English department explores Hispanic body image

The University’s Department of English is hosting a three-part series titled “Latina Women and the Body” on Oct. 3 at the Museum of Contemporary Art in North Miami. Meant to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, the series includes presentations that explore how images and ideas about identity, beauty and sexuality of Latina women and girls in visual culture shape South Florida’s market, regionally and internationally, now with the help of a local entrepreneur.

Tiber Hollo, the president and founder of Florida East Coast Realty, a local construction firm, donated $2.5 million to the University’s graduate real estate program, according to Suzanne Hollander, professor in the department of finance and real estate.

As a result of Hollo’s donation, the program has been renamed Tibor and Sheila Hollo School of Real Estate.

Zhonghua Wu, assistant professor in the department of finance and real estate, said the official announcement was made at a luncheon held in JW Marriott on Sept. 21.

Hollander said the program is meant to formally educate students specifically on real estate.

William Hardin, director of MSIRE, said the University’s College of Business is one of 25 programs nationwide that offer a graduate program in real estate.

In regards to how the donation will be used, Hardin said they plan to use the money to make the program more accessible to its students, helping students in their futures.

“People need as much education as possible to make better choices, which in turn creates a better quality in life,” Hardin said.

In 2008, the University was ranked No. 18 in real estate research in the Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics. “[The program] raises the esteem and power of the program’s degree, helping students in their futures,” Hardin said.

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Skybox gives students a view from the top

RICO ALBARRACIN
Staff Writer

There is a room with a view that exists on campus. A room that is rarely used but in clear sight. This room is at the stadium.

Various athletic venues are available for students to use, such as the R. Kirk Landon Fieldhouse, but a much lesser known athletic facility is available: FIU Stadium Executive Suite 221, known colloquially as the SGA skybox.

Use of the skybox, like other athletic venues, came about when Athletics requested an increase to the athletic fee – during the 2007-2008 academic year.

“We knew we needed to support them because of what was going on in athletics at the time,” said Arthur “AJ” Meyer, vice president of the Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus at the time of the agreement.

When Meyer proposed the skybox purchase the Golden Panthers football team played their home games at the Miami Orange Bowl I-23 in their previous two seasons.

“We believed in the impact of the football program on both the University’s academic and social standing,” Meyer said in an interview with Student Media.
The third part of the series is titled “Latinas in Hollywood: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly.” Myra Mendible, a professor at Florida Gulf Coast University and an alumna of the University’s English program is presenting this part of the series on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public, but space is limited. To make a reservation, visit www.mocanomi.org. The MOCA is located on 770 NE 125 St., North Miami, FL.
Being mindful is a must at the gym

DIANA ANAYA
Contributing Writer

I love the Modesto Maid- ique Gymnasium – a variety of machines to use, fun exer- cise classes to take, and an increase in locker heads made working out a great deal more enjoyable than it normally is. Still, there are a few customs I’ve encountered that can be irritating.

Many students who frequent the gym are familiar with the people who don’t wipe their sweat from the machines to use, fun exercises etc., don’t finish out, and then five more minutes as you actually “work out.” Just leave your phone in the locker; your friends can wait. NOW when I start exer-

I’m in the zone, jamming to some music and breaking a sweat. But that doesn’t mean I don’t see you leaning to the side, trying to get a peak at my calorie count.

This isn’t a competition, and the time you’re wasting checking out my stats is time you could have spent focusing on yourself. This one is specifically to the ladies, although it may be true for men as well: walking around the locker room naked. I’m sincerely glad that you feel comfortable with your body, but remember: you’re in a room filled with strangers.

Bras-and-panties are fine; birthday suit is not. Next time you leave the showers, take your clothes with you to a bathroom stall and change there.

My last complaint is the opposite of what I hear several students say. If I decide I’m going to spend an hour on the elliptical and all the other ones are full, tough luck.

In the ever-growing cost of attending this University, I believe I’m entitled to be on the machine for as long as I desire. Instead, try coming earlier or staying later.

Not all students do these things though. There are plenty of thoughtful people who wipe down machines, only sit on a machine when they’re using it, and overall are respectful to those around them.

