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Candidates’ take on future of financial aid

DIEGO SALDANA
Staff Writer

Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama have different takes on the topic of higher education, specifically on the issue of financial aid.

Romney’s education plan calls for the Pell Grant to allocate funds to the students who need it the most. Paul Ryan, Romney’s running mate, calls for $115 billion to be cut from the Department of Education, which, in turn, would cost millions of students their Pell Grants.

Ryan’s plan would not be in effect until after next year and would not reduce the amount for those students who need it the most.

According to the White House website, the president has raised the amount for the federal Pell Grant for 2013-2014 aid year to $5,635. The website also says the number of Pell Grant recipients has increased by 50 percent since 2008.

In contrast, Romney’s running mate, Paul Ryan, would reduce funding for Pell grants in his budget, increase eligibility requirements and freeze the maximum grant at $5,550.

With over 21,000 undergraduates at the University receiving Pell Grants, Financial Aid Director Francisco Valines noted that the issue of financial aid is an important one for students in this upcoming election.

“I would not be able to be here; it’s essential,” said Kerion Williams, a junior English major, when asked if Pell Grants were vital for him to attend the University.

A similar response was given by Diego Posada, a freshman criminal justice major, who said the aid was important “because otherwise, I wouldn’t be able to afford college.”

In regards to student loans, the president has urged Congress to keep interest rates low for the millions of students who use federal subsidized loans, according to the White House website.

Also, Stafford loans remained at 3.4 percent this past summer, instead of doubling.

Romney’s education plans disapprove of Obama’s nationalization of the student loan market and encourages private sector involvement. His plan also does not support forgiving student loans if a student claims he or she cannot repay them.

“[Raising interest rates] would affect me tremendously,” said Natasha Chirinos, a sophomore health services major. “I assume that it will put me in a lot of debt once I finish my degree here in FIU. I don’t consider that to be a good thing at all.”

When asked if they knew that either president would want to cut federal funding for either the Pell grant or loans and if it would sway their vote, all the students interviewed by Student Media responded that it would.

Posada said he would be voting for Obama because “…his agenda is to provide more funding for grants.”

“I feel like there should be more private investors in federal aid,” Williams said. “I also think there should be more eligibility…. We should make it more available as long as it doesn’t create a bigger deficit.”

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KIRSTINA CORONEL
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 27, the University is hosting a lecture titled “The U.S. Foreign Service: Behind the Scenes of American Diplomacy,” during which author and journalist Nicholas Kralev will go into detail about his book, “America’s Other Army,” which chronicled his visits to more than 50 U.S. embassies and his many interviews with over 600 career diplomats.

During the lecture, Kralev will be sharing behind-the-scenes secrets about high-level foreign policy decision making, how the work of American diplomats affects daily lives and how it contributes directly to U.S. security and prosperity.

Kralev is a graduate of Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and holds a master’s in Public Policy. He is known as a writer, educator, speaker on global travel, diplomacy and international affairs.

Kralev was a former Financial Times and Washington Times correspondent who traveled the world with four different U.S. secretaries of state, which included Hillary Clinton, Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell and Madeleine Albright.

The lecture was arranged by David Twigg, interim director of FIU’s Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies, and co-sponsored by the Gordon Institute and also by the Department of Politics and International Relations.

In an interview with Student Media, Twigg said that many of the University’s students, faculty, and members of the community are interested in the subjects Kralev would be sharing in his lecture.

“It is important for us to tap into, when possible, the insights of people who have had vast global experience,” Twigg said. “Taking advantage of the exciting opportunities helps maintain the edge that makes FIU, the School of International and Public Affairs and the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies ‘Worlds Ahead.’”

For those attending the event, Kralev’s book will be available for purchase at $24.99. He will also be autographing books at the lecture.

The lecture will take place at the Management and Advanced Research Center (MARC) Pavilion at the Modesto Maidique Campus, beginning at 6:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

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FIU Foundation appoints new directors to board

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

The FIU Foundation welcomes 10 new additions to its Board of Directors.

The Foundation Board of Directors is a volunteer leadership board that supervises development efforts in the University.

New members are elected by current board members. The bylaws of the Foundation allow for a maximum of 50 elected members.

Ten new members were elected this year in meetings held in January and May. There are currently 48 members on the board and two vacancies.

Alongside the elected board of directors are the ex-officio members. These individuals, who have another position in the University, work together with the 50 board members.

Among the members are the Student Government Association President Pablo Haspel and the Alumni Association President Andres Bedoya.

