

NATIONAL

Professor says Northeast earthquake a 'minor event'

PHILIPPE BUTEAU
News Director

A 5.8 magnitude earthquake hit the eastern part of the United States on Aug. 23. This proved to be surprising because the area is not known for seismic activity.

Despite this, Richard Olson, professor and chair of the political science department, said in an interview with Student Media that it was a minor seismic event and the reactions to it are a "tempest in a teapot."

"Everybody needs to calm down," Olson said.

The earthquake's reach was as far north as Toronto, as far south as Atlanta, Ga. and as far west as Kentucky.

There were no reported deaths or serious injuries but the quake did cause structural damage to the Washington Monument and the National Cathedral. Cracks were seen on the monument and three capstones of the cathedral's tower broke off.

In Virginia, where the quake was centered, windows were shattered and grocery stores were wrecked. The White House, Capitol and US Geological Survey were also evacuated.

At the Pentagon, a low rumbling built until the building itself was

shaking and people ran into the corridors of the complex. The shaking continued to shouts of "Evacuate! Evacuate!" The main damage to the building, the largest single workspace for the federal government, came from a broken water pipe.

People also evacuated from buildings in New York, 410 miles away from the center. Hundreds poured out of the federal courthouse and Empire State Building after the quake struck at about 2 p.m.

Wall Street also felt the brief impacts of the quake. The floor of the New York Stock Exchange did not shake, officials said, but the Dow Jones industrial average sank 60 points soon after the quake struck.

The Dow began rising again a half-hour later and finished the day up 322 points.

Two nuclear reactors at the North Anna Power Station in Virginia were automatically taken off line by safety systems. The plant is in the same county as the quake's center.

Although a minor in the pantheon of quakes that have hit the country, the one on Aug. 23 is the strongest quake to hit the east coast of the US since World War II.

Since 1900, there have been 50 quakes of magnitude 5.8 or greater in California alone. Quakes in the East tend to be felt across a much broader area.

However, Olson said the quake was a reminder that there is seismic activity on that part of the country.

"[The east coast] has quakes too but not as big or as often as the west," Olson said.

The minor damage done to structures wasn't enough for Olson to suggest buildings on the east coast be built to withstand earthquakes.

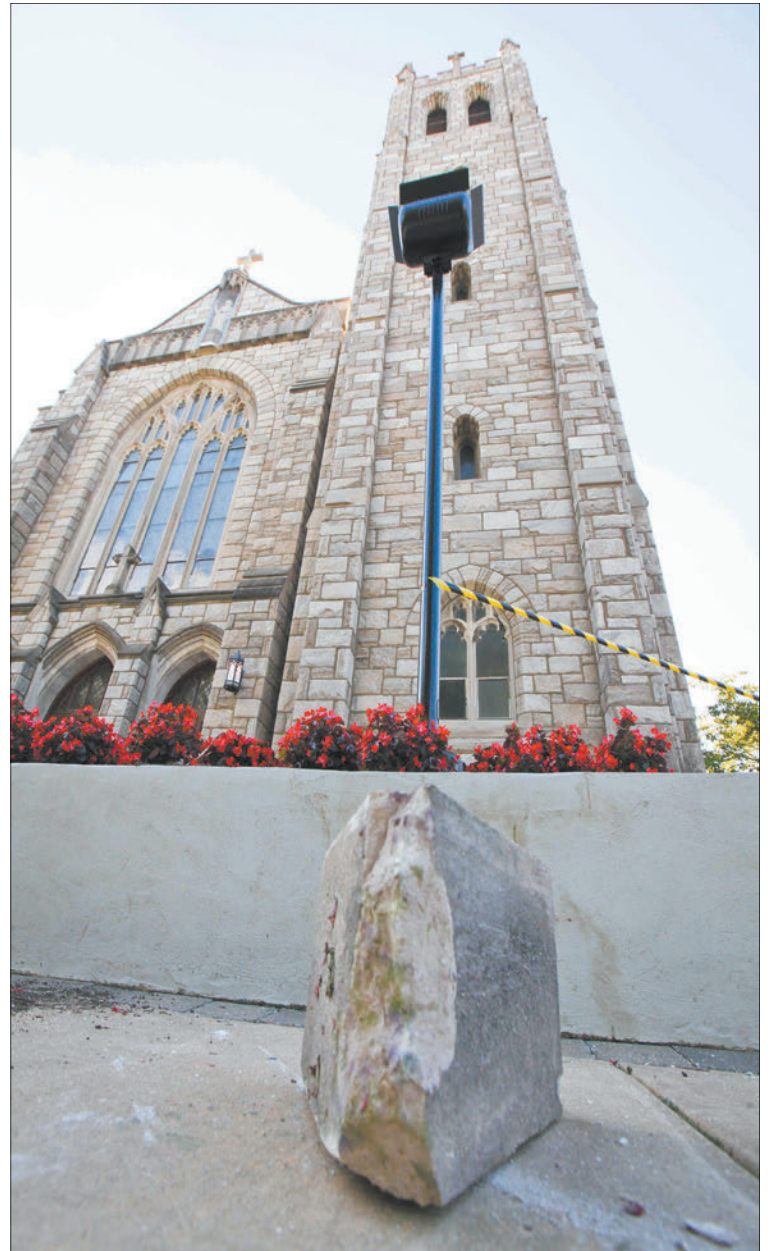
"Should buildings be seismically resistant? Probably. But that ship has sailed," Olson said.

As the east coast recovers from its quake, the west coast, the area known for quakes, was hit by several on Aug. 24.

On that morning the San Francisco Bay area was hit by a quake several hours after it was hit by a quake the night before.

Both quakes, which measured at 3.6 magnitude, were centered about six miles southeast of Oakland along the Hayward fault, a major Northern California fault zone.

As a reminder of the country's widespread seismic activity, Olson said two of the biggest earthquakes to hit the country happened in 1811-1812 and were centered in Missouri. Those quakes were felt



SUCHAT PEDERSON/AP IMAGES

Large chunks of stone fell of the tops of St. Thomas the Apostle church along 4th and Bancroft in Wilmington, Del. on Aug. 23.

from Philadelphia to New Orleans. places.

The lesson here, Olson said, is seismic activity is in a lot of places. Associated Press writer Bob Lewis contributed to this report.

University ranks first in awarding degrees to Hispanics

DIANE ARIAS
Contributing Writer

The University topped Hispanic Outlook's list of 100 universities who awarded bachelor's and master's degrees in 2010.

