

6-24-2009

The Beacon, June 24, 2009

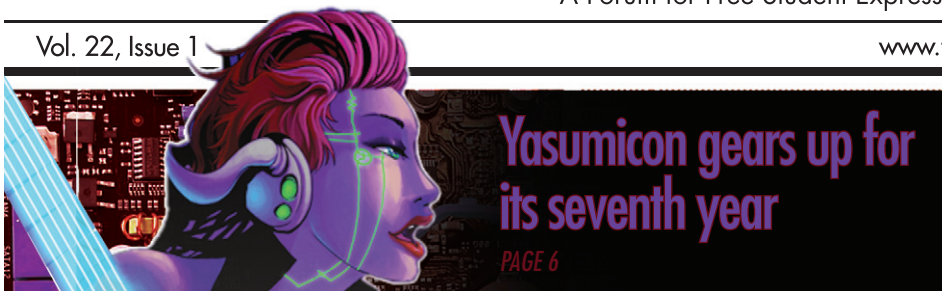
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Yasumicon gears up for its seventh year

PAGE 6

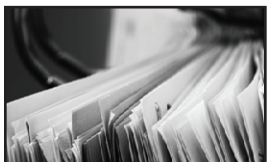


Find out what went down Summer A

PAGE 3

SPOTLIGHT

AT THE BAY PAGE 4



SGC-BBC President Sholom Neistein brings free printing back to campus.

OPINION PAGE 5

Students are critical of University Park's name change to Modesto Maidique Campus.

OPINION PAGE 5



AT&T neglects its current iPhone customers by charging extra for the new iPhone 3G S model.

LIFE! PAGE 6

Animenia: Anime Fest coming to FIU brings costumes and excitement.

SPORTS PAGE 8

Men's basketball drastically improve Academic Progress Rate scores; new assistant hired.

SPORTS PAGE 8



Former Golden Panthers prepare to begin their professional baseball careers after being drafted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Boys Like Girls, June 24, 7 p.m. The band will be playing at The Culture Room in support of their upcoming album, *Due or Die*. Also joining the band will be Never Shout Never and The Ready Set.

The American Black Film Festival, June 24-27. This weekend, the American Black Film Festival (ABFF) will shine the spotlight on films produced and directed by, starring, and featuring the African-American community.

Jazz at MoCA, June 26, 8 p.m. Dr. Michael White will perform "Nawlins" jazz at the Museum of Contemporary Art. The event is free to the public and will go on until 10 p.m.

WEATHER



WEDNESDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 79 HIGH: 90



THURSDAY
Scattered T-Storms
LOW: 79 HIGH: 88



FRIDAY
Isolated T-Storms
LOW: 79 HIGH: 89

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FIU's distinguished Dr. Beach speaks out

LAUREN AGOSTO
Staff Writer

Every year, Dr. Stephen Leatherman releases a list with the top 10 U.S. beaches.

Known as "Dr. Beach," Leatherman is the chair professor and director of the Laboratory for Coastal Research at FIU and has been compiling this yearly list for 20 years.

"I came to FIU in 1997 to become the first director of the International Hurricane Research Center and to build it from basically a concept into a major center, which I have certainly done," Leatherman said.

In 1997, he brought the IHRC from Maryland to FIU.

"In addition to all of his coastal research, he was very instrumental in helping to define our Wall of Wind full-scale testing initiative and played a key role to obtaining the \$10

million Center of Excellence Award," said Carolyn Robertson, assistant director of the IHRC at FIU. The Wall of Wind is a machine used to test the effects of hurricane-force winds on buildings.

According to Robertson, Leatherman defined and wrote a grant proposal and worked with the State Board of Governors to obtain the Center of Excellence for Hurricane Damage Mitigation and Product Development.

The decision to start rating beaches, however, wasn't all that thought out; while heading to catch a plane to China, he received a surprise telephone call from a travel magazine.

The magazine, knowing his work involved visiting beaches all over the world, wanted his opinion of the top 10 beaches in the country.

Leatherman did not stop to analyze the beaches or rank them in any particular

order. Not knowing what would come of the phone conversation, he simply named 10 of the best beaches that came to mind.

Later that summer he received a copy of the magazine listing all of the beaches he mentioned, in the order in which he named them.

"The unofficial version appeared in 1989 in *Conde Nast Traveler's* magazine," he said. "In 1991, many of the newspapers in the U.S. printed the story."

Reporters wanted to know what criteria Leatherman had used to rate the beaches, but there was none.

He then decided to come up with 50 criteria to rate each beach.

In the span of two years, he surveyed 650 major public recreational beaches in the country.

In 1991, his list was published on Memorial Day weekend. He has been releasing the list every year at the same time since then.

"I'm the most published coastal scientist in the U.S.," Leatherman said. "I spent two years traveling the U.S. coasts, visiting and assessing all the major public recre-

BEACH, page 2

Rosenberg preparing to take reins

JULIO MENACHE
Staff Writer

As the Board of Trustees met in the GC Ballrooms, FIU outgoing President Modesto Maidique gave his last speech to the board members, listing the long list of accomplishments the University reached under his tenure: doctoral degree production grew 6,000 percent, the University's total operating budget grew from \$93 million to \$772 million, and the addition of a law school and a new medical school set to open this Fall.

After 23 years of service, Maidique will resign as president and FIU will not only see a new chief executive officer but also two other top administrators.

During a presidential transition, it is common for high-level positions in the University to remain open for the incoming president to place his own officials. However, last summer the BOT awarded Chief Financial Officer Vivian Sanchez, and then-Provost Ronald Berkman, hefty retention deals.

Yet the deals failed to keep the two highly sought individuals, as Sanchez has returned to consulting and Berkman is now the president of Cleveland State University.

The school year will therefore begin with three brand new top administrators: Mark Rosenberg as president, John Miller as CFO and Doug Wartok as the new provost.

ROSENBERG

This June, the BOT approved a five-year, \$475,000 contract for Rosenberg, the fifth University president.

Rosenberg, whose term officially begins Aug. 3, said he wishes to follow the footsteps of Maidique, but to also spend time focusing on "finance

ADMINISTRATION, page 2

Green attitude replaces old recycling bins

SERGIO MONTEALEGRE
BBC Photo Editor

The Biscayne Bay and Modesto Maidique campuses are now littered with bottles to encourage students to recycle.

The Student Government Association and University Custodial Services came together to introduce a new recycling program using bottle-shaped recycling bins for plastic bottles and aluminum cans.

"We want students to use the bins as a way to make the campus much more environmentally friendly," said David Fonseca, director of environmental affairs for SGC-BBC.

RECYCLING, page 4

BUDGET CUTS

Program closures postponed

JULIO MENACHE
Staff Writer

The Board of Trustees has agreed to postpone cutting four popular degree programs.

During a June 12 meeting, the trustees unanimously voted to allow the administration, until the next Board meeting, to present an alternative budget that would allow the programs to survive, as well as give outgoing President Modesto Maidique and his successor, Mark Rosenberg, time to look for donors for the programs.

The move to save the programs was met with

applause by audience members, many of whom were students and faculty.

"This was a very rational decision," said senior Jeremy Paulovkin, who addressed the BOT on behalf of students in the religious studies program. "It was worth the slight discomfort and nervousness [of addressing the Board]."