All members give $15,000 donation; $5,000 counts as a yearly donation; $5,000 counts as an annual give or get.

The election process goes through the Membership and Board Management Committee, who reviews the candidates. After reviewing each candidate, the committee makes recommendations to the full Board of Directors for membership approval.

According to Patricia Mauter, coordinator for the Board of Directors, most newly elected members are already involved within the University.

This means members can donate the latter amount or petition others to make a gift, sponsor or donate to the University.

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Only babies should fuss about feeding time

LOURDES GINART
Staff Writer

Public breastfeeding can be an unsettling sight for some or something beautiful for others. So when Adrienne Pine, a professor at American University, breastfed her child in the middle of a lecture, controversy followed.

Pine is a single mother and, at the time, had a sick infant and no babysitter. So she took her child to the auditorium, and after the lecture began, the baby began to fuss and cry. It was feeding time.

Pine believed it would be easier to continue one of the first lectures of the semester rather than have her baby cry. It was after the lecture began, the baby began to fuss and cry. So she took her child to the auditorium, and after the lecture began, the baby began to fuss and cry. It was feeding time.

Pine breached what many consider to be a “delicate” or sensitive act, I would not have done in it in front of my students. Nor would I have spent the previous year doing it on buses, trains and airplanes; on busy sidewalks and nice restaurants; in television studios and while giving plenary lectures to large conferences.

I feel that Pine has become too comfortable with the idea of public breastfeeding. The child being a year old, Pine should have an established feeding schedule, and if it interferes with her time at a nice restaurant, she should easily excuse herself and go to the restroom. If she knows she will be giving a lecture at a conference, there is enough time to hire a caretaker.

Breastfeeding may be an act of nature, and in many situations I understand the need to do it in public; but please, be decent.

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Wednesday, September 26, 2012
Barrett Keene walks across America to raise awareness

ALFREDO AMARCO Staff Writer

Through dirt roads and mountains, through small towns and big cities, through rain, hail, snow and heat, one man is making a nine month, 3,474 mile trek from Miami to San Francisco in order to raise awareness on the reality facing impoverished communities and orphaned youth.

Barrett Keene, a PhD student at Cornell University, first became aware of the extreme realities facing underprivileged communities when he went to the Panamanian border as an undergrad at the University of Florida to teach English and sustainable farming practices to the community.

“There were some areas in extreme poverty and nursing and teaching children that were in completely different conditions, running around in ragged or without clean water, getting sick and dying of preventable illnesses. I left with God was wanting my dry, cold, selfish heart,” described Keene.

“We often give in to this human nature and become human beings instead of human beings.”

Keene realized led him on trips to Central America to Guatemala, Haiti, and Brazil during spring and Christmas breaks in which he continued to see what poverty was doing, not only to the adults, but also to the children in these situations.

“My trip to Guatemala was the first time I visited an orphanage and met with kids that were suffering, and it is their fault. Children cannot do much for themselves. It is our opportunity to serve and help others,” said Keene.

“This continuous volunteerism made me realize that I had to do something.”

Partnering with the Global Opiate Project and Legacy Chang, who sponsored his trip supplies when they found out what he was doing, Keene decided to walk across America in an effort to expose others to the reality of orphaned children and help them see that it is the small decisions that can make a big impact on others, like donating a school uniform for a child in Uganda or Haiti, who is not allowed to go to school unless they have a school uniform but because of their conditions cannot afford to buy one.

“A uniform can be the dividing line between a child being allowed to carry an education and a future or being locked out of school. This is horrible for all children, and the tragic reality has particular importance for girls,” Keene said. “One uniform can provide education up on opportunity and opportunity.

Keene wanted till he went home to Florida to start training for the walk, when he spent a month walking and running and even participated in FoodMaxx 5K.

“I try to stay in good shape,” said Keene, “and I’ve always had a passion for pushing myself physically, but not too much. There was a stretch of about 45 days it was 100 degrees everyday and I was walking for 15 miles, I am about to finish walking across the Rocky Mountains and it’s challenging. You whole body hurts, but it’s good because we’ve been able to raise awareness in almost 800,000 people through social media, newspapers, radio, television, and speeches throughout the country.

Now I’m preparing to cross the Nevada desert and the Sierra Nevada Mountains, which could very well be covered in snow.”

On his walk, Keene has been able to speak at churches, schools and universities while trying to understand and help middle and high school teachers be more effective and exceptional leaders as part of his dissertation and research.

