The football game between the Golden Panthers and the Hurricanes Oct. 14 showed all the signs of a heated rivalry with plenty of fights in the stands and an even bigger one on the field, despite the (highly expected) lopsided score.

I knew from the start that there would be a high amount of uncertainty surrounding this game. The University of Miami has struggled on offense this season, enough to think it was feasible that FIU may have had a chance to keep the game close.

Well, many were wrong on that, myself included. It turns out that all uncertainty was directed toward the brawl that occurred at the nine minute mark.

Incoming FIU athletic director Pete Garcia apologized to UM administrators, FIU and UM fans and said that the type of behavior exhibited will not be condoned.

FIU Coach Don Strock also added that the melee “was embarrassing, to say the least.”

On the other hand, I may be one of the few who thinks the scuffle was the perfect way to start a cross-town rivalry.

Though much has been made about the suplex moves and helmeting, none of the players sustained any major injuries.

The fight also shows that these two teams are playing with emotion – hell, even fans were getting into altercations – so there will be no overlooking next year’s rematch.

Now, I’m not one to root for violence, destruction and chaos, but you have to remember, we’re not in some third-world country in which rooting for the opposing team can literally mean life or death.

However, if this game had ended with no altercations and just a 35-0 final, no one would care about it next year.

Still, something did seem out of place to me, specifically the varying responses given by team officials. FIU heads were very apologetic, while UM coach Larry
Approximately 50 people were ‘blown away’ watching FIU’s Wall of Wind – a simulated hurricane demonstration that tested a house’s strength against 120 mile per hour winds. The crowd, which included police, reporters and FIU faculty and staff stood on the sidewalk and closed off the street to witness the first Wall of Wind test on a Sweetwater home.

Consisting of two giant fans stacked on top of each other, the Wall of Wind was strategically placed at an angle in front of the doorway of a former mayor’s condemned house, located at 11137 S.W. Third St. in Sweetwater. The Wall of Wind test on the 1950s style home took place Oct. 12 and was expected to generate rain and winds of up to 120 miles per hour.

According to Steve Sauls, vice president of governmental relations, the four-year long project was done so that the International Hurricane Research Center located at FIU could test their methodologies.

“We are trying to promote awareness of some of the consequences of hurricanes so we can develop better, safer homes for our families,” Sauls said.

Wall of Wind is part of a $5.9 million proposal the school is making to develop the Center of Excellence in Hurricane Damage Mitigation, which will carry out research to improve construction in South Florida.

Sauls said it was important to perform this test in order to better understand what needs to be done in order to prevent excessive hurricane damage to residential homes.

“This is a way we’re going to learn something,” he said. “Now, we’re going to build better houses.”

As the fans began to slowly whirl, spectators were instructed to put on earplugs. When the fans picked up speed, what began as a muffling hum became a headache-inducing roar. The first visible result of the test blew off shingles, and the rain became visible in the form of a mist floating in the air.

The windowpanes to the right of the house shattered. Those are hurricane force winds for you,” said Stephen Leatherman, chair professor and director of the International Hurricane Research Center, to the attentive audience.

After 15 minutes, the fans slowly stopped, and the foundation and structure of the house remained intact. The damage seemed minimal – at first.

Upon entering the house to survey the interior damage, two gaping holes in the ceiling – one directly above the door and the other to the right of the living room – were visible. Furniture and paraphernalia scattered all over the living room were covered in rainwater.

An inspection of the bathroom and office, located in the back of the house, revealed that the rear windowpanes had also been shattered. The master bedroom was littered with debris.

“There would have been more damage if the fans had stayed on longer,” Leatherman said.

Although its creators say this Wall of Wind model is just the beginning, the make-believe hurricane provided considerable insight on the wrath of a storm.

“It’s just something that’s the first of its kind and research and ideas will lead to a lot of improvement in buildings,” said Jimmy Erwin, a graduate student at FIU who helped with the project.

**NEWSFLASH**

**FIU**

**Foundation to educate Miami-Dade, Broward students on the dangers of carbon monoxide**

Janelle’s Wishing Well Foundation has teamed up with Miami-Dade and Broward counties’ school systems to provide young adults with awareness on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. The foundation was started soon after FIU students Tony Perez and Janelle Bertot died of carbon monoxide poisoning in 2005.

Carbon monoxide, which is emitted when fuel is burned, binds to a person’s red blood cells and out the windows of this condemned Sweetwater house.

