With athletic fee comes access

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
Editor-in-Chief

Fees usually bring access. The same holds true for the various fees University students pay, such as the athletic fee.

When the athletic fee increased earlier in May 2012 to $16.10 per credit hour, it was to cover the cost of moving from the Sun Belt Conference to Conference USA.

Increased by 3 percent the year prior to $15.56, the fee brought with it a renewal in the 2008 agreement between the University’s Division of Student Affairs and its athletics department, which guarantees access to athletic venues.

“A student-athletic facilities agreement is imperative for students,” said Helena Ramirez, former president of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus and one of the signers of the agreement.

“Students pay into the athletic fee and have access through a process through SGA of the stadium, club, baseball stadium, and arena,” Ramirez said in a message to Student Media. “This allows students the ability to use facilities for large scale events that in any other time would be difficult without the help of an agreement of the sort.”

The facilities include Alfonso field at the newly renovated FIU Stadium, the US Century Bank Arena which was also renovated earlier in 2012, the soccer field, baseball field, stadium club, and stadium suites.

Along with those renovations, another action the University did earlier in 2012 was the 54-cent increase of the athletic fee.

SEE FACILITIES, PAGE 10

College of Law clinic to help with investment losses

JACQUELINE ROSADO
Contributing Writer

South Florida investors now have a helping hand.

According to Robert Savage, who leads the Investor Advocacy Clinic in the College of Law, the clinic’s overall mission is to provide legal service to underserved communities in South Florida.

The clinic represents people who have suffered the loss of some or all of their investor accounts or investment assets. In other words, if someone invests in a brokerage firm to profit from it and loses his or her money, the person loses the investment.

The clinic’s interns, University students, are the ones that represent the clients under Savage’s supervision. These interns, who must be at least third-year full time law students, are trained by Savage, who holds seminars to teach students how to be lawyers.

Savage holds mock interviews, engages the interns in discovery and the interns are drilled until they are ready to interact with actual clients.

Glaster Brown, law student and current intern for the clinic, explained that his experience has helped him grow professionally, mainly because the students are the ones that represent the clients.

According to Brown, the training prepares him in building a professional relationship with his clients. “It makes us more comfort-

SEE CLINIC, PAGE 2

French and British panelists weigh in on gun control

MARIA BRITOS
Contributing Writer

Across the Atlantic, gun control still a discussion. The College of Law is hosting “Gun Control: A transatlantic comparison between Europe and the USA Roundtable” to discuss the controversies surrounding gun control efforts in the U.S. and Europe.

The five discussion panelists are Assistant Professor Noah Weisbord and Megan Fairlie, both of the College of Law, local Judge Jorge Perez, French Consul-General Gaël de Maisonneuve and British Consul-General Kevin McGurgan.

In an interview with Student Media, Weisbord said the shootings at the Colorado movie theater on July 20th and at the Sikh Temple in Wisconsin on July 29th were the reason behind the discussion panel. The roundtable’s focus will be on the value that Americans and Europeans hold about the right for an individual to bear arms and how each culture deals with this controversy.

“The Second Amendment does not necessarily state that the right to bear arms allows for massacres and mass shootings,” Weisbord said.

SEE GUN, PAGE 3

JASON DELGADO
Contributing Writer

Darian Mallary broke free for the second FIU touchdown of the game in the second quarter. However, the Panthers were unable to overcome injuries to Mallary and quarterback Jake Medlock in their 28-21 loss to Louisville.

While the film tried to show how each culture deals with this controversy, the discussion panel members believe theSecond Amendment does not necessarily mean the right to bear arms allows for massacres and mass shootings. According to Robert Savage, who leads the Investor Advocacy Clinic in the College of Law, the clinic’s overall mission is to provide legal service to underserved communities in South Florida.

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Unemployment rates rise in half of US states

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER  
AP Staff

Unemployment rates rose in more than half of U.S. states last month, the latest evidence that hiring remains tepid across the country.

The Labor Department said Friday that rates increased in 26 states. They fell in 12 states.

Unemployment also rose in seven of the 11 key swing states in this year’s presidential election.

Nationwide, employers added only 96,000 jobs in August. That’s below July’s gain of 141,000 and the average of 226,000 jobs a month added in the January-March quarter.

The U.S. unemployment rate fell to 8.1 percent last month from 8.3 percent in July. But that was only because many people gave up looking for work. The government only counts people as unemployed if there is a claim, the investor is represented by advocates to get the investor’s money back.

If a student or anyone outside of the University has suffered or been a victim of investment losses, they can receive legal counseling at no cost. Their office is located in the University’s Rafael Diaz-Baler Hall, room 1010. The clinic also aims to educate the public.

According to Carrazana, they hold seminars to educate people on investments, scams and lend tips on how to avoid becoming a victim. Savage emphasized that these seminars also try to make people more aware of the power they possess in America.

