Deadline to become a Florida delegate approaching

CHRISTINA LEMUS
Contributing Writer

The application deadline for Florida delegate candidates is approaching, and the Florida Democratic Party believes this is the most important election to be a Florida delegate.

Florida democrats are not just voting in the 2008 election, they are campaigning to be a part of it. Even after the Democratic National Committee decided to strip the Florida vote at the National Convention, constituents are still rallying their vote for delegates.

Jenny Alvarez-Parrilla, a journalism student, said this would be a great opportunity for students to become a delegate because they would be able to learn a lot about politics, and at the same time, be a part of the election.

"Becoming a delegate allows you to represent a candidate who you believe in and get your voice heard in the election," Alvarez-Parrilla said.

The Florida Democratic Party believes Floridians will still turn out and vote on Jan. 29, and the state will receive enough media attention to campaign for the democratic candidates.

Sandra Lyon, director for the Office of the Chair for the Florida Democratic Party, said the Florida primary could be very important in the election, and people are waiting until the last few days of the month to submit their application for delegate.

"Everything can change after Super Tuesday, so people are waiting until they think they know which candidate is going to win. They want their candidate to win so they can run to become a delegate," Lyon said.

The application deadline for Florida delegate candidates is Jan. 29, and it requires a person to already be a registered democratic voter and to have completed two forms from the Florida Democratic Party: the Loyalty and Oath form and the Statement of Candidacy form.

John Hornbuckle, executive director for the Miami-Dade Democratic Party, said the best way for Democrats to get involved in the election is to become a delegate and vote at the convention.

“One doesn’t realize how easy it is to become a delegate and how well they can represent their state, their party and their community,” Hornbuckle said.
Blackboard replaces obsolete WebCT

KEVIN CASTRO
Staff Writer

WebCT is no stranger to students taking Web-assisted or completely online courses. That will soon change, though, as FIU is in the middle of phasing out WebCT’s use and will instead turn to a similar system called Blackboard.

Communication is much better with Blackboard because every student in the course is also in Blackboard, so communication via e-mail is assured to get to every student. Also, any student has the ability to communicate with any lecturer or anyone else in the course, ” said Thomas Pitzer, biological sciences professor. “This is important when the total class size can be approximately 1,000 students.”

Blackboard was placed into service last year after it was brought WebCT, according to Mimi Lezcano, an Electronic Learning Consultants’ training manager.

“The support for WebCT was not renewed, therefore we have to move toward a new product, and the closest thing to WebCT 4.1 is Blackboard CE6,” Lezcano said.

Since the switch, several issues have risen, ranging from problems in posting lecture notes to a semester’s worth of grades disappearing.

Other problems include lag, login issues, student’s grades not showing after a professor posts them, removal of professors’ administrative access and missing quizzes.

“Once or another I have experienced all the aforementioned issues at one time or another,” Pitzer said.

According to Lezcano, the issues were corrected with software patches that were installed over the Winter break.

“The related problems are available Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to midnight. Blackboard also offers a help desk for additional support offered. Palmer Graves, associate chair of the chemistry department decided not to switch to Blackboard,” said Lezcano.

“Blackboard, the version 6.0, after the transition to UTS was not installed correctly and didn’t work. It was extremely slow and crashed a lot,” Graves said.

According to Lezcano the issues have been addressed and the patches have made the system more stable.

Despite the problems being resolved, WebCT fans are quick to defend its system, saying WebCT worked very well for me and my students,” said Eric Etholm, associate chair in chemistry.

“E-learning and WebCT are very successful here in the chemistry department at the University of Florida,” said Eric Etholm, associate chair in chemistry.

Communication is much better with Blackboard because every student in the course is also in Blackboard, so communication via e-mail is assured to get to every student.

CORRECTIONS

In the Jan. 17 issue of The Beacon, the story titled ’Chair, Provost differ on effects of budget cuts,’ Chris Towers and Corey Bachman should have been credited with additional reporting.

In the Jan. 22 issue of The Beacon, the story titled ’GOP candidates support Bush but keep distance,’ John McCain was said to have received a 90 percent from the John Birch Society in 2007. He received that rating in 2004.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP Office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722
There is not a day I don’t think about them. I look at both of their pictures, and I came together to try to make a plan for some sort of memorial,” said Breny DaParre, sorority sister of Janelle Bertot who sits on the executive board for Janelle’s Wishing Well. “Phi Sigma Sigma sorority and Pi Kappa Phi fraternity joined to raise funds.”

A car wash hosted by Phi Sigma Sigma and a gentlemen’s auction by Pi Kappa Phi raised about $3,000.

“The rest of the funds were donated by FIU students, friends and alumna,” DaParre said.

The proposal for the memorial was approved. Phi Sigma Sigma and Pi Kappa Phi decided on benches, which were donated by the Abigantus family, friends of Janelle’s Wishing Well. The memorial is now located in the southwest corner of the Graham Center fountain.

