Despite scheduling conflicts, Giuliani makes time for FIU

JOSE MAYA  
Staff Writer

The show is back on: Republican presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani is once again scheduled to speak at FIU on Jan. 28 at 9:30 p.m. in the Graham Center Ballrooms.

After canceling the event late on Friday night due to scheduling conflicts and last minute changes by his campaign, Giuliani and FIU signed contracts stating the former New York City mayor will indeed be at FIU on Monday night.

The move may indicate that Giuliani knows that FIU, with its diverse student population and strategic location within a large Republican base, will be key for a win in the Sunshine State. Strategists say he needs a win or a close second in Florida to keep his campaign alive.

“IT IS NOT A ONE-TIME CRISIS; IT’S GOING TO CONTINUE TO INFLUENCE THE FUTURE,” said Fac-ulty Senate Chair Bruce Hauptli.

“Our View: The budget crisis is not a one-shot deal; it’s going to be an annual problem,” Hauptli said.

“College students have been told to expect large tuition hikes, but many see this as being unfounded,” said Chris Houston, GSO president.

According to Board of Governors Director of Communication Bill Edmonds, the increase will only generate $32 million.

Almost a third of the money brought in by the tuition increase would go to need-based financial aid under the plan. The rest of the money will go toward helping universities keep and hire more faculty.

“Almost everyone is looking at the tuition increase as a worst-case scenario,” Houston said. “We all saw how huge the impact will be.”

“We need to increase the quality. We’re at the bottom of the heap,” Hauptli said.

The state will find itself in a heat race with other Republican candidates such as John McCain, who is building momentum following a win in South Carolina where he carried much of the independent vote.

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**TUESDAY • JANUARY 29**

- 5 p.m., Hospitality Building Dining Room, $4 for Friends of Wine Presents “A Taste of Italy”
- Resume Writing Workshop: 12 - 3 p.m., Panther Square (BBC)
- SPC BBC- One World Celebration 2008: 12 - 3 p.m., Graham Center Ballrooms
- FHAA General Meeting: 4 p.m., Graham Center 210
- SGA General Meeting: 1 - 2 p.m., GC 314

**WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 30**

- 3:30 p.m., Graham Center 140
- 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., WUC 255 (BBC)
- SOC Club Fair:
  - 12 - 2 p.m., Panther Square (BBC)
  - 12 - 3 p.m., Graham Center Pit
  - 7 p.m., Mary-Avon Wolfe Theatre (BBC)

**THURSDAY • JANUARY 31**

- 3:30 p.m., Location TBA
- 9 p.m., Everglades Hall
- 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Campus Life Hallway (BBC)
- 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Panther Square (BBC)
- 12 - 2 p.m., Graham Center Pit
- “Their Eyes Were Watching God”

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**ELECTION ‘08**

**Results**

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**Mock election reveals Obama, Paul among students’ favorites**

DANIELLA BACIGALUPO
Staff Writer

The results of a mock primary election held at FIU on Jan. 23 once again confirm that the candidacy nomination is truly up for grabs.

Just days before the Florida primary on Jan. 29, Sen. Barack Obama and Rep. Ron Paul won for their respective parties in last week’s mock presidential primaries elections held by Phi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society.

“We wanted a reflection of what happens with young people during the primaries and the elections,” said Francesca Menes, president of the Phi Sigma Alpha Chapter at FIU.

That statistical reflection was revealing, surprising and disappointing all at the same time, according to the members of Phi Sigma Alpha.

In the campus Democratic mock primary, Obama swept through with 49 percent of the vote, Sen. Hillary Clinton came in second with 36 percent and John Edwards trailed far behind with 8 percent.

However, last week’s Miami Herald poll with 800 sample voters shows Obama losing to Clinton by 19 percentage points. The two completely different outcomes in the polls show the extent of the fierce political rivalry between Obama and Clinton.

Still, for Menes, the buzzword of the campaign is change, and for this reason, she is not surprised by the Obama win on campus.

“For me, [the voters] push for a new face, a new change,” Menes said. “I’m not surprised [Obama won in the university mock primary].”

In contrast to the Democratic primary, the Republican election showed a closer race on campus with Ron Paul squeezing through with 27 percent of the vote.

Sen. John McCain followed with 23 percent and former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani came in third with 22 percent.

