Students find solutions for closed courses

BEN F. BADGER JR.
Asst. News Director

When the end of a semester nears, students sit anxiously at their computers, waiting for their registration appointment so they can pick classes needed to graduate.

For some students, though, registration appointments come too late, and popular or required classes fill up before a chance to register is obtained. For that reason, it’s important to know that students may still be able to get into classes that are already full by filling out a Capacity Override Form, or a little luck.

“We’ve been getting a lot of calls to get [overrides] done,” Martha Cabrera, who answers phones at the Enrollment Services Call Center said. When it comes to registration

With this form in hand, students should show up to class early, and sit as close to the professor as possible because just like PantherSoft registration, overrides are first come, first served.

Matas said that she has had to get overrides many times and they are not always successful.

“One time the professor put names into a hat because there were so many people who wanted an override,” Matas said.

Students may have more luck getting into closed classes if the room where the class was being held is capable of seating more students than thought, in which case the professor has the authority to allow more students into the class.

Seniors should know that for some classes, such as SPC 4445 Corporate Communication & Leadership, professors will

One time the professor put names into a hat because there were so many students who wanted an override.

appointments, freshmen get the first appointments, seniors get the second and juniors and sophomores are last to register, according to the Academic Advising Center’s Freshman 411 Web site. Honors College Students and students registered with the Disability Center have priority over the general student population.

For senior Jenny Matas, even having an early enrollment appointment does not always help.

“It’s survival of the fittest,” Matas said. “Sometimes [FIU] only offer a class once every two years.”

The first step in trying to get into a closed course is writing down the day and time of the first class of the semester and then going to the department that’s offering the class and picking up the Capacity Override Form.

sign the form if the student is only missing one class for graduation.

There are a few things to take into consideration when attempting to get into closed classes – professors don’t have to give you an override, and if they are giving them out, it’s usually a limited number.

“If it’s always at the discretion of the professor to let another student in. It’s never guaranteed,” Cabrera said.

If a professor agrees to let another student into a full class, he or she must sign the Capacity Override Form. The student is then responsible for getting the form stamped by the department that is offering the class and for returning it within two days to the Office of the Registrar. Once a student has done this, he or she can register for the class.
Grant awarded for HIV research

DANIELLA BACIGALUPO
Staff Writer

FIU received a $6.5 million grant from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities to continue research on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse among Latinos in South Florida.

"This prestigious grant allows us to continue making a difference in the community," said FIU Executive Vice President and Provost Ronald Berkman in a press release.

The grant is good news for Miami, as the city has the second highest incidents of HIV/AIDS with the second highest drug abuse problems among Latinos in the United States.

"Most studies that investigate the effectiveness of drug treatment or alcohol treatment have been conducted, with few exceptions, in samples of White, non-Latino populations," said Maria De la Rosa, FIU professor and CRUSADA director in an e-mail. "We want to know what is going on in the Latino community.

The grant, awarded in Nov. 2007 from the National Institutes of Health will mainly be used to continue research by FIU's Center for Research on U.S. Latinos HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse, also known as CRUSADA. CRUSADA conducts training for up-and-coming researchers and develops prevention programs for Latinos.

"We hope that the research we conduct in CRUSADA will result in the provision of more effective treatment for Latinos, leading to a reduction of substance abuse problems in this population," De la Rosa said in an e-mail.

Also in the works is a community-based agency which will help pin-point the most effective substance abuse programs for Latinos.

"We are also working on a women's study that concentrates on substance abuse and HIV/AIDS among Latin women. FIU also plans on conducting a Latino outreach program "You Gotta Know, Hay Que Saber" with the grant money.

CRUSADA aims to equalize national research that ignores Latinos and their distinctiveness, De la Rosa said.

"Most studies focus on the white individual," De la Rosa said. "We do not know how there is cultural uniqueness from which the Latino community could benefit.

According to De la Rosa, in an e-mail, most of the current research has focused on white communities.

This has made it unclear whether or not incorporating unique cultural factors may lead to more effective treatments.

For example, since the Latino community stresses family unity, part of the research will look at whether or not the participant's family involvement with substance abuse rehabilitation programs would be beneficial.

Research will also focus on whether or not substance abuse and HIV/AIDS is more prevalent among first generation immigrants on Latin-Americans.

De la Rosa also stated that the substance abuse and HIV/AIDS problem will not be cured overnight but the grant will help the program combat ballooning HIV/AIDS and substance abuse problems among Latinos in South Florida.

"This is an ongoing effort, it will not disappear, but our hope is it will be reduced," De la Rosa said.

JOIN THE BEACON STAFF!
If you have an interest in writing, photography, or even grammar, don’t be shy.

Stop by one of offices located in GC 210 and WUC 124 and fill out an application.

NEWSFLASH

Social welfare program ranks fourth in nation for faculty productivity

The Beacon – January 10, 2008

The faculty of the Ph.D. social welfare program at FIU was ranked number four in the nation according to the Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index, produced by Academic Analytics.

Faculty productivity is measured by books published, journal publications, citations of journal publications, federal grant dollars awarded and honors and awards. The importance of each category is decided by its relevance in a given area of study. UC Berkeley, the University of Michigan and the University of Washington placed ahead of FIU.

According to Paul Stuart, professor and director of the School of Social Work, the social welfare program ranks fourth in nation for faculty productivity.

"We feel that we are ahead of the game in social sciences," Stuart said.

Joining the program in the fall were Andres Erazo, Ana Garcia, Kristy Gonzalez, EJ Fuentes, Carmen Flamboyan, Ana Fatima Fuentes, Eunice Fatima Fuentes and Jaime Alberto Segui.