The BOT did, however, agree to cut 11 degree programs.

"No one wants to see anything cut, but we just don't have the money," said Trustee Patricia Frost.

Before the Board made its decision, BOT Chairman

David Parker designated time for members of the public to speak out. Each speaker was given two minutes.

"I chose seven speakers from across constituency of the University," said Parker during the meeting.

Religious studies student Paulovkin presented the Board with a petition of 1,771 signatures, asking for the religion B.A. degree program to be saved.

"Fifty percent of the master's students in the religious studies program come from the University's undergraduate religious studies

BUDGET, page 2

NEWS FLASH

FIU

College of Law voted among most diverse

The College of Law was placed second on *The Princeton Review’s* list of schools with the most diverse faculty.

The rankings are based on an 80-question survey submitted by 19,000 students. The survey asked students to submit feedback on various aspects of their school, including campus life, student body and academics.

The rankings are a part of *Best 174 Law Schools 2009* edition, a guidebook. Others that made the list are Temple University, Southern University and Howard University, which ranked first.

LOCAL

Heat wave sweeps South Florida

Temperatures hit record levels as a sweltering heat affects South Florida.

On Sunday, temperatures in Miami hit 96 degrees, breaking the original record of 95 degrees set in 1981. Fort Lauderdale reached 98 degrees, breaking the city’s record of 94 degrees set in 1956.

Taking into account humidity, it will feel like anywhere between 105 to 110 degrees.

According to CBS4, the most at risk are young children and the elderly. People showing signs of heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke or heat cramps are urged to call 911 immediately.

– Compiled by Jorge Valens

SGC: business as usual in summer

FRANCISCO MARADIAGA
Staff Writer

Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus has been holding weekly meetings and continued to do business during the summer.

The Senate unanimously voted to approve Luis Robayo as justice in its June 15 meeting.

Robayo, a carry over justice from the previous administration, had an opportunity to address the Senate before they voted.

“Last year we had a reputation of being diligent and thorough,” he said. “I would like to keep that reputation.”

As a justice, he will serve in the judicial branch of SGC-MMC which is entrusted to keep the student government working within the boundaries of its constitution.

One of Robayo's goals for this year is to have a constitution that does not have to be reviewed every year.

“A lasting document is something I want to do,” he said.

After he spoke, the Senate had an opportunity to question him. No one did, however, and Robayo was approved unanimously. Robayo later said that he would have liked to answer questions.

According to some senators, the lack of questions was not due to a lack of knowledge or interest on the Senate's part.

“The Senate was e-mailed a copy of Luis Robayo's resume and goals,” said senator from Arts & Sciences, Gabriel Medina. “One of the positive aspects about last year's student government was the stellar work of the judiciary.”

“SGA Senate was well informed on who Luis is,” said Senator Loren Fraute.

“He understands his position and what his responsibilities are, that gives me enough confidence [in him].”

Another issue brought up in the meeting was the need to appoint an assistant comptroller because current Comptroller Cristina “Raven” Morales will be out of town until August.

Rionda said in an e-mail that Morales is still taking care of her responsibilities and that he will appoint Maria Rosa Blanco, an accounting major, to the assistant comptroller position to take care of the day to day financial responsibilities while Morales is gone.

According to Rionda, Blanco has been assisting SGC-MMC with various other projects.

Morales couldn't be reached for comment.

BOT cuts 11 programs, degrees

BUDGET, page 1

program,” said Paulovkin during his speech. “If you eliminate this program, the major will not survive.”

“We can raise significant money for the University over the next year or so,” said Nathan Katz, dean of religious studies. “Don’t cut this program preemptively.”

Robert Wolff, program leader for Recreational Sports Management, one of the programs that was being considered to be cut, claimed the numbers presented to the Board were outdated.

According to him, Hugo Jimenez, assistant director

of Technology, sent him the current numbers, that differ from the ones the BOT looked at.

“In today’s meeting they used outdated numbers,” Wolff said. “We’re not losing money, we’re making money, and I’m surprised they didn’t switch to the new numbers.

“We’re a money maker. They would gain nothing by getting rid of us.”

According to interim provost Doug Wartzok, the elimination of the four programs would save the University \$1 million. An additional \$3.5 million have been saved by restructuring

MORE CUTS	
PROGRAMS CUT	PROGRAMS SAVED
<i>French education, B.S</i>	Recreational Sport Management, B.S
<i>Mathematical Sciences, B.S</i>	Recreational Sport Management, M.S
<i>Science, B.S</i>	Athletic Training Education, M.S
<i>Recreational Therapy, B.S</i>	Religious Studies Program, B.A
<i>English Education, MAT</i>	
<i>French Education, MAT</i>	
<i>Mathematic Education, MAT</i>	
<i>Physical Therapy, M.A</i>	
<i>Science Education, MAT</i>	
<i>Social Studies Education, MAT</i>	

moves by various schools within the University, such as cutting faculty and staff.

The next BOT meeting is scheduled for Sept. 11.

**THE BEACON**



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INFORMATION

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Top administrators leave University

ADMINISTRATION, page 1

and budget.”

“Because the times have changed, I will focus a little differently than Maidique did,” Rosenberg told *The Miami Herald*. “Maidique spent a lot of his time building up the University. I'm going to spend a lot of my time sustaining the University.”

WARTZOK

After becoming a finalist in FIU’s presidential search, former Provost Ronald Berkman, who has been with FIU since 1997, dropped out of the race in order to accept the job at CSU. He will officially take over the post on July 1.

“I had to decide a course of action for myself,” Berkman said in a written statement. “While FIU is a wonderful university, I believe I can make a larger difference at Cleveland State University, since I will be bringing with me fresh ideas, a new perspective and a wealth of relevant experience.”

After Berkman’s departure, Doug Wartzok, vice pres-

ident of academic affairs and professor of biology, took over as provost. Wartzok has already taken part in a Town Hall meeting and in a June 12 meeting of the BOT, where he named which academic programs he would recommend be cut.

MILLER

Last May, Maidique announced that CFO Vivian Sanchez would be stepping down from her position. Maidique, however, said she would stay as a consultant in order to assist the new CFO, as well as assist the University in “establishing new financial systems.”

“We basically concocted a one year consulting agreement with her,” Maidique said. “We asked if she would be willing to sell all her consulting services to us, at a discount of course, since we couldn't afford her at the rate she had before.”

Sanchez’s replacement is John Miller, University treasurer. According to the University, Miller will be making \$213,700 as interim CFO.

Leatherman to visit Australia

BEACH, page 1

ational beaches for the U.S. Department of Interior study.”

Some of the criteria used to rate the beaches include water and sand quality, safety, facilities and environmental management. Once a beach is named No. 1 on his list, Leatherman “retires” it from further ranking.

“He’s personally traveled to so many of the beaches, so he can give his own personal opinion of each beach,” said Diane Ditzel, research assistant for the IHRC. “He’s also studied the science side of coastal research, so he knows the science of the beach.”

Leatherman’s popularity as Dr. Beach has earned him more than 200 television appearances on shows like “Oprah,” NBC “Today Show,” ABC “Good Morning America” and CBS “Early Show.” He’s also appeared on news programs in CNN and NBC.