According to Savage, visiting clinical assistant professor, these seminars let the clients know that they have certain rights that they might not be aware of because they might have come from a country that did not give the people as many rights or as much power.

The College of Law’s Investor Advocacy Clinic was founded in the fall of 2010 after receiving a grant from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investors Education Foundation.

Claudia Carrazana, spokesperson for the clinic, said the Investor Advocacy Clinic is a non-profit organization that works with investment regulations. Savage said the clinic does not usually charge attorney fees. If there are fees, it’s because for expenses the clinic does not cover, which is usually solved by signing a waiver clients must qualify for.

“The two things that we do to serve are represent and provide counseling to communities that can’t find legal help elsewhere and we provide a service to the legal profession in which we train skilled and socially conscious lawyers,” Savage said.

-news@fiusm.com
USAID Rajiv Shah speaks security and technology

STEPHAN USECHE
Staff Writer

Rajiv Shah, director of U.S. Agency for International Development, spoke to Student Media following his visit to the University on Sept. 21.

**FIU Student Media:** You said that USAID is mainly focused on solving issues around the world regarding health, technology and science. Is it possible for students from other majors and interests to pitch in ideas to the USAID’s fall semester program as well?

**Rajiv Shah:** Absolutely; we believe that technology, innovations, new ways of doing things and great, new ideas from college campuses and student groups across this country have the potential to advance [our] larger number of goals. We can: prevent kids from dying… end hunger together and we can help promote a more open society with better journalism and more democratic governance.

We are encouraging all ideas from our new site, usaid.gov/fallsemester.

**FIUSSM:** What will be the criteria used by USAID to select the project ideas from all those applicants around the country?

**Rajiv Shah:** We focus first on results; we want to have real results that touch as many people as possible and really create the kind of change that is lasting and meaningful in the long run because it’s that kind of change that helps us ensure more security, more stability and helps people pull themselves out of poverty.

**FIUSSM:** What do you think can be done to solve or help the situation that is occurring right now in the Middle East?

**Rajiv Shah:** We engage in the Middle East with all of our capacities: our diplomacy, our development partnerships and our humanitarian efforts.

I think more people from around the world see America for its genuine values; they recognize those are our universal values and some of the violence you see is caused by a very small number of people and it’s our job to create partnerships with the great majority who believe in peace, prosperity and stability.

- news@fiusm.com

Panel to discuss gun control across the world

**GUN, PAGE 1**

Weisbord said that Perez, Maisonneuve and McGurk’s presence will allow for a diverse merging of ideas about the recent shootings and the true meaning of gun control between the American and European cultures.

“Students and the audience are encouraged to take part on the discussion by asking questions or giving their own opinions or commentaries,” Weisbord said. According to Weisbord, the event is sponsored in part by the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence, a consortium between FIU and the University of Miami that encourages European studies. Other FIU department, such as the College of Law and the Study Abroad Program, also contributed. The event will take place on Monday, Sept. 24 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Courtroom 1000 inside the Rafael Diaz Balart Hall. It is open to the public and entry is free of charge.

Reservations to attend are to be made by Friday, Sept. 21 at calyc@fiu.edu.
Spotlight continues to shine for campus events

ANTHONY CAVE
Staff Writer

A flurry of events have occurred over the last few weeks—and it’s only September. In the span of a few weeks our University welcomed former U.S. President Bill Clinton, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and ESPN commentator Stephen A. Smith. Arguably, no public university had a better week, in terms of guest appearances. On many occasions it has been the case that one of these topics will flutter across my mind, demand my curiosity, and casually make its way into conversation in the form of harmful, humorous news and memes about the university online. They have been at it since October 2011. It depicts Clinton with his arms open, greeting the crowd, followed by President Mark Rosenberg. The text: “I don’t know about you, but I got a great parking spot.” On Facebook alone, the meme resulted in more than 1,500 likes and 1,000 shares. And that does not take into account our mention in a February 2012 Time Magazine article. On Aug. 21, we launched the “Wall of Wind” hurricane simulator, which simulates up to Category 5 winds. In addition to extensive multimedia coverage, NBC’s “Today” show and The Weather Channel did live segments. Even our entertainment rocks this school year. Our October homecoming concert, “Pantheromicon,” features B.o.B., Cobra Starship and Kaskade. Icing on the cake, comedian Mike Epps performs the day after. You can even see Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas at the Biscayne Bay Campus on Oct. 1. These events should excite us as college students. I have not seen a better semester lineup of diverse, engaging activities.

When I say I go to FIU outside of Florida, I do not need to spell out the acronym – and that is a really good thing as FIU continues to gain notoriety. On Nov. 15, as Technology, Entertainment, and Design, the people behind those scholarly online lectures, will host “Beyond the World You Know.” Students can submit a video and, if selected as a speaker, voice their opinion on how to change the world.