**FIU students rally for Nova janitors**

Bruce Nissen, an FIU Labor Studies professor, rallied alongside local politicians, student activists and religious figures at Davie United Methodist Church in Broward in an effort to help janitors working at Nova Southeastern University obtain the pay increase and medical benefits they’ve been seeking.

“NSU President Ray Ferrero believes he will get away with repressive and union-busting activities,” Nissen said. “Until now, NSU’s reaction has been largely different from FIU’s response to the same issue last year.”

At the rally, FIU custodians, employed by UNICCO, demanded higher wages and medical benefits. Representatives from the Service Employees International Union, which helped the workers unionize, were also present at the Oct. 5 meeting.

UNICO, a maintenance services firm, recognized the union Oct. 3, after a majority of workers voted in favor. This has been the third acknowledged union by a Florida university in less than a year.

FIU custodians, employed by VISTA, began attending union meetings in the summer with the help of the SEIU. FIU announced the decision to shift to in-house janitorial contracts Sept. 27.

The newly hired custodians will receive higher wages and health care benefits from FIU. They will only be able to unionize if representing the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, which serves the public sector. SEIU works exclusively with private companies and will no longer represent FIU custodians.

“Unlike FIU’s university, which also has a union and willingly supports the University’s custodial workers, the NSU facility does not have tenure and is afraid of speaking up and supporting the workers,” Nissen said.

According to an e-mail sent by Ferrero Sept. 29, the future of UNICO’s contract at NSU remains uncertain. He announced a possible decision to open NSU contracts to other janitorial service companies, and UNICO to keep the university to bid against them.

“Significant consideration will be given to how UNICO and its employees carry out their obligations to the university during the process,” Ferrero said.

UNICO was in the process of recognizing NSU’s workers’ union by the time the e-mail was sent.

However, NSU janitors may not have it as easy as those at FIU. Nissen said that NSU, as a private university, could claim “private property rights” and suppress contracts.
Maidique clarifies grant audit

C. JOEL MARINO
AND
BETSY MARTINEZ
Beacon Staff

(This is the second part of an interview University President Modesto A. Maidique granted The Beacon. Maidique will address questions about his contract renewal in the Oct. 19 issue.)

Q: More than a year has passed since the Board of Trustees voted on an $11.5 million settlement with the federal government. Is the University still making payments?

Initially, they wanted a huge amount of money. By, I think, a rather deft negotiation, we were able to reduce the penalty to about $11.5 million. It’s important to know what we did wrong. What we did wrong, a lot of people do in their own accounting in their life.

As a matter of fact, I often pay for a lunch and I don’t have a receipt, so I don’t get reimbursed. Often I will buy a book for professional purposes and I don’t have a receipt, so I don’t get reimbursed.

What we didn’t do right is that we didn’t properly account for the effort and time that was put into this federal contract, the bookkeeping. So basically, they said, “You have all this money that you have spent that you have not properly kept records accounted for, so we’re not going to pay you.”

In the end of the day, a clerical mistake, a mistake in not keeping good records was made. For those reasons, since we didn’t do anything terrible, just keeping bad records, we were able to get them to reduce the amount that we had to pay back to $11.5 million.

Q: Where are we getting the money from?

We were given an authorization from the state to state $200 million to pay salaries, equipment purchased, and what-have-you. The state very carefully takes care of that for us and pays us about 2.5 percent.

Now think as though you’ve got $200 million. [Makes believe he’s counting money] Oh! Now, I’ll take 2.5 percent. That doesn’t sound like a very good deal. So we told the state, “Thank you for your help all these years.”

We now have the authority under the Board of Trustees to take that money back. Now when you take money, a couple of hundred million, that would make 2.5 or even 2 percent, it’s not that difficult to take that up to 5 percent without taking a lot of risks, a 5 percent return.

If you take a couple of percent returns on $200 million – let’s say the average balance is $100 million – just for argument’s sake – you take 2 percent extra on $100 million you’ve got $2 million more.

We agreed with Health and Human Services, who conducted the investigation, that we’ll pay them off for a period of time. They didn’t like that, so we went to a bank and borrowed the money and we paid them back. It’s been paid by an improved returns on the investments of money that we didn’t have control over before, so it doesn’t affect students’ fees, it doesn’t affect education in general fees, it doesn’t affect our bottom line; basically, it’s being paid in a novel way.

Q: You mentioned earlier that there had been accounting errors and mistakes, have new accounting policies been implemented?

It’s a completely new system, new processes. The leadership of that center has been completely overhauled. The director of the center is no longer the director, the financial director in no longer the financial director. It has a new name, a new mission, a new direction and it’s being tightly watched.
Aspillaga said.

