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Locally grown, organic food available at UP

DANIELLA BACIGALUPO
News Director

When Ric Soto arrived from Los Angeles as a graduate student in the Department of Environmental Studies, he was not pleasantly surprised.

After all, he expected Miami to be a smaller version of Los Angeles but Los Angeles was teeming with organic farmers' markets and, unfortunately, Miami was not.

"I wasn't able to go to [the] farmers' markets on a weekly basis," said Soto. "I've been to the ones established on east Miami-Dade: Coconut Grove, Miami Beach, Pompano Bay. Brilliant. But what about the rest of us?"

Soto is a farmer and as such, organic and locally grown food is important to him. Yet, when he first started planting the idea of growing a community garden on campus, he did not expect local and organic food to be as important to anyone else.

But it is. As the University becomes more environmentally conscious, two graduate students are

working hard to promote a student culture that appreciates healthy food that's local and organic.

While Soto has established an organic garden in back of the baseball field with student-farmers, Nancy Maidique, a graduate student in public health and University President Modesto A. Maidique's wife, has organized the first on-campus Organic Farmers' Market.

Sponsored by the Stempel Public Health Association, Maidique's Organic Farmers' Market will launch Dec. 3 and will eventually open every Wednesday in 2009.

The Organic Farmers' Market will "raise awareness to a lot of FIU individuals who have never given a second thought to what is organic, why pesticides are bad, what is the difference between local and non-local," Maidique said.

The strong educational aspect to both initiatives is underscored by the amount of students that have taken interest in the projects.

Soto's garden has more than

ORGANIC FOOD, page 2

SGC-UP

Senate supports resolution to ban controversial Web site

RICK MARTINEZ
FIUSM.com Editor

The Senate of the Student Government Council-University Park finally passed a resolution (10-5) that supports the blocking of the Web site *Juicy Campus* from the University's Internet access.

The Senate had deliberated and voted 11-2 on the resolution before at a Nov. 17 SGC-UP Senate meeting, but the voting was disqualified because there were not enough senators present to vote.

Juicy Campus, a Web site that allows anybody to post anonymous messages and gossip about a university's student body and faculty, has been under heavy discussion in recent SGC-UP meetings. The Senate is trying to make the Web

site the first to be blocked from the University's Internet access.

The debate continued from where the last one left off. The focus of the debate was whether *Juicy Campus* should be boycotted or banned.

Sen. David Dial of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences doesn't believe that boycotting the Web site is enough because of the damage it can still cause.

According to Dial, Housing and Residential Life will be looking up



FAU 57, FIU 50

RICK MARTINEZ/FIUSM.COM

BIRD PREY: Linebacker George Allen (50) tackles Marquis Rolle in FAU's 57-50 overtime win in the Shula Bowl.

Owls win fourth consecutive Shula Bowl in wild shoot out

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

No matter what Paul McCall and the Golden Panthers did, they could not stop the relentless comeback efforts of Florida Atlantic on Nov 29.

FIU (4-7, 3-4 Sun Belt Conference) twice took a two-touchdown lead in

the fourth quarter only to allow FAU (6-6, 4-3) to tie the contest both times and eventually win the Shula Bowl in overtime 57-50 at Dolphin Stadium.

"When you have a chance to beat a team like this you have to finish," FIU head coach Mario Cristobal said. "No finger pointing."

After FIU elected to give the Owls

the first possession in overtime, FAU quarterback Rusty Smith connected with Cortez Gent from nine yards out to put them ahead.

FIU then took the ball and McCall threw three straight in completions before getting sacked by Daniel

FOOTBALL page 7

BOT begins search for new president

SERGIO BONILLA
Asst. News Director

President Modesto A. Maidique requested the Board of Trustees begin the search for the University's next president.

The BOT will create and implement the search process, according to an e-mail sent to the University community.

Two committee searches will be formed: a BOT Presidential Search Committee and a Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

The BOT Presidential Search Committee will select an executive search firm that will contribute to the national search, create the necessary qualifications for the next president and choose the presidential candi-

date for recommendation to the BOT.

The Presidential Search Advisory Committee will be made up of faculty, students, administrators, alumni, donors and other members of the University community.

Both committees will work together to create a short list of possible candidates.

The Search Advisory Committee will be chaired by Dr. Joyce Elam while the BOT Presidential Search Committee will be chaired by current BOT chair David Parker.

After the Board's Search Advisory Committee meeting, scheduled to be held the week of Dec. 8, the members comprising the committee will be announced.

It'll make us out to be villains in this situation. We will technically be restricting people's free speech rights.

Chris Cabral, senator
SGC-UP

the names of applicants for resident assistant positions on the Web site.

"If you are applying for an RA position, they'll be checking to see if your name is on *Juicy Campus*," he said.

Housing and Residential Life could not be reached for comment.

Sen. Helena Ramirez, a lower division representative, is mentioned on *Juicy Campus*, but she still argued against blocking the

JUICY CAMPUS, page 2

NEWS FLASH

FIU

Board of Trustees received funding for deep sea project

The Board of Trustees has been granted \$7,000 by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, according to a press release.

The money will benefit the Music Technology Department in the School of Music, College of Architecture + The Arts, and the Physics Department of the College of Arts and Sciences for a “Deep Sea Project”, an audio-visual, surround sound performance installation that reenacts the sonic world of the oceans depths.

The event will be held at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall on March 21, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. The Deep Sound project team will present an 8-channel, surround sound, audio-visual performance reenacting the deep sea.

The project is being directed by FIU graduate student Erik DeLuca in collaboration with FIU Physics professor Dr. James R. Webb. DeLuca also teaches Sound Reinforcement while working as a Music Engineer for the School of Music at FIU.

WORLD

Iraqi parliament asks for more changes in landmark bill

The Iraqi Parliament on Wednesday has asked for some last second amendments to a new bill would set a withdrawal date for US forces in the country.

