Hackers invade UTS system

By GIOVANI BENTLEY
InDepth Editor

As the university launches a new campaign to filter viruses in FIU e-mail, it faces a new "critical" challenge – one that originated from a potential hacker attack involving some 165 computers on campus, University Technology Services announced last week.

"Programs were placed on the system and a scan was done. It doesn’t mean that anything necessarily was taken from the system. I’m more concerned about identity theft," said John P. McGowan, chief information officer and vice president of information technology.

The program allegedly retrieved usernames and passwords for FIU administrators and others in the university community. However, the financial system was not compromised, McGowan said.

This isn’t the first time FIU has dealt with hackers. In June 2002, keystroke tracking software was found on the computer in one of the Green Library’s student labs.

The program was designed to record everything a student typed on the computer, including credit card numbers used when placing online orders. Ultimately, the FBI linked the hacker attack with members of the Russian mafia and an arrest was made.

Nearly three years later, the university still deals with similar situations, but FIU is not alone. "They’re not just probing our network, they’re probing many networks, and when they find weaknesses in systems, they then start to utilize programs that are capable of a brute-force examination of those systems to see if they can compromise them," McGowan said.

The Privacy Rights Clearinghouse in San Diego tracked a series of hacker attacks since February on university computer systems across the country.

The University of California at Berkeley, Tufts University, Boston College and Carnegie Mellon University are just a few on the list. Just last weekend, hackers broke into the Georgia Southern University online store, but much like in FIU’s case, there is no evidence that financial information was ever stolen.

Kia Makki, Lucent Technology professor at FIU’s Telecommunications and Information Technology Institute, said that cyber security awareness is key in a world where privacy is an increasingly valued commodity. "Maybe the university has to offer some short training courses, [much] like they offer short training courses for PantherSoft. People need to know what the issues are and what they need to look for. You have to be able to carefully protect yourself," she said.

Makki, who is currently planning an international workshop on mobile and wireless security in Miami for March 2006, said that the university has implemented a new anti-virus and anti-spam system for all FIU e-mail accounts. The program will identify e-mail messages and anti-spam system for all FIU e-mail accounts. The program will identify e-mail messages.

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"They’re not just probing for financial information, but much like in FIU’s case, they’re probing for anything that’s not necessarily taken from the store, but much like in FIU’s case, they’re probing for anything that’s not necessarily taken from the store," said McManus, who is currently planning an international workshop on mobile and wireless security in Miami for March 2006.

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Senior leaves mark in student affairs

By ANA SANCHEZ
News Editor

Onika Williams enjoys doing the ordinary things most college students do — listening to Kanye West, eating sushi at her dorm with friends and sleeping whenever she gets a chance. However, she is not your typical college graduate.

Not only did she take 21 credits this semester and work part time at the Office of Admissions, but she also maintained a 3.59 grade point average along with four scholarships.

Four years ago, Williams became the Salutatorian of her senior class at Home-
Steel, cement price slow construction

By KAREN BUTIRAGO
Contributing Writer

Buried utilities and infrastructure problems are being blamed for the delay of Biscayne Bay Campus. New cafeterias are scheduled to open in the summer of 2006.

“Fluctuations in the water and gas lines, as well as utilities, are the reasons for the delay,” said Robert J. Smiddy.

According to Carmona Ocasio, FIU has spent more than $4 million toward the construction of a new dining facility and fitness center at the Wolfson University Center.

The funds for the construction are coming from the Capital Improvement Trust Fund (CITF), which consists of payments made to the state from universities resulting from student fees.

“I didn’t know that we are having a new cafeteria,” Carmona said, adding that he visits the cafeteria’s in between classes and likes it because “it’s pretty quiet.”

Besides the lack of food choices, the cafeteria hour of operation causes an inconvenience to students.

“The cafeteria opens Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Fridays, the cafeteria closes at 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, the University Park cafeteria opens one hour earlier than the one at UP.

“When we get to [the]

DUSTY SITE: Cafeteria construction is delayed at the Biscayne Bay Campus and is scheduled to open in the summer of 2006. A woman sleeps in front of the newly built cafeteria.

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“When we get to [the]
By ANA SANCHEZ
News Editor

After years of academic studies, 3,200 FIU stu-
dents are expected to hear their names read at gradu-
ation ceremonies held from May 3 to May 4 at the
 Pharmacare at University Park campus.

