Students keep banned pets in housing

JOSE PAGUERY
Contributing Writer

When freshman Dawn Marquis realized she could not take her pet snake, a three-foot long ball python, into Panther Hall with her, she was forced to leave it behind at a pet store back home in Lakeland, Fla.

“I considered her my baby,” Marquis said. “I wouldn’t be letting her out, roaming the halls.”

Her case is not rare and happens to many students with pets that move into the residence halls on campus. The rule, cited as Section I of the Resident Handbook, prohibits the possession of all pets except fish, although some students ignore the rules.

Murray Moss, a recent FIU graduate who lived at the Biscayne Bay Campus’ Bay Vista residence hall, kept his three pet ferrets secret throughout the three years he lived in housing.

“The administration found out but couldn’t prove that I had them because I kept the place spotless,” he said. “They had a cage, where I’d put them during inspections and drills.”

Following Moss’ example, a number of current students may be doing the same, but Joseph Mattachione, director of the office of residential life, urges students not to, explaining that the main reasons for the strict regulation are the health and safety of the students.

 Anything other than fish can crawl out of an aquarium, Mattachione said. “It can get into somebody else’s room or get into some place where it can’t get back out and it’ll die. At that point it causes different issues with bugs and stuff in the rooms.”

Because most dorms on campus are densely-populated, the rule also seeks to avoid other health concerns, such as the bite of a snake or the possibility of the pet getting into somebody else’s room.

BIG FISH: Sophomore Mikana Maeda cements plates Nemo, her betta fish, in her room at Everglades Hall.

FIU aims to raise $70,000 to treat, prevent cancer

MARTHA CASTILLO
Contributing Writer

Hope for cancer survivors and remembrance for those who lost their lives to the disease are some of the reasons that bring together FIU and The American Cancer Society for the annual Relay for Life campaign.

This year’s campaign, which attempts to raise $70,000, kicked off Nov. 13 at Gracie’s Grill at the Gables Center with a party to create awareness, get students involved, and motivate them to get others to participate as well.

Among those present at the opening party were some cancer survivors.

“The first time I came to this event, I was not a cancer survivor yet, and something I will always remember is the support and hope I felt through this event,” said Mariana De Michele, a special guest. The Relay for Life campaign consists of a series of events to raise funds to find a cure for the disease.

The main annual event is an 18 hour celebration that will take place Feb. 9 at the University Park football stadium. The event will begin with cancer survivors walking along what is called the Survivor’s Victory Lap. At sunset, a Luminaria, which is a ceremony in which candles will be lit in honor or in memory of those who have been touched by cancer, will be held. The Luminaria symbolizes the hope and determination of the community in fighting this disease.

“During the event, all participating organizations, faculty, students, community members and families will decorate their tents according to this year’s theme, which is Cirque Du Relay! A winner will be chosen,” said Carmen Murphy, entertainment and activities chair.

This year’s $70,000 goal is set higher than last year’s $60,000, and the funds will be used to treat and prevent the disease.

In previous years the event gathered 96,000 participants in Florida and 3 million worldwide.

This year, Relay will bring a new event: Miss Relay for Life 2007, which will be held Jan. 16. Tickets will be sold for $3 and the contest winner will be chosen by the audience’s votes.

The first meeting for Miss Relay 2007 will be Jan. 8.

“This will not be a beauty pageant; everyone can come and participate. The winner will win not by beauty but by heart” said Carmen Murphy, entertainment and activities chair.

The concept of Relay For Life began in 1985 when a doctor walked 83 miles on a local track for 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

He raised $27,000.

By the following year, he had 340 followers who walked with him during his overnight cancer walk.

Statistics show that one in three Americans will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.

The American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life is a nationwide signature activity, the single largest non-profit event in the world, and a community developed and volunteer driven team event.

For more information and to give a donation, visit www.acsevents.org or www.fiu.edu/~rfl.
FIU

University names Rock first College of Medicine dean

After months of searching and endorsements from FIU President Modesto Maidique and Interim Provost Ronald Berkman, the University announced Nov. 14 John Rock as its first medical school dean.

John Rock is a former chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center and will begin at FIU in January 2007.

The Board of Governors approved the new college in March.

One of the major steps the University has to take would be persuading the state legislature to spend $250 million over 12 years for the school, and then more than $20 million to build and maintain it.

FIU hopes to enroll its first class by 2009.

Provost announces Joyce J. Elam as Vice Provost for FIU Online

Interim Provost Ronald Berkman announced Nov. 14, the appointment of Joyce J. Elam, as vice provost for FIU Online.

Elam launched an initial, pioneering pilot project, consisting of ten online courses in the College of Business Administration, in 1999.

