last week that those added to the process must be "involved" with the game itself.

A well-rounded committee has the potential to diminish "glitches" that the current Bowl Championship Series (BCS) ranking system may bring up. The BCS uses a combination of polls and computer selection methods, which places the two best teams in a matchup for the national championship.

However, a school such as Boise State, which has the highest winning percentage of the last decade, has yet to make a national championship appearance and has placed no higher than third in BCS polls.

The Broncos have beaten the likes of such top-caliber programs as Oklahoma, Oregon, Virginia Tech, and Georgia, yet have seen themselves at the headline of a BCS controversy year after year.

Officials are confident that an organized playoff system would level the playing field in determining college football's best.

"Everybody gets a chance to compete," said BCS executive director Bill Hancock in a radio interview with Mario and Mike in the Morning. "Now there are (four) teams instead of two.

"However, Cristobal states that controversy in the playoff system would be inevitable, regardless of the new additions.

"Whether it’s a four-team playoff or a 16-team playoff in the future, someone is going to be left out," Cristobal said. "Any time that the case, there is going to be a point of discussion or an argument."

Coker also pointed out a similar kink in the playoff process that could leave some programs disgruntled. "If you have four teams, number five won’t be happy," Coker said. "If you have eight teams, number nine won’t be happy." regardless of a potential logjam, Cristobal is enticed by the fluidity that a playoff system would bring to the sport.

"[The playoff] grants a few more opportunities for all programs around the country, including [FIU]… it certainly provides more opportunities, and that is what every Penn State and Texas is going to want," Cristobal said. "So it’s great for the players as well."
Horner dives into recruits, schedule

**STEVEN ROWELL  Contributing Writer**

Head coach Randy Horner has his sights set on one thing: winning the Sun Belt conference.

Coming off a 9-4 season and a fourth-place finish in the Sun Belt Tournament, Horner revamped his team with a strong recruiting class.

“Last season, we did very well individually. We are looking to be a contender and make a run at the title,” Horner said. “I feel like we have a great group and a lot more depth with the recruiting class we brought in.”

The recruiting class is led by junior transfer Sarah D’Antoni from Indian River College. She brings plenty of experience and was a college champion, and was a strong contender and make a multiple event junior college champion, she’s going to bring to a lot of experience and depth and will help the team immediately,” Horner said.

Horner also has high expectations for Tennessee transfer Marina Ribi. “She’s going to be one of our top athletes in multiple events. I definitely think she has the talent and caliber to be an NCAA qualifier,” Horner said. “She didn’t make it last year in Tennessee but I feel like she’s got that ability.”

Horner also believes that Rebecca Wilde, a native of England, can make an immediate impact as a freshman this upcoming season. Horner cited her ability to perform in the middle distance freestyle.

Out of the remaining recruits, three other notable incoming freshmen include Danielle Albright, Ashley Isaacson and a diving prospect, Madalyn Golightly.

**STRONG SCHEDULE**

This season’s schedule, announced on June 28, is characterized by the strong caliber of opponents that the Panthers will face.

The season opens on October 12 at home against Houston during homecoming weekend where Horner hopes to gauge his team’s skill.

FIU will have a stretch from November 10 to January 5 where the Panthers will not see their home in the Biscayne Bay campus. During that stretch, the Panthers will compete in the Mizzou Invitational, Nova Southeastern, and the Orange Bowl Classic.

**FIU-UL start series this year**

**BOWL SYSTEM, PAGE 6**

college team is looking for,” Cristobal said. “We are always looking for opportunities and we want to play against the best for the very best prize.”

However, Coker believes that a four-team playoff is just right.

“Limited travel is essential. 16 teams is too many. Four teams would be good enough. I think the fans will follow, and the TV revenue will be high.”

In his interview, Hancock shot down the possibility of an eight or 16-team playoff in the future by stating that “it was never an option” while discussing the formation of the new playoff.

Whether the playoff does expand in the near future or remain in place, it seems to be as much approved by coaches, players, and fans as it was by the presidential oversight committee.