Peter Santa Maria, an art history major, evoked Gandhi’s words to summarize Paul’s lack of media attention and unexpected runner-up position in Louisiana.

“First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win,” said Maria.

As The Miami Herald poll indicated last week, Paul has daunting work ahead of him; the polls placed McCain, Romney and Giuliani as the top three Democratic candidates.

The Republicans were also punished for Florida’s moving its primary, however, half of its delegates will still count for its convention.

“Unfortunately, none of the main Democratic candidates will be down here,” said Chris Cabral, president of the FIU Democrats.

Strategists say that the lack of Democratic candidates campaigning in Florida could help Giuliani get more media attention and push him over with a win in a campaign which has had many ups and downs during the past several months.

Scandals ranging from financial mishandling when he was New York City mayor, to top aides announcing they would work for free to save money, have marked Giuliani’s campaign so far.

For FIU, Giuliani’s speech will bring national media attention and recognition for its diverse student body and mixed political views.

For his supporters it will be one last chance to convince others to back up Giuliani in the Florida primary, which will be held the following day.

“Miami-Dade County has been the most important county in Florida,” Correoso said.

For more information on the event and to R.S.V.P. contact miamiforrudy@gmail.com.
College of Law hears court cases for first time

JESSICA ARISTE Staff Writer

For the first time ever, the Third District Court of Appeals will hear its cases in the FIU College of Law Monday, Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The court has no jury, since the details of the actual case are no longer in question. This event was organized through a meeting Garcia had with David M. Gersten, chief judge of the Third District Court of Appeals, as a way to strengthen the relationship between the court and FIU.

"It’s a great opportunity for students, faculty and administrators to actually see how the legal system works," Garcia said.

Students will be able to hear lawyers give oral arguments in five cases and see the workings of a Miami courtroom.

The cases that will be heard deal with very different issues and allow students to see the problems dealt with in court on a daily bases. “They are literally just picking up their work for that day and bringing it to our school,” Garcia said. “It is an opportunity for students to see judges question attorneys about the law.”

After the event, there will be a reception in the College of Law and all students are welcomed to attend.

New council aims to improve club finances

COUNCILS, page 1

made of SOC clubs, GSOs and honor societies.

According to Hernandez, each of the three councils will be selecting four delegates to meet with the SGC-UP in order to create the constitution of the new council, which will govern all aspects of how the new council will be run and which will have meetings weekly.

During committee meetings, Houston hopes to retain as much as possible about the HC.

“Our goal going into this is going to be to fight for the name of the Honors Council to stay,” she said. “But there is still some sort of identity and prestige for the students to come to. We are trying to keep something intact as much as possible while still merging and unifying,” she said.

Houston added that she and her colleagues would try to maintain the academic integrity of the honor societies. This semester the HC was focusing more on academic ventures than on social ones.

The SOC may also have a hard time during this transition because of the complex point system it uses to fund all 150 of its student clubs.

Allison Foster, SOC advisor, said she hopes to create a transition clause that addresses the point system will be added to the constitution of the new council. Currently a club must earn at least 12 points a semester through a variety of activities in order to be considered an active club and to receive funding.

With the SOC being dissolved next semester, the new council will save approximately $17,000 in expenses, which come from the streamlined office expenditures. Hernandez hopes that these funds will be recycled to the new council in areas such as student clubs, or extra funds groups can request. Hernandez hopes that the new council is expected to begin operations during the Fall 2008 semester.

According to Katiana Saintable, president of Biscayne Bay Campus SGC, the new council will not be able to affect the campus, as SGC-BBC has no current plans to pursue a similar restructuring.

Committee meetings on the new council’s constitution will begin within the next two weeks, according to Hernandez, who also expects the constitution to be completed sometime in February. Due to the deadline for the constitution’s completion is July 1, 2008.

CAST YOUR VOTE

VOTING DAY: Senior political science majors Francesca Menes, Clement Quinones, and Ireal Cassilho of Pi Sigma Alpha hold mock elections for the Florida Primaries on Jan. 24, in GC.

‘Something has to give’

Tuition, page 1

said. “We are under-serving our students with the difficulty they have getting into classes and the getting basic services they need. If we have to do more with less, it’s going to be more manifest."

