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DONOR REVOKES \$20 MILLION GIFT

College of Medicine donation lost after Maidique, Wertheim dispute

BETSY MARTINEZ
News Director

The man who gave FIU \$20 million for its College of Medicine initiative is taking the gift back, as well as asking that the new college not be named after him.

Dr. Herbert Wertheim, a former member of FIU's Board of Trustees and one of the University's biggest donors, sent a letter to University President Modesto A. Maidique Nov. 8 noting the withdrawal and citing a "confrontational" conversation that took place between them.

"Most offensive was your comment that I was given the naming

rights of the medical school 'on the cheap,' and that you could now get \$100 million for it," Wertheim wrote in the letter.

According to the letter, their conversation took place as a result of a meeting Wertheim had with his accountants one week after the College of Medicine's official naming to discuss tax issues surrounding the multi-million dollar donation. The naming was announced Sept. 29.

At that time, it was brought to his attention that if he were to give the



WERTHEIM

University a single lump sum for the \$20 million gift, he would lose between \$4 - \$6 million of tax deductibility.

Wertheim then contacted Marcos Perez, vice president of administration, and Christina Mendoza, the University's general counsel, to explain the problem and

propose a new agreement. The new agreement would have allowed the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation to make a \$5 million payment by the end of the year, and subsequent amounts on

the first month of every year until January 2009.

"Given our past commitment to and relationship with the University, I felt that the request was very reasonable," Wertheim wrote.

According to the letter, the foundation had already given the University \$700,000 and the new proposal would also allow the University to receive matching state funds.

"I assume [the \$700,000] will be sent back to Dr. Wertheim," said Board of Governors Chairman David Parker.

In a Nov. 9 press release issued by the University, Maidique said that he did not want to jeopardize

the state's matching funds.

"If payment had been delayed, the matching funds portion of the gift would have been put at risk and its value significantly reduced," Maidique said in the press release.

According to Wertheim, if the University would have accepted the new proposal the College of Medicine would have received \$10 million by 2007 and that would have been matched by the state for a total of \$20 million. The first \$20 million with match was for the building fund. The second \$20 million was an endowment for scholarships,

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WATER WALKERS



CHRIS CUTRO/THE BEACON

SPLISH SPLASH: Sophomore Tatiana Pelez falls into the water after trying to cross the lake using a pair of floating shoes she designed for the School of Architecture's 16th annual Walk on Water contest, held Nov. 8 in the lake behind the Green Library. An estimated 300 people showed up to watch.

Professors monitor elections

MARIA CHERCOLES
Asst. News Director

A majority of Americans voted to give the Democrats control of Congress after 12 years of a Republican legislative branch. To analyze the new government's direction, FIU's chapter of the National Political Science Honor Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, organized an open forum Nov. 8.

Professors and students talked about Nancy Pelosi's poising to become the first woman Speaker of the House, which would place her third in the presidential line of succession.

"Pelosi will be an example of women exercising leadership and will bring down some stereotype barriers, but we still have a long way to go. I'm doubtful on having a female candidate for 2008," said Sarah Poggione, an American politics associate professor.

Pelosi's agenda will follow the Democratic consensus, which includes raising the minimum wage, expanding stem cell research and lowering college loans interest rates. But in a bipartisan leadership, passing some bills could be challenging, according to political science professor Nicol Rae.

"Pelosi has to balance the House. A strategy to follow would be to find issues where there's maximum unity such as raising the minimum wage. She should also work on issues that divide Republicans such as immigration," Rae said.

Another topic of discussion was the Democrats' victory at the House of Representatives.

"The results of the elections show a discontent with the government. Part of the Democrats' victory has to do with the large number of scandals over the last 18 months," Rae said. "Six seats were freebies for them, such as the Florida seat held by Mark Foley, the Texas seat held by Tom DeLay, and the New York seat held by John Sweeney."

"Democrats now have to remain ethical."

FIU Iraq veterans tell of harsh conditions

NAIHOBE GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

Sergeant Jorge Burgos remembers as a child going to a Veterans' Day celebration with his father.

"I thought veterans were all old guys that came back from war and retired," Burgos said.

Now he knows different.

Just a few years after that celebration, Burgos made a life-changing decision. At the age of 17, Burgos joined the Army. Four years later he was deployed to Iraq.

"Being young and single, I was very excited," he said. "I looked forward to going for a new experience."

When he arrived at Ar Ramadi, Iraq, it was not at all what he expected.

"I remember getting to this strange place

and hearing bullets flying," he said. "We had a lot of bullets, but not a lot of food."

Today, just a few years after their return home, student veterans at FIU reflect on their experiences.

For many other soldiers, including Burgos and Specialist Waskar Juarez, the time served abroad posed both danger and hardship.

Juarez joined the army in 1998. Five years later, he found out he would be sent to Iraq.

"When I first joined, I wanted to get deployed. It was like being in a football team and practicing everyday but never getting to play," he said. "After I finally got to do it I didn't want to be in the game anymore," he said.

Both Juarez and Burgos had to adjust to living without the usual comforts — and at certain times, essentials — of home.

Burgos remembers losing 16 pounds in two

months. On Burgos' already slim five-foot-nine frame, the weight he lost showed.

"Food wasn't that good, and what we did get, we didn't get regularly," he said.

Because Burgos and Juarez arrived in Iraq during the time of the invasion, supply lines were weak and irregular due to constant attacks. Even water became a luxury.

"We used to go to the Euphrates [River] to bathe, even though we were told not to because of contamination. But we got to the point where we didn't care about the risk," Burgos said. "We had nothing."

But for Burgos and Juarez, their most vivid memories are of the violence they endured.

"We were overworked, and almost

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THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 13

Homecoming Barbeque: 12 p.m., *President's House*

Relay for Life Kick-Off: 6 p.m., *Gracie's Comedy Show (Pablo Francisco, Bill Belamy):* 8 p.m., *Pharmed Arena*

TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 14

Homecoming LipSync: 8 p.m., *Pharmed Arena*

WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 15

Homecoming Pep Rally: 12 p.m., *GC Pit*

GSA Meeting: 1 p.m., *GC 140*

SGC-UP Meeting: 4 p.m., *GC 150*

Moonlight Madness: 8 p.m., *Pharmed Arena*

THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 16

Homecoming Court Voting: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., *GC Computer Labs*

GSA Gradskeller: 6 p.m., *Gracie's Grill*

FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 17

SPC Films presents "Cars": 7 p.m., 10 p.m., *GC 140*

Homecoming Block Party: 9 p.m., *Between Blue and Gold Garages*

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 18

Homecoming Parade: 2 p.m., *Engineering Campus to FIU Football Stadium* followed by **Homecoming Tailgate Party**

Compiled by Reuben Pereira

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Nov. 9, the Life! calendar misstated the prices and times for the listed Nov. 11 events. The correct ticket price for the Bang Music Festival is \$75. The correct ticket prices for International Night are \$5 students/\$10 seniors/\$15 adults and the correct event time is 8 p.m.

In the same issue, the article entitled "Exhibit debates art work as modern or primitive" should have read co-sponsored by the African New World Studies Department and held at the library.

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

SGA Notes

Nov. 8 Call to order: 4:05 p.m., Adjournment: 4:47 p.m.