In the past couple of weeks, the Office of the Registrar
has seen long lines of seniors working on final
details of the application process toward commencement
and waiting to receive the tickets for family and friends attend-
ing the ceremony.

A week before the cer-
emony, the Office of the Registrar serviced 960 stu-
dents who were waiting for tickets.

The application process for the ceremony includes filling out the commencement
confirmation form and getting approval of completion of credits by
advisors.

Graduation Supervisor Gisela Cabrera stresses the importance of applying
for the graduation ceremony at the right time.

“Before important as com-
mencement is, it is more important to apply for the correct semester in which the student is going to
complete all necessary courses in order to earn their degree,” Cabrera
said.

Students are advised to start applying the semester
before they finish all the requirements to graduate
and not in the middle of the final semester, which
ultimately slows down the process of approval.

It is important that students understand
that walking the cer-
money does not mean that
they will graduate and they
will not receive their degree
until all their requirements
are met.

A l t h o u g h  T a n i a
Vazquez, who is majoring
in psychology, applied mid-
semester, the application process went smoothly. While standing in line to
get tickets for the cer-
money, Vazquez recounted her commencement prepa-
ration.

“I went to my advisor to
check for my credits, then
I just filled the application.
I have one class remaining
that I plan to take in the
summer,” Vazquez said.

Brian Brown, who is
majoring in health science,
had a similarly rapid expe-
rience.

“I started my graduation
application at the begin-
ing of this semester. My
advisor did it all for me.
My requirements had already
been done and it was quiet
and easy,” Brown said.

Although some students
will walk at the commence-
money, they will not official
ly graduate and receive their diploma if they
have not completed all of
their requirements and registered for the summer
semester to complete miss-
ing credits.

Students graduating this
semester will not receive
their diploma at commen-
tence. Diplomas will not be
bundled until 10 to 14 weeks
after grades become available.

It will be a year of firsts
for FIU as the College of Law will graduate its inau-
gural class of approximately
52 students. Provisionally
approved by the American
Bar Association, the Col-
lege of Law will hold its commencement ceremony
May 22 at the Wertheim Performing Arts Center.

During the cere-
money, prominent alumni
will receive Distinguished Alumni Service medallions
for their contributions to the community and to FIU.

Amongst those alumni
are broadcast executive
Michael Rodriguez, vice
president and general manager of Telemundo
51/WSCV, Thomas M.
Cornish, CEO of Setlin,
the largest independent
insurance company in
South Florida and Frank
J. Bolanos, chairman of the
Miami-Dade County
Public School Board.

The College of Arts and Sciences commencement ceremony has the largest
number of graduates this
year—about 1,055 students.

During this ceremony, a
posthumous degree will
be given to the parents
of Robert James Smiddy.

Smiddy passed away on
Sept. 18, 2004 of a bleed-
ing complication from a
viral disease. He earned
119 credits for his degree
in biological sciences. The
Robert J. Smiddy Memorial
Award will be presented to a
distinguished student from the
Department of Biological
Sciences.

After the commencement ceremonies a reception will
follow for the alumni hon-
orized with the Distinguished Service medallions.

AWARDS CEREMONY: Onika Williams is recognized for her academic
accomplishments at the Excellence Awards given by the Student Suport
Program and the Multicultural Programs and Services.
A FOND
Farewell

Former RA, peer advisor reflects

By FEVICIDAD GARCIA
Contributing Writer

We’re all grown up somewhere. When you really think about it, where did you grow up?

Where did you experience “growing up?”

We’ve all grown up somewhere. When you really think about it, where did you grow up?

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Phew! [FIU] TO THE GRADUATES of 2004/2005

CONGRATULATIONS!
YOU’VE MADE IT THROUGH ALL THE INSANE PROFESSORS, TERM PAPERS AND HORRIBLE PARKING, AND SOMEHOW, DESPITE ALL THIS, FIU HASN’T LOST YOUR PAPERWORK.

HERE’S SOME HELPFUL ADVICE:
“YOUR FAMILIES ARE EXTREMELY PROUD OF YOU. YOU CAN’T IMAGINE THE SENSE OF RELIEF THEY ARE EXPERIENCING. THIS WOULD BE A MOST OPPORTUNE TIME TO ASK FOR MONEY.” SARY BOLDING

Graduate reminisces on times at FIU

By CELIA CARCASES Contributing Writer

I can’t believe that my time at FIU has come and gone. It seems like it was only yesterday that I first came here to pursue my bachelor’s degree in public relations in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Biscayne Bay Campus. In reality, it was back in the fall of 1991. After two years at FIU and feeling that I was going nowhere, I decided to leave and go to work with my parents. That experience turned out to be very interesting, educating and exhausting at the same time.