Florida Board of Governors challenges travel ban

Professors in Florida may have more freedom to travel to Cuba and other "state sponsors of terrorism" in response to part of a 2006 law that bans colleges from spending money on sending professors to places like Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea and Sudan.

The Board of Governors has asked a federal judge to throw out part of a 2006 law that bans colleges from funding professor travel to Cuba and other "state sponsors of terrorism" in response to part of a 2006 law that bans colleges from spending money on sending professors to places like Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea and Sudan.

"The Board of Governors believes that the federal government has overstepped its authority," said Florida Board of Governors Chairman Bill McFarland.

The Board of Governors is fighting a federal judge's order that it allow student travelers who enroll in an Italian study-abroad program to visit Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea and Sudan.

"It will take the Board of Governors time to come up with a program that is acceptable to the federal court," McFarland said.

Guest artist performs one-woman show, conducts workshops at UP

The Wertheim Performing Arts Center will host Miracle Tomato, a one-woman show by playwright Jessica Cerullo on Jan. 18-19 at 8 p.m.

Throughout the show, the tomato's history and how it relates to the world is unraveled, as well as Angelina's own history.

Miracle Tomato runs for 70 minutes and tickets are $10.00 for general admission and $9.00 for FIU students, alumni and senior citizens. Cerullo will also conduct student workshops on campus on Jan. 19-20.

For more information, call 305-348-3789 or 305-348-3365.

BFA Fall 2007 Exhibition displays students’ work

The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at University Park will display the work of FIU students who are seeking a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the School of Art and Art History now through Jan. 19 as part of the BFA Fall 2007 Exhibition.

Students whose work will be displayed include Cristina Ball, Karen E. Ayagueda, Nanette Charles, Andres G. Erazo, Ana Garcia, Kristy Gonzalez, EJ Greaves, Ivanna Guerrero, Cinthya Guillon, Chad Harris, Jillian M.ayer, Javier Proenza, Diani Safidaye and Jaime Alberto Segui.

For more information, call 305-348-2890 or visit www.frostartmuseum.org.

LATINO HEALTH ISSUES

The Wertheim Performing Arts Center will host a one-woman show, "Outreach Program "You Gotta Know, Hay Que Saber" with the grant money.

CRUSADA aims to equalize national research that ignores Latinos and their distinctiveness, De la Rosa said.

"Most studies focus on the white individual," De la Rosa said. "We do not know how there is cultural uniqueness from which the Latino community could benefit.

According to De la Rosa, in an e-mail, most of the current research has focused on white communities.

This has made it unclear whether or not incorporating unique cultural factors may lead to more effective treatments.

For example, since the Latino community stresses family unity, part of the research will look at whether or not the participant’s family involvement with substance abuse rehabilitation programs would be beneficial.

Research will also focus on whether or not substance abuse and HIV/AIDS is more prevalent among first generation immigrants on Latin-Americans.

De la Rosa also stated that the substance abuse and HIV/AIDS problem will not be cured overnight but the grant will help the program combat ballooning HIV/AIDS and substance abuse problems among Latinos in South Florida.

"This is an ongoing effort, it will not disappear, but our hope is it will be reduced," De la Rosa said.

The Wertheim Performing Arts Center will host a one-woman show, "Outreach Program "You Gotta Know, Hay Que Saber" with the grant money.

CRUSADA aims to equalize national research that ignores Latinos and their distinctiveness, De la Rosa said.

"Most studies focus on the white individual," De la Rosa said. "We do not know how there is cultural uniqueness from which the Latino community could benefit.

According to De la Rosa, in an e-mail, most of the current research has focused on white communities.

This has made it unclear whether or not incorporating unique cultural factors may lead to more effective treatments.

For example, since the Latino community stresses family unity, part of the research will look at whether or not the participant’s family involvement with substance abuse rehabilitation programs would be beneficial.

Research will also focus on whether or not substance abuse and HIV/AIDS is more prevalent among first generation immigrants on Latin-Americans.

De la Rosa also stated that the substance abuse and HIV/AIDS problem will not be cured overnight but the grant will help the program combat ballooning HIV/AIDS and substance abuse problems among Latinos in South Florida.

"This is an ongoing effort, it will not disappear, but our hope is it will be reduced," De la Rosa said.
Center gets students pumped for new year

“The benefit of working with a personal trainer would be the one-on-one attention,” said Lance Kearns, graduate assistant for facilities at Recreation Services. “They are nationally certified, so their life is personal fitness.”

Trainees are available for a fee in the Rec Center, with initial consultations and pre-post assessments starting at $20 each and individual rates for a one-hour training session starting at $30 – the price, Kearns said, is worth it. “It probably is for students in general, but in comparison to regular private trainers, it’s very reasonable,” Kearns said.

The Rec Center is able to offer reduced rates for personal trainers because a portion of their services is included in the Recreation Services budget. Essentially students only pay for their work with a trainer and not their trainer’s time and the facilities used.

According to Kearns, students who work with personal trainers are more likely to continue to work out on a regular basis because the trainer works to accommodate the student’s needs. Personal trainers can also be an advantage for students who are inexperienced or uncomfortable in a workout setting, Kearns said. All this translates into a greater likelihood that New Year’s resolutions are kept.

Other options to stay fit and keep that weight-loss resolution can be found in the intramural sports offered by the Rec Center. There are leagues in soccer, dodgeball, ultimate frisbee and basketball, among others, for the Spring 2008 semester. Students must be enrolled for at least one credit hour and must be a recreation member to participate. Currently enrolled students who have paid the Activity and Services fee of $10.52 per credit hour for continuing students are automatically Rec members.