The demands came after Sunni lawmakers feared Iraq’s Shiite-led government would become too powerful when American forces leave.

Sunni lawmakers also said they feared the growing Iranian influence in Iraq and the belief that the Obama administration may not honor the terms of the deal, which requires US forces to pull back to their bases next June and depart Iraq altogether in 2011.

– Compiled by *Julio Menache*

Organic food market part of green initiative

ORGANIC FOOD, page 1

33 student-farmers from the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences student chapter as well as from three resident halls, the Yoga Club and an agroecology class.

Five clubs will participate in the Organic Farmers’ Market including Students for Environmental Action and Panthers Going Green.

The Organic Farmers’ Market will be supplied with locally grown food from Soto’s garden, alumna Rachel Middleton’s family-owned Three Sisters Farms in the Redlands and other local farms.

While most of the produce will be local, some vegetables and fruits will be brought from out of state mostly because South Florida’s crops aren’t in high season until January and February, but also because it will allow students to become choosier consumers.

“People are way more detached from their food and where their food comes from than ever before. But that’s changing,” Middleton said.

“People want to know.”

The Organic Farmers’ Market will have tables set up and marked from the most local and organic produce to the least. Students may choose to buy a certain crop because of the way it’s been farmed.

“Students will benefit from the full exposure to their actions,” Middleton said.

The exposure won’t be limited there.

Middleton insists that food is an important issue in the “going green” movement because it’s an industry that involves resources, like petroleum, that cause serious environmental problems.

“When you look at where your food comes from, you deal with all environmental issues,” she said.

But to some, the importance of agricultural practices might be more economical and health-related.

“If we go to local and organic, we are having an impact on the price of food and we also are having an impact on the health of food,” said Soto.

“There are no pesticide

STEPPING IT UP...



VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

PROFRESH STYLE: The breakdancing crew ProFresh performed during halftime at the women’s basketball game vs. University of Miami on Nov. 25.

or herbicide residue and you are decreasing the carbon footprint of the food that’s being produced.”

For Maidique, however, it’s personal.

Maidique was brought up in a home that had fresh produce grown mostly by her mother, who was an “avid gardener.”

An extremely healthy woman, Maidique could find no other reason for her mother’s Parkinson’s disease than the pesticides used in their garden.

“Because I see the damage that pesticides can cause, I’m convinced we need to spread the word. That is why the market is so important.”

Resolution only first step in getting Juicy Campus off school intranet

JUICY CAMPUS, page 1

Web site.

“We need to see what would be beneficial for students,” said Ramirez. “What concerns me is that it starts here, but where does it end?”

During the meeting, Sen. Jeffrey Molinaro of the College of Law motioned to amend the resolution so that it supports a student body and faculty boycott instead of a ban.

“When you start taking away people’s rights to do something, it’s pretty egregious,” Molinaro said.

Sen. Chris Cabral of the College of Arts and Sciences agrees that it’s an issue of

students’ rights. He said that if the Web site were to be banned, the users who post on the Web site can claim that their rights are being violated.

“It’ll make us out to be villains in this situation,” said Cabral. “We will technically be restricting people’s free speech rights.”

During the voting for the resolution, Ramirez, who previously argued against the resolution, voted for it after requesting to vote last.

Getting the University to actually ban *Juicy Campus* could be much harder than simply getting the resolution passed by the branches of SGC-UP.

Chief Information



JOSEPH KOSANKE/THE BEACON

OPPOSING VIEWS: Senators Jeffrey Molinaro, right, and David Dial, left, listen to a debate about *Juicy Campus*.

Officer and Vice President of University Technology Services Min Yao said that the SGC-UP resolution to block the Web site is more than just a technical matter.

“It gets us into the domain of rights protected by the First Amendment of the [U.S.] Constitution,” he said.

Yao said it would probably require the consultation of Vice President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones and General Counsel for the University Cristina Mendoza.

According to Dial, the 10-5 split in the voting will make it difficult for Student Affairs to actually ban the Web site from campus Internet access.

“I’m not sure how far it will go,” Dial said.

SGC-UP President A.J. Meyer still needs to sign and approve the resolution for it to become official, and has a chance to veto it.

To date, no Web site – domestic or foreign – has been blocked at the University, according to Yao.

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INFORMATION

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CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 26 issue of *The Beacon*, the story titled “Alumna returns to inaugurate long awaited Frost Museum,” incorrectly named the museum. It should have gone by its official name, The Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum.

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

RATE MY TURKEY



NATHAN VALENTINE/THE BEACON

TURKEY TROTTERS: Faculty and staff participated in the BBC Recreation Center's "Turkey Trot" on Nov. 26. Top-placing runners and walkers received their pick of the pile of turkeys.

Winter Wonderland eases stress for the Holiday Season

**PAMELA DUQUE
PARADISE AFSHAR**
Beacon Staff

Amid finals, students will have a chance to take a break from books and projects to attend an on-campus Winter Wonderland.

The Wolfe University Center, Biscayne Bay Campus office of Campus Life and Orientation, BBC Student Organization Council, Student Programming Council and BBC Multi-faith Council will be hosting the Winter Wonderland event Dec. 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It will be free and open to everyone.

The event will feature different activities throughout the day, which include a WUC Holiday Boutique Vendor Fair, a Christmas tree lighting, SOC Club Fair and a photo booth for students.

"This event was done about five years ago under a different name," said Zach Trautenberg, IT and market-

ing specialist for the Wolfe University Center.

The Holiday Boutique Vendor Fair will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Panther Square, and will feature local businesses from the community, such as Coldstone Creamery, which will be selling ice cream, and some local jewelry shops.

"Due to the financial recession we are in, many people are on tight budgets this holiday season, and this gives us a way to allow people to shop [for] inexpensive items and help local community businesses," Trautenberg said.