Vice President's Report (Providence Okoye):

- 750 students in attendance at International Studies Career Expo.

Speaker of the House's Report (Rocio Perez):

- Bill King, director of the department of public safety; Bill Foster, director of parking and transportation; Robert Dollinger, director of university health services; and Larry Lunsford, student ombudsman, attended the At-Large and Lower Division Rep forum held Nov. 8.

Student Union (Michael Jadoo):

- Meeting with Rosa Jones, vice president of student affairs, regarding the remodeling on GC 140 and GC 150
- Submitted new menu ideas for Gracie's Grill

New Business (aye-nay-abstain):

- Council Bill B06-07 passes (13-0-1); establishes that changes to the finance code must be passed by 2/3 of voting members
- Council Bill B06-08 passes (14-0-0); defines the manner in which finance committee members are chosen
- Council Bill B06-09 passes (13-0-1); mandates appropriations are discussed at House meetings, not Council meetings

Absences:

- Alfonso "Alfie" Leon, SGC-UP president; Nancy Cadavid, comptroller

Announcements:

- Gia Abreu, SGC-UP director of public relations, said that SGA decided at the summer retreat to be in favor of MWF classes. Charlie Andrews, SGC-UP adviser, added that even if all students signed a petition against MWF classes, it would not change the decision to move to the new schedule.

-Compiled by Angelina Troff, Staff Writer

ROTC heads holiday food drive

NAIHOBE GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

Committing to serve their country abroad is not enough for the soldiers of the ROTC Golden Panthers Battalion, who also recently committed to helping local families in need, just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The battalion decided to hold a canned food drive and an iPod raffle to raise food and money for local families. The initiative began during a brainstorming session for group fundraising ideas.

"Originally, we had the idea of raffling an iPod and using that money for our cadet fund, but then our cadre realized that we will be devoting our life to service and we can start now," explained Cadet Major Scott Saunders.

Cadet Command Ser-

geant Major Nikol Anderson agreed.

"We're so often asking for money for our programs, but this is our way to give back," Anderson said.

Food collected will be donated to a local charity organization, while proceeds from the raffle will go to the creation of food baskets for two deserving families. Both efforts culminate Nov. 21.

The battalion is sponsoring two families who are members of a local Baptist church, the New Way Fellowship Praise and Worship at 16800 NW 22nd Ave, Opa Locka.

Anderson approached the minister with the project, and the minister shared the names of two families in his congregation that he believes need assistance.

"We'll be creating a basket

with a turkey and everything else they'll need so the families can cook the dinner themselves," Anderson said.

The charity that will be given the food donations is yet to be determined.

According to ROTC enrollment officer Major Wally Gallart, who has worked at the FIU department of military science since 2000, there have been several food drive efforts over the years.

Both Anderson and Saunders said the nature of the ROTC program and the army, in which cadets and instructors often come and go, is an obstacle for the annual ability of efforts like this one.

Nonetheless, the battalion is determined to make this effort successful and has made it mandatory for its 120 cadets to sell raffle tick-

ets and donate canned food. The group also has relied on flyers, word of mouth and simple visibility to share its mission.

"We have set up tables everyday in [the Graham Center] and placed boxes in all the high-traffic areas on each of our five different campuses. People notice what we're doing when they walk by and see the boxes with food," Saunders said.

The Golden Panthers Battalion is comprised of cadets and instructors from FIU, Miami-Dade College, the University of Miami, Florida Atlantic University and Florida Memorial University.

"We're an organization preparing future leaders and though we're not officers yet, we can start now by helping out in whatever little way we can," Saunders said.

Veterans more than just retirees

VETERANS, page 1

every night we were getting shot at — you never knew what to expect," Burgos said.

Juarez, also a medic, recalls a lesson he learned during one of many explosions of shrapnel from launch grenades.

"Three of my friends got severely injured and I was the only medic on site. I rushed to help them, but when you see people losing hands, losing legs, blood spurting everywhere — it's real, it hits you — anyone can die at any moment," he said.

Despite their difficulties and losses, none would regret their decision of joining the army, and thanks to military scholarships, Burgos and Juarez are all finishing their degrees at FIU and considering their future.

"I lost everything when I was

deployed: my apartment, my job, my car, even my girlfriend," Juarez said. "But when I came back I had an experience that you couldn't get anywhere else."

Juarez was recently offered a three-year commission with the military police and will graduate in the spring of 2007 with a degree in psychology.

Burgos likes to remember the work he accomplished.

"Sometimes walking by the schools I felt like a rock star because the kids loved us so much. When we first got there, only about 20 percent of kids were



COURTESY PHOTO

IN THE LINE OF DUTY: Sgt. Jose Burgos (left) stands in front of a humvee in Iraq.

going to school. By the time we left, it was almost 80 [percent]," he said. "We did a lot of good things."

Since returning in 2004, Burgos got married and is now expecting a child. He is also finishing a degree in architectural design.

High hopes for future donor

WITHDRAWN, page 1

lectures and other professional needs.

"It wouldn't have jeopardized the state grants," Dr. Wertheim told *The Beacon*. "The state has never said that they were going to do away with this program within the next two years."

As noted in the March 2006 presentation to the Florida Board of Governors, one of the major steps the University had to take would be persuading the state legislature to spend \$250 million over 12 years for the school, and then more than \$20 million to build and maintain it.

On Nov. 9, Maidique sent a letter to Wertheim in which he addressed the phone conversation.

"When we spoke on the phone recently, my goal was to try and reach a mutually agreeable solution. You have been a friend of the Univer-

sity's and of mine for almost 20 years. If I was unclear during our conversation and I unintentionally hurt you, I apologize," he wrote.

As for the alleged \$100 million donation, Parker denied having a donor lined up. He pledged that the College of Medicine would make a speedy recovery.

"I have a high degree of confidence that we will be able to raise the amount or more ... within a short amount of time to get construction started," Parker said.

Student Government Council at University Park President Alfonso "Alfie" Leon, a BOT member, argued that the matter is giving the University unnecessary publicity, but that it was something FIU would overcome.

"I don't think this is a step back, just a pause," Leon said. "This will only be a small part in the history of

the college, something that we may not remember 15, 25 years from now."

Although Parker admitted that there were other community members who have expressed the desire to become donors, he refused to provide details.

"This will be a magnificent school," he said. "This will present an opportunity to another family or families ... when it will be? I don't know. Who it will be? I don't know."

Wertheim said that although he was hurt by Maidique's comments they would not disband their long-time friendship and his relationship with FIU.

"I hope to continue to support the University ... this is still my hometown University," he said.

Both Maidique and Interim Provost Ronald Berkman declined to comment on the matter.

NEWSFLASH

FIU

SGC-UP forums will address student concerns

SGC-UP will host three forums this week, Monday, Nov. 13: International Students Committee, chaired by Johannra Ramdass, will aid in an International Students forum, GC 243, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 14: SGC-UP Student Union, chaired by Michael Jadoo, will host a GC Forum with Aramark and FIU Bookstore representatives to address concerns, GC 140, 12:30 to 2 p.m. in GC 140.

Wednesday, Nov 15: the Student Health Advisory Committee will host a forum to ask students what services they want from the Health Center, GC 140, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Gloria Estefan comes to FIU

On Nov. 14, five-time Grammy Award winner Gloria Estefan will be lecturing at FIU as part of the Center for the Study of Spirituality's Scholar-in-Residence program. Estefan will also meet with students and teach classes during the week.