“We are debating to see what we can have even if you like it. I would love to see sushi and healthier foods at B.C.,” said Gabriel Perez, Sophomore.

“I don’t think the food is that bad. I do see that [University Park] has more options like Poco Tragico, but it’s probably because there are a lot more students that go to [University Park].”

“I think we need more options because Subway is good, but Subway everyday? There’s only so much you can even if you like it. I would love to see sushi and healthier foods at B.C.,” said Samanthia Hiloire, Junior.

“I need a lot more options. The current cafeteria is bad, it’s just bad. I just want a lot of options,” said Valerie Sanchez, Senior.

“I think the cafeteria doesn’t offer too many choices. It’s basically the same thing every day. When I order food I have to season it a lot because it really lacks taste,” said Hilaire Aramark, Contributing Writer.

“They want more programs and options. Students want to have a lot of choices,” said Gabriel Perez, Sophomore.

“I think the cafeteria can be a lot better,” said B.C. Community member.

“It is a great idea to expand the cafeteria and maybe bring in some new companies that provide more choices to students,” said junior Mike Pina.

“In the meantime, though, students will have to stick with the few choices they have: Subway, Grille Works, Home Zone, Grab and Go sandwiches, Salad bar/soup and Beza Pizza. Other options include snacks, sandwiches, soft drinks and crepes at Java City on the first floor of Academic I.

SGC-BBC members will meet with Rosa Jones, vice-president of Student Affairs and Undergraduate Education, Oct. 17 to discuss possible proposals for the current cafeteria.

David Lawrence Jr., a former publisher for The Miami Herald and current president of the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation, was the main speaker at one of the events of this year’s Faculty Convocation at the Biscayne Bay Campus Oct. 10. Lawrence spoke to faculty, administrators and community guests about early childhood education and change within a diverse community.

The lecture was titled “The past, the present, and the future in Miami - and the Impact of FIU.” Lawrence stressed many important issues to both FIU and the communities where the campuses are located, as well as the impact of the University on the areas around it.

“It is there a bigger success story than that of FIU in Florida over the past decades?” Lawrence said.

 “[BBC] is part of the North Miami community. We must enhance communication with the schools in the area,” added James Sutton, assistant professor in the English department and chair of the Faculty Convocation Committee.

Lawrence has been a prolific citizen of the city of Miami since 1989.

The new kindergarden through sixth grade center adjacent to BBC was named after him.

An advocate for early education, Lawrence helped pass a congressional legislature to offer universal, high quality, pre-K education to all 4-year-olds in Miami-Dade county.

One year later, 106,000 children attended summer camp and day care made possible by this program. Lawrence said.

He is currently working on a program, through the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation, that hopes to “align curriculum and development in pre-K through third grade.”

It was Lawrence’s opinion that tackling issues affecting early education is necessary for the future of the community.

“In order to make higher education better in the state of Florida, and Miami in particular, it is imperative to begin encouraging the importance of education from early childhood,” Lawrence said.

Lawrence also discussed the various accomplishments that have been made at FIU, highlighting the achievements of some FIU alumni including Pulitzer prize winning journalists and those who have gone on to serve in political positions throughout Miami-Dade county.

“Lawrence would be proud of its accomplishments and eager for those to come,” Lawrence said.

He recognized the University’s accomplishments and also stressed that embracing change is something important in order to move forward.

Being in such a diverse community, the future of FIU depends on its ability to change and adjust, according to Lawrence.

“Progress is always a product of optimism, the future of this community is in the hands of those who welcome change,” he said.

Columnist Barry performs at BBC

Humor columnist Dave Barry has won a Pulitzer Prize, been syndicated in over 500 papers and is a lead guitarist for a band that includes authors such as Stephen King, Amy Tan and Mitch Albom.

Barry will be speaking at a small event Oct. 18, in the Wolfe University Center in honor of his late father-in-law, Leonard Kaufman, a professor for the School of Engineering. The proceeds for the event will be used for a scholarship in Kaufman’s honor.

The performance will be open to the general public. Tickets will go for $5 for all FIU students and $20 for non-students.

However, a $65 admission fee will include participation in a pre-reception with Barry and an autographed copy of his book Money Secrets. For more information on tickets call 305-919-5524.

Barry talked to The Beacon through an e-mail interview about what he expects students will (or will not) learn during the event, memories of his father-in-law and his involvement with FIU.

