Students plead for financial aid

ALONSO MONTANO  
Staff Writer

As a result of economic hard times and a constant increase in enrollment numbers, students at the University will have to meet different, more difficult requirements to qualify for financial aid.

“The requirements went up a little bit, so we have seen a little reduction in the numbers of students who are eligible because the test scores went up,” said Francisco Valines, director of Financial Aid at the University.

However, current students receiving financial aid should not be affected by the changes in criteria for scholarship awards.

“As long as they meet renewal criteria for their scholarship, as long as they do well while they are here, they are going to continue to keep it,” said Valines.

The real effects of the higher test scores and overall tougher requirements will be reflected in the number of incoming freshmen who receive any form of financial aid.

“Next fall is going to be the bomb,” said Valines in reference to the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

“Students who graduate from high school in 2014 have a much higher test score requirement and we expect there could be as many as 80 percent of our Bright Futures kids who would’ve gotten it...[that] aren’t going to get it next fall,” said Valines.

SEE FINANCES, PAGE 2

Stocking AstroScience Center celebrates grand opening

ALYSSA ESLO  
Staff Writer

Star parties, solar viewings, a live music evening and various guest lectures were among the many events students and faculty members enjoyed in celebration of the Stocker AstroScience Center grand opening.

“I just wanted to allow students to participate because the ribbon-cutting is sort of an administrative event,” said James Webb, a professor in the Department of Physics who initiated the project.

The ribbon-cutting, Nov. 12, was followed by a week-long series of events.

“I have been working on this for about 20 years, so when the dean’s office suggested we have a ribbon-cutting ceremony I said ‘great, but it’s not going to end there; we’re going to have a whole week of events,’” said Webb.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the week of events began with a tour of the center and a lecture by John Mather, a Nobel laureate who also works as senior astrophysicist in the Observational Cosmology Laboratory at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. Mather’s research focuses on infrared astronomy and cosmology.

“John Mather spoke opening day about the history of the universe, as well as the new James Webb Space Telescope, which is an infrared telescope,” said Jennifer Medina, sophomore physics major and Astronomy Club member. “It was an amazing experience to hear him talk about the research he had done.”

Among others guests at the ribbon-cutting ceremony was Carl Stocker, a retired physics professor who provided the main donation to help build the observatory and whom the observatory is named after.

The rest of the week featured fingertipstyle guitar playing by Alan Smith, who also performed a guest lecture.

SEE SCIENCE, PAGE 2

Admissions ‘doesn’t have time’ to check social media

RAUL HERRERA  
Staff Writer

Students and their social media profiles once again are topics of discussion when it comes to university admissions. A Kaplan Test Prep survey found that the amount of college admissions officers who have reportedly searched applicants on Google or Facebook has increased.

According to the 2012 survey, 27 percent of officers reported that they had used Google to discover more about their applicants, 26 percent claimed they had used Facebook. This year, 29 percent have used Google and 31 percent have used Facebook. This year, 29 percent have used Facebook.

Tyrone Rodriguez, sophomore in political science (left), poses to take pictures with the polaroid camera. (right), perform a cover of Rocketman by Elton John before discussing the new Astroscience center.

SEE MEDIA, PAGE 2

Men’s basketball grounds the Falcons in home opener

PATRICK CHALVIRE  
Staff Writer

The Panthers christened their new Lime Court at the US Century Bank Arena with a win over first time opponent and United States Collegiate Athletic Association Division II member, Florida College, 85-39.

Four Panthers reached double figures, which have become the norm for the team so far this season.

Redshirt senior forward Rakeem Buckles led the Panthers once again with 16 points and 8 rebounds. Buckles’ outing became his fifth straight game with double-digit figures.

Buckles has seemed to surpass the expectations of spectators but according to the Miami native, he’s doing what he should be doing.

“I feel I should be doing this,” Buckles said. “I’m 23-years-old and this is my fifth year in college. I have lofty goals for myself and I’m happy where I’m playing but it was expected, let me say that.”

Sophomore forward Jerome Frink finished with 13 points and four rebounds. While senior forward Tymell Murphy ended his night with 10 points and 13 rebounds.