Out of a total of 6,266 degrees awarded in 2010, 3,918 bachelor's degrees and 1,014 master's degrees were awarded to Hispanic students.

The bachelor's degrees represent 63 percent of the total degrees awarded to Hispanics and the master's degrees awarded represent 43 percent.

The student body totaled 42,287 in 2010 according to the Common Data Set for 2010-2011.

There were 33,786 undergraduate students and 8,501 graduate students among the student body.

Hispanics represented the majority of the student body as 21,910 of the under-

graduates were Hispanic students.

Out of the undergraduate student body in the year 2010, there were 4,018 African Americans, or 13 percent; 1,069 Asians, or 3 percent; 34 Native Americans, or less than one percent; 4,290 Whites, or 15 percent and 21,910 Hispanics, or 58 percent.

This made the undergraduate Hispanic population account for more than half of the student body according to the report.

The University has colleges and schools that offer Hispanic programs, such as the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the College of Law and the College of Health and Urban Affairs program.

SJMC's Spanish-language journalism in Journalism and Multimedia is a master's program where students are trained in Hispanic journalism and the program is a bilingual training program with half of the 12 courses taught in Spanish, making it the first of its kind at the University

according to SJMC Dean Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver.

The six Spanish courses in the program are Visual Storytelling and Production, New Media Techniques, Applied Research Methods, Advanced On-Camera Reporting, Thinking Like a Writer and Advanced Print News Reporting.

"Our population of student body in the program is currently 67 percent Hispanic so no matter what we do or what training we give them, we are sending out students who have the ability to speak in two languages and who have a Hispanic cultural background sending them out into jobs from the United States, so that, to me, is very positive," said Kopenhaver to Student Media.

SJMC also has a Spanish-Language Master's Program in Journalism with a track in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

This interdisciplinary program

prepares students to become journalists and reporters who will cover Latin American political and historical issues.

Out of 12 courses, eight are taught in Spanish.

The eight courses are: Visual Storytelling and Production, Theories of Mass Communication, New Media Techniques, Applied Research Methods, Advanced New Media Techniques, Thinking Like a Writer, Advanced Print News Reporting and Professional Project.

The College of Law has 19 recruitment programs, five membership programs and two student organizations all aided by 12 Hispanic faculty members according to Michelle Mason, the College of Law's senior associate dean.

A large number of these programs target the Hispanic community by sending out emails to the student body and recruiting

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COMING UP | Life!

Check out the book review column "Cover to Cover" by Kelly Malambri for a critique on "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett.

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NEWS FLASH

LOCAL

Miami judge awards Cuban exile \$2.8 billion

A Miami judge has awarded a Cuban exile \$2.8 billion in damages for the forced suicide of his father after Fidel Castro took power during a revolution in 1959.

Two years ago a different judge awarded Gustavo Villoldo more than \$1 billion in damages. The latest award comes under a different legal theory that also counts alleged efforts by Cuba to threaten and terrorize Villoldo in the decades since Castro seized power.

Attorney Andrew Hall says he will attempt to collect by tapping frozen Cuban assets in the U.S. and Cuban-linked businesses around the world.

NATIONAL

Strauss-Kahn free after NY court ends sex case

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, his wife by his side, walked to a Manhattan courtroom through shouting protesters carrying signs that read: "Put the rapist on trial — not the victim."

Just hours later, the French diplomat was a free man — his attempted rape case formally dismissed.

The former International Monetary Fund leader can leave the United States after he's handed back his passport — which could happen as soon as Wednesday — but he will return to France to face an uncertain future that includes another investigation into an alleged sexual assault.

The New York case was dismissed Tuesday after prosecutors said they no longer trusted the hotel maid who accused him of attacking her in his suite.

WORLD

Chile's 2-day shutdown begins with barricades

Chilean students, opposition politicians and union workers are leading a two-day nationwide strike to fight for fundamental changes in government.

Some people are stoning buses and burning barricades as Santiago's streets fill with tear gas. Protesters planned marches downtown, but the government has warned them to stay out, threatening to invoke Chile's severe state security law against people who "incite the subversion of public order."

Police Maj. Christian Kunstmann says one car has been set on fire and an officer was shot in the hand. Rock-throwing, hooded protesters are battling officers in tanks.

— Compiled by Melissa Caceres

STUDENT GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

Senators discuss their projects

MELISSA CACERES
Asst. News Director

For their first meeting of Fall 2010, the Student Government Council senators at Modesto Maidique Campus laid out their current projects for the semester while discussing nominations and vacancies within the organization.

Jose Toscano, assistant director of campus life and SGC-MMC adviser, emphasized on the administration's need to work in conjunction with the University's Worlds Ahead Strategic Plan.

He also pushed the senate to produce new ideas and concepts for their respective constituencies to bring to the table for the new academic year.

"Sometimes we forget where the University is going. We need to ask 'what is the University doing and how can we align ourselves to some of those projects,'" said Toscano.

"Sometimes our goals are left

or go to the right. There is never a straight and narrow in which both SGA goals, department goals and University goals are all one. So our strategy, as SGA advisors, is to bring everything together."

Projects included improving the University's online rating system for professors, the development of this year's homecoming events and the successful implementation of the coffee shop at the Engineering Center.

"We're going to try to get it so the rate my professor system that FIU uses is a lot more student friendly and has more usable data for students," said SGC-MMC President Patrick O'Keefe who also mentioned in his report a program is being developed for students to obtain internships in Washington, D.C.

Senate Speaker Donovan Dawson announced six senate vacancies: two for the College of Nursing, two for the College of Education, one for the College of Business and one for

Housing.

The vacancy in the business seat comes from the resignation of senator Cesar Chuquizuta, who, according to Dawson, sent a letter explaining that he accepted a marketing position at Volkswagen.

Chuquizuta was elected during the 2011 SGA elections and received the most votes out of all of the business candidates.

"I was offered an opportunity for professional development," Chuquizuta said in his letter.

The senate approved the proposal of the University's solar decathlon project which requested \$1,940 from SGC-MMC to cover the flight cost of sending 10 students to Washington DC, where the competition will take place from Sept. 18 to 25.

Nominations made during the meeting included Alexandra Almanzar, for elections commission; Sasha "Bleu" Waters, as sustainability coordinator; and Sergio Pantoja, as technology coordinator.