It was suddenly interrupted with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. By then, I had been back at FIU for about a month. I came back because I felt I was missing something important in my life, and that was my degree. I am certain that with a degree I will have opportunities come my way that I would not have had without a degree.

Again, I felt that my pursuit of a degree in public relations was going nowhere.

In the fall of 2002, I switched my major to travel & tourism management in the School of Hospitality & Tourism Management. It turned out to be a good decision, not because of the area the degree was in, but more so because of the people that I met while pursuing my degree.

I loved being in an environment where at any time during my day I could hear a number of different languages spoken at the same time. I was lucky enough to be in an environment where at any time during my day I could hear a number of different languages spoken at the same time.

I was asked in 1983 by the chair professor to write well was a huge challenge. If applicants didn’t know how to write when they apply for a program during their two years with us. And contrary to popular wisdom, these demanding standards did not result in lower enrollments.

The school grew by leaps and bounds, attracting better and better students who wanted to be challenged. The principal architect of the program was the departing Professor Kevin Hall.

The Beacon – May 2, 2005 www.beaconnewspaper.com

WINNER & LOSER

WINNER

Class of 2005: Congratulations on your hard work and devotion. The Beacon praises you for years of dedication and achievements. Rock on!

LOSER

Bragging Bigamist: A bigamist in Greater Manchester, England was caught bragging about his new 20-year-old wife in a decade and which strengthened journalism throughout Central America is very likely to go down the proverbial toilet. The same fate appears to face the school’s Spanish-language master’s program in journalism, the first at any U.S. university. If that happens, three of FIU’s crown jewels will have been plucked.

But that is not all that’s falling apart at SJMC. With the departure of a key faculty member, the international program SJMC developed over more than a decade and which strengthened journalism throughout the country. Every one of the three accreditation teams the school was accredited in record time in 1991—singly out the writing program as one of SJMC’s strong points.

More importantly, the writing skills learned at SJMC propelled its grad- uates working for the Herald from places like Harvard, Yale and Brown. And now it has done the same. What replaces it is the same sort of mediocre system used by dozens of j- programs in the country.

But is that not all that’s falling apart at SJMC? With the departure of a key faculty member, the international program SJMC developed over more than a decade and which strengthened journalism throughout Central America is very likely to go down the proverbial toilet. The same fate appears to face the school’s Spanish-language master’s program in journalism, the first at any U.S. university. If that happens, three of SJMC’s crown jewels will have been plucked.

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Most kids jump from one activity to another for years before they settle on something they enjoy. They take ballet classes, join baseball teams or even take a stab at reading for enjoyment. Some children will continue their hobby for a couple of years before losing interest, but for the lucky ones, that little hobby becomes a genuine passion.

Zoila Araica was one of the lucky ones. She was nine years old when she began playing the clarinet. She didn’t expect to continue with the instrument or even music, but because she noticed that playing the clarinet came natural to her, she decided to give it a try.

“I started practicing and it came really easily to me. After that, I skipped levels so I really liked it. It was really satisfying,” Araica said.

She continued to excel in music over the years and her hard work paid off. At the age of 15, she was elected drum major of her high school’s marching band.

According to Araica, being drum major is no easy task; one has to run rehearsals, conduct field shows and discipline band members who are out of line – no matter how much older and more physically imposing they are than you.

“I was barely 15 and I was having to boss around 18-year-old guys. One time I called the band to attention and they responded except for this one guy. I told him to drop and do push-ups and he told me f-- you. Of course, when you’re 15 you want to cry and go into a hole. But no, I just stepped off the ladder, told someone else to run rehearsal and I took him off to the side. I told him f-- you in an educated way,” Araica said.

Experiences like that one helped shape and prepare her for the even bigger challenges she faced while being the FIU Golden Panther Band’s drum major for the four years she has attended FIU.

Araica graduates this spring with a bachelor’s in music, but said she will be returning for her master’s in conducting.

“I got stuck with a bachelor’s in music with a concentration in education, and that really bothered me because I did as much work as any other person getting a bachelor’s in education.

Even though she is graduating, she is not done with school. She plans on returning to get her master’s in conducting. Although many people enjoy music, they do not see it as a legitimate career – the way Araica does.

“It is not respected among society, music or music education. It’s belittled instead of being put on a pedestal,” she said.

