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Nole News is Good News

College Soccer Game

FSU vs. UCF on Thursday September 10

Here at FSU, we are very fortunate to have one of the very best college soccer teams in the country. The women’s soccer team at FSU is considered to be the third best women’s soccer team in the country. The team of players at FSU comes from all parts of the United States, and there are even some players from Iceland, Ireland, and Finland. So far this year the team has only lost one game, and the team is sure to have a winning season.

Our weekly activity this week will be a CIES group trip over to the soccer stadium. We will meet at the stadium Thursday around 6:50 p.m.; the game will start at 7 p.m. The soccer stadium is located on the west side of FSU campus near the baseball stadium and softball fields. (There is a parking garage across the street.) There are restrooms and refreshments available at the game. There are many other soccer games throughout the year as well as dozens of other Seminole sports. Check out the website www.seminoles.com to find out what sports events are happening on any given week. Check Facebook for more details!

Getting to Know: Kyle Kaminski

Kyle Kaminski joined the CIES staff in August 2014, and he has certainly helped make this a much livelier place! Kyle was born and raised in Melbourne, FL, which is part of Florida’s Space Coast. This is the part of Florida along the Atlantic Ocean near the place where rockets are launched into space. Kyle went to college at Stetson University, which is about three hours from Tallahassee in Deland, Florida. During that time Kyle started cycling, and he even hiked all the way up and down the east coast of Florida. A few years after graduating college, Kyle became part of the prestigious Peace Corps. This is an organization that sends young Americans all over the world to do volunteer work and strengthen small communities. Kyle spent his two years in Costa Rica. During this time, he worked with many young students trying to learn English. He even helped coordinate a regional spelling bee with many teachers from a large region. After spending a couple of years working with English learners, Kyle decided to head to Tallahassee to study international education. Kyle says that since he’s “always loved travel and adventure, a degree in international education seemed like an awesome idea.” Here at CIES, Kyle is a mentor to many students and tries to develop rapport with anybody and everybody. What makes Kyle so good at talking to people? He once worked at Starbucks and, according to him, that experience helped give him lots of patience and people skills!

Notes from the Office

* Please remember that the CIES office is open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday. Avoid coming between classes if you have to speak with someone. There is usually not enough time to deal with your question then. Lunch time can also be very busy, especially since many of the staff and faculty members are on their lunch breaks. The best time to come and speak to a CIES staff member is early in the day (before 9) or at the end of the day (after 3).

** If you are a student on probation, make sure you are monitoring your attendance in all of your classes. Remember that being 5 minutes late counts as an absence. CIES is carefully monitoring attendance, and those students with attendance problems will be notified in upcoming weeks.

*** All students are doing a great job taking care of our CIES computer lab. Just a friendly reminder to not bring drinks into the computer lab. Also, be sure to log out every time you leave the computer.

A special remembrance

September 11, 2015 marks the 14th anniversary of the attacks on America that killed nearly 3000 people in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. This is a very sad and emotional day for many millions of people. A museum and memorial dedicated to the events of 9/11/01 have recently opened in New York City. If you visit New York City, you should plan a visit.

The Frederick L. Jenks Center for Intensive English Studies at The Florida State University

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Happy Birthday

Abdullah Alswaid (September 11)
Mohammed Alautaibi (September 15)
Abdulmohsen Alqarni (September 15)
Derrick Pollock (September 15)

Culture Question

Question: Why is sales tax so high in the US?

Many students complain about having to pay sales tax on items. For example, if you get $50 worth of food at a restaurant, you will actually end up paying $54 (plus more money for a tip). However, tax rates in America are actually rather low. Many other countries in the world have much higher sales taxes, but the tax is already included in the price of the item. (This is usually called VAT or value added tax.) In America, the money paid for sales taxes goes to two places—the state government and the local government. (The national government does not get money from sales tax.) In Tallahassee, for example, the sales tax rate is 7.5%. 6% goes to the state of Florida, and 1.5% goes to the local government. Schools in Florida get a very large part of their money from sales tax! If you do not like paying sales tax, you should be thankful. Even though Tallahassee’s sales tax is more expensive than most other Florida cities, there are many places that are more expensive. The sales tax rate in many parts of Alabama and Tennessee is 10%! There is also a really high sales tax rate in cities like Seattle and Chicago (9.5%). If any of you are looking for a bargain, you can move to Oregon, Delaware, Alaska, Montana, or New Hampshire. You will save lots of money living there, but rest assured, the weather in Florida is much nicer than those places!

Language Question

Question: What is the difference between ‘bring’ and ‘take’?

This is a common mistake. When using these verbs, a speaker needs to ask whether the object is being moved toward or away from the subject. If an object is being away from the subject, use ‘take.’ (You take things to a place that you are going.) If an object is being moved towards the subject, use ‘bring.’ (You have things brought to you.) For example, when your clothes are dirty, you will take the clothes to the dry cleaners. However, if you forget to turn in a major assignment, your teacher will remind you to bring the assignment to him or her immediately. In the sentences below, choose either the verb ‘bring’ or ‘take.’

1. It’s raining outside! Let me bring / take you home.
2. The jacket I bought is too big. I will have to bring / take it back to the store.
3. My husband always brings / takes me flowers on my birthday.
4. I left that great CD at home, but I’ll be sure to bring / take it with me tomorrow and give it to you then.

Answers: take for #1 and #2; bring for #3 and #4

Quote of the Week

Surround yourself with only people who are going to lift you higher.
- Oprah Winfrey

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This week’s vocabulary:
lively (adjective) – full or life and energy; active; energetic; fun
spelling bee (noun) – a popular childhood competition where students compete to see who can spell words the best
rapport (adjective) – a positive relationship; a good connection
sales tax (noun) – money that is added on to the price of an item when you purchase it
local (adjective) – related to the area near a place (in the US this means city or county)
dry cleaners (noun) – a place where people are paid to wash your clothes (generally more expensive clothes)