Janelle’s Wishing Well teamed up with the University of Miami and Jackson Poison Control to create a program approved by both Miami-Dade and Broward County school systems to educate high school students in driver’s education classes and health classes about the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning.

In July 2007, Governor Charlie Crist signed a carbon monoxide law entitled “Janelle’s Law” that will go into effect in July. The law requires carbon monoxide detectors to simulate smoke detectors to be installed in new buildings that burn fossil fuels including residential and commercial buildings.

“There is not a day I think about them. I look at their pictures when I wake up and all day when I’m at work. They’re my angels. But through awareness events, I can not only potentially save someone’s life, but keep their memory alive,” DaParre said. For more information on Janelle’s Wishing Well, or to purchase tickets for the fundraising gala, visit http://www.janelleswishingwell.org.

Ashley Artilles is a member of the Delta Phi Epsilon sorority.

Becoming a delegate offers costly, historic opportunity

DELEGATES, page 1

Hornbuckle said.

According to Lyon, running as a delegate candidate is a campaign.

If an applicant’s presidential candidate wins at least 15 percent of the primary vote in their district, then that applicant has an opportunity to run as a delegate. However, the applicants candidate must also make it to a district-level caucus in order to win votes to be a delegate.

“It all comes down to the caucus. If you don’t go, then you can’t become a delegate,” Lyon said. “But when people go they bring bus loads of family and friends who will vote for them. In the 2004 caucuses at least 200 people showed up for both Miami-Dade and Broward County. It’s kind of unfair because if you don’t know very many people you won’t win.”

Florida Democratic caucuses take place on March 1 at 25 different locations throughout the state. According to Lyon, applicants must campaign for themselves until the day of the caucus so they can have as many people as possible within their congressional district to vote for them.

According to Mark Bubriski, communications director for the Florida Democratic Party, when a delegate candidate goes to a caucus they have to make sure all of the people they bring to vote for them choose the ballot with the same presidential candidate. That ballot will have a list of all the possible delegates for a candidate within that congressional district.

The votes will be determined the same night of the caucus and the winners will go on to the national convention. The size of a district depends on how many delegates will go to represent Florida, and whichever presidential candidate wins the most votes at the primary will receive more delegates than the others.

Delegate candidates have to truly campaign to win those limited slots because some districts may have anywhere from two to six delegates go to the convention in Denver, Colorado.

“The only thing holding he back is the lack of financial support. If someone could help me pay for the travel expenses, then I would definitely go; but, as a student right now, it would be too hard to pay for a trip like that,” Alvarez-Parrilla said.

For Lyons and most of the other Florida Democratic Party members, becoming a delegate is worth the money and their commitment. They believe the up close experience in the election is a once in a life time opportunity.

“Becoming a delegate is really something you have to commit to. The money, the time, the campaigning — it’s all worth it. Especially this year when we have the chance to vote for a real change into the presidency. It’s like making history,” Lyon said.
Jose Marti’s Cuban passion honored at scholarship breakfast

Hundreds of essays turned in, two winners awarded $2000

MARCELO GORENSTEIN
Contributing Writer

FIU’s Biscayne Bay Campus will join Miami-Dade College in celebrating the birth of Cuban writer José Martí as part of the eighth annual scholarship breakfast. The celebration will take place Jan. 28 at 8:30 a.m. in the Wolfe University Center Ballroom.

This year’s event will feature keynote speaker Professor Uva de Aragon, a journalist, poet and essayist, whose career has been devoted to Marti.
Global climate changes pose serious threats

MATT COOK
Contributing Writer

One of the most pressing issues of our generation faces is that of global climate change, more commonly known as global warming. The global climate is rapidly changing and the consequences are going to be disastrous. “These scenes are as frightening as a science fiction movie, but they are even more terrifying because they are real,” said United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon following the recent UN Intergovernmental Panel on Global Climate Changes’ report.

“Global warming is ‘unequivocal’ and carbon dioxide already in the atmosphere commits the world to an eventual rise in sea levels of up to 4.6 feet,” a Nov. 2007 article attests that enough carbon dioxide already has built up that it imperils islands, coastlines and a fifth to two-thirds of the world’s species and as early as 2020, seventy-five million to two hundred-fifty million people in Africa will suffer water shortages.

Residents of Asia’s large cities will be at great risk of river and coastal flooding. Our world is going to gradually deteriorate until there is nothing left and it is going to start with the people the world neglects and takes advantage of the most. My message to the United States and the first world Imperialists is this: you are not invincible, as noted by the article which goes on to state that “Europeans can expect extensive species loss, and North Americans will experience longer and hotter heat waves and greater competition for water.”

As the United States government and others honestly think they can continue to strip the world of its resources without facing consequences? The climate is changing as we have seen with melting snow and glaciers, higher temperatures and rising sea levels. Global warming can and will cause even more devastating natural disasters, strain food and water resources, eliminate species entirely and spread disease.

