Celebrating its 16th anniversary Nov. 5, Sigma Sigma sorority will be celebrating our anniversary than by doing something with our philanthropy. Our reasoning for not wanting to participate in the purchase of an SGA skybox. Their reasoning for not wanting to participate in the first proposal included that only 120 students per year would benefit from its use compared to the more than 30,000 students who pay Activities and Services fees through their tuition.

In a letter addressed to SGC-UP members Sept. 25, the SGC-BBC executive board said they did not want to participate in the purchase of an SGA skybox. Their reasoning for not wanting to participate in the first proposal included that only 120 students per year would benefit from its use compared to the more than 30,000 students who pay Activities and Services fees through their tuition.

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Student receives honorary degree

MARIA CHERCOLES
News Director

FIU graduate Kristina Marie Panagos died in her Pembroke Pines home Oct. 25 after struggling with a brain tumor since the age of 10.

Panagos, 23, had completed her fourth year at FIU in 2005, when she had to leave due to her condition, but was missing credits and did not meet the requirements for an honorary degree.

“I was told she could only get it if she passed away. That was not going to make a difference to her or to me,” said her mother, Lourdes Panagos.

However, Panagos was determined to receive her degree before dying.

Following petitions from two faculty members, the Board of Trustees and the Faculty Senate finally voted to change the criteria for honorary degrees to allow terminally-ill students like Panagos receive diplomas.

A graduation ceremony was held Aug. 18, where Panagos received a Bachelor’s of Science diploma in biology.

“I meant a lot to her, now she is leaving a legacy at FIU because other students like her will be able to receive a degree,” Lourdes Panagos said.

Panagos’ brain tumor was first diagnosed when she was 10, but her symptoms ameliorated after an operation and did not return until 2005.

Pamela Ledward, one of Panagos’ best friends, was taking Physics II with her at that time, the last class Panagos took at FIU.

“She remembered she left the last exam thinking she didn’t do well, not because she didn’t study but because she couldn’t hold her pen right,” Ledward said. “I told her she had to go to the doctor and get checked but she didn’t want to, she wanted to finish her degree.”

After leaving FIU, her family tried different treatments and traveled to New York for an operation but she didn’t make it.

“She was a trooper, she was never the person who would say ‘why me,’” said her sister, Danielle Panagos, 22.

Despite her condition, Panagos got to live her dream last December: to visit Australia.

“I asked: ‘if you could go anywhere in the world, where do you go?’ So I cashed in my retirement and said: ‘I’m going to give her her dream,’” Lourdes Panagos said.

Panagos traveled with her sister and mother to Australia and visited the Great Barrier Reef, Blue Mountains and Steve Irwin’s zoo.

“She was very passionate about animals,” Lourdes Panagos said. “She didn’t like going to pet shops because she felt it was her obligation to bring them home.”

Besides animals, Panagos was also a fan of the Marlins, and would go to their games with her friend Patty Tapanes.

When her condition confined her to her home, her friends used to visit her to watch movies together.

“She knew she was going to die but she really just wanted to enjoy life, even though she was the one with the condition she made sure everyone around her was comfortable,” Ledward said.

Panagos was cremated and her ashes will remain with the Panagos family.

Besides her sister and mother, Panagos is survived by her older brother Thomas, 25, her father Thomas Panagos and a grandmother.

www.beaconnewspaper.com

WISH GRANTED:
Above: Kristina Panagos (center) receives her honorary degree on Aug. 18, 2007 from President of Student Affairs Rosa Jones (right), and Provost Ronald Berkman (left). Left: Panagos sits with her father (right) after the ceremony.

CORRECTIONS
In the Oct. 29, 2007 issue, in the article titled “Opposing Parties debate on Education,” Chris Catral was misquoted and Chris Khawand’s name was spelled incorrectly. In the same article the Democratic Party was incorrectly attributed with the belief that all poorly performing public schools should be “shut down.”

To clarify, Khawand’s views in the article do not reflect those of the Democracy For America Organization or those affiliated.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

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**Organization provides networking opportunities**

**ENGINEERS, page 1**

Solis attended the annual national women engineering convention in Nashville, Tenn. The convention specialized in workshops on developing skills, grants, resources, leadership and education in the field of engineering with emphasis on outreach to female high school and college level students and teaching them to be leaders. The event was sponsored by various organizations such as the United States Army Corp of Engineers, a federal agency made primarily of civilians and some military personal whose mission is to provide public service in the field of engineering. During the convention’s career fair, professionals helped attendees develop their résumé’s as well as provide spot interviews with various employers.

Many of the high school graduates don’t know what field requires and they think that you have to be excellent in math and science and that’s not really true,” Solis said. “You can hate math and science but love your work.”

