Florida International University

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The State University of Florida at Miami

Fall 1988

A New Beginning - One Year Later

When FIU hired Dr. Dick Young as athletics director on June 1, 1987, the Golden Panthers began a new journey as fully accredited members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I, the most competitive athletics division in the nation. Young has been extremely pleased with what has transpired at FIU over the course of the year.

As athletics director, Young now oversees not only the athletics department, but the department of recreation and the operations of Sunblazer Arena. These are just some of the changes that have occured in the past 15 months, but Young is optimistic about what is happening on the University Park campus. "We now have more of a team concept, with everyone working together instead of two or three identities," Young stated.

Young added that in the previous arrangement (with recreation as a seperate entity), the areas were too small to have an impact on the university community. "Everyone is now under one umbrella, which should add stability and support to the entire program and university," he added.

The athletics teams have also represented themselves extremely well both on the off the fields, since becoming a Division I program. The baseball team won at least 40 games for the third consecutive season, and is establishing itself as a nationally respected program.

Rich Walker has built the men's basketball program from scratch into a Division I team in only seven years. Despite winning only nine games in its first season as a Division I member, a good recruiting class should make this team one to be reckoned with in the coming years. This year, Walker was selected as one of only a handful of coaches who votes for the Associated Press' weekly Top 20 poll.

Another sign of stability and progress was the hiring of top notch coaches in tennis, volleyball and cross country. Despite having to come in and put an entire schedule together, Kathy O'Neal (women's tennis), Peter Lehmann (man's tennis), John Trojaniak (volleyball) and Mike Becker (cross country) proved what hard work and dedication can do for a program. These sports now possess not only competitive schedules, but also winning programs.

O'Neal was director of tennis for three years at the Marriot Corporation, while Trojaniak was the head coach of the nationally renowned Windy City Volleyball Club. Lehman is the head professional at Kendalltown Tennis Club, and Becker established one of the top cross country programs at Palmer Prep.

The women's tennis team was a runaway winner in the New South Women's Conference Tournament. Liz Lewis captured first place in the conference cross country meet, and Cuqui Alvarez was named a first-team All-Conference selection in volleyball.

FIU Hires Gropper and Allen to Athletics Department Staff







Richard Gropper

Athletics Director Dr. Dick Young has announced the hiring of Richard Gropper as Associate Director of Athletics for Business and Finance and Janice Allen as Director of Athletic Development to complete the Golden Panthers administrative staff.

Gropper received his bachelor's degree in social science from the University of South Florida in 1972 and his master's degree in adult education from FIU in 1975. He is currently pursuing a doctorate degree at FIU.

He comes to the University from Miami-Dade Community College North, where he has been the director of athletic development and business management for the past two years. He has spent a total of 11 years in the Miami-Dade CC system.

His main responsibilities at FIU will include developing, preparing, and implementing the budget, along with monitoring the accounts receivables and expenditures with regards to the budget.

"Richard Gropper's hiring places an FIU graduate and student in a highly sought after position," Young said. "His familiarity with the area, his love for FIU and the support he received both within and outside the university pointed to him as being the right man in the right place at the right time for the job. We are extremely excited about the addition of Richard and his wife to the FIU family."

Allen is a 1976 graduate of Grand Valley State College in Allendale, MI, where she received her bachelor's degree in physical education with a minor in psychology.

Following graduation, Allen played professional basketball in France for one season before embarking on a coaching career. She was an assistant coach for one season at the University of Denver before being named the head women's basketball coach at Florida State

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Men's and Women's Soccer Teams Gearing Up for 1988 Campaign

As the new school year is upon us once again, this can only mean one thing for the university's men's and women's soccer teams – another season is underway. The two teams are in different stages of their growth processes, but they have both enjoyed success as long as they have been around. The men's team has put together sixteen consecutive winning seasons, while the women have not had a losing campaign since the inception of the program in 1985.