Q: Mr. Barry, what important topics will you be discussing next Wednesday at FIU?

None of my topics are actually important, although I do have some very strong views, which I usually make up as I go along.

Q: Why is it important that students hear such topics?

I honestly can’t think of a reason why students would NEED to hear me discuss topics. But I can promise that there will not be a quiz.

Q: Why are you being valuable advice to students that day?

If I do, it will be totally by accident.

Q: This lecture will be in memory of your father-in-law, what are your best memories of him?

He was a very, very funny man; he found humor in everything, and loved to laugh. He also loved FIU, especially his students. He was a dedicated, hardworking professor.

Q: Besides this event, what other future involvement do you have planned with FIU?

I’m sure that, through my wife’s family, I’ll continue to work with FIU on fundraising and other events.
Trans fats sans government

JOSE DE WIT
Opinion Editor

Trans fats are the latest food that’s bad for you, according to studies by researchers at places such as the Harvard School of Medicine and the National Academy of Science’s Institute of Medicine. Trans fats not only raise L.D.L. or so-called “bad” cholesterol levels, but they also lower H.D.L. or “good” cholesterol levels. Moreover, because trans fats are made rather than naturally-occurring fats, the human body is unable to metabolize them. As a result, they accumulate in arteries.

A couple of major U.S. cities have taken matters into their own hands by banning the sale of food made with trans fats, which include common cooking ingredients such as partially hydrogenated vegetable oils and most kinds of margarine and shortening.

The push towards banning trans fats comes from the New York City Board of Health, which voted unanimously on Sept. 26 in favor of requiring trans fat-free frying in 20,000 restaurants. The Chicago City Council announced it has a similar ban in the works for the windy City. As well-meaning as these two proposals may be, a ban on trans fats is not likely to help.

The initiative to banish trans fats from the dining table rests on the patronizing assumption that consumers are capable of making healthy eating choices. But as long as the human body is unable to process trans fats, we are incapable of making smart food choices.

Black awards give due recognition

RICHARD BOAUDU
Contributing Writer

The 2nd annual Black Movie Awards will take place Oct. 18, 2006 at 10 p.m. on TNT. The first year was such a success that TNT decided to air the awards for a second year.

In the past, the only black wins the race, and bigger black films have been able to win mainstream awards like Oscars, and we have been doing so consistently for the past couple of years. However, the TNT show has other merits. Not only do they recognize the presence of black film, they also recognize its past and its future. I love the recognition given to past black members of the film industry. These people paved the way for the big name black stars receiving Oscars and being paid over $20 million a film. These people need to receive the recognition they academically did not receive in the past.

Also, the Black Movie Awards give smaller-budget black films and actors’ recognition that could later help them become more prominent. Ultimately, the Black Movie Awards aren’t needed to validate black success in films, but any recognition we can get is not harmful to our image.

Let’s not hurt us one bit.
Students find relief in unique practices

NICOLE ACOSTA
BBC Assistant

FIU alumna Dahlia Mohammed agreed to have needles inserted into her forehead, ears and wrists for 30 minutes to get rid of a headache. She said it went away almost immediately.

“It depends on each individual how effective it is, but it worked for me instantly,” Mohammed said.

The procedure Mohammed underwent, known as acupuncture, is one of several forms of alternative healing provided by the Wellness Center at FIU’s University Park.

Currently, the Wellness Center has staff that specializes in acupuncture, yoga, massages and chiropractic services.

According to Mariela Gabaroni, Assistant Director of University Health Services, the Wellness Center decided a few years ago that they wanted to set up an identity for themselves, and because the U.S. population was leaning more and more toward alternative therapies, they decided to follow the trend.

“We thought it was definitely a way for us to go,” said Gabaroni. “We want to build healthy individuals who can contribute to our community and our society.”

Used to cure headaches, stress and addictions, among other things, acupuncture is an ancient Chinese medicine technique that helps bring the body back into balance as well as maintain that balance.

Vigil honors memory of deceased student

MARIA CHERCOLES
Asst. News Director

More than 100 people held white candles, wore white and purple ribbons on their shirts and gathered in silence at the main room in the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house at University Park Oct. 12 afternoon for Derek Jacobs’ vigil.

FIU student Derek Jacobs, 18, passed away Sept. 30 when he lost control of his motorcycle, slid along a guardrail away Sept. 30 when he lost control of his motorcycle, slid along a guardrail and struck a wooden pole on Palmetto Park Road.