The SWE does not have a strict set of requirements in order to join other than filling out an application and having a strong interest in becoming an engineer. Meetings are held monthly with times and location to be announced.

For more info on the club and meeting times and location see their website at [http://www.fiu.edu/~soc/](http://www.fiu.edu/~soc/).

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**Pageant coordinators hope to raise $2,000 for charity**

**TRI-SIG, page 1**

American Airlines is sponsoring the event, providing the organization with one roundtrip ticket to anywhere in the United States or the Caribbean to the winner of the pageant. “[They hope the winner is] someone who is creative, just having fun and [who] can represent our organization,” Ocasio said.

Andrea Malave, philanthropy chair of Sigma Sigma Sigma is the overall director for the Sigma Backwards Pageant.

“We hope to raise at least $2,000 for our philanthropy and we plan on receiving coloring books as well as donations to take to North Carolina for our Alternative Break Site trip happening in the Spring of 2008,” Colegial said.

Colegial said that the importance of raising money for the philanthropy is for the sisters to go to North Carolina to volunteer at the Chapel Hill Hospital where they will be working in the play therapy room with the children.

The event will take place this Thursday at 7 pm in the middle ballroom of the GC. Ballroom tickets are on sale for $5 for early entrance and $7 at the door.

For more information, e-mail andreamalave@fiu.edu. Proceeds will go to the Robbie Page Memorial philanthropy.

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**Police Notes**

- **Oct. 24** - A vehicle owned by a student with $351.25 worth of unpaid parking citations was locked with a Rhino parking immobilizer, placed by Department of Parking and Transportation personnel but, later on in the day, the vehicle citations was locked with a Rhino parking immobilizer, placed by Department of Parking and Transportation personnel but, later on in the day, the vehicle was stolen.

- **Oct. 25** - A vehicle owned by a student was stolen with $351.25 worth of unpaid parking citations but, later on in the day, the vehicle was spotted and recovered.

- **Oct. 25** - Upon returning to his vehicle, a student noted that his 2006 Hummer’s driver’s door lock was destroyed and theft had occurred. Among the items stolen such as milk and cereal.

- **Compiled by Jessica Solis**

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**SGC-UP Notes**

Call to Order: 4:10pm • Adjournment: 5:58pm

**President’s Report (Marbely Hernandez):**

- Legal music downloading software will soon be available for student use
- Students who attend the Nov. 17, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1 home football games will be guaranteed a ticket to the first Fall game at the new football stadium.
- Google will manage FIU student email accounts. Students will be able to keep email account even after graduation after the shift to Google takes place.

**Vice President’s Report (Arthur “AJ” Meyer):**

- $90,000 athletics partnership contract introduced. Partnership includes the usage of the UP athletics facilities.
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**Comptroller’s Report (Sergio Ibarra):**

- Until the $12,000 in outstanding bills are paid to Publix, all Publix purchase orders will not be honored.
- Treasurer’s office is investigating which organizations have an outstanding bill to Publix.
- If students wish to use Aramark food services, there is a 20 percent surcharge for all late orders.

**Chief of Cabinet’s Report (Marbely Hernandez):**

- The week of Jan. 14 Rudy Giuliani will be present at a town hall meeting at FIU.
- Ten custom Dell laptop covers ordered for SGA laptops.

**Academic Affairs:**

- Academic misconduct procedures are under evaluation. New procedures could lead to more strict enforcement of matters involving academic misconduct.
- Learning Center will open in the Spring.

**New Business:**

- The new International Students Chair is junior Fabiola E. Aspiu.
- Appropriation in support of the “Marketing Yourself” forum passed for $723.

- Compiled by Ben F. Badger Jr.
Panel discusses improvements to campus safety

Phones expected in classrooms by next school year

Ashley Clayton was driving to Virginia Polytechnic Institute, the morning of April 16, when she heard an announcement from a loudspeaker.

“Please go inside, lock your windows, lock your doors and stay away from the windows.”

Having never heard anything like this before, Clayton thought perhaps there was a bad weather report. But when police sirens started speeding past her she knew something was terribly wrong.

“It was like I was watching a story, but it was happening right down the street,” she said. Clayton, a Virginia Tech alumna, who was on her way to the admissions office where she had been working for two years when Seung Hui Cho opened fire, wound up 17 and killing 32 students and faculty members.

Now a graduate assistant at FIU’s Career Services, Clayton shared her experience at the University dialogue on campus safety held at the Biscayne Bay Campus Nov. 1.

“Having a strong, supportive community is priceless,” Clayton said. “The [Virginia Tech] community really pulled through in crisis and showed me the importance of community and that we can all make a difference.”