The problem we are facing today is man-made. It started with the desire to produce more at whatever expense necessary. Industrialism, imperialism and materialism have ruled our society. We have attempted to dominate and manipulate the world and its resources, however we are in a very sad awakening. Until nations can set aside their interests for the betterment of society, we can expect to see more catastrophic hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, rising sea levels, extinctions and depletion of our world’s resources.

The world’s resources are a gift to humanity; gifts that we should respect and value. What we use, we must give back.

Ban Ki-moon may have put it best, that global warming will become “so severe and so sweeping that only urgent global action will do. We are all in this together.”

Citizens given more options for pharmaceutical needs

EDUARDO MORALES
Contributing Writer

While FIU students were traveling around the country to spend the holidays with their families, Florida Governor Charlie Crist had his own road trip around the Sunshine State. Anywhere from Miami to Orlando to Jacksonville, Governor Crist was busy spreading the word about the launch of the new Florida Drug Card Program. The program reached out to the public on Dec. 20, 2007 and was welcomed with open arms as 3,000 Floridians enrolled within a day.

“The health of all Floridians is tremendously important,” said Crist. “Floridaors eligible for this program have an annual income of less than triple that of the Federal Poverty Level.

One may qualify for the card under certain circumstances. According to Crist’s Web site, a Florida citizen is eligible for the program if they do not have prescription drug coverage or if they are in the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Gap. The required age is 60 or older, but the card allows for younger residents if they have an annual income of less than triple that of the Federal Poverty Level.

For individuals, couples and families under the age limit to qualify their annual income can be no more than $30,656, $41,076 and $61,956, respectively. Approximately four million of Florida’s residents will be able to take advantage of the program and its benefits.

Residents who sign up for the program will save anywhere from 5 percent to 42 percent on almost every brand name or generic drug, varying by prescription and store.

In addition, 3,000 pharmacies across the state are participating in the program, making access as easy and painless as possible. The only cost to Florida citizens is an activation fee of $1.50 upon their first prescription. As for the pharmacies, they agree to the negotiated prices of each drug. Those savings are then passed onto the customers taking part in the program.

Further proving that Crist is giving more power and options to the people, the governor has set up several Web sites for the Drug Card’s members. On FloridaHealth- Finder.gov, consumers can find information about 1,600 conditions, medications and insurance information.

In an effort to benefit citizens who were exploited, Crist has brought several companies up to task after they feigned wholesale prices in the past, further proving that he stands strongly for the people and in giving those in need of medication someone to trust.

The program spans a majority of the pharmacies of Florida, and provides the beneficiares of the program, the highest possible discount on prescription drugs. In short, after a user’s insurance is accepted, the remaining balance can be further discounted, provided they are simply part of the Florida Discount Drug System.

For people who are under-insured, the Drug Card Program is strictly beneficial. Aside from the $1.50 fee required to become a member, there’s no loss involved.

The only problem would occur if you’re under 60, in which your income must be considerably less than the poverty level. The system, thus far, is only publicly criticized because of the stringent criteria of eligibility. Even those who make only slightly more than the maximum allowable income are exempted from the program. If only Governor Crist had proposed that eligibility could be appealed based on the circumstances of the applicant. All in all, the program is an innovation in Florida’s health care system.

With the next wave of seniors projected to be the largest demographic, it’s safe to say the Florida Discount Drug Card will become a standard in the near future, likely to become as common as an ATM card.

The program spans a majority of the pharmacies of Florida, and ultimately affords the beneficiares of the program, the highest possible discount on prescription drugs.
“Cloverfield” cast provides an inside look

If the only thing separating you from the one you love was a giant, blood thirsty monster, would you run to their rescue? This is the question that drives the action in “Cloverfield,” a film with a new take on the monster genre.

“Cloverfield” reunites J.J. Abrams and Director Mark Reeves since their work on television’s “Felicity.” Along with writer Drew Goddard, they’ve taken inspiration from Japan’s “Godzilla” and have tried to give rampaging monsters a fresh start. The Reason spoke with actors Mike Vogel, Lizzy Caplan and T.J. Miller in a national college press conference call for their insights on making “Cloverfield.”

“When we were all told it was a monster movie, there was sort of a hesitation because we’ve seen it done [badly] a lot of times,” said Vogel, who plays Jason Hud, a pilot. “I think the [film’s] saving grace is the vision of J.J. Abrams, the vision of Matt Reeves and a cast of characters that makes you feel safe in doing what you do and in being a part of something like this.”

Part of the actors’ filming commitment included signing nondisclosure forms to keep mum on story details to the public. With filming limited to a single handheld camera, upward of 40 takes were shot for each scene.

“Toward the beginning, in order to gear up for every scene where we were out of breath – which was like, basically every scene – we would run really fast up and down the street so we would legitimately be out of breath and then I think by like, take it at like, ‘Yeah, you know what? I think I’m gonna fake it for this one,’” Caplan said. “With all the dust and all the hyperventilating that we had to do, they had oxygen tanks for us.”

Miller plays Hud Platt, Rob’s “number one dude” charged with capturing his last night in America on film. Miller worked double duty as actor and cameraman, shooting almost one third of the film while playing Hud, the audience’s eyes in the catastrophe.