To form an intramural sports team, a team captain must be selected and register the team by the appropriate deadline. Students and Recreation Members can also bring as many as two guests per visit to the Rec Center by paying $10 each or a $5 per person, per visit fee for racquetball, in addition to a guest waiver being signed. For more information on Group Fitness classes, personal trainers, or intramural sports at FIU UP, visit the Recreation Services Web site at http://www.fiu.edu/~camprec.

How to join the “in” crowd

There are times when a professor will not or cannot grant an override, but there is one more process that students can try, one that barbey Hernandez, president of the Student Government Council at University Park, has tried first hand – attending class until a seat becomes available. It was a little frustrating, Hernandez said. “I was not able to get an override so I attended the class and kept checking PantherSoft. It was even more frustrating when another lady was able to get a seat while I was in another class.”

Hernandez’s strategy was essentially a waiting game. Since her professor could not grant an override, Hernandez had to wait and constantly check PantherSoft to see if a student had dropped the class. Students can drop classes during the first two weeks of the semester without penalty, which is the time period that students are more likely to get one of those newly available seats before it becomes too late in the semester.

“The first time I had to get an override, I only knew how to do it by word of mouth,” Hernandez said. “I would not have known how to do it unless I had asked around. But I think the process is much more visible now.”

Students can avoid the hassle of trying to get into closed classes by being aware of what courses are needed and when their registration appointment is even. With the new three-day-a-week schedule, registering a semester in advance may also be a good idea.

“Planning ahead is the best bet. If you plan ahead, you have more choices available for you,” Cabrera said.

For more info on registration you can visit registrar.fiu.edu.

Additional reporting by Christina Velga, Beacon staff
North Miami Beach officer found shot, dead in vehicle

LISA ORKIN EMMANUEL
AP Wire

A Miami police officer was found shot to death in an unmarked patrol car riddled with bullet holes early Tuesday, becoming South Florida’s fourth law enforcement officer killed in recent months.

Detective James Walker, 30, was found in his car in an alley by North Miami Beach officers responding to a report of shots fired around 12:50 a.m., said John Randle, detective agricultural in-white.

"I know we have checked a lot of homes, run down a lot of leads," said Delrish Moss, a Miami police spokesman. "We are not stopping.

Blood trails led from Walker's car, and officers in flak jackets, helmets and rifles walked around the scene as investigators searched the area for clues.

Police said a high powered assault weapon was found at the scene, but did not disclose whether it was the one used to kill Walker.

Walker's body was removed from the car and taken to the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner's office for an autopsy.

Leonard Schwartz, 30, Walker's close friend, was booked into a high security jail on the same charge.

It's really for adults wanting to learn with no homework, no exams and no credit. People come here to learn and make social contacts," Colon said.

It's really for adults wanting to learn with no homework, no exams and no credit. People come here to learn and make social contacts," Colon said.

I don't know what he was doing in this alley. He was a good, humble guy. He was not trouble. I can't tell you no flaws.

"He might just be an innocent bystander," Schwartz said. "I was, by that time, in great demand with the senior communities in all three counties and working full time."

"He might just be an innocent bystander," Schwartz said. "I was, by that time, in great demand with the senior communities in all three counties and working full time."

The series will open with Al Gore’s “The Assault on Reason” an argument about threats to democratic ideals in our country presented by celebrity culture, the media and propaganda.

The series continues throughout this semester with Michael Chabon’s “The Yiddish Policemen’s Union,” Jonathan Safran’s “Puss in Boots” and Oman Pamuk’s “Snow.”

Delmont selects books based on her audience and her expectations for them.

"I choose books that have something of interest for senior audiences and my hope is to inspire them to read better books more often," Delmont said.

North Miami Beach officer found shot, dead in vehicle

I don’t know what he was doing in this alley. He was a good, humble guy. He was not trouble. I can’t tell you no flaws.
Hillary wins N.H.; race will be a long one

CHRIS CABRAL
Asst. Ufll Edilor

Well, I guess no one is going to cruise to the nomination. Months before Barack Obama won Iowa, Chris Matlhees and other pundits called the nomination for Hillary Clinton, some mocking the notion that Barack Obama could even come close to winning the nomination.

Then Barack Obama won Iowa, and all of a sudden he had a chance. Unfortunately, one-time front-runner Rudy Giuliani appeared eager to anoint a new, inevitable frontrunner, acting as if Barack Obama won on Monday, the day before the Iowa primary.

Meanwhile, the Clinton campaign sent out signals that they were worried about New Hampshire, that they were reeling from an unexpectedly strong Obama. Then Hillary narrowly won the New Hampshire primary. And the media was forced to deal with a more complicated narrative. The over-dramatic nature of the media’s treatment of Obama’s rise just made Clinton’s “comeback” more dramatic.

As a Democrat and Obama supporter, I had worried that those favoring Obama’s candidacy seemed a bit overconfident, and perhaps some of his supporters were.

Now, with Nevada and South Carolina looming, it’s anybody’s game, with Hillary and McCain both set for a dramatic battle. While we won’t know who the Democratic nominee is for weeks now, clearly, this isn’t over. Nothing in politics is predictable, and no candidate on either side can be called “inevitable.”

Chris Cabral currently serves as the president of the FIU College Democrats.

McCain victory puts him back in the game

JOSE MARTINEZ
Staff Writer

Failing to duplicate the results of the Iowa primary election, surprise winner M lie Huckabee was defeated by Mtt Romney and John M cCain, the latter of whom secured the victory in the tightly contested New Hampshire primary. Mc C ain’s victory in New Hampshire can only serve to contribute to the uncertainty surrounding the Republican presidential nomination. Mtt Romney, who appeared to be the front-runner prior to the Iowa primary, has seen a considerable decline in his support, which is evident from his inability to garner victory in either primary. One-time front-runner Rudy Giuliani saw his support in the polls begin to wane even before the Iowa caucus, in the wake of allegations which called attention to his infidelities.