The Golden Panthers men's team has seen nothing but success since the program began in 1972. As the squad approaches its second season of competing on the Division I level, Head Coach Karl Kremser is striving to put the program on the national map, as he did when FIU was a Division II member. The Golden Panthers recorded two national championships and two runner-up finishes in a six-year span during the 1980's before moving up to Division I. Following a 12-6-2 record and No. 6 ranking in the southern region, Kremser's goal is for the team to receive its first post-season tournament bid as a Division I program.

With victories over Davidson, American, North Carolina-Charlotte and a tie against secound-ranked South Carolina in Columbia, SC last year, the future appears bright for the Golden Panthers. Eleven letterwinners, including seven starters, return for the 1988 season that will see FIU play possibly the toughest schedule in school history. NCAA Tournament participants Rutgers, George Mason and Tampa, along with NAIA national champion Boca Raton will visit University Park this season. Traditional powers Penn State and Boston University will also come to South Florida.

"This may be the most difficult schedule we've ever faced," Kremser said. "I do not like to schedule teams just for wins. If we come ready to play every match, we will win our share."

A combination of veterans and some outstanding newcomers should give the team the talent and depth necessary to be successful once again.

When discussing returning players, Robin Fraser is the name that stands out. Following a sophomore season in which he was named to the All-South Region team, Fraser became FIU's first male Division I All-America selection, when he was named to the second-team last year. As he returns for his senior campaign, Fraser should be one of the premiere defensive players in the nation.

Leading the way on offense will be 1987 leading scorer Dennis Brose, who tallied 11 goals and three assists. The other top returning offensive player is Alvin James. He scored six goals and dished out three assists. These two players could see action at both midfield and forward. Hans Nilsson returns at midfield, but the key this season could be the play of two newcomers, Buba Janneh and Sunny Ukenye. Janneh played for the Gambian National Junior Team, while Ukenye sharpened his skills at Allegheny Community College in Pittsburgh. Defensively Craig Berounsky and Nick Wyss return along with Henrik Svartborn. These three should team with Fraser to give the Golden Panthers a formidable defense. Newcomer Ronald Blain, from SUNY-Morrisville should add strength and depth. Goalkeeper should also be a strong position this season, as Chris Antonopoulos returns after posting a 1.09 goals against average with one shutout in nine games last year.

The women's team is looking for its fourth consecutive winning season. Despite an 0-3-1 start in 1986 and a 1-4 start in 1987, Head Coach Everton Edwards' squad has rebounded both years to post winning numbers. Behind co-Most Valuable Player Christine Liller's six goals and Julie Orlowski's four shutouts, the Golden Panthers finished with a 7-6-1 mark in 1987. Other players expected to play key roles in 1988 include Betsy Clements, last season's co-MVP along with Liller, Rachel Rivera and Michelle Swanson on defense, and Kathy Fitzgerald, Monica Ross and Michelle Lew at midfield. The big question mark will be on offense, where Edwards will be counting on newcomers to



Alvin James has been a key member of the soccer team since arriving at FIU in 1987.

supply the scoring punch. Liller, however, will be a steadying force there with her outstanding scoring ability.

This year's schedule, like the men's, is probably the most difficult in the short history of the women's program. Two games each against Central Florida and Barry, both nationally ranked in 1987 and participants in NCAA tournament play, along with a west coast trip that will pit the Golden Panthers against California, Cal-State Hayward and Stanford, will test Edwards' troops. The first Dade County/State Farm Insurance Tournament, in which the Golden Panthers will face Southern Methodist and 1987 NCAA tournament invitee Rutgers, will take place at University Park, October 21-22.

FIU Alumni Making Names for Themselves

As Florida International University intercollegiate athletics continues to grow, more and more of its alumni are making names for themselves in the world of sports.

Mike Grayson, affectionately known as "The Bird" to all Golden Panthers baseball fans, has begun his professional baseball career in the Milwaukee Brewers organization. Currently pitching for Helena, MT. in the Pioneer League, Grayson's very first professional decision was a victory. He pitched his first and only season at FIU last spring, registering a 9-5 record with five saves.

Mark Lee, who pitched for the Golden Panthers in 1983, is now hurling with the Kansas City Royals of the American League.