And in addition to her new position, she will also continue to serve students as the executive dean of the College of Business Administration.

No further incidents of BBC's "peeking tom" reported

FIU police released a safety bulletin on Nov. 3 in reference to the Beacon article about a man peering into women's bathrooms in BBC's Academic 1 restrooms.

Recently, FIU police received another report filed on Halloween. However, since that last report filed Oct. 31, 2006, no other reports have been filed, according to Captain Michael Wright.

"As of the last report, we have not received further complaints or reports about this individual; however, we will continue investigating the situation," Wright said.

The last sighting listed the peeping tom as a black male, approximately 5'11" with low cut black hair and medium body weight.

Clothing description has been blue-jean shorts, black shirt and low top Nike tennis shoes, according to Captain Michael Wright.

Should you see or experience any suspicious behavior or incident, please contact Public Safety immediately at 305-919-5911 or 6-5911 from a campus phone.

Former U.S. Senator Bob Graham to speak at BBC

Former U.S. Senator Bob Graham will tackle the topic of what will happen after the war in Iraq in a speech that will be held on Nov. 18.

The event, which will take place from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Mary Ann Wolfe Theater at the Biscayne Bay Campus, is free to degree-seeking students.

It is asked of all attendees, however, to give a $5 donation to benefit the programs of the Department of International Relations.

The event is being sponsored by the Middle East Society and FIU’s Department of International Relations.

Compiled by Nicole Acosta, Betty Martinez and Cristela Guerra

SOFI TIMES

FIU

FIU football fans will see action in the sky as well as on the field during the Nov. 18 Homecoming game. Fifteen minutes before kickoff, the Army’s renowned Golden Knights Parachute Team will sky dive out of an airplane onto the FIU football field.

The idea to bring the Golden Knights to FIU came to Captain Oscar Rubins, an instructor for the FIU ROTC program, when he learned that the group would be coming to Miami to entertain crowds at the NASCAR Ford 400 race Nov. 19.

Cadet Evelyn Vasquez in the FIU ROTC program has helped organize the effort to bring the Golden Knights to FIU.

"The Golden Knights do all sorts of jumps using things like flares and sparkles, which is probably what we’ll be seeing at the game since it’s going to be dark," she said.

According to the Golden Knights website, the group first formed in 1959 to represent the U.S. Army in international skydiving competitions.

Vasquez called the Golden Knights one of the best parachuting teams in the nation.

The group, which is comprised of the most talented jumpers in the Army, has won 400 national championships and over 60 international championships.

They perform various aerial demonstrations, including tandem jumps, in groups of eight or fourteen. Tandem jumps join divers mid-air in a variety of shapes, such as stars and circles, with flags, banners, lights and colored smoke as a hindrance.

Not meant to be a hindrance. It’s meant to respect the rights and responsibilities of everybody in the building.

Any policies we have about fire safety, noise and others are not meant to be a hindrance. It’s meant to respect the rights and responsibilities of everybody in the building.

Health regulations prohibit certain pets

According to UF’s handbook, students to keep pets may improve their well-being, and the University of Florida is not as lenient — not university allows any pets whatsoever.

Still, some will bend the rules, and this may explain why UM ranks in at number 15 on the list.

"People have other [pets] and just don’t tell [their hallway managers]," said John Dietz, a sophomore at UM.

He is not the only student at either UM or FIU to admit knowing someone who owns a cat or dog, secretly keeping the animal in their room at all times.

Mattachione also addresses the possible lack of responsibility.

"I’ve been at campuses where they had a huge cat issue because somebody had cats that bred with the local cats and now they have cats everywhere," Mattachione said.

Although FIU’s pet regulation may already seem stringent, it also imposes a restriction on the size of the fish tank itself, limiting it to 10 gallons or less.

"A 30-gallon tank takes up as much space as a TV," Marquis said, questioning the logic behind the limit and pointing out that students living in housing often have televisions much larger than the largest fish tank allowed.

However, Mattachione explains that the issue is not the size, but the water.

"If a 30 gallon tank falls over, it could soak down, maybe go into the wall, drop into the room below, and impact more people at the end of the hallway," he said.

Mattachione believes that the ultimate goal of the policy is to try to make the environment safe and secure for as many people as possible.

"Any policies we have about fire safety, noise and others are not meant to be a hindrance. It’s meant to respect the rights and responsibilities of everybody in the building," Mattachione said.

FIU hopes to enroll its first class by 2009.

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According to UF’s hand-
Students can opt for faculty/staff parking spaces

According to Witherell, the new incentives were developed in conjunction with Parking and Transportation over the summer to boost license plate sales.

Parking and Transportation Director Bill Foster praised the program, saying that it benefits FIU, not just by raising scholarship money but also by providing advertising for the University.

