She first visited the University of Miami in 2005 and is currently enrolled as a participant in the University of Miami’s Student Affairs Graduate Assistant Program and the Women’s Center Graduate Assistant Program.

**Learning Session:**
Third baseman Brian Pullin takes some extra time after practice to teach his teammates some skills he has picked up in the four years he has played baseball at FIU.

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**Record breaker overcomes troubled past**

SERGIO BONILLA  
Astor Sports Editor

The outfield walls of University Park Stadium exhibit three retired jersey numbers: No. 23 Tony Mendez, No. 21 Danny Price and No. 15 Mike Lowell. When Golden Panthers third baseman Brian Pullin first arrived at FIU, playing Division I baseball and graduating were a dream. Four seasons later, he has earned a state championship and the man who guided him throughout his tumultuous college career, Danny Price, said: “Brian Pullin is an example that giving the benefit of the doubt to a kid is good.”

While student at American Heritage High School, Pullin enjoyed a state championship in his junior year and had a senior year that included a 508 batting average. Several collegiate baseball coach programs took notice of Pullin’s ability on the field, but were reluctant to give him an opportunity to play due to his problems off the field.

“I always seemed to be at the wrong place at the wrong time,” Pullin said. Price, who has been the FIU baseball coach for 28 years, said Pullin arrived at FIU as a walk-on, meaning that he was not recruited or offered a scholarship immediately.

He had to prove he was worthy of a scholarship first. “One of my assistants told me: ‘I want this guy. He can hit.’” Price said. “Brian’s got some Dennis the Menace in him. He’s going to push you to the edge, but deep inside he’s a good kid.” Price spoke about the different times and methods he used to reprimand Pullin during his tenure at FIU. “Brian has washed every police car on campus, every golf cart on campus; I even suspended him before,” he said. The senior third baseman admitted that his behavioral problems cost him scholarships from other schools but didn’t want to go into detail about his troubled past.

He also mentioned how grateful he was for Price’s patience. “He gave me a chance to play here. I don’t want to disappoint him,” Pullin said. Pullin sees his past errors as learning experiences rather than debilitating obstacles. Running vertically near his ribs are a few words, which he applied to his past: “No Regrets.” “Even if things go wrong, I figure things happen for a reason and I try to learn from things that have happened in my life. So everything I do, I take it for what it’s worth and I have no regrets.”

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**Student hopes to open own university**

BEN F. BADGER JR.  
Staff Writer

Compared to her small hometown of Plainsboro, N.J., Miami was a big place for graduate student Tara Warshaw, who spent her youth in the academically competitive town.

“It was a big culture shock,” Warshaw said. “But it was exciting. I just fell in love with [FIU].”

Warshaw’s passion is education, something she’s been involved with since she was in grade school, usually volunteering or tutoring in neighborhood schools. Warshaw now wants to focus her talent on older students. “I love challenging college level students,” Warshaw said.

For her undergraduate degree, Warshaw attended the University of Northern Colorado where she received a bachelor’s degree in arts and communication. To further her education, she moved to Miami in 2005 and is now graduating from the College of Education with a degree in higher education administration and a 3.9 GPA.

She first visited the University as a participant in the Student Affairs Graduate Assistant Association Days, an event where students from around the country are given the opportunity to apply for graduate assistant positions in the various organizations on campus. Warshaw felt instantly drawn to the FIU Women’s Center where she applied for a job. The feeling was mutual.

“I was just drawn to her,” said Suzanne Onorato, the Women’s Center Associate Director. “I could talk about Tara for hours.”

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**Full coverage of Pullin**

**Memorable experiences part of life**

I sat on my own on the fourth floor of Drexel Haus, typing feverishly on my laptop. Books in mounds, papers stacked at my side and coffee in hand, I compulsively read one book and then another.

Sound familiar? Another year, another finals week, another procrastinated semester project, the kind you never believe will finish. And yet, when I woke up on the Thursday after finals and so was I, 1/1 of all with it — no deadlines, no finals. I finished. Like a fog I let the concept linger for a moment. Then reality hit, hard. “Now what?”

Well, unless you plan to be a student for life, everyone arrives at this point.

It’s a collegiate limbo, realizing your time at FIU has come to an end.

My stress about finals was quickly replaced with fear, not fear of a test, but fear of life, and specifically, fear of the unknown. But I realize now that this unknown is actually very familiar.

This is the rat race that most FIU students jump into long before their college careers, a good majority already in the workforce.

I worked mostly on-campus jobs, as a resident assistant and editor at the school paper.

Only now, slowly packing up the stuff I’ve accumulated in my room, can I look back on my four years and realize that the real world isn’t very different.

Life, like college, goes by in a blur, and like Ferris Bueller once told us, “If you don’t stop for a second, you just might miss it.”

It’s a fresh breeze that an instant has come and gone, leaving in its trail good memories and for the real lucky, good friends.

I arrived at FIU hoping I’d find my niche. I eventually realized that for once, I didn’t need one. Instead, I made my own niche, and adapted according to each experience and trial.

Sometimes experiences are worth their weight in gold, even when I realized I might never use the skills gained. There were also those experiences that I later learned to regret, but even those have made me better as a result. No matter what, I learned something.

I’ve learned that DM’s grass near the bridge is the sweetest in the sun, especially to take a nap, and that the library would be a fantastic place to play manhunt (not that I have). I’ve learned that all nights only work once per semester, so you have to try and save it till the end. I’ve learned that here, you’ll meet only a little piece of the world, but that little piece eventually becomes your entire world.