In the beginning of July, former FIU golfer, **Terry Jo-Myers** won her first LPGA Golf Tournament as she captured the Mayflower Classic. On her way to victory, Myers, who credits most of her success to women's golf coach Ken Juhn, defeated two of the biggest names on the LPGA Tour in Ayako Okamoto and Amy Alcott.

Three other former women's golfers have had success this past summer, as **Michelle Dobek** and **Lis Ornelas** qualified for the United States Women's Open Golf Tournament. **Shelly Green** also won her first professional tournament, on the Future's Tour, a tour for those players who have not yet qualified for the LPGA Tour.

Teresa Baker, who played women's basketball from 1985-87, is now playing professional basketball in Spain. **Kim Pellegrini** played on the women's basketball team from 1982-86, and is now beginning her third professional season in England.

Paul Minott, a member of FIU's 1982 NCAA championship team, was a starting player for the first six games on the Ft. Lauderdale Strikers of the American Soccer League (ASL) before an injury shortened his season.

Fall '88 Home Athletics Events

OCTOBER

1	SOUTHERN BELL CLASSIC	
	Men's Soccer vs. Rutgers	7:30 pm
13	Women's Soccer vs. Texas Christian	7:30 pm
13	Volleyball vs. Barry	7:30 pm
20	Men's Soccer vs. Flagler	7:30 pm
21	DADE COUNTY/STATE FARM INSURANCE TOURNAMENT	Price W Sylvante
	Women's Soccer vs. Southern Methodist	8:00 pm
22	DADE COUNTY/STATE FARM INSURANCE TOURNAMENT	Come W
	Women's Soccer vs. Rutgers	8:00 pm
23	Men's Soccer vs. Florida Atlantic	7:30 pm
24	Men's Soccer vs. Boca Raton	7:30 pm
28	Women's Soccer vs. Gustavus Adolphus	7:30 pm
	FIU/GATORADE INVITATIONAL	rs.E. dVI
	Men's Soccer vs. Boston University	8:00 pm
29	FIU/GATORADE INVITATIONAL	sull o
	Men's Soccer vs. Penn State	8:00 pm
30-31	PAT BRADLEY CHAMPIONSHIP (Women's Golf)	vs I 30 u v utV-

NOVEMBER

1	PAT BRADLEY CHAMPIONSHIP (Women's Golf)	
1	Volleyball vs. Florida Atlantic	
3	Volleyball vs. Florida Memorial	
4	GOLDEN PANTHERS CLASSIC	
	Men's Soccer vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee	
5	Volleyball vs. Florida A & M	
	Volleyball vs. Stetson	2:00 pm
	GOLDEN PANTHERS CLASSIC	
	Men's Soccer vs. George Mason	8:00 pm
6	Cross Country New South Conference Championship	
	Women's Soccer vs. Florida	11:00 am
12	Men's Basketball vs. Swedish National Team	8:00 pm
13-15	FIU SUN & FUN INTERCOLLEGIATE	
	(Men's Golf)	
25	Men's Basketball vs. Florida Memorial	8:00 pm
26	Men's Basketball vs. Maryland Eastern Shore	8:00 pm

DECEMBER

	OFINE THE PARTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND A	
3	Men's Basketball vs. Florida A&M	8:00 pm
16	Women's Basketball vs. Mercer	7:30 pm
	GOLDEN PANTHERS TOURNAMENT	
	Northwestern vs Radford	7:00 pm
21	Men's Basketball vs. Ball State	9:00 pm
	GOLDEN PANTHERS TOURNAMENT	
22	Men's Basketball Consolation/Championship	7 & 9 pm
28	Men's Basketball vs. Northern Iowa	8:00 pm
	FIU CLASSIC	
28	Women's Basketball vs. Yale	5:45 pm
	FIU CLASSIC	
29	Women's Basketball vs. Maryland-Baltimore	
	County	6:00 pm
	FIU CLASSIC	
30	Women's Basketball vs. Iowa State	8:00 pm

FIU SOCIAL CALENDER

OCTOBER

14	Party prior to first basketball practice of year	9:00 pm	
15	"Midnight Madness" - first men's basketball	p.i.	
	practice	12:01 am	
22	Friends of FIU Dinner at Big 5 Club	2.3450554	

NOVEMBER

10	Stone Crab Dinner	7:00 pm

The following are dates for Golden Panther Club get-togethers following men's home basketball games. November 12, 25, 26; December 3, 21, 22, 28

FIU Hires Gropper and Allen, cont'd from pg. 1

University in 1979. While at Florida State, Allen also ran the Jan Allen Girl's Basketball Camp, which annually had over 400 participants. She remained the head women's basketball coach at Florida State until 1986.