“It’s been incredible to see how people are across the country to help,” Keene said. “I think deep down, below the heavenliness and desire that prevent and damage our relationships, there’s a desire to be involved and in need for a better and happier world.”

As he finishes his final 10,000 miles, Keene urges people to get involved, not just put his cause, but to be part of it. “First, you’re encouraged, get involved. Get down and dirty and learn about the challenges others face in your community, until you have that passion, get yourself in action and the action of doing saves your passion.”

To get involved, visit globalopiateproject.org and sign up to donate pennies for each of the final 100,000 miles Keene will walk in a school uniform, which allows a child to go to school, creates jobs, improves communities and helps the care of orphaned children. All proceeds go to the Global Opiate Project.

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W hen people asked me how you can travel far away, I could honestly tell them it was the best summer I ever had without enriching the truth. I didn’t spend my summer at the beach, in hotels or visiting relatives up north. I spent it across the Pacific in the beautiful country of Japan. Two years ago, as a sophomore, my academic advisor advised that I should look into two introductory courses in a foreign language. “Japanese is a beautiful language,” she said. “It provides an opportunity to learn a language completely different from English.”

I procrastinated. As it turns out, my international relations major required in the College of Arts & Sciences, which requires a foreign language. After days of indecision, the only language class that fit perfectly with my schedule was Japanese I. I was so enthralled by the language. The mccs culture and dialect intrigued me. I made the decision to study abroad late October of 2011 after much consideration and research. I knew I was going to go, and second, I didn’t have any money. I spoke with my professor and the advisor at the Office of Education Abroad and they walked me through my applications for various scholarships and loans.

A workshop and a handful paper later, I received the life-changing news that I had received the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for the summer. This was, with $4000 in my bank account and brand new flights to Tokyo, which could cost up to $1000, make my future or being locked out of school. This is horrible for all children, and the tragic reality has particular importance for girls,” Keene said. “One uniform can provide education up on opportunity and opportunity.

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RUBEN PALACIOS  Contributing Writer

The FIU cross-country team is off and running.

The cross-country team started off the new campaign with a trip to Fort Myers, Fla. to participate in the Flordia Gulf Coast University Invitational on Aug. 31.

Hosted by FGCU, the invitational also included Florida Atlantic University, Stetson University and Lipscomb University.

The FIU women’s cross country team kicked off the event in the 5000-meter version of the invitational. Freshman Lauren Gonzalez ran in 19 minutes, 22 seconds. The 11th best time and best time for the Panthers.

Senior Samia Adan ran a time of 20:42, placing her eighth under her teammate in 11th place. Catherine Venture, sophomore, ran a time of 20:47, earning a 19th overall finish. Freshman Caroline Straugh, placed 26th overall with a time of 21:31. Krystal Francis, junior, placed 27th overall with a time of 21:36. Desmonica White, sophomore, also participated but did not place in the event.

Overall, the women’s team placed 6th out of the five teams. Lipscomb took the 1st place honors, host FGCU followed in second, FAU came in 3rd and Stetson came in 5th place.

The FIU men’s cross country team also participated in the men’s half of the FGCU invitational.


Like the women, the men placed 4th out of the five teams. Host FGCU placed first, Lipscomb placed 2nd, FAU placed 3rd and Stetson placed last.

The Panthers then set their sights on Tampa, Fla., to participate in the University of South Florida Cross Country Invitational.

The invitational, hosted by USF, included Florida A&M University which only participated on the men’s side, Embry Riddle University, FAU, Nova Southeastern University, University of Central Florida, University of Miami, University of Tampa, Saint Leo University and participating only on the women’s side was Pasco-Hernando Community College.

All eyes will be on the FIU’s annual Thanksgiving Classic as Jerica Coley, who finished sixth in the country last season in scoring with 23.4 points per game, leads FIU in a four-team gauntlet against the three NCAA participants. Ranked as eighth seeds entering the tournament, LSU and West Virginia advanced past the first round defeating San Diego State and Texas respectively, with Iowa losing to California 84-74. The Panthers inaugurate the tournament by playing Iowa and will face either the winner or loser of the contest between the Tigers and Mountaineers the following day.