The lighting of the eight-foot tall Christmas tree will also take place in Panther Square from noon to 1 p.m. During the tree lighting, the BBC Multi-Faith Council will be providing snacks and refreshments to attendees.

The SOC Club Fair will take place from noon to 3 p.m. in the Campus Life hallway, where various clubs will set up booths to promote their causes

and recruit new members.

"This is our last club fair of the semester, and we want clubs to have a final chance to display information about what they do and recruit new members in preparation for the spring semester," said Jessica Senorin, SOC vice president.

SPC will also offer students a chance to share the Christmas spirit with a Christmas-themed photo booth. The booth will be placed in Panther Square, and students will have the opportunity to take pictures for free.

"We [bring photo booths] for students to know that they can enjoy college. Studying is important, but it can also be fun. We want them to release the stress from their finals," said Rashida Jones, SPC secretary.

For more information about the event, contact Campus Life at (305) 919-5804.

World AIDS day: opportunity to raise awareness

KISHORE SAWH
Staff Writer

As actress Elizabeth Taylor said regarding the AIDS epidemic, "it is bad enough that people are dying of AIDS, but no one should die of ignorance."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of World AIDS Day, and in an effort to bring attention to the global AIDS epidemic, individuals, interest groups and organizations from around the world are uniting. The office of Campus Life and Orientation at the Biscayne Bay Campus is hosting a World AIDS Day event on Dec. 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Wolfe University Center's Panther Square. The event, which is co-sponsored by BBC's Multi-Faith Council, is free and open to everyone. The Health and Wellness Center, as well as the Women's Center and Stonewall 2, will also contribute to the event.

"It is mostly an educational awareness event, where we'll have different departments of the University and members of the greater Miami community come out to give information about AIDS awareness," said Ivy Seigel, coordinator of Campus Life and Orientation.

Tables will be set up in Panther Square, where different organizations will provide information about AIDS. Students will also receive free red ribbons to "promote awareness wherever they go," according to Seigel.

Each table will have food "passports." Students must present these "passports" to several department

tables in order to get stickers. These stamped "passports" would then serve as food vouchers.

"There will be no Student Programming Council-sponsored walk like what we had last year, but we still really want student involvement," Seigel said.

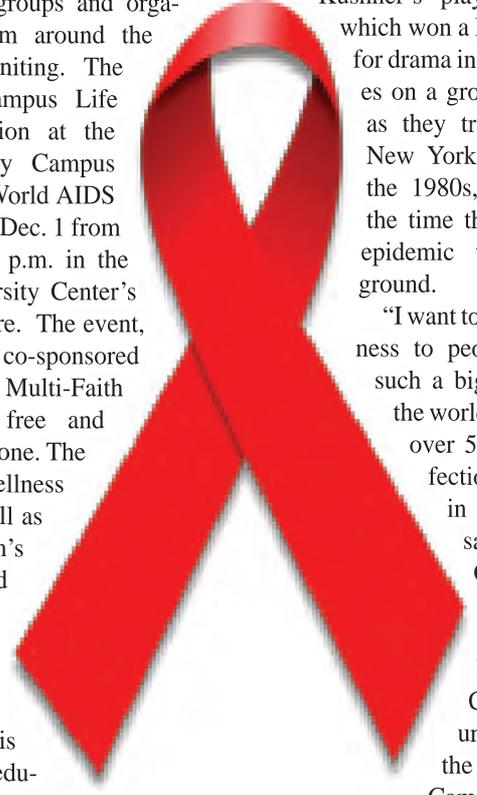
The Campus Life office will also play "Angels in America," the internationally-acclaimed small screen cinematic version of Tony Kushner's play. The play, which won a Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1993, focuses on a group of people as they travel through New York City during the 1980s, just around the time that the AIDS epidemic was gaining ground.

"I want to bring awareness to people that it's such a big problem in the world. There were over 5,000 new infections in Florida in 2006 alone," said Anne Gorosco, member of the Multi-Faith Council, volunteer for the Episcopal Campus Minister, and associate director for The Institute For Public Opinion Research.

Gorosco has been promoting the Multi-Faith Council's event around campus.

"When I learned that Broward County was having new high infection rates in HIV and AIDS, it brought it home to me that it's a local problem, and the stigma behind it needs to go," Gorosco said. "It's also a hetero disease, and now the group most affected are women."

For more information about the World AIDS Campaign, visit www.worldaidscampaign.org.



Dessert potluck celebrates cultural diversity, traditions

PARADISE AFSHAR
BBC Life! Editor

Traditionally, a holiday potluck includes entrees such as turkey and mashed potatoes, but the International Student & Scholar Services potluck is going to have a small twist, consisting of nothing but desserts.

The event is open to everyone on campus, and will take place Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m. in the ISSS office, room 363 of the Wolfe University Center.

"Anyone who attends Desserts Day will bring a dessert, not just the international stu-

We have students bringing different food from their countries and talking about their traditions at home.

Nancy Hernandez, Director
International Student and Scholar Services

dents and the ISSS staff," said Julie Wilbers, ISSS coordinator.

Depending on the students and staff in attendance, the desserts will vary in the countries they represent.

"We have students from Jamaica, Trinidad

& Tobago, South Korea, China, Germany, France and many other countries, so it is hard to say who will be there," Wilbers said. "Some of our Chinese students have talked about bringing moon cake."

Other desserts that are being brought to the

event include a Puerto Rican dish called "arroz dulce," which is a sweet rice pudding, along with chocolate cake and corn bread.

"It is important [students] see the different cultures we have here," said Nancy Hernandez, ISSS director.

ISSS has been holding a Dessert Day for five years, but this is the first time that they will be holding a potluck.

"I think it's more fun when people bring their own dishes," Hernandez said. "It's a way to bring people together. We have students bringing different food from their countries and talking about their traditions back home."

THE BEACON | Editorial

Next president must help University establish firm base, secure funding

On Nov. 28, the Board of Trustees announced it will begin the search for a new University president.

