Homecoming Council prepares upcoming events

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Students aren’t the only ones excited for Homecoming. So are the planners.

“This is the moment we have been working for, and we are excited to see our hard work pay off. We are also excited for the students who come out to the events because we have so much planned for them,” said Kelly Ibarra, Homecoming Council overall director.

The Homecoming Council has been preparing for Homecoming since November of last year. Homecoming consists of everything from budgeting, getting sponsors, working with different vendors, creating timelines, layouts and coming up with ideas for every event, Ibarra said.

“Sometimes I like to think we can run a small business because of the actual tasks that we accomplish as a team. We work during our meetings. There is never time to sit and socialize,” said Jordan Thompson, the Rules and Regulations Chair of the Homecoming Council.

For the Council, the most challenging part of preparing for Homecoming was making sure to reach the student body and picking the artists for Panthermonium, Panther Prowl and Caribbean Fest.

“We do everything possible to make the students happy, meanwhile staying within our budget. Unfortunately, we can’t please everyone, and that is why we send our surveys to every student so that they can share with us their interest when it comes to the artists he or she wants to see at every event,” Homecoming Council prepares upcoming events

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 2

University hosts third annual indigenous celebration

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The University’s Global Indigenous Group and Global Indigenous Forum are hosting the third annual Indigenous Celebration to bring and show cultural roots from indigenous tribes from other parts of the world.

Other than indigenous students, all University students are welcomed to attend and bring family and friends to participate as part of the crowd.

“By attending these events, students can bring their family and friends to see and learn about these tribes,” said Dennis Wiedman, founding director of the Global Indigenous Forum and associate professor of anthropology in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies.

Wiedman, who has taught at the university for over 30 years, has been involved with indigenous people for 10 years, since the inter-tribal celebration.

The GIG and GIF will be presenting the “Circle of Good Living,” which will inform those who attend the event about embracing roots and relations that come with indigenous tribes. According to Wiedman, the significance of the indigenous celebration and forum is to bring indigenous voices to the University campus.

“We’re known by our Latin American and Caribbean studies, but most faculty studied the colonizers. Rarely has the indigenous
Apple Music is catching up to competitors after only four months
Apple Music already has 6.5 million paid subscribers, or about a third of the 20 million who pay for industry rival Spotify, after only four months on the market, according to Apple Chief Executive Tim Cook, who spoke at a conference Monday night. The company has 8.5 million additional customers using the service’s three-month trial subscription. For comparison, music-streaming leader Spotify has 55 million people using its ad-supported free service, which has been around since 2008.

Stabbed mayoral candidate’s win backs for German refugee service
Before independent mayoral candidate Henriette Reker was stabbed by a violently anti-immigrant constituent during a campaign event Saturday, she was seen as just one of several possible winners in the race to be mayor of Cologne. Now she’s being seen as an indicator that German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s controversial open-arms welcome of refugees has broad support among German voters.

Non-traditional students deserve better support systems
Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates have some company. Today, more than 1 in 5 working-age Americans is a college dropout. Unfortunately, most dropouts aren’t tech billionaires. Many are nontraditional students who leave school not because of academic concerns, but because of issues specific to their stage of life: a sick family member, a job loss, a lack of family support or just the pure shock of returning to school after a long hiatus.

Indigenous forums show worldwide cultural roots
American tribes, including the event, as well as Native American tribes, including the Iroquois, Seminoles, and Miccosukee. Aino, a Japanese indigenous tribe will also be present.

Homecoming Council plans exciting events
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Ibarra said.
Ibarra said that her job as overall director of Council can be stressful. “It can get a little stressful when you oversee all of the Homecoming events, and a team of nearly 45 students. However, I love what I do. The people I work with, my amazing team and advisors help me with anything I need. As a team, we all help each other and when someone feels stressed, we make sure we stay positive and engaged.”

Thompson said that what he loves most about Homecoming are the setbacks that take place during events. “They really test the abilities and energy of every council member. These are the challenges where the Homecoming Council members rise to the occasion and do what we came to do. These are the moments that build the leaders that continue to carry on the tradition and rituals. These moments make Homecoming,” said Thompson.