According to Witherell, the new incentives were developed in conjunction with Parking and Transportation over the summer to boost license plate sales.

While Foster is open to the idea of allocating more faculty spaces as demand for the specialty plates increases, he doesn’t think capping the decal upgrade incentive is likely.

"We look out for what’s in the best interest of FIU, and I can’t imagine it happening," he said. "I’d like to see a member of the faculty come up to the administration and say, ‘I want to stop selling these plates that raise funds for scholarship money because now it’s harder for me to park.’"

ROTC celebrates 10th anniversary

KNOXTH, page 2

smoke.

Twelve thousand feet in the air, at speeds up to 120 miles per hour, jumpers have vowed over 12 million jumps, people by cutting parachutes, passing batons, and performing other aerial acrobatics.

According to Foster, there was no cost involved in bringing the high-profile team to FIU.

"It is the discretion of the Football Game Chair for the events going on during the (game) and I will put in a request if I continue to be involved," Acevedo said.

The Army’s Golden Knights Parachute Team will jump into FIU’s Football Stadium Nov. 18 at 5:45 p.m. The performance will be followed by the recognition of ROTC in conjunction with the Homecoming Committee, the athletics department will also allow fans with a military ID to attend the game for free.

Family members can attend at a reduced ticket price of $5.

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Banyan trees with column-forming branches, hip-height bushes snaking through the garden and religious statues decorate the 1.2 square mile of the 10th-century monastery just two miles north of the Biscayne Bay Campus. Kathy Kasabasic, 29, and Jason Church, 25, traveled from Anarbor, Michigan, to get married in the monastery’s chapel and have their reception within the cloisters of the Church of St. Bernard de Clairvaux. Kasabasic said they chose the old Spanish monastery due to its echoes of times past.

“My family is Italian and this monastery reminds us very much of the Old Country so we want to get married here,” Kasabasic said.

Some Homecoming events made just for BBC students

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPE

FASHIONABLE: Cloisters within the Church of St. Bernard de Clairvaux pay homage to historical figures, while the entrance looks out into the lush garden.

Some Homecoming events are held at BBC on campus for students on both campuses.

“It’s not fair for everyone living on campus or near it to use [UP],” said Valdelamar. The festivities began with MTVU’s Gamers Ball in the Wolfe University Center Ballroom.

The Ball was a video game tournament where students played video games not yet on the market. Students had a chance to win video games and an XBOX 360.

Gamers Ball was not all the day had in store. The Fourth Annual Homecoming Step Show took place late into the night. The show brought out fraternities and sororities to compete and see who had the best dance routine.

“Cloisters include, awaiting the monks included, awaiting the monks through centuries ago sparks a sense of historic curiosity. The ancient Spanish monastery was built in the year 1133 in Sacramenia, Spain, north of Madrid, and named Monastery of Our Lady of the Angels. The Cistercian monks lived in the monastery for about 700 years until the social revolution of the 1800s when the monastery’s cloisters were seized, sold, turned into a granary and stable. In 1925, publishing tycoon William Ran dolph Hearst bought the cloisters and the monastery’s outbuildings, dismantled them stone by stone and had everything shipped to Brooklyn, New York, for about $3,000. By the time the shipment arrived during the Great Depression, Hearst’s financial problems left him no choice but to sell the stones at auction.

The stones were kept inside a warehouse in Brooklyn until a year after Hearst’s death in 1952 when two Florida developers purchased them to use as a tourist attraction. It took almost 19 months and $1.5 million dollars to put the monastery back together through photographs and a name in honor of the saint who had been an influence among the Cistercian.

Students can see the process of putting the monastery back together through photographs hanging on the walls of the monastery. In the patio, paved paths swirl around Banyan trees, through the Savior’s Garden, along the Loggia and into the cloisters. The open-aired hallways house a prayer well in the center carved out of a second-century Roman temple column.

“It’s very peaceful and serene here,” said Suzie Saiz, 54, who has been coming to the monastery several years ago from a neighboring county.

“Teny enjoying to meditate among all this history,” Saiz said.

The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Holy Eucharist services are on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Sundays (in English) at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Spanish services are on Sundays at 12:15 p.m. Students with ID pay a $2.50 admission charge.

Begône Cazalís

A job strategies workshop dedicated to international students will take place Nov. 16 at the Biscayne Bay Campus in the Wolfe University Center from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. as part of the International Education Week.

The event, which is sponsored and organized by the International Students & Scholars Services, the International Students Club and the Student Government Association, will deal with job opportunities nationally and abroad available for the great number of international students at FIU.

“Students who had not considered studying or working abroad will have the opportunity to see things in a global perspective,” said Sophie Petra Havenfelt that every student should have come out and experienced the show. “Apollo Night is an event where the talented can participate.”

