Facebook aids students’ causes

Group petitions to decrease tuition for online classes

GABRIEL ARRAÑÁS
Contributing Writer

Where there is a will, there is most likely a Facebook group to support it.

The cause to lower FIU Online tuition fees is no exception. There are currently 2,994 members in the “FIU Students Together to Claim FIU Online Course Fee to be $14.31/Credit” group, which was created by senior and international business major, Leandro Marañini.

As the name of the group suggests, Marañini and the students supporting the cause want to lower FIU Online tuition’s cost to $14.31 per credit taken, regardless of how many semesters the course includes (i.e. multi-semester courses).

The group’s petition claims that “if there isn’t a minimum of one classroom course in the night shift and one in the day shift, which shall also have enough seats for all students who wish to take classroom course; the online fee shall be null.”

The Facebook group outlines the online tuition fees of every major public university in Florida and compares them to FIU’s.

Out of the 12 universities mentioned, FIU ranks seventh among them in terms of lowest online tuition fees, with University of Central Florida being the most expensive. “It is undeniable that tuition fees are too high,” Marañini said.

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“We are going to be real active with focus groups and town hall meetings where students can tell us about their problems and hopefully get answers," Rionda said.

One component will be to revamp SGA’s sparsely updated Web site. As of the time of printing, the Web site has many sections under construction.

Rionda told Student Media that after the “face lift” the site will sport flash animation and a host of content aimed at informing the student body. "We are going to have a blog, video content, social networking capabilities like Facebook and Twitter," he said. "It’s going to be all connected so we can post through Facebook or e-mail.”

The video content has been slated to include video recordings of all SGA meetings. "This has been a goal of SGA’s since the start of the summer," Rionda said. "Up to now, however, they have not been recording the meetings. The delay on this promise, according to
Rising online tuition fees spur student involvement

The online course fee structure has been a regular complaint of students at the University. “I have no choice but to pay an additional $199 fee for a number of my required courses for graduation because they are only offered online. I believe mandating students to take online classes for graduation for a number of my required courses at the University,” said James Richardson, an international business major.

Some of the members of the petition group argue that students taking courses via FIU Online are actually saving the school money by not taking up classrooms and making the University save on maintenance and utilities fees. “You don’t use the rest-rooms, you don’t use the classrooms and you don’t dirty the school,” Manufri said.

While Elam did not refute the group’s claim, she defended the online costs by explaining where the money goes. “FIU Online is a separate unit with the sole purpose of designing, developing and delivering online courses. Fees reflect the costs of those services,” she said.

These services include server maintenance, hiring instructional designers, software developers, IT professionals, as well as providing software like Blackboard or the learning management system known as “Noodle.” The petition currently has around 187 signatures, even though the group has 2,994 members.

Manufri remains steadfast and confident that the petition will in fact promote a change — especially if the remaining 2,807 group members sign.

He recently spoke with the Student Government Association, which he said is “very interested” in moving the petition forward, as well as presenting it to FIU’s Board of Trustees.

“The fact of the matter is the University has undergone several budget cuts; it’s been very difficult,” Elam said when asked whether the petition would encourage FIU to lower its online tuition. She later added that she does “not see any funding to offset any of the online costs.”

New LCD televisions for GC on the horizon

Rionda, has to do with privacy issues. Such issues are often raised when a special speaker does not grant permission to tape their copyrighted lectures. The current administration will also consider public meetings. For his pet project of GC, new LCD televisions are on the horizon. With the blessing of Student Affairs Vice President Rosa Jones and the top SGA officials, 75 percent of the Panther TV fund will be reallocated to purchase about eight SGA-funded LCD televisions. Rionda told Student Media.

Panther TV was an initiative started in the previous administrations to give the University a student-run network. Currently, $40,000 were on reten- tion for Panther TV while details were ironed out. Of that money, $30,000 will now go toward buying televisions for GC.

“If we still have $10,000 to develop Panther TV,” Rionda said. The televisions will serve as advertising vehicles, since Rionda plans on taking down most of the bulletin boards in GC; the logistics still need to be worked out.

The vendor carts in GC will also be relocated, according to Rionda.

