

**RELIGIOUS ART**  
Santeria legends, gods displayed through artwork.

BBC PAGE 3

**CHILL OUT**  
Students beat summer heat on campus.

LIFE PAGE 5

**FINANCIAL FIASCO**  
Office of Financial Aid not doing enough for students

OPINION PAGE 4

**MEN'S SOCCER**  
Winless start to season

SPORTS PAGE 8

FACULTY SENATE

## Professors discuss schedule

**MARIA CHERCOLES**  
News Director

The first Faculty Senate meeting of the school year, on Sept. 4, revealed that students are not the only ones having concerns and inconveniences adapting to the new three-day schedule.

The mixed feelings followed Corinne Webb's report. As vice president of enrollment management and also chair of the new schedule implementation committee, she supervised the transition to the three-day schedule.

Although the new classroom utilization rate is not available yet, Webb said it is estimated to be around 54 percent. This is much higher than the 42 percent rate calculated in Fall 2005, which ranked lowest in the State.

In her presentation, Webb mentioned that the higher classroom utilization rate was achieved by asking departments to have 60 percent of their classes Monday-Wednesday-Friday and the other 40 percent Tuesday and Thursdays. Departments were also asked to have 75 percent of their classes during daytime hours.

Despite the success in adapting the new schedule, some professors had questions about its efficacy.

Such was the case for Professor Dev Roy, associate professor at the Department of Mathematics, who said that 50 minute slots - when compared to the former 75 minute slots - is not enough time to teach because some students arrive late and others leave earlier. He also expressed some of his students' concerns about the new schedule:

"My students also complain about the 50 minute slots when they spend more time driving here and looking for parking than actually sitting in class," Roy said.

Roy and other professors in the Senate pointed out that this

## SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE



CHRIS CUTRO/THE BEACON

**NO CUTS ALLOWED:** Students wait in a long line outside the FIU Bookstore Sept. 4, on the last day they can return textbooks they purchased Fall 2007 for a full refund.

## Professor leaves after 35 years

**ANDREW LEINS**  
Staff Writer

Not only is Howard Rock an American History professor, he has brought about change as a member of the Faculty Senate. He has most recently taken part in a lawsuit against the Florida Legislature over the control of the state's public universities' tuition.

"The tuition increase that was vetoed by Governor [Charlie] Crist amounted to \$10 per course, that's like one trip to McDonald's. The universities in Florida are underfunded and a tuition increase will help students," Rock said.

Aside from serving on the Faculty Senate for 25 years, Rock was also on the FIU Board of Trustees and the Florida Board of Governors from 2003 to 2004. He did this because he wanted different focuses throughout his life. Rock will be retiring after this Spring; he plans to spend his retirement writing another book on the history of New York in the time of Jefferson, among other things.

"I have the greatest respect for what Professor Rock has done. He has been an extremely effective spokesperson for the faculty and universities at the local, as well as the statewide level," said Bruce Hauptli, chair of the Faculty Senate and professor of philosophy.

Rock also founded the Faculty Club in the Graham Center where all

**ROCK, page 2**

## Women's mentoring program provides guidance

**CHRISTINA VEIGA**  
Asst. News Director

Living in what seems to be a man's world, the Women's Center at FIU is working to give female students an upper hand through their Mentoring Partnerships Program.

The program is meant to provide female students at FIU with a sense of belonging at the University, networking opportunities, as well as provide guidance and support for the student with their current schooling and future career choices.

"The value of a mentor relationship is that it differs from one with a professor, advisor or friend," said Bronwen Bares, coordinator

for the Women's Center and the Center for Leadership. "You can get friendly [with your mentor] but you can also gain experience in things that interest you."

The program matches students to mentors based on the student's career goals, the mentor's experience in a career that interests the student and life experiences.

The pairing also takes into account technical factors, such as convenience to meet at the University Park or Biscayne Bay campus. Pairs are required to meet at least once a month, but can meet as often as the couple deems necessary.

"Once we get the pairs together, it's really up to them. We just facilitate the matching," Bares

said. There will be an information session for UP participants on Sept. 21 and a Mentoring Gala on Sept. 26.

The events are for students to meet with their mentors, discuss their goal and to network. BBC will not be holding any formal events, but are welcome to attend the events at UP.

Though not new, the program is gaining attention according to Raquel Wright, a graduate assistant for the Women's Center. There is no application for the program because everyone is accepted and there is no capacity limit.

Mentors will include chief financial officers, FIU professors and more, according to a

Women's Center advertisement for the program. All female FIU students qualify as mentees for the program.

Wright would like to encourage all eligible students to take advantage of the program. Wright is taking a bit of her own advice, and joining as a mentee.

"I had the option to be a mentor, but for me, being a new student ... this is a new transition for me, so I think it'd be good to have a mentor to get adjusted," Wright said.

Interested students can obtain an involvement form at [www.fiu.edu/~women](http://www.fiu.edu/~women).

The deadline to return the forms is Sept. 14 at 4 p.m. For more information call the Women's Center at 305-348-1506.

## THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

## MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 10

**SPC Day:** All Day, WUC (BBC)

**SOC ICS Training Sessions:** 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., GC1204 (UP)

**Meet the Fraternities:** 6:30 p.m., GC140 (UP)

## TUESDAY • SEPTEMBER 11

**Multi-Faith Fair:** 10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., Panther Square (BBC)

**September 11 Remembrance Ceremony:** 12:30 p.m., Theater (BBC)

**SOC ICS Training Sessions:** 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., GC1204 (UP)

## WEDNESDAY • SEPTEMBER 12

**SGA Day:** All Day, WUC (BBC)

**Cirque du SGA:** 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Flag Pole Area (BBC)

**SGA General Meeting:** 3:30 - 5 p.m., WUC155 (BBC)

**SGA General Meeting:** 4 p.m. GC140 (UP)

## THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 13

**Leaders of Tomorrow General Meeting:** 3:30, GC241 (UP)

**Late Day Latte:** 5 - 7 p.m., AC I (BBC)

**SOC Club Fair:** 5 - 7 p.m., AC I (BBC)

## FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 14

**Women's Center Mentoring Program:** 5 p.m., GC 2200 (UP)

**SPC Movie "Shrek the Third:"** 7 & 10 p.m., GC140 (UP)

**"Cosmology and the Human Understanding of the Universe:"** 8 p.m., CP145 (UP)

-Compiled by *Kassandra Pool*

## Center closes after losing funds

**LUIS VALDEZ**  
Contributing Writer

The National Resource Center of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Aging has provided health and nutritional services to older adults in the community for the last 17 years. However, due to a lack of funding by the federal government, it will close down next June.