He has appeared in magazines like *Time*, *Newsweek*, *People*, *National Geographic*, *Reader’s Digest*, *Discover*, *Sports Illustrated* and *Business Week*, and in newspapers such as *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Miami Herald* and more.

Leatherman’s career has not only made him popular in the United States, however. He is scheduled to visit Australia in October, where he will be the international keynote speaker for a Coastal Conference.

“The Australian authorities are trying to get me to visit beaches throughout their country, which is the size of the USA, and see their top beaches in a three-week period of time. I am on sabbatical this coming academic year.”

For the list of Dr. Beach’s picks, go to FIUSM.com.

WHAT YOU MISSED

THE BEACON RECAPS THE EVENTS OF SUMMER A
COMPILED BY BEACON STAFF

UP campus renamed

University Park campus has been renamed in honor of outgoing University President Modesto A. Maidique.

The renaming, proposed by Board of Trustees Chairman David Parker during the June 12 meeting, was approved unanimously.

"For more than two decades, President Maidique has demonstrated

his strong, passionate and unyielding commitment to FIU, leading this University's historic transformation," said Parker in a press release issued by the Office of Media Relations. "The board's actions are an expression of our gratitude for his tremendous contributions to FIU and the community at large."

An official naming cere-

mony will be scheduled for the Fall.

"Two decades ago, my dream was to transform FIU into a major urban public university," Maidique said in the press release. "This University now has all the major components in place to join the ranks of the nation's top universities. This honor is the pinnacle of this incredible journey."

15 percent increase in tuition

Students in Florida public universities will see an increase in fees, as the body which overlooks all 11 public universities in Florida voted to increase tuition by 15 percent in response to the mounting state university budget crisis.

According to the Board of Governors, the increase is expected to bring in \$23.8 million in tuition money.

The law will allow tuition increases until Florida colleges, which boast having some of the lowest tuition in the country, reach the national average of \$3,735 per semester.

The state already approved an 8 percent increase, with the additional 7 percent coming from the last BOG meeting.

According to a press release sent out by FIU, the increase will vary upon what date students enrolled in the University.

An undergraduate student who enrolled at the University before July 1, 2007, taking a 15-credit semester should expect an approximate tuition increase of \$185.68 per semester.

A student who enrolled after July 1, 2007 with the same semester course load should see an increase of \$287.52 per semester.

In addition, the University will be implementing a \$4.42 per credit hour technology fee, an increase in student activities fee (now set at \$11.60 per credit hour) and

a financial aid fee (5 percent of tuition).

According to News@FIU, most of the money will go toward funding libraries, as well as hiring faculty and academic advisors. The remaining 30 percent will go towards funding financial aid for needy students.

While there will be an increase in financial aid, Florida Bright Futures will now cover less money in student's tuition.

Instead of receiving a full-ride, Academic Scholars will instead receive \$126 per credit hour, while Medallion Scholars (who previously were covered for 75 percent of tuition and fees) will now receive \$95 per credit hour.

Band unable to get funding

Due to the University's massive budget cuts, the Golden Panther Band has been eliminated.

The marching band's future was unsure after two of its largest sources of support, the College of Architecture and the Arts and the University's athletic department, were forced to cut its

funding of the program due to steep cuts that needed to be made within the college.

The band turned to the Student Government Association for full funding. SGA had committed to funding the program if all other parties were involved. However, that not being the case, SGA did not commit funding to

the band at a University-wide budget meeting on April 28.

Currently, all equipment used by the band is being held in storage.

The athletics department is currently reaching out to high school marching bands to perform at University sporting events.

Baseball faces penalties

The Golden Panthers baseball team is the University's lone intercollegiate athletics program that will face NCAA penalties for the 2009-10 academic year, according to an NCAA report.

This is an improvement from the last two years that saw Athletics lose a total of 17.87 scholarships due to

low Academic Progress Rate scores.

However, baseball will still face some penalties. This upcoming season, the baseball team will be limited to 16 practice hours per week, 125 playing days and 54 games.

In 2008, four different teams lost a total of 5.75 scholarships. The prior year,

football, baseball and men's basketball combined to lose a total of 12.12 scholarships with football losing nine, men's basketball losing two and baseball reduced by 1.12.

No team faces scholarship reductions for the next academic season.

Tennis team wins conference

The Golden Panthers tennis team stormed through the Sun Belt Conference to become champions for the fourth time in the

program's history, on April 19. The team then won in the first round of the NCAA regionals against Princeton University. But the Univer-

sity of Miami Hurricanes ended the Golden Panthers' tournament loss with a 4-0 defeat on May 9.

Vice provost, dean resigns after five months

Five months after Joseph J. West, dean of the School of Hospitality Management, agreed to become vice provost for Biscayne Bay Campus through August 2010, he changed his mind.

"After 10 years as dean, a return to the faculty is too tempting to further postpone," said Douglas



WEST

Wartzok, interim provost, in a University-wide e-mail. "Accordingly, [West] has indicated that he will step down from both positions in July and take his long delayed sabbatical during the 2009-10 year."

While also serving as dean of the School of Hospitality Management – a position he's held since July

1999 – West's tenure as interim vice provost began in the summer of 2008, when former Vice Provost Damian Fernandez resigned.

After his resignation, West will continue to work as professor in the School of Hospitality Management. He was not available for comment at the time of publication.

School of Hospitality Management Associate Dean Joan Remington has agreed to serve as interim dean for the school beginning July 1.

Remington has worked for the University since 1990. She started as visiting professor in marketing and travel law in the School of Hospitality Management and then became director of

career development. In May 2003, she became assistant dean for Academic Programs. She has been associate dean since July 2005.

"I'm sad that Dean West is leaving. He's done a lot," Remington said. "But I'm very excited. It's a wonderful opportunity. I'm looking forward to the challenges I'm facing and the contributions I can make."

Steven Moll, associate professor and faculty chair in Hospitality Management, agreed to serve as interim vice provost for BBC. He has been a professor of accounting, finance, operations management and management for the past 30 years. And he is also the director of the College of Business Administration at BBC.

SGA releases 'Summer Goals'

The Student Government Council at Modesto Maidique Campus released its list of "Summer Goals," which includes goals and initiatives SGC-MMC will push to implement during the Summer.

Among these are the redesign and maintenance of its Web site and the creation of an SGA Strategic Planning Committee.

The committee's task, according to President Anthony Rionda, will be to thoroughly examine the council's budget and the organizations it funds every year.

Rionda said that SGC-MMC will push to

build awareness about SGA in the University community.

"We're looking to get out there, to different places in the University and in the community," he said.

Rionda added that they are planning to hold senate meetings in different places on campus, rather than in their chambers (GC 150) to get other students involved.

According to him, SGC-MMC is experimenting with the possibility of taping all senate and cabinet meetings to be available to the student body through the Internet.

"We've attempted this

at several meetings. We're looking into either using YouTube or an independent video hosting Web site so that students will be able to see what we are doing," he said.

Also included in the "Summer Goals" list was the possible purchase of more laptops to be made available to students and faculty in the Green Library as part of the newly approved Technology Fee.

"It's all about how to make the overall University experience better," Rionda said. "This is a new time of transparency and student service within student government."