External Relations Senior Vice President Sandra Gonzalez-Levy calls it a “historic event”– and, if the University keeps rolling out the events at this frantic pace, we will make our own history.

ANTHONY CAVE
anthony.cave@fiusm.com

ALEX URBINA FAVELA
Contributing Writer

FIU wants to be open-minded, but it’s not.

Very few of our Golden Panthers are willing to discuss opinions and viewpoints that might directly contradict their own or incite unpleasantness. On many occasions it has been the case that one of these topics will flutter across my mind, demand my curiosity, and casually make its way into conversation in the form of harmless inquiry.

Out of a pure desire to learn, I will ask a friend to share his or her insight on the topic. Yet this friend will usually respond with a shrug and a face that resembles an infant’s when given bitter medicine. Afraid to get into “touchy” subjects, my friend dismisses my question.

And if it is not the person with the infantile frown, I will encounter the self-righteous bigot whose close-minded assumptions prevent further discussion. Sigh.

I understand that these affairs are controversial, but must we be so close-minded? We avoid these topics the way we avoid that one awkward dude from Chemistry lab two semesters ago. Yet it is the implications of understanding controversial subject matter and forming intelligent thought that shapes many of our actions, ideas, and passions. And speaking of thought, is that not what this whole university thing is all about? Is a university not a place where ideas can be shared in a mature and peaceful manner? I might be beating a dead horse here, but, as students, we should be having more than just meaningless, shallow conversations with our peers. I would hate to think that when our Panthers are confronted by hot-button topics, they become scared cubs.

Paul Massingill will be organizing a series of discussion groups that will encourage students to discuss otherwise controversial topics in a relaxed, open-minded and unprejudiced context. “My hope is that students would be challenged to think about their own world view. Whether or not their world view changes is not up to me, but my hope is that students would be open to people of other perspectives and opinions.”

His group will focus on discussing scientific and religious concepts and how they might be reconciled. Participants will be encouraged to submit to the group topics that they would like to watch, read, or discuss; these could be articles, YouTube lectures, ideas, and so on. I cannot help but applaud Massingill for upholding scholarly conversation. Surely the University can benefit from the free exchange of ideas. Although Massingill’s group will primarily focus on scientific and religious material, it is certainly a grand leap in the right direction.

ALEX URBINA FAVELA
-urbanafavela@gmail.com

Enough with the shallow conversations

ANGELINA DEBENADO
Contributing Writer

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-urbanafavela@gmail.com

Enough with the shallow conversations

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Contributing Writer

Gathering Opinions, Generating Discussion

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. -95.3 FM, 88.1 FM, 96.9 FM - Online at FIUSM.com
Call in at (305)548 3575 Join our Facebook group - Follow us on Twitter @PublicReason

Public Reason

SEND US YOUR LETTERS
Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (400 words maximum) to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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EDITORIAL POLICY
Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor-in-chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com.
Students anticipate “big” artists to perform at concert

JESSICA RODRIGUEZ
Contributing Writer

Take a 25,000-seat stadium, throw in about 15,000 music fans, add a little bit of Panther pride to go with Cobra Starship, B.O.B., and Kaskade and you’ve got yourself this year’s Homecoming Pantheonimium concert 2012.

The Homecoming committee is in charge of hosting the event. They gathered student opinions and planned this concert since January, in hopes of making the night perfect.

But is an American pop/electronic band, an R&B artist and a worldwide known DJ enough to make the Panthers happy? Freshman marketing major Karina Nogues thinks so.

“I went to the Kaskade concert and it exceeded my expectations, so I’m really excited to see what he’s going to bring this time around,” said Nogues.

Kaskade ranked 30 out of the top 100 DJs in the world, according to DJ Magazine’s Top 100.

“We tried our best to get artists that are big in the music industry. It took a lot of bargaining, but thanks to our HC agent, it’s finally happening,” said Kelly Ibarra, Homecoming intern.

While some songs stay within the relationships theme, like “Close the Distance” or “Baltimore,” there are other songs, such as the title track, “The Ending,” about finding happiness in one’s comfort zone and create an album with different sounds and themes. While some songs within the relationships theme, like “Close the Distance” or “Baltimore,” there are other songs, such as the title track, “The Ending,” about finding happiness in one’s comfort zone and create an album with different sounds and themes.

Junior psychology major Janelle Lopez said, “House isn’t really my thing, and I just like to come to class and go home. I don’t spend much time on campus.”

The HC will have to wait and see if the music genres selected affect the turnout of the concert.

The HC chooses artists that classify under an “upbeat” genre. The point of homecoming is to get everyone pumped up for the fall semester.

Freshman political science major Harry Guerrero is counting down the days to watch Kaskade perform.

“I couldn’t go to his concert, so it worked out perfectly that he’s coming here. I’m so pumped,” said Guerrero.

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As hard as it was to get these performers, some students aren’t pleased with the selection and are deciding to skip the Panthermonium concert, which is understandable considering the population of FIU students and the number of fans in the community that can purchase a ticket.