Rionda said the repairs should be done around December or January. “It’s not about me, but the experience we all collectively have as students,” Rionda said of the upcoming year.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free Pizza plus other rewards! Undergraduate students give us your opinion on September 10th in GC 1235. 11:00-12:00 any student. 12:30-1:30 females, 2:00-3:00 males. 3:30-4:30 campus leaders Email: goglobal@fiu.edu with your name, phone # and time slot selection Facebook.com/GetGlobEdAtFIU

JOBS

Part-time work, good English skills, mornings or weekends – knowledge of music and photos helpful. Call 305-551-6926.
Marine biology series begins
Seminars to showcase latest scientific debates

LORENA ESTRADA  Staff Writer

The Marine Sciences Program is kicking off the Fall semester with a series of seminars that teach students about the latest research from top scientists in the field.

The seminar series will cover an array of topics from marine biology and chemistry, to ecology and fisheries. All students are welcome to attend the 45-minute sessions, which all begin at 1 p.m. on selected Fridays and take place in the Marine Science Building reading room, MS 105.

"For many, it will be a good introduction to many different fields of marine science," said Deron Burkepile, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and the organizer of the series. The lecture series began Aug. 28 with Marcio Araujo, a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Biological Sciences, whose lecture was titled "Indirect Density-Dependent Variation in Natural Populations." Araujo spoke about his current research on how people impact the ecology of mosquito fish in the Bahamas.

Mosquito fish were used as a model system to understand the effects people have on the fish population, Araujo said. "This is a good opportunity for students to come see what marine science is all about and learn more about cutting edge research," said Mike Heithaus, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

The next seminar will take place Sept. 18 and will feature Monique Grol, who studied in the Department of Animal Ecology and Ecophysiology, Radboud University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands. Grol conducts research on the role of mangroves and seagrass beds, and the effects they have on the survival and growth rate of coral reef fish.

"This seminar series is very important for us because it allows us to bring together scientists from other universities around South Florida for an afternoon of networking," said Burkepile. "They really let us get to know the other scientists in our area that are asking interesting and important questions in all fields of marine science."

Upcoming guest speakers include: Oswald Schmitz, a professor of population and community ecology at Yale University and Margaret Miller, an ecologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Fisheries Southeast Science Center.

The third seminar is scheduled for Sept. 25 and will feature Adrienne Simes-Correa, a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Biological Sciences.

"Students can expect to hear about different perspectives from some currently active debates among coral reef biologists, and the application of a variety of molecular techniques to the study of coral- algal symbioses," Simes-Correa said.

Miller will speak about symbiotic relationships formed between stony corals and dinoflagellate algae, and how this algae affects the ability of coral colonies to respond to changes in their environment.

It may be two weeks until another seminar, but both Heithaus and Burkepile are hopeful the series will soon run every Friday of the semester.

"We are still getting things sorted out," Heithaus said.

The updated seminar schedule will be available at http://www.fiu.edu/~marine/seminars.html. For more information, contact Deron Burkepile at dburkepi@fiu.edu.

Contact Us
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Read Weekends with Paradise every other Friday for more tips on places to go in the North Miami area. If you have any suggestions, e-mail paradise.afshar@fiusm.com. The columnist pays for all food and experiences.

My first yoga class proves to be anything but relaxing

I wouldn’t call myself a yogini, but I do enjoy doing yoga every now and then. In fact, I read my first yoga article in YM magazine and began including some of the poses in my workout routine in seventh grade. I bought a few videos, and within a summer, I knew enough to do it alone. But I had never been to a formal class until this weekend.

I went to the Ayama Yoga Center, and let me tell you, if you want a place to relax and do yoga – DO NOT GO THERE! Maybe that’s a little harsh, but my experience there was nothing short of horrid.

Fast forward to the moment I pulled into the parking lot. I knew it was a bad idea. First of all, it’s located in a warehouse. Imagine big blue garage doors and a parking lot covered with rocks instead of asphalt. When I parked, there was no one around but myself, so I didn’t feel safe getting out of my car right away.

When I walked in, the instructor said “hello” and asked if it was my first class. Instead of finding out why I was in the class, he simply asked me if I would be paying $18 for the class upfront, or if I wanted to wait until the next class to pay for a package deal. I handed my money over, and that was the last time we spoke.

When I walked into the actual studio, I wanted to die. The floors were made of interlocking foam blocks for children. And from the white stains I saw, I doubted those ever got cleaned.