The inability of both Romney and Giuliani to garner victory in the two caucuses brings the viability of both campaigns into question. M cCain’s win in New Hampshire will likely serve as a wake-up call to all the other Republican candidates, who will redouble their efforts in the specter of the upcoming South Carolina caucus.

The importance of a victory in South Carolina has become even more clear to both Romney and Giu liani, who have yet to deliver on the promise of their earlier popularity. One thing remains clear, however, the nomination can go anywhere, as no clear-cut frontrunner has yet to emerge.

Obama’s appeal seems to be limited to areas where his Conservative Christian support base can mobilize, and it remains unclear if M cCain can duplicate his success in New Hampshire elsewhere.

With a decline in violence comes a decline in coverage of the war

CHRISTOPHER NECZUE
Production Manager

With the amount of media coverage being given to the race for the presidency and its primary process, important issues are being lost in the shuffle. Once the issue that dominated the headlines, the Iraq war has taken a backseat in the minds of most Americans to more domestic issues like healthcare, immigration and the economy.

The downturn in the amount of coverage comes at a time when the situation on the ground is improving. Speaking with reporters via videoconference last December, Maj Joseph Fil, a commander of multinational troops in Baghdad, put the situation in perspective.

“The number of attacks against citizens in Baghdad has dropped by almost 80 percent since November 2006,” he said. “The number of vehicle-borne [Improvised Explosive Device] incidents also has declined by about 70 percent.”

A key Col. Paul E. Funk, commander of a Brigade Combat Team, or BCT, also recognizes clear signs of improvement.

“We have seen attacks drop from an average of 150 a week in [the] late January and February [2007] time frame, to less than 10 attacks a week,” Funk said. “The result has been nothing short of phenomenal.”

So why the drop in coverage? Shouldn’t the media be praising the success of the President Bush backed “surge” of 30,000 additional troops into Iraq to quell the rampant sectarian violence?

In early 2007, when the situation in Iraq was at its direst, it was smart politics to disagree with anything and everything the president said.

Democrats, and even some Republicans, disagreed the troop surge idea as more of the same. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, in a letter to president Bush in late 2007, called the idea “a strategy that you have already tried and that has already failed.”

Many Democrats and Republicans alike were both for a surge and against a surge, partly because by most accounts has been a success – except John M cCain of course, the surge’s strongest advocate.

Those Democrats and Republicans against the surge should be questioned about these convictions just as they are questioned about their initial convictions about whether or not to invade Iraq in the first place.
Panther Promotions makes its name by giving away freebies

KASSANDRA POOL  
Staff Writer

Panther Promotions, a new club created last fall within the Student Organizations Council, wants to give you free stuff.

The thing with Panther Promotions is that it’s like [the] selfless little friend you have who never thinks about themselves and is always looking for ways to help you,” said Rosalyn Delgado, a member of Panther Promotions.

With over 20 members, this unique club has a mission of providing free merchandise to various organizations on campus with promotional items such as movie passes and T-shirts, all to enhance the pre-recruiting events of those clubs.

“A new organization on campus can simply come up to us and say, ‘Hey, I need giveaways for a fund-raising event’ and we will provide them with giveaways,” Delgado said. “It’s like a ‘go-to’ club.”

Ayxa Barbel, a junior majoring in COMM with Radio relations, is Panther Promotions’ founder and president.

Her inspiration in creating this club “has been a long time coming,” she said.

In the past Barbel has been involved in both the Student Programming Council and WRGP Radiate FM.

Barbel was able to provide giveaways for both of these organizations for their respective events. Even though her original focus was to get items for her own organizations, she still had many frequent requests from other organizations and departments such as Housing, Panther Rage and the Orientation office.

“I felt it was time to be 100 percent FIU, not 99 percent FIU, or 10 percent FIU, or 90 percent SPC and 10 percent FIU,” Barbel said.

Networking has been Barbel’s key in obtaining all of her promotional items.

While working for WRGP, she was able to build a strong foundation with many companies and venues in Florida, including Altdie, Advertising and Live Nation.

As she became involved with other organizations, the companies were confident to move with her and still provide her with many items for give-a-ways.

Last fall, PP worked with and provided promotional items for BE HIV Educated (B-HIVE), Panther Rage, Office of A-dmissions, the International Students Club and Musc Saves Lives.

A according to PP secretary Lysette Blanco, promotional managers in the club act as liaisons between the organization that is requesting items to give away and Panther Promotions.

“A lot fast, Panther Promotions helps collect toys for a toy drive promoting the family movie “Mr. M. algorithm’s Wonder Emporium,” starring Dustin Hoffman and Natalie Portman.

The drive was held in 10 cities across the United States and broke the world record for the most toys collected in a single week during a toy drive. The group received a certificate recognizing this accomplishment.

Although the club receives and provides promotional items, storage has become a problem, since they apparently have so many to give away that they have been nearly overwhelmed.

“It would be much easier for it to function and benefit the Graham Center along with the various organizations on campus if we had a specific place to work out of,” Barbel said. “Having an office would give students, faculty and organizations a better way to reach us when they need our assistance.”

Barbel’s goal for Panther Promotions is to have the organization become an asset to the Florida International University community and she hopes to achieve this through persistent hard work and dedication to the club.

“We want what we have is to help organizations have the best events that they can have while we reward FIU students for coming out to them,” Barbel said.

