University building bridges with community

Many South Floridians who have sat through Miami traffic can see why it is one of the cities leading the country in highway congestion and dangerous метро areas for pedestrians. Perched between Florida State Road 836 and the City of Sweetwater’s main street, Southwest 109 Ave., Modesto A. Maidique Campus is one of the major destination points in Miami-Dade county. However, University City Alliance’s research shows that within the past five years there have been 18 traffic accidents at the U.S. 41 and Southwest 109 Avenue intersection and 20 traffic accidents at the U.S. 41 and Southwest 107 intersection. The lack of safety in the roads discourages many students from venturing off-campus grounds. This is why the University has joined with the neighboring City of Sweetwater to propose building a pedestrian bridge. This bridge is to cross Southwest Eighth St., otherwise known as Tamiami Trail, and will connect MMC with Sweetwater.

The observatory will be located on the other side of the main campus. The observatory was designed to appeal to students who are interested in astronomy and the science to be taught. The observatory is to be constructed on a small, limited patch of concrete located behind the Graham Center. For more than a decade, students interested in astronomy have been confined to a small, limited patch of concrete located behind the Graham Center. For more than a decade, students interested in astronomy have been confined to a small, limited patch of concrete located behind the Graham Center. Since 1991, Webb has designed almost every aspect of the observatory, using inspiration from visits to multiple observatories, like the Imilac Science Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, around the world.

The Stocker AstroScience Center is a four-floor structure, complete with a telescope control bridge and an original glass-tile mosaic by Clayton Bryant Young. Webb said having the opportunity to construct a science center of this magnitude was a lifelong dream. “It took a long time to come up with the money because the state canceled their program to match all donations,” said Webb. “But even- tually we put it on the PECO list, where legislators can vote on whether a university should be funded for a facility, and came up with the money.”

Webb also said that along with the assistance through a donation by Dr. Carl Stocker, a retired physics professor, the science center received close to $3.2 million from state and private funding. The observatory was designed to appeal to students who already have an interest in astronomy, while reaching out to those who are not as involved.

“Half the part of science is getting people interested,” said Webb. “They are usually afraid of the math and physics involved, but if you get them interested, they learn about the math and physics issues that go along with it without even realizing it.”

“Places like this can do that for you,” said Webb. “This will inspire other people to learn astronomy as a career and learn about space,” said Danielle Roberts, a senior physics major and treasurer of the astronomy club.

The Stocker AstroScience Center has all the features of a legitimate observatory, built upon a separate foundation so that the vibrations do not disturb the telescopes on the top deck. Also located on the other floors are faculty offices, teaching labs and a student area. “Without a facility, it’s like doing a chemistry lab in a bathroom. Sure, you’ve got the water and the drain, but it’s not very pleasant,” said Webb.

While most students who are not involved in the physics department are unaware of the observatory, the silver dome has caught the eye of passersby. “I think that the AstroScience Center will be a really big step for progress for FIU, not only for the Astronomy and Physics department,” said Jennifer Medina, a sophomore physics major.

The Stocker AstroScience Center will host its grand opening Nov. 12-16, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and live music, which will be free for the FIU community.

“It doesn’t look like any other building I have seen on campus,” said Doris Gonzalez, sophomore biology major, as she was headed to the chemistry and physics building for class. “I will definitely go inside it and check it out once it is open to the public.”

A mock-up of proposed pedestrian bridge connecting FIU and Sweetwater.

The observatory was designed to appeal to students who already have an interest in astronomy, while reaching out to those who are not involved.

“The prices are a little bit more [in the University Bookstore] because it means they can get more and more for their pocket,” said Paz. “But it’s not convenient for the students, because we want money too; we don’t want to spend [so much money].”

Michael Sloan, an undeclared freshman, agreed on the cost. “Probably Amazon,” said Sloan when asked which of the stores he thought was the cheapest. “I’ve only used Chegg so far. I haven’t looked at Amazon,” said Christy Mercado, another undeclared freshman, who had already purchased one of her books through the service.

“The Everyday Writer” by Andrea A. Lunsford is a book that many freshmen need for their ENC 1101 and 1102 book, Ramage’s “The Allyn and Bacon Guide To Writing,” shows that the prices are around the same range, save for rental on Chegg and Amazon, which cost less for students. (See graphic below.)

Despite his conjecture, Paz did not dismiss buying from the University Bookstore. “So far, I’ve had to buy one book here because it comes out cheaper, but the other [books] come out cheaper on Amazon,” said Paz.

Although he believed that Amazon was cheaper than the University Bookstore, Sloan said that he preferred on-campus convenience to price. “It’s the convenience of this store, that it’s right there. [I can] get my books right here. Amazon takes like a week,” said Sloan.

Mercado said that she did not have any particular prefer-
Pedestrian safety is a priority

TRAFFIC, PAGE 1

water along 109 Ave.