When searching for worthy candidates, the BOT Presidential Search Advisory Committee should be looking for a candidate who 1) will be visible to students and faculty, 2) has a vision for taking FIU forward in its goal to becoming a top institution, 3) can secure private donations and public funds from Tallahassee and 4) someone who can relate with and understand the diverse community of South Florida.

For 22 years, Modesto Maidique has served as FIU's president and during his rein, the University has grown beyond what anyone could have ever imagined.

Any person considered for the job of FIU's fifth president should share President Maidique's vision and be able to expand upon it, because it is his vision and tenacity that have played a major role in establishing the College of Medicine, College of Law, School of Architecture and an up-and-coming Division I-A football team.

Everything he has wanted to see happen has happened.

But at the same time, with all the growth the University has seen in the past 10 years, resources have been spread thin.

Even before the budget crisis hit public universities, the University was already short on

advisors and faculty.

Instead of focusing on growth and expansion, our next president must be an individual who can expand infrastructure, address the University's customer service issues and focuses on quality rather than quantity.

The University cannot continue to grow at the expense of other programs or institutions. There is no point in erecting beautiful buildings across campus if there are no students and quality professors to occupy them.

Our next president must also work to tear down the excess of red tape at the University and minimize the bureaucracy that makes it difficult to get anything done in a timely manner.

Both committees must find a leader who has excellent communication skills and has the savvy, drive and charisma to help raise private dollars.

During a time when tax revenues are falling all across the country, public universities must make an extra effort to obtain funds outside of the legislature. With no sign of relief near, our next president must be able to make an immediate impact and help FIU navigate through these uncertain times.

Most of all, the next University president must be a leader who brings change to FIU with an assortment of fresh ideas to take our institution well into the next decade and beyond.



KEVIN CASTRO Staff Writer

College is like a fountain of knowledge, and the students are there to drink from it. But what if sections of that water were poisoned and you could not tell the difference between good and bad water? How would you know where to drink? This is a problem many students face today: they know the classes they must take, but not the professors who teach them.

Some students believe that the professor who is lecturing the class does not matter.

After all, it's the same class right?

Wrong.

Believe it or fail, the professor generates a larger impact on your grade than you do.

Before you decide on a class, research the professor that is teaching it for that semester. You have many resources available to you: there is the legendary *RateMyProfessors.com*, where students provide comments on professors they've had, ranking their ease of grading, reliance on textbooks and clarity. But the downturn is that these comments are purely based on personal experiences.

This is where *PickAProf.com* comes in, which shows you the grading history for classes and professors.

Although overlooked, you can also access department Web sites at <http://academic.fiu.edu/docs/colleges.htm>.

The most important element to look out for when researching is whether the professor is an adjunct or a faculty member.

Remember, FIU is a business, although the powers that be don't like to admit it. If hiring adjuncts rather than professors will lighten the blow from budget cuts, then it will be done.

"We have too many adjuncts used as cheap labor. You may have some adjuncts that don't know what they're doing," said Dr. Susan Gorman, a mathematics instructor.

So, whereas you would have a greater chance of receiving a higher grade with an adjunct, you may not learn as much as you would from a faculty member. When you go into upper division courses you could not be prepared enough and thus fail.

You then have "people coming in without the right al-

international relations major, said in regard to *PickAProf.com*, "After dropping Calculus for Business twice, a better, more hands-on professor who gave more time to students was just a search and click away."

The trend is also seen in many upper division courses, even though adjuncts do not teach them.

Junior Andres Sebastian Marcial, an electrical and computer engineering major, shared his experience of a Calculus II course he took

“... Whereas you would have a greater chance of receiving a higher grade with an adjunct, you may not learn as much as you would from a faculty member.”

gebraic skills," Gorman said.

This trend can be easily seen, as departments that hire adjuncts by the busload show a ludicrous average GPA range for the same classes.

For example, why is it that, according to *PickAProf.com*, 60 percent of students earn an "A" in a particular adjunct's ENC 1102 course, but only 10 percent are lucky enough to achieve an "A" in the same class taught by a faculty member?

Departments that rarely, if at all, use adjuncts show a very stable average GPA range throughout the same classes.

"The average GPA of courses is pretty much the same, no matter who teaches the lecture," said Dr. Palmer Graves, associate chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. "[We] almost never use adjuncts in the lecture courses."

Senior Richard Lopez, an

with associate professor Dr. David Ritter.

"This is a good professor if you would have gotten a perfect 'A' in Calculus I; otherwise, it will be a nightmare," Marcial said.

Carefully researching your professors will only take a few hours, which does not compare to the time you'll spend in class.

If you have to go out of your way to take a better instructor then do so, as it is far better than taking it with someone who will impact your ability to pass.

An example of the types of statistics you can find on *PickAProf.com* includes which one gives 57 percent F's in the same class, after 53 percent of his students drop the course.

Take heed, for if you disregard this message you may fail as fast as FIU departmental budgets get cut.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Letters to the Editor can be sent to opinion@fiusm.com. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 300 words and 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.

STEP ONTO THE SOAPBOX

Officer of a student organization? Student government member? University official? Have something to say? Contact us at opinion@fiusm.com and we'll give you 500 words to share your opinion with the FIU community.

HOLLYWOOD HOLIDAY

Studios gearing up holiday movies for awards season

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

'Tis the season for Hollywood to cash in on the release of this season's holiday movies, but there are some movies being released in December that can be considered for a Golden Globe or Oscar nominations.

DEC. 5 "FROST/NIXON"

This movie is being considered the front-runner for the upcoming award season with Oscar-winning director Ron Howard ("A Beautiful Mind") in the director's chair. Based on a play written by Oscar-nominated writer Peter Morgan ("The Queen"), "Frost/Nixon" is a dramatic retelling of the post-Watergate television interviews between British talk-show host David Frost (Michael Sheen) and former President Richard Nixon (Tony-winner Frank Langella). Both Sheen and Langella reprise their roles in the original production, and Howard only agreed to do the movie if the studio would have both actors appear in the film version.