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PRESIDENT’S PLANS

Neinstein accomplishes first goal: free printing for students

PAMELA DUQUE
MAUREEN NINO
Beacon Staff

Bringing his own blank paper and walking around campus looking for change was a real hassle for senior Michael Apple.

“Students shouldn’t have to struggle,” said Apple, a liberal studies major. “We pay for tuition. Printing should be free.”

SGC-BBC President Sholom Neinstein’s goals for his presidency not only include being more involved with the student body, but also working closely with it to know exactly how to meet student needs. Almost two months into his term, Neinstein has already accomplished his first goal: bringing back free printing for students.

As of April 4, students have free black-ink printing at the Panther lab located on the second floor in the Wolfe University Center.

“I say what I mean, and I mean what I say,” Neinstein said. “We are in a recession. If you do

the math and you pay eight cents per page, you’re paying \$40 per ream of paper.”

Beginning Summer B, students will receive a \$20 credit every semester to their Panther IDs, according to Zach Trautenberg, IT and marketing specialist. Students will be able to get 250 all-black pages or 80 all-color pages per semester. Any additional printing will be 8 cents for black and 25 cents for color.

To print, students must swipe their Panther IDs during each use, and they will also be able to see the remaining balance. However, any remaining balance will not roll over into the next semester, and it’s a credit that can only be used for printing.

Free printing was at one point accessible to students. Due to student abuse, it was revoked and prices went up to 8 cents for black and 25 cents for color printing per page.

“Students should take advantage of the program wisely and only print what is needed. Any credit remaining will be reimbursed into the

SGA budget and used for future programs and funding,” Trautenberg said.

For students, saving money on a pack of printing paper is no longer an option: it’s a necessity.

“It’s crazy to think you can go through a whole pack of paper during a semester,” said Eddie Vilchez, junior marketing major. “It’s surprising how many notes and research papers you have to print out.”

Neinstein, who used \$2,000 from the 2008-2009 budget, hopes that this service will lead students to show confidence toward SGC-BBC.

“\$2000 out of a \$12 million budget is not so much,” Neinstein said. “It’s money, but it’s money put into good use, and it’s efficient and fiscally responsible because all students who will use that service will benefit.”

Charles Mabry, a junior and television major, likes what he sees so far.

“It’s good to know I have one less thing to pay for, and that there is someone looking out for the students,” Mabry said.

A junior double majoring in biology and psychology, and the 2008-2009 SGC-BBC speaker

of the Senate, Neinstein started his term as 2009-2010 SGC-BBC president on May 4.

“I knew that it would be a ton of work, but I know myself, and I know I can make it work.”

Running against former SGC-BBC Vice President Kenasha Paul, Neinstein won with 232 votes. Stepping into the SGC-BBC presidency, Neinstein believed he had a lot of work to do, but he says students should expect a different SGC-BBC than that from past years.

“There’s a lot that needs to be changed in a positive way,” Neinstein said. “We are not going to be competing nor combating with the administration. We are going to work more with it.”

He also believes that for a successful 2009-2010 SGC-BBC council, all members must work closely with students and the University, and make full use of the tools they are given once they step into office.

“Students who were part of SGA in the past didn’t take initiative to fulfill the power they were given,” Neinstein said. “There’s going to be more programs that SGC-BBC is going to be part of, not only monetarily, but physically.”



NEISTEIN

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS
SUMMER HOURS

WUC

Mon-Fri
7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sat-Sun
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

SJMC

Mon-Thu
8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

BUSINESS

Mon-Thu
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

NURSING

Mon-Thu
8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

CAFETERIA

Mon-Thu
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

CREDIT UNION

Mon-Fri
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ID OFFICE

Mon-Thu
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fri

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

CAMPUS LIFE

Mon-Thu
8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

LIBRARY

Mon-Thu
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Fri
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sat
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sun
noon - 11 p.m.

RECREATION CENTER

Mon-Fri
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sat
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WUC COMP. LAB

Mon-Thu
8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

ACI COMP. LAB

Mon-Thu
8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Recycling initiative brings more bins to both campuses, community

RECYCLING, page 1

The School of Hospitality Management donated 40 bins from the last South Beach Wine and Food Festival to the University. Twenty-two of those bins are now placed around BBC, and the rest are at MMC.

“The students wanted more recycling bins around the campus,” Fonseca said. “With help from Hospitality, we were able to get the barrels from the food festival as a donation instead of just throwing them away.”

The bottle-shaped recycling bins were free, but SGC-BBC spent \$1,500 for “FIU Recycles” bin labels. The University also received thirty 95-gallon blue bins for BBC as part of a new single-stream recycling program. The program is offered by World Waste Management, the company that collects recycling bins throughout Miami-Dade County.

“Single-stream recycling will make it much easier for

students to recycle by allowing them to put everything in one bin,” said Arcesio Rubio, senior supervisor for the UCS’ facilities management department.

While the bottle-shaped bins are exclusively for plastic bottles and aluminum cans, students can use the blue bins located around campus and smaller blue bins in offices and classrooms for all recyclable materials.

Items that can be placed in the large blue bins include aluminum and steel cans, cardboard, glass, paper bags, newspapers and magazines, as well as larger plastic bottles among other items. For these larger bins, plastic bottles must have a number between one and seven inside the universal recycle logo, which can be found somewhere on the body of the bottle.

“We’ll be putting stickers on the larger blue barrels to help students identify what does and doesn’t belong inside of them,” Rubio said.

Items that shouldn’t go into the recycling bins include plastic bags, leftover food and Styrofoam packaging.

Fonseca and Rubio will speak to incoming freshmen at the orientations about how the program works.

“By talking to them while they’re still new to the campus, we can probably get them more interested in the program and help support it,” he said.



SERGIO MONTEALEGRE/THE BEACON

BOTTLES UP: New recycling bins for plastic bottles and aluminum cans can now be found at both campuses.

Jennifer Grimm, environmental coordinator for BBC, believes the green movement will not only help students on campus, but it could have a wider impact when they go home.

“Recycling one aluminum can could save enough energy

to power a television for three hours,” she said.

Additional barrels will be placed along the walking trail surrounding the campus.

“It will help by giving North Miami Beach residents a place to recycle, too. We get a lot of walkers there,” Fonseca said.

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POINT-COUNTERPOINT

Maidique earns campus name

IRIS FEBRES
Opinion Editor

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the renaming of University Park to Modesto Maidique Campus on June 12. The move is meant to honor Maidique for his 23 years of service to the institution. Surely, renaming a campus is a rarity, right?

It isn't. According to *Miami Herald* archives, UP was known as Tamiami Park as far back as 1986.

It is clear that Maidique spearheaded multiple legacies for the University, including a medical school (slated to open this August), a law school (which held top bar exam scores in 2007 and this year) and entering Division I in the NCAA.

He has witnessed the University's population balloon to more than 38,000 students, presided over the addition of many academic institutions and has pushed for intense fund raising, securing more than \$200 million in 2001. For FIU's fourth president, Maidique's done a bang-up job.

It's not like they're renaming FIU Modesto Maidique University. We cannot forget that Maidique served longer than any FIU president – including its founder, Charles Perry – and oversaw FIU's incredible growth.

No matter the name, UP/MMC will always be the home for the FIU student body.