The center has invited Estefan in light of the effect her music has had on people around the world. Estefan's lecture will take place in the Graham Center Ballroom, at 7 p.m., and it is free.

Events promote understanding of social problems

International Education Week, organized as a joint initiative between the Department of State and the Department of Education, will take place this week to promote global understanding of social problems.

Events planned for the week include:

Monday, Nov. 13: Culture Fair to create awareness about social and cultural issues taking place around the world, Graham Center Pit, all day.

Thursday, Nov. 16: Screening of Academy Award winning film *Tsotsi*, UP Towers lounge, 8 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 17: Hunger Banquet, a dinner event to teach students about poverty, suffering and hunger in the world. Participants will be assigned different numbers to determine where they sit and how much they are fed, Lakeview Hall Lounge, 7:30 p.m.

- Compiled by Angelina Troff, Jose Pagliery and Maria Chercoles

Conference highlights diplomacy

BEN F. BADGER JR.
Staff Writer

Jonathan Margolis, the U.S. special representative for sustainable development, will give a special lecture Nov. 16 in the MARC building's International Pavilion at 6:30 p.m.

Margolis also currently serves as director of the Office of Policy Coordination and Initiatives in the Bureau of Oceans, International Environmental and Scientific Affairs in the U.S. State Department.

He has been a member of the U.S. diplomatic service for more than 10 years and has been involved in dozens of sensitive U.S. negotiations including the track of the Middle East peace process. In addition, he served as lead U.S. negotiator at the World Summit on Sustain-

able Development.

During the lecture, Margolis will talk about President Bush's diplomatic strategy, known as transformational diplomacy. According to the lecture's coordinator, Shlomi Dinar, an international relations professor, Margolis is an authority on the subject.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice described transformational diplomacy as working with other nations.

"Transformational diplomacy is rooted in partnership, not paternalism, in doing things with other people, not for them," Rice said in a speech.

Margolis' lecture is only a prelude to the conference on Nov. 17 which will focus on environmental and political issues.

The conference will take place in the Labor Center

(also called the English Language Institute) room 110. Starting at 9:30 a.m., it will be composed of five separate seminars all tying into the same them.

"The conference is unique because it challenges the prevalent notion that resource scarcity and environmental degradation fosters only conflict," Dinar said. "Having the conference at FIU presents an extraordinary opportunity for students and faculty to hear from, and interact with, leading experts."

At 11 a.m. will be the second seminar, held by Robert Mendelsohn of Yale University and Gunnar Sjöstedt from the Swedish Institute of International Affairs.

The third seminar will be at 2 p.m. held by Dr. Samuel Barkin from the University

of Florida and Dr. Gabriela Kütting from Rutgers University.

According to Dinar, the fourth seminar will discuss ways to enhance environmental cooperation.

It will also be hosted by Sjöstedt at 3 p.m.

The final seminar of the conference, held by Geoffrey Dabelko from the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars at 4 p.m., will explore the idea that cooperation on environmental matters could lead to cooperation on other matters such as war.

The conference is being sponsored by the Ruth K. & Shepard Broad Educational Series of the Department of International Relations at FIU and is being presented by the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies.

Rae: Republican scandals aid win

ELECTIONS, page 1

You can't criticize ethics and be unethical. Now Democrats will have trouble fund raising from the companies they tried to regulate such as Exxon and GE, but they will have to work with [Political Action Committees] and negotiate. Money is money and they need it," said Paul Mullen, political science assistant professor.

According to Rae, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's resignation a day after the elections is an indication of the new direction the country will take. Mullen also pointed out Iowa's Democratic Governor Tom Vilsack's announcement of his candidacy for the presidency as a sign of how confident Democrats feel.

"The Democratic victory is not a surprise. Everyone is upset about the war. Most of the new Democrats are mostly moderate and conservative, moving from the liberal Democrats that lost the House in the '90s," said international relations student Pedro Ross, a member of the

FIU College Democrats.

Another issue discussed was the Democrats' plans for Iraq.

"They are at the position in which they can criticize the war while trying to work on a solution. This is a critical issue which will allow Democrats to hold the House if they perform well," Rae said.

"Iraq is the 800 lb. gorilla in the House. Democrats have to make a decision about how to play with the insurgency, but the decisions taken now will definitely have an effect on the 2008 elections. We could see in Iraq a multi-sided ethnic war resulting in mass murder," said Richard Olson, political science professor

and department chair.

After the discussion, Rae and students commented on the Florida elections.

"Terri Schiavo showed us how much power the government has over our lives by interfering in a family decision, and this was very influential in the elections," Rae said. "Charlie Crist did well by portraying himself as a moderate Republican. He was also benefited by the fact that Florida's economy is doing well."

By the time the forum ended, Virginia was still counting its final votes, but professors predicted that the Senate would go to the Democrats as well.

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Café offers relaxed ambiance, artistic expression

ALEXANDRA MCANARNEY
Contributing Writer

The Luna Star Café is one of the few artistic places in North Miami where there is no sense of post-modernist snobbery, and that's what people who frequent the café like most about it.

"It's pretty cool that they have a place like this so close to school. It doesn't look like too many people know about it," said Samil Pena, majoring in international relations.

Muhammed Malik, majoring in international relations, went to the Café a few days after the elections to "celebrate the Democratic victory."

He also likes the café's relaxed ambiance.

"It's a cool place to go to. Students are always saying they don't know where to go in North Miami and Luna Star is one of the nicer areas," Malik said.

The Luna Star Café breaks all stereotypes of everyday businesses, beginning with its owner, Alexis Sanfield, who happens to be a woman.

"Did you think it was owned by a man?" Sanfield asked, as she brought out a drink to one of the patrons.

"Does this look like a place that would be owned by a suit?"

Sanfield is preventing her café from turning into a corporate business.

Hank Milin, who has per-

formed at the café with his band, The 3 Jacks, a Celtic folk band, said Sanfield is doing a good job in thwarting that.

"She wants to remain obscure and it's succeeding beyond her wildest expectations," Milin said.

The inside of the café holds 13 worn tables set against mustard yellow walls that are decorated with anti-Bush paraphernalia, two of Andy Warhol's Marilyn Monroe lithographs, photography displays, a floating chair with a cat and an impressive display of beers chalked out on the board that one can't help but notice.

About 110 beers, ales and lagers are sold at the Luna Star Café, which Malik recommends, but don't expect Sanfield to carry your everyday bottle of beer.

"I don't have Budweiser, that's crap. Why would I carry Budweiser?" Sanfield said.

She also said that she personally researched all the beers.

The *Beer Bible* preaches ales from England to Vietnam to Namibia. But ID's are most definitely checked.

At the front of the Luna Star Café is a small stage that holds a microphone stand. They are well known for their poetry readings and musical events.

The music played at the Café is frequently folk, jazz or acoustic.

"I really like this place. I was coming from Ft. Lauderdale in all that traffic, and I decided I'd come



CHRIS CUTRO/THE BEACON

LA VIE BOHEME: The interior of the Luna Star Café shows an eclectic taste of furniture and artwork that decorate the restaurant. Live music and poetry readings are nightly events here.

in for coffee and a salad, rather than go to Starbucks," he said.

