University building bridges with community

MACKENZIE BARELS
Contributing Writer

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 metro 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 going to cross Southwest Eighth St., otherwise known as Tamiami Trail, and will connect MMC with Sweetwater.

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

See Traffic, page 2

Textbook prices vary among online stores and FIU

RAUL HERRERA
Contributing Writer

The semester has just begun, and so has the rush of getting textbooks on time. College students are always looking for the right book at an affordable price.

“It’s been going crazy, I’ve been looking … for the cheapest price," said Roger Paz, junior management major.

There are three popular vendors that FIU students use to obtain their books for their classes: Amazon, the popular online retailer; Chegg, the textbook rental and online student service organization; and the Florida International University Bookstore located in the Graham Center.

Students surveyed at random were divided between the three as to which was the best option.

Paz believed that the University Bookstore’s prices were too expensive.

“Here in [the University] bookstore, of course, it’s a little bit more [than Amazon or Chegg],” said Paz.

While this data shows that this particular textbook is more expensive in Chegg and Amazon than in the University Bookstore, information on prices for another 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," Paz said.

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-

COURTESY OF STEPHAN SAULS

AILYS TOLEDO
Staff Writer

For more than a decade, students interested in astronomy have been confined to a small, limited patch of concrete located behind the Graham Center. This restricted space was used as an observatory for students and professors to gather information about cosmic and earthly occurrences.

“We finally have a building in FIU that’s dedicated to astronomy and the science to be able to know what’s beyond the earth,” said Astronomy Club President Andres Medina. Andres, a senior in physics and biomedical engineering, is looking forward to visiting the observatory with his friends.

Dr. James Webb, a professor in the physics department, has taken initiative in the creation and development of a new observatory. Since 1991, Webb has designed almost every aspect of the observatory, using inspiration from visits to multiple observatories, like the Imiloa 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 eventually 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 $2.4 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.

“A place 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 ever seen on campus,” said Doris Gonzalez, a 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.”

ailys.toledo@fiusm.com
Online sites offer competitive pricing

BOOK PRICES

- **SLS 1501 Book** is **$29.50 USED, and $39.35 NEW** in University BookStore.
- **Day Trader** is **$26.75 USED and $35.65 NEW** in University Bookstore.
- **SLS 1501 Book** is **$29.50 USED, and $39.35 NEW** at University Bookstore.
- **SLS 1501 Book** is **$22.50 or higher for a rental.**
- **Everyday Writer (may include package content)** is **$26.99 USED and $35.05 NEW in University Bookstore.**
- **NEW on Amazon** is **$47.49 or higher, USED is $54.45 or lower.**
- **Cheng** has a **$18.49 as a rental price and $32.99 as a purchase price.** The e-book is **$32.99.**

**Allmy and Bacon: FIU has it (book alone) at $75 USED, $100 NEW.**
1. **Business on Chegg** is **$22.99; buy (new) on Chegg is $113.49.**
2. **E-Book rental is $47.14.**

**SOURCE:** amazon.com, chegg.com, and FIU bookstore.

**Pedestrian safety is a priority**

**TRAFFIC, PAGE 1**

water along 109 Ave.

"FIU is its 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, 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 junior 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 external surrounding community in mind, not just the physical location of the FIU campus, is important.

"Students with cars 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 Metropolitan 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 Transportation.

A decision will be made in September by Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx.

"[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." The project has been in the plans since 2010. If the new bridge is approved, the project will begin fall 2014.

Sauls said, "We’re pushing the envelope. This is a whole world’s agenda ahead."
Opinion

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 is not 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 Bobby, even if people say “but you look like a Fred,” that doesn’t give them the right to call you “Fred” or even “Bobfred.” 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 every- thing 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 trans- gender 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.

Contrary to what Dan Savage has told us, it gets worse. The reality is that Chelsea will face more abuse because of her gender identity since, as the Sylvia Rivera Law Project notes, “[f]作战 only to deny transgender people in prison have problems accessing healthcare, but they experience a heightened level of gender policing…[a]ny deviance from norms can lead to violence at which causes crippling anxiety and, in many cases, suicide. The American Civil Liberties Union, in taking a stand for Chelsea, notes that “the official policy of the Federal Bureau of Prisons and most state agencies is to provide medically necessary care for the treatment of gender dysphoria [sic], and courts have consistently found that denying such care to pris- oners based on blanket exclusions violates the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution.” So, denying access to healthcare necessities for transgender people is “cruel and unusual punishment,” which is explicitly prohibited by the U.S. Constitution.

Therefore, if we denigrate trans- gender folks by refusing to respect their true gender identities, we, too, become guilty of compounding that same cruel and unusual punish- ment. Despite existing constitu- tional protections of transgender people, there still lacks sufficient protections for transgender people in public and private places; since Florida is an “at-will” employment state, people can lose their jobs for any reason, like not conforming to your boss’s expectations of gender.