With less funding, universities won’t be able to offer the amount of classes needed for students to graduate within four years. As of now, the average time it takes a student in Florida to graduate with a bachelor degree is four years and a semester, according the Edmonds. With less classes being offered, graduations rates will fall.

“Students are either taking classes they don’t need to maintain a scholar- ship or they’re taking them much later,” Hauptli said.

Despite raising the amount of funds in the University’s history this year, this potential surplus will most likely be used offset budget cuts.

“We’ve raised $30 million in new operating funds. These cuts could be as high as $30 million,” said University President Modesto A. Maidique. “For the first time in 30 years, a member of our community becomes speaker of the house and does tremendous by us and then the economy takes it all away.”

Unlike other universities, FIU will not implement a hiring or traveling freeze, according to Provost Ronald Berkman.

“We’re going to have to make some hard choices already. We’re going to have to make some hard choices within the next 14-month period because something has to give,” Hauptli said.

CORRECTIONS

In the issue dated Jan 24, the story titled “Dark Knight star dies in apartment”, Chris Cabral should have been credited with additional reporting.

In the same issue, the story titled “Couple’s memory honored”, the “Lighthouse Charitable Foundation” should have been called “Anthony’s Light Foundation.”

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

CAST YOUR VOTE

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YOUR GYM WILL RUN IN THE VALENTINE’S DAY ISSUE OF THE BEACON
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So you know...

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Enrique Fernandez v. the State of Florida: an appeal from a stepfather charged with forty-nine counts of molestation. The victim was his stepdaughter.

Thomas Walker v. IN RE: Estate of Clyde Walker: about a son appealing the circuit court’s decision not to give him his father’s estate.

Laurine Spivey-Ferguson v. Carnival Corporation: the appellant appealed the decision of the circuit court of dismissing her case against Carnival Cruise Line, after she allegedly slipped and fell walking through the wet floor of their lounge.

Shohreh Shojaie v. Gables Court of Professional Center, Inc: deals with a woman appealing the court’s decision to rule in favor of the company she worked for, who she claimed was involved in promoting drug use and prostitution.

JENNIFER HOUSTON, Honors Council president

Our goal going into this is going to be to fight for the name of Honors Council to remain so that there is still some sort of identity and prestige for the students to come to.

any points earned during this semester will not mean anything unless the new constitution addresses the issue.

Foster believes the new council, which she helped create, will benefit students. “The councils were doing the same thing three different ways,” Foster said. “Things were going to try and keep that same thing three different ways,” Foster said. "Things were going to try and keep that.

United Front, 1.2008.

FERNANDO GARCIA/THE BEACON

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The Beacon – January 28, 2008 www.fiusm.com

NEWS


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SOC-BBC president resigns

SUSANA RODRIGUEZ
Asst. News Director

Biscayne Bay Campus’ Student Organizations Council’s president has filed his resignation, effective Feb. 5 at noon.

Joel L. Mintz was elected in April 2007 as a second-semester freshman. He leaves SOC-BBC for a new job, some of his peers disagree with his decision.

His term would have finished April 2008. The National Black Student Council’s president has filed his resignation, effective Feb. 5 at noon.

“His term would have finished April 2008. The National Black Student Council’s president has filed his resignation, effective Feb. 5 at noon. While Mintz looks forward to his new job, some of his peers disagree with his decision.”

The NWC’s controversial satire made the news last year and caused significant controversy among students and faculty. The show mixes drama, theater production, hip-hop, slam poetry and stand-up comedy, and appeals to many nationalities. It aims to teach its audience lessons about stereotyping and racism. The goal is to help people reflect on their own prejudices.

“She taught me something from it. The moral to the story is that you shouldn’t categorize people until you know them,” said Johnnita Hatcher, president of BBC’s Student Programming Week, who saw last year’s show.

Controversial language and risky subject matter are reasons for this show’s success. The company tours nationally, and is not limited to college campuses. “It’s an educational comedy that people must come and see,” Hatcher said.

The show is free and open to all FIU students.

DAHYANA VILLALOBOS
Contributing Writer

A year after provoking race discussions, “Nig****, Wet****, Chi**” returns to FIU.

The NWC Comedy Show’s message is “There’s only one race: the human race.” It is a combination of stand-up and play, woven into one show,” said John Morris, a senior history major who will attend the Jan. 31 performance at the Wolfe Theatre at Biscayne Bay Campus.