Erin Arneson, assistant vice president of Student Affairs said he loves working with the Homecoming Council. “It’s exciting to work with them. Homecoming is the most important time of the year, and the Homecoming Council does a really great job of organizing these exciting events.”

“It’s really a big responsibility on their part, to organize events for 55,000 students. It’s real life training, and not everyone gets the chance to say they were a part of planning for the most important event of the school year,” Arneson said.

According to Ibarra and Thompson, Homecoming is family and that they feel comfort as a team. They said that together, the Council is home away from home.

“We spend so much time together, planning events, doing outings, having potlucks, working at all the events together and it brings out the FIU spirit within us,” Ibarra said.

She said that when Homecoming 2015 ends, it will be a bittersweet feeling for the entire Council.

“We have become a family and have enjoyed working together, and we actually look forward to every meeting and spending time together. We will be excited that our events have been a success and glad for our life back. But at the same time, we will feel sad that Homecoming 2015 is over. It’s all the memories we shared together that will continue to make us the Homecoming family that we have become.”
Racial profiling: product of human biases

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Racial profiling is common to hear on the news. In most places, racial profiling happens when there is a white majority. But in the city of Miami, white or any other non-Hispanic ethnicities are considered a minority and subjected to racial profiling.

For hundreds of years, we have been using old maps and a model of what race is considered the elite. In April 2015, the Tampa Police Department was under investigation for racially profiling cyclists who were non-white.

The problem is that both white and non-white cyclists did the same things such as not wearing a helmet, but majority of citations for not wearing bike helmets went to black people; almost thirty percent of tickets were issued to non-white ethnicities.

Recently, Ahmed Mohamed, a black Muslim student, was arrested because his homemade clock for a class project went off during class and the teacher thought there was a bomb inside Ahmed’s backpack.

Although the charges have been dropped, Ahmed is suing the school on racial profiling charges.

The bikers in Tampa and Ahmed are not the only ones who have been profiled as being delinquents or suspected terrorists.

Two years ago, Kierra Wilmot was arrested after her science experiment went wrong and caused an explosion at her local school.

She faced expulsion from the high school she was currently attending, but transferred to another school to finish up her remaining high school years after her previous school gave her a ten day suspension.

The only problem is that some of these studies have now led to mass racial profiling following the incident of Sept. 11.

We should all practice setting aside our differences and learning how to judge others not by their appearance, but by the content of their character.

‘Lack of time’ mentality forces children to grow up faster

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It seems that no matter where you look, people are always in a rush and are never satisfied with just living in the moment.

We’re all guilty of it and to an extent, it’s not a bad thing. It’s good to have a goal and know the steps needed to achieve it but we tend to forget that we’re not just planning our lives but living it.

Is this anxiety something that has been taught to us since birth or is it a natural inborn tendency? The answer is most likely a mix of both.

It’s natural to find children wanting to be older than what they are, be it because they want to get an M-rated video game that their parents refuse to buy or to be a teenager and be an independent adult.

The problem is that as we age, that sense of urgency never leaves us, but continues to grow with us.

We waited impatiently to be in high school, then to become legal adults, graduate and go on to a university.

Now we’re impatient to be 21, to get an internship as early as possible, graduate as quickly as we can then find a job that will lead to another job.

It never stops.

It’s like we’re waiting for that moment when everything is going to be perfect for us and we’ll finally be able to sit back, relax and enjoy it, but that’s never going to happen.

Something will come up, that’s just the way life is, but we need to learn how to take it with stride and find time to enjoy the simple pleasures life offers us.

Think about your best childhood memories. They’re the best because you actually enjoyed the moment.

You weren’t worrying about the future.

It wasn’t the time for that and this is what our society is forgetting, that there is a time and place for everything.

The effects are easy to see, just look at what your younger siblings, cousins and nieces are wearing.

Why does it look so familiar? Perhaps it’s identical to an outfit you have in your closet.

This is because of the “lack of time” society has inflicted upon itself. Children can’t be children anymore.

Since they enter pre-k, every equation they solve, every word they learn is so they can one day enter a university.

We have children who, at the age of eight, are already thinking about what university they need to go to, we have young children dressing as if they’re teens and we have pre-teens dressing as if they’re in their twenties.