For me, FIU became my home because I lived on-campus. Rather it was because I embraced the whole experience: the good roommates (and the issues they bring); the beach days and the exam days; the fire drills and the Miami traffic; the cafeterias on Calle Ocho; the late night conversations – it’s in the experiences that life is truly savored.
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Do you want a career that can be summed up on a piece of paper and filed away? Or a career that inspires others? When you join the United States Air Force with a college degree as a second lieutenant, you have the opportunity to lead from day one. And as a commissioned officer, you'll enjoy many benefits not often found at most Fortune 500 companies — including the respect of an entire country.
BBC leader leaves legacy behind

CHRISTINA LEMUS
Staff Writer

Zach Trautenberg has been comptroller and finance chair for the Student Government Council at the Biscayne Bay Campus and has president of the BBC Wishgivers, but there’s one accomplishment that he knows he’ll be remembered by for years to come: the Golden Panther Seal at BBC’s Panther Square.

The seal depicts the head of FIU’s mascot, “Roary” Rage, surrounded by the algebraic function, squared. As in many other schools, tradition has it that if you step directly on the seal, you’ll have bad luck for the rest of the school year.

“I am proud to have come up with the idea of the BBC seal and to be a part of something great,” Trautenberg said.

Zach Trautenberg will graduate from FIU with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He majored in Management Information Systems and earned a 3.2 grade point average. However, Trautenberg said that just because he’s graduating doesn’t mean he’ll no longer be involved with the campus.

“No matter what, I’m not going to be far. I’ll be back in some way because I will never be a stranger to FIU,” Trautenberg said.

Trautenberg started at FIU in the summer of 2003. Spending about 98 percent of his time at BBC, Trautenberg has become president for the BBC Wishgivers Organization and has served two years until this spring as comptroller and finance chair of the SGC-BBC.

After graduation, Trautenberg will begin his search for a career where he can further his computer and business skills. His plans are to continue working with database software for computer operations at a prestigious company or at FIU. His job as SGC-BBC allowed him to work with the budgets for campus departments and organizations by reviewing their budget and helping to allocate their funds.

Sarah G. David, office manager for Campus Life and Orientation, has worked alongside Trautenberg for almost three years.

“Zach is one of the most hardworking, conscientious student leaders I’ve ever had the pleasure of working with,” David said. “Zach is always working in his office way past the required hours for student government officers. On top of that, he goes out of his way to offer help to others in the office, including my students.”

Trautenberg spends about 30 hours a week in his office, but he says he has no regrets — he loved every second of it.

“I loved working in SGC-BBC because I got to work with great people and help to raise money with other students!” Trautenberg said.

Brent Maximin, outgoing SGC-BBC vice president, has worked alongside Trautenberg in the very close, cluttered corners of their shared office. Maximin was re-elected vice president of SGC-BBC after the resignation of Pamela St. Fleur, former SGC-BBC vice president, thanks to Trautenberg’s nomination. The two have formed a close friendship.

“Zach is one of the most committed leaders I know who always leads by example. He is one of those people who you years from now, I will say I was proud to work alongside this guy,” Maximin, who will also be graduating this semester, said.

Aside from SGC-BBC, Trautenberg has been working with the BBC Wishgivers, a project he helped develop in 2006.

“I started BBC Wishgivers because I really enjoy helping other people,” Trautenberg said.

The organization works to raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, which a group that grants “wishes” for children with life-threatening illnesses.

“As the president of BBC Wishgivers, Trautenberg organized events on campus such as Casino Night, which took place Feb. 28 in the Wolfe University Center Ballroom and raised approximately $400.”

“Casino Night was one of the very successful events BBC Wishgivers had on campus and I was very happy with all the money we raised for those children,” Trautenberg said.

According to Trautenberg, the future of BBC Wishgivers and its members is unclear because no executive board has been found yet.

“I will miss the people here,” Trautenberg said. “BBC has some of the nicest people I’ve ever met. Everything here [at BBC] is for the students, for the community and done to make a difference.”

Student remembered for work at center

WARSHAW, page 1

students gather in the residence halls to discuss a wide range of topics from body image to sexuality.

The second event Warshaw helped put together was the Sisterhood Retreat, which took 30 women to Alva, Fla., in October for a weekend’s worth of female empowerment.

“Tara did it all, with very little guidance from me,” Onorato said.

And thanks in part to the organizing and planning skills she picked up while working at the Women’s Center, Warshaw has a couple of ideas lined up after graduation.

She has job interviews set up in Jacksonville, where she would need to be located soon after graduation. But her ultimate goal is to one day open up her own university.

“I wasn’t my idea,” Warshaw said. “It was a group collaboration.”

Three of Warshaw’s friends and fellow graduate assistants came up with the idea to start a university, an institution they would like to call Heritage University because the word incorporates letters from each of their names; “He” for Heidi Richards, “ri” for Arianna Agramante, “a” for Tara Warshaw and “ge” Angelina “AJ” Acosta.

Although she says she has a plan of action, Warshaw wonders whether or not the group will have the drive to open up a university 10 or 15 years from now.

“You have to go through the steps to make it happen,” Warshaw said. “Right now we’re trying to come up with a mission statement and logo. We are going to do this.”

Onorato, who took over the direction of the Women’s Center just one semester before hiring Warshaw, feels she will not only be losing a great employee but also a great friend.

“I couldn’t have asked for a better relationship with a graduate student,” Onorato said. “Together we made all of the decisions, the whole curriculum was made by the both of us.”

Pullin looks to pass knowledge on to others

PULLIN, page 1

everything I do, I take it for what it’s worth and have no regrets,” Pullin said.

The positive memories in his high school career have enjoyed and savored. A first inning home run against Troy University on March 25 was the 251 career hit in his career. The home run propelled him to No. 1 on the FIU all-time hits record.

“Records are made to be broken,” Pullin said. “I’d rather much be remembered by for what it’s worth and have no regrets,” Pullin said.

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