 Networking has been Barbel’s key in obtaining all of her promotional items.

While working for WRGP, she was able to build a strong foundation with many companies and venues in Florida, including Altdie, Advertising and Live Nation.

As she became involved with other organizations, the companies were confident to move with her and still provide her with many items for give-a-ways.

Last fall, PP worked with and provided promotional items for BE HIV Educated (B-HIVE), Panther Rage, Office of A-dmissions, the International Students Club and Musc Saves Lives.
### THURSDAY JANUARY 10

**WHAT:** Tea and Coffee World Cup  
**WHERE:** Miami Beach Convention Center  
1901 Convention Center Dr  
Miami Beach, Fl 33139  
**WHEN:** Daily  
**HOW MUCH:** Individual sessions cost $50, a day pass costs $90

**WHAT:** Bobby Collins  
**WHERE:** The Theatre  
854 Conniston Rd.,  
West Palm Beach, FL 33405  
**WHEN:** 7:30 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $28.50

**WHAT:** Galactic  
**WHERE:** Revolution Live  
200 West Broward Blvd.,  
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33312  
**WHEN:** 8 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $22

**WHAT:** Fashion Friday’s  
**WHERE:** Prive  
South Beach, Fl 33139  
**WHEN:** 11 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $20

**WHAT:** Barefoot Oasis  
**WHERE:** Mandrin Oriental  
**WHEN:** 6 - 11 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** Free entrance 21 and over

**WHAT:** Cabaret Friday  
**WHERE:** La Paloma  
10999 Biscayne Blvd  
North Miami, Fl 33181  
**WHEN:** Free before 10 p.m.

### FRIDAY JANUARY 11

**WHAT:** The Jewish Princesses Of Comedy  
**WHERE:** Collins Park  
21st Street and Collins Ave,  
Miami Beach, FL 33139  
**WHEN:** 6 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $30

**WHAT:** Luciana Souza  
**WHERE:** The Studio at the Carnival Center for the Performing Arts  
1300 Biscayne Blvd,  
Miami, Fl 33132  
**WHEN:** 9 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $23

**WHAT:** Fashion Friday’s  
**WHERE:** Privé  
South Beach, FL 33139  
**WHEN:** 11 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** $20

**WHAT:** Barefoot Oasis  
**WHERE:** Mandrin Oriental  
**WHEN:** 6 - 11 p.m.  
**HOW MUCH:** Free entrance 21 and over

**WHAT:** Cabaret Friday  
**WHERE:** La Paloma  
10999 Biscayne Blvd  
North Miami, Fl 33181  
**WHEN:** Free before 10 p.m.

### SATURDAY JANUARY 12

**WHAT:** WrestleMania Fan Axxia Tour  
**WHERE:** Dolphin Mall  
11250 NW 25 St.  
Doral, Florida 33172  
**WHEN:** All Day  
**HOW MUCH:** Varies

**WHAT:** Soul Funktion Jan. 13  
**WHERE:** Amendment XXI Lounge  
190 NE 46th St.  
Miami, Fl 33137  
**WHEN:** 11 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** Free

**WHAT:** Lichtenstein at the Fairchild  
**WHERE:** Fairchild Tropical Garden  
19901 Old Cutler Road  
Miami, Fl 33156  
**WHEN:** Daily  
**HOW MUCH:** $20

**WHAT:** Improvemy  
**WHERE:** Roxy Performing Arts Center  
1645 SW 107th Ave  
Miami, Fl 33165  
**WHEN:** 9 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $10

### SUNDAY JANUARY 13

**WHAT:** 2008 Miss Miami Scholarship Pageant  
**WHERE:** Alper JCC Theater  
11155 SW 112 Ave  
Kendall, Fl 33176  
**WHEN:** 4 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $15

**WHAT:** Matt Haimovitz and Jean Marchano  
**WHERE:** University of Miami Gusman Hall  
1314 Miller Dr., Miami, Fl 33124  
**WHEN:** 4 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $40

**WHAT:** Absinthe, A production of SpiegelWorld  
**WHERE:** Collins Park  
2200 Collins Avenue  
Miami Beach, Fl 33139  
**WHEN:** 8 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** $69-$85

**WHAT:** “Sugar Daddy” Sundays  
**WHERE:** Circa 28  
2826 N Miami Avenue  
Miami, Fl 33127  
**WHEN:** 9 pm  
**HOW MUCH:** Free

---

**UM MBA**

**Fernando Naranjo** Broker/President — The Orange Group, Real Estate Corp.

Receive world-class education from internationally-renowned faculty at the University of Miami School of Business Administration. Our selective admission standards and innovative curriculum create a challenging learning environment where students gain the skills and insights that exceptional leadership demands. Call or visit us today to find out why the University of Miami’s MBA is the right choice for you.

**APPLY NOW**

**TWO-YEAR PROGRAM BEGINS AUGUST 2008.**

**800.511.7737 MBA@MIAMI.EDU**

**WWW.BUS.MIAMI.EDU/GRAD**

---

**Two-Year MBA Program Application Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 2</th>
<th>Round 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/15/08</td>
<td>3/19/08</td>
<td>6/17/08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Turbulent year for recording industry brings change...
**Sports Replay**

The first Sun Belt Conference win of the season came at the expense of the Florida Atlantic University Owls (4-11) Jan. 5 at the Pharmed Arena. With the 69-58 victory, the Golden Panthers (4-9) snapped a six-game losing streak behind junior guard Kenneth W hite's high-17-point performance.

White knocked down four 3-pointers in one of the team's most efficient games on offense this season. The team managed to shoot 55 percent from the field, including an 11-19 shooting display from three-point range.