Luckily there was no smell, but I had a stuffy nose so I could be wrong.

I put down my mats and sat down in the dimly lit room. The only lighting came from the main office and a night light. While I was sitting there cross-legged, everyone around me was already in random yoga positions.

The women in front of me were making little humming sounds, but I thought to myself “Now, I get to have someone put their feet all over my back. All the more reason to shower right away.”

Outs, turning, walking on my back was the least of my worries. Not only did the old lady I was paired up with walk on my back, but she managed to step on my hair as well. She was a thin old lady, with normal-looking feet, who somehow managed to put all her weight on her right foot and dig it into me.

But the universe wasn’t done with me yet.

The other position involved person A lying down and placing his or her head face up between person B’s legs, who is sitting down with bent knees. Person A then grabs person B by the knees and pulls person B’s legs together while person B tries to keep his or her legs pulled apart.

Yes, I had to spend part of my morning with my head between an old lady’s legs.

after that position, I gave up. I was in a warehouse that was hot, humid, probably never cleaned and with a group of unwelcoming people.

So I sat down in protest during the last half hour of the hour-and-a-half class. When the class ended, I jolted out of there.

I have never been to the yoga classes offered at the Biscayne Bay Campus Recreation Center, but I think I am going to try going there from now on. They are free, and I don’t need to worry about lying on a stained floor.

YOGA INFORMATION  AYAMA YOGA CENTER
Address: 2624 N.E. 188th St., North Miami Beach
Web site: www.ayamayoga.com
Phone number: 305-932-7755
Free parking available.
Florida's education system is going up in smoke. Any policy of reluctance on the part of conservative legislators to eliminate tax brakes, exemptions, and subsidies for vital necessities like expensive yachts and the World Golf Hall of Fame, is a recipe for our state's government to spend the past few years cutting back on the luxuries: schools, hospitals, stuff like that. With education having been slashed by billions over the past few years, and economic stimulus funds only able to prop up our education system temporarily, (more than three billion for Florida education so far, as reported by The Orlando Sentinel) legislatures were forced to raise taxes in April, or suffer from less popular than education cuts – cigarettes. The revenue from the tax will help offset further cuts to education and health care.

As Florida smokes are forced off our restaurants, out of our work places and into our increasingly deteriorating streets, isn't it time we thought about it? Sure, in the past, cigarettes were an ugly vice, a public health nuisance, spreading cancer and sadness throughout the land. But now, there is a silver lining.

The cigarette tax alone is expected to raise as much as $1.9 billion, far less than the $2.6 billion in Stimulus funds only able to prop up education so far, as reported by The Sentinel.

In the past, President Mykaelle Figueiredo and Vice President Anthony Rionda and Vice President of the Senate decided to fund. MMC account at the end of the fiscal year is moved to a reserve account. These funds are not given back to the student body. So, if the senate were to be too harsh in their funding, students' funds would be wasted. Again, the SGC-MMC has a responsibility to allocate funds for the benefit of as many students as possible.

While it would be ideal for the council to allocate funds to all students for various reasons. A&S-funded projects must potentially benefit any and all students. So, SGC-MMC will continue to strike balance in bringing the very best activities and services to the student body.

For me, it would be too easy to go on and on about the damaging effects of smoking ciga- rettes. The revenue from the tax will help offset further cuts to education and health care.

The cost (in billions) of Florida's government to spend the past few years cutting back on the luxuries: schools, hospitals, stuff like that. With education having been slashed by billions over the past few years, and economic stimulus funds only able to prop up our education system temporarily, (more than three billion for Florida education so far, as reported by The Orlando Sentinel) legislatures were forced to raise taxes in April, or suffer from less popular than education cuts – cigarettes. The revenue from the tax will help offset further cuts to education and health care.

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El Floridita offers a delicious taste of Florida's history

T here’s a very good reason why it’s hard to “take it easy” on a Saturday night here in South Florida. With so many beautiful people to see, great clothes to wear and no cover to pay, the four-to-the-floor call of the dance floor is too great — and I’m certainly no Jesus to be able to resist temptation. Jesus obviously never came to Miami.