The center's director, Nancy Wellman, is a prominent figure on campus and has been nationally recognized for her work. Last year, she received FIU's "Council of 100 Outstanding Faculty" award for her research and involvement in various organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the International Food Information Council.

According to Wellman, the more attention nutrition gets, the more money it receives from Washington and that lately it has been sidelined.

"It's ironic that nutrition is not given much emphasis by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services compared to other programs such as the food-stamps, Women-Infant-Children and school nutrition," Wellman said.

One of the main missions of the center is to reduce the risks associated with aging and bad nutrition, a service that is mostly offered to older adults and minorities with health issues. This includes counseling, information, the "meals-on-wheels," research and exercise tips.

The center's goal is to support quality of life, improve functionality, promote independence and decrease early nursing home admissions and hospitalizations, through better nutrition.

The center is completely funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging in the form of multi-year grants, the center's Web site states.

According to Barbara

Kamp, the project coordinator, the center's budget is at the full discretion of HHS.

"[HHS] did not give us any priority," Kamp said.

The center currently has nine staff members including a few student assistants. Marsha Hakim, one of the five graduate and undergraduate students working there, helps keep the biweekly highlights up-to-date on the center's Web site along with other responsibilities. She one of close to 100 graduate students who have worked at the center over the past 17 years. She is very disappointed at the future closing of the center.

"I love it so much. It was really a blessing in disguise and I am torn by the fact that it is closing down. It gave me a lot of great experience and knowledge," Hakim said.

Besides dealing with issues of health, nutrition and aging, the center also gives technical assistance to national agencies such as the Older Americans Act Nutri-

tion, which provides meals to about 2.6 million elderly Americans every year.

One of the features of the center's Web site is a physical inactivity cost calculator, which shows the financial cost of a physically inactive person to his or her community.

Federal funding to the center will stop this December; it will be running on its own means, with some of the leftover funding from previous grants, until June. Because the services the center provides are free, it won't gain any revenue to support its operations. Until then, the center will continue with its various activities and programs.

Wellman plans to keep helping older adults by providing tasty nutritious food and health counseling through the National Aging Network. She plans to use the center to serve our community to the very end.

For more information go to <http://nutritionandaging.fiu.edu>.

## Events fundraise for earthquake victims

## QUAKE, page 1

Emilio Botts, have organized an event on campus called Operation P.E.R.U: Peru Earthquake Relief Union.

Operation P.E.R.U, which is supported by the Red Cross and UNICEF, will be set up on the Betty Chapman Plaza Sept. 24 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event will raise funds and increase awareness in the Hispanic community. Ramirez hopes that the FIU students on campus will volunteer for the event or bring money donations, canned

goods and supplies for the families and especially the children hit by the earthquake.

Another group of FIU students organizing Peru relief efforts is Jack's Notes, a new company run by FIU students that offers class lecture notes and study guides. Jack's Notes will donate one dollar for every study packet sold during September and October to the Peruvian Consulate.

"If you have been looking at the videos of the earthquake, you see the poverty that these people lived in

before and now it must be a lot worse," said Alex Gutierrez, co-owner of the company.

Jack's Notes will also function as a supplies drop-off point and is organizing a fundraising football tailgate party.

With buildings to reconstruct, highways to mend, people to house and feed, in a zone that stretches nearly 200 miles along the coast of Peru, Peruvian President Alan Garcia and the victims have massive work ahead of them.

## If you'd like to help...

Flor de la Canela Restaurant  
11865 Southwest 26 St.  
Miami, FL 33175  
305-552-7010

Jack's Notes:  
[www.jacksclassnotes.com](http://www.jacksclassnotes.com)

Operation P.E.R.U.:  
Betty Chapman Plaza  
Sept. 24, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
For volunteer information:  
Unidad Latina fraternity:  
[bruceluis@yahoo.com](mailto:bruceluis@yahoo.com)

## CORRECTIONS

In the Aug. 30th issue, the article titled "Fees, services increase," the correct name of the organization is Baptist Health South Florida, not Baptist Health Systems.

In the Sept. 4th issue, the article titled "Team looks to regain past glory with new head coach," the name for the mug should have said Eketebi.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

## THE BEACON



## EDITORIAL BOARD

CHARLIE GRAU EDITOR IN CHIEF  
CHRISTOPHER NECUZE PRODUCTION MANAGER

MARIA CHERCOLES NEWS DIRECTOR  
EDDITH SEVILLA BBC MANAGING EDITOR  
GEOFFREY ANDERSON JR. LIFE! EDITOR  
JOSE MARTINEZ OPINION EDITOR  
SERGIO BONILLA SPORTS EDITOR  
FERNANDO GARCIA PHOTO EDITOR  
ELVIS RAMIREZ BBC LIFE EDITOR

NICOLE ACOSTA ASST. NEWS DIRECTOR  
CHRISTINA VEIGA ASST. NEWS DIRECTOR  
BEN F. BADGER JR. ASST. NEWS DIRECTOR  
JOSE MAYA ASST. NEWS DIRECTOR  
SUSANA RODRIGUEZ ASST. NEWS DIRECTOR  
JOSE DE WIT ASST. OPINION EDITOR  
CHRIS CABRAL ASST. LIFE! EDITOR  
CHRIS TOWERS ASST. SPORTS EDITOR  
JESSICA KERTZNUS ASST. PHOTO EDITOR  
KASSANDRA POOL CALENDER EDITOR

RICK MARTINEZ NEWS PAGE DESIGNER  
LEONCIO ALVAREZ LIFE! PAGE DESIGNER

ANGELINA ESPOSITO COPY EDITOR  
ASHLEY CAPO COPY EDITOR

TATIANA CANTILLO BUSINESS MANAGER  
ROBERT JAROSS DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MEDIA  
ALFRED SOTO ASST. STUDENT MEDIA DIRECTOR

## INFORMATION

The Beacon office is located in the Graham Center, room 210, at the University Park campus. Questions regarding display advertising and billing should be directed to the Advertising Manager at 305-348-2709. Mailing address: Graham Center, room 210, Miami, FL 33199. Fax number is 305-348-2712. Biscayne Bay Campus is 305-919-4722. Office hours are 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. E-mail: [Beacon@fiu.edu](mailto:Beacon@fiu.edu). Visit us online at [www.beaconnewspaper.com](http://www.beaconnewspaper.com)

The Beacon is published on Mondays and Thursdays during the Fall and Spring semesters and once a week during Summer B. One copy per person. Additional copies are 25 cents. The Beacon is not responsible for the content of ads. Ad content is the sole responsibility of the company or vendor. The Beacon is an editorially independent newspaper partially funded by student and services fees that are appropriated by Student Government.