BEGÔNE CAZALIS Staff Writer

Students who had not considered studying or working abroad will... see things in a global perspective

The conference will be given by ISSS Associate Director Nancy Hernandez. She advises international students on immigration issues and oversees the programs created for the international FIU community.

Hernandez will cover options for working and studying abroad, as well as strategies for locating international internships.

Hernandez will also answer particular questions relating specifically to visas, the guidelines and the students’ opportunities as employees.

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Bush must cooperate with Democrats

CHRIS CABRAL
Staff Writer

In the glorious aftermath of the 2006 midterm elections, people looking to this new Congress to take action and restore balance to their government. Although the Democrats have bold plans, the question is will Bush be willing to compromise?

The Democrats have an ambitious agenda, and the first order of business will be to raise the minimum wage. The new and improved Democratic Congress plans to pass legislation to expand college tuition assistance, increase port security, repeal tax breaks for oil companies and allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices. Bush’s veto would just be the plan for the first 100 hours. Of course, George W. Bush can still obstruct these long overdue measures and veto every like the “Happy Forests Act of 2007” — and with every rejection, they could call the Democrats too partisan.

Yet that could backfire. In fact, while it would be bad for the country, Bush’s endless use of his veto powers could drive home the point. Democrats have been trying to drive home about this President and most of his party for years.

And Bush vetoes the minimum wage increase on the grounds that it will hurt businesses and corporations. Americans will know where modern Republican priorities lie.

Democrats want to see after veto, he’ll have to explain why the Republicans oppose increasing financial aid for college students, or why he doesn’t want to expand access to health care.

If the worst comes to worst, that could hurt the Republicans almost as much as it hurts the American people.

I hope Bush will choose to work with the Democrats and the sensible, moderate members of his own party.

If not, candidates from both parties will be running against his legacy in 2008, and voters will remember what happens when they elect a far-right, regressive Republican for president.

Columbia incident threatened freedom

I enjoyed Juan Camilo Estrada’s piece on the Columbia riot for the sole fact that I learned of the incident. However, I could not ignore the bias of the article. Freedom of speech is one of the greatest things this country has to offer. But when a group of adults mob a stage during a speech, it is no longer about voicing your point, but a matter of safety.

Glicksht and his colleagues were frightened, as they ought to be. Storming a presentation does nothing but cast a shadow on your association and drown out your intended message. If anybody was allowed to storm a stage, then what is stopping other dangerous alliances from disrupting — and potentially harming — innocent people gathered for anything from a presidential rally to a dance recital!

The first amendment is a great one, and it should be protected. We should call the incident for what it is: a disruption that could have been a disaster.

Jonathan Garcia
Consultant
Office of Business Services

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you eat at on-campus food venues?

- Yes – As a housing student, do I have a choice?
- Yes – It’s the only option and I have to eat somewhere.
- Yes – It’s convenient and fairly priced.
- No – At these prices, stadium hot dogs are a better deal.

Cast your vote at www.beaconnewspaper.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Facts don’t line up in food editorial

I make it a habit of reading The Beacon on a regular basis to keep in touch with the pulse of our FIU community. However, I recently encountered an article in the Nov. 9 issue, which accurately reported the facts.

The article in question was an indictment of the food service on campus titled “Vendor contract gives students no options.” In the article, the reporter describes Aramark, our food service provider, as a monopoly setting food prices at its leisure. These statements are untrue and very damaging, given the context in which this information was presented. In an attempt to correct these errors, here are the correct facts:

1. Aramark was chosen as our food service provider through an open bidding process.
2. The decision to choose Aramark over other providers was made entirely by a committee comprised of SGA representatives, faculty, staff and administration.
3. The retail food options available today were based on recommendations from the committee.
4. The price increase at the Fresh Food Company was the result of the door price not having been changed for over three years.
5. The pricing at all of the branded retail locations is the same pricing as any location outside of FIU.
6. All price increases require the approval of FIU.
7. FIU has made a commitment to Aramark to guarantee 1,200 housing meal plans per semester after 2008.
8. Other vendors are welcome to provide food service on campus, but must be contracted through Aramark.
9. Aramark’s relationship with FIU is not just a business relationship; it is a partnership.
10. Maidaquie sees it, Wertheim signed a contract and then failed to adhere to it. For him, the matter came down to a simple breach of contract.

Maidaquie has argued that the naming rights for a school of medicine are usually given in exchange for donations much larger than $20 million. He claimed that a donor could easily be found willing to donate $100 million or more.

Moreover, if the University received the $20 million payment in full, it could begin accumulating interest immediately.