The dialogue panel consisted of six individuals in the FIU community who brought different aspects to the discussion. Among these were Public Safety Police Chief Bill King and Philip Lazarus, a professor in the College of Education.

The panelists answered questions posed by Rosa Jones, vice president of Student Affairs and audience members. The idea to hold a dialogue was based on the findings of the Virginia Tech Report and the Florida Gubernatorial Safety Task Force.

Both reports suggested universities and colleges should examine their emergency notification systems, staffing and training and psychological and counseling services.

“Having been part of the Florida Gubernatorial Safety Task Force, King feels FIU’s notification process is in good shape.

“I feel that our emergency management group is prepared and we do have a sirens system on both campuses,” King said.

Future enhancements for notification include telephones being placed in classrooms to report emergencies or be alerted of a problem on campus.

“Through a recent initiative from [Information Technology], by the first of [2008], we hope to have 700 new phones implemented in classrooms throughout the University and there is a plan to have phones installed in all classrooms.

Seung Hui Cho opened fire, wounding 17 and killing 32 students and faculty members.

“I hope that this forum raised an opportunity to raise questions about the many complex layers to campus safety.

“Part of our effort was to have multiple by-products of having a dialogue to let people know what to do and that [campus safety is an ongoing process],” said Jones.

“Part of my job was to have a level of comfort, but also a level of discomfort, so we know to keep the process going.”

By the first of [2008], we hope to have 700 new phones implemented in classrooms throughout the University and there is a plan to have phones install in all classrooms.

Bill King, Public Safety Police Chief

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SGC-UP proposal a costly abuse of power

According to SGC-UP’s logic, this clause alone would benefit 78,000 students as it is the total capacity of all of these facilities multiplied by the number of times they are used. For example: the Pharmed Arena seats 5,000 people. Since we, the students, would have the ‘privilege’ of using our own arena three times a year for events, 15,000 students would supposedly benefit from this proposal. This is an example of ‘creative accounting’ at its worst. Just because a venue has the capacity to hold thousands of students it does not mean thousands will actually attend. In fact, to say that 78,000 students would benefit is laughable. That’s more than twice as many people as there are actually attending this University.

And as the SGC-ABC argue, the skybox has the potential of becoming a greater capacity. ‘Should we serve the students’ interests or the university’s?’ Garcia asks. ‘This is the best interest of students other expenditures have a greater need and [would] serve the students’ interests in a greater capacity.’

It appears that the skybox has the potential of becoming merely a perk for Student Government Association members instead of, ‘a service to FIU students.’

After the initial proposal was rejected due to the staunch opposition of SGC-BBC, SGC-UP revived the proposal, this time with a lower price tag of $90,000 paid over four years.

Shorty after it was proposed, the SGC at the Biscayne Bay Campus balked – and rightfully so. As SGC-BBC council stated in a statement released Sept. 25, ‘At a time when budget cuts are taking place across the entire state, it does not seem wise to prioritize an expensive purchase like the skybox when other expenditures have a greater need and [would] serve the students’ interests in a greater capacity.’

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According to their own reasoning, the number one reason they are pushing for this ‘partnership’ with Athletic is that it will put them at the forefront of other university SGAs.

They go on to say that it would ‘increase the prestige of the FIU SGA.’ What the SGC-UP executive board fails to realize is that the way to put themselves at the forefront of university SGAs is to do a good job serving the students – all of them, not just those they can fit in a box.

Aramark, the company in charge of Panther Dining Services, has been working with FIU since 1995, and in 2005 renewed its partnership with a 10 year contract.

Despite the number of years Aramark has been working with FIU and the approximately 2,300 daily customers it gets, Aramark Resident District Manager Jonathan Garcia, believes Aramark does not profit at FIU.

‘Aramark doesn’t make a penny, it actually loses money in FIU.’

The reason for this is that established commissions for FIU are actually greater than the overall revenue.

The hope of investors is that as time goes by, they’ll get closer to a break-even point and then to the production of significant earnings. But even if Aramark gets nothing, some students feel that food in The Fresh Food Company is still relatively expensive.

‘I live at the apartments now and I haven’t gone once to The Fresh Food Company because I cannot afford to pay $8 for lunch,’ said sophomore Laura Flores. ‘That’s $40 per week. [That’s] a lot for an international student.’

Then again, not all students feel this way. Freshman Kevin Garcia is a regular customer of The Fresh Food Company and does feel that he’s getting his money worth when eating at this place.

‘I eat at the buffet every Thursday with my friends and for the amount of food you can eat, and the variety they provide, the price is reasonable,’ Garcia said.

The real drama starts, however, when it comes to take-out.