## SGC-UP Notes

Sept. 5 Call to order 4 p.m.,  
Adjournment 4:40 p.m.

## President's Report (Marbely Hernandez):

- The Center for Leadership and Service is trying to put together a program about the FIU "going global" to use FIU's diversity, taking advantage of it on campus and in the community.
- Vice President's Report (Arthur "AJ" Meyer):
- Said there are many changes happening to Gracie's Grill: SGC-UP is talking to Gracie's Grill to discuss possibility of cheaper prices and their new menu to see if student's want the food items.
- Also looking into placing comment boxes for every customer service department at FIU, such as the Financial Aid office, to get more student input.

## Comptroller's Report (Sergio Bolanos):

- Hopes to present financial books and their total amounts after this fiscal year to council through the Activities and Services Fee office.
  - Finance committee will have its next meeting Sept. 10 at 7 p.m.
- Chief of Staff (Kenny Gelok):**
- Sept. 5 was the first Cabinet meeting at 3:15 p.m. They will meet every two weeks.
  - Sept. 19 will be a the pond cleanup behind Gracie's Grill. Council looking to get help from the Greek Council.
  - New SGA website will be up Oct. 5, not sooner, because there is no webmaster in Campus Life office to do it.

See [www.beaconnewspaper.com](http://www.beaconnewspaper.com) for complete notes.

-Compiled by *Nicole Acosta, Tania Babienco and Christina Veiga*

# Exhibit reveals propaganda in children's books

**DANIELLA BACIGALUPO**  
Contributing Writer

It's hard to believe that books with passages such as, "any person who tells us that this war isn't any of our business doesn't know what he's talking about," can qualify as a children's book.

Yet *My Book to Help America* (1942) is just that: and the current exhibit at the Wolfsonian Museum in Miami Beach, *Indoctrinating Youth: Selections from the Pamela K. Harer Gift of Propaganda Books for Children*, presents a variety of books, the earliest from the Boer War, with similar war messages.

Surprisingly, the exhibit at the Wolfsonian's library vestibule showcases how different governments have influenced generations of children through a means that most parents would find safe.

"Some of the books were either overtly sponsored by governments or encouraged by governments but done by private individuals who were just patriotic," said Frank Luca, chief librarian of the Wolfsonian.

The content of a couple of books, such as one encouraging children to buy stamps or conduct scrap drives for the war, and another promot-

ing laughter as the means to defeat Hitler, seem innocent enough.

Nonetheless, it's hard to call the books subtle as the majority of them depict strong war images such as children happily wearing gas masks and an alphabet book from World War II with Adolf Hitler, Hermann Goring and Joseph Goebbs in stocks on the cover. Even others demonize the enemy by casting the opponents in negative stereotypes or as threatening animals like wolves.

"One of the things that makes this such an amazing collection is that it shows different players in the various wars, especially during World War I and World War II," Luca said.

One person not surprised by the content in the exhibition is Professor Brian Peterson from the History Department at FIU. An expert on Nazi Germany and Soviet Communism, Peterson explained that propaganda was a big thing during the Nazi and Soviet totalitarian societies, which tried to control everyone's thinking and life.

"They especially wanted to get to children while they were young," Peterson said.

He mentioned that youth programs like the American

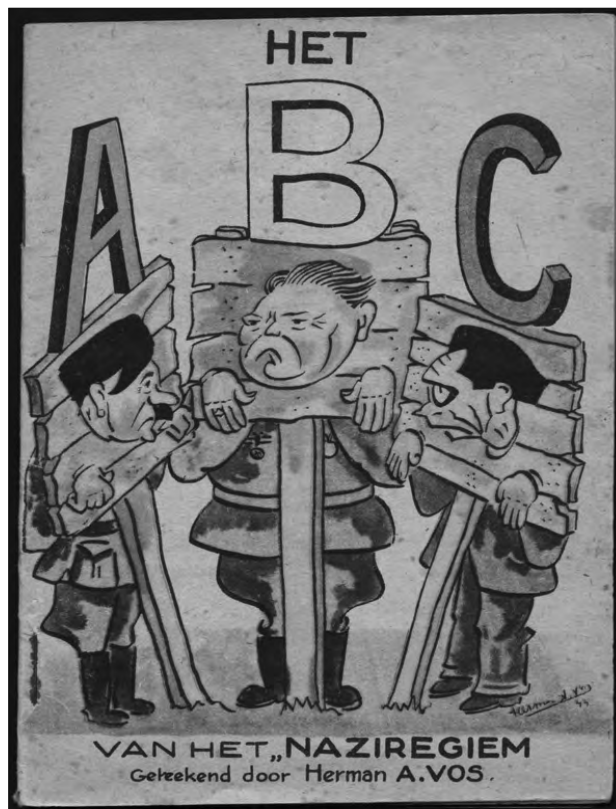


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WOLFSONIAN/THE BEACON

**"A" IS FOR ADOLF:** An alphabet book displays Hitler, Goring and Goebbs in stocks on its cover.

Boy Scouts were also popular ways of fostering nationalist sentiments in the children. The Nazi version of the Boy Scouts was called the Hitler Youth.

While there were similarities between American, Nazi and Soviet propaganda, Peterson added that the dividing line seems to be setting the children against their parents, something that was encouraged in totalitarian states.

Peterson mentioned a famous story from the Soviet Union involving a peasant boy who reports his father for anti-communist sentiments to Soviet authorities. The boy was considered a hero by the communist leaders.

While the exhibit at the Wolfsonian only has 23 books,

it can be considered a preview to an enlarged exhibition that will open December at the Green Library in University Park and which will also include a wide range of contemporary books, war games and three-dimensional propaganda pieces from the Boer War, WWI and WWII.

"It will be a different look at propaganda and censorship. Posters and usual advertisement makes [propaganda] seem more adult," said Althea "Vicki" Silvera, the department head and university librarian of the Special Collections section of GL.

"I look forward to the exhibition because I have never tied childhood with propaganda before."

## NEWSFLASH

### Student claims to have been assaulted in Graham Center

A female student said she was assaulted while she and a male student were tabling for their organization at the Graham Center Sept. 5.

According to the female victim, she was promoting her organization, A.N.S.W.E.R., as well as counter-recruiting against the armed forces tabling in GC that day.

While she and the male students were speaking to a representative from the armed forces table, a male about six feet tall with short, dark hair wearing jeans and a camouflage backpack, approached their table and ripped down one of the victim's posters while passing by.

According to the victims, The man proceeded to push the female victim and insult her but eventually walked away after the male victim succeeded in pushing him away from the female victim.

Later on, both victims went to the Green Library after they had finished tabling and saw the man again. Afraid he was following her; the female victim said she called Public Safety to file a report at about 2:58 p.m. because the male victim had to leave for a 3 p.m. class.