The NWC’s controversial satire made the theatre production a hit with FIU faculty and students last year. The show mixes drama, hip-hop, slam poetry and stand-up comedy that appeals to many nationalities. It aims to teach its audience lessons about stereotyping and racism. The goal is to help people reflect on their own prejudices.

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“He keeps the Heat on his feet

Barry University faculty member Dr. James Losito specializes in footy footwork.

In addition to serving as the Miami Heat’s Team Podiatric Physician, Dr. Losito 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 cultural growth.

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In the wake of a legislative decision to implement a 5 percent tuition increase – effective this semester – state lawmakers have approved another, significantly larger increase: an almost ungodly 8 percent, or an additional $186 per year. The increase is much better than the proposed 13 percent increase.

This recent increase comes from the state slashing nearly $65 million from the State University System’s (SUS) annual budget. There has been speculation that the cut in funding is a preempive effort to save money on public services, such as law enforcement, schools – including the SUS – if and when Proposition One is implemented, lowering property tax and taking money from public services.

From 1977 to 2008 the average annual increase in tuition has been about 5.82 percent for in-state students. With this increase, the State University System is only generating $32 million per year which does not even justify the tuition increase. It’s not just the schools themselves that will suffer, but the students who rely on state funds to attend the in-state universities. Students utilizing Bright Futures, which is funded by state lottery income, and the prepaid tuition program will find themselves in a rough situation when it comes to paying the balances of their tuition.

The raise has also resulted in universities openly talking about laying off professors and further limiting enrollment which may eventually lead to community colleges having to cap enrollment as well.

Currently, Florida is ranked near the bottom in terms of tuition costs, but legislators hope to bring it up to about 38 or 39 in the national rankings; closer to states with rapid increases like Mississippi and Arizona.

The previously wide-open field of GOP hopefuls is finally beginning to see frontrunners emerging. Romney and McCain are leading in both the delegate count and in recent Gallup polls. Huckabee’s religious appeals fail to wield the same amount of momentum in the rest of the nation as it did in Iowa. His recent comments regarding how the Constitution should be revised to be in line with God’s will all but lost him any glimmer of support outside of the Christian Conservative wing.

Meanwhile, Rudy Giuliani has failed to win any primaries. In spite of his name recognition, his chances of securing victory, even in Florida, where he has campaigned actively, has waned significantly.

Fewer than half of the states have gone to the polls thus far, and until Super Tuesday rolls around, there is no possibility of telling whether an upset will take place in the polls or in the primaries.

Huckabee did manage a second-place finish in South Carolina, and Giuliani has intentionally poured the majority of his campaign resources into larger states.

Paul, while trailing significantly behind the GOP’s big three, has enjoyed a couple of morale boosting second-place finishes, in the Nevada and Louisiana caucuses.

He is currently in fourth place, above Giuliani; Neither Paul or Giuliani’s campaigns have hinted toward leaving the race in the near future.

The candidates now focus on Florida, whose primaries are held on Jan. 29.
Music festival promises to be electrifying

**Music festival promises to be electrifying**

**Past experiences give assistant director the edge**

**Past experiences give assistant director the edge**

**SOCIAL WORK**: Beverly Trott, assistant director of the Disabilities Resource Center works on helping a student document their mental disability.

**When asked what would happen if Trott were to leave the DRC, Niguidula said that in the short term the office would feel the loss as Trott has become key in servicing students and faculty.**

**In some ways you take her for granted,** Niguidula said.

**Though Trott does not have an immeasurable impact on the students she helps.**

**Her rapport with students is typically energetic, committed and engaging staff member.**

**According to Niguidula, Trott is creative when it comes to problem solving for students. That comes partially from her own history. That creativity has had a strong impact on the students she helps.**

**“I seldom hear anything from the students than the fact that they felt supported and encouraged and at least some level of resolution to whatever they were trying to get assistance with,” Niguidula said.**

**She often finds ways to empower students by working with them directly.**

**Other DRC staff members are equally impressed with Trott’s determination.**

**“No battle is not worth fighting. There is no problem that can’t be fixed,” said Joanna Lindsay, assistant director at the DRC. “She always champions the students.”**

**A primary mission of the Disability Resource Center is to help students with mental and physical disabilities. For one of its members, that mission statement takes on a much more personal meaning.**