Dozens of degree programs taught exclusively in Spanish

DEGREES, page 1

members at the University.

"[The University's] students may have special interests [and] we try to support those interests," Mason said to Student Media.

The programs range from the Hispanic National Bar Association to the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.

The University's College of Health and Urban Affairs

has a Speech-language pathology master's program with a unique "bilingual emphasis," which prepares graduates to work locally with the increasing number of bilingual individuals in need of specialized care.

"We are filling a need in the community," said Dr. Eliane Ramos, chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Before the program started in 2000, there was no such assistance in the community.

"There was a great need for bilingual speech pathologists. Most of our graduates work [locally within] the community," Ramos said to Student Media.

"It's good to hear," said Rick Quintanilla, a senior education major.

"Our population of student body in the program is currently 67 percent Hispanic so no matter what we do or what training we give them, we are sending out students who have the ability to speak in two languages and who have a Hispanic cultural background ..."

Lillian Kopenhaver,
Dean of the School of Journalism & Mass Communication

"I'm glad Hispanics are taking their education more seriously. It's hard; finishing up, I know a lot of kids in college dropout."

According to Otilia Argenal, a junior psychology major, "It's actually something great— especially for the Hispanic student population since some come searching for opportunity

[at this] outstanding and well-known university. Hispanics [find it] difficult to search in places for opportunity."

"I didn't know [the University was recognized] but it's good because people would look at FIU a lot better than they would—let's say—UM," said Stephanie Abundano, a senior psychology major.



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MAKE UP OF STUDENT BODY IN 2010

- 4,018 African Americans
- 1,069 Asians
- 34 Native Americans
- 4,290 Whites
- 21,910 Hispanics

Numbers are from the Office of Planning and Institutional Research



VOLLEYBALL

READY, SET, SERVE

Season begins with road swing in California

EDUARDO ALMAGUER
Contributing Writer

Today is the day.

Months of steadfast training, rigorous workouts and skinned knees, will be put to the test as the Golden Panthers open the 2011 season in Berkeley, Calif. at the Cal Molten Classic Invitational this weekend.

The season begins with the Panthers squaring off against Fairfield University, who had a 13-20 record last season, on Aug. 26. The team then plays the final two games of the invitational on Aug. 27 against teams that could not be more different from each other. The doubleheader starts off with a match against the University of California-Riverside, who posted a paltry 2-30 record last season, and will be followed by the nightcap against UC Berkeley, winners of the PAC-10 title and runners-up in the NCAA championship match in 2011.

Middle blocker Andrea Lakovic, however, says that the team has set a new goal for themselves this season: Focus strictly on themselves and not the opposing team.

"We could play Cal Berkeley or FAU," Lakovic said. "It doesn't matter who we play. We're not going to be thinking about other teams or which level they play. We're going to go on the court and put our game on."

Head coach Danijela Tomic added: "We're basically worrying about things we can control on our side of the net and adjusting quickly after we start playing. I don't want



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Golden Panthers begin their new season with aspirations of a conference championship in mind.

our team to focus too much on the other team. Let's control things on our side of the net."

Even though the team will try to play through the season with this mentality, it is hard for them to ignore their last opponent on this road trip. Along with winning the Pac-10 title, Berkeley's head coach, Rich Feller, won the American Volleyball Coaches Association National Coach of the Year award, and senior setter Carli Lloyd took home the AVCA National Player of the Year award.

Though Berkeley no longer has Lloyd, they still have a great team, and defense, intact.

Chanel Araujo, libero and defensive specialist, knows their team has some work to do if they want to go toe to toe against Berkeley.

"Berkeley is a team we need to step our game up to," said Araujo, the 2010 team leader in digs with 339. "They're well-known for their

blocking and we're working our defense around how they're going to block us."

A native of southern Calif., Araujo is excited to go back and play against some of her friends in the tournament. Her friends and family are driving up to see her, giving her extra motivation to perform well.

"It'll be fun to be back," said Araujo. "I haven't been back all summer."

The team also hopes to iron out the setter position this road trip. Held down for the previous four years by former FIU great Natalia Valentin, there's a big hole left, now that she has graduated.

"We're used to having one setter run the show," said Araujo. "It's really hard to get adjusted for the hitters. Especially for the middles [like Lakovic] because they have the quickest tempo with their setters."

Lakovic believes it has been her

biggest hurdle thus far.

"I need to develop better chemistry with setters because I've been playing with Natalia for three years," said Lakovic.

Despite this tough transition, Lakovic will head into the season opener with a spot on the Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Team for the first time in her career, announced Wednesday afternoon by conference officials. Joining Lakovic is Outside Hitter Jovana Blejica, who was honored for the second-consecutive year. Regardless, the Panthers are ready to go. The long, scorching days of summer are winding down, and with the season about to get under way, the team is already eyeing their first victory.

Asked if they could sweep the three teams at the invitational, Tomic responded, "I'm confident we can do that, that's our intention. We'll be hard to beat."

Choices need to be made at setter spot

The Golden Panthers are returning with a squad that is another year wiser, healthier and stronger.

COMMENTARY



RICO ALBARRACIN

All of this sounds great, until you get to the most important position on the team and the lack of certainty in who will fill that role.

It is a hole that must be filled quickly if FIU wants to get the season off to a solid start.

Redshirt junior Renele Forde and redshirt freshman Jessica Egan are currently competing for the starting setter position, the position vacated by All-American Natalia Valentin, who graduated over the summer.

According to Head Coach Danijela Tomic, the position battle is up for grabs, with Forde having the slight advantage.

Although this provides flexibility for a veteran team, the battle for the starting position creates issues for consistent team

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FOOTBALL

Hargrett joins crowded field of running backs

JACKSON WOLEK
Staff Writer

It was a bright and sunny day in Miami for the start of their last week of practice before they take on North Texas on Sept. 1 at FIU Stadium; until about an hour and a half into it, when the rain started to pour down on the field. The rain lasted for a good two minutes, and it quickly started to feel as though it was 110 degrees again.

"It was like a New Jersey day," said head coach Mario Cristobal. That day also brought him back to his playing days in Amsterdam. "As a player I remember one day it was scorching, and then it started raining and then it started snowing."

While FIU does not have to deal with extreme of weather changes of that degree, they will have to deal with potential Sun Belt Conference player of the year Lance Dunbar and the Mean Green of North Texas.