Every Thursday night is Poetry Night, where a writer comes and reads his material.

The contact for these events is Laura McDermott, who is earning her MFA in creative writing at FIU. She was unavailable for comment.

Joe Mailin, a creative writing graduate student, read short excerpts of prose from FIU's literary magazine, *Gulfstream*, Nov. 9.

One particular piece was about

baseball and the lingering smell of turpentine and mustard it left on the memory.

"It's a pretty interesting feeling getting up there and reading your stuff," Mailin said.

"Personally, I don't get poetry; it's just a bunch of lines arranged in a fancy way. Reading prose makes a lot more sense."

As for Open Mic nights, there have not been many of those at the Luna Star Cafe.

Sanfield hopes to change that. "Poetry should be open to everyone. It should be happening

soon," Sanfield said.

As far as owning her own business, Sanfield has no complaints.

"It's a labor of love. I have my own rules, I don't have to work for anyone," she said.

Luna Star is situated on 123rd Street, which is also known as North Miami Avenue right in front of the Museum of Contemporary Art.

The Café only accepts cash; credit cards are not accepted.

Luna Star Café events are listed on their website <http://www.geocities.com/lunastarcafe>.

Dinner teaches proper eating etiquette

ELSA REINOSO
Contributing Writer

“ Donna Lee, assistant director of Career Services

This event helps students learn how to handle a conversation when they are at a dinner ... and build student's resume.

Kaydianne Fletcher, a student majoring in psychology, wanted to make a good impression on her first formal dinner.

She was worried that she would look ill mannered. She turned to Career Services at the Biscayne Bay Campus to teach her the how-to's of etiquette.

"I wonder how to use the fork and when am I supposed to use the spoon or even how to drink the water or hold the cup," Fletcher said.

Career Services and the Student Government Council at BBC are going to host their yearly Business Etiquette Dinner Nov. 14 at 6 p.m.

Dinners at both University Park and BBC allow students an opportunity to learn how to present themselves in a formal interview with a potential employer.

"This event helps the students to learn how to handle a conversation when they are in a dinner or lunch,

where to put their name tag, [and to] build the student's résumé," said Donna Lee, assistant director for Career Services.

Lee also said that Career Services does events like this in order to help students in their next step as professionals, steps that include learning how to write a résumé or cover letter, dressing for an interview and participation in their career fair.

"The students want to outshine their competition and this event would walk them through a five course meal that would definitely help them once they have it in their résumé," Lee said.

Andre Dawson, majoring in biology and psychology, said that this event would be good for people outside the community to help them brush up on their etiquette skills.

"This event would also show that FIU is not only involving the student body, but also the community," Dawson said.

J.P. Small, majoring in theatre, sees the event as necessary to students who don't know what to expect in a formal dinner.

"The event would be very good for us because there are a lot of students here who need to learn basic skills such as grabbing the right roll or knowing how to use the right spoon," Small said.

"Knowing how much you eat and what to order on an interview dinner is also a plus for the interviewer."

Rito Atheme, majoring in computer engineering, agreed.

"You need to know what to do on an etiquette diner and chances are that students here have never been

in a fancy dinner like that," Atheme said.

Although this event is designed for students, the fact that it is scheduled on a weekday is inconvenient to the schedules of some potential attendees.

"I won't be attending the event because the time conflicts with my work schedule," Atheme said.

"I think that they should have had it during the weekend because most of the students work or have class during this time," Fletcher said.

Lee said that in order for them to coordinate an event they need to check on the facility availability and the schedule of the expert.

The event is free for students and costs \$20, for faculty, staff, alumni and the community. Attendees can pay through a check or a money order.

HOMECOMING WEEK 2006

Biscayne Bay is going to fire it up on Homecoming Week 2006, which began with a Gamerz Ball Nov. 9 and ends with its annual Homecoming Dance Nov. 16 in the Wolfe University Center Ballrooms.

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 13

Meet The Homecoming Court Candidates: 12 p.m., Panther Square

SPC Homecoming Apollo Night: 9 p.m., WUC Ballrooms

-Apollo Night is presented by BET and features P. Diddy Bad Boy of Comedy, Malek Sannon as host.

TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 14

SOC and SPC AIDS Awareness Auction: 8 p.m., WUC ballroom

-Win A Date To The Homecoming Dance! All proceeds will go to support the Children's Home Society

WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 15

FIU vs. Louisiana-Lafayette Pep Rally and Block Party: 8 p.m., Academic II parking lot.

-D.J. Khaled of 99 Jamz will be busy on the turntables providing the music.

THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 16

Support your Candidate: Voting 9 a.m.- 7 p.m., Panther Square

Homecoming Dance: 8 p.m., Ballrooms

- Compiled by Ever Cruz

OPINION

C. Joel Marino Editor in Chief • Christopher Necuze Production Manager • Jose de Wit Opinion Editor

Dumping incidents sign of medical industry's apathy

PABLO CAPOTE
Contributing Writer

It used to be that those who were poor could end up on Skid Row, but today it seems all they have to do is get sick. Just two weeks ago, headlines from the *Los Angeles Times* and *NPR.org*, among other sources, buzzed with reports of ambulances from the Los Angeles Metropolitan Medical Center allegedly dumping five patients on Skid Row.

A sergeant for the Los Angeles Police Department saw an ambulance crew discharge someone in front of the Volunteers of America homeless services facility. Soon after, an LAPD videographer recorded four more ambulances arriving at the same facility and leaving more discharged patients.

The general consensus among the five abandoned patients was that they didn't want to be left on Skid Row.

One 62-year-old patient expressed that he asked to be dropped off at his son's house. Police interviews revealed that more requests were denied as ambulance drivers only told patients that they would be taken to Skid Row instead.

So who's the culprit here? It's easy to just point the finger at upper management, and most news sources covering this story did just

that. As a result, private ambulance companies aren't depicted as having much accountability for the situation.

James Fraley, an attendant for ProCare, one of the private ambulance companies involved in the dumpings, told police that the hospital hired his company "on a regular basis" to transport discharged patients to Skid Row. That was it – no apology or promise of better service in the future. Sure, he was just carrying out orders, but the entire situation could have been avoided if Fraley and other employees like him had acted with the patients' best interests in mind.

William R. Hirsch, 23, is a South Florida paramedic and logistics supervisor for Broward County at American Ambulance Service. Commenting on L.A.'s Skid Row dumpings, he said that although a patient's discharge arrangements are the hospital's responsibility, ambulance company employees should also assess each patient individually.

"If we're instructed to drop off a 62-year-old in front of a shelter in downtown Miami, but he wants to be taken to his son's apartment in Kendall, well then it's time to analyze the situation and possibly stray from the schedule," said Hirsch.

This attitude goes beyond fol-



lowing orders and places greater focus on a patient's best interests.

Yes, the L.A. Metropolitan Medical Center and other such institutions are allegedly to blame here, but pursuing the other involved parties such as the private ambulance companies will confront this problem more efficiently, and from different angles.

When they gave orders that discharged patients be abandoned on Skid Row, the hospital's man-

agement demonstrated its poor judgment. Faced with this, it was the responsibility of ambulance company employees to question and assess the orders given by those in charge.

These incidents serve as a testament to the growing sense of apathy and dehumanization in America's medical industry.