Wertheim’s relationship with the University goes much deeper than a simple business relationship. He has served FIU in different capacities — including chairman, vice chairman and member of the Board of Trustees — and already donated millions of dollars to the University.

Wertheim has been with FIU as it has grown from a small-time commuter school to a major state university. FIU’s relationship with Wertheim isn’t just business — it’s family.

Given the character of Wertheim’s relationship with FIU, Maidaquie should have received the former trustee’s concerns with respect and addressed them accordingly.

Rather than alienating Wertheim, it would have been more appropriate — and dignified — for him to seek a reasonable compromise with a long-time friend of the University.

S. Salzberg
Freshman
Business

Glicksht and his colleagues were frightened, as they ought to be. Storming a presentation does nothing but cast a shadow on your association and drown out your intended message. If anybody was allowed to storm a stage, then what is stopping other dangerous alliances from disrupting — and potentially harming — innocent people gathered for anything from a presidential rally to a dance recital!

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Joseph Salzberg
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SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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

GEORGE ANDERSON JR.
Asst. Life! Editor

Junior Alex Rodriguez recalled a party he recently attended where he met up with a female high school friend who he hadn’t seen in years. They talked about high school memories and caught up on each other’s current lives. By the time the party was finished, the two friends had caught up in more ways than one.

“I hadn’t seen my friend in years, and she looked completely different and better than the last time that I had seen her,” Rodriguez said. “We talked a little, and one thing led to another before we ended up hooking up. I had no idea that it would have happened.”

For students like Rodriguez, “hooking up” is a spontaneous occurrence—something that impulsively happens at a party or another sort of social gathering. For other students like junior Daniel Cruz, however, hooking up is an alternative to a traditional relationship.

“I’ve given committed relationships a chance, and they really take a lot of work, especially if and when the relationship ends,” said Cruz. “With hooking up or a one-night stand, I don’t feel much of an emotional connection, so it’s less of a hassle.”

According to Sex, Etc., a sexuality education website hosted by the Rutgers University Center for Applied Psychology, the definition of hooking up is different depending on whom you ask. However, the website does offer a simple definition: sexual activity such as kissing, touching or sexual intercourse between two people or more.

Rodriguez’s and Cruz’s hookup encounters aren’t sporadic incidents. Such encounters have been the focus of magazine articles such as incidents. Such encounters have been the focus of magazine articles such as...
Like a Virgo

Students question astrological accuracy

BOBBY JOE BRACY
Staff Writer

The Scorpion, the Scales, the Water Bearer, the Goat – no, these are not tantric positions, but they are the familiar symbols in the zodiac. In all, 12 celestial symbols make up the creatures of the zodiac, a word whose Greek origin aptly means “little animals.” Well, little animals and that pesky scale – a ridiculous inclusion if you ask me. But then again, isn’t the whole notion of astrology ridiculous as it is? Maybe it’s a pseudo-science, or like another bad episode of “Charmed.”

Our experiences with the zodiac vary – for me it was Walter Mercado, a man who shattered conventional gender norms for me at such a tender age – but where’s the truth? Do all Gemini’s have split personalities? Are all Cancers just commonly crabby crustaceans? And more importantly, are all Scorpios really good lays?

“I don’t believe it… I see the zodiac as a money-making scheme based on ancient pagan symbols,” said junior Ryan Capiro. “I think it’s all a crock of s---,” he said.

Capiro is a Taurus, by the way.

The Babylonians developed the first known system of celestial coordinates and dubbed the moon and the naked-eye planets (Mercury, Mars, Venus, Saturn and Jupiter) the “wandering stars.” To the Babylonians, these roving lights represented the gods they worshipped from down here on Earth. Since then, the practice of correlating relationships between celestial bodies and us mortals has been passed through the ancient Greeks and Egyptians, and through the minds of modern thinkers like Carl Jung, who once said “astrology is assured of recognition from psychology, without further restrictions, because astrology represents the summation of all the psychological knowledge of antiquity.”

A controversial use of the zodiac, invented by Michel Guaquelin, is the “Mars Effect.” The Mars Effect argues that the location of the planet Mars has a causal relationship with the birth of sports champions and super-athletes. Multi-Wimbledon champion Venus Williams is said to be affected by the Effect, but not little sister Serena.

Today, the zodiac, a poster child of astrology, has occupied the pages of many fashion magazines – even longer than airbrushing. The advent of the Internet age means you can now get your horoscope, or an astrological prediction of the future, to your e-mail. Many times, however, people feel these horoscopes can be as vague as a drunken uncle.

“It’s all so vague … people want to read themselves into it because it makes them feel like there’s something bigger guiding everything,” said senior Richard Garcia, who is double majoring in women’s studies and psychology. “Besides, studying psychology made me way too empirical to believe in stuff like that,” Garcia said.