Because of this view of music, jobs in this field are few and underpaid considering the amount of work a music educator has to do. Although financial stability is something Araica wants in the future, the low pay has not deterred her from going into her chosen field. She hopes to one day teach an elementary school class and pass on the gift of music she received as a child.

“If you are a part of an ensemble, you get this connection that you don’t see but you feel in some way,” Araica said. “If you are conducting it’s even better because you get the full spectrum of all the tone colors and you are helping to create a mold out of that moment.”

For being only 21 years old, Araica has accomplished more than most people her age. Over a period of five years, she has led two different ensembles as drum major; one of the most challenging and time-consuming jobs anyone can hold. She has stepped up to the people who did not respect her, and in turn gained the respect of everyone.

She has accepted the fact that because she wants to make a career out of what she loves, she won’t receive the recognition or the salary she truly deserves.
From the confines of a jail cell, graduating from FIU was the furthest thing from Jason Bravo’s mind. Arrested for felony charges while attending Christopher Columbus High School, Bravo, 24, overcame obstacles and will graduate from FIU this spring.

Looks can be deceiving for Bravo. Once an inmate and an associate of gang members, his tattoos no longer describe his personality.

“They reflect the stages of my life and my family,” Bravo said.

“Getting an education opens your eyes and helps you find your place in the world,” he added. “I used to have distorted views.”

After high school, Bravo decided to further his education at FIU, majoring in economics with a minor in philosophy.

“Economics is extremely challenging and important in understanding the world,” he said.

Being part of the economics honors society, Omni Crom Delta Epsilon, gave Bravo more focus on his studies.

“I made lots of friends there,” Bravo said. “We’d always get together and study.”

Bravo believes in giving back to the community.

“Children are one-third of our population and all of our future. From time to time, I speak to inmates at the jail I was locked up in. I talk to them about how I once sat where they sit and slept where they slept, and now I am about to start law school.”

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“Children are one-third of our population and all of our future.
Prado ready to start making a difference

By C. JOEL MARINO
Senior Staff Writer

Alex Prado, the newly elected Student Government Association president, sat with The Beacon for an exclusive interview regarding his thoughts on this year’s campaign, his plans for the new administration and advice for graduates that plan to stay in contact with their alma mater.

Q: What were your feelings when they announced you had won the SGA elections?

It was extremely exciting and overwhelming. I just couldn’t thank the people who helped me out enough, because I couldn’t have done it without all those who helped me campaign. So that’s the first thing I felt, gratitude to all the people who helped me out.

Q: When do you officially begin your role as University Park’s SGA president and what are the first things you plan on doing?

As far as the Board of Trustees, I begin May 1 and as far as the actual student president, I begin May 9. Right now we’re in the process of moving into a new office because we’re moving from the third floor to the second floor of the Graham Center.

After that, I’m going to be working on some different issues that were on my platform.

One of these is the [Graham Center] Pit being sealed off due to fire purposes. We’re working on that, and that’s the biggest thing I’m working on right now, which is the biggest thing that came up.

Q: What were your thoughts on your opponent, Aurelio “P.J.” Rivera?

My opponent is a great leader. At the SGA banquet, I mentioned him. I don’t have to tell him to continue serving FIU because I know he will. I think he’s a great asset to FIU. I don’t know what he plans to do in the future – I haven’t spoken to him yet – but whatever he plans to do I wish him the best. I know he’ll continue to do whatever’s best for FIU students, whether he does it for SGA or through anything else he gets involved with. He just hasn’t talked too much with me.

Q: Do you think your affiliation with the Greeks helped in the campaign?

No. Other than them supporting me, I don’t think it helped or hurt at all. It was just my brothers that came out and helped me out.

I’ve heard that a lot of people who were in other fraternities, other sororities or who were not even affiliated with the Greeks who believed in the platform, also helped me out.

Q: Do you think a Greek presence will influence your administration?

For the past eight to ten years, I believe every SGA president has been Greek, so I don’t think it’s a big deal. I’m an FIU student first, and there’s nothing wrong with being an FIU student.

Q: What do you think is the best way for graduating students to keep in contact with the university?

I think our Alumni Association is great. They’ve been making great strides in staying communicated with our alumni, helping many come to our athletic events and just reminding them where they came from.