We have campaigns to stop sexualizing women but by making copycat clothes of teen and adult outfits for younger children, we’re only promoting it.

Clothes don’t make the woman, but it does affect how she and others perceive her, and by letting young girls imitate outfits that look like they came right out of a Teen Vogue issue, we’re telling them that they can’t enjoy their youth, we’re telling them to be sexy and we’re telling them to grow up immediately.

We’re destroying the joys of childhood. We’re forcing them to speed up even if they’re physically and mentally not ready for it.

We’re destroying the joys of childhood. We’re forcing them to speed up even if they’re physically and mentally not ready for it.

Let them enjoy being kids. As adults, we need to remember that while planning our life is great, we also need to live it.
BOYZ IN BLUE (AND GOLD)

Wide receiver Anthony Jones at the game against the University of Texas at El Paso Oct. 10 at the FIU Ocean Bank Field. The next home game will be against Old Dominion on Oct. 24.

Tight ends Jonnu Smith and Ya’Keem Griner go up against the North Carolina Central at the FIU Ocean Bank Field. The next home game will be against Old Dominion on Oct. 24.

LATE DECISION

Tight ends named players to watch

PETER HOLLAND JR. Contributing Writer sports@fiusm.com

The 2015 midseason watch list for the John Mackey Award, the highest award for collegiate tight ends, was recently released and features two University athletes.

Wednesday, Oct. 13, junior Jonnu Smith, who was on the Mackey Award preseason watch list, and senior Ya’Keem Griner were announced as members of the midseason watch list.

The Panther’s offense includes a two tight end set involving both Griner and Smith lining up on opposite ends.

Smith, despite having a breakout season in his sophomore year, is having an off season, with only 26 catches for 214 yards and two touchdowns. What’s giving him more notoriety this season is having at least one catch for 31 consecutive games, including two for a touchdowns.

His season high is six catches for 42 yards. He is also ranked number two in catches (126) and number two in career receiving yards (1289) among all tight ends who have played at FIU, according to FIUSports.com.

Griner is having a surprising senior season, recording 21 catches for 225 and two touchdowns. He made his mark in the first game against University of Central Florida with four catches for 55 yards which helped sealed their win with a touchdown, which was a tipped catch.

He had a career high seven catches for 64 yards and one touchdown against Louisiana Tech University.

Both FIU and University of Florida are the only schools to have two two tight ends to be on the Mackey Award midseason watch list.

The semi-finalists will be announced Monday, Nov. 16, and the finalists will be announced on Tuesday, Nov. 24. The recipient will be announced live on Wednesday, Dec. 9, during the Home Depot College Football Awards’ Red Carpet Show on ESPNU.

FIU has been competing in a lot of important games that play a big part in determining their postseason fate. Now, the importance of their remaining games is very simple; win three out of the next five games and they might make a bowl game, win four out of five and they’re guaranteed a bowl bid.

With the last two games being against the best teams in Conference USA (Marshall University and Western Kentucky University), they essentially need to win each of their next three games.

That brings us to this weekend, when the Panthers (3-4, 1-2) will host the Monarchs of Old Dominion University (3-3, 1-1) on Saturday, Oct. 19. ODU came back from a late deficit to defeat the University of North Carolina at Charlotte 49ers by a score of 37-34 last week, but overall they haven’t looked all that good this year. The Monarchs’ struggles make them a good opponent for FIU to play in their homecoming game in which the Panthers desperately need a win.

FIU opened as a 14.5 point favorite to defeat the Monarchs, which is similar to the opening line before their 53-12 rout of the University of Texas at El Paso a couple weeks ago. I’m sure every FIU fan would love for a repeat of the Panthers’ performance against the Miners, but that won’t be nearly as easy against ODU.

Despite the fact that they’ve struggled and the betting line is almost exactly the same, ODU isn’t even close to being as bad as UTEP. Their new dual threat quarterback David Washington, who converted to a wide receiver last season and is now playing QB as UTEP. Their new dual threat quarterback David Washington, who converted to a wide receiver last season and is now playing QB, against ODU.