Cost for take-out food too much for too little

At The Fresh Food Company there are two set food prices: $6.49 for breakfast and $8 for lunch and dinner; including takeout. While these prices are reasonable considering the quality of food and the unlimited supply of the buffet, they are overrated when it comes to choosing takeout, an option excluded from the ‘all-you-can-eat’ catchphrase.

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VERONICA TRUEBA
Contributing Writer

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The reason for this is that established commissions for FIU are actually greater than the overall revenue.

According to Garcia the contract Aramark has with FIU consists of a compromise that FIU is going to make a certain amount of money at all times.

Therefore, no matter what the final profit is, Aramark is obliged to give the University an already established income.

This means that if revenues are not high enough, “all money goes to FIU,” Garcia said.

Aramark’s losses were clearly delineated in one of the Financial Stability charts of Panther Dining provided by Garcia.

The chart displays the amount of money lost on a yearly basis by the company. Since the year 2002 to present, the total amount of money Aramark has lost sums up to approximately $2.96 million.

So you know...

Account Fiscal Year 2006 Fiscal Year 2007
Total Revenue $7,189,911.00 $9,398,012.00
Total Expenses $2,389,203.00 $2,946,227.00
Contribution $1,078,147.00 $554,182.00

When you order this service at The Fresh Food Company you can get as much food as you can fit into a medium size takeout container and a choice of a drink.

This sounds fair considering that you’re able to get a good portion of food and an overall decent lunch. But the problem is that you’re paying the price of a buffet and since you’re not there to take full advantage of the variety of food and or refills, then the extra money you’re paying goes completely to waste.

Some students interviewed actually said that if the price for takeout was to be lower, like $5 to $6 for lunch, they would consider ordering takeout on a regular basis, as opposed to buying at cheaper and more affordable places.

When asked about the idea that some students believed the price for takeout should be lower, Jonathan Garcia replied, “It’s absurd.”

He disagrees and argues that the takeout service allows you to get a respectable portion of a main course plus a drink and perhaps a choice of fruit, which in his mind, sums up perfectly to a $7 to $8 worth of lunch.

Some students seem to think otherwise.

“I do think it is unfair that people who can’t stay and refill their plates have to pay the same prices,” said sophomore Laura Flores.

The fact that the buffet is priced the way it is is backed up by the fact that people can serve themselves as many times as they wish but if they aren’t able to do that with takeout, then there should definitely be a more reasonable price.”
It’s a sunny Wednesday morning and the Lakeview Hall ducks are feasting on a breakfast of soggy ice cream cones and pizza crusts. A group of fuzzy yellow ducklings waddle after their mother and another white-feathered duck fills in a newly formed pond near the sidewalk.

“Those ducks and other animals can be seen throughout the University Park campus having claimed their territory within FIU, but how many animals does the campus really have?”

Philip Stoddard, a biological studies professor who specializes in animal research, is very familiar with the wildlife at FIU.

“We have roughly 130 native bird species on campus, about six species of turtle, two species of native land lizards, rats, mice and a few mammals - gray fox, raccoon, opossum,” Stoddard said. “Native snakes and lizards are often overlooked by students, but they are just as much a part of the wildlife on campus as the birds and ducks.”

The Great Blue Heron, a familiar sight in South Florida, can also be seen stalking through the campus ponds and lakes. Their varying blue feathers, elongated neck, and long legged form make them a perfect creature to stalk fish and invertebrates.

Federica Pierre, a transfer student from Miami-Dade who is pursuing a degree in nursing, said that SDA works to connect students with other local home-shelters, “I will link with people that share [interests] with me,” Pierre said.

Club emphasizes nutrition, starts mentorship program

ELSA REINOSO
Staff Writer

Students looking to further their knowledge of health can turn to the Student Dietetic Association, a branch of the American Dietetic Association that welcomes students majoring in all fields of study.

According to SDA President Gisela Tovar, members are able to work in the community and teach others about nutrition.

“We all have a passion for nutrition and we like to share that with others in the community,” Tovar said. According to Tovar, the SDA hosts and participates in health fairs at FIU, elementary schools and churches in the community and has won awards for their community service. The organization has also done a diabetes dinner as well as a diabetes walk to raise money for research about the disease.

“We won the Outstanding Service Award by [FIU’s Student Organizations Council] last year, making us the first non-community service based club [to receive] the award,” Tovar said. “We have made [our department] very proud of us.”

Deana Lawrence, SDA vice president, became a member of the organization because she is not from Miami and needed to get more connected to the students and faculty in the program, the community and her chosen profession.

According to Lawrence, SDA meetings are comforting because they are a way to unwind, learn from and relate with others facing the same issues - a change of pace from the hectic schedules of college life.