My friend, Autumn Atomica and I thought we could take it easy by visiting an exhibit called “What We Do Is Secret” by local artist Manny Piriéres at the Spadoni Gallery in the design district. Located on 155 NE 38th St., the exhibit featured striking works done with graphite and watercolor of machetes, knives and religious imagery. The technique and precision of the Piriéres’ pieces brought the blades to life as if you could pull them out of the wall and slice up your fellow art snobs. That’s about the time the theme of “taking it easy” was discarded by us.

Enter the Electric Pickle, on 2826 North Miami Ave., where the mood is set with sensual orange-red lighting and a black-and-white projector shows hedonists of the late ’00s getting their party on in all sorts of deviant ways. There was no cover, and parking is on the street so if you get there early enough you won’t have to walk too far in this part of town. We got there around 10:30 p.m. and the place was empty. Electric Pickle is now the new home of the infamous Pop Life indie party, so I didn’t expect our sovereign rule over the venue would last. The DJ got on the turntables to play an electrified remix of “Paper Planes” and we paid $5 for a Red Bull. As the beat grinded down our backs and into our shoes we decided, “Hey, make that two Red Bulls please.” M.I.A. and gourou, once again, comes to the rescue.

That’s when I get a call from a handsome friend of mine to come to Nightclub 11, a.k.a. Johnny’s, a decent-sized strip bar with a dance club — and no cover. Johnny’s is conspicuously located on 1116 W. Broward Blvd. inside the building with pink neon lights, so from Electric Pickle you can just take the I-95 until you see the exit for Broward Boulevard.

Aside from having no cover, a good-sized dance floor and performances by drag queens and dancers, the staff here is also very friendly. Straight girls always fall for the bartenders who let their jeans hang low enough to reveal the maker and waist-size of their designer briefs.

On our way home back down US 1, we stopped by that 24-hour Taco Bell for chalupas and ice water. Autumn and I noticed a young lady with tears in her eyes waving at us in the middle of the street. We slowed down and I put my window down to see if I could help her.

“Oh my god, but like I need help, my car broke down and I need money for a taxi. I know a taxi is a lot but if you could give me anything, a quarter, it all helps you know, ay please,” she pleaded.

I looked into my wallet and saw a $10 bill and two singles. I figured, “Hey Bobby Joe, what would Jesus do? Just think of the money you saved on cover charges. Be a good person.” I gave her the $10.

“Yeah you sure don’t have like, $15?” she asked.

We drove off. I definitely don’t have what it takes to be the Jesus of this town.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

El Floridita offers a delightful taste of Florida's history

If Florida’s history were a meal, El Floridita would have it on its menu. The restaurant’s flair for cooking, its patrons back to a time when South Florida was famous for its ports, saloons and seafood rather than its bright lights, big city and colorful nightlife. The restaurant, elegantly decorated but somewhat empty, showcases classic seafood dishes which are undoubtedly influenced by Spanish and Latin culture – a fact that is apparent in its bilingual menu.

Appetizers include crowd favorites such as lobster bisque and shrimp cocktails. But, for a true taste of Florida, try the shrimp ceviche, a zesty, refreshing dish that includes the fresh flavors of lime, cilantro and chilies.

The main course offerings at El Floridita are extensive. For those who want to become acquainted with the restaurant’s flair for seafood dishes, the Paella Floridita is a must.

The restaurant’s take on Spain’s national dish is a healthy mix of saffron-infused rice loaded with chicken, ham, vegetables and seafood, topped with a whole langoustine for your dining pleasure.

The restaurant also offers paella varieties with only one main accommodation, such as squid, shrimp or a seafood medley.

Furthermore, they offer meals and specials showcasing a variety of fish – including bass, salmon and grouper – which are all served with your choice of two sides, such as the ever-present black beans and rice with sweet plantains, yellow rice, fried yucca or simply french fries.

In the event that you are not into sampling fish, there are plenty of offerings for you as well.

They offer Chicken or Steak Milanese, where either offering is covered with parmesan cheese-infused breading and sautéed, then topped with a savory reduction.

Or, try their version of the Cuban dish, churrasco, a seared, 10-ounce flank steak with a crispy (albeit salty) exterior and a tender interior that goes well with its yellow rice.

Although their pasta offerings center on seafood, they do have varieties that incorporate chicken, ham or vegetarian, if that is on your radar.