“It’s such a different movie to make and it’s so hard to act [in a kind of film] that you’ve never seen or [with a unique] style of film making so we did the best we could,” Miller said. “We – and by that I mean the director, the producers, all the actors, the crew – we were all figurine it out as we went along … that’s a challenge. I think we were successful in that sense.”

The choice to shoot with a single camera was meant to recreate the intimate, voyeuristic quality real homemade videos have, according to Abrams.

To further ground fantasy in reality, Miller was encouraged to improvise lines to create genuinely spontaneous reactions that the audience could relate to.

“You’re in there with Hud, and there’s no reverse angle showing you what he’s not seeing,” Abrams said. “Every moment becomes charged, because you know that, just off-frame, there might be something horrible happening. But you don’t know what it is.”

“The fact that it’s a single camera shooting style mixed with a lot of incredible effects, and then you take into account that the film was done for 25 million dollars, it sets a really high standard for other films to follow that it is possible, without busting a mega budget, to do what can be a successful film and make it incredible and different,” Vogel said.

“Cloverfield” has already paid for itself, having earned a record $31 million in its opening weekend, according to Paramount Studios.

“This film is so much more than a monster movie – it’s a survivor movie, it’s a comedy, it’s a love story and it gives you motion sickness,” Miller said. “It’s a big idea and a bold and ambitious move in film making and I think Matt Reeves did what he needed to do and J.J. did what he needed to do and the acting is amazing.”
## WEEKEND RUNDOWN

### THURSDAY • JANUARY 24
- **WHAT:** Aromas of Havana
- **WHERE:** Aromas of Havana Cigars and Lounge
  14781 Biscayne Blvd,
  N. Miami Beach, Fl 33181
- **WHEN:** Daily
- **HOW MUCH:** Varies
- **WHAT:** Drink of the Week: Chili Passion
  WHERE: Setai Hotel
  2001 Collins Ave.,
  Miami Beach, Fl 33139
- **WHEN:** Daily
- **HOW MUCH:** Varies
- **WHAT:** South Florida Fair
  WHERE: South Florida Fairgrounds
  9067 Southern Blvd,
  West Palm Beach, Fl 33411
- **WHEN:** Daily
- **HOW MUCH:** $15

### FRIDAY • JANUARY 25
- **WHAT:** Matchbox Twenty
  WHERE: Hard Rock Live
  5747 Seminole Way
  Hollywood, Fl 33314
  **WHEN:** 6:30 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $60 - $100
- **WHAT:** Guster
  WHERE: Culture Room
  3045 N Federal Hwy,
  Ft. Lauderdale, Fl 33306
  **WHEN:** 8 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $24.99
- **WHAT:** Wu Tang Clan
  WHERE: The Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason Theatre
  1700 Washington Ave.
  Miami Beach, Fl 33139
  **WHEN:** 8 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $38 - $63
- **WHAT:** Heavy Metal
  WHERE: miArte Gallery
  85 Merrick Way,
  Coral Gables, Fl 33134
  **WHEN:** 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** Free
- **WHAT:** Cabaret Fridays
  WHERE: La Paloma
  10999 Biscayne Blvd.,
  North Miami, Fl 33181
  **WHEN:** Daily
  **HOW MUCH:** $5

### SATURDAY • JANUARY 26
- **WHAT:** Sick of it all
  WHERE: Studio A
  60 NE 11 Street
  Miami, Fl 33132
  **WHEN:** 5:30 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $16
- **WHAT:** David Allan Coe
  WHERE: Culture Room
  **WHEN:** 8 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $22
- **WHAT:** The Miami Blues Festival
  WHERE: James L Knight Center
  400 SE 2nd Ave,
  Miami, Fl 33131
  **WHEN:** 7 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $47.50 - $55
- **WHAT:** Farewell to the Orange Bowl
  WHERE: Orange Bowl
  1501 NW 3rd St.
  Miami, Fl 33125
  **WHEN:** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $20
- **WHAT:** Laughing Gas Improv
  WHERE: Miami Street Playhouse
  6766 Main St,
  Miami Lakes, Fl 33014
  **WHEN:** 11 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $10

### SUNDAY • JANUARY 27
- **WHAT:** Surf and Song Festival
  WHERE: Indian Creek Plaza
  17260 San Carlos Blvd,
  Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
  **WHEN:** 12 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $10
- **WHAT:** Free Beer at Sushin
  WHERE: Sushin Japanese Restaurant
  10501 N Kendall Dr,
  Kendall, Fl 33176
  **WHEN:** 5 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** Varies
- **WHAT:** Drink and Chill Literally
  WHERE: The Polar Bar
  938 Lincoln Rd.,
  Miami Beach, Fl 33139
  **WHEN:** Varies
  **HOW MUCH:** Varies
- **WHAT:** The Little Dog Laughed
  WHERE: Gable Stage
  1200 Anastasia Ave.
  Coral Gables, Fl 33134
  **WHEN:** 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.
  **HOW MUCH:** $37.50 – $42.50

- Compiled by Kassandra Pool

---

**UM MBA**

*Jose Antonio Hernandez-Solau*  
Vice President and Senior Account Manager — GE Capital Solutions

Receive world-class education from internationally-renowned faculty at the [University of Miami School of Business Administration](http://www.bus.miami.edu). 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.