She said she called Public Safety again at 3:15 p.m. to see if someone had been dispatched to her location and was told someone had been dispatched at 3:08 p.m. A Public Safety official did not arrive at the scene until 3:25 p.m. according to the female victim.

According to Public Safety's 2007 Case Log, the crime was filed as an information crime. No one from Public Safety would comment on the incident, saying the case is still under investigation.

- Compiled by Nicole Acosta

## ATM contracts up for bidding

### BANK FEES, page 1

director of Business Services at University Park campus, the contract for all banking services at FIU are being put on bid through a Request for Proposal.

The RFP is sent by the University to potential vendors to specify what services the University wants, gives a chance for vendors to respond and allows the University to decide whether or not to start negotiations with the potential vendors.

"We're doing research to determine what is out there," Townsend said. "We will be putting the credit service out to bid along with banking services, ATM machines, etc. The bid itself will be more attractive to investors."

The Office of Business Services declined a second interview and referred *The Beacon* to The Office of Media Relations.

According to Media Relations, though business services was first trying to compose the RFP in-house, the task has been outsourced.

"[Business Services] has abandoned the effort to put together an RFP in-house and are now in the process of hiring a consultant who specializes

in that area," Media Relations said in an e-mail.

Townsend was on vacation and was not available to answer follow-up questions on what this meant.

Currently, the bank that FIU affiliates with and promotes for student use is the University Credit Union while Bank of America also offers banking services to FIU. The lease for the space the University Credit Union occupies was up in September 2006 and is currently operating on a month-to-month contract that can expire at any time.

Marbely Hernandez, president of UP-Student Government Council, who represents the student body and communicates with Townsend, has already worked on some ways of improving the services available through the PantherCARD.

Hernandez is interested in offering services such as meal equivalency and the ability to use the card as a debit card outside of the University.

"It would be good to have a bank that would be available around town so students could be able to use banks at the mall or other areas around town without worry," Hernandez said.

## UNIVERSITY BUDGET

# Berkman: We hope Legislature honors budget commitments

### BUDGET, page 1

Gov. Crist's plan and goes back on its agreement, FIU will not be able to afford opening the College of Medicine on schedule and the University would not have any legal recourse.

"We're hoping the Legislature honors their commitment in the budget," Berkman said.

Although the Legislature has made no mention on whether the development of either school will be postponed indefinitely, Maidique has faith that they both are still top priorities.

"I'm absolutely convinced we have the support from the Legislature to continue," Maidique told *The Beacon*.

When asked about the \$80 million, Maidique commented that the money is not coming out of the State

University System.

FIU has already hired faculty and signed an affiliation agreement with Jackson Memorial Hospital to provide care to the indigent. FIU has also received

**“Modesto A. Maidique, University President**  
I'm absolutely convinced we have the support from the Legislature to continue.

approval for an accreditation site visit by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education, the accrediting agency in medical education for the College of Medicine, according to Maidique's Sept. 6 press release.

The State University System will be impacted most by the proposed cuts according to Bill Edmonds,

director of communications for the BOG State University System of Florida.

A statement released Sept. 6 from the Office of the Chancellor said that the overall proposed cuts equal

abruptly cancelled after agreements could not be reached as to how the cuts should be handled according to Berkman.

While no plans have been made, a proposed trip to Tallahassee for the next Legislature meeting has been made an option, according to Jordan.

Of all the Universities that have specific line item cuts proposed by Gov. Crist, FIU has the most: four.

The University of Central Florida and Florida State University have two.

From the direct proposed cuts, FIU would stand to lose approximately \$10 million.

In the Sept. 6 press release, Maidique encourages those students who wish to voice their concerns or opinions directly, to contact their elected officials at <http://government.fiu.edu>.

\$227 million or 28 percent of all of Gov. Crist's proposed cuts.

"We didn't expect to be put in a special place [where we would not receive any cuts]," Edmonds said. "But we don't see this as our fair share."

A special session of the Legislature to address the budget was scheduled for later this month but was

# OPINION

Charlie Grau Editor in Chief • Christopher Necuze Production Manager • Jose Martinez Opinion Editor

THE BEACON | Editorial

## FIU complies, reveals names

The Recording Industry Association of America sent 433 pre-lawsuit letters to university students in late April. Sixteen of the letters were sent to FIU.

The RIAA figured out the 16 students' Internet Protocol and MAC addresses that they used on FIU's wireless network. The RIAA approached FIU with the addresses and the university turned over the students' identities after a subpoena was issued.

There's certainly room for debating whether file sharing should really be illegal, and even whether it's right for the RIAA to collect settlement money on behalf of artists.

But it's not really up to FIU to arbitrate that debate. FIU's actions in turning over

the students' identities to the RIAA were appropriate. As a public institution, it must comply with copyright laws, regardless of any philosophical debates on file sharing.

As far as the 16 students who received the letters go, they got what was coming to them.

Illegal file sharing is wrong, plain and simple. What makes it even worse is that these students were using public resources to engage in illegal activities.

As a public university, FIU is an extension of the state - the same state that makes the laws and enforces them.

If you carry out illegal activity using a state-owned network and you get caught, well, you asked for it.

## Football team's success should be measured in future, not present

Penn State welcomed new head football coach Mario Cristobal and his staff with a 59-0 loss Sept. 1.

Though the loss was a whooping, it is what fans, students, faculty and alumni should expect; especially coming from a young team with an inexperienced coaching staff.

The following three games should offer no different outcome since they come against established football programs: Maryland, Kansas and the University of Miami. When witnessing the struggles and shortcomings of the team this year, one should look to the glimmers of hope that each game produces because the success of the program hinges on the future, not the present.

It's obvious that Athletic

Director Pete Garcia and Cristobal are building this team for the future. With success comes not only glory and veneration, but money; Athletics gives a university a face and platform, as well as a means of generating profit for a university that's already tight for money.

Money received from alumni donations can help fund other programs and schools, not just Athletics.

With such a heavy emphasis being placed on football - \$31 million dollar stadium, new coaches and better training facilities - students, faculty, administration and alumni will be looking for the investment's return immediately. Hopefully it will come sooner rather than later.

# FINANCIAL FIASCO



Graphic by Angie Esposito

## Financial aid falls short in notifying students of problems

KASSANDRA POOL  
Staff Writer

The lines, the wait for reimbursement and the urgent need to pay tuition in fear of being dropped from classes can become a nightmare for students who deal with the Office of Financial Aid.

Away on vacation and lacking access to the Internet, Jonny Garcia, a junior, was unaware his application for financial aid was unprocessed and incomplete.