Their dessert menu includes traditional Latin fare such as tres leches and flan, both of which are a fair choice.

I was particularly impressed with their chocolate mousse.

For starters, the presentation was good, as it is covered with a solid layer of chocolate and topped with a milk and white chocolate striped garnish.

Once I got past the shell, the mousse itself was very creamy and did a good job of not being overwhelmingly flavored with chocolate.

The pricing at El Floridita is widely varied.

Their house specials, which include a drink, can be had for just a little more than $10, but some of the more sophisticated items may run in the $15 to $25 range.

If the latter is what you’re after, be sure to save your pennies. In either case, El Floridita will most likely be a welcome dining experience.

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USA TODAY NETWORK

THE BEACON – 5
Nightlife for those who can’t (or don’t want to) drink

UNDER, page 1

According to Cristina Rodriguez, president of SPC, all of these events are free – a point she enthusiastically emphasizes: “They are always free, never forget that.”

SPC holds a regular movie nights every Friday in GC 140. This semester, they will be showing movies from the Oscar-winning Slumdog Millionaire to the Sacha Baron Cohen vehicle, Bruno.

If you want to venture out of the panther zone, but not too far away, you can go bowling at two venues.

There is a bowling alley at Dolphin Mall called Strike, which features glow in the dark bowling lanes, a restaurant with lane service and big screen televisions. The most affordable time to go to Strike is Monday nights from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. People 18 and over can play unlimited bowling, with shoe rental included, for just $14.

One bowling alley that is a bit more affordable is Birdie Bowl, on Bird Road. They are currently remodeling and they are expected to emerge in September with a new lighting and a new sound system, a new expanded game room, new ceiling tiles and new menu themes in their restaurant. The cheapest time to go would be Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For $2 games, or on Wacky Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to close when a game costs a $1.50. Both specials do not include shoe rentals which are $3.50.

For entertainment without the heavy lifting, the Wolfsonian Museum, on 1001 Washington Ave, offers free guided tours every Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is $5 with student ID. Until Oct. 11, the museum lobby will be showing the social aspect of fashion swimwear with the “Beauty of the Beach: A Centennial Celebration of Swimwear” and “Sun Stroke Stimulus” exhibitions. Lectures and photographs explore the innovation, glamour and health aspects of the bathing suit culture. This exhibition is free.

Not too far away, and later in the evening, the nightclub scene is downtown Miami. For the clubbing experience, South Beach is arguably the more popular, but most clubs are 21 and over. However, many clubs in downtown are not. Downtown houses clubs such as Vagabond, White Room, Space, Allure and Nocturnal – all of which allow people 18 or older at least some of the time.

Lauren Siena, a sophomore who spends many evenings at Vagabond, loves the place: “I never have a bad time there, it’s a great social environment with a variety of people.”

Clubs offer more than drinks

OVER, page 1

SECOND FLOOR

This restaurant, lounge and cigar place is definitely one of many popular clubs of downtown Miami.

The lounge draws the biggest crowds on Thursday and Friday nights where you can dance a salsa, merengue, and to Bon Jovi just a few minutes later.

Van Dyke Café is a popular spot on Lincoln Road. The café has two floors, a restaurant downstairs and a lounge upstairs, which can be reserved for special events.

The restaurant has an eclectic menu ready to please many different palates, but the action is definitely upstairs.

Every night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. the second floor of Van Dyke Café opens its bar and turns on its lights and microphones. You can find local and national artists who play a wide variety of music.

If downtown Miami is one of your favorite destinations, Transit Lounge is one popular option. On any given evening you can dance to a wide variety of music presented here. Monday J.A.M. Sessions start at 10 p.m. and are hosted by Juan Turros and sponsored by SESAC, a performing rights organization.

The night includes $5 Grinch swingtops and musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments or “weapon of choice.”

The week continues with ladies’ night, which is every Tuesday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. with free Ultimat Vodka and ‘80s music.

Wednesday afternoons start off with $5 Jack Daniel’s from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. From 6 p.m. until 11 p.m., the stage opens up to aspiring singers and bands to show their talent by playing the Rock Band video game, not to be confused with Guitar Hero.

The highest score gets a $50 bar tab, among other things.