However, if you’re one of these offenders, don’t be surprised if you catch a couple glares.

Oh, we have a skybox?

South Florida. Hot, humid, and wet: no matter what time of the year. On any given Saturday, and the occasional Thursday, students head out to FIU Stadium to watch the Panthers take to the gridiron in the hopes of coming out on top of the Sun Belt Conference, and beginning next year Conference USA.

But in hopes of watching the Panthers come out with the golden nugget, we the students have to bare the elements of South Florida, sit in the heat, and often enough, sit in the mysterious oasis that is the Student Govern-

ment Association’s skybox.

The SGA skybox is a luxury for our student leaders. It’s a little known fact, a very little known fact.

Since the skybox has been available, no student organizations have requested to use it, according to Eric Arneson, assistant vice presi-

dent of Student Affairs.

For the 2012-2013 academic year, students paid $16.10 for their athletics fee plus a $10 flat fee. Multiply that by the estimated 50,000 students currently enrolled at FIU and you’ll get a sense as to how much of an investment students have in Athletics.

But if students have access to this luxury item, then more should be done to promote it in a fashion that would incorporate members of the student body at large, or at least let them know that this box exists.

In the grand scheme of things it would be unrealistic for the SGA skybox to accommodate 50,000 students, but that isn’t what The Beacon is saying.

What we’re saying is that SGA should take advantage of the skybox as an incentive for students outside of the SGA circle to become active, to contribute to on-campus philanthropic efforts, to garner interest in the overall activities of not only our student leaders but the administration as a whole.

The promotion should not only fall on SGA, however. Both our student leaders and Athletics should do their part to promote the skybox as a resource for students.

The sporadic events SGA holds and the games that take place each receive student funding and in turn some sort of promotion. Therefore the access students are guaranteed to the skybox and other athletic venues should be promoted by both departments. There’s only so much The Beacon can do to spread the word.

The main aspects of Athletics students are aware of are the games and the fee. But if students are aware of what else comes with their athletic fee, than watching the games could be more enjoyable.

On the other hand, a potentially cost-saving option is to simply not pay for the skybox.

If students don’t know and therefore aren’t using the skybox, and SGA and Athletics aren’t telling students than maybe it’s not something we should have.

SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

DEAN GABRIEL WILLIAMS

Power and Pleasure: How social Greeks hinder the ability to inspire a shared vision

Too often, many within the social Greek community pursue student leader-

ship for power and/or pleasure, both of which are damaging to the student body and illogical in nature. This behavior has, does, and will not even consider the possibility

of becoming a member of the Greek

community. In my short time as an active brother, I served as chapter vice president and then chapter president, and was the Interfraternity Council’s 2010 New Member of the Year. As an alumnus, I currently serve as the chairman of the Board of Directors of my chapter’s Alumni Association.

Within our community, there is a desire to define our organizations by a social Greek community. To achieve these ends by forcing unwilling

members of the University community.

So, what’s the answer to these illicits?

One word: Ritual. Whether a social Greek organization has one, two or three letters, the ritual that each man and woman receives as part of the privilege that is membership is to be protected, but is also meant to be used to improve ourselves, our brothers and sisters, and our Greek Community, but most impor-

tantly, our Panther community.

In reality, because of the ritual that each of us has been privileged to receive, we have a greater responsibility to act in the best interests of this university. Your ritual not only provides you with personal solitude and guidance, but with the tools to make the Panther experience more enjoyable and fruitful for all students.

Rather than using the fact that we are Greeks for our own personal pursuit of power and pleasure, let’s do something to shatter the “FIU Greek Stereotype” and collaborate with the broader student body to create and inspire a shared vision for the now 50,000 member Panther Nation.

This is the second in a two part series about Student Leadership at Florida International University.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (600 words maximum) to Jonathan Szydlo at jonaszy@fiu.edu, or drop by our office at GC 210, Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter per month from any individual.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editori-

als and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and/or members of the University community.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the unified voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, managing editor, and the editors of each of the four sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to jonaszy@fiu.edu.
Soda drinking presents health risks to students

DANIEL URUA
Staff Writer

“Do you want fries with that?” While that phrase has become synonymous with America’s “fast food” culture, perhaps the more important question to ask yourself is whether or not you want that sugary soda along with your combo meal or as a treat in the middle of the day.