JACOB SPARK

Flu Offense Statistics

Scoring
Points per game: 27.6
Points off turnovers: 47

First Downs
Rushing: 27.6
Passing: 47
Penalty: 12

Rushing Yards
Yards gained: 961
Rushing attempts: 223
Average per game: 122.3
TDs Rushing: 9
Linebacker fills in, makes crucial plays

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The Panthers’ defense took a huge blow earlier in the season when they lost their two starting linebackers junior Trayvon Williams and senior Davison Colimon.

To fill the void, University of Minnesota transfer ephete Matilus has stepped up and become one of FIU’s leading tacklers over the last three games. During his career at Minnesota, the Delray Beach, Fla. native contributed in many ways as a Golden Gopher a year after he redshirted in 2011. In the 21 games he played, he saw the field as a linebacker, fullback on offense, and majority on special teams.

“It’s obviously a big transition not only playing in the Big Ten to Conference-USA, but the weather, timing, and speed,” said the senior on choosing to return to his home state to play. “But it’s not much different, you’re still playing football; it’s still 11 on 11, everyone flying around to the ball to make plays.”

Playing college football is pretty tough in any climates or regions, but playing up north like Minnesota where the middle of fall feels as if it’s the beginning of winter. Imagine what the Delray Beach native has to go through.

“Around this time we probably be wearing hoodies, sweaters and sweat pants right now,” said the sports management & recreation major. “It seems like the heat is at its peak in the early October in which is very surprising.”

Since the beginning of October, the 6-foot-1 230 pounder has stepped up to the starting inside linebacker role after Williams went down. In the last three games as a starter, he finished with the total of 26 tackles, two tackles for loss, and one sack. For two games straight (against University of Massachusetts and University of Texas at El Paso) he lead the Panthers in tackles.

Matilus said Head Coach Ron Turner brought him in to contribute.

“Young anytime I get a chance to get out there with the guys with a great front four and the other linebackers complimenting me and the secondary; it’s always great for anyone who can step in can find success with those guys out there,” he said.

Now the Panthers, with a 3-4 record, are focusing on getting bowl eligible for the first time under Head Coach Ron Turner.

Playing college football is always something, but playing Saturday at Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. against Old Dominion University.

There is still no current update on starting middle linebacker Williams, which could mean Matilus will start in his replacement for the fourth consecutive game.
Homecoming court contestants perform at ‘Unleash the Crown’

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“My favorite part was the talent portion of the pageant. I’m really passionate about spoken word. I’ve written spoken word since I was really young. So being able to do that, a talent that I love… was just so fulfilling and felt so great.” said Kassandra Banko, homecoming princess finalist and Communication Arts Major.

The third round was comprised of an FIU trivia question, followed by each contestant explaining why they wanted to win their respective title. This round can be intimidating for many contestants. Current homecoming princess Mary Corbin shared words of advice. “Speak from the heart… just tell your story and show them who you are.”

Much like FIU’s diverse student population, the contestants who participated in the homecoming court pageant served as an excellent representation of the student body and the University’s ‘Worlds Ahead’ philosophy. “I think someone that is well-rounded and has FIU spirit… passion for extracurricular life, and the desire to inspire others,” said judge Melissa Pozo on what makes a good candidate for homecoming court. Pozo works at the President’s Office.

The Homecoming Duke and Homecoming Duchess were announced at the end of the pageant. In addition, the finalists for prince, princess, king and queen were announced.

The Homecoming Prince and Homecoming Princess will be announced at LXV Lounge, taking place on Friday, Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. in Kovens Conference Center at the Biscayne Bay Campus. Homecoming King and Homecoming Queen will be announced at halftime of FIU’s homecoming football game against Old Dominion, starting at 6 p.m. in the Ocean Bank Field at FIU Stadium.

Upcoming Homecoming events at BBC

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While homecoming week is always seen as an MMC event, BBC has its own lineup of entertainment. BBC events focus on community building, and feature a wide range of interests.

Caribbean Fest, which took place on Tuesday, Oct. 20 allowed students to celebrate Caribbean culture, music and food, and today has back to back events with Rory’s Birthday Extravaganza to start off the morning and the Panther’s Got Talent Homecoming event to end the night on MMC. The celebration will take place in Panther Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“Rory’s birthday is important because he’s the image of FIU, he makes panthers proud to celebrate his birthday. Rory deserves to enjoy it!” said Santiago Guzman, an asian studies major.