Kelly Ibarra
Homecoming Committee

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Kelly Ibarra
Homecoming Committee
AN EVENING WITH
JOSE ANTONIO VARGAS
Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist & Founder of DefineAmerican.com

“My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant”
Lecture + Q&A

Monday, October 1st, 2012
@ Mary Ann Wolfe Theatre
Doors Open // 6:00 PM
Event Starts // 6:30 PM

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY - BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS
3000 NE 151st ST, NORTH MIAMI, FL 33181

For more information on Jose Antonio Vargas visit
http://bbcclo.fiu.edu/vargas.html

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

STUDENT PROGRAMMING COUNCIL AT FIU - BISCAYNE BAY PRESENTS

PACHANGA BY THE BAY FESTIVAL

Saturday
October 6th, 2012
7pm - 11pm
Open field behind Aquatic Center

Featuring

TOBY LOVE & ANGEL Y KHRIZ

3000 NE 151st Street
North Miami, FL 33181
Free Tickets available in the Office of Campus Life
@ both campuses for students and community
*One ticket per person
*Food Trucks at 6:30pm
Student Programming Council at Biscayne Bay Presents

**HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION**

**MONDAY, SEPT. 24TH**
**Viva SPC Kick-Off**
Start of SPC Festivities with a Variety Show
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Panther Square

**Dancing with the Wolfe Series-Bachata**
Dancing series with Bachata instructor Mambo Yoli
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Panther Square

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 25TH**
**Taco Tuesday**
SPC Square Day
Tacos Sponsored by: Tijuana Flats
Display of Caricature-Portraits by Fernando Ottati
Live Guitar Music by Mario Vuksanovic
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Panther Square

**Dancing with the Wolfe Series: Salsa**
Dancing series with Salsa instructor Mambo Yoli
Beginners: 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Panther Square
Intermediate: 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM | Panther Square

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26TH**
**Hispanics in the Media Roundtable**
Special Event
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM | WUC 157

**Black in Latin America Series: Peru & Mexico**
Feature Documentary
1:30 PM & 5:00 PM SHOWING | WUC Theater

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 27TH**
**Black in Latin America Series: Cuba**
Feature Documentary
12:00 PM & 5:00 PM SHOWING | WUC Theater

**Latin Late Day Latte**
Latin American Coffee Celebration
Sponsored by Campus Life-BBC
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM | Panther Square

**Havana Nights Fiesta**
Party/Social. Come and show us your best Bachata,
Salsa, Reggaeton and party moves.
Argentine Tango performance by Radu & Erika
In partnership with Aventura Dance Studio
8:00 PM - 1:00 AM | Panther Square

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 28TH**
**Black in Latin America Series: Brazil, Haiti & Dominican Republic**
Feature Documentaries
12:00 PM - Brazil | WUC Theater
2:00 PM - Haiti & Dominican Republic | WUC Theater
4:00 PM - Haiti, Dominican Republic & Brazil | WUC Theater

**MONDAY, OCT. 1ST**
**An Evening with Jose Antonio Vargas**
Sponsored by SGA-BBC, Campus Life-BBC, SPC-BBC,
The School of Journalism & Mass Communication, The
Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, and
The Office of the Vice Provost
Doors open at 6:00 PM
Event starts at 6:30 PM | WUC Theater

**Dancing with the Wolfe Series-Bachata**
Dancing series with Bachata instructor Mambo Yoli
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Panther Square

**TUESDAY, OCT. 2ND**
**School of Environment, Arts and Society**
**Environmental Film Series**
Featuring: Adelin Gasana, Michael Gillespie, Ph. D.
& Asher Milbauer, Ph. D
Event starts at 6:30 PM | WUC Theater

**Dancing with the Wolfe Series: Salsa**
Dancing series with Salsa instructor Mambo Yoli
Beginners: 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM | Panther Square
Intermediate: 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM | Panther Square

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3RD**
**Black in Latin America Series: All Day**
Feature Documentaries: Entire Series
Peru & Mexico, Cuba, Haiti & Dominican Republic, Brazil
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM ALL DAY SHOWINGS | WUC Theater

**THURSDAY, OCT. 4TH**
**Black in Latin America Series: All Day**
Feature Documentaries: Entire Series
Peru & Mexico, Cuba, Haiti & Dominican Republic, Brazil
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM ALL DAY SHOWINGS | WUC 155

**FRIDAY, OCT. 5TH**
**Fuego: Fashion Show**
Fashion Show
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM | WUC Ballroom 244

**SATURDAY, OCT. 6TH**
**Pachanga by the Bay Festival**
Festival Featuring: Angel y Khraz & Toby Love
6:00 PM - Food Trucks by the Bay
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM | Open Field Behind Aquatic Center
How to dress to impress for electronic music fest

Hey Glam Girls!