Since the Office of Financial Aid never told him he was missing paperwork, Garcia was dropped from all his classes.

The damage to his schedule was irreparable and it was up to Garcia to pick up the pieces.

He was left with no choice but to re-enroll in all his classes, which by then were all full.

It seems the Office of Financial Aid is doing just about everything wrong: flawed customer service, poor communication with students, over-complicated application processes, and long waits to fix problems

For example, why make students wait in line just to turn in a few sheets of paper with some signatures?

According to Garcia, there were a few more students waiting in line for the same reason.

Rather than having students make the long line, they could have an inbox where students can simply drop their documents,

to be collected and processed throughout the day.

Lines would be shorter and students who have been dropped from classes can instead use the time they spend waiting to fix their schedules.

No e-mails were sent to notify Garcia about his situation.

He had to dig into Panthersoft to find out what was going on with his tuition payment.

"If someone has never been to Panthersoft they would never know about the 'To Do List' [feature in the software].

"People might think they can create an agenda for themselves or something" he said.

But as far as sending students e-mails goes, it seems the Financial Aid office is inconsistent with its methods.

I remember receiving an e-mail from them sometime in the Spring semester telling me what papers I had to turn in for my money to be disbursed for the fall.

But why didn't Garcia receive a similar e-mail?

It's because the Office of Financial Aid doesn't stick to one consistent method of notifying students of the status of their financial aid application

There isn't one consistent place where students can go to find out if their application's missing something.

Students can't know if they have a hold on their account unless they're persistent enough

in periodically checking Panthersoft.

Most FIU students work either part time or full time while managing to study full time.

Students need to design their schedules in advance and resolve any conflicts that arise between school and work.

The Office of Financial Aid may or may not be aware of this but they can do serious damage to a student when they decide to drop all of his or her classes.

It wouldn't hurt to figure out a way to work with, and not against, students when it comes to resolving financial aid issues.

As Garcia suggested, there are better ways to handle these cases.

"Can't financial aid give you the option to hold your classes until you pay either your tuition in full or a certain amount to keep those classes?"

We are all here to receive an education to start a career in the near future.

But to get an education at FIU, students must also invest their efforts on jumping bureaucratic hurdles while managing to not drop their baton, or in this case, their classes.

The amount of red tape there is to trip over at FIU puts students at a disadvantage from the race's start.

Classes are hard enough. Administrative red tape shouldn't make getting an education even harder than it already is.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

#### Do you think the Office of Financial Aid is doing a good job?

- Yes – They are reliable when it comes to notifying students about deadlines and helping meet financial needs.
- Yes- It is not their fault some students cannot get their papers in on time. They disburse funds in a reasonable amount of time.
- I don't care either way.
- No –They consistently fail to notify students about deadlines and missing documentation.
- No – They take forever to disburse left over funds and ignore the needs of the student body.

## DISAGREE?

PUT YOUR OWN OPINION ON OUR PAGE.

Stop by our offices at GC 210 at University Park or WUC 124 at the Biscayne Bay Campus and fill out an application.

# Beat the Heat



GRAPHIC BY ANGIE ESPOSITO/THE BEACON

## Campus spots help students stay cool under the sun

**LUCIA SASTRE PATTARINO**  
Contributing Writer

With summer vacation over, most students forget that hot days still linger on until the end of September. Finding a cool spot at FIU may seem like a pretty hard task, but if one knows where to look, avoiding those hot and sticky moments can be a lot easier.

### CAMPUS POOLS

Located in University Park's housing quad, the Panther Hall Pool is open to all FIU students and staff. Although it may seem difficult at first to juggle classes and find time to walk over to the pool, students such as Sara Lopez find the trek rewarding.

"Since I've been going to the pool during my free time, I've noticed a shift in my moods," Lopez said. "All of a sudden I feel happier and less uncomfortable. The horrible heat usually made me cranky and left me feeling like I needed to shower three times a day."

The Biscayne Bay Campus has a pool of its own: a 50-meter olympic-sized one adjacent to the Wolfe University Center. According to the FIU Recreation Services web site, [www.fiu.edu/~camprec](http://www.fiu.edu/~camprec), that pool is currently closed for repair and renovation.

Panther Hall Pool hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays.

### STARBUCKS

For students who are tired of running to the water fountain, Starbucks is one option when seeking a flavorful drink.

With two Starbucks located on UP (one on the second floor of Bookstore and the other on the first floor of the Green Library), hundreds of students line up throughout the day to grab a Frappuccino or iced coffee to stay cool and awake.

"As soon as I walk into Starbucks, the smell of freshly brewed coffee and the cozy atmosphere instantly comforts me," said student Juan Mendez. "I love having a place to relax after a long day. Even the people that work there are friendly and efficient. The line always goes fast and I never have to wait too long."

### ROCKING TABLES

Hiding from the sun while still being

outside is not impossible. The rocking tables located near the fountain between Primera Casa, the Graham Center and GL, are open to anyone regardless of time of day. The tables are highly popular, however, so students have to be in search of an empty one. Because of their covered roofs, the tables are an ideal location for students such as Carlos Nino, who uses them for a daytime break.

"I usually take a 15 minute nap in these rocking tables – that gets me through the day and relaxes me," said Nino. "The weather there is perfect."

A breeze usually swings by making it a perfect spot for having lunch or doing homework.

### GREEN LIBRARY

"Every time I walk into the Green Library, I can't help feeling alleviated and renovated," said student Felicia Rodriguez. "It is like jumping into a pool or strolling in the rain after a walk in the desert."

With spacious commodities, Green Library is the place to be when heat overpowers the air. With numerous computers and seating arrangements, Rodriguez nominates the Green Library as her destined spot for a hot summer day.

"When I'm in a hurry to get some reading done, and I can't seem to find a spot outside due to the weather," she said. "I quickly stroll to the seventh floor of the library. The view from up there leaves you speechless, and the environment is perfect for studying."

### WATER FOUNTAINS

Water is essential for survival, and it's especially helpful for these hot summer days.

In nearly every building on campus, there are water fountains for thirsty students on the run.

Business major Laura Menard finds the fountains useful because they are everywhere and allow her to refill her water bottle throughout the day without having to buy a new drink each time she's thirsty.

"I love the fact that water is free," she said. "I don't want to be paying for water when you can actually find it free as you walk FIU ground. I just bring my bottle from home and refill it every chance I get...can't get easier than that."

## Finally, Affordable Dental Care!

Now you can stop paying full price at the dentist with a discount dental plan from **FIUDentalPlans.com**

Save On...