**Assistant director of the DRC, Beverly Trott grew up with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and dyslexia. Growing up, Trott said that she was mistreated by teachers as a result of her disabilities.**

**“When I was a child, I sat next to the teacher and they used to beat me up...back in my day it was perfectly acceptable for you to be smacked with a ruler if they thought you were a little rambunctious,” Trott said.**

**That treatment pushed her to overcome her disability and earn a magna cum laude bachelor’s in science of psychology, a master of science in psychology and a doctorate in clinical psychology.**

**“I know the pain that comes along with being special,” Trott said. “I had to repeat a doctoral course three times because I couldn’t spell the big words. Sometimes it’s best to find the professor who is willing to accommodate your needs.”**

**Trott’s experiences have also given her a valuable insight to the students she helps, according to Amanda Niguidula, interim director of the DRC.**

**“Her rapport with students is typically very remarkable,” Niguidula said. “I’ve always been impressed in my time working with her here at the DRC. She is such an energetic, committed and engaging staff member.”**

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**The Music Technology Program at FIU’s School of Music will be hosting the second annual Florida Electro-Acoustic Student music festival (FEASt).**

**The two-day long festival will feature the works of student composers of some of Florida’s major schools such as UM, UCF and FIU.**

**It is a free festival and will begin at 8 p.m. in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center.**

**“This event will be full of ‘sound art’. It will be something different everyone should experience,” said Erik DeLuca, one of the coordinators of the event and performer in the concerts.**

**“This event is really special and students are really lucky to have events like this happening on campus. It’s like going to an art museum. All you have to do is use your ears as if they were your eyes in an art gallery,” DeLuca said.**

**DeLuca also said the pieces in this year’s festival will be really different. “Some of the pieces will be fun, others serious, obnoxious, melodic, loud or soft. Some will leave you in a confused state,” he said.**

**DeLuca is not the only one showing excitement for the event. Steven Chen, a senior majoring in music, is also excited about the festival.**

**“I think this event will open people’s minds and creativity when it comes to music and it will help them explore something they may have never experienced before,” Chen said.**

**Jessica Rodriguez, public relations coordinator and student assistant for the College of Architecture and the Arts, believes this is one of the events music students get most excited about. “It’s not the typical music concert. This is acoustic music that allows students to be more creative,” she said. “Even I’m excited about it.”**

**Electro-acoustic music, a genre that originated at the end of World War II in France and Germany, has evolved from the use of tapes to record the sounds, to the use of laptops, which is the technology that will be used in the festival.**

**The coordinators of the event have been looking for volunteers to help out and many clubs have joined them.**

**The association EARS, Electro-Acoustic Research Society, has made itself responsible for much of the organization of the event.**

**It will be running the technology and mixers used in the open laptop/electronic jam sessions that will take place Feb. 2 at 10 p.m.**

**They are also responsible for making the performers feel comfortable.**

**An advertising company has also collaborated by providing posters to promote the event.**

**Coordinators have also created a Web site, www.feastfest.org where Paula Matthiesen, visiting instructor and coordinator for the music technology department, together with the other participants of the event, invites music enthusiasts to join the two-day-long festival.**

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**Asst. News Director**

**BEN F. BADGER JR.**

**The Music Technology Program at FIU’s School of Music will be hosting the second annual Florida Electro-Acoustic Student music festival (FEASt).**

**The two-day-long festival will feature the works of student composers of some of Florida’s major schools such as UM, UCF and FIU.**

**It is a free festival and will begin at 8 p.m. in the Wertheim Performing Arts Center.**

**“This event will be full of “sound art”. It will be something different everyone should experience,” said Erik DeLuca, one of the coordinators of the event and performer in the concerts.**

**“This event is really special and students are really lucky to have events like this happening on campus. It’s like going to an art museum. All you have to do is use your ears as if they were your eyes in an art gallery,” DeLuca said.**

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desire to leave the DRC, she has expressed a desire to add to her psychology doctorate by receiving her clinical license.

“I think if she were to leave, the students would be impacted by her loss,” Lindsay said. “I think so much more because of their relationship with her. It would be hard for me to recreate a four or five year relationship she has with someone.”