Years from now, we will wonder how a society could be so oppressive toward gender norms. I may not live to see that day, but I hope that we can help each other imagine it.

--opinion@fiusm.com

MOISES FUERTES Staff Writer

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 univer- sity is meant to help its student body achieve. At FIU, however, the student body must deal with clunky registra- tion 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 Panthertos 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 irri-
YANAISI COLAUZO
Staff Writer

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 solardecathlon.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 Mariylis Nepomechie, professor of architecture at FIU. “Additionally, original research based on extensive in-house experimentation, fueled the team’s work. We were fortunate 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 instrumentation 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 systems controlled by sensors, weather station, real time monitoring and instrumentation,” 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.

Over the course of the competition, FIU faculty and students made three in-person visits to Beijing and Datong, while one of the Tsinghua faculty members visited FIU last spring. “Understanding the team did long-distance project reviews and critiques via Skype, DropBox and email,” B e c a u s e FIU-Tsinghua University won fifth place in this year’s competition, the team has developed new methods, ideas and opinions to finish next year’s competition at a higher position.

If there is anything we can do better next time, I think it will be to ‘show and tell’ the solar house designed by the students to the judges,” said Lin. “Our team has done a great job in building and showing the house. At the same time, we feel that making every student understand the competition rules or where points are is always important during the competition.”

There is no doubt that the multidisciplinary and multicultural team work experience will have positive impacts on students’ lives and careers.

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 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-rises, 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 on 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?”

ASHLEY GARNER
Columnist

It’s that time of year again: the beginning of a new school semester, and walking around campus the past few days you can definitely sense the fresh and positive attitude in everyone’s demeanor and see it in their attire. Many students started this week decked out in their newest fall purchases.

Freshman business administration major Jonathan Jesion’s boyfriend bought him an eye-catching tropical print button down t-shirt. Paired with easy-going khakis and some worn-in Keds, Johnathan’s look was the perfect balance between professional and laid back for his first day of the semester.

Another student that was seen rocking crazy patterns was freshman education major Yidran Jordan.

When I asked what made her decide to wear so many different prints all at once that day she ecstatically responded, “I love flowers a lot. Back at home I wasn’t able to wear too many different things because it was too conserva-

It’s stories like this that make me realize how lucky we really are to live in an area where expressing ourselves is not limited to just writing privately in our journal, Junior business administration major Chris Concepcion Jr. was fully aware of the power that sartorial self-expression has. Waking up on Monday morning “feeling American,” he threw on his impossible-to-miss American flag shirt and paired it with some cut-off skinny black jeans shorts and a ‘Lost Souls’ velvet cap.

Now, if that’s not honest and authentic self-expression then I don’t know what is.

Lastly, on Tuesday, I spotted one of my favorite stylish students on campus who knows nothing but honest and authentic self-expres-

sion, senior fine arts major Sierra Mann.

Though her outfit did not consist of recently purchased clothing, it represented her quirky ’90s retro personality perfectly. So as you all move forward in your fall semester, try to make this year the year of unlimited, unruly, wild and experimental self-expression. Remember, you only live once so make it worth the while.

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 Miami-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 announcers.

“Adding additional bridge space to the Tamiami Trail will do a lot to keep nutrient rich water out of our communities,” said Rep. Matt Hudson, 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

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!

Presented by the Office of Campus Life at Biscayne Bay. Funded by SGA. Qualified individuals with a disability requesting an accommodation to attend this event must make the request no less than five working days in advance by calling 305.919.5804 or TTY via FRS 1.800.955.8771. Food is based on first come, first served. For additional event information please call 305.919.5804 or visit WUC 141.
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 thing and not be scared."

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. 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 a back-to-back years against the Panthers, as they won 33-20 in 2012.

The third week of the season will bring Division 1-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 think the Panthers have a shot at a conference title this year, keep dreaming.

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.
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 and UAB.

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.”

The Panthers will kick off their regular season with five consecutive road games. 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 on Sept. 7 at 7:00 p.m. The Panthers will play the second game road trip at FIU on the Sunshine State, slowly making their way out of the darkness.

The Panthers will head out to New Jersey and Pennsylvania before taking on Louisville, you won’t miss much.

The Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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, the Panthers will then return to Miami as they begin a streak of eight consecutive 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.
Excursions take students to explore mangroves

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 how to maneuver.”

He plans 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, said.

“We kayaked all around and we got close to the mangroves and we saw the environment; it was the best,” said Torrey.

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 Aquatics 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.

“Instead of being students only, but then we incorporated the community, so it’s like a student-commu

Involvement Week: a chance to ‘make a difference’

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, students will get a chance to learn about the many clubs, council 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 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 that the area was chosen to avoid any traffic confrontation.

“I don’t conflict with regular traffic,” said Castellanos.

According to Castellanos, the choice of having the students dropped off and picked 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.

3rd Florida mayor arrested within the past month

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 Katherine 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.

“It’s 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.