DEC. 12 "THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL"

The original 1951 film is known as one of the best science fiction films of all time, according to the American Film Institute. Half a century later, director Scott Derrickson ("The

Exorcism of Emily Rose") is at the helm of this big-budget remake of the film that features Keanu Reeves ("The Matrix") and Oscar-winner Jennifer Connelly ("Requiem for a Dream"). An alien's (Reeves) arrival triggers a global disturbance, and as governments and scientists race to unravel the mystery behind the visitor's appearance, a woman (Connelly) and her young stepson (Jaden Smith) could be the catalysts for saving the planet. Will Smith's young son, Jaden Smith, is following in his father's footsteps by starring in the big-budget 20th Century Fox sci-fi movie, just like his father did 12 years ago in "Independence Day."

DEC. 17 "THE WRESTLER"

The winner of the Golden Lion at this past year's Venice Film Festival, "The Wrestler" is a film about Randy "The Ram" Robinson (Mickey Rourke), an '80s pro wrestler struggling with his job in a supermarket under the watchful eye of his jerk boss. When he is not at his job, he is trying to relive his glory days by wrestling in independent shows and sustaining injuries that are common with an aging pro wrestler. Coming off a much-needed heart surgery, Robinson considers the idea of retiring and looks to spark a romance with an aging stripper (Oscar-winner Marisa Tomei) while reconciling with his estranged daughter (Evan Rachel Wood). Directed by

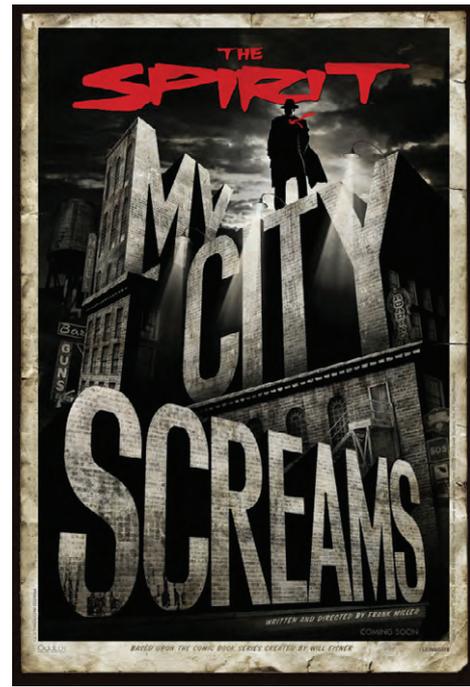
Darren Aronofsky ("The Fountain"), this movie seems to be another front runner for this year's award season with Rourke being a possible contender for an Oscar nomination. The film will be released in a limited capacity on Dec. 17, but can be seen nationwide on Jan. 16.

DEC. 26 "REVOLUTIONARY ROAD"

Based on the novel by Richard Yates, director Sam Mendes helms this movie that features the reunion of "Titanic" stars and Oscar nominees Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet. They play April and Frank Wheeler, a young couple thriving with their two children in a Connecticut suburb in the mid-'50s. They both suffer their midlife crises as Frank struggles with a well-paying but boring office job, and April dreams of having a career as an actress. As they both try to find a purpose in their lives, the couple slowly implodes as they try to find their true artistic sensibilities.

"THE SPIRIT"

Wrapping up the year with one last comic book adaptation, comic book writer and director Frank Miller ("Sin City") adapts Will Eisner's classic comic book series, "The Spirit." Shot in the same black and white (along with some color) cinematography used in "Sin City," the film is about a rookie cop (Gabriel Macht) who returns from



the dead to fight crime in Central City. His archenemy, The Octopus (Samuel L. Jackson), wants to destroy Central City in his mission to seek immortality. While The Spirit's main mission is to stop The Octopus, he also happens to have a couple of run-ins with some beautiful, but deadly, women that include Paz Vega ("Spanglish"), Scarlett Johansson ("Lost in Translation"), Jamie King ("Sin City") and Eva Mendes ("We Own the Night").

Student choir spreads cheer

DIANA JORDAN
Staff Writer

Music lovers and holiday enthusiasts will be able to come together for one night and take part in a night full of music and holiday cheer.

Concert Choir, the University's premiere ensemble group comprised of the best student vocalists, will be performing "Tis The Season, A Choral Concert" for the holiday season on Dec. 2 in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall at 8 p.m.

"I am greatly anticipating the holiday concert," said Katrina Vasquez, freshman history major. "I'm planning on bringing a bunch of friends and getting ready for this Christmas and the holiday season."

The performance will be presented by the School of Music and will feature the Collegium Singers,

Concert and University Chorale and the Brass Choir under the direction of John Augenblick who will be assisted by William Dan Hardin.

Augenblick is an associate professor of music and the Coordinator of Choral Studies at the University's School of Music.

He conducts the Concert Choir and the Miami Master Chorale, coordinates the choral program and teaches undergraduate and graduate conducting.

Ensembles under his direction have performed for state, regional and national conferences and have won major international competitions. He is the founder and the conductor of the Miami Master Chorale and has served as the director of choral activities at the University since 1981.

Some of the selections that will be played during the performance include works from Colonial America, Africa and the Caribbean, as well as Morton Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium," John Rutter's "What Sweeter Music," Jester Hairston's "Mary Little Boy Chile" and other classic favorites.

The choir will then join the Brass Choir for a rendition of Vaughn Williams' "O Clap Your Hands." The night will conclude with an invitation to the audience to join in the singing of timeless

Christmas carols.

"I like the fact that the audience will be able to see a performance by FIU students," said Andy Diaz, a freshman in the School of Architecture.