- ✓ Cleanings
- ✓ Checkups
- ✓ Crowns
- ✓ & More

Plans Start at Only **\$79.95** PER YEAR

### Sample Savings (Starmark)

DENTAL PROCEDURE	NATIONAL PRICING*	YOUR COST	TOTAL SAVINGS
Routine 6 Month Check-Up	\$40	FREE	\$40
Adult Teeth Cleaning	\$75	FREE	\$75
Root Canal (Molar)	\$829	\$485	\$344

\*Source: DentalPlans.com (DPC) 2005 Survey of Sample Average National Dental Fees. Fees may vary slightly by region. Additional savings available on many other dental procedures. Your savings may vary depending on your chosen discount dental plan, ZIP code, and participating dentist.



VISIT **FIUDentalPlans.com**

or Call Us Toll Free **1-866-878-0201**

The DENTALPLANS.COM website is administered by DENTALPLANS.COM, INC., a licensed Florida Discount Medical Plan Organization, 29 South Federal Highway, Dania, Florida 33004. Plans and Programs offered by DentalPlans.com are not health insurance policies. Plans and Programs offered by DentalPlans.com provide discounts at certain health care providers for medical services. Plans and Programs offered by DentalPlans.com do not make payments directly to the providers of medical services. The Plan or Program member is obligated to pay for all health care services but will receive a discount from those health care providers who have contracted with the Plan, Program or discount plan organization.

## REVERENT RALLY



FERNANDO GARCIA/THE BEACON

**SPIRITUAL SERMON:** Jan Nunez of the club Chosen Generation FIU speaks to a crowd gathered in the Graham Center Cafeteria Annex on Sept. 4. The organization meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. in the annex to share their message of Christianity to anyone willing to listen.

# Internships key to finding job

**SHANNON FALLON**  
Contributing Writer

It's back to school time and many students are thinking about classes and enhancing their experience within the work field.

According to business magazine *Forbes*, one of the best ways for college students to succeed and advance their careers is to work as an intern, which allows students the opportunity to build up their resumes, gain hands-on work experience and network.

Lorenzo Rodriguez, a Communication major, interned for a semester with the Walt Disney World College Program in Orlando and met people from all over the globe.

"I worked as a ride operator on the Indiana Jones ride at MGM Studios," he said. "My favorite part of my job was that I got to introduce

the ride and give a little speech before the ride began ...It was never boring. I mean, I would look next to me and Pluto was my co-worker. I got to live on my own and experience a real work life."

Although internships might not always involve working with your favorite cartoon character, they could be used as a stepping stone for an ideal job.

Here are some ways college students have been landing internships and jobs:

Career Services, located in Graham Center Room 230, offers a variety of resources including resume critiquing, interview coaching, and opportunities to intern with prospective employers.

The office provides students with two types of services: basic services and career success services; the latter requires a one time fee

of \$20 and provides wider access to resources for finding an immediate job.

Career Services has particularly proven useful for those students who live in the residence halls with no means of transportation.

"I live on campus and don't have a car this year," said freshman Daniel Martinez. "My financial aid barely covers my housing, so I need to make some extra cash. My peer advisor told me to look into career services for on campus work. So, right now they're helping me to get a job..."

Aside from visiting Career Services, talk to students, professors and family who may be able to recommend you for an internship or help you find one -- you might be surprised by the people you know.

According to career resource web site *collegerecruiter.com*, there are

plenty of other ways to network outside of your immediate circle of family and friends.

Attending industry events and joining job clubs are prime opportunities to find those who work in similar fields.

If you're interested in a company, visit their website. See if they offer internships or if they have any information regarding one.

Also, look for career and internship based websites such as *MonsterTRAK.com* and *Careerbuilder.com*, both of which list full- and part-time internships.

If there's a company that you're interested in and they don't offer an internship, then offer your time a few hours a week as an unpaid intern.

This works best with small or privately owned companies.

"My friend's mom

# WEEKEND

THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 6

**WHAT:** Live Reggae/Bahamian/Latin Music  
**WHERE:** Bahama Breeze, 12395 S.W. 88 St.  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** Included with dinner

**WHAT:** New York Comedy Club  
**WHERE:** New York Comedy Club Boca Raton, Fl  
**WHEN:** 8:30 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** \$12

FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 7

**WHAT:** The Big Show – JTF Death-match  
**WHERE:** Just The Funny  
**WHEN:** 9 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** \$10

**WHAT:** Alberto Plaza  
**WHERE:** James L. Knight Center, 400 SE 2nd Ave  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** \$24-\$38

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 8

**WHAT:** Culture Shock – Contemporary Ballet  
**WHERE:** Manuel Artime Theater, 900 S.W. 1 St.  
**WHEN:** 8 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** \$5 with Student I.D

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 9

**WHAT:** Tribute to Hector Lavoe  
**WHERE:** Amelia Earhart Park, 401 East 65 St.  
**WHEN:** 1 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** \$20

**WHAT:** XII International Ballet Festival  
**WHERE:** Colony Theater, 1040 Lincoln Road  
**WHEN:** 5 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** \$20-\$30

– Compiled by *Kassandra Pool*

worked at a small public relations firm in Miami," said University of Miami student Cathy Cuenco. "One day, my friend and I stopped in to drop off something to her mom, and I started talking to one of her co-workers and offered to help out in the office a few times a week free of charge so long as they would help me learn some office skills ... a few days later, I was interning as an assistant to the marketing director."

# 'Love of the game' brings columnist to Las Vegas



My Life Experience

Luis Garcia  
Staff Writer

Las Vegas. We all think of going there, taking in the sights and winning it all on the strip. That wasn't why I was there, though.

Not for the slots. Not for the roulettes or the blackjack tables or the other attractions Sin City has to offer. I was there from August 24-26 on the twilight of summer for one thing: EVO 2007.

The annual Evolution Championship Series is one of the top hot spots in video gaming competition for fighting games. Whether its old school, two-dimensional classics such as *Super Street Fighter*

*II Turbo* or 3D placeholders such as *Virtua Fighter 5*, you'll find hundreds of top-notch players from all over the world hungry for wins, money and bragging rights. With big name sponsors like Capcom, EVO has become more than just a place to play games – it's become a grand spectacle for the gaming world.

All around, players gathered to cheer, bet on matches or even challenge others to back up their skills with cold hard cash. Upon arriving at the tournament, it hit me that this event was tailor-made for Vegas. People can come to win or lose it all in EVO. I've talked about it with others. I've seen matches on Youtube.

But this year, it was different.

I was finally able to experience the Ninth EVO Championships in person: I had the opportunity to compete in EVO for *Virtua Fighter 5*, even if it was just to see how I'd

fare compared to the rest of the world.

Just waiting for a match to start was enough to make me uneasy about my skills as a player. I qualified for the semi-finals but didn't last too long after that.