"For us it's the most important game we've ever had," said Cristobal. "We're going against a guy who is picked to be the conference player of the year [Dunbar], and I know coach McCa-

rnev and the way he prepares each position, so we know the challenge is a big one, but so is the opportunity."

The opportunity to win their first game of the season against a conference opponent at home is something that FIU has yet to accomplish. They will have a little help on their side though, as the top wide receiver for North Texas, Darius Carey, was released from the team during the summer for not living up to the team's expectations.

For the most part, practices have stayed the same since starting on Aug. 3, with all teams being able to get around the same amount of reps and opportunities to showcase their talents in front of the coaches. Those opportunities are dwindling down now that game time is getting nearer, and Cristobal says that it is still too soon to have a full depth chart.

There is still no word on whether or not wide receiver James Louis from Ohio State will transfer to FIU, but the recent running back that transferred from West Virginia, Daquan Hargrett, may still have a chance to play this year if he signs a waiver.

"One thing I'm really excited about is he's a

“

It always comes down to winning the game at the end of the day. I just have to go out and play the game that I play.

Darriet Perry
Running Back
FIU Football

”

smart guy, and he wants to come here because he wants to be part of a team," said Cristobal.

Hargrett will not be up to speed with the rest of the running backs on the team and will be behind a deep roster of Darriet Perry, Darian Mallary, Jeremiah Harden, Kedrick Rhodes, Robert Boswell and Shane Coleman.

Perry led the team in touchdown last year with 16, but didn't have any against North Texas. He is not worried about having any against them this time either.

"It always comes down to winning the

game at the end of the day. I'm not really worried about touchdowns, I just have to go out and play the game that I play and whatever God bless' me to get, that's what I get," said Perry.

Perry also stated that he did get to see the new stadium that North Texas built this year, but he wasn't too disappointed in not being able to play there.

"I'm not too impressed with their stadium, because we have a great stadium here," said Perry.

FANTASY CRUZ

Ryan, Tolbert may be surprises for your fantasy team

Hello fellow fantasy football owners and connoisseurs.

Welcome back to the legendary Fantasy Cruz.

COMMENTARY



JOEY CRUZ

Let me start by verbally smacking myself in the face and giving Santana Moss a formidable apology for last season. He lit it up for over 1,100 yards and six touchdowns, making the 2010 season his second best amongst his career. I have a new clown receiver to put on death row here on Fantasy Cruz.

Wide receiver Braylon Edwards has performed way below expectations his last five seasons, and fantasy owners were skeptical at best.

Last season was pretty good for a number two receiver with 900 yards and seven touchdowns, but much of his success can be credited to the Jets run game and strong offensive line to protect their "GQ" quarterback Mark Sanchez. Edwards is now stuck in a new system in San Francisco with a quarterback who is an embarrassment to his team.

Along with a weak offensive line, including Anthony Davis who allowed the second most sacks in the NFL last season, who knows what kind of trouble Edwards might get into with the law to go along with his terrible offensive weapons surrounding him.

Sept. 11, 2011 marks the opening

day for most NFL teams this season. Many owners are holding off on their drafts, whether it is for superstitious injury presumptions, or maybe the lockout, or just to make the draft more exciting. The following is a draft preview of the top three players at each position and a sleeper under the "Fantasy Cruzar."

QUARTERBACKS

Aaron Rodgers- Everyone who knows a lick of football knows this guy is a stud. His "big fella" tight end Jermichael Finley is back to compliment all his other dynamic receivers. Last season Rodgers was without his starting running back and tight end for big parts of the year and still made magic happen with an impressive 3,922 yards and 28 touchdowns. Shake and Bake.

Tom Brady- I had to put "Tom Terrific" over Michael Vick at the number two slot because not only did their receiving core get insanely more powerful with the addition of Chad Ochocinco, but let's all remember that Brady is a very smart dude and usually avoids injuries altogether. Last season Brady dominantly threw for 3,900 yards along with 36 touchdowns. With Belichick as the boss, Brady will continue to shine. Wonder Boy.

Michael Vick- If the reincarnated Vick can repeat last season's jaw dropping 3,000-yard, 21-touchdown season without getting hurt, he will probably move up to one in the ranking by mid-season. He has all his weapons back with the addi-

tion of some new ones. He not only brings top three throwing numbers to the table, but can also have more rushing points than some running backs in the league. MacGyver.

UNDER THE CRUZAR: QB

Matt Ryan- Right now he is at number 11 on the ranking. I happen to disagree with that a tad bit. If anyone has watched Julio Jones play in a preseason game, you were probably as astonished as I was to see this player catch and run the ball.

He brings back a healthy Roddy White and Tony Gonzalez to compliment the Alabama alumni. Ryan can be your ticket to success if you miss the top five QB's.

RUNNING BACKS

Adrian Peterson- I know many owners are skeptical when it comes

to "AD," but the man has corrected his big flaw in fumbling the football. He only had one fumble last season, with nearly 1,300 yards and 12 touchdowns. With a weak pass attack, look for Peterson to put the team on his shoulders and repeat a superb season.

Chris Johnson- He might be holding out, as of this point, in the preseason, but he'll be back in action once Week One hits.

With 1,364 yards and 11 touchdowns last season, look for Johnson to improve his performance, because either he will be issued a new contract by the Titans, or he will be playing for a new contract for his free agency period. Long hair don't care.

Arian Foster- Owners can look at Foster's 1,616 yard, 16 touchdown season as a fluke or a breakout. This preseason Foster is proving all

the naysayers wrong and is playing towards expectations. The stealthy ninja running style of Foster will bring many more bowing celebrations to fans. Sensei.

UNDER THE CRUZAR: RB

Mike Tolbert- Right now Tolbert is 35th in the ranking for running backs. This guy will be a steal for a third option, or tech guy at your receiver/running back slot.

Look for Tolbert to use his expert hands in goal line situations where the Chargers mainly throw the ball.

I expect Tolbert to have a season much like Matt Forte's last season, where receiving yards and touchdowns will be key.

Next week we will continue and finish the draft special for the 2011-12 season. Stay tuned and good luck on your drafts.

LOOKING FOR A WIN



SERGIO NASER/THE BEACON

FIU women's soccer returns to the pitch this weekend with a home match against Akron. After losing two matches during their opening weekend, they hope to bounce back with their first win of the season and avoid falling to 0-3 on the season.