"I enjoy the events here at FIU, but the ones put on by students are usually the most entertaining," said Victoria Rodriguez, a senior majoring in art history. "It's great that FIU students will be performing. This will allow students a chance to see what their peers' hard work culminates to."

The Concert Choir is an internationally recognized group. Along with performances at the University, they also perform sacred and secular choral pieces from all eras, ranging from the Middle Ages to the 21st century.

The performance is free of charge to students and guests alike as all are welcome to attend and support the Golden Panthers' Concert and Brass Choirs for a celebration of the holiday season and the arts.

"Events like these are important for the FIU student community because not only do they bring the school community together but also provide a medium for those with an interest in the arts to get involved with FIU activities," said freshman business major Richard Smit.

CALENDAR

MONDAY • DEC. 1

WHAT: FIU Music Prism Concert, Golden Panther Band
WHERE: FIU WPAC Concert Hall. 10910 SW. 17 Street. Miami
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE with valid Student ID

WHAT: Best of Miami Jazz
WHERE: Churchill's Pub. 5501 NE. Second Avenue. Miami.
WHEN: Daily
HOW MUCH: \$5

WHAT: Rock n' Roll Karaoke
WHERE: Roxy's Piano Bar. 309 Clematis Street. West Palm Beach.
WHEN: 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Prices Vary

WHAT: J.A.M. (Just Another Monday)
WHERE: Transit Lounge. 729 SW. First Avenue. Miami
WHEN: TBD
HOW MUCH: Prices vary

WHAT: The Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged/Revised)
WHERE: Arshl Center for the Performing Arts. 1300 Biscayne Boulevard.
WHEN: Daily
HOW MUCH: \$45 - \$50

WHAT: Holiday Fantasy of Lights
WHERE: Tradewinds Park. 3600 W. Sample Road. Coconut Creek.
WHEN: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$9 - \$12

WHAT: Open Mic Mondays
WHERE: Marvelous Coffee. 8616 Griffin Road. Cooper City
WHEN: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

TUESDAY • DEC. 2

WHAT: FIU Music: Concert Choir and University Chorale.
WHERE: FIU WPAC Concert Hall. 10910 SW. 17 Street. Miami
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: FREE

WHAT: FIU Interior Design: Festival of Trees
WHERE: Downtown Miami. One Brickell Square. 801 Brickell Avenue Lobby.
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$50 in advance, \$65 at the door.

WHAT: Best of Miami Jazz
WHERE: Churchill's Pub. 5501 NE. Second Avenue. Miami
WHEN: Daily
HOW MUCH: \$5

WHAT: 80's Baby
WHERE: Badrutt's Place. 1250 South Miami Avenue. Miami.
WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Prices vary

WHAT: The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged/Revised)
WHERE: Arshl Center for the Performing Arts. 1300 Biscayne Boulevard. Miami.
WHEN: Daily
HOW MUCH: \$45 - \$50

WHAT: Holiday Fantasy Lights
WHERE: Tradewinds Park. 3600 W. Sample Road. Coconut Creek.
WHEN: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$9 - \$12

- Compiled by Paulo O'Swath

ART MEETS WORLD

Celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Frost Art Museum with two complimentary FIU Days.

The wait is over. A magnificent building has just opened on campus. It's your Museum and we've created special days just for you to explore and enjoy it. Admission to the Museum and these events is complimentary.

Please join us.

Faculty and Staff Day

Tuesday, December 2

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Light refreshments will be provided.

FIU Employee ID required

Target Student Day

Wednesday, December 3

11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Art. Music. Food to eat. Food for thought.

Student ID required.

Grand Opening week hours:

November 29 – December 7, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily

Regular hours of operation:

Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

and Sunday Noon – 5:00 PM

Bring the family this holiday weekend.

For more information call 305-348-2890 or visit frostartmuseum.org.

THE PATRICIA AND PHILLIP FROST ART MUSEUM

The Frost Art Museum gratefully acknowledges the support of the following in hosting these two events:
FIU Faculty Club, the Graham Center and the Student Government Association (SGA).



FIU

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**Frost Art
Museum**

SUN BELT FOOTBALL STANDINGS

TEAM	CONF	OVERALL	PCT	STREAK
Troy	5-1	7-4	.634	W1
Louisiana-Lafayette	4-2	5-6	.455	L3
Arkansas State	4-2	6-5	.545	W2
Florida Atlantic	4-3	6-6	.500	W1
Middle Tennessee	3-3	5-6	.455	W3
FIU	3-4	4-7	.367	L2
ULM	3-4	4-8	.333	W1
North Texas	0-7	1-11	.000	L3

*All records up to date as of Nov. 30

INDIVIDUAL SEASON STATISTICS

RUSHING	Att	Net	Avg	TD
Julian Reams	125	449	3.6	6
A'mod Ned	79	265	3.4	3
Daunte Owens	29	130	4.5	1
Darriet Perry	16	115	7.2	2
Paul McCall	76	98	1.3	1
Wayne Younger	17	46	2.7	0
T.Y. Hilton	12	32	2.7	1
Brad Sereni	0	3	0.0	0
Junior Mertile	2	1	0.5	0
Marquis Rolle	1	-4	-4.0	0
Total	370	1042	2.8	14
Opponents	454	1832	4.0	19

PASSING	Cmp-Att-Int	Pct	Yds	TD
Paul McCall	147-283-9	51.9	2040	14
Wayne Younger	18-33-0	54.5	249	1
Total	166-318-9	52.2	2327	15
Opponents	228-371-13	61.5	2417	21

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	TD
T.Y. Hilton	39	969	24.8	7
Greg Ellingson	29	470	16.2	3
Junior Mertile	22	183	8.3	2
Eric Kirchenberg	14	157	11.2	2
Jeremy Dickens	11	125	11.4	1
A'mod Ned	11	86	7.8	0
Jason Frierson	9	110	12.2	1
Marquis Rolle	9	71	7.9	0
Julian Reams	6	31	5.2	0
Alonzo Phillips	3	31	10.3	0
Jonathan Faucher	3	29	9.7	0
Total	166	2327	14.0	16
Opponents	228	2417	10.6	21

Golden Panthers blow big leads

FOOTBALL, page 7

Joseph to seal the win for the Owls.