Junior guard Marco Porcher Jimenez also hit the double figures mark with a season high 12 points of his own.

Aerial drummers and a new cabana brought the fans to the arena, as well as some distractions for the players. A 10-0 run early in the game for Panthers kept the Falcons at bay, before reality hit and the Falcons avoided the early shutout.

The Falcons seemed to also fall trap to the new Lime Court and festivities going on, as both teams showed early season rust, accounting for a combined 31 turnovers, 15 from the Panthers.

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 7
China to ease one-child policy, abolish labor camps

China’s leaders announced Friday the first significant expansion of its one-child policy in nearly 30 years and moved to abolish its labor camp system - addressing deeply unpopular programs at a time when the Communist Party feels increasingly alienated from the public. Beijing also pledged to open state-dominated industries wider to private competition and ease limits on foreign investment in e-commerce and other businesses in a sweeping reform plan aimed at rejuvenating a slowing economy. The extent of the long-debated changes to the family planning rules and the labor camp system surprised some analysts. They were contained in a policy document issued after a four-day meeting of party leaders one year after Xi Jinping took the country’s helm.

Albania rejects request to destroy Syrian weapons

The international effort to destroy Syria’s chemical weapons was dealt a major blow Friday when staunch American ally Albania rejected a U.S. request to let the destruction take place on its soil. The surprise refusal by the small and impoverished Balkan country left the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons without a country to host the eradication of Syria’s estimated 1,000-metric ton arsenal, which includes mustard gas and sarin. Syria has said it stores the weapons destroyed outside the country, which is in the middle of a raging civil war, and the OPCW has described that scenario as the “most viable” option. The OPCW had no immediate comment on its next step. Albania had been considered its strongest hope, and few diplomats expected the NATO country of 2.8 million people to reject what Prime Minister Edi Rama said had been a direct request from the U.S.

The Bacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-6994 or BBC at 305-919-4722.
**JENNA KEAFUVER**
*Staff Writer*

I just recently read an article by blogger Matt Forney called “The Case Against Female Self-Esteem.” I have never come across anything so misogynistic in my life. I’ve also never laughed so hard... and then been so angry, and just back and forth, over and over again.

The article starts, “I’m just gonna come out and say it: I love insecure women.” I was torn between the desire to keep reading and, what would have probably been the smarter option, to just put my phone down and go to bed. But, of course, I kept reading.

The article continues on to say: “The idea that women should have self-esteem or need it, beyond a low baseline to ensure they don’t commit suicide or become psycho stalkers, is one of the most disorienting social engineering experiments of the modern era. A woman with excessive confidence is like a man with a vagina. It’s an attribute that is at best superfluous and at worst prevents women from fulfilling their natural biological and social functions.” That’s unnatural.

And, yeah, if women feel good about themselves they won’t want to have babies or cook anymore. Obviously because you think they should! Women having self-esteem is definitely the worst thing to happen since women getting the right to vote. Let’s just put them back down for a couple days, but otherwise life would go on as usual.

Yeah, the future of our country would be without teachers, but, absolutely, the world must go on. And then a man, being perfect and amazing, would sweep in and save the day. And then he’d probably do a better job because women can’t do anything right. We just turn life into a silent movie where we get tied to train tracks and die. And, without, you know, being attached to…um…something.

Sorry, Matt. Guess you’ll have to pick up after us yet again. Unless, of course, it’s in the kitchen where we belong. Then we’ll clean up after because that’s all we aspire to be.

\--jenna.keafuver@fiusm.com

**Where are all the classics?**

**GIOVANNI GARCIA**
*Staff Writer*

Each semester starts and all the freshmen are given a SLS lecture to get started with college life. Everything is new, midterms, exams, reports, due dates and assigned books. Some English lectures would recommend certain books to read for the class, but it turns out the book is an example of college life. Some assigned books can be very informative, but other books can be quite weird.

The one thing I remember thinking about what college was supposed to be was the books you were supposed to read. All of the classics like Homer, Shakespeare, Mark Twain, etc., were the top names I remembered seeing college students reading when I was younger.