“FIU is it’s own little island. Even crossing the street seems like such a mission,” said senior business major Kathryn Velez. FIU and Sweetwater have partnered with Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, International Business Machines Corporation and the Florida Department of Transportation in a project called University City Alliance with the goal to combine university life with the surrounding communities.

The project’s goal is to attract more pedestrian foot traffic and increase the amount of public transit riders to the area.

Funded by a mix of U.S. Department of Transportation’s Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery funds, University City will build a pedestrian bridge that links students to Sweetwater’s urban center, providing a safe connection to the new 15-story, student-oriented housing complex that is already underway across Southwest Eighth St.

The University has increased enrollment by 25 percent in the last five years,

according to Stephan Sauls, vice president of Government Relations.

“We will continue to grow and become a major economic driver for this area,” said Sauls. “This project is a piece of that puzzle.”

In addition to this pedestrian bridge project, a Smart Parking Garage has been approved for construction next to the Red Parking Garage on campus. This Smart Parking Garage will serve as a transit terminal, providing a centralized location for passengers to transfer safely between bus routes.

“As a student who’s been living at school without a car, I only wish campus had something like this sooner,” said psychology major Laura Aguilar.

“The integration of design is part of University City. We’re planning this together, for the safety of students, the development of the university and the economic development of Sweetwater,” said Sauls.

During the Master Plan meeting, President Mark B. Rosenberg said keeping the area external and surrounding community in mind, not just the physical location of the FIU campus, is important.

“We want our students and guests can still get out of the FIU campus bubble and see the area,” said Aguilar.

“The idea is to plan what happens here and plan the streetscape activities so that they all combine,” said Sauls.

Sauls said this includes conversations with transportation entities.

The pedestrian bridge has been approved by the Metro-pollitain Planning Organization and has the support of the FIU congressional delegation.

However, the university is still facing a specific pending proposal before the US Department of Transpor-tation.

“A decision will be made in September by Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx,” said Sauls.

“The [secretary] can award part of it, all of it or none of it,” said Sauls. “We have two tries, and we’re trying for the third time. Each time it gets better and we’ve been encouraged to continue the effort.”

This project has been in the plans since 2010. If the project is approved, the project will be underway across Southwest Eighth St.

Sauls said, “We’re pushing the envelope. This is a world’s ahead agenda.”

Online sites offer competitive pricing

TEXTBOOKS, PAGE 1

once as to where to buy books.

In all three of the vendors, there are multiple acquisition options offered to each student for an order. Each offers a rental option, a used option or a new option, depending on the availability of the book.

According to Parz, it all depends on the subject material.

“I prefer to buy it [if it is on my career. If it is outside of my career, then I’ll rent it, because it comes out way cheaper than buying,” said Parz.

“I don’t really need it, I’ll just bring it back. [Books] in my career are good, because I can go back and use them again.”

“I prefer rental or used,” said Sloan, “because it’s definitely cheaper. [I’d only] use new if it’s mandatory.”

BOOK PRICES

- **SLS 1501 Book is $29.50 USED, and $39.35 NEW at University Bookstore.**
- **Everyday Writer (may include package content) is $26.58 USED and $35.65 NEW in Amazon University Bookstore.**
- **NEW on Amazon is $47.49 or higher, USED is $42.45 or lower.**
- **Chegg.com has it for $38.49 as a rental price and $52.99 as a purchase price. The e-book is $32.99.**

CORRECTIONS

In Volume 25, Issue 7, “Projected starting running back kicked off team following arrest” incorrectly

debated the bill.

the U.S. government of intervening in Iran's

Lawmakers will begin deliberations Wednesday

week on Tuesday saw nothing but error

NYTimes site victim of

to attract more pedestrian

marketing targets that it sees as sympathetic to

Times' website on Tuesday saw nothing but error

The word “twerking” has officially gone

entry to back it up -- literally. Britain’s Oxford

Al-Jazeera English and The Associated Press.

messages in its second major disruption this

squatting stance.”

WORLD NEWS

Oxford Dictionary caught “twerking”

The word “twerking” has officially gone

mainstream and it has the English dictionary

entry to back it up -- literally. Britain’s Oxford Dictionaries will add the word to its publications

as part of its quarterly update under the entry: “Twerk, verb: The full definition! “Dance to popular music in a sexually provocative manner

including thrusting hip movements and a low, squatting stance.”

NYTimes site victim of Syrian Army

Readers who tried to click on the New York Times’ website on Tuesday saw nothing but error

messages in its second major disruption this

month by a group calling itself “The Syrian Elec-

tronic Army.” SEAS has taken credit for attacks

on media targets that it sees as sympathetic to

Syria’s rebels, including the Washington Post, Al-Jazeera English and The Associated Press.

Iraq to debate using US

Iraqi parliament has approved debate on

a bill that seeks to give the U.S. for its involve-

ment in the 1953 coup that overthrew the coun-

try’s democratically elected prime minister.