Friends, family and representatives from campus departments and organizations such as the Student Government Association, Campus Life and almost all FIU fraternities and sororities attended the vigil in Jacobs’ memory.

“We are not here to mourn over Derek’s death,” said Jacobs’ roommate Christian Fraga to open the ceremony. “We are here to celebrate his life because most of us can’t yet believe he’s gone, and for others, he will always live within our hearts.”

Jacobs was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, also known as the Fijis, and lived in the fraternity’s house for two years.

At age 12, Jacobs was the youngest person to receive Microsoft certification to run a professional computer network. At age 18, after attending FIU for only two years, he was gearing up to graduate from FIU’s School of Engineering and was considering attending medical school.

The ceremony was continued by a speech from Jacobs’ father, Jeffrey.

“Derek was full of life,” Jeffrey Jacobs said. “He always wanted to contribute to our community and our society.”

MIAMI rapper takes stage at cultural festival

MARIAR CHERCOLES
Asst. News Director

The Student Programming Council will close its Hispanic Heritage celebration on Oct. 19 with its 2006 “Carnaval,” which will include a live performance by Miami’s own Pitbull, among other planned performers and events. “Carnaval” will start at 1 p.m. between the Blue and Gold garages and will last all day.

For more than five years, “Carnaval” has traditionally been the closing ceremony of Hispanic Heritage, a two-week celebration showcasing Hispanic traditions and culture. The planning for Carnaval 2006 began in May, and like previous Carnavals, more than 1000 students are expected to attend.

“We expect it to be an amazing success for SPC and FIU as a whole,” said Ayxa Barbel, Hispanic Heritage chair. “I want it to be a fun experience for all the students and a way to celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture in an eclectic way.”

Besides Pitbull, other featured performers will include Cristal & Calibas, the FIU Marching Band, Popstarz, El Diablito, Vingino, Ralph Ray from El Grupo K-Oba, the Lot 6 Dancers and Dynamic Dominicans of Reggaeton.

However, students agree that the star of the show will be Pitbull.

Techniques to easily pull yourself out of a rut

Sometimes, immersing yourself into too many activities can make you feel like you’re driving home from a club at 4 a.m. – you’re going too fast, and everything is blurrier than it’s supposed to be. The constant college demand to work hard and play harder has the side effect of feeling listless or like you’re in some pretentious indie film where it takes three hours for a plot to develop and in the end, no one learns any lessons.

I feel as though I’ve slipped into a “fat Elvis” period. It’s where you’re eating/drinking/sleeping too much to avoid stress. Plus, you have an insatiable desire for peanut butter and banana sandwiches.

Given that the average college schedule is packed like the under-ventilated bus to the Bis-cayne Bay Campus, there are some small things you can do to get yourself out of a rut and back in the saddle.

I JUST NEED “ME” TIME

In order to not go completely crazy, one needs time alone to reflect, if not mentally prepare, for the next day. It’s a must, and you need to reach into the deep and dark corners of your brain to pull yourself together. Whether you do this by reading a book or writing in your journal, it’s a good idea to do this and get rid of any distractions.

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Acupuncture, massages among center's health services

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ROCKIN’ THE MIC

Acupuncture, massages among center’s health services

view and examination with Janet Waterfields, the resident licensed acupuncturist. There, they are diagnosed through two methods. The first is through the examination of the color and coating of the tongue, and the second is through the palpitation of the radial pulse. Based on the accumulated information, Waterfields decides what she needs to treat by defining a syndrome or patterns that are involved in one or more meridians. The belief of acupuncture is that the body’s energy, or “qi,” flows through the body along interrelated channels, or meridians. When this energy flow is disrupted, the body will suffer from emotional and physical illnesses.

“The whole idea with acupuncture is to help the body restore equilibrium,” Waterfields said.

After pinpointing the problem, Waterfields treats the client with single-use sterilized needles that are inserted into certain points of the body; each point has its own action. After the needles are inserted, the client is left alone for half an hour with the needles still in place in order to relax. Then the needles are taken out, and the session is over.

Mohammed said the procedure didn’t hurt her.

“It doesn’t even pinch or anything,” she said.

Waterfields recommends using acupuncture before using a more “invasive procedure” that is common in Western medicine.

Gabaroni said the most popular alternative healing method amongst students is the yoga classes, which are offered at the Fitness Center and taught by yoga instructor Betty Valladares. She teaches a style of yoga called hatha yoga, which tries to balance mind and body through physical exercises, or asanas, as well as through controlled breathing and meditation and relaxation in order to calm the mind.