All in all, the playoff shines a bright light towards the future of college football and it has definitely caught Cristobal’s attention.

“It is certainly a step in the right direction,” Cristobal said. “Any time you move towards deciding champions on the field, I think it’s positive for college football.”

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**SPRINTING**

**PITINO, PAGE 6**

Diamante “Dee” Lewis, a high-scoring combo guard out of Ocala, Fla., relished in his senior year exploding for 28.4 points per game, 6.1 assists per game, 7.2 rebounds per game and 2.9 steals per game in his final year with the Lake Weir Hurricanes.

“Both guys come from winning programs and they have a very high ceiling,” Pitino said. “When you bring in a freshman, you want guys that are going to improve throughout the course of four years and I think with both [of] those two guys they’ll definitely be able to do that.”

With the addition of Lewis and Frink, as well as seven transfers, Pitino has had success on the recruitment trail as he and his staff have hosted nine official visits from recruits that resulted in all nine signing with the Panthers.

**CARDINAL CLASH**

If the pressure of resurrecting a basketball program was not enough, Pitino will be pinned up against his former team, and father, over the next three seasons.

The series begins on December 19 as FIU travels to Louisville to battle the Cardinals this upcoming season.

Despite the heralded matchup between father and son, FIU’s Richard Pitino is downplaying the game and instead looks at it as a larger benefit for the program and not just himself.

“We’re going to take it as a normal game, it would not be fair to our players and our program if I took it any differently,” Pitino said. “I mean it’ll be fun, it’s something that’s exciting for me, but more importantly not me versus my dad, but the fact that we can go and play an opponent like Louisville and be able to bring them back down here. It’s something that is great for our program, great for our fans and great for Miami.”

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**SWIMMING**

**STEVEN ROWELL  Contributing Writer**

“[D’Antoni] being a multiple event junior college champion, she’s going to bring to a lot of experience and depth and will help the team immediately,” Horner said.

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Out of the remaining recruits, three other notable incoming freshmen include Danielle Albright, Ashley Isaacson and a diving prospect, Madalyn Golightly.

**16-team playoff unlikely**

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Running out of options

Without financial aid, students find alternatives to pay for classes

STEPHAN USECHE
Staff Writer

Loans, debts and even grandma’s checks. “These are some of the consequences students are facing without summer Pell grants.”

Having congress cancel summer Pell grants for 2012 hasn’t been a recent alteration; this has come hand in hand with a full 15 percent increase in tuition, making the University raise $600.70 a year for a student taking 30 credits.

It has also been stated by other reports that 1,110 students will lose eligibility to financial aid and 1,500 student awards will be reduced.

These changes have left students with no other option but to seek out different ways to pay for their classes. The Summer Pell Grant cancellation for 2012 has affected students’ pockets and academics.

“I wanted to take two classes this summer, but that would have been $1000 and I can’t afford that, so I’m going to have to take 17 credits next fall,” said Emerald Nesbitt, psychology major. “I’m paying, my mother is paying and my grand-mother is paying.”

Nesbitt said, “I work here at the computer lab, my mother works, and my grandmother doesn’t work, but she gets her check every month.”

Nesbitt is not the only struggling; many other students have had to rely on loans to pay for summer classes, creating debts to pay after graduation.

Students like Rachel Georges, sophomore majoring in psychology, says that she’s going to have to “work real hard” to pay for the loan; however, she has a plan B. “I’m planning on using the refund checks that I get back for fall and spring to pay back the loan,” said Georges.

Although some students aren’t obtaining any financial aid for the summer, others are. The grants don’t cover full tuition, but they help pay for a portion of the amount.

Financial Aid Coordinator Jorge Lenivy declined the request for the interview about new requirements and eligibility changes.

Students must be enrolled full-time during the summer in order to obtain the grant, but the award does not cover the entire cost. This jeopardizes their eligibility of acquiring full financial aid.