Lawmakers will begin deliberations Wednesday

over how to launch a formal complaint accusing the U.S. government of intervening in Iraq’s internal affairs and inflicting damage on the

US. The 290-seat house approved the
doctorate in political science.

service in central New York, Obama

tools. Government spending on

education, scientific research and Amer-

ica’s infrastructure.

Taking questions from college students in central New York, Obama
decreed the Republican approach as

“penny-wise and pound-foolish,” predicting the U.S. will fall further and further behind other nations in decades
to come unless it prioritizes creating opport-

unities for young people.

“When Congress gets back to Wash-

ington, this is going to be a major debate,”

Obama said during a town hall at Bing-

hamton University.

Obama said it’s the same debate he

and lawmakers have been having for two
years and that the difference now is that

the U.S. has made progress in cutting deficits.

“My position is going to be that we can

have a budget that is sensible, that doesn’t spend on programs that don’t work, but does spend on those things that are going to help ordinary people succeed,” he said.

These and other contentious issues

will come to a head in a series of upcoming

Congress faces deadlines to increase the federal government’s borrowing limit and to continue funding the government.

Obama reserved some of his harshest

critiques for GOP lawmakers seeking a

government shutdown over his health care law, arguing that those lawmakers are not offering an economic plan. More than a third of House Republicans are urging their leader to take such a step this fall.

Instead, those lawmakers should focus on the “poorhead, bread-and-

butter” issues that affect Americans, Obama said, citing college affordability as one example.

Despite the deepening crises in Egypt and Syria, all 10 questions posed to the president focused on domestic issues, education.

While the questions were not screened, Obama’s advisers had aimed this summer to keep the president’s public agenda focused on
domestic priorities, even as international issues compete for his attention.
Chelsea Manning: A brave woman

BOBBY JOE BRACY, JR
Contributing Writer

Chelsea Manning, formerly known as Bradley Manning, now wishes to be recognized as a woman, and, regrettably, there is still so much unawareness about what it means to be a transgender man or woman.

Michael Pearson, writing for CNN, posted an article about the news of Manning’s transition while repeatedly referring to her using the male pronoun “he.” CBS, USA Today, Politico and the Wall Street Journal all made the same abusive error in their coverage about Manning’s public announcement—though that isn’t exhaustive, it is exhausting.

When someone informs you of their gender identity, you have a duty to respect their gender identity as they choose to express it, just as you would expect them to respect yours. If your name is Bob, even if people say “but you look like a Fred,” that doesn’t give them the right to call you “Fred” or even “Bobfried.” Similarly, no one has the right to refer to Chelsea using male pronouns when she has made it abundantly clear that she is not a man. To understand this, we need to forget everything we think we know about what it means to be a “man” or a “woman.” This is not about being “politically correct,” but about giving transgender men and women the same dignity and respect we must give to anyone we meet.

Yet, there still exists widespread stigmatization of transgender people as “freaky,” which prevents us from seeing them as human beings deserving of equal treatment. Reading any mainstream coverage of Manning’s transition is like walking through a minefield of transphobia. The road toward higher education is an arduous one to follow, yet one that is meant to pay off in the long run. Students come to FIU in hopes of acquiring a degree which will help them lead better lives and, for the most part, this is what a university is meant to help its student body achieve.

At FIU, however, the student body must deal with clunky registration programs that, at their best, actually aid in registering the student body for courses, yet at their worst, delay students from graduating on time. I’m talking about Panterhsoft and its course registration section.

Since I transferred to FIU after acquiring my Associate of Arts degree, I have seen errors in the prerequisite section during the registration process in certain courses every semester. While this on its own isn’t completely irritating, combined with the potential of class cancellations, it certainly becomes a huge problem. This is unacceptable, quite frankly. It is iritating as a student to do everything on time, contact my advisor, select my courses, make sure I’m on track toward graduation, only to find that a course I needed has been canceled due to insufficient students enrolling for it.

According to the registration office at the Biscayne Bay Campus, 75 percent of the class capacity is what the University looks for when deciding whether or not to cancel a course for a semester. There are, of course, variations to that. The Multimedia Production II course currently holds six students, and it is still being taught. Similarly, capstone courses like Advanced Multimedia Production tend to be taught regardless of the number of students that are assigned, since the students taking a capstone course usually graduate that semester.

Courses build upon one another. As such, many have prerequisites. By the time we are all reaching the end of our undergraduate careers, our choices in the courses we can take naturally become limited. This is where the above issues become a huge problem. If one of these last courses is canceled, they have the potential to set back a student a semester, or potentially a full academic year, if the course in question is a prerequisite to another course.

There are some ways I believe the course cancellation issue can be resolved, at least in the case of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. SJC is situated at BCC. Naturally, most courses are offered on that campus. The first step, I believe, is to have more courses taught at the main campus, Modesto Maidique Campus. As the campus with the most circulation of students, courses at MMC tend to fill up much faster than those at BCC.