A university’s prestige is based on their alumni base and all the other “traditional” universities, such as [the University of Florida] and [Florida State University] are great because of alumni coming back after establishing themselves and donating money and supporting athletic events. I think it’s just important to hold FIU at great lengths because that’s where they got their degrees from and if they have those degrees they’ll be more important in the end.

GPS Tracking

Theft recovery, Parental control, Speed, direction, and exact location History review - fastest speed – alarm reporting Cars, boats, motorcycles, RV’s, airplanes Covers North America

With Satellite Photos

Our satellite vehicle tracking system can give you peace of mind. In about one minute you can always know where your vehicle and its passengers are.

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www.gpsAutoTrack.net
FIU must address student concerns

MESSOD, from page 12

those saw FIU finish two games away from the College World Series. Some see FIU’s recent struggles as a sign that it’s time for new management. But I have a feeling FIU is due to break it big and soon.

TOTAL FIU OVERHAUL

FIU is slowly changing from a commuter school to a traditional college. There’s nothing wrong with that, but there is something wrong with the university regularly pissing off students.

FIU must do a better job with addressing the concerns of those who pay their salaries. For people to want to be here, they have to like being here, and I don’t think FIU does enough to make that happen.

Customer service sucks. Parking is always horrendous, as are the parking tickets. Construction never ends. Classes are being cut. Fees are being increased. Campus life is a joke. Guess what that means when people graduate? They don’t give money to the school. And they don’t give a rat’s booty about this place because they have no loyalty or gratitude when people think they’ve been milked.

That’s a big reason why FIU gets horrible alumni support and why they can’t draw decent crowds to events. You have to give people to go for the love of their school and there’s little of that at FIU.

I have lots of love for this place and I wouldn’t have chosen to go anywhere else, but I bet that I’m in the very small minority. Administrators have to make student and alumni satisfaction a high priority in the future or risk their plans going belly-up.

SPECIAL THANKS

FIU has been a blast. I’ve had way too much work, play, travel and fun. I wouldn’t change most of it. There are lots of people to thank, but I must mention Robert Jaros, Orlando Machado, Will Sanchez and Rich Kelch because each of them was instrumental in my development at FIU.

I will forever be grateful to WRGP because without it, I probably wouldn’t graduate.

The Beacon – specifically Harry Coleman and Xavier Villamarzo – gets its props for giving me a chance to get decent clips.

Thanks to the School of Journalism and Mass Communication for having great professors, for changing the stupid grammar test and for giving me cool classmates.

But most of all, thanks to those of you who’ve read my articles and listened to me on the air. Extra special thanks go out to those of you who actually think I’m good. Here’s hoping some media company with money to spend is one of them.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Motivated? Sales account manager needed. Opportunity to be apart of a fast growing real estate investment company where you will learn the essentials of contract negotiation. Vibrant, casual working environment where self-motivation equals great reward. VERY flexible hours. Phenomenal earnings potential!! We have several college students earning $1000–$1500 per week working 30 hours. We will train. Some sales experience a plus. Fax resume to 305–436–1979 or e-mail Leonclave@hotmail.com

HELP WANTED Small local clothing manufacturer seeks part time help in assistant office management. Responsibilities include: Data entry, inventory management, warehouse organization, telephone reception, web orders & sales. Flexible hours: 5-7 an hour, Contact Donald fax 305–661–5551, 305–661–7200, email: sailangl@ix.netcom.com


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Post Ads for Free. Over 100,000 Local Ads. www.Backpage.com

Need to sell supplies right away for a student interested in taking Drawing classes at UP during the summer or fall semester. Supplies include graphite pencils, drawing board and pad, erasers and charcoal. E-mail Alex at beaconchief@yahoo.com. Buy it all for $40 O.B.O.
Farewell graduating athletes

This is a team-by-team list of all the active student-athletes graduating in Spring of 2005.

**BASEBALL**
- Leo Calderon, majoring in health information management.
- Dennis Diaz, majoring in physical education.
- Denny Hernandez, majoring in criminal justice.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**
- Warren Gale, majoring in sports management.
- Junior Matias, majoring in liberal studies.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**
- Deniz Boz, majoring in business management information systems.
- Milena Tomova, majoring in finance.

**MEN'S TRACK & FIELD**
- Darwin Mesadieu, majoring in international relations with a minor in marketing.

**WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD**
- Alexia Dean, majoring in health management.
- Linda Louissant, majoring in construction management.
- Doursiel Moore, majoring in criminal justice.
- Yenisha Williams, majoring in education.