All around, having strong relationships are among Trott’s top strengths at the DRC, and they are not only with the students she counsels at the DRC. “Me and Dr. Trott are very good friends,” said Christopher Petersen, a senior and Trott’s assistant. “She helps me out, I help her out. She has this disability yet she’s able to help so many people. She’s awesome.”

In addition to Trott’s five years at the DRC, she is also an adjunct professor for the Psychology department and teaches intro to psychology. “Through lots of hard work and determination, I’m going to do it, no matter what, with more time, more energy, more effort,” Trott said.

For more information on the DRC you can visit their Web site at www.fiu.edu/~drc.

- additional reporting by Jose Martinez

Contact Ben F. Badger Jr. at ben.badger@fiu.edu

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**BLOOD DONOR**

SAVING LIVES: Junior Ever Zambrano saves two lives by donating blood at the on-campus blood drive in front of the Graham Center bookstore last week. The blood drive lasted three days and donors received free food among other freebies.

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Kassandra Pool
Staff Writer

The Pre-Dental Society offers career preparation and training for students with dreams of dentistry and drills. For 10 years the club has molded future dentists and currently boasts about 170 members. Meeting only 4 times a year with social events between each semester, the Pre-Dental Society prepares its members for the dentistry field by having workshops. The workshops help guide their members through the application process to get into Dental School giving tips on how to get accepted, when to apply and how to fill out their personal statement, an essay that must be submitted to any dental school along with their application.

This year, the group began holding Dental Workshops. They are separate from the general meetings and teach students different things about dentistry. The workshops are coordinated by the club’s community service coordinator, Maria Gonzalez.

One recent workshop focused on impressions. The group arranged for a dental technician to come into the school with all the necessary materials and equipment so the students could get the chance to do moldings and impressions of their own teeth. Potential members must fill out an application and pay a $35 dollar fee. Applications can be found on their website, www.fi.edu/~dental. The $35 dollars includes a club t-shirt and a chance to go to the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, where only the most active members are selected based on a point system created at the beginning of each semester. The UF Trip is an open house where students have the opportunity to see first hand what the Dental School is like. Afterward, the group goes to Orlando allowing them to bond together as a group.

The club will also be participating in Relay for Life, which takes place this year on February 15. Relay for Life is a fundraising event that raises money for Cancer research. Historian, Cynthia Yu and Events Coordinator, Norbert Camacho are captains for the event. Camacho and Yu are proud to be part of the first club to have bought five teams to Relay for Life under the banner of the same group. The club received a certificate for this accomplishment. As of now they have raised $1800 for the event. Another opportunity the Pre-Dental Society offers is the chance to shadow a dentist. Recently elected Shadowing Coordinator is junior Fernando San Juan. His duties require him to arrange for members to meet with dentists and see how procedures are done on patients.

“You really don’t know what you want to do unless you are exposed to it,” said Camacho. “You want to be many things but until you are there in front of it, that’s when you say ‘I love this and I can do this for the rest of my life’.” Camacho, Yu, and San Juan are excited about the medical school that will be opening soon on campus. They hope that in the future FIU will have a Dental School because currently there are only two dental schools in Florida; University of Florida and Nova Southeastern University.

The next general meeting will be on February 8th in GC 140 at 5pm. For more information or questions e-mail dental@fiu.edu.

Camacho and Yu will be leaving for Dental school after the spring semester ends. As members since last year they thank the officers who helped them get to where they are today.

“I feel like Dentistry is the diamond in the rough when it comes to [a] career. I feel like by exposing it to people maybe they will find that passion inside too,” said Yu.

Contact Kassandra Pool at kassandra.pool@fiu.com

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CONCERT The Audition/Envy on the Coast

‘Audition’ green with envy at Culture Room

VICTORIA LYNCH Staff Writer

It took only one song for the crowd to go wild when Envy on the Coast, the lead and was named one of Alternative Press’ 100 Band You Need To Know in 2007, took the stage last Saturday night at the Fort Lauderdale Culture Room.

The band, natives of Long Island, opened with a more famous song, “Sugar Skulls.” It was played with intense energy, an energy that was smoothly brought down a notch, in a good way, when the band performed the ballad, “Starving Your Friends.”