The second step is to make sure there are no errors in the prerequisites shown in Panterhsoft, as this delays the entire registration process for any student wishing to take that course. Finally, the third step is to have the student take action and make sure they are constantly checking the courses they need to take and whether or not one of the courses he or she has enrolled for is dropped. Perhaps the best advice I can give students is to memorize his or her advisor schedule. Students can also contact your advisor through email in the My_eadvisor section on Panthersoft. I’m fairly confident your advisor will do everything he or she possibly can to fix any problems.

—opinion@fiusm.com

Registration problematic at FIU

MOISES FUERTES
Staff Writer

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and members of the University community.

EDITORIAL POLICY
Editorials are the unedited voice of the editorial board, which is composed of the editor in chief, management, and the editors of each of the five sections. The Beacon welcomes any letters regarding or in response to its editorials. Send them to jonathan.szydlo@fiusm.com.

Send Us Your Letters

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

The opinions presented within this page do not represent the views of The Beacon Editorial Board. These views are separate from editorials and reflect individual perspectives of contributing writers and members of the University community.
The Solar Decathlon is about more than just building efficient solar houses for a mere competition; it educates students and the public on a new, comfortable, eco-friendly, money-saving opportunity. According to solardécahthon.gov, it is demonstrating to the public the comfort and affordability of homes that combine energy-efficient construction and appliances with renewable energy systems available today.

The 2013 Solar Decathlon China, held Aug. 2 through Aug. 10 in Datong, China, hosted 20 teams from around the world, including FIU, who teamed up with Tsinghua University, to challenge themselves in designing and constructing energy-efficient, solar-powered homes.

The steps the FIU-Tsinghua University team took began with careful research of the best available solar and environmental systems technology.

"Armed with that knowledge, we entered extensive discussions with manufacturers, suppliers, and builders," said Marilys Nepomechie, professor of architecture at FIU. "Additionally, original research based on extensive in-house experimentation, fueled the team’s work. "We were Fortunately to find tremendous institutional and community support, interest and goodwill to advance the team’s efforts."

The Decathlon consisted of competitions: five of them measured through instrumenta tion and five through a jury of panel experts. The team earned top honors in four of the five measured contests and placed first in Comfort Zone among the other teams.

"The Comfort Zone competition measures combined temperature and humidity levels inside the house. The O-House was well positioned to control both — through excellent environmental controls and fairly wired sensors, weather station, real time monitoring and automation," said Nepomechie.

Furthermore, the house was designed with a well calibrated building envelope — including insulation, ventilation, shading elements, among other project features," said Nepomechie.

Although both universities are diverse in language and cultural differences, they still managed to work well together for the last two years and become a strong, unified team.

"There is no doubt that the multidisciplinary and multicultural teamwork experience will have positive impacts on students’ lives and careers," said Cheng-Xian "Charlie" Lin, associate professor in the department of mechanical and materials engineering.

The team is satisfied with the results and the hard work they put in for the last two years. According to Nepomechie, the process of selecting 20 finalists in an international competition that draws hundreds of applicants every cycle includes researching, designing, building, transporting and operating a full-scale solar house. Accomplishing this is already a victory for everyone involved.

"The decathlon is a profoundly challenging, rewarding, life-changing project for students," according to Nepomechie.

"I think I speak for all of us in saying that we are more than satisfied. Without a doubt, everyone contributed to the common task with enthusiasm. In our own case, the Solar Decathlon projects have also sought to incorporate challenges unique to our specific geographic and cultural contexts," said Nepomechie. "In 2013, our team took on the complexities of bringing solar technologies to the high-rise, high-density context of China, while in 2011 our FIU team addressed our hot, humid, hurricane-prone South Florida climate as well as the growing demographics of an aging population."

When asked if they will construct a solar house, meeting and working with new faces and the competition again, both professors agreed wholeheartedly with a "yes."

"The SD China put FIU in an international stage. We are very proud to be one of the winning teams. I will be very excited to do it again," said Lin.

Nepomechie agreed. "The experience was invaluable to so many levels. Our project began as a conversation about important next steps in the evolution of this international interdisciplinary competition and in the evolution of sustainable construction around the world. Who could ask for more?"

Scott announces $90m to help Everglades

Gov. Rick Scott announced Wednesday that the state will spend $90 million to further hydrate the Everglades and help lessen water woes plaguing southwest Florida.

During a stop in Fort Myers, Scott discussed a plan to construct a 2.6-mile bridge on Tamiami Trail in Miromar-Dade County. A similar 1-mile bridge opened in March on that stretch.

Scott said that by building an additional bridge, more water will flow naturally through the Everglades. This will keep nutrient rich water out of the estuaries. He was joined during the announcement by local lawmakers.

"Adding additional bridge space to the Tamiami Trail will do a lot to keep nutrient rich water out of our communities," said Rep. Matt Hunter, R-Naples, in a news release. "Every drop of water we send south is another drop that doesn’t make its way to our shores, which benefits our people and economy."