That year Allen moved to Tucson, Arizona where she was a marketing and sales representative for Western Financial Leasing, which involves financing business equipment, and InfoPlus, involving yellow page advertising. She then was a pharmaceutical sales representative for Hoechst-Celanese.

Allen was on the steering committee for the Lute Olson University of Arizona Arthritis Foundation fundraising project and was co-chairperson of the "Top Cats" University of Arizona Women's Basketball Booster Club.

Allen's main responsibilities will involve athletics fundraising and she will also be the executive director of the Golden Panther Club.

"We are excited and looking forward to our first full-time director of athletics development," Young said. "Janice Allen brings youth and vitality, a breath of experience from coaching to athletics administration as well as sales experience in the public sector."

Both Gropper and Allen began their new positions in early September.

FIU Alumni, cont'd from pg. 2

Jody Weil, Juan Gomez and **Troy Edwards** are members of the Miami Sharks of the ASL. Edwards was also an ASL all-star.

Rey Jaffet, the department's head athletics trainer at FIU, traveled throughout the world this past summer with the United States National Soccer Team.

Bob Steitz, an assistant athletics director for almost three years, became the associate commissioner of the Northeast Conference (formerly the ECAC Metro Conference). **Larry Baldwin**, an assistant athletics director, was named the director of public relations for the Hall of Fame Bowl in Tampa, FL.

If you know of someone who is an alumnus of FIU or has been associated with the university in the past, and is currently pursuing a career in professional sports, or is moving up in the world of athletics administration, please let us know so they can be recognized in future newsletters.

Please send any information you have to the following address: Florida International University

Sports Information Office

University Park Miami, FL 33199

Golden Panthers Club Starts Off On **Strong Foot**

The Golden Panthers Club was formed at the start of the 1987-88 school year and the charter members, along with its advisory board, developed the beginning of what is hoped to be a long standing relationship with FIU and the local community, as the Golden Panthers become a nationally recognized Division I athletics program.

"A substantial amount of credit for the development and growth of the new organization must go to the advisory board," athletics director Dr. Dick Young said. "It is anticipated that these first year members will greatly enjoy the development and emergence of a nationally competitive Division I program, and will take great pride in this opportunity they have generated for themselves and FIU."

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Full Scholarship (\$10000-UP)

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Mr. Craig Kluthe

Judy and Joe Kubit

Tournaments Highlight Fall Schedule

The Florida International University 1988 Fall sports calendar is dotted with seven tournaments that should bring excitement and entertainment to the University Park campus this year. Four home soccer tournaments and three golf tournaments highlight a schedule that will bring some of the top collegiate athletes to South Florida.

The Third Annual Southern Bell Soccer Classic will be held on October 31-November 1, as South Florida, Bowling Green and 1987 NCAA Tournament participant Rutgers make their way to University Park.

The FIU/Gatorade Invitational soccer tournament will host Notre Dame, along with traditional national powers Boston University and Penn State on October 28-29. This is the second consecutive year that Gatorade has sponsored this tournament.

The Golden Panthers Soccer Classic will be held on November 4-5 at University Park as the men's team will compete with Adelphi, Wisconsin-Milwaukee and George Mason, an NCAA tournament

team of a season ago.

The First Annual Dade County/State Farm Insurance Women's Soccer Tournament will be held on October 21-22. Central Florida, Rutgers and Southern Methodist will participate along with the Golden Panthers. Last year both Rutgers and Central Florida qualified for the NCAA women's soccer tournament with Central Florida advancing to the quarter-finals.