FIU opens its 2012 campaign with two exhibition games against the University of Quebec on Oct. 25 and at Barry on Nov. 11. The Panthers also play state rival Central Florida on Dec. 18 in Miami and compete for the conference championship from March 8 to 11, in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The FIU men’s cross country team did not improve on their second to last place finish at FGCU, instead the men finished last in the field of nine. FAMU took the first place crown, Nova placed in second, Embry Riddle placed in third, UM placed in fourth, Tampa placed in fifth, host USF placed in sixth, FAU placed in seventh and Saint Leo placed in eighth. Student Media attempted contacting head coach Eric Campbell, but were unable to receive comment.

SPORTS

CROSS COUNTRY

Thanksgiving Classic highlights 2012-2013 schedule

LUI S D. GUT IER REZ  Staff Writer

It’s time to circle your calendars. Louisiana State, West Virginia, and Iowa: three of the NCAA tournament’s participants from last season highlight the 2012-2013 women’s basketball schedule as they visit FIU for the annual Thanks-giving Classic from November 23 to 25.

“We’re excited to get going,” said Cindy Russo, head coach, in a press release as she officially announced the schedule last Wednesday. “This schedule features tough non-conference teams and we’ll be prepared for a competitive confer ence season. We have higher expectations this year. The players are back. They have improved and they’re working hard. We’re ready to go.

Russo will look to build upon last year’s relative success, where the Panthers won 23 games, going 10-6 in conference play. They earned a bid to the women’s National Invitation Tournament, before losing to South Florida 77-61.

However, the slate definitely looks to be challenging as FIU faces nine programs fresh off competition in postseason tournaments, NCAA and NIT alike. Among those is Florida Gulf Coast, who the Panthers lost to 71-70 in Fort Myers, during their first road game of the season.

Last season, the Eagles finished 29-3, running a clean 18-0 slate in the Atlantic Sun Conference before losing to St. Bonaventure 72-65 in the NCAA tournament.

FIU will face Middle Tennessee, which finished 0-16 in the Sun Belt Conference during the regular season and eliminated the Panthers from the conference semi-finals in the first time on Dec. 20 in Murfreesboro.

The Blue Raiders will make their way to the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Jan. 31 to complete the two-game conference set.

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock, which shocked many around the college basketball circles by defeating Middle Tennessee 71-70 in overtime to win the conference championship, faces FIU on Jan. 12 in Little Rock and on Feb. 21 in Miami.

Despite a healthy conference record, the Panthers went a combined 0-4 against both conference stalwarts last season. However, a silver lining indicates FIU won 12 games, in the regular season and conference tournament against the rest of its other Sun Belt foes.

The Panthers open up conference play on Nov. 19 against Western Kentucky on the road, in which both teams split their regular season meetings last year. FIU plays its main rival Florida Atlantic on Feb. 6 in Miami and on Mar. 2 in Boca Raton.

The Panthers lost both meetings against the Owls last year, by a mere three points combined, losing 50-49 at home and 51-49, just two weeks later at FAU.

All eyes will be on the FIU men’s annual Thanksgiving classic as Jerica Coley, who finished sixth in the country last season in scoring with 23.4 points per game, leads FIU in a four-team gauntlet against the three NCAA participants. Ranked as eighth seeds entering the tournament, LSU and West Virginia advanced past the first round defeating San Diego State and Texas respectively, with Iowa losing to Cali fornia 84-74. The Panthers inaugurate the tournament by playing Iowa and will face either the winner or loser of the contest between the Tigers and Mountaineers the following day.

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Medlock out at least four weeks. Hilton shines

BRANDON WISE
Sports Director

This past weekend, FIU starting quarterback Jake Medlock suffered a fractured left foot, which, according to the Miami Herald, will keep him out of action for at least four weeks. Prior to the injury, Medlock was 10-16 for 116 yards, along with a rushing touchdown.

In his first three games under center for the Panthers, Medlock had thrown for 714 yards and four touchdown passes. He also ran for 241 yards and a touchdown.

Head coach Mario Cristobal said after the game that it was enough that Medlock was not able to return to game action. An MRI later revealed the severity of the injury.

The team announced today that true freshman E.J. Hilliard will take over the reins of the offense, which outgained Louisville last weekend 326-323. Cristobal says it’s going to be a tall order for the 19-year-old, but he believes Hilliard can handle the situation.

“It’s a lot to ask of a guy to go right there and play really away in his first year,” Cristobal said, following the loss to Louisville. “Once [Hilliard] settles down he did some things that are certainly going to have to help us win football games going forward.”

Hilliard went 9-10 for 82 yards and one touchdown in his short amount of game action this past weekend.