“For my summer classes right now I’m using the money financial aid granted me,” said Junior Fiorella Lopez, business major. “It was originally about $2200, but since I’m only taking three credits it covers about $700. So, I’m paying the remaining amount out of my pocket.”

According to Maureen Walter, instructor in the biology department, financial aid has become stricter.

“This summer I had to do something called academic plan,” said Walter. According to the Office of Academic Planning and Accountability, the goal of an academic plan is “to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of University operations and the quality of student learning.”

This entails students having to meet with an academic advisor with an academic plan on which classes they will be taking and how they’re going to be taking it.

Walter also explains how there used to only be one kind of F, but now there’s something called “F zero.”

“You assign that F to a student who never attended class,” said Walter. “If they get an F zero, that goes back to financial aid and financial aid can demand the money, because in their mind, if you didn’t try to do the class and you fail, then in a sense it’s fraud.”

Junior Jimmy Pertil, biology major, had no choice but to take out a loan to pay for summer classes.

“I really don’t know how I’m going to pay for these loans,” said Pertil. “I have to pay for my car insurance, my cell phone bill and rent but my mother, there are a lot of difficulties.”

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Exhaustion: the academic energy epidemic

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Contributing Writer

Energy drink cans and empty coffee cups litter the floor of junior finance major, Yuyang Hou’s, dorm. Coffee cups litter the floor of junior finance major, Yuyang Hou’s, dorm. Coffee cups litter the floor of junior finance major, Yuyang Hou’s, dorm.

Coffee is the number one substitute for inefficient sleep. “I want energy drinks aren’t the healthiest things in the world, but they are a really big help to me when I’m trying to stay awake. I catch up on my sleep later.”

Mayhew isn’t the only college student with this mindset. According to a study by Nutrition Journal, over 67% of University students use energy drinks as a substitute for inefficient sleep.

Those who don’t use energy drinks prefer drinking strong cups of coffee.

Red Bull, which contains about 76 mg of caffeine and 27g of sugar in a 8.3 fl oz can, is one of the energy drinks that students rely on to stay awake and continue studying.

“I go through about five cups of coffee a day,” said Furida Wazdali, attorney finance student. Other students, however, have different opinions on quick fixes.

“I tried Red Bull once,” said Caitlin Opitz, a junior business major. “I got jittery and passed out. When I use 5 hour energy I had hot flashes.”

Richard Azimov, junior business major, also stays away from the liquid energy.

“I don’t use the intense energy drinks because of the high sugar content,” said Azimov. “I prefer drinking Boost, because it’s packed with vitamins and doesn’t have as much caffeine.”

While some students, like Azimov, tend to search for alternatives to energy drinks, the fact remains that college students are likely to use them at some point.

According to Timothy Silky, a personal trainer and nutritional expert at the Recreational Center, energy drinks aren’t always a healthy alternative.

“They are better than others, but in general, they’re not good for you because of the high calorie content,” James said. “Energy drinks are a temporary solution to tiredness, but in order to sustain real energy throughout the day, a diet full of vitamins, nutrients, and lots of fiber is important.”

When it comes to coffee, James has a slightly different viewpoint. “Coffee is a natural diuretic, it helps your body burn calories and jump-starts your metabolism. The danger in coffee is the cream, sugar, and caffeine. Caffeine is addictive, and people become dependent on it.”

James suggests light snacks—like granola bars or bananas—and simple carbohydrates as alternatives to energy drinks. He also mentions that a multivitamin in the morning can help students feel more energized throughout the day.

“I don’t think there’s one vitamin that’s more important than the rest,” James said. “But the B-vitamin is used mainly for energy storage.”

Earl Mendell, author of “Earl Mendell’s Vitamin Bible,” also claims that the potassium in bananas can help alleviate the fatigue students feel after drinking caffeinated beverages.

Even with this nutritional advice, some proponents of energy drinks are not swayed.

“If there was a legitimate healthy replacement, I would consider it,” said Hou. “Something that would instantly energize me the same way Rockstar does. But for now, I’m going to keep on using them.”

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