UP renamed at wrong time

MATTHEW RUCKMAN
Staff Writer

Over Summer A, the Board of Trustees decided that the FIU University Park campus would be renamed after outgoing President Modesto A. Maidique, in honor of his 23 years of employment at the University. This change, decided without input from the student body, hasn't been well received amid the climate of cutbacks and layoffs sweeping the University.

Maybe it's the cost of the name change, or maybe the eye-rolling sentimentality of it all that leaves most wondering what the BOT was thinking. Good or bad, the timing is dreadful. It smacks of insensitivity to change the name of the entire University to honor one man, while excellent teachers are being let go in droves, and whole programs abolished. It's not the time for congratulations.

I, for one, agree that Maidique worked here a long time and did some great things for the school. I'm sure Maidique, and hopefully the Board of Trustees, will recognize that what our cash-strapped University needs is not more plaques or periphrastic names, but sound leadership and financial restraint.

NATIONAL

AT&T must consider loyal customers

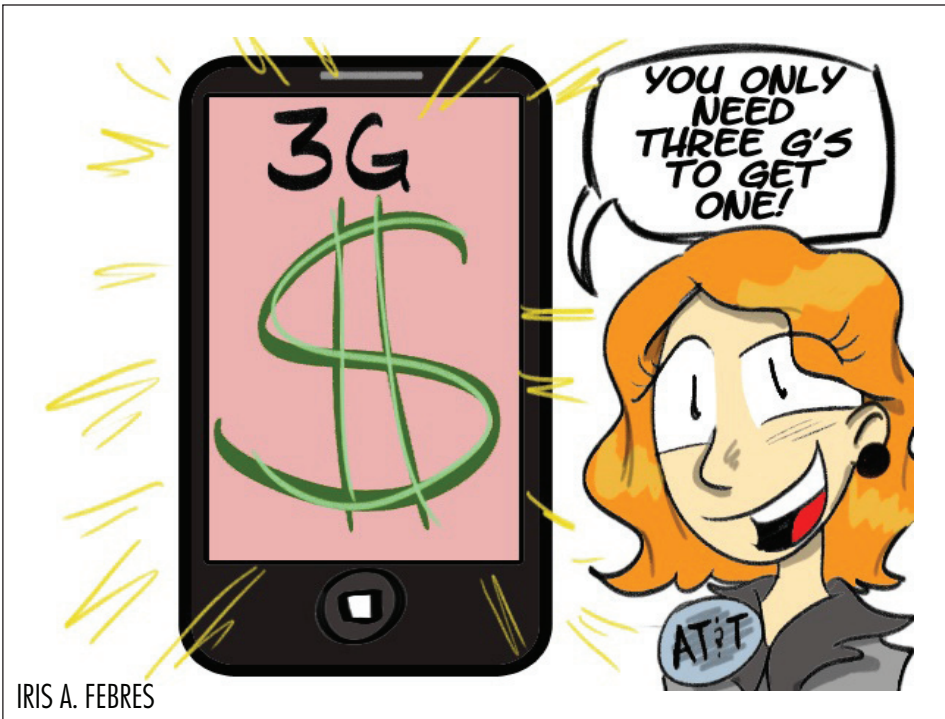
JORGE VALENS
Asst. News Director

Thanks to my experiences of poor reception and customer service, I can easily say AT&T isn't the shining star of cell phone service. However, given the fact they hold the cellular device I must own – the iPhone – it is something I have to tolerate.

AT&T, like other cell phone companies, would much rather aggravate than actually help you. Since the iPhone was first released in June 2007, AT&T has held the exclusive right to sell the device within the United States.

On June 19, Apple released the new iPhone 3G S: a faster, more feature-rich edition of the iPhone 3G that is making Apple fanboys drool worldwide. To be honest, I am trying really hard not to like it, because I am as poor as an Internet blogger/student can be. I was thinking of selling some stuff but I am holding off ... because I want to see what AT&T will do first.

When the iPhone 3G was released July 2008, AT&T (whether at the behest of Apple or not) took care of first-gen iPhone users by allowing them to upgrade to the 3G with the new customer price of \$199 or \$299, depending on storage. This was a great move on both Apple and AT&T's part because this opened up ownership of the new device to the group of people who are guaranteed to buy it again. Rather than



sulking away, waiting for the upgrade eligibility day to come, these people are out buying the iPhone 3G for a reasonable price.

However, I was rather surprised to see that AT&T is not doing the same thing this time around. Instead, AT&T is insisting current users under contract must pay anywhere from \$399 to \$699 for their 3G S.

Awesome job, AT&T! Shut out a solid consumer base who just so happen to be your loyal subscribers.

Though the best part of the World Wide Developers Conference (WWDC) was when Apple went ahead and pressed on with the release of the new iPhone 3.0 software and the iPhone 3G S, despite AT&T not being ready to support two of its key features: Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS) and data tethering.

I was not only proud of Apple, but pretty happy with how embarrassed AT&T should be. At the time of a major product launch, and a major software update, AT&T still cannot support MMS, a feature supported by essentially every other phone in the universe with a camera.

AT&T is sticking by their guns for now, saying that MMS is to be expected by the end of summer. As far as data tethering is concerned, AT&T has said that it will support it, but has given no definitive timeline.

This year's WWDC was a wake-up call for AT&T, coupled with the increasing number of iPhone users taking their software unlocked phones to other service providers.

AT&T, go out of your way to get new customers, sure, but don't forget the ones that pay your massive bill every month.

SAY WHAT?!: What do you think about the renaming of University Park to Modesto Maidique Campus?

"I think that if [the University] can cut budgets, fire teachers and cancel activities without our knowledge, it should at least let us know about renaming University Park."

Andrea Diaz
Alumna, Art History

"The renaming [to Modesto Maidique Campus] doesn't bother me at all. I didn't care when it was called University Park."

Leah Vega
Graduate Student, Physical Therapy

"How many times are we going to waste time, money and effort into renaming buildings? It's ridiculous. No one knows what anything is called anymore."

Glorie Garcia
Senior, Architecture

"I don't agree with changing the name from University Park; it will incur unnecessary expenses for the University (reprinting paperwork), and hence, waste resources."

Juan Camilo Medina
Alumnus, Mechanical Engineering

Struggle shatters misconceptions of Iranian women

PARADISE AFSHAR
Staff Writer

Like most Iranians, in the past week it has been impossible to pull myself away from Twitter or CNN for more than 10 minutes. As much as it pains me to see my countrymen and women being killed in the streets, I am going to be selfish and say that I do see a silver lining in all the wrong that's going on there.

From all the images that are coming in from Iran, I am glad people can put to rest the stereotypes that have been made about Iranian women. Prior to these recent events, people never believed me when I told them that Persian women do not cover their faces with their veils. I would get funny looks when

"From all the images that are coming in from Iran, I am glad people can put to rest the stereotypes that have been made about Iranian women."

I would tell people that women do have the right to vote in my country, and a college education.

Since these recent events, I cannot tell you how many times I have heard people say, "Did you see all the women out there in the streets? I didn't think they were allowed to do that."

The lifestyles of Iranian women are not as oppressive as those in other Middle Eastern countries and the public should recognize that. People can see that Iran is farther ahead than they once thought, but it's heartbreaking that it took such events to make the world see that.