The week ends with LXV Lounge Homecoming Dance at 7 p.m. in the Kovens Conference Center. This year’s theme is the roaring 20’s so one can expect students to come dressed in their finest Gatsby-esque attire and ready for a night of dancing. Additionally, the Homecoming Princess and Prince will be announced at the party.

“Well I’m excited to see what’s to come. I guess you can say the panthers are celebrating it as ROARing twenties,” said Gabriel Miranda, an international relations major.

Homecoming week wraps up with its biggest event of the week, the Homecoming Parade and Game which take place at 3 p.m. in lot 3 and 6 p.m. in the FIU Stadium respectively.

BBC will offer transportation to these events which take place in MMC so students who previously would have had trouble getting there will not miss it.

“It just inspires my heart to know that FIU has put forth so much effort to really bring its students together through music and celebration. It’s a fun way to have some school spirit and get involved in festivities with fellow students.” said Eric Watt, an English major.
What it takes to make a good dinosaur

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Oct. 9 was the beginning of the iii Points festival in Miami. Booked for 12:45 a.m. was band Neon Indian.

At the beginning of the show, Palomo made stated that he had a more than a little bit to prove. His previous album “VEGA INTL.” had mixed reviews, but his follow-up album “Annie” got a lot of positive feedback.

During the show, Palomo’s voice and his bandmates’ instruments were barely heard. The show was over.

The fans seemed understanding. It was not his fault. He tried to put on a good show and did not let the faulty equipment deter him. Until his return, we can all enjoy “VEGA INTL.”

After a five-year break from releasing albums, Palomo’s third album is a slight departure from his quirky, spontaneous predecessors. His songs sound well-planned and structured in this album.

Chillwave, the 80’s revivalist genre he is associated with, is not the music of choice for present-day music listeners. Knowing this, it is evident that Palomo is transitional to more traditional songwriting.

Intro “Hit Parade” is followed by the first single “Annie.” The guitar’s reggae groove moves the song along while Palomo tells Annie not to “run away [where] I can’t find you.” It is a upbeat song with a classic Neon Indian bridge, starting a wacked-out synth and spacey effects. Sonic bits are embedded in the song, giving “Annie” an alluring character.

Palomo’s voice sounds reminiscent of the 80’s in “The Gizzy Hive”. Here, he uses an effect that mimics old analog audio recordings. The synthesizer adds to the aged effect with its old-school sounds and melody. Palomo brings back big hair, roller discs and mimeted table-tops with “Slumlord.” With clear vocals, he draws influence from his personal favorites. One notable influence is Prince. Prince seems to be present in his singing, particularly in his use of falsetto.

Neon Indian channels “The Wall”-era Pink Floyd in “Baby’s Eyes.” The guitar sounds similar to the psych-rock legends. They may be a huge influence on Palomo. Even the reverber on his vocals is reminiscent of Roger Waters.

This album is heavily influenced by 80’s music more so than Palomo’s previous two albums. Falsettos, new wave synths and upbeat percussion are present in every song. Diehard fans will not be disappointed, and new fans will be entranced. Neon Indian brings life to chillwave.
Victory is ours: swimming remains undefeated

The University hosted the dual meet Friday, Oct. 16 and Saturday, Oct. 17, and welcomed Rice University and Atlantic University and Rice University, as well as cross-city rival, the University of Miami. The first meet for the home team was against the runner-up for last seasons’ C-USA championship, and a team that is still seen as their closest competition, Rice University. The Panthers proved why they’re conference champs by winning 10 out of 12 events against the Owls, and taking the day 133-90. Sophomore Kyna Pereira posted a pool record time for the 1000 yard freestyle (10:06.76). Pereira and sophomore Naomi Ruele accounted for five first place finishes out of FIU’s ten on Friday, but they were only just getting started.

Saturday’s meet was picked up from FIU’s Biscayne Bay Campus and moved to the swimming and diving team’s second home and primary practice facility, Gulliver Preparatory School. The Panthers dealt with Florida Atlantic in a fashion that could be described as no less than complete dominance, taking nine out of 11 possible first place finishes, and winning 138-62, more than doubling FAU’s score. There was only a short time to relax, but more importantly to prepare for the last opponent of the weekend.