“Think that more people should slow down and take advantage of its physical, psychological and spiritual therapeutic effects,” Lawrence said. Tovar added that the association represents the future in health and that it is essential to teach others about learning how to make the proper food choices. She also said that SDA works with several schools with donation drives.

“Last year, we hosted [donation drive] of clothing and toiletries for Camillus House and this year we will be hosting a canned food drive for other local homeless shelters,” Tovar said.

Federica Pierre, a transfer student from Miami-Dade College studying to become a dietitian, said that she is looking forward to become a member.

“I am very excited that I will link with people that share [interests] with me,” Pierre said.

Pierre said that one of her friends is already a member and seeing her participating in the club’s events motivated her to attend the next meeting.

“My friend is always involved in all the activities,” she said. “I want to participate in the elementary school program that SDA has.”

SDA is currently starting a mentorship program with the Miami Dietetic Association, where students will be able to sign up and be partnered with a dietitian from MDA as a mentor to learn more about the fields of dietetics and nutrition.

“I truly believe that healthy food can have a positive influence on bringing people together,” Lawrence said.
LIFE!
The Beacon – November 5, 2007
www.beaconnewspaper.com

ROCIO BLANCO GARCIA
Contributing Writer

Almazar, across the street from University Park’s 16th street entrance, has brought a taste of Greek and Middle Eastern cuisine close to campus. The restaurant’s bright colors are inviting: the chairs are made out of wood; the tables are red, orange and yellow and the walls have shelves filled with Middle Eastern canned products sold to the public but not used in the restaurant’s cooking.

Iyad Georges, of Syrian nationality and one of the owners of the restaurant, explains how he has brought to the community a bit of his own culture.

“We don’t use canned food; everything is fresh and olive oil is present in all our dishes,” Georges said.

The restaurant has been open for a year and has gained the recognition of The Miami Herald and The New Times for the best Baklava – a rich Middle Eastern cake made of thin layers of flaky pastry filled with nuts and honey and considered the star of the Almazar menu.

“We hope next year we will win the prize for the best food,” Georges said.

Aside from Baklava, Almazar’s menu has fried kibbeh, a dish of minced meat with bulgur and spices with many variants, and falafels, a fried ball or patty made from spiced fava beans and chickpeas, served with tahini sauce. The shawarma, a Middle Eastern sandwich usually composed of shaved lamb, goat or chicken, is also part of the menu.

The restaurant, operated by two Syrian brothers, represents a break from the common fast food restaurants nearby – the ingredients are all natural.

“People love it here – it’s a clean place where they all feel comfortable and move the tables and chairs around to accommodate all their friends,” Georges said.

Senior Angel Wong remembers the first time he visited Almazar.

“I was looking for something different to eat; I had never tried Middle Eastern food,” Wong said. “I walked in not being too sure of whether I would like the food or not. Now I eat here at least once a week.”

The food isn’t, however, the only thing that keeps customers coming back. The price of each entree is below $10.

“This place is always neat and the food is always served really fast. I must say the price isn’t bad either,” Wong said.

The restaurant, open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday to Saturday, has become the favorite place for some students to review for exams while enjoying the taste of Greek and Middle Eastern food.

“I come here all the time,” said Claudia Sanchez, FIU student. “I love all the dishes but my favorite is the beef kabbab. I always order the same thing. The first time I came alone and then I made my boyfriend come with me. Now we come every week, even when we have to study.”

Almazar is not a chain; it is the only restaurant the brothers own.

Situated strategically in front of a multiethnic University and close to several fast food restaurants, Almazar has made students such as Wong, move away from the pre-cooked, frozen food that many low-price menu chains offer.

“Sometimes I wish there was another one of [these restaurants] close to my house,” Wong said. “I have sometimes traveled an hour from Homestead just to bring my girlfriend or my friends to taste their food. Maybe I should sometime bring my parents, too.”
If you are **Too Tired** to go **To Work** or **School**, then this message is for you!

Miami Research Associates is currently conducting a medical research study for people that stay all night on the computer, playing video games, watching TV, etc... and are not able to keep a 9 to 5 work or school schedule.

**To participate, you must:**
- Have trouble falling asleep at a reasonable time
- Have difficulty waking up at a desired time

**Study participants may receive:**
- Study-medications to see if it can adjust the biological clock
- Study-related sleep evaluations
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information, please call:
(305) 279-0015 / Ext. 4286

Howard I. Schwartz, M.D.  
Board Certified Internal Medicine

Timothy Grant, M.D.  
Board Certified in Sleep Medicine

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**FLU SHOT**

**MEDICAL • RESEARCH • STUDY**

**Qualified participants will receive:**
- Study-related medical evaluation
- Investigational vaccine
- Compensation up to $300 for time and travel expenses

This is a research study of the 2006/2007 flu vaccine. Thus, has no therapeutic benefit for the 2007/2008 season.