As Cadero Kweli led the Owls with 13 points and Brett Royster added 10 points. Kweli got the Owls offense going by scoring the team's first five points.

However, the Golden Panthers’ early shooting success left the Owls trailing 41-23 at halftime. The Golden Panthers’ shooting cooled down in the second half as they scored 28 points and shot 41 percent from the field compared to shooting 70 percent in the first half.

Carl Monroe, the Owls leading scorer and rebounder, was neutralized, scoring seven points and grabbing five rebounds after entering the game averaging 17.4 points and 9.4 rebounds per game.

Freshman guard Russell Tremeney started his first game of the season for FIU in absence of senior guard Michael James.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

By defeating the Florida Atlantic Owls (4-9) 53-44, the Golden Panthers (5-9) men’s and women’s squads swept the Owls Jan. 5 at the Pharmed Arena.

Senior guard LaQuetta Ferguson recorded her third double-double of the season notchng 16 points and recording 10 rebounds. The best distributor of the game was junior guard Iva Ciglar with seven assists.

From the opening layup by senior forward Jazmine Jenkins, the Golden Panthers did not trail in the game. Jenkins finished with nine points and a game-high 15 rebounds.

Despite shooting less than 30 percent from the field, the Golden Panthers out-rebounded the Owls 54-39. They shot just 4-of-21 from three-point range, but the Owls’ responded with a 1-of-10 shooting performance from behind the arc.

Carlos Stubbs was the Owls’ leading scorer with 11 points. The closest the Owls came to taking the lead was when a Stubbs 3-pointer made it 20-19 with 4:25 left in the first half. That would mark the last score of the first half for the Owls as they headed into halftime trailing 26-19.

Every time the Owls made a run, the Golden Panthers held them at bay with their defensive fervor and containment.

With 1:50 left in the game, the Owls inched their way within five points, trailing 49-44, but the Golden Panthers defense did not allow any more points for the remainder of the contest to capture the 53-44 victory.

**SWIMMING AND DIVING**

The fifth annual FIU Invitational took place Jan. 5 at the Mami Shores Aquatics Center. Participating in the invitational is an FIU tradition for the team.

The FIU swimming team played host to men’s and women’s teams from American, Iowa, Lake Forest College and Oakland in a meet that consisted entirely of relays.

The Golden Panthers swept fourth place in the 200-yard breaststroke relay behind Erin Pavlick, Lindsey Juman, Katelyn Stevens and Sara Giovannini.

The men’s and women’s fields were both led by Iowa’s side, Iowa scored 176 points, Oakland 98, FIU 40 and American 38.

The women’s side, Iowa finished with 172 points, followed by Oakland 102, American 52 and Lake Forest 22.

FIU does not have a men’s swim team.

The Golden Panthers travel to Talahassee to take on Florida A&M & No. 20 Florida State on Jan. 12.

Compiled by Sergio Bonilla

---

**FOOTBALL, page 12**

The sneezefest of the title game

I wouldn’t be surprised if most of America watched American Gladiators on NBC that night. The game felt like it was rerun of last year’s contest.

I had wanted to watch a rerun of something, as well as j i t t e r

The next big day for college football fans is Feb. 6, National Signing Day, the first day that high school recruits can sign letters of intent to attend a university. More college football fans will tune in to watch some high school kid's news conference announcing his decision to attend school X or Y than watch a national title game and after watching this performance, I can’t blame them.

Recruiting has become such a hot topic among websites, sports radio talk shows and blogs. Fans like uncertainty.

F ans like drama. It’s fun to guess and try to gauge an athlete’s potential and what they can become in the future.

Why is it that baseball fans hoot and holler when a package of AAA prospects gets traded for a proven All-Star?

Because everyone thinks that their backup quarterback, or rookie shortstop can be the next Tom Brady or Derek Jeter.

So if you want some predictability, just tune into TBS. I think they’re airing the Seinfeld episode with the soup Nazi.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**JOBS**

Movie Extras. New opportunities for upcoming productions. All needs looked required no experience for cast calls. Call 877-218-6224

Undercover Shoppers Earn up to $150 per day. Undercover Shoppers needed to judge retail and dining establishments. Exp. Not RE. Call 800-722-4791

---

**THIS WEEKEND IN FIU SPORTS**

**FOOTBALL, page 12**

**WOMEN'S STATISTICS**

TEAM

SCORING OFFENSE

G  W-L  Pts Avg/G

1. Troy                 13  9-4  1065  81.9
2. W. Kentucky          15  10-5 1100  73.3
3. Louisiana-Monroe     13  9-4  871  67.0
4. UALR                 14  10-4  957  68.8
5. Ark. Monroe          12  4-8  744  62.0
6. South Alabama        15  11-4  951  63.4
7. Fla. Atlantic        13  4-9  965  63.0
8. Denver               6-8  2-1  .429
9. Louisiana Monroe     6-9  0-3  .400

*All records up to date as of Jan. 8

**EASTERN DIVISION**

TEAM

OVERALL  CONF  PCT

- South Alabama  12-3  4-0  .800
- Western Kentucky  10-5  2-1  .667
- Troy            8-6  1-2  .571
- Middle Tennessee  5-9  2-2  .357
- Florida International  4-9  1-2  .308
- Florida Atlantic  4-11  0-4  .400