Mary Kay® is helping you fall into your beauty with complimentary makeovers, tons of free samples*, beauty consultations, and more!

Where: Outside Graham Center-Chapman Plaza (Rain Location: 2nd Floor Meeting Room-GC 243)
When: Tuesday, September 25 10am – 3pm

*One type of each sample per person, while supplies last.

Getting Artsy

Students view the exhibit “Painting in the Gardens” in the Graham Center piano room.
Leading goal scorer pushes forward in career

MICHAEL ORTEGA
Contributing Writer

On a muggy South Florida afternoon, Chelsea Leiva plays her best game of the season so far.

She works wide on a defense that she’s read, noticing that they are playing high on the line. She attacks the team at the weakest point running the edge and taking advantage of her speed. The junior does easy work with the defender and finds the first goal with ease.

Leiva doesn’t let up at keeping pressure forcing the team to cover her on the edge, allowing her teammates to perform giving her a pass in the perfect location where she performs giving her a pass in her best game of the season so far.

Towards the end of the game she noticed the fatigue on the other team, she knew this was her time to make her first Hat Trick of the season. She attacked again without missing a beat passing the defenders attacked again without missing a beat.

Leiva is without question the best player on the FIU women’s soccer team. She leads her team in goals and has twice as many shots on goal as the next closest teammate. Despite this, Leiva puts a lot of emphasis on teamwork.

“I couldn’t have done this without my teammates, they played great,” Leiva said. “I saw what the other team was doing and I attacked wide.”

“Chelsea is a great team-mate, she works for the team,” Head coach Thomas Chestnutt said. “She is a forward so sometimes she has to be a bit selfish to be a good forward. But on the field and off the field she is a great teammate, she always looks out for her teammates if even it’s doing a little extra like helping out after practice with equipment.”

Leiva comes from a very athletic family. Her father was an athlete and her two older brothers both played sports as well. Leiva always knew she wanted to play a sport but she didn’t know she wanted to play soccer at first.

“When I was about five or six, I played softball and basketball, but then I tired soccer and I kept going with it; I loved it from the beginning,” said Leiva. “My day was usually school, practice, and sleep and when I was home I was never inside watching TV me and my brothers were outside playing kickball or something.”

According to Leiva, she has taken past experiences into her play now knowing that they will lead her to her goals and dreams for the future.

“I knew I wanted to play in college, most girls drop out after travel clubs but that wasn’t an option,” said Leiva. Her play on the field has shown that she is taking the next step to her goal. You can even say she is playing like her favorite soccer player Forward Alex Morgan from the USA Women Soccer Team.

Leiva knows that she is moving in the right direction thanks to her coach and mentor Chestnutt.

“I’ve taken so much from playing here at FIU and with this team. I love my teammates they are great friends. Thomas has taught us a lot of things not just on the field but things you can learn off the field too,” said Leiva. “One thing I really took from coach is to play hard and set goals for the future.”

Young soccer star taking advantage of new chances

FRANCISCO RIVERO
Staff Writer

In a soccer team that has a player tied for second nationally in goals, it’s easy to overlook the other key cogs that keep the machine running smoothly.

While sophomore forward Colby Burdette doesn’t have numbers that star teammate Quentin Albrecht has, Colby certainly has the same passion.

Burdette, a Boca Raton native, discovered his passion for soccer at an early age.

“I think it was the second grade and one of my neighbors played soccer. I always saw him come home in a jersey and one day I asked him, ‘hey what do you play?’” Burdette said. “He told me that he played soccer so one day I said ‘I want to play with you.’ So he brought me into an indoor league over the summer and that’s where I just started loving to play soccer.”

In his career, Burdette has gone through a slew of soccer coaches. However, he singles out his parents as his biggest influences.

Burdette was the first athlete in his family and his parents did everything they could to make sure he attended every practice and game.

Burdette continued developing, then scored a goal that he says will stick with him for the rest of his life.

“In high school — the year we went to states — we reached the regional semi-finals and there was a play at the top of our corner. I did a couple of combination plays in the middle of the field and I was able to cut it outside and score a diving header,” Burdette said. “That was the goal that was able to take us to states, so to me, that’s the goal that stands out the most.”

For head coach Kenny Arena, Burdette’s aggressive playing style is no surprise.

“Colby is an attacker, he can stretch teams and he’s very dangerous when he’s running with the ball at his feet,” Arena said. “He’s good in the air, and in the box I’d say he’s even a winger or a high forward.”

As Burdette got older and enhanced his skills, he found himself at crossroads when it came to picking a university.

“(Up until the last couple weeks of my senior year, I had no clue of where I was going to go. I was kind of struggling in school, I wasn’t sure of what I was going to do until I was offered a scholarship here at FIU,” Burdette said. “My mom and I...
Student clubs, organizations receive high priority

Athletic Venue Usage Agreements

**Football Field**
- Requests must be placed 30 days in advance for review and approval
- Must not interfere with operations of the football program — recruiting, training, practice.
- Requests require the approval of the head football coach.