In the same game, Darian Mallary was also forced to leave early due to a concussion. He did not return and it is feared he will be out of action for the next game.

“It’s probably a concussion,” Cristobal said after the game. “It was an extremely physical play where he got dinged up pretty good where doctors felt we had to hold him out.”

The Panthers will take on the Louisiana Lafayette Ragin’ Cajuns this Saturday in Louisiana.

PANTHERS IN THE PROS

On Sunday, T.Y. Hilton became the first ever Panther player to score a touchdown in the NFL, when he received a 40-yard scoring strike from rookie quarterback Andrew Luck.

Hilton downplayed his first career touchdown after the game.

“It means nothing, we lost,” Hilton said in an interview with Colts.com postgame. “It’s kind of frustrating, but we can learn from it and build from it.”

The former Panther finished the game with four catches for 113 yards and the touchdown, but the Colts fell to the Jaguars 22-17 after Blaine Gabbert connected with Cecil Shorts for an 80 yard touchdown.

Antwan Barnes also recorded his 21st career sack against the Atlanta Falcons when he brought down Matt Ryan in the Chargers 27-3 loss in San Diego.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL weekend full of injuries including Miami’s Bush

Three AFC East stars were forced out of Sunday’s games because of injuries.

Buffalo running back C.J. Spiller left Sunday’s 24-14 victory over Cleveland because of an injured left shoulder.

He was hurt as he was tackled after catching a short pass and picking up 25 yards in the first quarter. Spiller stayed on the ground for several minutes before he was helped to his feet by trainers. He grabbed his left arm as he walked off the field before being carted to the locker room.

Bills coach Chan Gailey does not expect Spiller to be back for next week’s home game against New England — and possibly longer.

“I don’t believe it’s long, long-term,” Gailey said. “If he missed a week that’s long for me. He’s going to be out for sure this week and then we’ll see.”

Spiller will undergo further testing Monday.

At Miami, Reggie Bush limped off the field.

Darrelle Revis was driven away.

They were both gone with apparent left knee injuries long before a four-hour overtime marathon between the Jets and Dolphins ended — but their absences could clearly mean plenty for both clubs going forward.

Bush departed just before halftime. He stayed down after being tackled on a play where the Dolphins were apparently trying to run out the clock but chose not to simply take a knee, giving their best offensive player the ball on a handoff instead. Revis left in the third quarter, falling awkwardly and grabbing at his knee even before he hit the grass, a non-contact injury where he wound up covering his face with gloved hands in obvious pain.

“No news yet,” Jets coach Rex Ryan said after the game as asked about Revis. “He’ll have an MRI when we get home tomorrow.”

There was no update on Bush’s status from the Dolphins, either.

Oakland Raiders receiver Darrius Heyward-Bey was taken to the hospital with a neck injury after a helmet-to-helmet hit from Steelers safety Ryan Mundy that was not penalized.

Heyward-Bey was running across the end zone early in the fourth quarter to catch a pass from Carson Palmer when Mundy launched his body and lowered his helmet into Heyward-Bey’s facemask. Heyward-Bey’s neck jerked violently and his head also crashed into the ground. The pass was incomplete.

Heyward-Bey’s eyes were shut for the 10 minutes trainers attended to him as he lay motionless. He was strapped to a table and placed on a cart. As the cart started to leave the field, he raised his right hand to roaring cheers.

The Raiders said he was in stable condition and would stay in the hospital overnight for observation.

Detroit quarterback Matthew Stafford was replaced by Shaun Hill late in the fourth quarter after coming up limping trying to chase down a Tennessee defender on a 72-yard fumble return for a touchdown.

Afterman Verner took the ball out of Brandon Pettigrew’s hands after a 6-yard catch and ran it back for the touchdown with 1:16 left. Stafford tried to run down Verner before pulling up after hurting his right leg. He limped back to the sideline, and Hill replaced Stafford for the next series. Team officials said Stafford strained a leg muscle.

The Titans played the second half without tight end Jared Cook after he hurt his left shoulder late in the first half. Detroit punter Ryan Grifenhurt his left calf in the first quarter, forcing the Lions to turn to kicker Jason Hanson right knee that kept him out for most of Wash-

ington’s loss to the Cincinnati Bengals.

Williams said he did not fear that the injury was serious. He was hurt on Washington’s second play from scrimmage, then did briefly return before leaving again.

Redskins coach Mike Shanahan said corner-

backs Cedric Griffin and Crezdon Butler had hurt hamstrings.