“The purpose is so you release clutter in your mind. The purpose is to find union in yourself,” said Valladares.

Valladares is also the massage therapist at the Wellness Center. The two different types of massages offered are 10-minute chair massages and the 30 minutes to one-hour table massages. Used to promote circulation, massages also help release endorphins.

Creams and lotions, used primarily in table massages, are applied to the client’s skin in order to eliminate friction.

After the massage, the client is instructed to drink a lot of water the rest of the day to eliminate the toxins in their body through their urine or perspiration.

Valladares said that helping their clients become healthier through a short period of time is the goal of these massages.

“You’re trying to bring them to a short point of optimal health,” she said.

Chiropractic care originates from ancient Chinese and Greek medicine. It involves manipulating the spine to prevent and cure aches and pains. Chiropractic sessions, performed by Dr. James Stieglitz, can also improve flexibility, movement and nerve function.

Gabaroni feels the chiropractic sessions are an essential part of the Wellness Center.

“Everything runs through the spine, and that’s why chiropractic [sessions] are a good thing,” she said.

Gabaroni said that it is one of the Wellness Center’s goals to introduce students to alternative healing methods.

“When it comes to everything, we try to blend Eastern and Western medicines and expose students to all possible options,” she said.

These services, which, according to Gabaroni, are made to complement a client’s life at a free or reduced cost.

“They do help out with a lot of different ailments,” she said. “Sometimes, dealing with stress just means focusing on yourself and you needing to figure out how to deal with stress. It’s all very personal what therapy you use.”
Pitbull headlines Latin bash

According to Barbel, “Carnaval” has been promoted at all Hispanic Heritage events. SPC has sent University-wide e-mails announcing it, and it has also been advertised in the council’s website.

“We are relying on word of mouth as our target audience is FIU students,” Barbel said. There is no official budget for the whole event, which is a collaboration among the SPC Concerts, Cultural Celebrations (Hispanic Heritage), and Campus Entertainment committees. However, it will cost SPC $20,000 to have Pitbull perform at FIU on Oct. 19.

“Pitbull was very willing to come to FIU,” Barbel said. “He supports colleges greatly, especially in his hometown Miami. He was very cooperative and excited to play here. It was a matter of opportunity and getting an act that a great part of the student body would come out to see.”

Past “Carnaval” celebrations included performances by Dominican Latin rhythms quartet Fulanito in 2004, and Miami’s fusion group Locos Por Juana in 2005, each performance attracting more than 1000 students.

“2004’s ‘Carnaval’ was great,” Barbel said. “I think Fulanito had a wonderful and energetic performance, and it was a lot of fun. Students even stuck around in the rain to see them.”

In addition to the live performances, radio station Mega 94.9’s street team will be at the event with music and giveaways, and Mega TV Channel 22 will be organizing interactive activities for students through their “Megatoni,” including a $5,000 scholarship giveaway.

Other activities will include caricature drawings, free food and dance performances. The United States Navy will be there with Xbox live games and giveaways, and artist Kiki Valdes will be painting live on stage as Pitbull performs.

More information and updates on “Carnaval” 2006 can be found at http://www.yourspc.com.

Memorial celebrates prodigy’s life, dreams

“Now that he left, we can’t stop learning new things about him,” Marty Jacobs said. “He was so special, we’ll never get to know how great he was.”

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Memorial celebrates prodigy’s life, dreams

Vigil, page 6

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Keys to staying sane include meditation, simplification

REINIER HERNANDEZ
Contributing Writer

The success of The Killers' 2004 debut, Hot Fuss, was largely symptomatic of a music industry desperate to latch onto the next big thing and shamelessly eager to capitalize on the promise of the so-called new wave revival. Propelled by the dubious merit of an album composed of handful of brilliant singles scattered among a pile of uninteresting tracks, The Killers rode their way to stardom on a wave of hype and glitter.

Past the third track, the album turns sharply downward, with most tracks fusing together in a jumble of melodies unsure of where they are going, chord progressions driving forward in no particular direction and instrumental layers that don't know how they get there.

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Beason: game ‘clearly out of hand from very first play’

FOOTBALL, page 12

well. On the video replay of the fight, UM sophomore safety Anthony Reddick is seen smacking an FIU player with his helmet while an unidentified FIU player is suplexed by a UM player. It took 15 minutes before coaches and officials got things under control.

“It was a good football game up until that point,” said Golden Panthers coach Don Strock. “I don’t have any idea how it started. It should have never happened and none of our players should have been involved.”