What happened to them? Sadly, most high schools will only briefly introduce these classics to their students. Even certain plays from Shakespeare are not used since it’s a repeating trend. Those who are very skilled at reading will happily grab these books on their spare time and get lost in their pages. A smaller percentage would read these books for other projects or reports.

But the largest percent do not read any of the classics and some have no interest to read at all — mainly because some of these classics are harder to understand. When you listen to someone reading “Beowulf” in Old English, the reader sounds like they are speaking in tongues. I would be scared to try to read “Beowulf” in Anglo Saxon, but there are no classes to learn the language at all. The only students who are inclined to read classics, or any intensive reading at all, are certain English majors.

With these weird SLS books, they try to catch the general crowd with diagrams. If I want to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page. You must consider the students who would try to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page. You must consider the students who read every page and would try to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page. You must consider the students who read every page and would try to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page. You must consider the students who read every page and would try to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page. You must consider the students who read every page and would try to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page. You must consider the students who read every page and would try to read a book for how strange or bizarre it can be. Then there are those who get hooked into the book and would read every page.

As much as I would like to have tips to survive college, I would appreciate to just have that. Tips. Nothing extreme, something short, bulleted and — best of all — with diagrams. If I want to read something for a class, I’d prefer a classic than a new age mumbo jumbo story. There is a classic story for every thing and we can learn from the morals or outcomes of fictional characters. Even though a percentage of people are losing interest in reading, I still prefer to have classics around in college classes.

\--giovanni.garcia@fiusm.com

**Female self-esteem: apparently an unnecessary concept**

**Slander in the media**

**RAUL HERRERA**
*Staff Writer*

NBC’s Charlotte, North Carolina, branch (WNCC) recently ran an exposé on Pastor Steven Furtick of Elevation Church. It pointed out that the pastor was in the process of building a $1.7 million dollar home. Because of this, the pastor fell under scrutiny. Which leads me to my next point. Writer Alex Mitchell and a later NBC-WNCC report by Stewart Watson revealed that Pastor Furtick is paying for the house through book sales, the stigma remained. Furtick, a man with a reportedly large social media aura, was portrayed as yet another greedy preacher who cons churchgoers out of money. Those who have sadly confused the making of money with the avuncular adoration of it have condemned him without having even met him.

I am pointing to this situation not because I want to weigh in on the debate of the place of money in churches or because I am endorsing Furtick or Elevation Church (I am not), but because there is a situation at hand here. Many in the mainstream media look for information that may be damning.

This desire for damning information can sometimes lead to good things. Back in my spring semester How We Know What We Know class, we met whistleblowers that spoke out against evil practices. The media was able to promulgate these messages. On Oct. 28, some whistleblowers that exposed government wrongdoing came to FIU, as reported in a student media article by Jessica Meszaros. All of these people had their exposed stories of malice enhanced by a media searching for controversy.

This can grow to be destructive. Think of the Furtick case. Hundreds will now have a different image of Pastor Furtick, one that perhaps is not entirely accurate to his character. Think about other cases. Just a year ago, the media created a storm over the opinions of the president of a fast food company. It goes on and on and on.

The mainstream media hungry for controversy. It hunger for damning information that can destroy a person’s career or public image. And we, media consumers, fuel the fire of this lust.

We here at FIU, however, are unique. The fact that you are reading this proves that you are someone who consumes media and information in your daily life. We have the power to take in the information we want.

These cases prove that if we search for information from more than one source, a clearer picture of any particular event is formed. Simply put, look at different sides of an issue. Use more than one news source (it doesn’t have to be every single one in existence), especially if it is over something controversial. Do not let your view of someone be tamished by a one-sided article.

I sometimes forget to follow these maxims myself, but I believe they are important in this day and age where accuracy is sacrificed for the sake of controversy and edginess.

Is Pastor Furtick a perfect person? No, certainly not. And I am certainly not trying to take a position on the controversy over the building of his new house. What I am getting at here is that the desire the mainstream media has of damaging stories is not always a force of good, and to combat this, we must become more savvy information seekers.