**WOMEN’S STATISTICS**

TEAM

SCORING OFFENSE

G  W-L  Pts Avg/G

1. Midd Tennesssee  13  8-5  1108  73.9
2. W. Kentucky      15  10-5 1100  73.3
3. Louisiana-Monroe 13  9-4  871  67.0
4. Troy             14  9-5  912  65.1
5. North Alabama    14  9-5  911  65.1
6. South Alabama    15  11-4  951  63.4
7. Fla. Atlantic     12  4-8  744  62.0
8. UALR             14  9-5  916  61.1
9. La. Lafayette     14  9-5  953  69.1
10. Fla. International 14  5-9  853  60.9
11. New Orleans      18  6-9  864  54.0
12. Ark. Monroe      13  4-9  877  59.1
13. Denver          13  4-9  766  58.9

*All records up to date as of Jan. 8

**WOMEN’S STATISTICS**

TEAM

OVERALL  CONF  PCT

- New Orleans  11-4  1-2  .733
- Arkansas Little Rock  10-4  2-1  .714
- North Texas  10-4  1-2  .714
- La. Lafayette  7-7  4-0  .500
- Arkansas State  7-7  2-2  .500
- Denver  6-8  2-1  .429
- Louisiana Monroe  6-9  0-3  .400

**FOOTBALL, page 12**

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**JOBS**

Movie Extras. New opportunities for upcoming productions. All needs looked required no experience for cast calls. Call 877-218-6224

Undercover Shoppers Earn up to $150 per day. Undercover Shoppers needed to judge retail and dining establishments. Exp. Not RE. Call 800-722-4791

---

**SWIMMING AND DIVING**

The fifth annual FIU Invitational took place Jan. 5 at the Mami Shores Aquatics Center. Participating in the invitational is an FIU tradition for the team.

The FIU swimming team played host to men’s and women’s teams from American, Iowa, Lake Forest College and Oakland in a meet that consisted entirely of relays.

The Golden Panthers swept fourth place in the 200-yard breaststroke relay behind Erin Pavlick, Lindsey Juman, Katelyn Stevens and Sara Giovannini.

The men’s and women’s fields were both led by Iowa’s side, Iowa scored 176 points, Oakland 98, FIU 40 and American 38.

The women’s side, Iowa finished with 172 points, followed by Oakland 102, American 52 and Lake Forest 22.

FIU does not have a men’s swim team.

The Golden Panthers travel to Talahassee to take on Florida A&M & No. 20 Florida State on Jan. 12.

Compiled by Sergio Bonilla
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.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

More consistent team play needed to defeat Warhawks

BY DARREN COLLETTE
Staff Writer

The women’s basketball team (5-9, 1-2) will face conference foe Louisiana-Monroe (10-4, 3-0) Jan. 19 at the Pharmed Arena.

ULM will present the Golden Panthers with one of its more difficult conference matchups of the season as they are unbeaten in conference play.

So far this year, the Golden Panthers have been fortunate enough to get solid play from its two pre-season all-conference award winners: senior guard LaQuetta Ferguson and junior guard Iva Ciglar.

Ferguson is leading the team in scoring with 18 points per game and has even stepped up in the rebounding game by grabbing double-digit totals twice this season for the first time in her career.

Ciglar is once again providing her teammates with lots of good looks that have her leading the team in assists for the second consecutive season. Ciglar’s 10 points per game is another plus she brings to the table.

The rest of the Golden Panthers have not been quite as consistent.

Sophomore guard Monika Bosilj and freshman Fanni Hutlassa have had some great performances this season, but in other games they have been off the mark.

If they can find a way to stay sharp, the Golden Panthers will be hard to keep off the scoreboard.

The rest of the Golden Panthers have not been quite as consistent.

Sophomore guard Monika Bosilj and freshman Fanni Hutlassa have had some great performances this season, but in other games they have been off the mark.

If they can find a way to stay sharp, the Golden Panthers will be hard to keep off the scoreboard.

Thus far, the team’s younger players are showing promise as all of FIU’s four incoming freshmen have exceeded expectations and taken advantage of their extended playing time.

Hutlassa has played power forward most of the year and has already become one of the team’s go-to players when a basket is needed.

Forward Liene Jekabsone has shown that she has inherited some skills from her older sister Lasma, who was a star player for FIU the last few seasons. Center Maja Krajacic has not played too many minutes but uses her size well and has provided a boost on a few occasions.

Guard Tabitha Drake has played some of the fewest minutes of the freshmen, but always seems ready to go and can put the ball in the basket.

ULM is led by senior center Shannon Loyd who averages 10 points and seven rebounds per game.

This season, ULM has pretty much won all the games it should have. Its four loses were against more developed programs such as Syracuse, St. John’s, Tulane and Southern Mississippi.

ULM is undefeated against its three Sun Belt Conference opponents.

http://parking.fiu.edu

Why stand in line?
Order your decal online!
Pay tickets, process appeals, and order student decals online.

The Parking & Transportation online system enables 24 hour service at your convenience.

The Panther Safety Aid Program provides escorts around campus at night. Transportation will arrive within 10 minutes from your call.
If you have had this problem for more than 3 months, you may be eligible to participate in a research study.

You may qualify if you:
1. are 18 years or older
2. are in good general health

Study participants will receive study-related examinations & investigational medications at no cost. Study participants will also be compensated up to $2,000 for time and travel.

For more information contact: 1-877-455-5757
SWEET VICTORY: LSU quarterback Matt Flynn kisses the BCS National Championship trophy after LSU defeated Ohio State 38-24.

FOOTBALL, page 9

BY CHARLIE GRAU
Editor in Chief

So how did the most exciting and random college football season end? With a stinker of BCS National Championship game that would have put even hardcore sports fans to sleep.