According to Fatma Huffman, department chair and professor of the University’s dietetics and nutrition program, if you care about your health and your wallet, the answer is no. When it comes to drinking soda, most students are aware that soda isn’t the best choice of beverage, but what exactly makes it so unhealthy? “Sodas provide empty calories, meaning, for every 100 kcal there is zero nutrient contribution by sodas,” explained Huffman. Apart from not making a positive health contribution, she also pointed out that soda contains many ingredients that can be harmful to students’ health. “[Soda] is full of sugar, caffeine and high in phosphates, which can reduce calcium absorption, a mineral that young people need in high quantities to build strong bones.” Excessive soda drinking has also been linked to a known cause of obesity and type-two diabetes, according to Huffman. Despite these negative health effects, many students still choose to drink soda. Junior Eric Hervis, being aware of these negative effects, says he generally tries to avoid soda. But when asked how often he drinks soda in a typical week, he estimated about four times, citing cravings as the main reason for choosing soda over an alternative.

Freshman, physics major Savannah Hurtado, choose to avoid soda altogether. “It’s so unhealthy for you,” said Huffman. Hurtado’s choice, to not only refrain from drinking soda but instead opt for water, is the healthiest alternative, according to Huffman. “One can drink fruit juices, but most of them laden with high fructose corn syrup, which contributes to the calories and potentially causing obesity.”

Huffman also stated that water is the best choice for dealing with the Florida heat. “Water is an excellent source of a hydrating agent without contributing calories. Drinking at least eight cups of water everyday will keep the body hydrated, an important function in Florida due to our hot climate,” said Huffman.

But what exactly draws students to drink soda in the first place? Freshman Gabriel Gomez, a biology major, provides what seems to be a popular answer, saying, “Pepsi is delicious.” While water is by far a student’s healthiest option, when it comes to taste, in some cases, it just won’t cut it. For these instances, dietitians and nutrition professor Adriana Campa provides some other options. “Natural juices, milk and milk products, especially low-fat milk products, for the same amount of calories and fluid, contribute other essential nutrients that are necessary for the optimal functioning of the body,” said Campa.

But, the taste of soda isn’t the only factor drawing students towards it. The way most food services on campus are set up, soda is put right in the face of students. “The campus is sponsored by Pepsi,” remarked senior Austin Bassett, political science major.

This statement rings true, as it’s difficult to travel across any of FIU’s campuses without spotting a Pepsi logo. While there’s at least one soda machine on just about every corner, the University presents a striking lack of alternatives. “There aren’t that many water fountains here,” observed freshman Lauren Aquino.

Also, the way most fast food restaurants present their “combo” option, for some, soda seems like the most logical choice. Lewis explained that when ordering a combo meal, she looks to get her money’s worth. “I’m paying for it, so I feel like I should get something I pay for,” said Lewis. Even though most on-campus establishments will provide customers with a free water cup, most opt the way of Lewis and seek to get the most bang for their buck.

But in the long run, drinking soda can harm not only your health, but your wallet, as soda drinking can be a costly and difficult habit to break, according to Huffman. “Most restaurant beverages cost $3-5. It is much cheaper just to drink water, much healthier as well. In addition, sodas can cause addiction to the caffeine in them,” added Huffman.

As college students, opting for water over soda provides the opportunity to stay healthy, as well as save a buck or two.

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Dear Nick,

I find myself in FIU for long hours. What do you think I can do when I’m experiencing mental burn out?

M.G., Junior, Art/Psychology Major

Dear M.G.,

Before you flip out, I would suggest a couple of things that are excellent resources to both avoiding feeling overwhelmed, and to do your body and brain some good. Start fitting some physical activity into your day. Venture over to FIU Rec Center where you can run, lift weights, and even practice yoga. If you are a more outdoor type, MMC has an amazing 11-acre nature preserve, adjacent to Panther Hall. This is a great place to practice yoga, meditate, or just go on a nature hike. Any physical activity is great. It helps you effectively deal with stress, increases blood flow to the brain, and can help your brain be more efficient. It also increases those great chemicals in our brain that make us feel happier and more alert!