WINNER/LOSER



Hello, Dalai! Thanks in part to a \$100,000 donation from the Dalai Lama, the Department of Religious Studies at FIU will be saved. Meanwhile, the University's Sports Management program is still waiting to hear from Pope Benedict XVI.



Tabloid stars Jon and Kate Gosselin are facing intense scrutiny as their failing marriage is documented in episodes of "Jon & Kate + 8." The pair's 10th wedding anniversary passed without celebration; Kate was alone while Jon took care of the kids.

QUOTATIONATION

"We call on the Iranian government to stop all violent actions ... Suppressing ideas never succeeds in making them go away."

Barack Obama
President, United States of America

SEND YOUR LETTERS

Have something to say about FIU? Send your thoughts in to opinion@fiusm.com or drop by our offices at either GC 240 or WUC 124. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year.

DAILYQUERY

You may have noticed that the hand-dryers in the GC bathrooms have been upgraded to Dyson-brand devices. After using them, do you love 'em or hate 'em? Send responses to opinion@fiusm.com

OPINIONPIECE

1.92

The amount (in millions) that 32-year-old Jammie Thomas-Rasset has to pay for 24 illegally downloaded songs.

ANIME EXPO

Animation convention to take over Graham Center

ANA ALVAREZ
Contributing Writer

Japanese animation, known to its fans as anime (commonly pronounced ana-may), is an artistic world of highly stylized, futuristic cartoons that have taken much of the world by storm.

What do you get when you combine the sights, sounds and food of Japan with anime's futuristic and vivid spirit? A two-day festival of entertainment and fantasy coming to FIU: Yasumicon.

Hosted by the FIU Anime Club, "Anything Goes Anime Film Club" (AGA), this year's festival will include live music, video gaming and costume contests, and plenty of surprises.

Yasumicon, an annual anime convention held at FIU, is Florida's largest free-to-the-public anime convention. Established 7 years ago, it is the fastest growing anime convention of its kind and will be taking place July 11 and 12.

The entire Graham Center at the Modesto Maidique Campus is reserved for a weekend of fun, anime panels, live music and entertainment, which will be open to guests of all ages.

"Last year, 3,300 people attended to the festival. It was the largest record of attendance ever. This year, we are expecting anywhere between 3,000 to 4,000 people," said vice chairman of Yasumicon 2009, Ben Badger.

Doors will open at noon on July 11 and the festivities will run until

midnight. On the following day, the festival will commence at noon and end at 6 p.m.. Food and refreshments will be sold, both in their own cafe which offers authentic Japanese cuisine, and at certain Aramark food locations, which will be available for the event.

Artists will have a chance to display their works, which are inspired by anime culture and video games.

Music will also be a big part of the festival. Performing at the Yasumicon Festival this year is the musical band Arm Cannon. Based out of New York, Arm Cannon performs a fusion of video game, anime and 1980's music, aiming to put their own spin on theme songs from "The Power Rangers," "Megaman" and "Ghostbusters," among others.

The Yasumicon festival attracts all types of people, from high school students who are considering attending FIU to current students and anime *aficionados* from around the state.

"A lot of prospective students will come with their parents to see FIU for the first time. Our objective is to share our passion for Japanese culture with them, as well as create a space where other people who love the medium can meet and interact with each other," said Pedro Cortes, chairman of Yasumicon 2009.

Two of the biggest draws are the cosplay and costume contests, and this year a new wrinkle has been added to heighten the excitement. Cosplay, which is short for costume play, is



judged based on how well individuals or groups dress as characters from their favorite anime or Asian pop or rock bands, then acting as those characters on stage. The costume contest judges participants based on the quality of their homemade costumes.

"Something unique about the way that we are doing the costume contest this year is that we are giving out Chairman Awards. The chairman and I will walk around the hallways, and if we like a particular costume, we will give them a Chairman Award right there on the spot," Badger said. "This is great for certain people who are not bold enough to go on stage."

AGA puts months of work into planning the convention, but to its members, the payoff is more than worth it.

"Yasumicon is the culmination of a ridiculous amount of work put in by members of [our club]. It's the reward we get for spending months on the phone and on the computer to get it running. It's a sweet prize to me," Cortes said.

For more information about the Yasumicon Festival, please visit www.yasumicon.com.

INTERVIEW

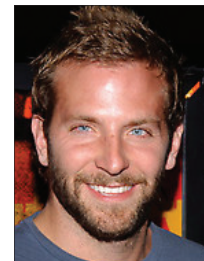
Hangover star discusses 'special' film

STEVE MESA
Staff Writer

What happens when you combine an impending wedding, four guys, Vegas and a whole lot of alcohol? Either an unforgettable bachelor party or, in the case of *The Hangover*, a party no one remembers.

The movie follows four friends on the adventure of a lifetime: "Phil" (Bradley Cooper), "Stu" (Ed Helms), offbeat "Alan" (Zach Galifianakis) and the groom,

"Doug" (Justin Bartha). The plan is to give Doug the ultimate bachelor party in Vegas, but the plan goes horribly awry. Phil, Stu and Alan wake up the morning after arriving in Vegas to find their hotel room a mess, the groom missing and, worst of all, they can't remember anything. It's up to the three of them to work as a team and retrace their steps to find their buddy and



COOPER

make it to the wedding.

The Beacon was able to sit down with actor and Hangover star, Bradley Cooper (*Wedding Crashers*, *Yes Man*) at the Lowes Hotel in South Beach. In the film, Cooper portrays Phil Wenneck, one of Doug's best friends and the apparent alpha male of the group.

Cooper first met the film's director, Todd Phillips, two years ago. About a year later, just before *The Hangover* was ready to be filmed, he received word from Phillips that he got the role of "Phil" in the upcoming blockbuster.

"I really didn't think I could pull it off for some reason," Cooper said. "I just thought I did not feel secure about me playing that role."

Cooper said that Phillips believed in him. He listened and, two weeks into filming, the roll "clicked" for him.

The filming of *The Hangover* was not the first time that Cooper worked with Bartha and Galifianakis. Cooper has been friends with Bartha since they worked with each other for the first time in 2006's romantic comedy, *Failure to Launch* and for a second time in the upcoming anthology film, *New York, I Love You*.

"I met Zach in Vancouver a long time ago where we were both shooting separate television series," Cooper said. "He and I shared a car to drive to Vegas for the film and we bonded on the trip."

Cooper went on to say that he, Galifianakis and co-star Ed Helms became very good friends. While filming the movie, Cooper and the guys had no breaks during their 16-hour days for over six weeks. Cooper said that any down time that they had was spent sleeping and relaxing.

"We went all over Vegas because of the movie and to places we probably would not have gone to," Cooper said.

Cooper said the hardest scene to shoot involved a naked Chinese man jumping on his neck.

"We shot that scene 40 times with the guy jumping on my neck and his balls in my face," Cooper said. "After we shot that scene, we thought 'Wow, this movie could be really special.'"

The year 2007 was the busiest year for Cooper when he filmed five films including *The Midnight Meat Train*, *Yes Man* and *He's Just Not That Into You*.

"At one point, I was shooting three movies that were overlapping," Cooper said.