Varying calibers of opponents require different approaches

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play. Without consistency from the setter, players such as middle blocker Andrea Lakovic and outside hitter Jovana Bjelica, both named to the Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference Team, will be less effective on the offensive side of the ball.

Less efficiency on offense leads to less scoring and puts greater pressure on the receiving game to limit their opponents to fewer scoring opportunities.

Although the Golden Panthers are more than capable to play tremendous defense, the team should not put themselves at a disadvantage and take the "wait and see" approach.

Coach Tomic must make the correct decision, and fast, so that the players on the team can establish a healthy rhythm with one another.

Not only will Forde and Egan be competing for, arguably, the most important position on the court, but they will have to try and replicate the productivity that Valentin provided for three years as a starter.

There is a certain comradery that must be established between teammates so that the team can run smoothly.

It will be no easy task replacing the 1270 assists that Valentin attained in her senior season, and both players will be



BEACON FILE PHOTO

Head Coach Danijela Tomic [left] needs to make a choice on who will be main setter.

adjusting to the game on the fly, but they are capable of providing a serviceable replacement for an All-American player.

Once the starting setter has been decided, and the team sticks to that setter, the Golden Panthers can put a championship-level team on the court of U.S. Century Bank Arena.

FOCUSING ON OPPONENTS

Players, such as Lakovic and libero Chanel Araujo, mentioned that the Golden Panthers will be focusing on themselves, as oppose to being dictated by which opponent they face on any given day. Though the strategy may sound good in

theory, it may not play out the same way in every match-up. Take this weekend's road trip at the Cal Molten Invitational as an example.

The Golden Panthers face the University of California-Riverside, a team that put together a terrible 2-30 record last season. With a team that struggles, such as UC-Riverside, FIU can choose to focus on their strengths in their own game plan and enforce it upon their opponent.

On the other side, FIU will face UC-Berkeley, the defending PAC-10 champions and runner-ups to the 2010 NCAA championship season.

The Golden Panthers cannot expect to concentrate on improving themselves as a team when they are facing such a tough opponent. FIU must take the opportunity, when facing a difficult foe, to learn from their opponent, improve on their game plan and raise their game to a higher level of competition.

I have seen the Golden Panthers raise their level of play to compete with whatever opponent comes their way. This team may have experience, and they can compete for the SBC championship, but the setter position battle must be addressed quickly if they want to be a force when tournament time comes around.

Luckily, for the Golden Panthers, the season is only just starting.

Renovations and outdoor events welcome students

SYLVIA SIMIONI
Contributing Writer

Housing & Residential Life kicked off the new semester on Aug. 19 by welcoming new and returning students to their residence halls with a series of outdoor events.

Students were invited to take a break from heaving their TVs, wall mirrors and other heavy appliances from their large blue carts to attend one of the many white tents at the Housing Quad that offered University services, including the FIU One Card, the Bookstore and Panther Dining.

"The move-in process is very time-consuming," said Caroline Spitzer, a senior and theatre major who will be moving into the residence halls for the fourth time. "It's more about getting organized and setting up everything before classes start, like running errands and buying everything you need."

Spitzer remarked, "I feel like [these events] are a way of getting involved and feeling welcomed at FIU. They let people know they are now part of the FIU family."

Some residents feared the imminent pandemonium of hundreds of students trying to check-in within the short allotted time, but most remained enthusiastic.

"I moved in on Friday at 10 a.m.

and everything was pretty fast," said Kristen Renée Hidalgo, a junior with an undecided major. "I first had to make a payment, then check in and get my keys; Everglades Hall was not too packed."

Renovations were made to some of the residence halls just in time to welcome in the new semester.

Panther Hall is complete with new flooring for the exterior stairs while the University Park Apartments received a new exterior and interior paint job.

"The renovations are looking great!" said Gracie Martinez, a hospitality management and public relations double major and transfer from Penn State, via the Housing & Residential Life Facebook page.

On Sunday evening, residents attended a mandatory floor meeting with their resident assistants to learn about the rules and regulations upheld in the halls, including the smoke-free campus policy.

Residents were initially asked to state their major, ranging from sports and fitness studies to fine arts to speech pathology and child development, and what wing of the hall they lived in.

Scott Kearny, a junior biology major and RA in Everglades Hall said, "You can see how diverse everyone else is, especially at FIU. We have many transfer students and people studying from different countries."



MEGAN KELLEY/THE BEACON

Parents help new and returning students gather their bags during the Residence Hall Move-In last Aug. 19 and 20. Students were invited to participate in outdoor events during the move in process.

The RAs also expressed their efforts in creating a comfortable and creative environment for the hall inhabitants.

Veronica "Nicky" Pereda, a junior architecture major and an RA for Everglades Hall explained, "We have been here for the past two weeks, working really hard and preparing for you guys. We had a lot of fun, but we worked from 6:30 in the morning until 7:00 the next day."

However, restated that their main

responsibility was to assist students.

"We are RAs because we love people," added Pereda. "We are here to refer you to any information that you guys might need."

The meeting also discussed the Residential Hall Association, whose goals entail giving members funds to set up special programs that students are interested in implementing.

The deadline to apply for an administrative position is Aug. 31.

There are also openings for the

front desk of each respective residence hall.

Julie Goncalves, a senior and public relations and hospitality management double major, and RA for the Everglades West Wing said, "They were 13 hour training days, but it is part of getting involved on campus. and in RHA does a lot to your resume and it's a great opportunity to meet new people. You're living with everybody in this building, so why not represent them?"

REEL TO REEL

"One Day" lays down the foundations, leaves little else

The summer movie season is drawing to a close which can only mean one thing: back to school. The number of highly anticipated blockbusters may be dwindling down but that does not mean that there is a lack of quality movies to watch.

COLUMNIST



RICO ALBARRACIN

For a change of pace I decided check out "One Day," a romantic drama along the same vein as "The Notebook." I wanted to like "One Day," but good actors and a story that could have been memorable can only do so much when a movie is this poorly executed.

Emma Morley (Anne Hathaway) and Dexter Mayhew (Jim Sturgess) have just graduated from the University of Edinburgh. Morley wants to be a writer, she wants to sit back and enjoy life. After a few drinks and a failed attempt at sex, they decide to become friends. Over the next two decades we watch as she goes from a dead end job to a dead end relationship with a not-so-funny stand-up comic (Rafe Spall). Mayhew becomes a famous TV celebrity; the obnoxious host of a silly pop culture variety show.