Exercise has been linked to getting better grades. For those less inclined toward physical activities, you can’t go wrong with the Green Library, which is an amazing place to catch up on studying. Grab a seat at Starbucks with your pals and just chill.

Ready to change life a little? Counseling and Psychological Services has a health-coaching program and biofeedback, and the Wellness Center offers massages and acupuncture. With these tools, you can start to make life-long changes to your physical and mental health.

Long hours might seem like a drag. But if you play it right and plan a little, it will pass you by right you. I hope you have fun on campus, and be sure to watch out for the ladybugs in the preserve. You know what they say: they might bring you good luck!

Be Well,

Nick Schiedt, M.S.
Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate from Carlos Albizu University. Once he completes his internship at FIU, Nick plans to work as a Psychologist, Writer, and Professor.

Do you have questions you would like to Ask Nick?
Send an email to: nschiedt@fiu.edu

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**ASK NICK**

Nick Schiedt, M.S. is a Doctoral Psychology Intern at FIU Counseling and Psychological Services. He is a Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidate from Carlos Albizu University. Once he completes his internship at FIU, Nick plans to work as a Psychologist, Writer, and Professor.
University students exhibit work in GC Art Gallery

KATHERINE LEPRI
Contributing Writer

A pianist played classical music as guests walked from painting to painting in the brightly-lit art gallery, whispering observations to each other.

More than 200 visitors, mostly family and friends of the artists, visited “Painting in the Gardens” at the GC Art Gallery. The exhibit featured works of art by University students enrolled in the 2012 spring and summer painting ateliers.

The French term atelier refers to a workshop that focuses on classical, technical and visual concepts. Artists like Claude Monet and Edouard Manet studied in ateliers.

Professor David Y. Chang, director of art education and the instructor for the two classes talked to the family of one of his students.

“This was a lounge,” said Chang, “and they turned this into a professional gallery looking space and that is what brought the show here.”

Twenty students exhibited their oil paintings. A few of them stood by their works, which varied in appearance, and spoke with visitors about their experience in the class.

“This was the first time I can show and express my talents,” said Courtney Bleier, a senior studying art education. “I was inspired by the water [of the Vizcaya Garden]; it was a nice scene.”

Blier smiled over her art. She was one of just 20 students chosen to display their work in this exhibit. The water in her painting was glossy and sat against a walkway with towering trees in the background. Two Venetian striped gondola poles stood in the foreground.

Each painting is oil on canvas using mainly alla prima technique and semi-glaze. Before students were allowed to paint by their professors, they were required to spend time dissecting and analyzing masterpieces from masters like John Constable Monet, to learn their techniques and emulate them.

“Alla prima is like stir-fry. You need to understand the flavor for it to become delicious,” said Chang. “Every show is the beginning of another. It is an exposure to the world, what [the students] can do at this point.”

At the end of the show, a graduate approached Chang. She asked if she could take the class again.

Write to calendar@fiusm.com to have your event featured!
Panthers split a pair of weekend Sun Belt games

MIchael Ortega  
Contributing Writer

The start of conference play has come and gone, and after facing two top Sun Belt Conference opponents, FIU is at an even 1-1 record.

First up was Middle Tennessee on Sept. 28 on a cloudy night, with FIU losing 3-1 in a sloppy game.

“The game went away from us on Friday,” said Coach Thomas Chestnut.

The Panthers (6-5-1, 3-1 SBC) did not start the game off too badly, scoring one goal in the 41st minute by forward Chelsea Leiva making it 2-1 going into the half.

The second half of the game was another story. FIU looked out of place, making a few mistakes and allowed MTU to capitalize.

“I think, as a whole, we weren’t on the same page. We didn’t get enough put together and we didn’t come out and do it,” said midfielder Johanna Volz.

The second game this weekend was against Western Kentucky on a scorching Sunday afternoon. FIU took the double-overtime win 1-0, playing with all they had to make sure they didn’t lose to another conference opponent.