**Stadium Club and Stadium Suites**
- Guaranteed minimum three days per week
- Additional time will depend on football games, athletic team events, fund raising events, etc.

R. Kirk Landon Fieldhouse sharing
...for home games
- Four hours on Sundays 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
- Four hours on Monday evening 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- Four hours on Thursday evening 7 to 11 p.m.

...for away games
- Seven hours on those Fridays starting at 3 p.m.
- All day Saturdays starting at noon.

Number of rental fees Athletics waives for each venue
- Stadium, five
- Baseball stadium, five
- US Century Bank Arena, 10
- Stadium club, 10

Visit fiusm.com to view a full copy of the agreement.

Facilities, Page 1

During a hearing for the fee increase, Pete Garcia, executive director of sports and entertainment, said this is the way the University will get from C-USA to attract attention not only to athletics but to the academics as well.

"This is the one thing that, with all due respect to all other fees, actually brings value to the degree, it brings monetary value when they're applying to jobs," Garcia said.

Some of the attention Garcia mentioned also goes to athletic facilities both SGCs wanted to guarantee student access.

"Cristin 'Cici' Battle and I added things that we felt were pertinent to the growth of students. We met and spoke for a good time to assure all students were going to be affected by this agreement and have the opportunity to use the facilities," Garcia said.

Wesley Hardin, assistant athletic director for facilities and operations, said in 2011-2012 nine requests to use athletic venues were filed and all were approved. As of this writing, Hardin has received eight requests.

It is not written in the agreement whether individual students can request an athletic venue for themselves, but it does recognize students who are members of Greek organizations, student organizations, or University departments.

According to Eric Arneson, assistant vice president for Student Affairs, high priority is given to student organizations.

"It's easier to hold them accountable," Arneson said.

Student clubs are able to hold their meetings either in the stadium club, locker rooms of the visiting team, or in a meeting room at the R. Kirk Landon Football Fieldhouse is required to contain, according to the agreement.

Of the those venues, five to 10 requests are filed for the stadium club alone, according to Arneson. The club is a 6,500-square foot space that can hold up to 300 people.

Arneson said Greek organizations file the most requests because the number of members they have means they need larger rooms for meetings and holding events.

He also said student leaders of student organizations typically know they have access to athletic venues but he isn't sure if that information trickles down to their other members.

A voice mail was left with Lily Wilson, president of the Black Student Union but a response was not received as of press time.

Arneson approves applications after the SGC-MMC president approves, and the Campus Life director at Biscayne Bay Campus, Craig Cunningham, approves after the SGC-BBC president approves.

Frye said they’ve made this decision because the University’s football team practices during the day and intramural championship games for flag football take place at night. If intramurals were to hold their post-season games at the stadium, Athletics would charge them for using the stadium lights.

Hardin, the person within Athletics who approves requests for athletic venues, said any charge Athletics places on student organizations and departments are done to cover overtime employees and equipment used after hours of operation.

"If an event occurs during the day then we don't charge," Hardin said in an interview with Student Affairs.

Strong resolve propels sophomore

**Soccer, Page 9**

thought that we should take the offer in order to get a good education and continue playing soccer.

"Now in his sophomore year, Burdette hopes to further improve his skills with every opportunity. He says that a lot of it is about the mental aspect of the game. "I’ve learned a lot more. I’m a little more quick-minded, my fitness is a lot better and with Kenny coming in, my all-around game has just increased significantly."

As of Sept. 21, Burdette ranks second on the team in goals and shots. Arena suspects that his success will only go up from here. "He’s ever made that common knowledge. That gives us more of a reason to want to make the playoffs. A chance to play in a college stadium for the big cup isn’t something we’d want to pass up," Perez said.

"I don’t think anyone knew, but I am sure we’d jump on the first chance to play a football game in the cage, a soccer game in the official pitch, a basketball game in the arena," Figueroa said.

"If there’s a chance of playing in any of these arenas it should be taken advantage of because that would attract a larger audience to these events," Quesada said.

Additional reporting by Jonathan Jacobskind.

philippe.buteau@fiusm.com

"Sports" @fiusm.com

Colby Burdette has two goals so far this season, second only to Quentin Albrecht who has six.

"Space is a premium on this campus and whatever I can do to get students space, I’ll do it."

— Eric Arneson, Assistant Vice President Student Affairs

Students can find applications in the SGA office at their campus.

Arneson said so far he’s always agreed with the SGC-MMC president.

"Space is a premium on this campus and whatever I can do to get students space, I’ll do it," Arneson said.

The agreement also directly applies to the University’s various intramural programs. It is written in the agreement the head football coach, Mario Cristobal, will approve making the field available to intramural teams for their playoff and championship games.