Cots receiver Austin Collie has left the Jacksonville game with what a right knee injury early in the third quarter.
Asian students adapt to language, culture and school work

SHANNON COPELAND  Contributing Writer

Annyonghaseyo! This is how you say hello in Korean.

Some students may not know there are Korean students here, let alone how to greet them.

Although China’s popula-
tion is larger than 1 billion, not all Asian students at the University are from there.

For Wen Da Xu, a senior mathematics major from China, being the language barrier was only one of the chal-

lenges Da Xu met.

Da Xu also had to get used to some of the manners.

“When I first came, I didn’t have money or cell phone, I asked to borrow phone and people lent it to me, in China if you do that, people will wonder why you want to borrow their phone,” Da Xu said.

As soon as she stepped off the plane, one of Da Xu’s main problems was to choose something from the menu.

“When I couldn’t understand the menu, I ordered everything. The cashier look at me and said, ‘What?’” Da Xu said.

Liu Song, a senior hospi-
tality transfer student from China, felt like an outsider on the public transportation in Miami.

“When I get on the bus, everybody look at me like, ‘why is Asian on bus,’ that made me feel like minority. In China I’m a majority. I felt very uncomfortable. And because I don’t have a car, I stay at home and surf Internet.”

The relationship between friends, classmates and acquaintances can also be a challenge. In the Asian culture, addressing someone by their first name is only done between families and loved ones.

“The communication style in Japan is very different. It’s like bowling, you wait your turn to talk. But here it’s like tennis. Most people think I don’t have a lot to say, but that’s not the reason,” said Japanese student Yoshihiro Kanno, a graduate in the hospitality program.

“I feel very uncomfortable with hugging and kissing on the cheek. And being called by my first name took some time to get used to,” Kanno said.

Asian students also miss ingredients found only in their country. It’s easy to find sushi in Miami, but that is not the same sushi Kanno used to eat in Japan.

“I really like sushi, but it taste different here, so I cook mostly western style,” Kanno said.

Yung Joon Ji, hospitality undergraduate student from Korea, also misses the spices from his country.

“I’m used to American food, but authentic Korean restaurants are hard to find,” said Joon Ji.

For Zhi Wei Lin it is difficult to make friends with those not of the same culture.

“Since there are a lot of Chinese students in the hospitality program, I don’t really know how to make friends with foreign students,” Wei Lin said.

“But I want to make Amer-
ican friends.”

Classroom etiquette in Asian countries is very strict, as only teachers speak during lectures while students listen.

Michelle Yoo, a visiting assistant professor in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Kick-Off by the Bay and the step show. All tickets can be expected.

For the events taking place at BBC, there will be free shuttle service for students between campuses.

Ticket prices are $30 for the Panthermonium concert and $15 for LXV Lounge and the step show. All other events are free. Tickets can be purchased online at bc.fiu.edu.

The Panthermonium Concert is expecting a crowd of about 20,000 people, students, alumni and the community alike.

“I cannot wait for the concert. B.O.B. and Kaskade are gonna kill it for sure,” said Jorge Enseñat, senior and biology major. “Maurita is going to be hilarious. Definitely going to the comedy show ‘Dassss it!!’”

Photos by Sana Ullah/The Beacon

Romaña Buenos and Jennifer Campos danced the Brazilian samba at Panther Square as they hyped the students for the Viva SPC Kick-off event for the Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

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MANUEL CEDENO  Contributing Writer

More than a month into the semester, when it seems that profes-
sors have conspired to assign their exams all within the same week, it’s difficult not to get overwhelmed by the stress of university life. But some students keep Homecoming Week in their minds.

Sunday, Oct. 7 marks the begin-
ning of Homecoming Week: Full of activities, both at the Modesto Maidique Campus and Biscayne Bay Campus, this year’s Homecoming is expecting its highest number in attendance yet.

It begins at Tamiami Park. The first even of Panthermonium, is broken down into two parts, Panther-
monium Village and Panthermonium Concert. The village opens its gates at 1 p.m.

The village will host the final ticket for tickets

In collaboration with the Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Kick-Off by the Bay will run on Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Students can expect games, giveaways, a barbecue and kayaking.

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, the Kovens Center will host the LXV Lounge.

“LXV Lounge will have some DJs, food and ‘mocktails,’ while the outside will be more of a lounge setting with couches and bands playing softer music. It’s going to be like an actual club,” said Rafael Brazon-Di Fatta, Homecoming as-
tistant director of communications.

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nearing – run for tickets