“It was a great game. Western Kentucky is a class team in our conference, and you know, we wanted this win to get a win at home,” said Chestnut.

“We have gone 0-0 ties in the last two seasons against them, so it was great to get the win.”

It was another hard-played game by both the Panthers and the Hilltoppers both making turnovers. FIU attacked in overtime to make the only goal in the game, by midfielder Volz, in the 94th minute.

“It felt good to beat these guys, you know. We have a rivalry with them,” said Volz. “It was nice to bounce back after Friday’s game.”

TOP PERFORMERS

Two players on the offensive and defensive line, respectively, stood out.

Volz took charge on the offensive line, always attacking and setting up her teammate to score. Volz did not score on Friday but was a crucial part of the offense.

She had the game-winning goal on the Sunday overtime win, giving her three for the season. She is at three goals for the conference.

I used Friday’s game as motivation for Sunday,” said Volz.

Scarlet Martoya (left) assisted on the game winning goal for FIU over Western Kentucky Sept. 30 in overtime. Martoya has cooled off since starting the season with two goals against Stonetown, only scoring two more times since.

COMING UP

FIU leaves home-field advantage next weekend against another tough conference rival, North Texas, on Oct. 7. The game will be the only matchup for next weekend, giving the Panthers a little rest before heading cross country.

Last year, FIU won the tie at home against NT (9-3-1, 4-0 SBC) showing strong offense and defense. FIU’s offense was lack-luster in the past two weekends.

“We are going to be looking to combine more, keep the ball and combine try to shut through and get it into that net,” said Volz.

FIU looks to bounce back into the top of the conference, but will need to win this weekend and return home for a tough matchup against Louisiana-Lafayette and Louisiana Monroe on Alumni Weekend, Oct. 12 and Oct. 14.

“We have to get better, game after game,” Chestnut said. “Middle Tennessee asked a few questions, but we will answer back next weekend against North Texas.”

Women’s Soccer

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FOOTBALL

Seamon on the brink for FIU after 1-4 start
We Believe: Europe pulls off improbable comeback

NANCY ARMOUR
AP Staff

The scoreboard said 10-6 and just about everyone figured the Ryder Cup was over. Everyone, that is, but the Europeans.

There was so much energy and excitement in Europe’s team room that no one in the USA could even hear Poulter just knew they were on the verge of something special.

"It was electric. They were feeling the energy of "Ole! Ole! Ole!" the players serenaded them with choruses of "Ole! Ole! Ole!" the players passed around oversized bottles of champagne, taking swings and spraying the crowd with bubbly. It was a scene the late Seve Ballesteros would have loved, and European captain Jose Maria Olazabal didn’t even bother trying to hide the tears as he looked skyward. His dear friend and “Spanish Armada” partner was never far from the Europeans’ minds or hearts this week, and they carried him with them Sunday evening, silhouetting on their sleeves.

"What you did out there today was outstanding," Olazabal said. "You believed, and you delivered. And I’m very proud that you have kept Europe’s hand on this Ryder Cup. All men die, but not all men live. And you made me feel alive again this week." The Americans could feel nothing but much, knowing the Ryder Cup had been in their grasp and they’d let it slip away.

The U.S. has now lost five of the last six Ryder Cups, and two of the last three on home soil. It was a hell of a lot of fun being the other end," said Jim Furyk, one of the three Americans who were part of the Brookline squad. "It wasn’t very much fun today.

The groundwork for Europe’s victory was actually laid Saturday. After getting trounced in pretty much every match, in pretty much every session, Poulter made five straight birdies to turn a loss into a win in the last Saturday match and swing momentum in Europe’s favor — even if it was only in their own minds.

"The whole atmosphere of the team changed last night," Luke Donald said. "That was just a huge boost to our team and our club and team and our fans. It gave us a huge lift."

Just as Ben Crenshaw did in Brookline, Olazabal front-loaded his lineup, sending out his best players first in hopes of building a wave of momentum that would lift the rest of the team.

And just as it did in Brookline, the strategy worked perfectly. Even Rory McIlroy’s confusion over U.S. time zones turned out OK, with the world’s No. 1 player getting a police escort and arriving at Medinah with 10 minutes to spare before his 11:25 a.m. tee time.