The bridges replace the existing roadway, which has blocked the flow of water to the southern Everglades from Lake Okeechobee since its construction in 1928.

When the project is completed, an annual average of 210,000 acre-feet of water will be redirected. According to Scott, the total cost of the bridge is about $180 million.
CAMPUS LIFE AT BISCAYNE BAY PRESENTS

IN INVOLVEMENT

Week 2013

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND
Labor Day (University will be closed)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD
Involvement and Volunteer Fair
Clubs, Councils, Departments and Volunteer Organizations
Sponsored by Campus Life & The Center for Leadership and Service
11 AM - 2 PM | WUC Ballrooms

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
Student Government Association Day
11 AM - 2 PM | AC I Area

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH
Recreation Expo
Sponsored by Recreation Center
11 AM - 2 PM | WUC Ballrooms

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
FIU Day at Alaska Coffee Roasting Co.
Bring your FIU ID to 13130 Biscayne Blvd in North Miami
and enjoy a free cup of regular coffee!
8 AM - 10 PM | Alaska Coffee Roasting Co.

WORK HARD, PLAY HARD!

CampusLifeBBC
FIU ready for first season in C-USA

RHYS WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

With all of the turmoil this offseason, there will be many new faces in key positions for the Panthers when they open up their first Conference USA season against the University of Maryland.

"I won't be looking at these guys as freshmen or first time starters or inexperienced by the time that kickoff happens in College Park," Turner said. "We expect them to do their jobs and we are not going to call anything that we [the coaching staff] or they [the players] are not comfortable with."

The Terrapins, who went 4-8 last season, look to bounce back from the loss of seven defensive starters over this offseason as they finish off their stint in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Some key returners for the Terps will be quarterback C.J. Brown on offense and linebacker Cole Farrand on the defensive side of the ball.

"We had a great training camp and are all fired up to play on Saturday," Turner said. "The game against Maryland will set a big tone for not only myself, but this whole team." Quarterback Jake Medlock said, "We are going to take the season one week at a time and focus at the task at hand, which will be the team who is on the schedule for that week."

The first home game for FIU this season will be on Sept. 6 and is the next chapter in the rivalry between the Panthers and the University of Central Florida. The Knights, who won the Conference-USA East division last season before moving to the American Athletic Conference in July, will look to win in back-to-back years against the Panthers, as they won 33-20 in 2012.

The third week of the season will bring Division I-AA Bethune-Cookman University to Miami. The two teams, which begin a two game series this season, have played twice before in 2002 and 2003 with the Wildcats winning both by margins of 31-0 and 24-14 respectively.

On Sept. 24, University of Louisville, led by former Northwestern High School teammate of quarterback E.J. Hilliard and currently one of the top quarterbacks in college football, Teddy Bridgewater, will host the Panthers in Kentucky. The Cardinals enter the season ranked ninth in the country. The Panthers are 1-1 all time against the Cardinals with a win in the first meeting in 2011, 24-17 with the help of 201 receiving yards by former Panther T.Y. Hilton.

Following the Cardinals, the Panthers prepare themselves for their first C-USA game against Southern Mississippi University. The Golden

Season outlook grim after turbulent offseason

A week into the new school year and the Panther football team has lost another weapon on offense. Jakhari Gore, a transfer from LSU and possible starter, was dismissed from the team after being arrested on charges of false imprisonment and robbery by sudden snatching.

Definitely not the kind of year first year coach Ron Turner could have ever expected. For all the die hard football fans who previously close to the same fate.

Let's just run down the list for those who may have short term memory loss; the Panthers are now without three of their "stars," all without playing a down.

Kedrick Rhodes was also arrested back in July after firing off shots in the air like he was Elmer Fudd. Bad grades will keep top receiver Willis Wright off the team, wonder if Miami-Dade College is in the works of starting a football team.

Big time defender Richard Leonard and now top receiver Glenn Coleman are also awaiting word on their grades, but from what some people close to the situation have told me, don't expect to see them Saturday against Maryland.

Low GPA doesn't just affect the player, but it also affects the team in the long run. We all know by now the situation with the men's basketball team falling under Academic Progress Rate scores and receiving a postseason ban by the NCAA because of it.

The football team is getting dangerously close to the same fate. APR is based on graduation rate and retention of student-athletes. If either Leonard or Coleman, or both, have reached the end of their FIU careers because of grades, the team's single year scores may cause a drop in the already low multi-year APR score of 930.

So Leonard and Coleman, shape up or ship out.

During the offseason, the FIU football team has found itself in hot water almost every month.