However, Recreation Services, the department which manages intramural teams, has decided to not use one of the facilities guaranteed in the agreement.

"Because of availability, we wouldn’t be able to use the stadium," said Rob Frye, director of Recreation Services.

Media. For example, Recreation Services would face a charge of $250 per hour for using the lights, according to Hardin.

Requests to use the stadium field must be placed 30 days in advance for review and approval, using the field must not interfere with the football program’s yearly operations: recruiting, training camp and mid-season training, regular season games, pro day, etc.

While the agreement was signed and has been in effect for more than a year, neither Recreation Services nor their intramural teams knew they could use the stadium.

"I was there during the vote and it was mentioned this could be a possibility, but nothing officially came to me," Frye said.

Peter Perez, junior and member of the Pi Kappa Alpha intramural football team, said he never knew.

I figured ... intramurals were meant to be kept in the intramural fields," Perez said. "No one has ever made that common knowledge. That gives us more of a reason to want to make the playoffs. A chance to play in a college stadium for the big cup isn’t something we’d want to pass up."

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Sniping from within GOP adds to Romney's struggles

DAVID ESPO
AP Special Correspondent

Mitt Romney struggled to steady his presidential campaign on Friday, buffeted by an outbreak of sniping by frustrated Republicans, fresh evidence of a slide in battleground state polls and President Barack Obama's accusation that he was writing off "half the country" in pursuit of the White House.

Republican running mate Paul Ryan drew boos at an AARP convention in New Orleans when he said Romney would repeal Obama's health care law, which closed a gap in coverage for seniors' prescription drugs. The Wisconsin congressman accused the administration of weakening Medicare and flunching from tough measures needed to stabilize Social Security's finances, adding that the president has "put his own job security over your retirement security.

Obama rebutted Ryan's charges point by point in a video appearance to the same audience. He said the Republican prescription for Medicare would mean "billions in new profits for insurance companies" and replacing guaranteed benefits with a voucher that would bring higher out of pocket costs for seniors.

Romney campaigned in Nevada as aides released a 2011 federal income tax return showing he and his wife, Ann, paid $1.94 million in federal taxes last year on income of $13.7 million. Their effective tax rate was 14.1 per cent, lower than many families pay because most of the couple's earnings come from investments.

The campaign also released a letter from Romney's doctor saying the 65-year-old former Massachusetts governor is healthy and physically up to the demands of the presidency. Republicans tried to yank the campaign focus back to the economy. "While President Obama and Democrats will try to distract voters, Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan are focused on fixing the economy, getting Americans back to work and ensuring a better future for our children and grandchildren," Sen. John McCain, the Republicans' 2008 presidential candidate, said in a statement.

But there seemed no letup in the bad political news for Romney, hit by a barrage of it since he was seen on videotape saying that his job as a candidate is not to worry about the 47 percent of Americans whom he said pay no income taxes and see themselves as victims.

Obama, for sure, was eager to keep the controversy alive. Campaigning in Woodbridge, Va., he defended himself against Romney's jobs in response to his own statement that change is impossible from the inside in Washington. "It can't happen if you write off half the nation before you even took office," he said.

According to Wall Street Journal/NBC News/Marist Poll surveys, the president has opened leads among likely voters of eight percentage points in Iowa, with 6 electoral votes, and margins of five percentage points each in Colorado (9 electoral votes) and Wisconsin (10). Earlier surveys published this week pointed to leads for Obama in both Virginia, with 13 electoral votes, and Ohio, with 18.

National polls have been far closer, including an AP-GfK survey this week that had it a statistical tie among likely voters. They have also suggested progress for Obama in terms of his handling of the economy, the No. 1 issue in the race.

Despite Romney's difficulties, recent soundings on employment have not been encouraging for the president's re-election. Newly released figures show joblessness ticked up in five swing states in August, fell in two and was unchanged in two others.

Romney's allies also point to a series of presidential debates beginning Oct. 3 as a chance to shake up the race.

But for now, Romney's troubles have sent shudders down ballot, where Republicans are in tough races that will settle the outcome for the struggle for control of the Senate this fall. Tommy Thompson, campaigning in Wisconsin, said "the presidential thing is bound to have an impact on every election."

That produced a quick return from John Sununu, a top Romney surrogate: "My good friend Tommy Thompson sounds like Barack Obama, blaming it on somebody else," he said on CNN.

But Thompson wasn't alone. Rep. Rick Berg, running for the Senate more than-expected race in North Dakota, became the latest in a string of Republican candidates to say they disagreed with Romney's 47 percent remarks.

Apart from his self-inflicted political wounds, Romney has been under pressure from fellow Republicans to draw clearer distinctions with Obama on the economy, and say more clearly what he would do to bring down the nation's 8.1 percent unemployment rate.