Both teams said nobody knew exactly what started the fight but admitted that both sides were doing a lot of talking and accused each other a taking cheap shots.

“We’re shocked. Nobody in the locker room has ever been a part of anything like that,” FIU sophomore running back Julian Reams said. “If the NCAA reviews the tape, they’ll see what was going on. Their whole bench cleared the sidelines and our starters get kicked out and [only a few of their] people get kicked out.”

However, UM junior linebacker Jon Beason – like many of his teammates – felt the blame rested on the Panthers.

“Why are we going to get thrown out against FIU? FIU doesn’t mean nothing to us on our schedule. If somebody gets suspended against FIU? FIU doesn’t mean nothing to us on our schedule. If somebody gets suspended against FIU, they’ll see what was going on. Their whole bench cleared the sidelines and our starters get kicked out and [only a few of their] people get kicked out.”

In the end, 13 players were ejected from the game. That slowed down our offense,” said Beason said.

“This is their national championship – to us, it’s just another game on the schedule. From the very beginning, they’re throwing punches, late hits, their type of stuff, trying to get us out of our game. I got punched in the face; I didn’t punch the guy back because I didn’t want to’Brien, James, Jermaine McFarner, Dwayne Byrd, DaJuan Furr, Ryan Hill, Bruce Johnson, Charlie Jones, Brandon Meriweather, Brian Monroe, Derrick Morse, Randy Philips and Anthony Reddick."

ACC and UM officials suspended Carlos Armour, Chris Barney, James Bryant, Tyone Byrd, DaJuan Furr, Ryan Hill, Bruce Johnson, CharlieJones, Brandon Meriweather, Brian Monroe, Derrick Morse, Randy Phillips and Anthony Reddick.

Sun-Belt and FIU officials suspended Carlos Armour, DaJuan Furr, and Manny Wellington and Chandler Williams. Pending any changes, the teams are expected to meet again next year on Oct. 6.

Sun-Belt and Atlantic Coastal Conference officials will review the tape of the fight before any additional suspensions or punishments are handed out. Officials from both FIU and UM condemned what occurred on the field Saturday night and apologized to each other.

“The University of Miami was gracious enough to grant us these games. They didn’t have to and this is how we repay them. I don’t care whose fault it is. At FIU, we don’t condone this kind of behavior,” incoming athletic director Pete Garcia said following the game.

What got lost in the punches, kicks, jabs, suplexes and flags that were thrown was the fact the Golden Panthers were shut out in a 35-0 loss to the Hurricanes in front of 51,130 spectators at the Orange Bowl.

Up until the brawl, FIU kept the game close, only down by 14.

“They didn’t do anything spectacular. We moved the ball on them better than we did on anyone all year. When the brawl happened in the game, a lot of our starters and a lot of people we count on to make plays came out of the game. That slowed down our offense,” said Beason.

Both teams said nobody knew exactly what started the fight but admitted that both sides were doing a lot of talking and accused each other a taking cheap shots.

“We’re shocked. Nobody in the locker room has ever been a part of anything like that,” FIU sophomore running back Julian Reams said. “If the NCAA reviews the tape, they’ll see what was going on. Their whole bench cleared the sidelines and our starters get kicked out and [only a few of their] people get kicked out.”

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Beason said.

“This is their national championship – to us, it’s just another game on the schedule. From the very beginning, they’re throwing punches, late hits, their type of stuff, trying to get us out of our game. I got punched in the face; I didn’t punch the guy back because I didn’t want to play against Duke, I want to play against Georgia Tech,” he added.

Police officers and security surrounded the field in order to keep fans from spilling onto the field. A few fans skirmished broke out on the bleachers, though.

As a result of the bench clearing brawl, 31 players from both teams were suspended – 19 FIU and 12 UM. Players that were suspended must sit out their team’s next game.

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Sun-Belt and FIU officials suspended Michael Alls, Scott Bryant, Roland Clark, Michael Dominquez, John Ellis, Cory Flemming, Ronald Jones, Marshall McRae Jr., Robert Mitchell, Quintin Newman, Luis Pena, Jarvis Penerton, Julian Reams, Lio-

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Coaches show differing opinions on fight

BRAWL, page 1

Coker said his team handled the situation “well.”

I know these statements and most evidence points to FIU as the main instigators, but the fact that both benches started clearing at the exact same time shows that neither team handled the situation well.

Both sides should have been equally apologetic. Our team’s record is an unimpressive 0-7. At this point, regardless of how many games they’ve kept close, even if they win their last five games, they’ll still be a losing team.