Offseason Timeline

Dec. 5, 2012- Mario Cristobal fired as head coach.
Jan. 4- Ron Turner hired as new head coach.
Feb. 6- Offensive lineman Prince Matt charged with misdemeanor marijuana possession, 20 grams or less.
April 25- With the 33rd pick in the 2013 National Football League draft, the Jacksonville Jaguars select Safety Johnathan Cyprien.
July 1- FIU officially moves to Conference USA.
July 13- Running back Kedrick Rhodes was charged with possessing and discharging a firearm on school grounds, improper exhibition of a firearm, discharging a firearm in public and discharging a firearm under the influence of alcohol.
July 20- Miami-Dade Police responded to an anonymous call about the Panther Football team allegedly Showering without their bathing suits in front of families and children on a field trip.
Aug. 25- Running Back Jakhari Gore was arrested on charges of robbery by sudden snatching and false imprisonment.

SEE COLUMN, PAGE 7

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 7
Men’s soccer kicks off season vs Loyola Marymount

YOSVANY RODRIGUEZ Staff Writer

After opening up with five consecutive wins, the men’s soccer team started to cool off after finishing last season wireless in conference play.

The Panthers now look to bounce back in 2013 with a schedule that includes nine conference games; seven of them against teams that qualified for the 2012 NCAA Tournament, such as Florida Gulf Coast, New Mexico, UAB, Old Dominion, Kentucky, Tulsa and Charlotte.

The Panthers will be traveling most of the season, with 11 of the 17 regular season contests taking place on the road. However, this might prove to be beneficial to the Panthers, seeing as they posted a 6-3-1 record away from FIU Stadium, while only managing a 2-4-1 record at home.

“I’m looking forward to the first game,” Head Coach Kenny Arena said. “We’re going to take it one game at a time. We want to win every game we play but we are going to seriously focus on each team we play.”

FIU will kick off its regular season with five consecutive games on the road. The first of which will be against the Loyola Marymount Lions on August 30th with a start time of 10:00 p.m. The Panthers will stay in the California area to take on San Diego State just two days later. This game will also have a 10:00 p.m. start time.

After California, the Panthers will head back to the Sunshine State, slowly making their way down to Miami. The first game on the Florida road trip will be in Orlando against the University of Central Florida Knights on Sept. 5.

After facing the Knights, the Panthers will travel to Fort Myers to take on the Florida Gulf Coast Eagles on Sept. 7. The road trip will finally come to an end when the Panthers open up conference play against the Florida Atlantic Owls on Sept. 14. All games on the Florida road trip will have a 7:00 p.m. start time.

Panther fans will finally get a chance to watch their team play when they come home to take on North Florida on Sept. 20. The Panthers will play just one more home game against Jacksonville on Sept. 22, before returning on the road once again.

The Panthers will head out to New Jersey and Pennsylvania for a two game road trip. FIU will take on Princeton on Sept. 27 at 7:00 p.m., then two days later on Sept. 29, when they take on the University of Pennsylvania Quakers in a 12:00 p.m. match-up.

“All the conference games are going to be really important,” Junior forward Quentin Albrecht said. “Last year we didn’t win one game, so we really got to make it up.

The Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutively conference games. FIU will first face off against Marshall on Oct. 6 at 6:00 p.m. Then the Panthers will go on the road to take on New Mexico on Oct.12 and UAB on Oct. 16. The Panthers will host Old Dominion on Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m. before going to Lexington to face the Kentucky Wildcats on Oct. 26. After their match with Kentucky, they will come back home to face the South Carolina Gamecocks on October 30th.

The Panthers will travel to Oklahoma to play its final regular season road game against 2012 NCAA quarterfinalist Tulsa on Nov. 3 at 5:00 p.m. Finally, they will end the 17-game regular season on November 8th at home against Charlotte.

The C-USA conference tournament is expected to take place from Nov. 13-17 at the University of Charlotte.

-yosvany.rodriguez@fiusm.com

Schedule highlighted by top-10 Louisville

FOOTBALL, PAGE 6

Eagles, who play two top 25 teams within their first four weeks, will be looking to improve from their 0-12 record a season ago.

The first homestand of the Panthers tenure in C-USA will start with the homecoming game against the University of Alabama-Birmingham Blazers on Oct. 12. The Blazers went 3-9 in 2012 and only have one game against a current top 25 team in the country.

Following UAB, the Panthers will host Louisiana Tech, then East Carolina University. The next couple of weeks take the Panthers on the road against Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Texas at El Paso respectively. The Blue Raiders moved to C-USA this July as the Panthers did and are former opponents in the Sun Belt Conference. The Miners of UTEP will be looking to improve from a 3-9 season last year.

The final home game of the 2013 season will be on Nov. 23, as the Panthers host the Thundering Herd of Marshall University. The Herd, who went 5-7 in 2012, will be led by third year quarterback Rakeem Cato, who is statistically another top quarterback in college football this year and will look to be a factor in C-USA this season.

The final week of the 2013 season is another chapter in the rivalry between FIU and Florida Atlantic University. The game will be held in Boca Raton, Fla this season on Nov. 29.

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Defensive bright spots only glimmer of hope

COLUMN, PAGE 6

To add insult to injury, out of all the athletic programs, football is the second worst rated in terms of multi-rate scores.