A patient and the procurement of his or her well-being becomes nothing more than a number and

subsequent series of tasks.

It's up to the employees to make a difference so the duty to heal and care is not superseded by the duty to keep the line moving and attend the next person.

While hospital management is at the forefront of this investigation, immediate results won't occur until ambulance drivers pick up the habit of individually assessing the patients that they're dropping off.

Only politics behind Columbia riot

JUAN CAMILO ESTRADA
Contributing Writer

What would we think if our freedom of speech was randomly censored? This is what may have happened at Columbia University. The consequences of censoring speech can be alarming.

Imagine being in class and when you try to voice your opinion on a controversial topic, the instructor interrupts you and does not let you speak because he does not like your opinion. This is what is at stake: our liberty to express our voice and the opportunity to have a voice.

On Oct. 4, the Columbia University College Republicans invited Minuteman Project founder Jim Gilchrist to speak at the university. The Minuteman Project's official goal is to prevent illegal immigration in the United States, but has been cited as taking a militaristic approach towards its cause.

As Gilchrist began his speech, a group of students representing the Chicano Caucus and the International Socialist Organization crossed the 33-foot-wide barricade that separated the audience from the stage and ascended to the stage with banners and chants.

Once on stage they chanted – with fists in the air – "Si se pudo," Spanish for "Yes it was accomplished" and displayed a banner that read "No one is illegal" in several

languages.

Video captured by Columbia University Television News exposes Gilchrist associates trying to snatch away the banner from the protesters.

One minuteman was captured delivering a brutal kick against a protester. Minutes later, the audience joined the protesters' chants and Gilchrist and his associates were escorted out of the building.

"We were punched and kicked," Monique Dols, protester and Columbia student told *The New York Times*. "We have always been escorted off the stage and the event continues."

The CUCR's president Chris Kulawik, a junior, falsely accused protesters of using "physical violence."

Chris Kulawik is a self-described "staunch conservative" who aims to earn the title "Most Despised Person on Campus."

Who is to blame for this incident? Given Kulawik's nature – a conflictive individual looking to earn derogatory titles – it seems evident that CUCR, and its president, did not have the best intentions in mind. Kulawik's actions highly influenced the outcome of this event.

If he had warned Gilchrist that it is commonplace at Columbia for protesters to storm stages and then be peacefully escorted out, and if he had provided more security

staff, then the riot may have been avoided.

More security was clearly needed, since it took nearly 15 minutes to subdue the riot. At the event, only two security officers were present: one at each end of the barricades.

The high probability of protesters storming the stage at the beginning of the speech should also have prompted Kulawik to have more security staff.

Kulawik did not try to excuse Gilchrist's associate behavior or justify his behavior. In fact, Kulawik does not even mention the actions of the violent individual. Neither does the Minuteman Project or the CUCR.

The blame was placed on the crude, but peaceful, protesters. Gilchrist's associates were the first to batter the protesters, but this was never mentioned in the majority of newspapers.

Kulawik did not have the intentions to carry out an orderly event. If this had been his intention, he would have warned Gilchrist of the circumstances surrounding the event, and Kulawik would have adequately staffed the building.

If he would have attended to these precautions, Gilchrist could have presented his speech and avoided the riot. This was clearly political connivance on Kulawik's part.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hopes for film school dashed

I read with interest Ramon Alvarez's article "FIU's art program is out of film." When I was hired by the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, I wanted to set up a film degree as I did at Miami Dade College. After all, that is what I went to Rome, Italy to learn. I found resistance to the idea, and to this day I can not figure out why we can not set up a first-class film degree at FIU.

At that time, one of the reasons I was given by an administrator was "cost." I was told that a film splicer costs over \$300,000. I replied that a film splicer could only cost that much if it is attached to a fully-equipped sound stage

and a fully-equipped post production unit. The splicer at the time cost \$300! I explained the difference, but no action was taken.

The SJMC already has a lot of the equipment needed to teach film in its latest version, known as "electronic cinema" (E-Cinema), where film is replaced by video, but the same techniques in use today with film are also applied. Offering a degree in E-Cinema would put FIU ahead of many other institutions – perhaps in this century.

Bert Delgado
Associate Professor
School of Journalism and
Mass Communication

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Letters to the Editor must be dropped off in GC 210 at University Park, WUC 124 at the Biscayne Bay Campus or sent to beaconopinion@yahoo.com. Letters must include the writer's full name, year in school, major/department and a valid phone number for verification purposes. *The Beacon* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 300 words.

LAUGHABLE LAWS

Outdated legislation unintentionally funny

CHARLIE GRAU
Asst. Sports Editor

Next time you're visiting Utah, make sure to yield the right of way to all birds while driving on the highway because if not, you could be fined or jailed.

Obsolete laws like this have been in law books across the United States for years. Though most of the general public doesn't know about such kooky laws, state legislatures have been reluctant to take them off the books.

"For legislatures, it's not worth their time of day. They don't get any campaign contributions. They don't get any press for repealing a stupid law. You only get press if you violate a law or try to propose a new law," said Andres L. Smith, an assistant professor of law at FIU.

So don't look for the representatives in Tallahassee to repeal laws that don't permit citizens to have sexual relations with a porcupine or repeal the law that states if an elephant is left tied to a parking meter, the parking fee has to be paid just as it would for a vehicle.

"Any law that's antiquated should be repealed because they probably won't be enforced the way they were originally intended to," said law student Judah Solomon.

Residents of Pensacola can't be caught downtown with less than \$10 on them. It is also illegal to roll a barrel on any street; fines go up according to the contents of the barrel.

"Somebody with a lot of power and an agenda must have passed all these laws," said FIU law student George Francis. "I'm sure it has to do with religion."

Though many of these laws are perceived to be silly and useless, they were at one time held in high regard and necessary to maintain the morality and integrity of the community. Some communities still force businesses to close on Sundays in order to honor the Sabbath.

"They're basically anachronistic. They're from times when we believed laws were more community based rather than having a national scope," Smith said. "They generally don't have to because of prosecutorial discretion. Just because a law is on the books doesn't mean the district attorney has to enforce it."

This is especially true in Hialeah, where gambling and strolling is considered a misdemeanor or in Alabama where it is illegal to play dominoes on Sunday.

While some laws seem simply outdated, for others it's hard to place a time where the laws would be useful at all.

In Tucson, Ariz., it is illegal for women to wear pants. While in California, it is a misdemeanor to shoot at any kind of game from a moving vehicle, unless the target is a whale. Fire trucks in New Britain, Conn., have a speed limit of 25 m.p.h., even when going to a fire. According to a state law in Illinois, it is illegal to speak English; the officially recog-



nized language is American.

Shocking as it may seem, many of these laws were passed as a result of some unimaginative situation that may have come up.

"Laws like that probably respond to local incidents," said Jose Gabilondo, an assistant professor of law at FIU. "You can be sure there is a story behind [some of those laws]."

Although many students and professors aren't shocked by the laws, they are disturbed at what type of image they may paint of our society.

"So if an alien came down from outer space and looked at all our law books they would see all those things and say, 'Hey, that represents you people?'" Smith said.

Dozens of these laws can be seen on websites like *crazylaws.com*, *totallyuselessknowledge.com* or *ahajokes.com*.