"It’s my own fault," said McIlroy, who didn’t realize the Ryder Cup tee times he was reading on his phone were in Brookline time. "If I let down these 11 other boys and vice captains and captains this week, I would never forgive myself.

McIlroy delivered his point as Europe won its first five matches, an onslaught that knocked the Americans — and their fans — flat.

"Coming down the stretch this afternoon, there was some amazing periods where you just didn’t hear anything on the golf course," Justin Rose said. "That’s really what we were striving for."

It was Rose’s match that might have been the most damaging. On the verge of losing to Phil Mickelson, he holed a 12-foot par putt to halve the 16th and made a 35-foot birdie putt from the back of the 17th green to win the hole.

He then closed out the match with a 12-foot birdie on the last hole, and Mickelson could only applaud and congratulate Rose.

"When it looked like I might be able to stop some of the momentum on the board, they were able to get another point," Mickelson said. "I thought that match, as early as it was, was a very pivotal one.

Still, it wasn’t until the very end that Europe’s victory was assured. Martin Kaymer had to make a 6-foo par putt to win his match against Steve Stricker. If he missed, Tiger Woods was in the fairway behind him, ready to take the final point the Americans needed.

Kaymer poured it in to beat Stricker, and the celebration was on — at Medinah and back in Germany, which has been looking for a little redemption since Bernhard Langer missed a par putt from about the same length at Kiawah Island in 1991, allowing the Americans to win.

Woods missed a 3½-foot par putt on the 18th hole, and then conceded a par to Francesco Molinari of about that length to halve their match. That extra half-point made it a clear-cut win for Europe, 14½-13½.

"It was already over," Woods said when asked why he conceded. "We came here as a team. This is a team event and the cup had already been retained by Europe, so it was already over."

The only U.S. points came from Dustin Johnson, who won 3-0 in this Ryder Cup, Zach Johnson and unheralded Jason Dufner. Woods and Stricker, the anchors in the lineup, didn’t win a single match at Medinah.

"A lot of guys played great," Love said. "They just got beat by a guy that played a little bit better."

Student access to skybox guaranteed until 2014

The agreement made in 2007 was passed as a three-year proposition to spend $90,000 for use of the skybox. The skybox was paid off in $30,000 installments over the two years.

The SGC at the Biscayne Bay Campus rejected an alternate proposal which consisted of a four-year contract that stipulated the payment of $20,000 for the first and second year, and $40,000 for the third and fourth year for use of the skybox.

After three-year mark passed, SGA had the option of renewing the contract at the then-current market price, according to Meyer, which was $30,000. This was done to ensure upcoming events and entertainment, Athletics will pay $40,000 a year to the FIU Athletics Finance Corporation to license the skybox. The skybox agreement is contingent on the renewal that is to take place every three years. The license agreement will continue in effect until June 30, 2014.

The skybox is made available to SGA for all football games “for the purpose of strengthening the relationship between FIU Athletics and the student body,” according to the skybox agreement on April 15, 2011.

“We used the skybox for games,” Meyer said of how the skybox was used during his tenure. “And to bring in potential supporters, such as Florida Rep. Anitere Flores.

According to Eric Ameson, assistant vice president of student affairs, the SGC-MMC president has up to 15 tickets that he/she distributes at his/her discretion.

Multiple attempts to reach Farinas and Pablo Haspel, SGC-BBC president, were made, but they did not respond to Student Media as of press time.

According to Donovan Dawson, former SGC-MMC senate speaker, tickets are tough to come by because of champagne, taking swigs and drinking alcohol, since no alcoholic beverage consumption is allowed in the stadium suites.

Student can file an application to use the skybox for their meetings or events. However, according to Ameson, no organizations have requested to use the skybox since it has been made available.

Student organizations wanting to use the skybox for club or organization meetings and events have access to it, along with other athletic facilities on campus, on the condition that the facility in question is not in use.

Jose Tocano, interim director of Campus Life, explained that for a student organization to use one of the facilities, an athletic venue request form, available at the SGC-MMC office in Graham Center 211 must be filled out. The form needs the approval of the current SGC-MMC president, campus life director and Athletics for use of any venue or facility, even the room with a view.