---

**CAMPUS VISIT**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 AT 11:30AM**

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ROOM GB 332**

**RSVP** 800.531.7177 MBA@MIA.MI.EDU

**WWW.BUS.MIA.MI.EDU/GRAD**

**Two-Year MBA Program begins August 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Deadlines</th>
<th>Round 1: 2/15/08</th>
<th>Round 2: 3/15/08</th>
<th>Round 3: 6/17/08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI**

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**
All University leaders urged to join fight against AIDS

MUSICAL CULTURE: Rock bands Envy on the Coast (above and far left) and The Audios (right) performed at Ft. Lauderdale College's Culture Room on Jan. 19 as part of The PaClour, a tour by clothing store chain PacSun. For a review of the show, pick up the Jan. 28 issue of The Beacon next week.

“Dark Knight” star dies in apartment

TOM HAYS
AP Wire

Heath Ledger was found dead Tuesday at a downtown Manhattan apartment, and police said drugs may have been a factor. The Australian-born actor was 28.

Ledger had an appointment for a massage at the residence in the tony SoHo neighborhood, NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said. A housekeeper who went to let him know the massage therapist had arrived found him dead at 3:26 p.m.

Many FIU students were shocked. “I think it’s crazy. It’s so sad,” said Katherine Fowler, a Freshman. “I think it’s really sad because he’s a person from our era. Usually you hear about older people dying and it sucks that someone from our era has died.”

said Zashua Fernandez, a Junior.

Ledger was nominated for an Oscar for “Brokeback Mountain,” where he met Michelle Williams in 2005. The two lived together in Brooklyn and had a daughter, Matilda, until they split up last year.

Ledger most recently appeared in “I’m Not There.” Ledger was to appear as the Joker this year in “The Dark Knight,” a sequel to 2005’s “Batman Begins.” He’s had starring roles in “A Knight’s Tale” and “The Patriot,” and played the suicidal son of Billy Bob Thornton in “Monsters Ball.”

Ledger grew up in Perth, and began doing amateur theater at age 10. After several independent films and a starring role in the short-lived Fox TV series “RooF,” Ledger moved to Los Angeles and costarred in “10 Things I Hate About You,” a teen comedy reworking of “The Taming of the Shrew.” “I really liked ‘Ten Things I Hate About You.’ That’s my favorite movie,” said Fowler.

Offers for other teen flicks came his way, but Ledger turned them down, preferring to remain idle than sign on for projects he didn’t like.

“It wasn’t a hard decision for me,” Ledger told the Associated Press in 2001. “It was hard for everyone else around me to understand. Agents were like, ‘You’re crazy, my parents were like, ‘Come on, you have to eat.’”

Carolina Santos, a sophomore, reflected on the consequences of the actor’s untimely death. “It’s going to be weird not having movies with him.”

“Dark Knight” star Heath Ledger was found dead Tuesday at a downtown Manhattan apartment, and police said drugs may have been a factor. The Australian-born actor was 28.

Ledger had an appointment for a massage at the residence in the tony SoHo neighborhood, NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said. A housekeeper who went to let him know the massage therapist had arrived found him dead at 3:26 p.m.

Many FIU students were shocked. “I think it’s crazy. It’s so sad,” said Katherine Fowler, a Freshman. “I think it’s really sad because he’s a person from our era. Usually you hear about older people dying and it sucks that someone from our era has died.”

said Zashua Fernandez, a Junior.

Ledger was nominated for an Oscar for “Brokeback Mountain,” where he met Michelle Williams in 2005. The two lived together in Brooklyn and had a daughter, Matilda, until they split up last year.

Ledger most recently appeared in “I’m Not There.” Ledger was to appear as the Joker this year in “The Dark Knight,” a sequel to 2005’s “Batman Begins.” He’s had starring roles in “A Knight’s Tale” and “The Patriot,” and played the suicidal son of Billy Bob Thornton in “Monsters Ball.”

Ledger grew up in Perth, and began doing amateur theater at age 10. After several independent films and a starring role in the short-lived Fox TV series “RooF,” Ledger moved to Los Angeles and costarred in “10 Things I Hate About You,” a teen comedy reworking of “The Taming of the Shrew.” “I really liked ‘Ten Things I Hate About You.’ That’s my favorite movie,” said Fowler.

Offers for other teen flicks came his way, but Ledger turned them down, preferring to remain idle than sign on for projects he didn’t like.

“It wasn’t a hard decision for me,” Ledger told the Associated Press in 2001. “It was hard for everyone else around me to understand. Agents were like, ‘You’re crazy, my parents were like, ‘Come on, you have to eat.’”