Can the zodiac be a good way to analyze your date? Or whether he or she will be good in the sack? Is it worth asking the age-old question, “Hey baby, what’s your sign?”

“I think it might be on to something sometimes, but that’s just coincidental. It’s not something I really ask about or cared to know,” said sophomore Ivana Vento.

As college students, we’re trained to put a lot of trust into tests, texts and theories by men who probably aren’t alive anymore. As a critical thinker, you become less likely to believe things that have no concrete foundation as truth.

However, regardless of whether you believe in astrology or not, there is an important point to keep in mind.

“What experiment could ever be done to prove, or disprove, that it’s possible to tell the future? Historically, for example, Freud argued that parapsychological or paranormal phenomena such as astrology has no validity, while Jung argued it is premature to rule out its validity because it is possible that we just haven’t discovered a way to test it,” said William Kurtines, professor of psychology.

“The idea that the continents moved was not too long ago considered to be Looney Tunes geology, but now we have geologists who not only study the movement of continents, but do so using very complex and sophisticated empirical and mathematical models,” Kurtines said. “We don’t have enough evidence to say it’s not true, or enough evidence to say that it is.”

So it just may be that, like all good things in life, there is no absolute certainty. It’s entirely possible that astrology could be just as bogus as Kevin Federline’s rap debut, or a very advanced theory of tectonics that operates on a celestial and psycho-social level; we may never be able to say with complete certainty.

And the world may never know if Scorpios do really make excellent lovers – although that’s far less difficult to test.

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On-Campus Comedy

KNOCK KNOCK: Comedians Bill Bellamy (above right) and Pablo Francisco (above) performed Nov. 13 in the Pharmed Arena. Mascot Roary Rage (right) threw t-shirts into the crowd before the event.

THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 16
WHAT: FIU Homecoming Court Voting
WHERE: Graham Center Computer Lab
WHEN: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: Ice Cream Social with Homecoming Court
WHERE: Graham Center Forum
WHEN: 12 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 17
WHAT: Homecoming Block Party
WHERE: Between the Blue & Gold Garages
WHEN: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: Wertheim International Organ Series Featuring Todd Wilson
WHERE: Wertheim Concert Hall
WHEN: 8 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 18
WHAT: Homecoming Parade
WHERE: Starts at Engineering Campus
WHEN: 2 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: Homecoming Tailgate
WHERE: The Cage (FIU Football Stadium)
WHEN: 4 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free

POKER TIME
JUST MINUTES FROM FIU

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Casual intercourse lacks commitment, intimacy

ONE-NIGHT STANDS, page 6

Montgomery advises that students know what they are getting into before having a one-night stand.

“Know that the goal of a one-night stand is to have sex without establishing a strong emotional connection with the sexual partner,” Montgomery said. “When you engage in a one-night stand, it does not matter what the person’s background is, what their interests are, or whether or not their parents will like you. You can only hope that the person is ‘good in bed.’”

Despite the lack of an emotional connection when hooking up, a casual sexual encounter could result into something significant, but it more than likely won’t.

“It is definitely possible for a one-night stand to develop into a long-term meaningful relationship, but this is not the norm,” she said.

Montgomery cited a survey conducted in the early ’90s concerning sexual behavior in America by John Gagnon, Edward Laumann and colleagues. While the data is fairly old, she still uses the material in lectures because of the large sample and detailed measures. According to the survey’s results, only 1.4% of married couples had sex within 2 days of meeting.

“Whatever benefits exist with one-night stands, the best sex of your life will most likely be within the context of a meaningful, long-term relationship,” Montgomery said. “A sexual partner whom you trust and know intimately is one with whom you can experiment safely and comfortably, and one who truly knows how to please you sexually.”

Campaigner out to save world one stamp at a time

CAMPAIGN, page 6

We fought the power – by sending letters. We struck a blow to the Republican empire – by licking stamps all day. Our struggle to move America forward was often fought in the streets, but mostly from the confines of a cramped office.

If you ever work for a campaign, you’re going to have to do some things that you may consider boring. Just remind yourself: You’re not just inputting data in a computer, you’re helping America. You’re not just handing out flyers, you’re spreading the truth. Once you’ve learned to maintain that perspective, the job becomes enjoyable.

In the end, I learned much from the experience, and I met some pretty cool people. Dave Patlak was a great candidate, but his opponent had more than 10 times as much money, and she spent it. If this were a T.V. movie, our underdog candidate would have beaten the odds and triumphed in the face of adversity. It would have been a real David vs. Goliath story. But this was politics. And in politics, usually Goliath wins. By 22 percentage points.