Perhaps the search for truth can be a weapon in an age of slander.
Local fraternity teaming up to help kids read

ANIZA CASTILLO
Contributing Writer

A fraternity on campus is helping kids who can’t read well. The Iota Omicron chapter of the Theta Chi fraternity is teaming up with literacy awareness organization Reading is Fundamental for Theta Chi’s main philanthropy event this semester called Story Time Live!

“According to rif.org, Reading is Fundamental is “the largest children’s literacy nonprofit in the United States. RIF prepares and motivates children to read by delivering free books and literacy resources to those children who need them most.”

“The headquarters for Reading is Fundamental is located in Washington, D.C., but it does have an outreach program in Miami-Dade which helps out with the Miami-Dade Family Learning Partnership. “We wanted to give back to something closer; that it hits home like more to FIU,” said Gabriel Jose Bonilla, senior psychology major, and the chapter’s philanthropy chair.

“We have kids that come in only speaking Spanish and they are in ESOL classes and kids that come from everywhere and they can’t speak English.

Story Time Live! is a competition where groups of University students get together to compile stories for children. Students write the story from scratch, then the fraternity reads them through and makes sure they’re appropriate for elementary school.

The kids will read the story as the students act it out for them. The kids are going to judge which story they liked best and vote for their favorite. The winners of Story Time Live will be receiving 10 percent of what is collected the entire week through registration and donations, while the other 90 percent will go to Reading is Fundamental.

“Iota Omicron chapter choose Reading is Fundamental as its philanthropy because it believes reading really is fundamental.

“Literacy is something that is very important and, I mean, we’re educated students — we’re college students — and there are a lot of organizations getting helped, but,” Bonilla started. ‘We have kids that come in only speak Spanish and they are in ESOL classes and kids that come from everywhere and they can’t speak English. They speak everything but English, and reading is definitely a gateway to not only learning but to anything….Theta Chi is doing a book drive throughout the week leading up to the main event, which will be donated to Reading is Fundamental and schools around Miami-Dade County. The event is this Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the FIU stadium club. “A lot of kids look up to us and FIU as a beacon for Miami,” said Bonilla.

Time to celebrate the fall: Beaujolais Nouveau is here!

The weather is becoming less harsh in Florida and you can feel the humidity dissipate as we come closer to Thanksgiving. This is my favorite time of the year, in which you are invited to be more festive than you can actually attend.

It is also a great time to get together with family and make new friends. The season of the year is particular unique for winemakers, as harvest time officially ends. This is celebrated with the release of a peculiar wine called Beaujolais Nouveau, a light red-colored French wine that has only been fermented for a period of six to eight weeks and then is bottled and released on the third Thursday of November of every year. Brighter color as well fruitier flavors are perceived in this red wine due to its carbonic fermentation. Whole bunches are put into a sealed container where carbon dioxide is pumped in. The process differentiates from the regular yeast fermentation particular due to the non-skin contact with the juice during fermentation, which is done prior to crushing. It is a great wine to be paired with this season’s famous dishes such as turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. This wine should be consumed while it is young, as it does not hold aging very well due to its lightweight structure. It is also recommended to chill prior to serving.

Here are my suggestions of Beaujolais Nouveau to look forward to on Nov. 21, and best of all, the average price per bottle is $12.

1) Georges Duboeuf Nouveau 2013, France.

2) Thorin Nouveau 2013, France.

3) Signé Vignerons Château du Souzy Nouveau 2013, Beaujolais Villages - France.


6) Champagne Baron de Rothschild Brut Non-vintage, Champagne, France. Average price: $100.

This unique wine has just been announced by the Rothschild family in the United States and so far has gotten amazing reviews.

It has a bright yellow-gold color, where bubbles can be seen for a long period of time in the glass — certainly an invitation to keep savoring this amazing beverage.

It is brut, meaning that there is almost no residual sugar left. Yeasty and creamy flavors with nuances of almond, apple and melon are lingering in your mouth for a long period of time, ideal for a pre and post party.