The Steve Clark Charity Golf Tournament, named in honor of the mayor of Dade County, benefits the golf programs and was held on Saturday, September 3, 1988. This was the sixteenth year the tournament has been associated with FIU Athletics. Through this event, the Links Club, the fundraising arm of the FIU golf programs, has garnered the support of the South Florida Business Community and raised an average of \$10,000 per year. Since moving to Mel Reese Le-Jeune Golf Club in 1977, the tournament has enjoyed complete sellouts each and every year.

One of the top women's collegiate golf tournaments in the nation will take place on October 30-November 1 at the beautiful King's Bay Resort Yacht and Country Club as FIU plays host to the twelfth annual Pat Bradley Championship. Named in honor of one of the greatest female professional golfers ever, the Bradley Tournament will play host to some of the top women's golf teams in the nation. Eight of the teams competing in 1988 were ranked among the top 25 in the nation last season. Defending Pat Bradley Tournament champion Duke, along with Florida, Miami and number-one ranked Texas will be among the top contenders once again.

The FIU Sun and Fun Golf Tournament, hosted by the men's golf team, will be held November 13-15 at the Melreese Golf Course. Last year's event saw sixteen-time national champion, the University of

Action at the 1987 Gatorade Invitational



FIU Sports Hotline on the Air

The FIU sports hotline is on the air every Wednesday night from 9:00 to 10:00 pm on WVCG (1080 AM). Danial Oudinot, a former writer for the Miami Herald, is the host of the weekly call-in show. Houston shoot a final round even-par 288 to come from behind and win the tournament.

The cross country team will host the Florida International Invitational on Saturday, September 24.

As the fall sports season is just around the corner, the FIU Golden Panthers athletics teams will play host to some of the top collegiate teams in the nation. Whether the sport is soccer, golf, or cross country, nationally-ranked teams are coming to South Florida to experience sunny Miami, along with the competition they will face in some of the finest tournaments in the nation.

Basketball Season Tickets On Sale

Sunblazer Arena is the place to be this fall and winter when the Golden Panthers men's and women's basketball squads begin competing as second-year members of the NCAA Division I.

This year's men's home schedule includes 14 home games against such notables as Akron, Arkansas State, South Florida, and Florida A&M. Also included in the ticket price is the first annual Golden Panthers Invitational, December 21-22, with Northwestern, Ball State, and

On the women's side, Coach Cindy Russo promises to have another squad set to challenge the best of the New South Women's Conference. Others on the 16 game home slate are Miami, South Florida, and Bethune-Cookman plus the FIU Classic (December 28-30) featuring Yale, Iowa State and Maryland-Baltimore County and the Sun and Fun Invitational (January 2-5) featuring Kansas State, South Alabama, and Cleveland State.

By ordering season tickets, you will be assured of the same great seat for each and every contest and you won't have to miss a moment of the exciting action. Not only that, but you will find Sunblazer Arena easy to get to from anywhere in either Dade or Broward County, and there is always plenty of free and lighted parking.

You are also invited to join the Golden Panthers Club, the University's intercollegiate booster organization. As a member of the club, you become an important member of "the team behind the team" and will be given an opportunity to enjoy a closer involvement with the program. Club members also receive first priority on mid-court seating for men's basketball based upon the level of giving.

The best part of it all, however, is the price. A season ticket for the men costs \$50.00 and a family pass (admitting five) \$90.00. A women's ticket is only \$20.00 with a family pass costing \$35.00. FIU Faculty/Staff and Golden Panther group rates are also available.

For more ticket information, call the Sunblazer Arena box office at (305) 554-2047.

Over 3.000 fans jammed Sunblazer Arena last season when the Golden Panthers hosted nationally ranked Georgetown.



Golden Panther Club, cont'd from pg. 4

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A New Beginning, cont'd from pg. 1

The records of veteran coaches Rich Walker, Cindy Russo, Karl Kremser, Danny Price and Everton Edwards speak for themselves. These individuals have more than 750 College wins among them.

"With the proper funding and community support, all of our sports could compete on the national level in the coming years," Young said. "The future of athletics at Florida International University is a bright one. With the dedicated personnel and plenty of teamwork, this department could be in the national spotlight for many years."

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