For more information, please call:
(305) 279-0015 / Ext. 3340

Eric A. Sheldon, M.D.  
Board Certified Internal Medicine

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**DO YOU:**
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You may be eligible to participate in a medical research study of an approved ADD/ADHD medication, to see if it is safe and effective after 3 months. This is not a treatment for ADD/ADHD.

**TO QUALIFY** you must be 18 to 30 years of age, in general good health, and experiencing symptoms of ADD/ADHD.

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MAY RECEIVE study-related psychological evaluations by an ADD/ADHD Specialist, approved medication or placebo, and compensation for time and travel.

For more information, please call:
(305) 279-0015 / Ext. 4232

Americo F. Padilla, M.D.  
ADD/ADHD Specialist
Upcoming music tours promise variety

LEONCIO ALVAREZ  Copy Chief

Despite changes in how people get their music and how artists make their money, touring remains a very smart idea. Be it a couple of shows to promote an album or a full-throttle world tour, it is obvious that music fans have a strong desire to see and interact with the face to the fans. According to industry trade magazine Pollstar, in 2006 showed a 16 percent increase in ticket sales from 2005. Ticket revenue was at a whopping $3.6 billion in the U.S. with $2.7 billion in Europe.

South Florida is home to various venues that will house some great shows in the time leading up to Thanksgiving. A wide variety of live acts are set to make stops nearby; showing that unlike Spec’s Music, touring is still no where near being a thing from the past.

JENNIFER LOPEZ & MARC ANTHONY

A visibly pregnant Jennifer Lopez and her husband Marc Anthony take the stage together in a new approach for celebrity couples. The duo appears together at the end of the show for two ballads just after each performer does a set of their most popular songs.

Jenny will have with him a live salsa/menguere band and Lopez, pregnant or not, still keeps her dance roots alive with technical choreography throughout.

The Phantom Hourglass

In support of sophomore album The Sun and the Moon, Brit-pop inspired The Bravery has evolved past being an opening act and will make a stop in Ft. Lauderdale.

The band loves feeding off the energy of the crowds and believes a show is only as good as its audience. According to a recent interview with the BBC.

Nov. 7, American Airlines Arena, 8 p.m., $45

TEGAN AND SARA

MTV’s recent marketing strategy to show clips of the acoustic twins Tegan and Sara talking and sharing their sisterly bond during commercials has put the girls on the map. If you miss VH-1’s “Storytellers,” then this is not a show to be missed.

Along with performing some older songs, the duo will engulf you with comedic childhood stories and banter that will make you feel like a close cousin.

Nov. 13, Culture Room, 7:30 p.m., $20

DEBORAH HARRY

In the midst of working on the musical feat of their eighties flick Desperately Seeking Susan, Blondie leadwanman Debbie Harry is in her sixties and not slowing down just yet.

As part of her Necessary Evil Tour, managed her first solo album in 14 years, Harry will bring her new tracks to the U.S. and Canada.

According to Harry’s official Web site, she considers this tour a part of the 30 year anniversary of punk music and will command the stage just as much as she did in the 70s.

Nov. 16, Jackie Gleason Theater, 8:30 p.m., $35

KELLY CLARKSON

Kelly Clarkson is taking her show to smaller venues this time around to ensure she sells her tickets.

During the Breakaway Tour, Clarksong will revive her old hits and leave the American Idol sing-alongs for the T.V.

Kelly Clarkson, unlike many artists of today, makes it about all the fans as she is noted to sign autographs during her encore performance.

Nov. 29, Mizner Park Amphitheatre, 7:30 p.m., $43

REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

YOU CAN USE

GAME

The Legend of Zelda: The Phantom Hourglass

Link’s newest quest lacks visual appeal

Ben F. Badger Jr.  Asst. News Director

Every once in a while, legends are born in the world of video games. Earlier this month, The Legend of Zelda series gave birth to one of its greatest prodigies ever: The Phantom Hourglass.

Unlike many games available for the Nintendo DS, PH makes full use of every feature the game system has to offer, something no other DS game can boast about doing.

Because of the playing ability of the game in public may not be such a good idea.

There are several puzzles in there that if you shout loudly at the DS or blow onto the system for extended periods of time. Despite the embarrassment factor, the full use of the DS features is amazing.

The uses of the DS are also much more innovative that ever before, including some points in the game where you must close the DS lid to continue the game.

Longtime fans of the series might find it difficult to adapt to the DS style of control. For the first time ever, all actions are conducted through the use of the DS stylus.

the normal, tight control players have had in previous games is gone.