Cheers!

- Daniela Walter is a Teaching Assistant to professors Chip Cassidy and Bill Hebrank of the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management.

Follow her on twitter @dwalter118
“12 Years a Slave” captures audience’s attention

ROCK ON

Fernando Lopez, senior mechanical engineering major, gets passionate singing lead as his fellow band members worked for 100% accuracy in Rock Band. Game Wars hosted this gaming event at the Engineering Center Pit for students to showcase their skills in various new top games.

LIFE!

Privet: new club promotes Russian language

Laura Caldera
Contributing Writer

As Fall Semester continues on the course to winter break and the next few years of our lives, we don’t usually stop to take notice of the new things that continuously spring around us.

One good example of just how unaware we can get when we move through the hustle and bustle of the FIU campuses is the very fact that we’ve completely skipped over the brand new Russian Club — Kalinka — that has officially arrived earlier this semester.

“Our main aim is to introduce the students, the FIU Students, to Russian history, cinematography, music, food, traditions, etc.,” said the President of the club, Alibek Rakhimov, international relations senior.

“We wanted to unite the Russian-speaking students, or people of Russian descent,” said Gunaz Kadyrmavaa, a senior Anthropology major and Vice President of Kalinka, “because there is a large Russian population here, but there was no club.”

Located primarily on the Main Campus, Kalinka wanted to create an environment where they, and others, could meet up and learn about the history of Russia, the culture and language.

Even for the times when you just want to sit back and watch a well-made Russian movie, with English subtitles of course, with a group of amazing individuals who share the same tastes as you.

And it’s open to anyone; those who are Russians or of Russian descent and want to contribute to the growing Russian community, those who are from Post Soviet States like the Ukraine and Lithuania, and those who are, well, just interested.

Rakhimov and Kadyrmavaa mentioned that they were both from the Post-Soviet state Kyrgyzstan which was once part of the Soviet Union but later declared its independence in the early ’90s.

Sissy Alfonso, an international relations and political science junior and Secretary to the Russian club, said that she was from Cuba.

Add the members that are already with Kalinka, a total of 24 members and counting, and you have a wonderful group of people coming together for one common interest.

“Our goal, by the end of this semester, is to go to the Russian coast, in Sunny Isles, Fla., and try to taste the Russian cuisine as well,” Rakhimov claimed.

When asked what the word “Kalinka” meant, Alfonso replied saying, “It’s a song, a Russian Dance song that is very famous.”

If you have any questions about the Russian club that were not answered in this article or are interested in joining the club, please do not hesitate to contact them through their Facebook page “Russian Club Kalinka FIU,” join them at OrgSync.com or to contact the president directly at arakh001@fiu.edu.

Love to write?

Enjoy taking photos?

Grammar enthusiast?

Design savvy?

Join the beacon!

Pick up an application at MMC, GC 210 or BBC, WUC 124 or online at fiusm.com.

“12 Years a Slave” will break you, leave you speechless and it will test your humanity by offending you, horrifying you and upsetting you, which slavery should. However, this film must be seen — I cannot emphasize this enough. “12 Years a Slave” is undoubtedly the most important film of the year.

Maritell Harding

LIFE!

Slavery. Much can be said about the cruel subservience, yet the dreadful details in a visual aspect have been scarce until now. Director Steve McQueen (known for his provocative film “Shame”) has taken it upon himself to illustrate the memoirs of Solomon Northup, a well-respected free black man of the 19th century, through his journey of survival. Persuaded with kind words and friendship, he is eventually kidnapped by two seemingly harmless gentlemen and sold into slavery. This is not just a film about a black man nor is it a black film, this is American history.

The film opens showing a group of men standing idle, dreary and tired. These grave-looking slaves listen as they are being instructed on cutting cane. Immediately, you feel a sense of disdain and the feeling sticks with you throughout the film. This instruction repeats itself often but in the form of punishment. The opening scene feels like an insight of what’s to come. We will watch, we will learn and we will be uncomfortable doing so. McQueen’s attentions to detail create a world unimaginable yet disturbingly real.