Head Coach Randy Horner and his Panthers took this weekend to show the world exactly what Sweetwater has to offer. It was a close meet throughout, with the score getting as close as 70-61 in favor of the Panthers. After FIU took the lead in the first event, they never looked back, and ended up crushing the Canes 111-77, placing first in seven out of 11 events.

In a meet with this slate of opponents, FIU had but a couple questions to answer; who owns C-USA, and who runs (or swims) Miami? The Panthers answered those questions with a ferocious showing. The Panthers won’t be reveling in the weekend’s sweep for long, as it will be followed by what Horner likes to call “Peak Week”, which is the team’s highest concentration of training in one week all season.

They’ll use this week, and every other moment they have going forward in preparations to keep their perfect record of 5-0 intact, against the University of Illinois on November 6-7, when the Panthers will host the Fighting Illini back at the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Center.

Halloween Horror Nights trip back for second year

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Halloween is approaching fast and the date is set for the trip that FIU students will take to Halloween Horror Nights in Orlando’s Universal Studios. Three buses will leave Biscayne Bay Campus on Wednesday, Oct. 28 at noon.

This year the Halloween theme park is celebrating its 25th anniversary with Jack, the evil clown, returning to scare all those who dare venture into the park.

Camrere Ancion, a senior psychology major and President of SPC at BBC, has worked on bringing the day trip to Orlando back for a second year.

“We were going to take only 100 students at the beginning,” said Ancion. “But we know, because of last year’s experience, that the tickets were going to sell fast so we are taking 150 students now.”

2014 tickets for the trip to Halloween Horror Nights sold out. This year the number of tickets for the trip had to be raised for the students that were waiting for the Halloween Park to come back to life.

“The tickets were sold out in about a week. Like that [snip],” said Ancion. This year the park has set up nine Horror Houses, five scare Zones and two special shows.

Ana Paula Aguirre, a junior in business administration and management, purchased her tickets for Halloween Horror Nights as soon as they went up for sale on the SPC website.

“They are so cheap! A ticket usually goes for about $80 bucks,” said Aguirre. “The bus takes you there and brings you back which makes it more entertaining because you don’t have to drive for three hours.”

This is a great opportunity and it’s great that the university offers this trips to its students, especially because I couldn’t go last year.

Ana Paula Aguirre
Junior
Business Administration and Management

This is a great opportunity and it’s great that the university offers this trips to its students, especially because I couldn’t go last year,” said Aguirre.

The tickets were sold at a price of $35 that included both a seat on the bus and the admission to the park, SPC was able to reach this price due to a large group discount that they got from the park. The tickets were sold online on www.eventbrite.com.

“This is too good to be true it’s almost like a present,” said Cynthia Rodriguez, a junior in international relations, after she received an email from the SPC promoting the trip.

“This is a great opportunity and it’s great that the university offers this trips to its students, especially because I couldn’t go last year,” said Rodriguez.

Going with other FIU student creates the opportunity to meet new people,” said Rodriguez.

For Rodriguez this will be her third trip to Halloween Horror Nights and as a connoisseur she plans to take full advantage of the opportunity that this trip presents.

People usually get so hyped about the houses that they forget that you can ride the roller coasters too and the lines are shorter than on a regular day,” said Rodriguez.

With the tickets sold out and everything set, the SPC Halloween Horror Nights trip is ready to roll. The Panthers are ready for anything that Jack can throw at them.

BBC Campus Life offers homecoming shuttles

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The Biscayne Bay Campus Life will be offering free shuttle rides to the Homecoming game and parade.

Students must register for tickets to use the shuttle through http://www.fiumudu.eventbrite.com. There are tickets for a round trip between the north campus to the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

There are also tickets for one-way shuttle trips to either campus. The shuttle for the parade will depart from BBC at 11:15 a.m. and will depart from MMC after the football game ends.

The Homcoming game and parade take place Saturday, Oct. 24. The parade will start at 3:30 p.m. at the 107th SW Ave. and 16th St. University entrance, and it will end near the University Campus Support Complex building. The game starts at 6 p.m. at the Ocean Bank Field at the stadium.