And ultimately, wins and losses determine a good team, not how many games they kept close. With reactions to the fight piling up, it seems as though FIU’s winless streak is fueling the image they have of a team that shouldn’t be taken seriously. For example, here’s a quote from UM linebacker Jon Beason:

“This ain’t no rivalry,” Beason told The Beacon. “You can’t start a rivalry after one game … This is [FIU’s] national championship – to us, it’s another game on our schedule.”

His words show how opposing players view this year’s Golden Panthers – just another team to be brushed away before moving on to bigger and better opponents.

It’s pretty easy to overlook a winless team, especially one that may now carry the stigma of a “thug team.”

Perhaps FIU incited the brawl as a way to release some of this season’s frustrations; perhaps it was all an accident. But if a momentous event took place on that field and both teams – whether high-scorers or winless underdogs – should be able to understand that on that night, a real rivalry was born.

Football brawl not surprising

FIRST TIME, page 12

about the game foreigners call “American football,” I stepped into the Orange Bowl hoping FIU would come out victorious, all the while sneering at friends decked out in UM colors for their lack of faith.

The game began as I expected – nothing happened. Some players moved, they stopped, switched players, huddled, then moved again, then stopped and so forth. I spent more time observing the pockets of blue among the sea of orange and green in the bleachers than paying attention to the action on the field.

That is, until the fight broke out. Since football is a contact heavy sport, I didn’t know a struggle had begun until players on the sidelines started pouring onto the field. Fans went into uproar, my friends gasped and a string of camera flashes burst from the bleachers.

“I don’t know who started it, since it happened all at once,” said freshman Barrett Edri, the only student sporting FIU colors in a section dominated by UM fans. “I thought it was unexpected but still fun to watch.”

I looked at the scuffle below me, but only with minor surprise. Unexpected? Don’t all sports involve some sort of fight?

Apparently not. Moments after the struggle, FIU coach Don Strock shook hands with UM’s coach Larry Coker as though apologizing for his team’s conduct. Strock even seemed teary-eyed at the post-game press conference, speaking his words rather softly.

A mistake had been made and everyone understood that, an assessment that shocked me more than the fight.

If this had happened in Argentina, the coaches themselves would’ve probably leapt into the action if they had the chance. A mention may have been made in the news, but if no deaths were reported, everyone would have just counted it off as another silly sports brawl and moved on to the next game (or brawl).

That was a night I’ll never forget: my first football game when I was 21-years-old in the Orange Bowl, Miami.

The rest of the game may eventually fade from my memory (including, hopefully, our crushing defeat), but I’m sure the fight and the civilized reaction that followed will not.

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Quality In Everything We Do
Students feel unity despite game marred by violence

The Hurricanes may have shut out the Golden Panthers 35-0 during the anticipated football match Oct. 14, but the most memorable moment of the night was the five minute on-field brawl that cleared both teams' benches and resulted in 31 suspensions and multiple crowd fights.

During the seven-minute stoppage in play after the brawl broke out, FIU students stood by their team and showed a surge of school spirit. FIU fans didn't take well to Bryant's celebration as few words were exchanged between both teams. Then everything got out of control after the PAT when FIU junior free safety Marshall McDuffie Jr. threw a punch at one of UM's offensive lineman and FIU senior corner back Chris Smith slammed UM holder Matt Perrelli to ground and punched him in the chin.

What ensued shocked everyone. Both benches cleared as players stomped, kicked and flipped another one. At one point, sophomore running back A'mod Ned – who was injured – was led out of the stadium by police as the fans started swinging at the cops. When the cops tried to cuff him, they tased him. The cops started swinging the baton around, warning the crowd to escape the chaos.

The frenzy soon reached the stands as fans from the home team clowned through the bleachers to get at those wearing the opposing colors, even slamming those who were trying their best to escape the chaos.

That was a night I'll never forget: my first football game when I was 6-years-old in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Though I've been living in the United States for 15 years, I've never been able to find the level of excitement or passion in American sports that I find in soccer. I've watched a few football games on television and stopped by basketball or volleyball matches in high school to cheer for friends, but I've never had any incentive to attend a big local or college sporting event.

So I wasn't expecting much when I decided to go to the highly anticipated and over-hyped football match between FIU and the University of Miami Oct. 14.

Though I know absolutely nothing about football, I decided to go to the game that morning and I'm glad I did. The fans showed their school spirit. I've watched a game when I was 6-years-old in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Students feel unity despite game marred by violence.