Some may argue that another film about slavery is unnecessary; however, films such as “Roots” and “Amistad” aren’t enough to truly convey the events of subjugation. Never has the pain and suffering of slaves been detailed in mainstream film; often times physical and mental cruelty from slave masters are tamed to be deemed appropriate for all audiences, but this is a story of a man trying to emerge from a hell — “I don’t want to survive, I want to live.” Northup strikes at the root of freedom as he’s faced with brutality.

Although we are not strangers to stories of slavery, most have been unable to connect and that’s where the power of the film comes into play. Anyone can relate to Northup with ease, played by the astounding Chiwetel Ejiofor, as he literally gets dragged into what seems like a dark fantasy, a place no one would ever imagine to go. It’s very nightmare-like watching a man’s peaceful life quickly transition into a life of anguish, agony and torture. Ejiofor portrays every inch of a man with extreme bravery. Lupita Nyong’o’s powerful performance should also be mentioned; the new actress holds nothing back and touches us deep within our souls. No film of slaves has been aimed towards the heart of us all with such sympathy.

That said, the narrative never points an idle finger at anyone, it merely presents unspeakable truth. McQueen’s daring initiation on a subject that repeatedly gets tackled away under a bed of shame will leave you speechless. The film is not meant to shock you; it is meant to put you at the heart of Solomon Northup’s reality and nothing more.

“12 Years a Slave” will break you, leave you speechless and it will test your humanity by offending you, horrifying you and upsetting you, which slavery should. However, this film must be seen — I cannot emphasize this enough. “12 Years a Slave” is undoubtedly the most important film of the year.
Chatter beginning on potential end of era

For a game against a college that I had never heard of in Florida College, the stands were pretty packed, even going up to the second layer. Florida College is in Temple Terrace, Fla and they are a member of the United States Collegiate Athletic Association. Temple Terrace is just to the North East of Tampa.

The band played, there were some drummers hanging from the rafters playing sets in mid-air, and the cabanas that were set up and put in place of one side of the student section were filled with sponsors, VIPs and the like. Along with two sunset beach themed backdrops above the floor section and the cabanas it was a nice set up.

The Athletics department did bring back an old face though at halftime when former Panther and former National Basketball Association athlete Raja Bell was the honorary captain. Bell played for the Panthers from 1997 to 1999 after transferring from Boston University. He led the Panthers to a Sun-Belt Conference championship in his senior season.

Even on the media sideline I was watching the guys get hoisted into the air with cords to drum on drumsets above the older men drinking beer, socializing and not watching the game. As well as trying to figure out exactly why, when the basketball arena is almost a 30 minute drive to South Beach, not only the Lime Court but also the Mural Court at the arena will be, or should be, one day renamed "Cindy Russo Court." It's a strange when you think about it but this time next year, Cindy Russo, for the first time in 34 years, might not be roaming the sidelines of the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

RHYS WILLIAMS

Cabanas, air drummers and some men’s basketball

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RHYS WILLIAMS

RUBEN PALACIOS

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For a game against a college that I had never heard of in Florida College, the stands were pretty packed, even going up to the second layer. Florida College is in Temple Terrace, Fla and they are a member of the United States Collegiate Athletic Association. Temple Terrace is just to the North East of Tampa.

The band played, there were some drummers hanging from the rafters playing sets in mid-air, and the cabanas that were set up and put in place of one side of the student section were filled with sponsors, VIPs and the like. Along with two sunset beach themed backdrops above the floor section and the cabanas it was a nice set up.

The Athletics department did bring back an old face though at halftime when former Panther and former National Basketball Association athlete Raja Bell was the honorary captain. Bell played for the Panthers from 1997 to 1999 after transferring from Boston University. He led the Panthers to a Sun-Belt Conference championship in his senior season.