Book fair celebrates the classics

SARAH RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

If the imaginary world in a book can be vivid and colorful, the 23rd annual Miami Book Fair, running Nov. 17-19, promises to make it an even more sensory experience.

The fair started in 1984, when it was a small event called "Books by the Bay." Today, it is an endeavor put together by the Florida Center for the Literary Arts, a center that stems from Miami-Dade College.

The festivities at MDC's Wolfson Campus in Downtown actually begin as early as Nov. 12 with the "Congress of Authors." More than 300 celebrated authors will offer readings every evening from the 12 to the 17, as well as all day during the weekend. Highlight names among these include Frank McCourt, author of the memoir *Angela's Ashes*, and Isabel Allende, considered by many to be one of Latin America's literary gems.

The fair houses many other programs besides the "Congress of Authors." The "Write Out Loud Café" is actually one aspect of the fair that continues all year long, when South Floridian and visiting writers offer readings at different artistic venues throughout the city. At the fair, this café ambiance is retained, except it is now open even to community writers who have yet to publish any of their work. In addition, the "Children's Alley" program makes picture books come to life, as children (and even adults) have the chance to meet friends like Arthur, Dr. Seuss and Curious George.

The actual street fair contains more than one million books for sale by more than 200 vendors; this year, paintings and wine tasting are to be featured.

BOOK FAIR, page 8

Musicians join forces for *Van Wilder 2* soundtrack

SAMANTHA QUINON
Staff Writer

Both Art Alexakis of Everclear and Jonny Dubosky of Jonny Lives! spoke with WRGP about songwriting, staying positive and MySpace when they appeared in the Graham Center with Kal Penn on Nov. 7 to promote *Van Wilder 2: The Rise of Taj*.

Q: Everclear and Jonny Lives! appear on the soundtrack for *Van Wilder 2*. How did that work out?

Dubosky: The music supervisor for the film wanted to put some good music in it and came to us and there are a bunch of bands that are on our label that are on the soundtrack.

Alexakis: Who incidentally is putting out the soundtrack so that might have something to do with it.

Dubosky: It's funny how that works.

Alexakis: Yeah, isn't that funny. Yeah, a little nepotism there.

Dubosky: We like that ... We did a music video with Kal [Penn] who stars in the film, and he co-directed it with the director [of *Van Wilder 2*]. And we kind of, uh, shot it in this high school in L.A. It kind of reminded me of The Ramones' *Rock & Roll High School*. It was like a day long, crazy shoot with scantily clad women...

Q: I talked to Kal Penn earlier, and he said he wanted "Get Steady" to be the end title track because he felt it embodied the theme of "debauchery with a heart."



EDDIE ZENG / THE BEACON

WILD BOYS: Jonny Dubosky (left) of Jonny Lives! and Art Alexakis (right) of Everclear in the WRGP studio.

D: Well, when I wrote that song we were in England on tour with the Kaiser Chiefs, and I wound up at this bar, and I ran into Dave Grohl.

He was kind of getting harassed by fans and just sort of trying to have a quiet drink and he called us over and we just kind of protected him.

We wound up getting a bottle of tequila from the bartender and we couldn't figure out how to open it, so we like went into the bathroom and kind of smashed it against the urinal and it

just turned into a sort of insane weekend. From there, you can only imagine.

I wound up coming home off of the weekend with the song still kind of ruminating, and I wrote it, you know, on the floor of the bar on a napkin.

Q: It's an excellent song. Do you find that most of your best songs come to you that quickly?

D: It depends. I don't ever sit down and write. Whenever I do, it never really works out well. I don't know, I mean, do you work similarly?

A: I'm the opposite. I get an idea and I let it fester for a while, but I don't, like, agonize over it. I don't try to push lines. I let it come when it comes, but the way I do it is really working my subconscious. I get the idea. I get the melody. I get the idea of the song. And, uh, just kind of let it like incubate. I say fester, you say incubate.

D: I was gonna say fester.

A: OK, fester. But then it tends to come out ... Have you checked out our MySpace Page?

Q: I think I'm the last person in the world who doesn't have MySpace. I'm a trendkiller! If I get it, no one will have it anymore.

A: (Gasps) You gotta get on MySpace!

D: It's pretty, uh, it's pretty advance in how far it has reached. I

MUSICIANS, page 8

REVIEWS (YOU CAN USE)

MUSIC Animal Collective – *Hollindagain*JOSE DE WIT
Opinion Editor

Since their first release in 2001 as the duo Avey Tare and Panda Bear, experimental rock band Animal Collective has become a favorite among discriminating indie fans.

The band has since grown to include two more members, Geologist and Deaken, but their sound has remained a consistently intriguing blend of ambient music and chamber pop.

What generally makes their music appealing is the elusiveness of its pop elements: snatches of breezy melody weave in and out

of layers of organic, and occasionally creepy, field recordings.

The re-release of the Collective's 2001 live album *Hollindagain* suggest that they have come a long way since their inception. The album is a collage of recordings of their 2001 U.S. performances, originally made available in a limited batch of hand-painted vinyls.

The album documents the band's initial clumsy forays into experimental field recordings—apparently before they discovered useful little things such as melody, structure and restraint.

For some reason, they felt the urge to re-release

this monstrosity. Call it a momentary lapse of judgment or a spell of self-indulgence, but the band will be sure to alienate a good 90 percent of its fans when they realize they just paid \$15 to listen to some guys high out of their minds, yelping senselessly and fiddling with the reverb on their mics and instruments for 40 interminable minutes.

Shame on you, Avey Tare. Shame on you, Panda Bear. Whatever your reason was for inflicting such pain unto your fans, shame on you.

MUSIC El Perro del Mar – *El Perro del Mar*JOSE DE WIT
Opinion Editor

Imagine a heartbroken woman singing to herself in a broken voice, attempting to cheer herself up by singing happy songs.

In her self-titled debut LP, Swedish artist El Perro del Mar combines the tunes, instrumentation and harmonies of 1950s and '60s girl-group pop with a sincere dejection of which emo bands can only dream. As if this combination weren't disparate enough, she takes each trend to an extreme. On the third track, "Party," she juxtaposes lyrics like, "c'mon over baby/ there's a party going on," with a lonely little girl mopeyness that sounds like Ronnie Spector on Quaaludes.

This contrast would border on the absurd, especially after pulling out nonsensical '50s throwback lyrics like "doo-wop-bee-boop-baloo-bop" and "sha-la-la-la," were it not for the candor of El Perro's delivery.

“ Her delivery has an earnestness that makes her lollipop lyrics sound innocent rather than facetious... ”

Her delivery has an earnestness that makes her lollipop lyrics sound innocent rather than facetious and her despondence sound sincere rather than self-pitying.

Regardless of whether El Perro's stylistic debt to mid-20th century pop amounts to kitsch nostalgia or the paying of due respect to past heroes, her first full-length album sounds like a lost recording from the vault of Phil Spector's girl-group productions.

It is a decidedly delectable listen, and by far one of this year's best albums.

THEATRE *The Dining Room*ANGELINA ESPOSITO
Copy Editor

FIU Theatre's production of *The Dining Room* by A. R. Gurney explores the dying custom of having family dinners in an actual dining room, while bringing to light issues many families go through — with comedic flare.