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ONE WEEKEND ONLY:
NOVEMBER 17-19
IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE
Past and present Golden Panthers garner attention

XAVIER VILLABARZO
Sports Editor

With the induction of the first class of the FIU Hall of Fame looming, it is fitting to have three other Golden Panthers receive some kind of national attention:

• Former soccer standout Bobby Boswell was named to Major League Soccer’s Radio Shack Best XI. The best 11 players in the MLS are determined by voting from the MLS players, MLS coaches and general managers, and media.

The current D.C. United defender was also named 2006 MLS Defensive Player of the Year the three weeks ago in just his second year in the league.

Boswell, who has played every minute in 30 games for D.C. this season, was also selected to the start MLS All-Star game this past August.

Boswell joins Robin Fraser, Steve Ralston and Greg Vanney as one of four former Golden Panthers to be named to the team the MLS Best XI.

• Former safety Nick Turnbull became the first FIU football player to play in an NFL game.

The undrafted rookie free agent was promoted from the Atlanta Falcons’ practice squad and played on special teams for their Nov. 12 showdown against the Cleveland Browns.

Turnbull holds the football team’s all-time interceptions record with 16. His five interceptions in 2004 is the single-season school record.

• Freshman Olga Vergun was named Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week for the week ending Nov. 12. The native of Ukraine becomes the third woman’s volleyball player to receive the honor this season, joining freshman Yarimar Rosa and junior Keila Oliveira.

Vergun recorded 16 kills, with a season-high .786 hitting percentage, in a win against Troy Nov. 10. She then added 10 more kills in win against South Alabama Nov. 12.

CELEBRATE: The volleyball team finished the season 22-7, their best finish since 1987.

Volleyball in three way tie for top seed in Sun Belt eastern division

 VOLLEYBALL, page 12

ACTION.

"We played a quality team and we are not as talented as them so we have to out-work teams," said Trojan head coach Sonny Kirkpatrick. "If we don’t come out with that intensity needed then it is easy for us to end up on the bottom half of the score," he said.

FIU 3, SA 0

On senior day at FIU, the Golden Panthers appeared to be a much more experienced team as they picked apart South Alabama. Rosa and Guerra led the way with 12 kills each, and Vergun added 10 in the season ending victory.

Principal setter Keila Oliveira had 18 assists, and senior Dyonna Smith had a match high 20 assists along with 8 digs and 5 kills at .833 hitting. Lauren Robins had 7 kills, and Kalynd Hurlley had just 7 digs for South Alabama who the Golden Panthers held to a dismal .071 hitting percentage. With their 14-3 Sun Belt mark, the Golden Panthers ended up in a three way tie for first place with Middle Tennessee and Western Kentucky and will be the third seed when the Sun Belt tournament gets underway Thursday at North Texas.

"I told the team not to underestimate anybody. We want to go into the tournament with a lot of confidence and do well," said Tomic.

THIS WEEKEND IN FIU SPORTS

FIU Tip-Off Basketball vs. Alcorn State (9 p.m.)
Women’s Volleyball Sun Belt Conference Semi-finals, Denton, Texas
Women’s Volleyball Sun Belt Conference Championship, Denton, Texas
FIU Tip-Off Basketball vs. Western Illinois or Radford (7 p.m. & 9 p.m.)
Football vs. Louisiana-Lafeyette (6 p.m.)*
Football team still winless after loss to Warhawks

ANDONI GONZALEZ-RUA
Staff Writer

For the Golden Panthers the Nov. 11 meeting with Louisiana-Monroe was the game that was circled on the schedule. That was the game that would end the eight-game losing streak and give the Division I-A newcomers their first win as a full-fledged program.

Coach Charlie Weatherbie and his 1-7 Warhawk squad had other ideas.

In front of 15,099 eager fans, FIU (0-9, 0-4) was dominated from the start and fell for the ninth time this season to a lowly Monroe (2-7, 1-3) 44-7.

Coach Don Stock’s team had started the season off well, with the possibility of many of the initial outcomes going their way. However, over the last three games the Golden Panthers have been outscored 108-3 including two shutouts. The game marked the first time the team had been shutout at home.

“We didn’t do very well blocking people offensively or tackling defensively,” said Stock. “That’s what I told them at the beginning of the game, halftime and after the game.”

ULM dominated from the start, taking their initial drive 79 yards against a flaky FIU defensive unit and scoring on a 31-yard touchdown run from tailback Calvin Dawson.

With 5:19 to play in the first quarter things got worse for the Golden Panthers as quarterback Josh Padrick, who has struggled to find his way this season, was intercepted by defensive back Chaz Williams and the turnover was returned 26 yards to put the visitors up 14-0.

The Golden Panthers, despite having three players return from suspension and one from injury, including tailbacks Julian Reams, A’mod Ned and full back John Ellis, managed just 10 net yards rushing on the night one of six for 21 yards. Backup Paul McCall relieved Padrick late in the contest, finishing 3-11 passing for 179 yards and the interception.