Every year, on July 15th, the couple vows to get together and share their recent exploits.

ONE DAY, page 6



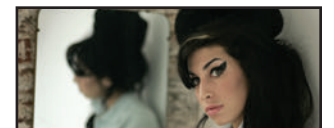
PHOTO COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

Sturgess (left) and Hathaway (right) in "One Day", based on the bestselling novel by David Nicholls.

THE HIGH LOW



30 foreign journalists were freed from captivity in a hotel in Tripoli.



Amy Winehouse's "Back to Black" becomes the best-selling album in the U.K.



Apple says Steve Jobs resigns as CEO.



Hurricane Irene threatens the Carolinas to the Northeast. Experts predict dangerous waves and wind.



Kim Kardashian and new husband Kris Humphries raked in \$17.9 million in profits from their wedding.

PC Recruitment week brings individual experiences

SANDY ZAPATA
Staff Writer

Both Katherine and Meaghan are members of a sorority, but because official recruitment is less than a week away, their full name and affiliation cannot be disclosed at this time.

“Stand for good scholarship, guarding of good health, maintenance of fine standards and serving their college community to the best of their ability,” is a creed the National Panhellenic Conference, shortened to Panhellenic Conference at the University, lives by.

The PC, which is made up of seven sororities, start the official recruitment for “future sisters” on Aug. 28, with a week long process of meet and greets, interviews, and socials, all with one purpose in mind: to bond.

The president of PC, Meaghan J, a senior and international business and international relations major, said

“My mind was completely changed by going through the recruitment process. Going in, I was biased because most of my friends were part of one particular organization and I thought I wanted to be a part of it; during the process, I ended in the organization that was the best fit for me. I didn’t expect it but I was grateful.

“Formal recruitment is the actual week where the selection process takes place,” said Katherine C, the vice president and the member recruitment chairperson of NPHC, a senior and hospitality major.

There are two main differences between recruitment in PC and the other two councils which house sororities.

Under PC, the recruitment process is made by a mutual selection between the potential members and the organization. The other two councils, the Multicultural Greek Council and the National Pan-Hellenic Council, women who are interested go to “information sessions”

“This is about joining an organization of women that are going to make you better.”

Meaghan J
Panhellenic Conference President

in order to learn about the organization and later decide on their own if they want to try and be a part of it. The process is completely private and different for each organization; they are based on the individual rituals and traditions of each organization.

The other main difference is that PC has, Rho Gammas, unbiased recruitment guides, or disaffiliated members of a sorority under the council. Not only are the Rho Gammas disaffiliated with their organization’s process but the E-Board members as well.

These women have a three stage phasing out process, in

which they separate themselves from their affiliations and close relationship with their sororities in order to be unbiased, and assist and guide the new potential members towards the right organization.

The importance of secrecy is important to keep the ritual and distinguished selection process a success.

“It’s important that we reserve the secrecy of our organization to give an unbiased opinion,” says Katherine C.

Although the actual potential members only have a week to interact and get to

know the different organizations, they are given informal events during the summer to get to know PC sorority women.

Last year, 500 women signed up for recruitment. This year’s total, not including the number of women who will sign up by the Aug. 25 deadline at noon, is 400 women.

There is a \$40 registration fee that covers all of the official recruitment week’s events; each night there will be a programmed event designated to lead potential members to an organization that will fit her best, like “Sorority 101,” which is like speed dating. It is the first night the potential members get to meet all seven sororities but have a limited time to interact and get to know the schematics of the organization.

As the week progresses, the time and information obtained about each organization gets more in depth as well as the potential bonds within the groups of potential

women.

By the end of the week, the women choose their organization and the rest is in the hands of the sorority sisters who will bid on their final member choices on Sept. 3. After bids are made and women are broken off into their individual organizations, each organization will hold what is called “the educational process,” an individualized and concentrated way each sorority introduces new information to their new members.

In the rare occasion a woman is not chosen by any organization, they have the chance to repeat the process but only after a year since their initial registration.

The goal for recruitment week is ultimately the same for all seven sororities: to fit the right woman to her best organization.

Meaghan J said, “This is about joining an organization of women that are going to make you better.”

Romantic drama “struggles to keep a coherent story”

ONE DAY, page 5

Along the way, Emma writes a successful children’s novel, while Dexter drifts off into a haze of drugs, alcohol and celebrity-based self-importance. Though clearly destined to be together, it looks like life and love will limit these two to only one day of happiness.

One of the first things that stuck out to me was the actors’ horrible accents. Hathaway and Patricia Clarkson, who plays Dexter’s mother, have the most trouble putting a clamp down on it.

At certain points of the movie

I felt that Hathaway and Clarkson were either put up to a bet to see who could hold a British accent the longest, or they forgot that they were playing British characters.

Aside from the accents, the actual plot was fine. Two people trying to find love with one another, yet can’t break through the friendship wall.

Although it sounds good on paper, Director Lone Scherfig struggles during the middle of their strange romance. The first few years of the young relationship start out fine, but somewhere in the middle, which happened to be in the mid-90s, Scherfig struggles to keep a coherent story

together, often leaving pieces of the puzzle out that left me have to put it together myself.

The biggest concern I had with the movie was the character arc of Dexter. It is pretty obvious that he’s a douche bag from the very beginning of the film.

Even when the couple decides to give love a chance, I did not see any redeeming qualities to make Dexter a likable character.

I also found his profession a bit unreal. Dexter starts out as a teacher but out of nowhere becomes a television variety show host. Dexter is a womanizer and a jerk, but his new job shot it up to an extreme level of unbelievable.

Trying to get the audience to believe that a smart, conservative woman would be attracted to someone with no regard for human feeling is ridiculous, but then again, that is how love can work sometimes.

Despite the struggle of the direction of the movie, there were still a few quality moments scattered throughout. The chemistry between Hathaway and Sturgess did not start well, but developed into a likable relationship once Dexter divorced his first wife and learned the value of his relationship with Emma.

There are moments that are gripping and emotional, such as

when Dexter is dealing with his mother’s illness, or when Dexter can’t control himself from trying to reach out to Emma when he is under the influence of drugs.

Those moments gave me an emotional connection to the characters, but, yet again, the flaws of the film killed whatever momentum the movie was carrying.

The potential for a great story was there but Scherfig struggled to nail down a story that could have become an instant classic.

Reel to Reel is a weekly movie review column. Look for it every Friday this fall.

THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY, AUG. 26

PANTHER RAGE PEP RALLY



WHEN: 3-5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC Blue/Gold Garages

GARDEN CLUB MEETING AND WORKDAY

Come learn more about growing your own food on campus!

WHEN: 1-2 p.m.
WHERE: The Organic Garden is located between the FIU Nature Preserve and the Baseball Stadium.

SPC MOVIE: FAST FIVE



WHEN: 5 & 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: MMC DM 100

OPEN MIC NIGHT @ CHILI’S TOO

Start the weekend off right, by coming to BSU, SPEAK and Week of Welcome’s open Mic Night.

WHEN: 7-9 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Food will be provided
WHERE: MMC Chili’s Too

COM 2011-2012 INTERVIEWS

The College of Medicine Interviews for 2011 to 2012 will be taking place.

WHEN: 12-5 p.m.
WHERE: Lot 33

FIU MEN’S SOCCER VS. NOVA SOUTH-EASTERN



WHEN: 7-9 p.m.
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

SATURDAY, AUG. 27

ALTERNATIVE BREAKS

WHEN: 11 a.m.
HOW MUCH: \$50
WHERE: MMC Rec Center Basketball Courts

FIU WOMEN’S SOCCER VS. AKRON



WHEN: 7-9 p.m.
WHERE: FIU Soccer Stadium

CEDRIC GERVAIS



WHEN: Nightlife
WHERE: LIV

EDGARDO LOPEZ AT MACY’S

WHEN: 1 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHERE: Macy’s Dadeland

RADIO LOLLIPOP LAZ-A-ROAST



WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$35 to \$75
WHERE: Hard Rock Live

LAFFGASM



WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$15, \$20 for VIP
WHERE: Riviera Theatre

OPTIC NERVE FILM FESTIVAL

WHEN: 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$5
WHERE: MOCA-Museum of Contemporary Art

THE BEACON

AS ALWAYS, STUDENT MEDIA IS LOOKING FOR AMBITIOUS, SELF DRIVEN, AND TALENTED WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS AND GRAPHIC ARTISTS TO JOIN OUR STAFF.

- RECEPTIONIST
- GRAPHIC DESIGNER
- BBC PHOTO EDITOR
- WRITERS
- PHOTOGRAPHERS

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION IN GC 210 OR WUC 124

WRITE TO CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM TO HAVE YOUR EVENT FEATURED!

Campus dining options need upgrade

KELLY MALAMBRI
Staff Writer

One of the greatest differences between the Modesto Maidique Campus and the Biscayne Bay Campus lies in the variation of dining selections offered. In order to offer students at BBC options and amenities comparable to those offered at MMC, the quality and variety of eating options must increase.

While it is clear that BBC should have less dining venues due to the smaller student body, the differences between dining at the two campuses are vast. Approximately 7,000 of the 44,000 students at the University attend BBC. The

five venues offered to those 7,000 BBC students are not of equal quality to the 21 venues offered to MMC students.

“
By offering students more options, the University would successfully keep students on campus...
”

Many marine science, mass communication and hospitality

students must take classes at BBC, and since they pay the same tuition, it only seems right they get to experience the same variety of dining selections as those students who attend MMC.

I am a journalism student, thus I spend most of my time at BBC. However, if I want to eat a healthy meal that does not consist of a salad made of soggy lettuce placed in a box, I am forced to waste time and money driving off campus to nearby eateries. We should not have to sacrifice dining amenities.

In Sept. 2010, Jennifer Moreno wrote: “Finding a variety of places to eat around Biscayne Bay Campus isn’t

always easy. So many students venture off to the local area searching for different restaurants to feed their appetites.” By offering students more options, the University would successfully keep students on campus, increasing activity there and improving the campus environment while benefiting students.

On the contrary, a recent article, published in *The Beacon* on June 29, 2011, explains BBC will actually soon eliminate one of the five dining venues, replacing it with vending machines serving Hot Pockets. This addition will not be helpful in keeping students on campus when they are looking for dining options.

Grad student assistants not the ideal instructors

JUSTIN JANS
Contributing Writer

I have had many classes taught by a graduate student teaching assistant instead of an actual professor. Through my experience, I have found that most graduate students do not want to be teaching the class, nor do they have the time for it.

Most of the graduate students that taught me seemed as if teaching was simply a way to help get through graduate school. These ones were, and are currently, simply using the teaching job as a way to pay tuition and are not adequately helping undergraduate students.

A problem with a graduate student teaching an undergraduate course is that students need someone who will help them understand the subject. While graduate students may know the subject, it does not mean that they can communicate the information clearly. Being able

to communicate information to a student is sometimes the difference between passing and failing a class.

Many graduate students simply regurgitate notes that were given to them by the professor. Vanessa Somarriba, junior psychology, said, “I’ve had to deal with grad student instructors who know less of the material than I do and do nothing but read from the book during class.”

It also comes down to the fact that graduate students are still students. Along with teaching classes, many of them are writing papers for their own. Many students tend to become overstressed during finals week. Combine grading a multitude of student assignments with completing required courses, it is a tremendous work load to place on a graduate student.

Looking at the 2011-12 Graduate Assistantship Program Summary Chart, which details the eligibility requirements for

a student to become a teaching assistant, a graduate student must be enrolled in at least 9 credits in the Fall and Spring semester, and at least six in the summer while maintaining a 3.0 GPA. If they are hired, they must then work 20 hours per week. All of these responsibilities does not give a graduate student adequate time to concentrate on teaching the class.

Allowing graduate students to teach undergraduate classes is a flawed policy. Many times, graduate students do not have the attitude or the desire to teach the class. They are using this job as a way to help pay for graduate school.

In other cases, the graduate student simply has too many things to do in their own classes, which they prioritize higher than the classes they are teaching. Graduate students simply have too much on their plates with teaching classes as well as attending their own.

PERSPECTIVES

Zara is being accused of slave labor. Knowing this, will you still shop there?



“I don’t really support that so I might not go there as often but I won’t stop going completely. I think it is up to the consumer to make it known to the

company that they are not comfortable with that type of labor. I think the company also has a responsibility to see how the consumers are reacting to these charges and from there guess to stop them.”