McCall could not get the ball away on the last play.

"I had Greg [Ellingson] in the first window but I wasn't comfortable," a teary eyed McCall said after the game. "He went into the second window after that but I should have hit him on that first one."

The teams combined to score 56 points in the fourth quarter in what was likely the most thrilling affair in the history of the Shula Bowl. FIU failed to close out the contest in the high-octane quarter.

ON THE OFFENSIVE

The Golden Panthers broke it open to start the fourth quarter when McCall found receivers Jason Frierson and T.Y. Hilton for touchdowns to place the score at 36-22 with 9:16 left to play, but the Owls, after Smith hit Gent for a 20-yard touchdown, took advantage of McCall's lone mistake of the day when Corey Small converted a 25-yard interception return to even the score at 36.

Unfazed, FIU drove the field in barely two minutes and McCall bonded with Ellingson for a 29-yard touchdown pass. Ellingson ended the game with a career high 138 receiving yards just one week after setting a career best

of 81 yards against Louisiana-Monroe. The emerging sophomore had seven catches on the day.

Once freshman Darriet Perry picked up a touchdown on an 18 yard run, FAU gave the Golden Panthers their final blow as they went on to score 21 unanswered points.

With a couple of flicks of the wrist by Smith, FAU scored on receptions by Jamari Grant and Gent by the air to tie it before eventually finishing the game in the extra time. The clutch effort by Gent was one to remember as the junior had a career best three touchdowns among his seven catches for 108 yards.

The offensive fireworks for both teams did not end there. Smith tied a career high with five passing touchdowns in an epic quarterback dual with McCall, who set an FIU single game record with 400 yards. The back and forth effort benefited both receiving corps as FAU had three players with at least six catches and FIU boasted four players with at least four grabs.

Freshman sensation T.Y. Hilton continued to add to his stellar inaugural campaign as he broke the Golden Panther single season receiving record of 870 yards previously held by Chandler Williams. Hilton's 99-yard effort placed him at 969 for the year.

The most surprising bright



RICK MARTINEZ/FIUSM.COM

HIP BUMP: Anthony Gaitor, right, and Jason Frierson, left, celebrate after a big play.

spot in the loss for the Golden Panthers was the play of freshman running back Darriet Perry, who scored twice in his career debut. Perry nabbed 115 yards on just 16 carries for FIU a week after senior Julian Reams collected 122 yards on the ground, giving FIU back-to-back 100-yard rushers for the first time since Rashod Smith posted back to back efforts on Nov. 20 and 27 in 2004. Cristobal praised the young player after the game.

"You can see what he is going to be," Cristobal said. "He's pretty special and he had a chance to show it in a game like this."

WAITING GAME

Despite the offensive production, the Golden Panthers allowed over 50 points to FAU for the second year in a row, and will have to wait until next season for a rematch.

"We'll get over it," Hilton said. "We're just trying to calm it down and make sure people stay together right now."

The loss, however, will sting for a while.

"It's a feeling you have to carry with you a whole year," said linebacker Scott Bryant. "It's hard when you have them down so good and everything falls apart."

Men's basketball to take on Florida Memorial Dec. 3

MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 8

"We are not the talented team to show up and just play offensively."

Freddy Asprilla played the best game of his freshman campaign scoring 14 points on 4-of-4 shooting from the field, as well as engulfing nine rebounds. But the Wolves defense forced the

Golden Panthers to turn the ball over a season-high 22 times. Guard Doug Daniels dropped 13 points to lead the Wolves and Gacesa lead FIU with 17 points.

AND THE WINNER IS

Cleveland State managed to close out the CBE classic 3-0 as they finished off the Golden

Panthers 66-58 on Nov. 26 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena. A pair of Russell free throws put the Golden Panthers up 46-43 with 9:13 left to play, but the Vikings stormed back to take a comfortable lead as time dwindled.

Once J'Nathan Bullock hit a pair of free-throws to put the Vikings up 63-51 with just 43 seconds to go, FIU's rally came up short and the

team fell to 3-3 on the season.

RECAP

FIU lost two of three games in the CBE Classic after a 2-1 start to the season. FIU will embark on road games four of its next six meetings. Up next for FIU is a home match up vs... Florida Memorial on Dec. 3.

VOLLEYBALL

Team makes final push for bid

JONATHAN ALPERT
Asst. Sports Director

The women's volleyball team made its case for a NCAA tournament bid by sweeping the University of South Florida in Tampa (25-17, 25-15, 25-17) on Nov. 26.

The outside hitting duo of juniors Yarimar Rosa and Isadora Rangel along with a solid team defense helped FIU

make easy work of USF. Rosa scored 15 kills and Rangel added 14. Natalia Valentin contributed 29 assists.

On defense freshman Angelina Colon contributed a match high 13 digs as FIU came up with 34 team digs. Andrea Lakovic contributed a match high four blocks for FIU.

The Golden Panthers hit a stellar .351 and held the

Bulls to a mere .133 hitting percentage.

When holding opponents to under a .250 hitting percentage this season, FIU is 27-2.

The Golden Panthers had one of their more dominating performances of the year surrendering the lead just five times during the entire match, not trailing after the 10 point mark is any set.

FIU held USF's best offensive player, Marcela Gurgel, to eight kills and forced Gurgel into eight offensive errors. The Bulls, (17-14), were led by Mariana Thon's 17 assists and seven digs.

FIU now awaits the NCAA Selection Committee's decision to see if they are one of the teams to get an at-large bid to the NCAA Volleyball Championship, which begins at campus sites Dec. 4.