Some upcoming films featuring Cooper include *Case 39*, a horror film starring Renee Zellweger with an unknown release date and *All About Steve*, a romantic comedy starring Sandra Bullock to be released on Sept. 9.

For more fun entertainment related interviews, reviews and previews visit the Life! section on FIUSM.com.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Asian eatery offers affordable cuisine

JASMYN ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

If you're craving tasty Asian food then head over to Pei Wei, located at 13616 North Kendall Drive. Although this restaurant is an offshoot of the more upscale P.F. Chang's Chinese Bistro franchise, don't let the casual atmosphere fool you. The quality of the food is just as good, but much more affordable as prices range from about \$4 to \$9, plus tax.

For the less adventurous diners I highly recommend the Lo Mein Noodle Bowl. You can choose between chicken, beef, vegetables, tofu or shrimp (shrimp at an additional cost of \$1) and features the familiar garlic-infused sauce along with the egg noodles topped with

carrots, scallions, bean sprouts and shitake mushrooms.

Another favorite is the Honey-Seared Chicken. Although it has a honey glaze, the skin is crispy and there is the added bonus of choosing white or brown rice topped with scallions, adding a refreshing kick.

If you're looking for something spicy, you have a few choices. Try the chili sauce on the table or order the Orange Peel Signature Dish with the choice of chicken, beef, shrimp or tofu. Other dishes similar to this either overemphasize the sweetness of the orange peel or the spice of the peppers; Pei Wei manages to strike a near-perfect medium.

Another spicy dish worth your while would be the Thai Blazing Noodles.

Its kick comes from the tomato black pepper sauce along with the added seasonings of cilantro and Thai basil. A word of caution: this dish is not for those who have a weak palate, as it is a sinus clearer. Be sure to check for the notation on the menu indicating the spicy factor.

Besides the great food, they have free refills on fountain sodas, wooden chopsticks on the table (for the show-offs), and complimentary fortune cookies. Pei Wei is busy during the day, so while it may not necessarily be the best place for an intimate date, it will definitely be the perfect place for a casual outing with a loved one or a small group of friends or family.

The friendly staff, comfortable seating and open view of the kitchen makes Pei Wei a lovely place to frequent.

Two friends ready for pros

DRAFT, page 7

picked up earlier. Afterwards, I was just happy I got picked,” Mollica said.

Townsend said the draft order is not too important.

“It doesn’t matter what round he was drafted in. He’s good enough to play in the minors right now.”

In the afternoon of June 11, Mollica’s father, Tony, heard on the radio that his youngest son was drafted by the New York Mets.

New York is Ryan’s birthplace and the city where many of Tony’s relatives reside.

Still, Tony was not surprised Ryan was overlooked again.

“He was always good but under the radar,” Tony Mollica said. “He was never the big kid or the superstar. His intangibles and leadership are amazing, but no one sees that until you’re on the team with him.”

His father noticed he was a bit disappointed but gave him a handshake and hug.

Then he gave his 23-year-old son a one-minute speech about why he should feel excited that the Mets called his name.

“You’ve got this shot,” he told his son. “This might be good. It was fitting you got picked late. Now you can prove to people what type of ballplayer you are.”

Mollica went from feeling cheated to wanting to once again prove himself.

“Finally, being able to get a chance to play at the next level, not only for me but for my family,” he said. “They’ve stuck with me through everything.”

FAMILY AFFAIR

Both players have baseball families.

“My grandfather taught me everything. He played in the Cubs organization,” Townsend said. “My dad’s been my coach since t-ball. I started playing when I was 2 or 3 in t-ball. My whole family is big on sports.”

Townsend’s grandfather passed away a few years ago, but the 21-year-old ballplayer knows his mentor would have been proud.

“I know he would’ve been very proud of me yesterday,” he said in a phone interview following the draft.

Mollica’s grandfather played for the New York Giants in the 1940s.

He is currently in the hospital but was pleased to hear Mollica could one day be a New York Met.

“I told him and I could tell it lifted his spirits,” Mollica said.

His father played in college, and his brother is a minor league umpire.

“We’ve got a baseball family,” Mollica said. “Once I started walking I started playing Wiffleball in New York. I’ve had baseball around me since I was born.”

Townsend’s coach from the time he could walk, his father Pete, said he didn’t teach his son technical aspects of the game. He taught him how he should conduct himself on the field.

“When I was his coach, if anyone was going to make an example of, it was Tyler,” Pete Townsend said. “Looking back it might not be fair, but I never yelled at him for striking out or making an error. I did yell at him for moping though.”

Even with minor league seasons starting so soon, both players did not miss Father’s Day.

For the Mollica family, Father’s Day began in an airport.

Mollica’s father sent off his son at 5 a.m. to begin his minor league career with the Kingsport Mets, whose season starts this week.

But the elder Mollica was not disappointed to spend just a few minutes with his son on Father’s Day.

“He sounded pretty happy,” the younger Mollica said about his father. “No one is more excited about me playing than him. I thought it was a pretty good present.”

Townsend spent it at home trying not to think about the minor league contract he has yet to sign, even though his team started its season on June 19. If he does sign, he will miss one family tradition.

Tyler, the Philadelphia Phillies fan, goes to Wrigley Field with his father to watch a Chicago Cubs vs. Phillies game every year.

His father loves the pastime but understands his son might not make it this year due to the minor league season running throughout the whole summer.

“Yeah, it’s breaking tradition. But it’s not a bad way to break it,” his father said.

Thomas plans on keeping team strong

TOWERS, page 8

and Mike Martinez going to continue improving, but there is a slew of talented incoming freshmen who should be able to replicate last season’s crop.

Last year’s recruiting class ranked 15th in the nation, and had some of the top high school players from all over the country so you know they’ll be well prepared to contribute.

The biggest key is the young pitching, which takes a little while longer to develop and which didn’t quite pay the dividends their hitting counterparts did.

Guys like Mason McVay, Justin Leith, Aaron Arboleya and Andre Vazquez will have to step up and find some consistency to their obvious talents for the pitching to make up the difference for some of the lack of offense.



MOLLICA



BERMUDEZ

THE NEXT STEP

Scott Rembisz started off strong, but faded down the stretch, and he’ll really need to step his game up in order to be a legitimate ace.

Smart money is on him doing this, as leading the team in 90 IP Rembisz was a horse, and some of the fade down the stretch might be attributable to fatigue.

With a full year in a Division I conditioning program, that shouldn’t be a problem again.

Tim Jobe is also a solid bet to go to the next level; like Rembisz, he is a strong JUCO transfer who showed the ability to carry an offense for games at a time.

While he isn’t at Townsend’s level, it isn’t a stretch to assume he’ll be able to anchor another strong offense.

Jobe isn’t the polished hitter Townsend was and doesn’t have his

ability to spray balls all over the field, but he might have as much natural power to left field and his slugging will be sorely needed on a team that will have no problems getting on base but may struggle getting those guys in.

SECRET WEAPON

It might be odd to call a Freshman All-American a secret weapon, but it might be an understatement if Mike Martinez is as good as some think he is.

“I think he’s going to be probably one of the best hitters to come through FIU,” raved Townsend in an interview with Student Media this past April. “He hits the ball to right field as good as any right-hander I’ve seen.”

Martinez brings a professional approach to the plate for such a young hitter, bringing a right-handed Townsend to mind.