The pitiful run game, which seemed to struggle from the Warhawk pressure on the offensive line and a lack of originality in play calling, was led by Ned with 8.88, managed six and were led defensively by senior linbackers Alexander Bostic III, James Black and Keyonvis Bosie.

With 11 tackles Bosie finds himself 1-4 short of the school record with three games left to play.

FIU managed to convert just two out of 12 third downs and were forced to go for it on fourth down on three occasions late in the game, all resulting in a turnover.

Along with Dawson, the ULM offense was run by Payne, who in relief for an injured Kinsmon, Lancaster, passed for an economical 110 yards on 10 of 11 passing with a touchdown.

Following Stanford’s shocking 20-3 win over Washington Nov. 11, FIU (0-9) and Duke (0-10) find themselves as the only Division I-A teams still looking for a win.

The Golden Panthers will look for their first victory of the season Nov. 18 as they square off with the University of Louisiana-Lafayette at FIU’s homecoming. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m. at FIU Stadium.
First Class

Women's Basketball Starts Off on the Right Foot

The Golden Panthers are 21-10 in home openers and history was definitely on their side Nov. 12 at the Pharmed Arena. FIU crushed non-conference foe Barry University 69-36 and dominated the Buccaneers in every aspect, including field goals; 45.8 percent to 26.9 and out rebounded the Buccaneers 46-25.

On FIU's next possession, Ciglar scored a game high 16 points and also added six assists and steals. Ferguson covered the floor, scoring from beyond the arc and staying focused on fast break opportunities. In the first four minutes of the game, Ferguson scored six of her team's eight points. Sophomore guard Antonia Zeigler, pictured in an preseason game against Nova, recorded 6 points in FIU's 69-36 win over Barry University Nov. 11.

Ferguson led FIU with a game high 16 points and also added six assists and steals. Ferguson covered the floor, scoring from beyond the arc and staying focused on fast break opportunities. In the first four minutes of the game, Ferguson scored six of her team's eight points.

Junior LaQuetta Ferguson led FIU with a game high 16 points and also added six assists and steals. Ferguson covered the floor, scoring from beyond the arc and staying focused on fast break opportunities. In the first four minutes of the game, Ferguson scored six of her team's eight points.

Sophomore guard Antonia Zeigler, pictured in an preseason game against Nova, recorded 6 points in FIU's 69-36 win over Barry University Nov. 11.

Fast Break: Sophomore guard Antonia Zeigler, pictured in an preseason game against Nova, recorded 6 points in FIU's 69-36 win over Barry University Nov. 11.

Volleyball Ends Season with Three Game Win Streak

RENALDO SMITH

When Jean McCarthy, the Troy University outside hitter served up a first set win for her team, the once frenzied home crowd at Pharmed Arena was forced to sit down dejected.

However, that early letdown was all the Golden Panthers needed to get fired up as they went on to win the match 3-1 (27-30, 30-16, 30-22, 30-14) in Sun Belt Conference action Nov. 10.

Following that win, the Golden Panthers went on to beat South Alabama 3-0 (30-20, 30-19, 30-12) in the final game of the season Nov. 12. Their 22-7 mark for the year is the best record since the move to Division I play back in 1987.

FIU 3, TU 1

After jumping out to an 11-6 advantage to force a Trojan time out, everything went downhill for the Golden Panthers in the opening set. The Trojans had a renewed supply of energy and the stagnant Golden Panthers could only watch as they opened a 23-18 advantage en route to winning game one.

With four minutes left in the first half, Barry had not lost their intensity. Barry ran the court well, showing no signs of distraction or fatigue. Even after being down by as much as 30 points, Barry still hustled for the ball and played under control. However, FIU’s strong defense limited the Buccaneers to just one field goal over the final 10 minutes of the game; the three point basket came within the last 16 seconds of the game.

Bosilj started yet another fast break run when she scored off a lay-up with 9:45 left in the game; her basket turned into 15 unanswered points for FIU.

“We had a lot of steals and lay-ups…”Then I thought if we could count on those things, and we are aggressive on defense … we have a quick team, so we can just get out on the floor and run, we’ll be very effective,” Tomic said.

This weekend the women’s basketball team will participate in the KCRG-TV9 Hawkeye Challenge in Iowa City, Iowa. FIU will face Florida A&M & More on Friday at 6 p.m.

“One of the things that we’re doing some good things; we’re getting better with our fast breaks and our plays…”we need to work on our rebounding…”we’re going to do a good job, we’re going to get them prepared to play Florida A&M,” Thomas said.

Volleyball, page 10

Sports