Even on the media sideline I was watching the guys get hoisted into the air with cords to drum on drumsets above the older men drinking beer, socializing and not watching the game. As well as trying to figure out exactly why, when the basketball arena is almost a 30 minute drive to South Beach, not only the Lime Court but also the Mural Court at the arena will be, or should be, one day renamed "Cindy Russo Court." It's a strange when you think about it but this time next year, Cindy Russo, for the first time in 34 years, might not be roaming the sidelines of the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

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**Under the shadow of a phenom, Idom to return**

ALEJANDRO SOLANA
Staff Writer

A new conference with better competition will prove to be a test for FIU, led by coach Cindy Russo in her 34th season at FIU, and the nations leading scorer in Division I women’s basketball last season, senior sensation Jerica Coley.

Leading up to the season, there has been plenty of chatter regarding FIU’s best player and believed phenomenon, Coley, who was nicknamed “Holy Coley” and even has a website presenting “Holy Coley” and now even chatter regarding FIU’s best player, Jerica Coley.

The FIU volleyball team closed out their regular season this Sunday, Nov. 17 against North Texas University. For three Panthers this was the last time they take to the Lime Court to play a collegiate volleyball game. Three of those players were Kimberly Smith, Jessica Mendoza and Cece Spencer.

Unfortunately Spencer is out right now with a leg injury and was not be able to play for FIU against the Mean Green. This is quite a blow for the team considering Spencer was beginning to really play well after a recent move to outside hitter.

“Some have mixed emotions that will be going on, definitely an element of sadness to it all but you still want to finish strong and finish it the right way. Especially with the ball, the offense stepped on the pedal and helped the Panthers out-rebound the Falcons to just 18 points under the basket.

The Panthers will then travel to Massachussets to face off against Harvard and Boston College before returning home for the annual FIU Thanksgiving Classic at U.S. Century Bank Arena, where Idom will look to make her first appearance of the season.

**Final game for three seniors against North Texas**

OSCAR BALDIZON
Staff Writer

The FIU women's volleyball team will see three of its seniors play their final game against North Texas in the tournament, this upcoming game is very important for seeding and preparing for the tournament, this upcoming game against Honduras on Nov. 16 at SunLife Stadium.

The Brazillian National Team visited FIU on Nov. 14 while preparing for a game against Honduras on Nov. 16 at Sunrise Stadium.
Student Government Association exploring fee for Maritime Science Technology Academy

SOFIA GALIANO
Contributing Writer

In August, Biscayne Bay Campus welcomed the Maritime Science Technology Academy. As the program’s first semester comes to an end, the high school students crowd the cafeteria and use student services with their FUB OneCards, the only things they have that could say the Student Government Association is investigating.

BBC-SGA President Fu Zhou Wu said SAST students were issued FUB OneCards to use facilities on campus, granting them access to services including on-campus events and the Recreation Center.

Wu claims SAST is working to see how much MAST students are spending in University services and whether they should be charged a fee in the future.

“After they swipe their card, we can get the data,” she said. “It’s the beginning.”

The MAST/FIU partnership is roughly three months old. SAST is monitoring the progress of the program. Meanwhile, MAST students utilize services paid for by University students’ tuition.

“BVC Vice Provost Steven Moll said there are about 90 ninth graders in the program, but by next year, the current ninth graders will move to tenth grade and a new ninth grade class will join them. According to Moll, Miami-Dade Public Schools will build a permanent facility between Academic Two and the Koven Conference Center housing one thousand MAST Academy students in two years.

FIU students appreciate the MAST program for the opportunities it brings: the high schoolers; however, they disagree of MAST students taking part in recreational activities and using other services paid out of college students’ pockets.

Moll said Miami-Dade Public Schools is paying for Academy students to take college classes and to use University facilities.

He said the purpose of the program is to incorporate the high schoolers into the mainstream of University life, and they are just as much college students as the ones who pay FIU tuition.

“They are FIU students,” he said. “They are taking FIU classes.”

University students disagreed.

“IF they are using the services provided by the A&S fee, I don’t think it’s right,” said Valerie Andrea, junior Psychology Major.

“By lighting up when he met the artist and realized they shared goals. Periche said the午饭 rush for University students at noon, therefore the MAST students shouldn’t affect others eating on campus.

“If my knowledge, I haven’t seen any complaints about it,” said Periche. Wu said she will contact Business and Services to investigate the issue and find a possible solution.