If he progresses, mentioning him in the same breath as Townsend won’t be as crazy as it may seem now.

Basketball team stays on track

BAKSETBALL, page 8

form of postseason banishment.

In order for the team to remain free of penalties, it must maintain its improvement in hopes of eventually raising its four-year rolling average.

The four-year rolling average includes the previous four academic years, and the University must maintain that average at 925.

The basketball team currently stands at 874, but the 2007-08 campaign was a drastic improvement Garcia hopes will place the team on the right track.

The team’s 2005-06 single-year score of 815 and the score from 2006-07 was enough for Garcia to realize there is still much work to do

to get the multi-year results where they need to be.

The team intends to keep it on that track under new head coach Isiah Thomas, who has never coached at the college level before.

Garcia said she sat down with Thomas and discussed the matter the first week he arrived on campus, and Thomas will be assisted by an experienced individual.

According to athletics, Thomas is not allowed to comment.

“He has hired an assistant head coach in Anthony Anderson from Texas Christian University and he understands,” Garcia said. “He has taken on a very active role in what we do here.”

The basketball team was not the

only FIU team to improve, as only the baseball team was in line for a penalty, and it was waived.

“What I love about FIU, is that every kid that comes to FIU and plays for FIU, we are committed to that kid,” Garcia said.

“That’s how every single one of my coaches think, and that’s what makes it so easy to be able to improve scores, because they are not just numbers.

“Looking back at the 2005-06 year, for all these sports, those kids were absolutely just numbers. When I came here I was floored because they are not just numbers here.”

Athletic Director Pete Garcia was unavailable for comment after numerous attempts to reach him.



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MAKING THE GRADE

Men’s basketball increases APR score by 155 points

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Director

The men’s basketball team saw a four-win improvement from the 2007-08 season to the 2008-09 campaign and advanced the farthest it had in the postseason since 2005.

The slight betterment on the court was just a marginal amelioration compared to the jump the Golden Panthers made in the classroom last season.

When the NCAA released its Academic Progress Rates (APR) for

this year, the team improved its score by a whopping 155 points, relieving the team of any penalties the NCAA could have imposed.

After the school had applied for various waivers in an attempt to get relief from NCAA-imposed “contemporaneous and historical penalties,” athletics was quickly rewarded when it came to this team.

“We did not even have to apply for anything,” FIU APR specialist Monique Garcia said with a smile. “Because the NCAA automatically said, ‘Here you go,’ and relieved us.”

The team went from an 800 score in the 2006-07 campaign to 955 during the 2007-08 year.

It was the largest improvement of any FIU team when this year’s single-year scores were released.

The NCAA uses the APR to estimate how many student-athletes from each program are on pace to graduate.

Each student-athlete is worth up to two points: one point for staying academically eligible and another for remaining enrolled with the institution. The APR scores are calcu-

lated by dividing the team’s accumulated points by the maximum number possible, then that number is multiplied by 1,000.

The APR scores the NCAA releases are based on a four-year average. Athletics provided Student Media with the single-year scores.

Avoided were a contemporaneous penalty, which can limit the amount of scholarships a team can give, and a historical penalty, which places even further punishment on teams in the

955
Men’s basketball team’s 2006-2007 APR score.

800
Men’s basketball team’s 2007-2008 APR score.

BASKETBALL, page 7

Dreams of going pro a reality for two friends

SERGIO BONILLA
Sports Director

Tyler Townsend and Ryan Mollica have wanted to reach the professional baseball ranks since they were both just toddlers playing t-ball.

But coming out of high school, both players were overlooked by colleges as they were offered just a single Division I baseball scholarship between them.

The second-baseman Mollica had to walk-on at Central Florida Community College, then he transferred to FIU in his sophomore year.

“I’ve been playing with a chip on my shoulder since high school,” Mollica said. “I always look back at that, not really getting many breaks or chances.”

Major League Baseball scouts could not ignore Townsend’s career at FIU, but Mollica would be reminded of his high school days again when he was chosen in the 47th round of the 50-round draft. Together, they were an offensive duo with a strong baseball background hitting back-to-back in the lineup the last two seasons, but their draft day experience were two

different stories.

DRAFT DAY

Townsend was the first Golden Panther selected in the 2009 MLB First Year Player Draft on June 9 at 10:30 p.m. He was drafted in the third round, but has yet to sign because of a contract dispute with the Baltimore Orioles. The two parties don’t agree on the contract’s worth just yet.

If he does, he will play with Aberdeen Ironbirds, a single-A team affiliated with the Orioles.

Mollica saw Townsend develop throughout the three years at FIU.

“He always had a nice swing, and he’s a good kid,” Mollica said. “I thought he would develop into a good hitter, but he’s really surpassed what I thought he would be.”

Mollica also saw three of his teammates get drafted before him and on the last day, he almost lost hope. He was the second-to-last second baseman selected.

“It was bittersweet. I was hoping to get

DRAFT, page 7



VICTORIA LYNCH/BEACON FILE PHOTO

BIG LEAGUERS: Former Golden Panthers Ryan Mollica and Tyler Townsend were selected in the MLB First Year Player Draft. Townsend was picked in the third round by the Baltimore Orioles.

Four players leave team; new talent will keep program strong

PLAYERS DEPARTING

Player	Avg.	Runs	Hits	HR	RBI	SLG	OBP
Ryan Mollica	.354	35	63	8	50	.562	.403
Greg Waddell	.439	20	29	4	20	.712	.513
Tyler Townsend	.434	58	92	24	77	.858	.512

PLAYERS RISING

Player	Avg.	Runs	Hits	HR	RBI	SLG	OBP
Pablo Bermudez	.313	32	51	3	26	.448	.390
Mike Martinez	.335	41	61	6	37	.495	.427
Raiko Alfonso	.300	26	45	3	20	.453	.389

Congratulations, coach Thomas. You improved your team by 14 wins and led them to a top 4 seed in the conference tournament after not making a postseason appearance since 2006.

Your team featured an offensive barrage led by All-American outfielder Tyler Townsend and two-time, first team All Sun Belt pick, Ryan Mollica. Greg Waddell, one of your top recruits, led the team in batting and finished second in On Base Percentage.

Another recruit, big right-handed pitcher Tom Ebert, was among the Sun Belt leaders in many pitching categories.

So coach, once again congrats. Guess what your prize is for one of the more remarkable turnarounds in FIU baseball history?

You get the opportunity to try to avoid doing the exact opposite, as all four of those players have decided to take the money and go play pro ball.

You are one of the top recruiters around these parts, and you’ve managed to build a pretty good talent base in your short time here.

I’m sure you aren’t too concerned, as it’s the reality of the situation, and something you have dealt with in your numerous years at this level.

However, your fans will undoubtedly be worried. That is what fans do, after all.

So to put their minds at rest, here’s a list of reasons why the team should be able to stay afloat next season.

YOUTH MOVEMENT PAYS OFF

You’ve made a point of stockpiling youngsters and have lived up to your reputation as a great recruiter so far, adding a ton of freshmen and junior (community) college (JUCO) transfers who were able to step in right away and contribute.

Not only are returning sophomores like Pablo Bermudez, Raiko Alfonso

TOWERS, page 7



CHRIS TOWERS