A lot to take in. A team that was predicted to finish last in Conference USA, now without two, possibly four, grand will have to find itself.

How about we officially close the books on this season and look forward to next year. Save yourselves the time and money.

I love football as much as the next person, and I like to be optimistic, but there isn’t much optimism to take away from this squad. With an O-line with no experience, a defense and with little talent to speak of, it is no surprise that this team will finish low in the standings.

So when your tallest guy on the field, healthy and expected to make a shot at the NFL according to assistant coach Andre Patterson, isn’t even starting, sound the alarm.

Let’s all just focus on our studies. With the Panthers facing top teams like Maryland and Sugar Bowl Champs Louisville, you won’t miss much.

And one last reminder, this is a stronger Louisville team that took out the 11-1 Gators last year and sent them back to the swamp asking, ‘What happened?’

Without a doubt, the sport that receives the most attention, or at least is mostly talked about at the water cooler, is this football team. And unless this team can make a complete 180-degree turn and get on the right track, it will continue to be a long and bumpy road for everyone.

Then again, history shows people will still come out in full force just to spend their game days partying out in the parking lots.

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Dolphins should be more exciting in 2013

STEVEN WINE Associated Press

Another training camp practice had just ended, and the Miami Dolphins quarterback Ryan Tannehill walked toward a lectern to field the latest round of media queries.

“Is this going to be good?” someone asked as Tannehill approached a cluster of microphones.

“It’s going to be great,” Tannehill answered with a smile, emphasizing the last word. “Real exciting.”

Instead, the interview session was virtually humdrum. Tannehill and the Dolphins are saving any excitement for the season.

After four consecutive losing seasons, the franchise’s longest such skid since the 1960s, the Dolphins should be more fun to watch in 2013. They upgraded their unimposing corps of receivers by acquiring Mike Wallace and Brandon Gibson, and an already formidable defensive front seven became faster and younger with the additions of line backers Philip Wheeler, Dannell Ellerbe and Dion Jordan, the No. 3 overall draft pick.

But an unsettled offensive line raises questions about the Dolphins’ ability to run and protect Tannehill, which means they may again have trouble moving the ball.

Last year Miami lost five games by a touchdown or less, scoring 21 points or less in all of them, en route to a 7-9 finish. A succession of low-scoring games is again likely in 2013.
Excursions take students to explore mangroves

JESSICA MESZAROS
Staff Writer

Today new and returning students have the opportunity to preview Biscayne Bay Campus’ Kayak Day on the Bay.

The trail will just be a sample of what is to take place the last Saturday of every month for the semester. This first-come first-serve event is starting at 1 p.m. and will run until 3 p.m., lasting a total of 30 minutes per group of 20 participants.

Jonathan Torrey, office manager for the Recreation Center at BBC, will be leading the group along with two other lifeguards.

Torrey said the idea is “just get the students out on the water, let them get a feel of how to maneuver on a kayak, maybe take them to Sandspur Island — let them get a feel of kayaking from one place to another place.”

For the rest of the semester, the trail will be broken up in two parts. First, the group plans to kayak over to Oleta River State Park’s trail. Then, they will kayak to a sandbar in the middle of Biscayne Bay.

“We once hit that area, that’s usually our resting place. Students can get out, they can swim around. There’s usually a boat that serves food. Most students are taking pictures or just kind of hanging out in the water,” said Torrey.

They plan to stay at the shallow sandbar for about 15 to 20 minutes before returning to campus. Torrey will take a group at 10 a.m. and another at noon. The total excursion time is estimated at an hour and a half.

Gustavo Arauz, Office Manager for BBC Library, kayaked BBC about two months ago.

“Basically we kayaked all around and we got close to the mangroves and we saw the environment; you know, it was the best,” said Arauz. “I always look at the bulletin boards to see if it’s available or not.”

Paddle boarding is also offered for students this semester. The first Saturday of every month, Jonathan Torrey will take three trips with five students at a time around Sandspur Island. The times are set for 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 1 p.m.

With this particular trip we only go around the island. We don’t go to the kayak trail and we don’t go to the sandbar,” said Torrey. “As we’re moving around the island, we take rest spots. We give students a chance if they want to just jump in the water and jump out.”

Paddle boarding requires open waters and is slower than the kayaking, so there are more opportunities to observe fish and other wildlife.

Night kayaking will also be available at 7 p.m. on Sept. 7 and Oct. 5. Barry Tucker is the General Supervisor of the Aquatic Center. He has accompanied Torrey’s night kayaking as a lifeguard.

“Right now, we’re in the process of making everything illuminated — the kayaks and all that. The goal is to have clear bottom paddleboards and kayaks so you can see nature more closely. There’s a lot of stuff going on at night in the water,” said Tucker.

Registration is at the BBC Fitness Center. The aquatic events are free to students and 10 dollars to members of the community who wish to join.