Artist with heart for environment paints Glenn Hubert Library mural

ALEXANDRA MOSQUERA NETZKARSH Staff Writer

Jaime Choclote, a comic artist and mural painter, has illustrated scenery of the Amazon rainforest and indigenous tribes onto the walls of the Glenn Hubert Library as a part of the library’s renovation project.

Among the characters in Choclote’s mural is Sanange, a fictional super chaman or shaman who protects the rain forest from deforestation, pollution and the vanishing of the identity of the indigenous tribes.

Choclote said the mural consists of two parts. The Amazon: on one side, the night with dolphins, mermaids and a shaman, the latter representing the mystical; on the other, a bird representing the day, plus four people representing the indigenous tribes.

“The Amazon should concern everyone,” Choclote said. He wants people who see the library to look at the mural and think about the meaning it has for them, because it might wake some curiosity about the Amazon.

“It is important for younger generations to learn about environmental issues, and I think comics are a good way of catching their interest,” said Choclote, who is also the coordinator for the Cultural Association Pincel Verde and dedicated to raising awareness about problems faced by the indigenous tribes of the Amazon.

More than 30 years after opening, the Glenn Hubert Library begins changes that will make its services and design reflective of Biscayne Bay Campus’ focus on environmental concerns.

Some of these changes scheduled through 2014 include the renovation of the first floor public service desk, the addition of a new mural behind this desk and a second floor makeover.

Two years’ worth of meetings with the Student Government Council at BBC produced these results, according to Bryan Cooper, associate dean of technical and digital services.

Over a million dollars in allocations from the technology fee paid for the renovations, the most central of which will be the Academic Skills and Knowledge Center, where students can expect to find computer lab, laptop bar and reading zone. The AskCenter will serve as the equivalent of the Glenn Hubert Library at MMC.

The renovations should end by late summer 2014, according to Cooper. He publicly unveiled the mural on Nov. 7.

Jim Riach, lecturer of Environmental Studies and member of Project Amazonas (a humanitarian and environmental non-profit organization) established to address health, conservation and development needs in the Peruvian Amazon.

Riach met Choclote at a comic festival in Iquitos, Peru, in 2008. Impressed by Choclote’s talents, Riach said a light bulb lit up when he met the artist and realized they shared goals.

“It is nice to differentiate Jaime’s art from other art in Iquitos,” Riach said.

In one weekend, Choclote finished the draft for the design of the mural, which he then sent for the approval of Cooper and the Hubert Library staff. Riach financed the trip from Iquitos to Miami, and the Kuyayky Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and development of Andean music and culture, made it possible for Choclote to stay in the Kuyayky founders’ home while painting the mural.

“The mural is a great addition to the Library,” Cooper said.

“We did pull together as a team to make this happen.”

LGBTQA community joins together in Thanksgiving potlucks

ALEXANDRA MOSQUERA NETZKARSH Staff Writer

Edwin Serrano, graduate assistant for the LGBTQA Initiatives said the community’s Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner event, will allow students who are not accepted by their families to participate in a holiday dinner where they don’t have to worry about going back in the closet.

Together with the StoneWall Pride Alliance, LGBTQA Training and Development Committee and GSA, the LGBTQA community will host its Thanksgiving potluck on Nov. 20 at Biscayne Bay Campus’ Wolfe University Center and Nov. 26 at Modesto Maidisue Campus’ Graham Center from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

“A lot of students don’t have the ability to be themselves within their families,” said Serrano. “This event will give them the chance and the space to be who they are.”

According to Serrano, this dinner has the purpose of getting the community together and remembering that students can be themselves without being judged.

“LGBTQA students will have the opportunity of not having to worry about going back in the closet if their family is unacceptable,” said Serrano.

Some students agree with Serrano, who thinks the dinner is a chance for the LGBTQA and University community to come together for the sake of a holiday. Justin Santoli, sophomore in elementary education and the president of the StoneWall Pride Alliance, will perform a self-written poem about bullying — a theme familiar with LGBTQA students.