Thankfully, game design gives the DS an interface style easy to master so, after a few hours of playing, you will find controlling the main character much easier.

Once you do master the game controls, find a friend and log onto Nintendo’s WiFi Internet and play against other players in one of the most addictive multiplayer games ever.

The mini-game is essentially “capture the flag meets tag,” with players alternating turns. If you’re “it,” you control monsters trying to tag your opponent who is trying to move enough gems to his or her field to gain points. Once you tag the opponent, it’s your turn to try and gain some points.

Though addicting, the game was surprisingly a real letdown as far as graphics are concerned - a first for any Zelda game.

PH is a direct sequel to The Wind Waker, a Zelda game released for the Nintendo Gamecube.

The game tries to mimic the cell shading animation style of the Gamecube game but fails. The game itself does not look bad, but the Zelda games have been put to a higher standard than other Nintendo games. In this very rare case, PH did not meet the expectations set by its predecessors.

Despite the letdown in visuals, the musical score for the game is riddled with references to past games and also makes use of the excellent, though slightly unoriginal “out to save the princess” storyline along. It’s been the main plot of almost every Zelda game, but it’s also become part of the series charm.

Overall, The Phantom Hourglass is a must for any Zelda fan. It would be nice to say it’s the greatest of any of the Zelda handheld-games but, due to disappointing graphics, it simply can’t own that title. Currently, though, it is the best DS game available.

EDDIE ZENG  Staff Writer

Almost a year has passed since Guitar Hero II was released on the PlayStation 2 and the Xbox 360 version was released months later with some extras. Now, it is time to strap on your five button plastic guitars once again with a fresh batch of new songs: Guitar Hero III: Legends of Rock will have you strumming like there’s no tomorrow.

Guitar Hero III is a full blown sequel that features not only new songs, but new venues, a few new characters and a revamped interface.

There is a total of 71 songs in the game, which incorporate different styles of the Rock genre.

However, Developer Neversoft has done a fantastic job in obtaining the master tracks for the game by featuring 51 original songs into the game; players can now play along to the original versions of Metallica’s “One” or Guns N’ Roses’ “Welcome to the Jungle.” Never again will you have to tear your ears out to terrible covers.

What’s changed in terms of game play mechanics is the Hannah Keran and Puff-off system, which is essential to playing the game. It seems the timing on performing the technique has been loosened, making it even easier to perform. The interface has also been revamped to see the notes more clearly.

Multiplayer has been redone slightly with the additions of Battle Mode, Online Mode and Co-op Career Mode. Depending on the system, players can connect online against players across the nation and post their high scores through the official Guitar Hero website. Battle Mode is where two players compete in the same song and each player has to force the other player to lose by using a variety of powerups obtained while playing through a song; this mode will appear as you play through Career mode in battle against famous guitarists such as Slash and Tom Morello.

With all the new songs and features, the difficulty has been taken to the next level. On harder settings, the songs can go from fun (Rolling Stone’s “Paint It Black”) to brutal (Daveonforce’s “Through Fire and Flames”).

For those who can’t decide on which version to buy – since the game is released on PlayStation 2 & 3, Nintendo Wii, Xbox 360 and PC/Mac— players need not worry because all versions have the same songs. All console versions will come with the new wireless guitars modeled after the Gibson Les Paul, while PlayStation 2 owners will have the Kramer Pacer.

Despite the new toys, you can always use your guitars from older versions of the game to rock, seeing as how Guitar Hero III: Legends of Rock makes its debut for both PlayStation 3 and the Wii with this game. Ultimately, Neversoft’s attempt in continuing the Guitar Hero series is actually a successful one. With one of the new DS settings, multiplayer modes, you can keep on playing for days until the next big music game hits the stores.

GAME

Guitar Hero III: Legends of Rock

JOIN OUR STAFF!

Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124 and pick up an application.
Bonds to deny Hall of Fame induction if ball has asterisk

MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Wire

Barry Bonds would boycott Cooperstown if the Hall of Fame displays his record-breaking home run ball with an asterisk. That includes skipping his potential induction ceremony.

"I won't go. I won't be part of it," Bonds said in an interview with MSNBC that aired Thursday night. "You can call me, but I won't be there."

The ball Bonds hit for home run No. 756 this season as he neared Hank Aaron's career home run mark.

Bonds has called Ecko "an idiot."

"I don't think you can put an asterisk in the game of baseball, and I don't think that the Hall of Fame can accept an asterisk," Bonds said.

"You cannot give people the freedom, the right to alter history. You can't do it. There's no such thing as an asterisk in baseball."

Hall of Fame vice president Jeff Idelson declined to comment Thursday night.