Associated Press writers Mark Smith in Woodbridge, Va.; and Ken Thomas, Jim Kuhnhenn, Julie Pace and Katie Hunt in Washington contributed to this report.
WEIGH YOUR VEGGIES

Students form alliance for farmers’ labor rights

SKYLAR SIEGEL
Contributing Writer

Some Floridians may think oranges are the sole fruit produced in the state, but over 95 percent of all tomatoes are grown in Mexico, Florida and California. Others are unaware that Florida farms have had many reports of abusing their farmworkers.

According to the National Farmworker Alliance, the most a farm worker can earn in a year is $12,000 by working 10 hours non-stop in the sun with no breaks. They receive 49 cents per bucket of tomatoes picked.

Because of these conditions, Daniela Sacek, junior political science major, started the FIU Student Farmworker Alliance to help gain awareness for the cause. “I was a site leader for alternative Breaks at FIU and my site was Immokalee. I volunteered at the Coalition of Immokalee Workers [...] and got inspired along with members of our all group and we decided to start a chapter. Since, I became an intern with two allied organizations here, just harvest and inter-faith action,” said Sacek.

SFA already has the support of companies like McDonald’s, Taco Bell, Whole Foods and Burger King as they’ve signed the Fair Food Agreement.

Their next goal is to get Publix to sign this agreement. “It’s a code of conduct that companies abide by which basically gives one more cent per bucket and makes sure the farmworkers can get breaks and better working conditions,” said Alexandra Floresmeyer Campoy, the marketing/advertising chair of the alliance. “By agreeing to this, there is a system to make sure the farms these companies buy from are also complying with the code of conduct.”

On Labor Day, Sept. 3, SFA went to hand-deliver letters to the Publix manager at the Publix across from Modesto Maidique Campus. There were over 100 letters from different people asking them to sign the Fair Food Agreement provided. SFA is still waiting for their decision and is optimistic.

“Our goal is to end sweatshop conditions and modern-day slavery in the fields by working with the farmers,” said Campoy. “Right now we’re focused on targeting Publix and Chipotle in order to get them to sign the fair food agreement like other corporations have. This is something that students should care about because it’s slavery that’s happening right in Florida.”

SEE SFA, PAGE 3

A BALANCING ACT

Working women on campus break typical mom stereotype

MORGAN GARCES
Contributing Writer

The word “mom” is often related to the image of a soft and genial mother goose, but in the workplace, this image does not always follow. At the Biscayne Bay Campus, it’s easy to find full-time mothers working at a full-time job.

Barbara Barrero, a hospitality major, notices some of these women. “They’re more willing to accept roles. It’s a challenge, but now you can see the advancement.”

Female professors, assistants and staff may have to carry the same pressures of learning how to take on multiple titles, including disciplinary.

Sonya Robinson, office manager of the Multicultural Programs and Services at BCC has raised three kids.

“You even get students who take your niceness for granted...Don’t take us for granted. Don’t take kindness for weakness.”

Sonya Robinson, Office Manager Multicultural Programs and Services

Robinson has worked for the University for 20 years, but not without the worry of her children in the back of her mind. She remembers working previous jobs and wondering about her children’s commute and whether or not they were walking home safely.

John Zoeller, a social studies instructor and the husband of a full-time working mother can empathize with them. “I am a husband of a full-time working mother. It’s a challenge, but now you can see the advancement.”

It’s a challenge, but now you can see the advancement.

“Balance [your] future career with immediate and future family concerns.”

Being equally responsible as she is with the family, he knows how difficult it can become for his wife. “Obviously what was once a woman’s role is now shared by the spouse, but my suspicion is that most women still carry most of the responsibility.”

Simple discussions such as asking for a raise or a day off can be intimidating. “When your kids get sick, you’re scared to call in because you have a position where you feel you must show up. There are bosses that aren’t understanding that your kids and you get sick,” said Robinson.

Common events such as maternity leave, school pick-up hours or family emergencies can be a deal breaker when applying for jobs. Janet Rodriguez, the food service supervisor at Moe’s Southwest Grill at BCC, admits that getting to her position wasn’t too difficult because she had past managerial experience, but that often times employees “won’t look to [women] for promotions when they do, they think, ‘I won’t listen to her.”

Assistant Director of the Women’s Center Sabrina O’Keefe said employers can assume that women will be taking care of their children and it will affect how they perform at work, when it doesn’t.

“Besides getting bigger and having to take a month or two off, they’re seen as getting softer after giving birth.”

Robinson can relate to being seen as getting soft. “You even get students who take your niceness for granted. I had a student that would come in at 6:30 when we close at 7:00 and begin to type her papers up. I’d have to have my husband take care of the kids. Don’t take us for granted. Don’t take kindness for weakness.”

“We’re a new club on campus with few members so far. So attaining the companies we have so far has definitely been a great success for us,” said Campoy.

Although SFA mainly operates and holds meetings on MMC, they are looking to do more at Biscayne Bay Campus to get more students on both campuses involved.

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