Considering some of my competition consisted of some of the top players from the United States and Japan, I had no regrets. At least I could say I did my best and I have all the reason to come back next year even better.

Of course, the trip wasn't all just for the thrill of digital combat and the \$5000 pot for 1st place. I finally had the chance to meet people I've talked to through the internet for years face to face and play casual matches in games that only few have even heard of and exchange stories.

This is what it was about. These were people like me who saw video games as more than just a fad or a pastime. It was

something understood on another level that few can relate to

Some have been to this very event for years to either face victory or defeat in a matter of minutes that could seem like an eternity with thousands of eyes watching every move. As fun as the environment is, it can get crazy like any other sport where just about anything can happen.

You name it. Close calls. Clutch plays. Upsets. It's all there and why?

For love of the game and victory.

I didn't know what to expect when I first came to Vegas and my 1st EVO, but now I can only wonder when and if I'll ever get to come back to fight next year, providing my game of choice is offered as a major tourney and even then, just to see the same faces and the same minds that think as I do.

And maybe, just maybe, I'll leave Las Vegas with a fatter wallet.

## FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

## Panthers host Maryland

**DARREN COLLETTE**  
Staff Writer

Coming off the worst margin of defeat in school history, a 59-0 drubbing at the hands of Penn State, the Golden Panthers will come home to take on yet another formidable opponent, the University of Maryland Terrapins.

Despite last week's poor performance, the Golden Panthers' defense managed to find success to begin the game.

The defense played well on first and second downs and on offense Wayne Younger did pass for over 100 yards. However, the Panthers turned the ball over five times, gave up 549 total yards and rushed for negative three yards.

Despite what happened against Penn State, the Golden Panthers can come into the Maryland game with more confidence. This game will be played at the Orange Bowl against a familiar team who FIU almost defeated last season in a narrow 10-14 loss in College Park, MD.

In last seasons game, the Panthers saw a late lead slip through their hands, as a last second interception in the end zone ended what would have been the biggest upset in FIU history.

FIU will need to shutdown Maryland's run attack led by Lance Ball and Keon Lattimore, who rushed for a combined

158 yards in a 31-14 win over Villanova last week.

The Terrapins also have a strong passing game led by quarterback Jordan Steffy, who completed 19 of 24 passes and passed for 178 yards. Steffy also gained 45 yards rushing on eight carries, including a 10-yard touchdown run.

After turning the ball over five times and fumbling six, the Panthers must avoid more turnovers.

Cornerback Lionell Singleton was responsible for three of these fumbles and must protect the ball better in the future.

The ground game will also need to gain a lot more than negative three yards if they hope to win.

The secondary needs to get on the same page because against Penn State they gave up over 300 passing yards. Offensively, the Panthers will be facing a defense that only gave up one touchdown last week.

After the loss to Penn State, head coach Mario Cristobal went on to say, "We made the typical young team errors. We gave the ball up in our own territory when we showed early on that we could do some things to kind of irritate their offense. We have to go back and make sure that we coach better, that we play better, make sure that our young guys play like they are older guys."



JESSICA MARSHALL/THE BEACON

**THE LAST HOSTS:** FIU and UM players scramble for a loose ball during last season's game in the Orange Bowl. While they were rivals last season, the two teams will share the stadium for their home games during the stadium's final season.

## Orange Bowl a better home for Panthers than 'Cage'

OB, Page 8

"advantage" has simply never existed. FIU had the 10th lowest average attendance in all of Division I-A football over the last two seasons according to the *Indianapolis Star*.

In fact, the 2005 and 2006 two-year attendance average of 15,170 (15,147 and 15,193 respectively) was just a shade above the requisite 15,000 that each school needs to keep Division I-A eligibility.

With nothing to lose after a winless 2006 campaign and a \$31 million football facility on its way, new head coach Mario Cristobal and his football team have an opportunity to win some games in a football stadium ripe with history – even if that stadium is the home of the Canes.

The Orange Bowl is well past its prime as a premier football venue. The University of Miami has decided that the 2007 season will be its last season at the historic stadium.

The Canes will begin play at the newly renovated Dolphins Stadium in 2008, as the Florida Marlins and

the city of Miami are in the planning stages to convert the Orange Bowl grounds into a baseball only facility for the team.

With the Canes gone, this will likely be the last season of football played at the Orange Bowl after 70 years of storied football.

Opened in 1937, the Orange Bowl has hosted five Super Bowls, the Miami Dolphins from 1966 until 1987, and the Miami Hurricanes to this day. The stadium seats 72,319.

The FIU players will call "home" the same field that football legends Joe Namath and Franco Harris have once played on. head coach Cristobal will walk the same sidelines that legendary coaches Bear Bryant, Joe Paterno and Lou Holtz have roamed.

Take away the history of the Orange Bowl and you have a decaying mass of rusted metal that many Miami residents consider an eyesore. That eyesore, however, is a drastic upgrade for the FIU faithful, who have been relegated to "The Cage" since the inception of the football program. FIU should be proud to call the OB "home."

And in a strange turn of events, FIU will be the last team to call the historic Orange Bowl "home," as UM plays their last home game of the season on Nov. 10, and while FIU continues to play there until the season finale against North Texas on Dec. 1.

Second, the players should relish in the fact that they are playing in a true college football stadium even if it lacks the modern amenities found in most stadiums around the country.

The stadium is in the heart of Miami and will be imposing for opponents coming in from cities like Lafayette, Louisiana and Denton, Texas. It's not like FIU has to travel to the Gables and set up shop on UM's campus.

It is possible that the Orange Bowl will be destroyed after the college season ends. If so, FIU and UM will say farewell to the college football relic. Whether the OB is destroyed or whether it is an upgrade from "The Cage," is an uncertainty.

One thing is sure, the OB is the Golden Panthers' home this season.

### THIS WEEKEND IN FIU SPORTS

SEPTEMBER

7

Men's Soccer vs. USF  
(4:30 p.m.)  
Storrs, CT

Home games in bold

SEPTEMBER

8

Women's Volleyball vs. Oral Roberts  
(1 p.m.)  
Deland, FL

**Football vs. Maryland**  
(7 p.m.)  
**Miami, FL**

SEPTEMBER

9

No events scheduled

\* Conference game

tomorrow's technology  
meets  
today's people.



The new AT&T has it all. Broad wireless and wireline product lines. Vast advancement options. Experience it for yourself. Join us as a **RETAIL SALES ASSOCIATE**. Apply online at [att.com/wirelesscareers](http://att.com/wirelesscareers).

©2007 AT&T Knowledge Ventures. All rights reserved. AT&T and the AT&T logo are trademarks of AT&T Knowledge Ventures.