Additional reporting by Philippe Bataou.
Shuttle schedule changes, effective Monday Oct. 8

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Christopher Morisset, used to take the 5:15 p.m. Golden Panther Express shuttle from Biscayne Bay Campus for his 6:30 p.m. calculus class at Modesto Maidique Campus.

“Olmoy God! Now it is at 5:35. I’ll be late,” said Morisset, sophomore biology major and lower division senator in the Student Government Council at BBC.

Morisset could choose to take the shuttle at 5 p.m., but that’s too early and inconvenient for him.

For the second time this semester, the schedule for the Golden Panther Express Shuttle will change starting Monday, Oct. 8, drawing mixed reviews from students and staff.

The Department of Parking and Transportation was unavailable for comment at press time. Ohumabunike Odimayo, senior psychology major and senator at large at SGC-BBC, had trouble with the shuttle for two weeks in a row when he tried to catch it from BBC to MMC.

“Latey the shuttles have been messing up,” he said. “It comes late.”

Odimayo can now take the 5 p.m. shuttle from MMC to BBC and still have 30 minutes before his class at 6:30 p.m.

Megan Berge, a junior hospitality major, is pleased with the new changes because she can get home earlier. She lives around MMC, but does not think the new schedule should be an excuse to be late for class or try to leave early.

“Can’t have that excuse. So it should be fair on both parts,” Tarnay said.

Dwayne Harper, shuttle driver for American Coach, thinks the reason they changed the schedule was to create more rides for students, but he is concerned that some drivers won’t have enough rest time.

In the old schedule, drivers usually had a 20-minute break; now the breaks are around 15 minutes. He is especially worried about the bus that leaves from MMC at 12 p.m. The driver will have only a 10-minute break to take lunch, if the shuttle is not delayed because of traffic.

“We can manage it, but it’s pushy on traffic,” he said.

Getting spicy: pachanga on a weekend

THALIA ARMUJO
Contributing Writer

As part of the closing events of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Student Programming Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus is presenting the Pachanga By the Bay Festival.

The festival takes place on Saturday, Oct. 6 from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. in the open field behind the Aquatic Center.

Pachanga By the Bay will be hosted by the Bachata singer Toby Love and the Reggaeton duo “Angel y Khirz.”

There will be special performances from dancers of the Aventura Dance Studio and guitar player Mario B.

Unlike previous events, this is the first time that SPC is having weekend programming. Students and the public can pick up free tickets at the Office of Campus Life in the Modesto Maidique Campus or at BBC.

Apart from all the SPC-BBC members collaborating in the event, there will be 30 to 40 volunteers.

According to the director of special events of SPC-BBC, Tashawn Williams, they’re expecting 300 to 500 people to attend the festival.

“I think it is a great idea to organize fun events like the Pachanga Bay Festival. I’m definitely coming with my friends, especially because it’s a free event and it is open to everyone,” said Camila Cristo, junior and public relations major.

Food trucks will arrive at 6 p.m. and artists’ performances will begin at 7 p.m.

“I don’t know if this would be considered a concert, but it gives a concert type feel with the stage and the music artists,” said Williams.

The Hispanic Heritage Month festivities began on Sept. 24 with the Viva SPC Kick-off and will end off with the Pachanga by the Bay festival.

Some of the activities organized this fall semester included featured documentaries such as the Black in Latin America Series: Brazil, Haiti and Dominican Republic. There was also a Taco Tuesday, sponsored by Tijuana Flats and Mambo Yoli.

“Although I never go to BBC because all of my classes are in Modesto, I’m planning to go for the Pachanga festival. I want to see Angel y Khirz perform. I like their music,” said Mercedes Albarracin, junior and computer engineering major.

DOLPHINS DIVE INTO VOLUNTEER WORK

Representatives, Ana Kucera and Christian Seitan, recruit students to volunteer for the Miami Dolphins during the Career Bash in Panther Square. The Dolphins volunteer service works firsthand with the football players and as fundraisers for numerous organizations, like the Ronald McDonald House.