Karaoke then goes on until 3 a.m. The week closes with Reggie Sundays from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. with $3 beers. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays also feature drink specials and local acts like Lanzallamas Monofonica, Suenalo and Jacob Jeffries.

So, next time you are planning to show friends who are over 21 the Miami area or just thinking about having a few drinks, keep in mind some of these local clubs, bars and cafes that Miami has to offer.
Former Golden Panther returns to campus as a professional player

JOEL DELGADO Staff Writer

When Miami FC played its first home game at FIU Stadium this past April, the first professional soccer match ever played at FIU, it was a homecoming of sorts for Miami FC midfielder John Pulido.

The 27-year-old former Golden Panther played in his first soccer match on-campus since he last put on an FIU uniform in 2003.

His return to his alma mater sparked memories of three conference championships, Atlantic Soccer Conference Player of the Year honors and a career at FIU that took him to the professional ranks.

“I had a great experience at FIU,” Pulido said, recalling his days at the University. “It was one of the most amazing times of my life both soccer-wise and social-wise. I did everything I wanted to do, had good seasons and made it to the professional level afterward.”

Pulido was born in Colombia and moved to the United States when he was 11 years old.

Pulido played at American High where he was an offensive-minded midfielder.

“He was very good technically,” Munga Eketebi, an assistant during Pulido’s time at FIU, said. “He had good speed, can take people on. But he can find opportunity. He was an offensive-minded midfielder.”

Monga Eketebi said, recalling his days at the Golden Panthers men’s soccer program. Eketebi knew about the Miami Eagles before Pulido’s time at FIU, was one of his major decisions to take on that responsibility.

When Miami FC played its first home game left at FIU this season on Sept. 4 against the Austin Aztex.

“We were hoping that playing at FIU would bring good things and so far, it has,” Pulido said.

Miami FC has enjoyed success at FIU, gaining at least a point in five out of six matches at the stadium.

One of the major challenges for the team has been the ability to earn the respect of the South Florida soccer community.

Pulido is participating in the MFC Challenge, where for every 500 fans in attendance at the season finale this month, one player will shave his entire head.

“I don’t wanna shave my head,” Pulido joked. “But it’s a good thing. We need to have the support of the fans, so hopefully it brings out a lot of people.

“We have to win and we are winning. We definitely have to play good soccer.”

Pulido said. “Going through what we’ve been going through, we make ourselves stronger. We want to be successful.”
Penalty kick downs FIU despite one-man advantage

**MEN’S SOCCER: FGCU 1, FIU 0**

**SPORTS**

**SERGIO BONILLA**

**Sports Director**

Even with its starting goalie and forward not in the lineup, the Golden Panthers men’s soccer team had a clear advantage for a 31-minute span in the home opener vs. Florida Gulf Coast University.

FGCU received a red card in the 48th minute of a 0-0 contest. The Golden Panthers had one more player on the field, but failed to score. Coach Munga Eketebi said the Golden Panthers (0-1) should’ve capitalized during that span.

“When they got the red card, we had the extra man up. We should’ve taken advantage of that,” Eketebi said. “Offensively, we moved the ball well. But we need to be deadlier in the box, which we weren’t.”

Their 31-minute window of opportunity closed and the FGCU Eagles, with just 10 players, scored on a penalty kick to defeat the Golden Panthers 1-0 at FIU Soccer Stadium on Sept. 1.

After the Eagles’ goal, the Golden Panthers received two red cards of their own. The team had a depleted back-line.

“Pretty much all of the forwards didn’t play in the preseason,” Eketebi said.

**UNDERMANNED**

Goalkeeper Phillip Lamarre, and forward Steven Jair Cabas were two sure starters who could not play in the home opener. They both received red cards in the last game of last season.

The team played just two weeks of preseason together.

Eketebi noted how the players might need more time to gain some cohesiveness.

“It’s going to show,” Eketebi said. “It’s probably going to take a couple more games for them to get in the thick of things.”

The first half was an evenly contested match as both teams nearly got the same amount of scoring chances. The Golden Panthers had six shots and the Eagles five. But in the second half, the Eagles outshot the Golden Panthers 10-7.

In the 65th minute, the Eagles offense applied pressure on the opposing defense. A shot on goal was inches away from entering the net, but it ricocheted out. The Eagles managed to regain control of the ball.