Carolina Santos, a sophomore, reflected on the consequences of the actor’s untimely death. “It’s going to be weird not having movies with him.”

ROCKING OUT

PHOTOS BY FERNANDO GARCIA/THE BEACON

“This purpose of the ONE Campus Challenge is to motivate and unite students across the country to join the fight against AIDS,” said Daniel Depas, member of FIU’s campus chapter of ONE.

Lopez said. “It may seem difficult, but it’s possible.”

MUSICAL CULTURE: Rock bands Envy on the Coast (above and far left) and The Audios (right) performed at Ft. Lauderdale College’s Culture Room on Jan. 19 as part of The PaClour, a tour by clothing store chain PacSun. For a review of the show, pick up the Jan. 28 issue of The Beacon next week.

One Campus, page 1

created after the organization saw increasing momentum in students’ action to engage in fighting poverty.

“The purpose of the ONE Campus Challenge is to motivate and unite students across the country to join the fight against AIDS,” said Daniel Depas, member of FIU’s Campus Challenge, said. Lopez, leader of the FIU ONE chapter, said.

There are three phases and participating schools receive points during each phase. In the first, students recruit people to join the ONE cause, make calls to Congress and organize activities such as human logos, vigils and tabling in concerts.

In the second phase, the 100 highest-scoring schools, which included FIU, traveled to a conference in Washington D.C., where speakers such as Bill Frist, former Senate majority leader, talk about the issues of poverty, hunger and AIDS.

In the third stage of the event, the top ten schools will receive a $1,000 grant to promote poverty fighting programs on their campuses.

FIU is entering the third stage of the challenge alongside more than 2,000 colleges and universities. FIU ranks 65 in the competition with 24,140 points, but the members of FIU’s Campus Challenge are still aiming to land in the top ten.

“The purpose of the ONE Campus Challenge is to motivate and unite students across the country to join the fight against AIDS,” said Daniel Depas, member of FIU’s Campus Challenge, said. Lopez, leader of the FIU ONE chapter, said.

There are three phases and participating schools receive points during each phase. In the first, students recruit people to join the ONE cause, make calls to Congress and organize activities such as human logos, vigils and tabling in concerts.

In the second phase, the 100 highest-scoring schools, which included FIU, traveled to a conference in Washington D.C., where speakers such as Bill Frist, former Senate majority leader, talk about the issues of poverty, hunger and AIDS.

In the third stage of the event, the top ten schools will receive a $1,000 grant to promote poverty fighting programs on their campuses.

FIU is entering the third stage of the challenge alongside more than 2,000 colleges and universities. FIU
Golden Panthers begin crucial stretch

JONATHAN RAMOS
Staff Writer

With South Alabama and Western Kentucky running away with the Sun Belt Conference through the first half of the conference play period, FIU will be playing catch-up in hopes of reaching its conference championship goal.

The Golden Panthers (5-12) face their most critical games of the season when they travel to Arkansas State (8-10) on Jan. 24 and face New Orleans (14-5) at the Pharmed Arena on Jan. 27.

FIU, who is 2-5 in conference play, will enter these games in search of a win to snap a six-game losing streak. Despite the losing streak, the Golden Panthers were blown out on wins before the losing streak, the most critical games of the conference play period, FIU center Russell Hicks does not have a single true center on his team. FIU will be playing catch-up in hopes of reaching its conference championship goal.

Out of the six games, barring a change in the rehabilitation schedule, the earliest he could return under the timetable released by the team is Feb. 6 at Detroit.

“His activity, the activity, is excruciating,” said Heat coach Pat Riley, whose team has lost 14 straight games, three shy of matching the franchise record. “That’s all. That’s what happens. He’s trying to do everything he can do. He’s gotten all the treatment he can get. And now he’s probably going to be an inactive period of time until the thing heals.”

O’Neal was not available to reporters Tuesday. He has missed an average of 20 games over the past six seasons because of an array of injuries, and still has two full seasons after this remaining on his five-year, $100 million contract with Miami.

Other tests done Tuesday, including bloodwork, ruled out the possibility of infection or other problems, the team said.

O’Neal suffered the hip injury while diving for a loose ball against Utah on Dec. 22 — the last game Miami won. He missed eight games from Dec. 26 through Jan. 11, sought treatment in Los Angeles over that stretch, and returned when the Heat started their current seven-game homestand Jan. 16.

O’Neal left Monday’s game against Cleveland in the first quarter to have the hip re-taped, then returned to the game with a noticeable limp. He finished with 10 points, none after halftime.

He’s averaging a career-high 14.2 points this season, and his string of 14 straight All-Star Game selections — which matches a league record — almost seems certain to end because of his latest malady.

Heat guard Dwyane Wade, who scored 30 of Miami’s 38 second-half points in Monday’s 97-90 loss to Cleveland, said it’s tough to continue watching O’Neal play in obvious pain.

“He’s judged more than a lot of the athletes in the world because of who he is, who he has become,” Wade said.