The BBC’s first kayak was used as a department kayak for training purposes. Torrey pushed the idea to purchase more kayaks. They initially used them for the summer camp program here. The department then opened up use to students only. Now BBC kayaks and paddleboards are accessible to everyone.

“We’d like to be open to students, but then we incorporated the community, so it’s like a student-commu- nity activity,” said Torrey.

To register or for more information, students can email -bbc@fiusm.com

MAST Academy students go unnoticed at BBC

MARIA BRITOS
Staff Writer

Last week, Biscayne Bay Campus opened its doors to the first high school freshmen class from MAST Academy. The high school partnered with the University in an effort to provide its students marine science courses and other university-related opportunities. With its first freshmen-only class, the school will add more grade levels until they reach the 12th grade in its fourth year.

According to Steven Moll, BBC Vice Provost, the MAST Academy students’ presence shouldn’t be noticed by FIU students because their classes have been assigned in an area where they’re in the second floor of Academic One; the drop-off and pick-up bus area has remained the same way: unnoticed.

“I haven’t heard of the MAST students, not even that they had a bus drop off,” said Alex Salazar, junior hospitality major.

Every weekday morning, several yellow public school buses make their way to the BBC. Inside of them are the MAST Academy freshmen students riding to a normal school day.

The University has arranged a specific bus and car drop-off and pick-up location on campus.

The drop-off is located in the small roundabout in front of the Academic One building.

Julissa Castellanos, director of Operations at BBC, explained the area was chosen to avoid any traffic confrontation.

“It doesn’t conflict with regular traffic,” said Castellanos.

According to Castellanos, the choice of having the students dropped off and picked up up in that area was not specially arranged; however; it was simply a matter of space availability.

“The [MAST Academy] students arrive at seven in the morning and leave at 2:30 in the afternoon; there aren’t too many University) students on campus at that time,” Castellanos said.

Involvement Week: a chance to ‘make a difference’

ALYSSA ELSO
Staff Writer

With the fall semester underway, the Office of Campus Life at Biscayne Bay is offering students many ways to get involved and make a difference on campus.

Starting Sept. 3 the Office of Campus Life, along with the Student Organization Council, Student Programming Council, Panther Power and Student Government Association, will be hosting Involvement Week 2013.

Starting on Sept. 3, students will get a chance to learn about the many clubs, councils and organizations offered at BBC.

“Last year we had about 20-25 clubs and this year we will have more than 30,” said Gary Santos, Campus Life graduate assistant.

According to Steven Moll, BBC Vice Provost, the MAST Academy students’ presence shouldn’t be noticed by FIU students because their classes have been assigned in an area where they’re in the second floor of Academic One; the drop-off and pick-up bus area has remained the same way: unnoticed. “I hadn’t heard of the MAST students, not even that they had a bus drop off,” said Alex Salazar, junior hospitality major.

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Some of the new clubs students can expect to see include The Aquatics Club, The Gay Rights Club and the Comics Club.

Maria Abreu, senior journalism major, is looking forward to learning about some of the ways she can get involved in her last year at FIU.

“I did not really see the importance of being a part of campus life before,” said Abreu. “Now as I find myself about to graduate and go out and find a job, I realize that any type of extracurricular activities are important in making me a well rounded individual.”

Sept. 4, students will get a chance to learn about the Student Government Association and the many ways they can help to represent the student body.

Thursday, Sept. 5 will students learn about the many recreational activities available to them like the gym, pool, kayaking and even deep sea fishing.

To close off the week, on Friday, Sept. 6 students will be able to receive a free cup of coffee at Alaska Coffee Roasting Co. by presenting their Panther ID.

Along with the many events going on during Involvement Week, the Office of Campus Life will be giving out free food and giveaways.

“Everyone usually loves free food and we will also be giving away sunglasses and hats,” said Santos. “Many of the clubs will also have their own special giveaways.”

According to Santos, Involvement week is not only a great way for students to get involved in school activities, but also a good outlet for them to voice their opinions on what they would like to see at BBC.

3rd Florida mayor arrested within the past month

CURT ANDERSON
Associated Press

The mayor of Homestead was hauled away from his home Wednesday in handcuffs on corruption charges, including accepting illegal compensation, becoming the third mayor of a Miami-Dade County city to be arrested in the past month.

Steve Bateman, 58, was secretly being paid $125 an hour as a consultant by a health care company seeking city and county approval for a sewer connection so it could build a clinic in Homestead, said Miami-Dade State Attorney Kath- erine Fernandez Rundle.

Bateman lobbied his own city officials and County Mayor Carlos Gimenez without disclosing his financial arrange- ment with Community Health Care of South Florida Inc., a non-profit firm known as CHI, said Fernandez Rundle.

“Another very sad day for the people of Miami-Dade County,” Fernandez Rundle told reporters. “At no time did Bateman disclose that these contacts were done for a private employer. That should have been done.”

All told, Bateman was paid $3,625 by CHI for his work, although the company had authorized as much as $120,000 in payments for a year of work, according to an arrest affidavit.