The play is a continuous flow of scenes that do not connect; because of this, the indication

that a scene is over needs to be as clear-cut as possible without seeming awkward. Guest director and professor at New World School of the Arts Gail Garrisan conquers this obstacle amazingly without any confusion.

The set was well-addressed: while the piece may have been better performed in a theater in the round (a theater where the stage is in the center surrounded by the audience), the design worked extremely well for the space, and the costumes provided

subtle glimpses into the different characters' personalities.

Family issues that the play explores range from overly controlling parents to adulterous affairs. The play even manages to add humor in the situation of a father planning his funeral with his son. Gurney's play takes stereotypical family dilemmas and throws them back out to the audience as if to say, "Look, everyone's a little messed up but lets laugh about it."

Eight actors have to portray 59 different characters with ages that range from 6 to 76. While each individual does a wonderful job staying in character, actor Chris Cromer

excels by having his individual characters always stand out.

Corinne Farkash also stands out in her performance. Due to fast scene changes, there is little time for complete costume changes, leaving the characters to be based solely on the actors' presentation. She entered the stage each time with an entirely different air about her even for characters who could have easily appeared too similar.

In the end, *The Dining Room* is definitely a show worth seeing twice. There are so many heartwarming and funny moments that it's hard to catch them all the first time.

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Rocker attempts to stay positive

MUSICIANS, page 6

was talking to a girl in, like, the south of India the other day. It was like, "Oh my God ..."

A: Yeah. I talk to people in Australia, I talk to people in, uh ... I think the weirdest place I ever talked to someone from was Jakarta.

D: Really?

A: Yeah. I mean, that is just bizarre! You're talking to someone, you know, on the other side of the world that you don't know, that you have some things in common with.

It can be great. It can be horrible, too. Because it is addictive.

And if you have a stalking part of you, and everybody has a little bit somewhere in there where you just go on, you can get lost in the different layers.

D: And you, like, follow the path where you look at someone's page and then you see their friends...

A: And then you go there.

D: And then all of a sudden it's four in the morning.

A: And yeah, and you're like looking at a

picture of somebody and their dog, you know, their dog drinking beer, just going, "What am I doing? Really?"

D: "How did I end up here?"

A: Yeah, and you should have went to bed three hours ago.

Q: I guess the other thing I wanted to ask you before we have to wrap this up is about when you were talking about Everclear's lyrics earlier having very positive messages.

A: Yeah. "Live and let live!" I think it's the total epitome of what I'm trying to get at, which is, if you don't like something, don't buy it, don't listen to it. If you don't like someone, don't talk to them.

Don't talk bad, don't hate, don't go to the negative side. There's no point in it. It just makes you unhappy.

But there is the contradiction in the song where the person who's being hated on is hating back, and that's the trap we fall into.

D: We can't fall to that level.

A: Well it's kind of hard not to. Unless you're a Jedi Master.

Notable authors will appear at fest

BOOK FAIR, page 6

According to Lissette Mendez, the program coordinator for the Florida Center for the Performing Arts, and graduate of FIU's Creative Writing program, the fair will focus on modern adaptations of classics, such as *Bridget Jones' Diary*, based on Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Prospero's Daughter*, a contemporary twist on Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

She considers this emphasis on the classics a

part of a new interdisciplinary flare – this is one way in which this year's fair is unique from years past.

One of the fair's noteworthy programs is "Authors in College Classrooms" because of the very tangible way in which it seems to impact the community.

Authors featured at the fair arrive early for the sole purpose of visiting MDC and public school classrooms, giving lectures and handing each student a copy of their book.

MDC students naturally have a stronger connection

to the Miami Book Fair because their school spearheads it.

Among FIU students, however, reactions to the fair seem to be mixed.

Junior Kathie Warfel explains that she has heard about the fair only peripherally.

"If I hear 'book fair' it doesn't automatically appeal to my interests of weekend activities," said Warfel. "If I knew a little more maybe I'd consider checking it out."

Senior Nancy Toruno offers a different perspective.

"I don't know if it'll be really crowded," Toruno said. "[But] I'd be interested in going because I like books and they have different publishers and writers. That'd be awesome. I've never been to one before."

As she looks around our community, Mendez sees what she calls "anecdotal evidence" that we need an increased awareness of the power of words.

"I never see people reading on the bus or in parks," Mendez said. "They don't understand the concept of reading for enjoyment."

As much as the fair encompasses, there is always room for improvement. How it can be achieved is a difficult issue according to Mendez.

"We could make it bigger, better, longer," she said. "Money plays a part in everything. Funding classroom programs even more would be great."

Entrance cost at the fair is \$5 a day for adults, and free admission for attendees aged 18 or younger.

Students interested in the fair can find more information at www.miamibookfair.com and can also volunteer their time at the fair by calling 305-237-3258.



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College of Engineering & Computing

Golden Panthers have no answer for UM's front court

BASKETBALL, page 12

side, Lora delivered another 3-pointer to pull the Golden Panthers within six points (28-22) and silence the raucous Hurricane home crowd.

However, that silence

was short lived as King, along with forwards Jimmy Graham and Dwayne Collins, wrapped up the half on a 9-0 run to give the Hurricanes a 18-point lead at the half.

Following the intermission, the Hurricane front-

court picked up right where they left off. On the other end of the court, Graham dominated the defensive boards and ignited the crowd with a series of passionate rejections.

"[Playing UM] was like being a welterweight and going up against a heavy-weight," coach Rouco said.

As the game progressed, the Hurricanes continued to exploit the Golden Panthers in the paint more and more and the easy baskets made the game easy for them.

The explosive 6-9, 242 lb. King had his way with the front line of the Panthers as he finished with a career high 19 points, complemented by 15 rebounds and four blocks.

The Golden Panthers on the other hand launched countless perimeter shots and with the exception of Lora, nobody made them consistently.

With no post presence and a major deficiency in rebounding, the Golden Panthers could only watch as the Hurricanes handed them the first defeat of the season.

The Hurricanes won the points in the paint battle 20-8 and shot near 50 percent

from the field for the game (48.4).

The Golden Panthers, who were 9 of 27 from behind the arc, finished the game shooting 32.2 percent.

"That's the evil when you live off the three point shot," Rouco said. "We're a small team and were not going to pound the ball inside because we don't have that type of player."

After the game, Lora, who shot a scorching 5 of 7 from three point range, talked about playing against a bigger team and his strong shooting performance.

"They were just too big so every time we went to the basket there was a block shot or something. They were just too big," Lora said.

Villegas, the lone returning starter from last year's team, didn't have the game he expected as he finished with a mere seven points on 3 of 11 shooting from the field.

"It was pretty hard, but coming into this game we knew it would be tough and we have to get back on the horse. We cannot hang our heads down after one game," Villegas said.



JESSICA MARSHALL/THE BEACON

FLYING BY: Senior guard Johwen Villegas attempts a layup over University of Miami forward Anthony King.

"It is really disappointing. We thought that we could have won this game, but the shots just didn't fall and we stopped playing for a little while.

"We are a small team and I am not disappointed in anybody."

Galindo and Fuller chipped in with ten points each to join Lora as the lone Golden Panthers in double figures.

The Golden Panthers will look to get their first win of the season Nov. 13 at Robert Morris.

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FIU banking on jump shots

GRAU, page 12

made him look like the next coming of Bill Russell.