The season opened up with so much promise and it just snowballed into their great big ball of hype that just melted even before spring came. Football Championship Subdivision – formerly Division I-AA – powerhouse Appalachian State shocked the Michigan Wolverines at home in the Big House. Whoever was the No. 2 seed in college football kept getting tossed around like some Christmas gift that nobody wanted, a team from Hawaii went undefeated, the Kansas Jayhawks took on the persona of the larger-than-life coach Mark Mangino and a sophomore won the Heisman Trophy for the first time in the history of college football – Florida’s Tim Tebow.

Upsets were plentiful and coaching searches took on a life of their own.

All that hype and momentum was back-to-back.

Ten - was.

The Big Ten - was.

This is the second national championship OSU has lost and, to make matters worse, the losses were back-to-back.

Ohio State coach Jim Tressel looked like a man who had fallen for the flaming bag of pooh trick for the second straight time. Defeat never looked or smelled so bad.

But the Buckeyes weren’t just one of the biggest losers this bowl season, their conference - the Big Ten - was.

FOOTBALL, page 11

BASKETBALL

AIRBORNE: Former Golden Panther and current Orlando Magic point guard Carlos Arroyo had his number retired at Pharmed Arena.

At the halftime ceremony, Arroyo, his wife, daughter and FIU athletic director Pete Garcia gathered at center court for the jersey presentation.

“When I was 18 years old, I first met the Golden Panthers,” Arroyo said. “When I was 18 years old, I had a chance to practice with him,” Galindo said. “He is one of the best Puerto Rican basketball players to ever play the game.

“He is one of the best Puerto Rican basketball players to ever play the game.

“At this time, the Magic are a team with a great history. And I’m honored to be a part of it.”

BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL, page 11

MAGIC MOMENT

Former Golden Panther Carlos Arroyo has his number retired

BY DARREN COLLETTE
Staff Writer

One of the most heralded careers in FIU men’s basketball history was forever commemorated on Jan. 5 at the Pharmed arena as the jersey of former Golden Panther Carlos Arroyo was retired.

The ceremony was held during halftime of the game against Florida Atlantic University.

“It means a lot,” said Arroyo, who currently plays for the NBA’s Orlando Magic. “It lets me know that I made the right decisions in life. I worked hard for everything I have and this is a blessing.”

“He is a gift from the sport to me and I am truly honored to be rewarded this way.”

During his tenure at FIU, Arroyo played in 100 games and set the all-time school record for assists in a career, points in a game (39) and points per game (12.6) in the 2003-04 season.

Despite his success with Utah, Arroyo was traded to the Detroit Pistons where he would play for a season and a half. Arroyo averaged a career-best 12.6 points per game and he led the Jazz in assists that season with five per game. He also scored a career-high 30 points in November of 2003.

Currently, Arroyo is playing for the Magic and has been for the last three seasons. So far, Arroyo has yet to put up the same high numbers he did in Utah, but this season he set a new career high in assists with 14 against Seattle in November.

At this time, the Magic are ranked third in the NBA’s Eastern conference standings and seem poised to make a run for the NBA championship.

Arroyo is also well known for being one of the best Puerto Rican basketball players to ever play the game.

He has been the star player on the Puerto Rican National Team for most of the decade and averaged 12.6 points per game in the FIBA Championships in 2006.

In the 2004 Olympics, he averaged 12.6 points and even led the team to a win over the US National Team.

FIU junior forward Alex Galindo is also associated with the Puerto Rican National Team and has practiced with Arroyo over the summers.

“I met Carlos through my national team and I had a chance to practice with him,” Galindo said. “He is one of the best Puerto Ricans ever had, so the first time I meet him, it was a pleasure.”

When Arroyo was a FIU junior forward Alex Galindo was also associated with the Puerto Rican National Team and has practiced with Arroyo over the summers.

“So how did the most exciting and random college football season end? With a stinker of BCS National Championship game that would have put even hardcore sports fans to sleep.

The season opened up with so much promise and it just snowballed into their great big ball of hype that just melted even before spring came.

Football Championship Subdivision – formerly Division I-AA – powerhouse Appalachian State shocked the Michigan Wolverines at home in the Big House.

Whoever was the No. 2 seed in college football kept getting tossed around like some Christmas gift that nobody wanted, a team from Hawaii went undefeated, the Kansas Jayhawks took on the persona of the larger-than-life coach Mark Mangino and a sophomore won the Heisman Trophy for the first time in the history of college football – Florida’s Tim Tebow.

Upsets were plentiful and coaching searches took on a life of their own.

All that hype and momentum came crashing down when Louisiana State routed Ohio State 38-24 at the Superdome in New Orleans.

It was almost like last year’s Ohio State wholesale. Last year OSU scored on a Ted Ginn Jr. kick-off return to open the game.

Then, the Florida Gators tied the scored on their first drive with a seven-play, 46-yard drive.

After that, the Gators never looked back and sent the Buckeyes home to Columbus empty handed.

This year, the Buckeyes scored on their opening drive on a 65-yard touchdown run from sophomore running back Chris Wells. They also added a field goal and took a quick 10-0 lead.

Then, history repeated itself. The Tigers marched down the field, eventually tying the game and never looked back.

This is the second national championship OSU has lost and, to make matters worse, the losses were back-to-back.

Ohio State coach Jim Tressel looked like a man who had fallen for the flaming bag of pooh trick for the second straight time. Defeat never looked or smelled so bad.

But the Buckeyes weren’t just one of the biggest losers this bowl season, their conference - the Big Ten - was.

The Big Ten - was.

That SEC is in a class of its own.

The Big Ten conference went 3-5 this year in bowl games.

Compare that with the SEC, who - while they have less than powerful teams - have a way to go before they can claim itself as the dominant conference in college football.

But again, all that got lost in