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Eketebi noted how the players might need more time to gain some cohesiveness.

“It’s going to show,” Eketebi said. “It’s probably going to take a couple more games for them to get in the thick of things.”

The first half was an evenly contested match as both teams nearly got the same amount of scoring chances. The Golden Panthers had six shots and the Eagles five. But in the second half, the Eagles outshot the Golden Panthers 10-7.

In the 65th minute, the Eagles offense applied pressure on the opposing defense. A shot on goal was inches away from entering the net, but it ricocheted out. The Eagles managed to regain control of the ball.

**MEN’S SOCCER, page 7**

FIU will not boycott cancer tournament versus UNC

**ATHLETICS AGREES**

**JONATHAN DAVILA**

**Staff Writer**

The Golden Panthers men’s basketball team will not pull out of the Coaches versus Cancer tournament and go to Chapel Hill in November after all.

Athletic Director Pete Garcia announced at a press conference on Sept. 1 that FIU will begin the season against the University of North Carolina Tar Heels on Nov. 9.

The news comes nearly a week after Garcia told The Associated Press he felt FIU was “giving up” its matchup by the Gazelle Group, the New Jersey-based organizer of the tournament.

“After going over everything with the tournament organizers the last few days, there’s a couple of things that we all came to the conclusion of. Number one, there is a higher cause here than FIU, or North Carolina or any other school. And this is the fight against cancer,” Garcia said. “When it’s all said and done, it is a basketball game, but the proceeds go to a very worthwhile charity.”

Garcia said he looked at the option of being a part of the tournament in 2010, but chose to be a part of it now because it’s best for everyone involved in the tournament.

“You cannot hold a month’s worth of games,” Garcia said. “It’s all said and done, it is a basketball game, but the proceeds go to a very worthwhile cause.”

**TIME LINE OF EVENTS**

- Nov. 2008 - Garcia signs contract to play either Ohio State or UNC
- Aug. 25 - Associated Press reports Athletics might pull out of tournament
- Sept. 1 - Athletics agrees to honor contract, face UNC

“The odds are against Thomas’ decision and the easiest decision because, like I said before, it’s more than basketball,” he said.

“Tomic said that doesn’t change the team’s mindset, though.

“We’re going in to win the basketball game, first and foremost. That’s how you approach the game. We’ll get our players ready to compete and ready to go in and execute the game plan,” he said. “We can

**UNC TOURNAMENT, page 7**

Rosa looks to play sparingly before home opener vs. UM

**JOEL DELGADO**

**Staff Writer**

Yarimar Rosa wasn’t able to start off her senior year how she would’ve liked.

“I’m feeling better. But I’m mad at the same time because it’s the beginning of the season,” Rosa said. “Everybody was excited and I was back with my team and then just like that, I was out.”

It is still unclear if Rosa, who suffered a strained hip muscle, will be on the court for the tournament in Kansas this weekend where the Golden Panthers will finish their road trip. More than likely she will be back at full strength for the home opener on Sept. 10 against the University of Miami.

“They’re telling me I should play one or two sets to see how I feel. That depends on me,” she said. “I’ll definitely be ready for next weekend.”

With a strained hip abductor, the Sun Belt Conference’s Preseason Player of the Year was forced to sit out the first tournament of the season last weekend and is day-to-day, according to Coach Danjela Tomic.

Rosa first injured her hip while playing for the Puerto Rican national team over the summer; she felt better after resting for several days. The injury began to resurface in the days leading up to the season opener.

“It was a big shock because she didn’t know until right before we played the first game,” Tomic said. “She got re-injured during warm-ups before our game against Northwestern.”

Despite her absence, the Golden Panthers fared well in the Kentucky Classic with victories over Western Carolina and Northwestern.

“Taking into consideration that we were playing without Yari, I’m pleased that we won two,” Tomic said. “I think that tells a lot about our team.”

That doesn’t mean that the Golden Panthers wouldn’t like to have their three-time All-American back in the lineup.

“Everybody knows what Yari means to this team,” Tomic said. “Hopefully we’ll have her back and we’ll just build on last weekend.”

During the week, Rosa has been doing cardio, weight lifts and other light activities to try and get back to form.

She participated in practice for the first time on Sept. 2 with a light workload.