“If he’s playing and hurting and not playing good, he’s being talked about. If he’s not playing and he’s trying to get healthy, there’s no one talking about him. If he’s playing and hurting, then he’s being talked about for taking time off. It’s a lose-lose situation. As his friend, I want him to be healthy. That’s the most important thing to us.”

Mark Blount likely will become Miami’s new starting center, now that O’Neal and Alonzo Mourning (season-ending knee and quadriceps injuries) are hurting. Centers Joel Anthony and Earl Barron are also out. Miami, which has the Eastern Conference’s worst record at 8-32, is looking at me to try to help them out right now.

“O’Neal is out, Riley said the team might try to add another big man for depth.

“We’ll talk about it,” Riley said.

For now, Blount — who started 81 games for Minnesota last year and who has averaged 5.7 points and 6.6 minutes per game this season — will be the primary pivot man, Miami, which has the Eastern Conference’s worst record at 8-32. When Blount was acquired before the season in a trade, he expected to spend the year playing alongside O’Neal and Mourning and helping the Heat get back to their championship form from two seasons ago.

“TITOMIC THE ROCK: Junior forward Alex Galindo scored a career-high 34 points against ULM on Jan. 19.

OUT AGAIN: This will be the second time this season that Shaquille O’Neal will miss time with a hip injury.

“Out again,” Blount said. “There’s nothing I can do about that. Nothing you can really say. The team is looking at me to try to help them out right now. Of course, you want to be there with Shaq and be there with Zo, but that’s not the situation right now.”

every Monday and Thursday

Thank you for reading

Apply in GC 210 or WUC 124
Loss snaps teams’ two-game win streak

The loss snapped FIU’s two-game winning streak at home and extended its overall losing streak to three games. The Golden Panthers will travel to Jonesboro, Ark., on Jan. 24 to take on the Arkansas State, losers of four of their last six (8-10, 3-5, SBC). They will return home on Jan. 27 to play the University of New Orleans (14-5, 4-3 SBC).

BASKETBALL, page 12

With the season a little more than half finished the women’s basketball team (7-11, 3-4 Sun Belt) has had its ups and downs. Since starting the season 1-5, the Golden Panthers have gone 6-6 and seem to be heading in the right direction despite a tough schedule.

The Golden Panthers have done a great job on defense against most of their conference opponents like Troy and Louisiana-Monroe, who were both held to season lows in points. However, the fact remains that FIU is just not scoring enough points to win consistently.

Since the loss of inside presences Elisa Carey and Marquita Adley, FIU has not scored more than 70 points in a game and has been held below 60 points six times. This is surprising because FIU does have quite a few good offensive players, such as senior guard LaQuetta Ferguson, sophomore guard Monika Bosilj, junior guard Iva Ciglar and freshman forward Fanni Hutlassa.

The team’s win against South Alabama on the road was a boost for a team struggling on the road. “It was amazing. We played as a team. We were hustling and supporting each other,” said point guard Iva Ciglar. “Everybody committed 100 percent.”

Until that game, FIU had been struggling on the road, losing every game, often by double digits – with the exception of a big win in Coral Gables against the University of Miami.

Next up for FIU is the University of New Orleans (9-9, 3-4 SBC). The Privateers are led by Le’Della English and Brittney Helms who both average 10 points per game. The Privateers are a fairly big team with two 6-3 players and four others six-footers. FIU will face the Privateers on Jan. 26 at the Pharmed Arena. The game should be close and rebounding could once again be a key factor. FIU will need to find a way to shutdown New Orleans inside.
Strong defense not enough as Golden Panthers fall to Cajuns

DARREN COLLETTE  Staff Writer

Despite holding the Louisiana-Monroe (12-6, 5-2 Sun Belt Conference) to a season-low 53 points, the Golden Panthers (7-11, 3-4) only managed to score 50 points of their own and lost a close game in the final seconds of play Jan. 19 at the Pharmed Arena.

The Golden Panthers fell behind early, but took the lead when junior guard Iva Ciglar drove to the basket and made a lay-up while being fouled. Ciglar made one of two free throws. However, the Warhawks needed four points and five minutes to take the lead back, as the Warhawks’ Matt Calhoun hit a 3-pointer.

The Golden Panthers fell behind again by 10 points in the second half, but during the final two minutes, the Golden Panthers cut the lead back to five as senior forward Jasmine Davis gave the Warhawks a 36-23 lead. After a 17-2 ULM run, FIU called a time-out with 13:45 remaining in the game. Coming out of the time-out, senior forward Jasmine Davis hit a shot from beyond the 3-point arc to put FIU up by five. With 25 seconds remaining in the game, FIU senior guard Jesse Carrier hit a free throw to make the score 46-45 in favor of the Warhawks.