**FOOTBALL**
- Doug Jones, majoring in business.
- Harold Leath, majoring in business.
- Dannon Monroe, majoring in accounting.
- Greg Moss, majoring in physical education.
- Rashad Smith, majoring in sports management.
- Kevin Timothie, majoring in broadcasting.

**WOMEN'S GOLF**
- Laura Viveros, majoring in international business.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**
- Charissa Gingerich, majoring in exercise physiology.

**SOFTBALL**
- Amanda Nealer, majoring in travel and tourism.

**SWIMMING**
- Tiffany Haynes, majoring in elementary education.

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**Reduction Fare College Bus Pass**

Broward County Transit (BCT) has a new 31-Day Reduced Fare College Bus Pass for only $16.00*. THAT'S HALF THE COST OF THE REGULAR 31-DAY BUS PASS – A 50% SAVINGS!

**THE REDUCED FARE COLLEGE BUS PASS:**
- can be used for 31 consecutive days
- is a magnetic swipe card for easy use
- can be used to get to school, libraries, the beach, malls, movies, and more
- is for students attending Broward Community College (BCC), Florida Atlantic University (FAU), Florida International University (FIU) and Nova Southeastern University (NSU) ONLY
- requires current student identification card at time of purchase

**SOLD AT THE FOLLOWING BROWARD COUNTY LIBRARY LOCATIONS:**
- Main Library 100 S. Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale
- North Regional Library 1100 Coconut Creek Blvd., Coconut Creek
- South Regional Library 7300 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines
- Southwest Regional Library 16835 Sheridan Street, Pembroke Pines

954-357-8400 www.broward.org/bct and click on “College Bus Pass”

*Reduced Fare College Bus Pass is a pilot program that ends December 31, 2005.*
Kevin Timothee became the first FIU football player to sign an NFL contract. He initially attended Ole Miss and transferred to FIU after not getting sufficient playing time. Timothee began his career as a Golden Panther his sophomore year, in 2002, when he appeared in nine games. He had 15 total tackles, eight of which were unassisted. In 2003, Timothee saw action in 10 games on special teams and as a cornerback. He recorded 18 tackles on the season. This past season, Timothee appeared in nine games. He had 15 total tackles, eight of which were unassisted.

In his FIU career, Timothee had 15 total tackles, eight of which were unassisted. In 2003, Timothee saw action in 10 games on special teams and as a cornerback. He recorded 18 tackles on the season. This past season, Timothee appeared in nine games. He had 15 total tackles, eight of which were unassisted.

There are major questions to answer regarding student leadership, game management and preparation. The 2005 schedule makes last year’s look like a game of penny-cake, and FIU finished 3-7 in 2004. I can’t see them any better in 2005.

FIU is trying to pull a “Mission Impossible” that would make Tom Cruise wince. They’re trying to succeed in college football at a school with little tradition and poor fan support. If they don’t do it this year, I don’t think patience will last much longer, especially with Florida Atlantic doing well. Without wins, blue-chip recruits won’t take FIU seriously—and neither will anyone else. You’re going to need more than Method Man and Redman to get people to come out.

Make no bones about it, head coach Don Strock, Athletic Director Rick Mello and a lot of other people’s jobs are on the line in 2005.

Three seasons after inauguration, the FIU football program has developed its first NFL talent. On April 25, defensive back Kevin Timothee became the first player in FIU’s brief football history to sign an NFL contract.

Despite going undrafted, Timothee signed a free agent contract with the Tennessee Titans.

In a press release from the FIU athletic department, head coach Don Strock displayed his support and gratitude.

“We are certainly happy about this opportunity for Kevin,” Strock said. “His size and speed are two of his biggest assets, so he should get a good look in the defensive backfield by the Titans. We wish him all the best.”

Timothee, a 6-foot-1, 191 pound defensive back, had a time of 4.28 seconds in the 40-yard dash and was the fastest player on the team.

Timothee is graduating this semester and was a regular in the defensive backfield in eight games.

In his FIU career, Timothee had seven total passes deflected which were unassisted. In 2003, Timothee saw action in 10 games on special teams and as a cornerback. He recorded 18 tackles on the season. This past season, Timothee appeared in nine games. He had 15 total tackles, eight of which were unassisted.

In his FIU career, Timothee had seven total passes deflected but failed to record an interception or a sack.

Three seasons after inauguration, the FIU football program has developed its first NFL talent. On April 25, defensive back Kevin Timothee became the first player in FIU’s brief football history to sign an NFL contract.