-Ariana Flores

Freshman, International Relations

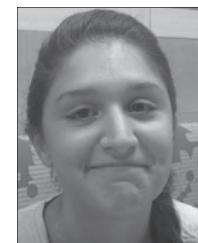


“I’m against it because I don’t like people benefiting for the work that others do and not paying them what they need to be paid for their time and

effort. Every store does that. But in a way I wouldn’t [shop there].”

-Camila Arteaga

Senior, Political Science



“Yes, I would continue shopping at Zara. Because that’s probably not the only store that does that... For me, I don’t care, I want to still buy clothes

but there’s some extremist people that don’t buy at all just for that [reason].”

-Alicia Darcia

Sophomore, Business

-Compiled by Brooklyn Middleton

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Unhappy with commentary

I was disappointed to read in *The Beacon* this week a commentary by Brandon Wise, who seems to rejoice in the troubles currently upon University of Miami’s athletics and suggests that FIU can use this to its advantage.

At FIU we are building a clean and competitive athletic program that is already well on its way to national prominence, having won our first bowl game and a Sun Belt Conference title last year alone. It is not in the character of a proud Panther to use someone else’s troubles to advance in the classroom or on the field.

FIU’s dedicated faculty and staff, 46,000 hardworking students, and 160,000-strong alumni base generate more than enough energy to power our own spotlight.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Rosenberg
University President

Public Reason



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (500 words maximum) to neda.ghomeshi@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 210 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year. The Beacon reserves the right to edit for space, content and clarity.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

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

Getting involved to be showcased

JONATHAN SZYDLO
BBC Managing Editor

Niches are found, not made. On Aug. 29, Campus Life and Student Organization Council will co-sponsor the Involvement Fair and SOC Club Fair, designed to inform the 7000 students enrolled at Biscayne Bay Campus about educational and social options that go beyond work and class.

Both fairs, held at Panther Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., expect to draw 40 organizations to provide students with information on what the Biscayne Bay Campus has to offer, both on and off-campus, according to Rebekah James, Campus Life graduate assistant at BBC.

The organizations involved include multiple University departments, such as: the Center for Leadership, University Health Services, Center for Academic Success and the Women's Center; the African Student Association, the Chinese Hospitality Management Student Association, Travel and Tourism Club, and Stonewall 2; religious organizations like the Muslim Student Association, Inter-visibility Christian Fellowship and the

Catholic Campus Ministries.

Thanks to the turnout of over 500 students at Welcome Back BBQ on Aug. 22, both Campus Life and SOC have optimistic expectations for attendance.

As for the type of students turning out for the fair, what with increased enrollment, expectations are high as well, said Wolfgang Acevedo, graduate assistant for Campus Life and Orientation.

"We're expecting three types of students: those that don't want to get involved, those that aren't sure about getting involved but end up changing their mind because of the tabling at the fairs, and those that want to get involved but can't do too much," said Ivy Siegel, coordinator for Campus Life and Orientation.

There will also be organizations that, according to James, "allow students to get more involved in order to build their resumes and expand their college experience outside of the classroom."

There will also be five off-campus housing representatives who will be there to promote student housing alternatives near the Modesto Maidique and Biscayne Bay Campuses.

FBI looks into corruption in state's private prisons

BILL KACZOR
Associated Press

Former Rep. Ray Sansom, who resigned as Florida House speaker when he was facing unrelated corruption allegations, on Aug. 24 denied he had anything to do with a privately run state prison that a federal grand jury is investigating.

The Destin Republican said he never discussed the project with Boca Raton-based GEO Group, which won a contract to build and operate the \$140 million Blackwater River Correctional Facility in the Panhandle near Milton.

"If there's one project I cannot take credit for, it's that project," Sansom told The Associated Press.

The Pensacola News Journal (<http://bit.ly/qOmKf6>) reported the FBI has served subpoenas seeking legislative travel vouchers for Sansom and records from a former aide.

The FBI also has served subpoenas on the Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners and Team Santa Rosa, the county's economic development agency, for records and agents Tuesday seized a computer used by two of the commissioners.

Special Agent Jeff Westcott in Jacksonville declined comment, noting grand jury investigations are

supposed to be secret.

Sansom resigned as speaker in 2009 and from the House in 2010. He said he believes the investigation resulted from a complaint to the FBI last year from a state worker who was worried about being laid off as a result of the private prison project. Blackwater is virtually next door to a state-run prison, the Santa Rosa Correctional Institution.

The travel vouchers include a trip that Sansom, then the House's budget chairman, took to Boca Raton in March 2008 for what was listed as personal business. Sansom

"If there's one project that I cannot take credit for, it's that project."

said he didn't even realize until a few weeks ago that GEO was headquartered there. He said he took the trip to hold leadership meetings with other lawmakers.

"I did not meet with any company while I was in Boca Raton," said

ACADEMIC ONE CARD



ANDRES BEDOYA/THE BEACON

Top: Zilina Hanley, International Relations Major, Junior, links FIU One Card outside of Academic One.



JONATHAN SZYDLO/THE BEACON

FIU One Card sets up tent outside of Academic One to handle the overflow of students on the first days of class.

Sansom.

Sansom the next month added \$110 million to the 2008-09 appropriations bill for an addition to the

another \$110 million for a private prison without specifying a location. That was used to fund the Blackwater facility.

Sansom resigned as speaker in 2009 after the St. Petersburg Times reported he had steered \$26 million to Northwest Florida State College before being hired by the school on the same day he became speaker in November 2008.

A state grand jury indictment subsequently accused him of scheming to appropriate \$6 million to the college for a building at the Destin Airport allegedly for use as a hangar by friend and political supporter, Jay Odom.

Prosecutors in March dropped corruption charges against Sansom, Odom and former college president Bob Richburg after a judge rejected a key witness and the defendants agreed to pay \$300,000 in

restitution.

Santa Rosa Commissioner Jim Melvin said the FBI on Tuesday took a computer that he and his predecessor, former Commissioner Gordon Goodin, had used. Melvin defeated Goodin in last year's election.

Melvin and Goodin said they had no idea why the FBI wanted the computer.

The subpoenas served on the county indicate the grand jury is looking into more than just the prison. The panel is seeking files on various land deals, an ambulance contract, trips taken by commissioners and construction of a new courthouse as well as contracts, vouchers and correspondence between the county and Sansom.

They ask for custodians of those records to present them to the grand jury on Sept. 27.

Graceville Correctional Facility, also in the Panhandle. That place then was also operated by GEO but now is run by Corrections Corporation of America.

That provision later was removed in committee. Sansom then added