Hall president Dale Petroskey has said accepting the ball doesn't mean the museum endorses the viewpoint that Bonds used illegal substances.

He said the museum would be "delighted" to have the ball. "It's a historic piece of baseball history," Petroskey said in September.

So, if the Hall goes through with the asterisk display?

"I will never be in the Hall of Fame. Never," Bonds said. "Barry Bonds will not be there.

"That's my emotions now. That's how I feel now. When I decide to retire five years from now, we'll see where they are at that moment," he added. "We'll see where they are at that time, and maybe I'll reconsider. But it's their position and where their position will be will be the determination of what my decision will be at that time."

Giants general manager Brian Sabean reiterated Thursday that the team won't bring back Bonds next season. The seven-time NL MVP, who has spent 15 of his 22 major league seasons in San Francisco, was asked whether he will retire as a Giant.

"Yeah, it's my house. No matter what that's my house, no one's going to take that away, no one ever," Bonds answered. "No one's going to take the love of that city of me away, ever."

Bonds, who has 762 homers, broke Aaron's record with a shot into the right-center seats off Washington Nationals pitcher Mike Bacsik at San Francisco on Aug. 7.

Bonds told MSNBC he would not attend Cooperstown if the Hall of Fame vice president Jeff Idelson declined to comment Thursday night.

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Bonds, who has 762...
JOIN OUR STAFF!

The BEACON is always looking for talented and reliable individuals to join the staff. If you have an interest in writing, photography or even grammar, don’t be shy. Stop by one of our offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124.
As the women's soccer season closes, it is natural and necessary to take stock of this season and realize what has been learned.

More importantly, what needs to be worked on and perfected for the next go around in September.

Instead of undergoing the time-consuming and tedious task of analyzing each and every game (all of them), one can realize the highs and lows of this season based on the performances of this past two-game series (Not to be lazy or anything. Believe me it's worth it).

The first game of the series against Arkansas State was a meeting of the two statistically worst teams in the Sun Belt Conference. Both teams averaged a combined 1.84 goals a game, 1.57 assists, and 3.11 shots on goal a game. It wasn't supposed to be exciting at all.

However, after a police report stated four football players disrupted a class by yelling obscenities, the game really began. They were decimated by injury and a short roster. Junior Maria Gauldron (bottom left) and freshman Kassandra Sazano (bottom right) contributed to the offense this season.

Factoring in all of these elements and some precipitation, this game really wasn’t supposed to be exciting at all. I am sure that many felt the same way (the game had the third-lowest home game attendance this season).

Once the game started though, all the fans in attendance were pleasantly forced to get rid of their prior judgments because while they were imagining 90 minutes of mediocrity, the reality was setting in that there was a very competitive game going on in front of them.

The transition from Division II to Division I is the one event that has led to the detrimental change in culture within the football program.

Without winning, UM student-athletes have been involved in a plethora of violations over the years.

Former athletic director Rick Mello prematurely pushed for FIU to move up to the Division I level, and as of this moment, the decision could not look anymore hurried and unplanned. The first game of the 2007 season should've sent warning signs to all fans as FIU was crushed 59-0 by Penn State.

The transition to Division I is the root of most of the problems the football program is facing today.

The team was winning some games and improving against lower tier teams during their time in Division II.

Switching to Division I placed FIU against opponents out of their league. So out of their league, that they are not even learning anything.

Instead they are being embarrassed versus programs that have existed before this season.

Investing so many resources into the football program has given the team the idea that they have already made it onto a big stage.

When the football team was first created, they were a humble group just happy to be playing college football at all. Now they have new stadium being built, and they are playing against ranked teams; therefore, it is reasonable for some players to have a more arrogant mindset.

If the players are constantly being told how important they are to FIU’s future, and how they can launch FIU up to a new stratosphere, then they are going to think too highly of themselves.

In order to change that mentality, the Athletic Department will need to bring some players back to reality by enforcing the laws that were suppose to end the trend of “bad boy” student-athletes that several top universities have dealt with.

When athletic director Pete Garcia succeeded former AD Rick Mello, Garcia arrived with a no-nonsense agenda. He proved it by investigating the University’s history of abiding NCAA bylaws as soon as he was hired.

Therefore, the four players will most likely be reprimanded harshly.

If the Athletic Department wants to continue to prove to faculty and students that they are committed to recruiting student-athletes dedicated to academics, then they will have to somehow make an example out of the four players.

Although the players wrote letters of apology to the lab assistant, they shouldn’t be getting themselves into any type of predicament where they could be suspected of committing such an act.

The four players and their teammates must understand that their actions do not only affect their own reputations, but if just few of them violate a law or embarrass themselves, then the whole football program suffers.

Since the football program is an entity representing FIU, the whole university suffers.