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VICTORIA LYNCH/THE BEACON

STROKE: Nikola Gacesa attempts a shot in the Golden Panthers 50-46 win over Toledo.

Position switch benefits Russell, Golden Panthers

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

FIU head coach Sergio Rouco knows what Tremayne Russell can do, but Golden Panther fans might be skeptical due to Russell's turnover prone rookie campaign last season.

The sophomore showed spectators exactly what Rouco envisioned when he moved his prized athlete to shooting guard in the offseason, and in turn FIU defeated Toledo 50-46 to kick off the O'Reilly Auto Parts College Basketball Experience Classic at the U.S. Century Bank Arena on Nov. 24.

Though the Golden Panthers had three players in double figures, including Russell with 12 points, the 6-foot guard led a defensive charge in the second half that secured the victory.

While grabbing four steals in a span of roughly eight minutes, Russell single handedly set the tone for FIU as they allowed just 15 second half points.

"When he does what he is told and stay's focused," Rouco said. "He is special."

Led by Anthony Byrd's 12 first half points, the Rockets led for most of the first period before the Golden Panthers rallied and managed to tie the contest at 31 before the break. But after Toledo registered a 47 percent field goal percentage in that first

period, the Golden Panthers forced the Rockets to miss 14 of their 20 attempts in the decisive second half and Byrd only scored two more points.

Perhaps the Golden Panthers biggest defensive victory was holding Rocket swingman Tyrone Kent to just eight points.

Kent, who scored 37 points versus Xavier the previous game, averaged 25 points through Toledo's first two games.

Center Russell Hicks scored 16 points and had 11 rebounds, and forward Nikola Gacesa netted six free throws on his way to 14 points, but it was Russell who ultimately made the biggest impact on the game.

'DISSAPPOINTED'

FIU followed up their third win of the season against Toledo with a loss to West Georgia 57-54 on Nov. 25 at the U.S. Century Bank Arena.

West Georgia, a Division II team, played FIU very close throughout the game but the Golden Panthers played arguably their best defense of the season for the second consecutive night.

The loss, however, was one Rouco did not see coming.

"I'm disappointed, because we worked hard to get to 3-1," Rouco said. "We are a scrappy defensive team and we cannot get away from that."

MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 7

Words cannot describe two 14 point meltdowns

The toughest part of this job is trying to put into words what happened on Nov. 29. A typical fan gets to watch his team blow a 14 point lead with three minutes left and just sit there, hands on his head, unable and not needing to express the disappointment he feels.

But I have to turn around two hours after the Golden Panthers turned a stellar offensive performance into a crushingly disappointing overtime loss, and try to find the words to describe how and why that happened.

The how is pretty simple, actually: Despite Paul McCall's career best 400

yard, four touchdown performance, and the emergence of freshman running back Darriet Perry, who ran for 115 yards and two touchdowns in his first game action of the season, the FIU defense completely fell apart in the fourth quarter; allowing the FAU Owls to score 21 unanswered points in the final few minutes of regulation, and overtime.

With FIU missing senior safeties Marshall McDuffie and Jeremiah Weatherspoon, who have helped anchor the defensive backfield, defending Sun Belt player of the year Rusty Smith was able to pick apart the FIU defense for 389 yards, most of which came in the onslaught in the fourth quarter.

For the first three quarters, the FIU defense was able to keep Smith off balance, getting pressure on him, and forcing numerous bad throws, some of which

bounced off of FIU player's hands.

If these tipped passes could've landed in the hands of FIU defenders, the game probably wouldn't have been close.

Anybody watching the game could see the breakdown in the defensive backfield was the key reason why FIU lost.

Now, the part that is going to be difficult to figure out, and the part that will eat the Golden Panthers up inside until next year's season starts, is why everything fell apart at the end.

It might be something as simple as a young team simply not knowing how to win yet.

FAU is a more experienced team, having won a Sun Belt title last season and dealing with adversity early on in the season, failing to live up to early projections.

In fact, once FAU scored

and got their outside kick recovery, there was a sense of inevitability to the final outcome.

The team, so close to a potential bowl game over the past two weeks, has struggled with consistency, and once FAU got the ball back, there was no stopping Smith and his receivers, many of whom have been working together for three years.

The potential good that could come out of this loss is the team will come out next season, a year more experienced and confident that they can play with anyone, as they've showed over the past season.

With an offense that has shown huge amounts of potential since the fourth game of the season, and a young defense that spent much of the season getting their hands on the ball, this is a team that should be primed

BOX SCORE

	FIU	FAU
First Downs	25	28
Rushes-Yards	36-113	36-135
Passing	400	389
Comp-Att-Int	27-47-1	25-50-1
Return Yards	99	180
Punts Avg.	6-42.8	8-35.1
Penalties-Yards	7-51	10-105
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Time of Possession	34:27	25:33

RUSHING — FIU: Perry 16-115-2, REams 11-26, Hilton 3-5-1, McCall 4-1 **FAU:** Pierre 14-63-1, Edgecomb 13-60-1, Rose 6-24

PASSING — FIU: McCall 27-47-1-400 **FAU:** Smith 25-50-1-389

RECEIVING — FIU: Ellingson 7-138-1, Hilton 4-99-2, Frierson 4-64-1, Mertile 4-44, Dix 2-22, Thompson 2-16, Faucher 2-9, Rolle 1-6, Ellis 1-4 **FAU:** Gent 7-108-3, Grant 7-80-2, Bonner 6-137, Housler 2-15, Edgecomb 1-19, Rose 1-15, Holley 1-13

to make a serious run at the Sun Belt title next year.

Of course, there is still one game left in the season, and while their dreams of post season play may have been dashed in the final minutes

at Dolphin Stadium, next week's home game against Western Kentucky should be a good way for the team to build more confidence going into the offseason.