## CLASSIFIEDS

### JOBS

Earn up to \$5000 or more while helping infertile couples start a family. Healthy nonsmoking females 21-32 (egg donors) and 21-42 (surrogates). Call Sara 954 987 5802 (Agency)

Sitters Wanted. \$10+ per hour. Register free for jobs near campus or home. [www.student-sitters.com](http://www.student-sitters.com)

STUDENTS VONLUNTEERS NEEDED to work the press box at the Orange Bowl during FIU home football games. For more information, call Ivan at 305-348-6666

## Panthers call Orange Bowl new home



Commentary

Adam Wasch  
Staff Writer

Walking to class last week, I noticed the football team practicing on the new, yet unfinished, FIU Recreation Fields. The sounds of football practice - coaches' whistles, players yelling in unison and linemen exploding into blocking sleds - ripped through the air.

The sounds of practice are the only ones that will be heard on FIU's campus this season as construction crews continue working to turn "The Cage" into a brand new, state-of-the-art football stadium complete with club seating, luxury suites and The Panther Club. In the meantime, FIU will play all five of its 2007 home games at the Orange Bowl.

I thought to myself: Can the football team be successful without a true home-field advantage? Can the team defend the house of a cross-town rival?

First, we can forget about any home field advantage that the old FIU Stadium provided to the team. "The Cage" was a glorified high school football stadium. The

OB, Page 7

### MEN'S SOCCER

## Team fails to win home-opening series

SERGIO BONILLA  
Sports Editor

Men's soccer opened their 2007 campaign at home against Bowling Green State University Falcons (1-0-1) Aug. 31 and Missouri-Kansas City Kangaroos (2-0-0) Sept. 2 at University Park.

Both games were offensive droughts fueled by missed scoring opportunities. New head coach Munga Eketebi did not coach the second game due to a funeral service.

### FIU 0, BGSU 0 2 (OT)

The men's team began the season making numerous inaccurate passes coupled with lack of conditioning.

Early on, new head coach Munga Eketebi made substitutions to keep his players fresh. For the most part, the Golden Panthers' passes were too strong and inaccurate. The rusty play from both teams resulted in a defensive struggle, and neither team could capitalize on the few scoring possibilities.

The closest the Golden Panthers came to scoring was when freshman midfielder had the ball inside the penalty box and did not manage to make contact with the ball. Following his initial miss, he was not able to recover in time to score.

The Falcons' twin brothers Ryan and Alec Perea nearly connected on a pass and shot that hit off the left crossbar. The two teams continued to apply defensive pressure into double overtime, when fatigue dominated the players' offensive game. The second overtime concluded with a 0-0 tie.



FERNANDO GARCIA/THE BEACON

**DRAGGING BEHIND:** Senior Edgard Correa and sophomore Juan Guerra attempt to slow down a UMKC player during the Panthers 2-1 loss Sept. 2.

"This is a game that we should win," said head coach Munga Eketebi.

### FIU 1, UMKC 2

The Golden Panthers once again failed to produce enough offense to overcome two opposing goals.

Freshman David Stovall had a clear path to the goal before he stumbled and tripped on the ball. The goal would prove to be essential to the offensively starved club.

On the other hand, the Kangaroos took advantage of two penalty kicks awarded to

them in the first half.

The Golden Panthers responded in the second half with sophomore midfielder Juan Guerra setting up freshman Steven Jair Cabas with a corner kick that was deflected by the Kangaroos.

Following the deflection, freshman Cabas shot the ball inside the box and scored his first collegiate game.

The team's energy increased after the goal, but not enough to penetrate the Kangaroos' defense to tie the game as the Golden Panther suffered their first loss of the season 2-1 to the undefeated Kangaroos.

### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

## Club finds success after second tournament away from home

RENALDO SMITH  
Staff Writer

The women's volleyball team is the first fall sport to win a game for FIU this season. The team recorded a 24-8 record in 2006, and have begun their 2007 season away from home until Sept. 14.

The team is currently riding due to a come from behind upset victory over hosts Missouri at the Tiger Invitational this past Sunday. After dropping the first two sets, the Golden Panthers rallied for a 3-2 (18-30, 22-30, 30-24, 30-27, 18-16) victory against a Missouri squad ranked 20th in the nation.

However, just the day before, they didn't show up in what should have been an easy game against a less-talented Notre Dame squad - dropping that match 3-2 (28-30, 30-27, 21-30, 30-24, 15-9).

On the tail end of the short roller coaster ride over the weekend, head coach Tomic talked about the importance of maintaining a level of excellence.

"We were not consistent at all, and I believe that was our downfall last year as well. We played great one game like we had six All-Americans out there for us, and then in the other game we had a let

down," said Tomic. "Championship teams play at a high level all of the time and you can't have let downs if you want to get to that level. We are working on building that consistency and we will continue to do so throughout the season," she said.

Picking up right where she left off last season, sophomore All-American Yarimar Rosa was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, and sophomore Olga Vergun joined her on the all-tournament squad.

Against Missouri, Rosa put in season-high 31-kills, and collected 15 digs for her second double-double of the young season. Vergun was no slouch either as her 22-kill performance cemented her spot on the all-tourney team.

Newcomer 17-year-old freshman setter Natalia Valentin was unflappable in her first career start with 64 assists and 19 digs. Another freshman, Ines Medved also showed that she is ready for the collegiate game with 14 kills and 14 digs of her own.

Anita Szymanska did her part with 12 kills and Senior Alyse Santisi had a team-season high 21 digs in the win.

Tomic says she expected both for her star players to show up and

for the supporting cast to have her back.

"Yarimar is a coach's dream. She is a true team player, and a gifted athlete that always rises to the occasion for us. We know that when we need somebody to make a difficult play we can go to her," she said.

"We played the best three games so far for the season and I am very happy to see the level of desire and teamwork that our players showed. All of the starters are back from last year and it is a big advantage for us," she added.

Although all three teams finished with identical 1-1 records, Missouri won by virtue of total games won and lost at a 5-3 mark. The Golden Panthers were 5-5, and Notre Dame finished under .500 at 3-5.

Next up, the Golden Panthers will tackle the Stetson Invitational on September 8th in Deland Florida, with games slated against Stetson and Oral Roberts. Look for the Golden Panthers to handle Stetson, but the game against the defending champion Oral Roberts, will be anything but easy.

Coach Tomic may continue to toy with the starting lineup a bit, interchanging the young Valentin,



JESSICA MARSHALL/THE BEACON

**SOLID WALL:** Setter Keila Oliveira and middle blocker Anita Szymanska attempt to block a spike.

and veteran setter Keila Oliveira to see what works better against different defenses. But stay tuned;

if history is an indicator, anything could happen in the quest for consistency.