The question is whether the coaching staff feels either of these quarterbacks has the ability to bring in the talent, and Notre Dame’s coach Larry Coker fired despite winning a national championship because he couldn’t bring in the talent, and Notre Dame’s Charlie Weiss, for all the declarations of his offensive genius, ended up having the worst season in Fighting Irish history simply because he didn’t have the players. Let’s see if coach Cristobal and his staff can supply a tasty assortment of groceries.

BARRY UNIVERSITY student, you join a caring community where the concept of the whole person is valued, and where a Catholic, liberal arts tradition supports your intellectual and personal growth.

To find out more about Barry, just put one foot in front of the other. Visit www.barry.edu/podiatric.

He keeps the Heat on their feet

Barry University faculty member Dr. James Lottis specializes in fancy footwork.

In addition to serving as the Miami Heat’s Team Podiatric Physician, Dr. Lottis teaches sports medicine and biomechanics at Barry University. Barry’s program in podiatric medicine offers extensive research facilities, distinguished hospital and medical center affiliations, and excellent opportunities for residency programs and externships across the United States. The program’s Foot and Ankle Institute gets more than 11,000 patient visits a year.

When you become a Barry University student, you join a caring community where the concept of the whole person is valued, and where a Catholic, liberal arts tradition supports your intellectual and personal growth.

To find out more about Barry, just put one foot in front of the other. Visit www.barry.edu/podiatric.

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.
**Last second free throw costs team game**

**ANDREW JUAN**
Contributing Writer

Senior forward Chris Fuller tied the Jan. 19 contest against Louisiana-Monroe (7-12, 1-6 Sun Belt Conference) at 66 with a free throw with 18 seconds remaining to no avail.

The Golden Pang, None (5-12, 2-5 SBC) were unable to come up with a stop to send the game into overtime or have a chance to come up with the victory as Jonas Brown of ULM converted a lay up, slashing to the basket with less than two seconds to play, giving the Warhawks their first conference victory of the season 68-66 at Pharmed Arena.

FIU turned the ball over four times to begin the game and trailed from the opening ULM basket 1:30 into the game.

"We played like we came in looking at their conference record and we’re not the cool dudes," said coach Sergio Rouco. "We’ve got to play hard every time and jump on people like we are playing the best team in the league. Why would we take this team or any other team lightly? I can’t understand.

The Warhawks took a 35-28 lead into the half and were able to increase their lead to as much as 14 at two different points in the second half. With 10:49 remaining, Alex Galindo took the game over.

The 6-6 junior forward from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico scored 19 points in the latter portion of the second half to lead the Golden Panthers to the first tie of the game with 18 seconds remaining.

Coupled with the 10 points he had in the first 10 minutes of the second half, Galindo set a school record for points in a single half with 29. His 34 points tied a school record for points in a home game set by Ismael N’Diaye on Jan. 30, 2005 in a five- overtime thriller against Louisiana-Monroe.

"If I’m going to cook the dinner, let me buy the groceries”, said coach Sergio Bonilla to his staff, because as former NFL head coach Bill Parcells once said, "I’m going to cook the dinner, let me buy the groceries".

That being said, let’s look at some areas that will need to be addressed this recruiting season.

As the year progressed, many positions that began as question marks became areas of strength for the team, most notably at the linebacker spot, where despite giving up a lot of size in just about every game still managed to not only hold their own but provide some stability when the defense was forced to play for extended periods of time. Michael Dominguez, Mannie Wellington, Ryan Martinez, and Scott Bryant are all underclassmen and will be returning next year.

While it is important to keep upgrading at every position, this is one the coaching staff can feel confident in going into next year.

Defensive line is a whole other story. The loss of Audric Adger is going to hurt badly, especially after his record-tying performance against North Texas. The rest of the line is growing old too, as Jonathan Betancourt, Jarvis Penteron, and Reginald Jones all will be seniors next year. It is important to get freshmen under their wing as to learn from their experience.

At defensive back we see the loss of two of the team’s brightest stars in Lionell Singleton and Cory Fleming. Singleton was the much-heralded kick returner who often considered the most talented player on the team, while Fleming was consistent throughout his entire career at FIU. The loss of both starters stings badly, although the play of freshmen Anthony Gaitor is somewhat reassuring. Nonetheless, replacing Singleton will be difficult, as the loss of a big-play kick returner and solid cornerback is not easy to find.

Moving to offense, the line suffers the biggest hit of all with the versatile Xavier Shannon transferring to play for his father at the University of Miami. Shannon manned every position on the line and the loss of him will hurt this team badly. The rest of the line remains intact and has a year of experience under its belt, but Andy Leavine still needs to show he can be the dominating force we all expect out of him and Joe Alajajian must continue his growth.

Wide receiver is perhaps the deepest position on the team, but the lack of a true game-breaker badly hurts this corp. There is consistency and talent all around from Jeremy Dickens and Elliot Dix to Greg Ellingston, who emerged as an excellent possession receiver his freshman year. The squad is very young, nobody in the rotation will be a senior, but coach Mario Cristobal desperately needs a player who can stretch the field vertically.

Tight ends Eric Kirchenberg and Moses Hinton will both be returning for the senior years.