"We're not going to face big guys like that in [the Sun Belt] that they keep bringing those types of guys off the bench," FIU head coach Sergio Rouco said.

Thank goodness because it would be a long season for them.

So what's the alternative?

Shoot it like Antonie Walker, of course, but 27 times?

Jacking up that many 3-pointers in a game won't

exactly win the Sun-Belt Conference and earn a ticket to the Big Dance come March.

"That's the way we're going to play but unfortunately, today was the day they didn't fall. We had some looks. I thought 27 was a little bit too many, but when you're down you press and you think that's the one that's going to get you back," Rouco said. "Three's are going to get you back quicker than easy two's."

Three's would have gotten them back but when they're not falling, it's time to try something else.

"If your shot doesn't fall,

what are you suppose to do?" Villegas said.

Though the loss doesn't impact their hunt for the Sun-Belt championship, it does offer them an opportunity to measure up their skills against a formidable opponent that they will never see during division play.

"I want to play good teams. I don't want to play guys that don't go to the tournament. I want my kids to play against the best and get ready for conference play. We want to be at their level," coach Rouco said.

They won't until they start playing bigger.

NOT AGAIN



CHRIS CUTRO/THE BEACON

FEELING PRESSURE: Senior quarterback Josh Padrick is sacked by Louisiana-Monroe cornerback Chaz Williams in a 35-0 loss to the Warhawks Nov. 11 at the FIU Stadium. ULM sacked Padrick four times in the game. In their last three games, the Golden Panthers offense has only managed to score a total of three points. The loss drops the Golden Panthers' record to 0-9 on the season. For complete coverage on the game, be sure to pick up Thursday's issue of *The Beacon*.

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STORM SURGE

Men's basketball routed by Hurricanes

RENALDO SMITH
Staff Writer

The one factor that critics often stress in regard to the FIU men's basketball team, turned out to be the deciding one in their season opener Nov. 11 against cross town rival University of Miami Hurricanes.

The team's lack of size crippled the Golden Panthers, whose display of sporadic shooting led them to a disappointing 73-50 loss at the Bank United Center.

"They were a little bit too strong around the basket for us," said coach Sergio Rouco.

Early in the contest, the Golden Panthers looked nothing like the team that closed out the game.

After the Hurricanes opened the game on a 5-0 run, junior guard Chris Fuller, senior Johwen Villegas and forward Alex Galindo, did their part to keep the Golden Panthers in the game.

Simultaneously, King and the rest of UM's frontline were just getting into the swing of things.

With Golden Panthers center Facundo Giorgi confined to the bench thanks to two early fouls, King feasted on freshman forward Nikola Gacesa as the Hurricanes went on a 9-0 run to open up a 23-12 lead.

Just when it appeared as though the Hurricanes were set to pull away, sophomore point guard Elvis Lora and newcomer Dejon Prejean had other ideas.

It was Lora who made a 3-pointer from the top of the key to end the drought for the Golden Panthers, and Prejean's energy on both ends of the court seemed to insert life in the entire team.

After Giorgi made a five footer and Prejean swished a jumper from the left



JESSICA MARSHALL/THE BEACON

TALL ORDER: Sophomore guards Elvis Lora led the Golden Panthers with 15 points in a 73-50 loss to the University of Miami. All of his points came from the 3-point line.

UM has what FIU needs: height

So where's the block party? Need directions, just ask FIU's men's basketball team.

The Golden Panthers had eight shots blocked as they lost to the University of Miami, 73-50 at the Bank United Center.

The team had their first three possessions of the second half blocked by UM defenders.

"We couldn't get any offensive rebounds and they beat us to the boards many times," senior guard Johwen Villegas said.

UM just didn't outrebound FIU, they owned them in that department. They grabbed 16 more rebound than them and outscored the Golden Panthers 38-18 in the paint.

The Golden Panthers are going to need to play more than hard. They're going to need to learn how play bigger than what their listed heights are if they don't want a repeat of last season's 8-20.

Granted, UM's center Anthony King, listed at 6'9", played like he was a seven footer. He had four blocks at the end of the night and protected the lane like he was Alonzo Mourning, and trust me, King is not what his last name indicates - he's more like the duke on that team.

The Golden Panthers' front court



MY VIEW

CHARLIE GRAU
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

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Star linebacker tackles parenthood

CHARLIE GRAU
Asst. Sports Editor

It was a phone call that changed his entire life. While in his dorm on a Sunday afternoon in December, senior linebacker Keyonvis Bouie found out he was going to be a daddy. Nine months later, Keyonvis Jr. - or KJ as Bouie likes to call him - was born on Aug. 27, 2004.

When he initially received the call from his son's mother, Locrystal Greenwich, he couldn't believe what was happening.

"I kid you not, I thought I was being 'punk'd.' And for like an hour I didn't say nothing, I just held the phone, I did not say one word for an hour, I couldn't believe it."

Bouie believes it now, taking every chance he gets to see his son, who lives with Bouie's mother.

"His son is his life. I've

never seen a better father in my life," said Carolyn, Bouie's mother.

On bye weeks or after games, Bouie hops in his '99 Mercury Sabre and drives an hour and 15 minutes to Pahokee, a small town in Palm Beach county, to spend time with his son. Sometimes he'll even bring him to his dorm for the weekend.

"He really balances everything well," said Alexander Bostic III, Bouie's roommate and senior linebacker.

Maintaining his 3.1 GPA toward his business management degree, watching game film, practicing and trying to maintain some type of social life are just some of the tasks Bouie says has to do.

"It was a real struggle; I wanted to be there every chance I got," Bouie said.

At one point, Bouie even considered staying home to be with his son, but Bouie's

mother wouldn't have it.

"I had to tell him to leave. I wanted him to finish school and get his degree. Ain't nothing round here but sugar fields and packinghouses," Carolyn said.

Bouie learned that the hard way, working an entire summer in a packinghouse, loading fruits and vegetables into trucks. At the end, all he had to show for his labor was a mere \$600.

The 6'0", 224 lb. linebacker is now making a living sacking quarterbacks and bruising running backs, but around his son one could never imagine the havoc he wreaks on the field.

Following the 35-0 loss to the University of Miami, Bouie was extremely disappointed and embarrassed by the brawl that took place that night.

While conducting a post game interview for a radio

station, KJ ran up to his father and yelled, "Daddy what's up?"

"After something like that, I think that was probably the best thing that happened to me. I just lit up ... and all that pain went away," Bouie said.

Bouie and his teammates realize KJ's charm but they also know his other side as well.

"To sum him up in one word, he's bad. He's really hyper." Bostic said. "He loves football. Every time I see him, he'll get into his little receiver stance and say 'down, set, hut.' I think that's why I'm so goofy, he laughs at everything. You can never be serious around him. He could do the baddest thing and he'll just look at you and just start laughing and you'll have to laugh right back at him."

But Bouie doesn't consider fatherhood any laughing



JESSICA MARSHALL/THE BEACON

FATHER FIGURE: Senior linebacker Keyonvis Bouie was a sophomore at FIU when Keyonvis Jr. was born.

matter. He understands that football is only a temporary part of his life.

"My main thing right now is just getting my degree in

business and using that more than anything to give [KJ] the life I never had. [I want] to give him a better life. My son, that's my heart right there."