This was complemented by the voices of the singer and the audience joining along to the dramatic and surprisingly beautiful lyrics. Guitarist Brian Byrne describes the band’s sound best on the band’s website: “We can write a song that’s aggressive and has a really heavy bridge in it that’s almost like a breakdown. But then we can have songs with really big choruses, soaring leads and lots of harmony, and not be afraid of it,” he said. Envy on the Coast proved to be a hard act to follow.

The Audition, a band that is more famous and sounds similar to pop-punk stars Fall Out Boy, never got to the level of energy that Envy on the Coast had, even though The Audition is the tour headline.

Since they had a new record being released three days after the show, they opted to play more of the new songs instead of the ones the audience knew, which made their performance suffer and sing-alongs not so common. However, their performance wasn’t a complete disaster. When they played popular songs “It’s Too Late” and “Don’t Be So Hard,” the crowd couldn’t resist jumping up and down to the beat and a mosh pit exploded in the center of the club.

The band mentioned the increase in crowd energy, which made them rock out even harder to match the crowd’s intensity.

Unlike Envy on the Coast, though, The Audition got the whole crowd involved, not just the people who were lucky enough to be on the ground in front.

At one point, Danny Stevens, the band’s lead vocalist, attempted to climb on top of the speakers so he could join his friends on the balcony who were otherwise left out.

Ultimately, both bands left a lasting impression on the packed house and on me especially — so much that I couldn’t help stopping their merchandise booth on the way out.

For the crowd, it was a really interesting show.

GAME Line Rider

Violence can be funny

V. F. R. E. E for Relaxation or Frightening Entertainment

ASHLYN TOLEDO

Violence is no laughing matter. However, in the world of video games, there are some exceptions. “Line Rider” is one of these exceptions. Although not necessarily a violent game, I think most people will find that half the fun is in the potential that this game has to get pretty violent in its own special way.

“Line Rider” is a two-dimensional game that features a heroic bobsledder willing to traverse any kind of track you dare build for him. The player uses the drawing and editing tools provided to draw lines from top left to bottom right, creating a track.

There are three types of lines you can draw on your track. Regular lines are blue and can be used as the standard line for your track. Acceleration lines are red and will give the rider an extra boost of speed when he is over them. Scenery lines are green and do not interact with the rider but are used instead to create a background scene. Regular and Acceleration lines each have a colored side and a black side. The black side of the lines is the collision side. A run-in with these is like slamming into a wall for the rider. If you pick and choose where he will collide carefully, it can make for a really interesting show.

Once you have your track set up, a play button will send the rider down the track. You can watch what happens and make any changes. You can also designate a new starting point for the rider but he will still travel from left to right.

An interesting tool to use is the flag. Kind of like an instant replay, the flag lets you save the riders current position and speed at a specific point in the simulation. Once a flag is placed, pressing the play button will start the rider from that position.

You can either free hand the track or use the line tool to make straight lines. There is an eraser in case you make a mistake. If you have made a total mess of things and cannot figure out how to even begin to fix it, you can delete the whole thing and start fresh.

“Line Rider” is a game with a very simple concept. You can make your rider perform tricks, or lead him to a certain, albeit entertaining, death. A couple minutes of playing around with the tools and perfecting your track can lead to an endlessly rewarding experience. You can get started at www.ostylesmaps.com by searching “Line Rider” at the top of the page.

Contact Ashlyn Toledo at ashlyn.toledo@fi usm.com

MUSIC The Magnetic Fields

Band charged, ready to roll

CHRIS TOWERS Asst. News Director

There is a troubling trend going on in indie music lately that is making me wonder whether I am sitting on an island all by myself. From Interpol to The National to The Magnetic Fields, whose eighth album “Distortion” was released on Jan. 22, there are a large number of indie bands who seem content to ride on their semi-interesting sound best on the back of the guitars effectively, adding a more famous songwriter, and not be afraid of it. “Drink Wine not to pine for you and God knows that ain’t cheap.”

If that was the goal, it is difficult to say whether he achieves it.

The distortion doesn’t do much to cover up the boring songs, but it allows a few great songs to really shine through.

Contact Chris Towers at chris.towers@fi usm.com

*the smash comedy with the name nobody wants to say*
Hockey hooligans, nice guy agent and goofy golfers make top 10 sports movie list

TOWERS, page 12

5. SLAP SHOT (1977)

The lone hockey film on the list is also the least well known of the ten, which is a truly sad fact. If you have ever seen this movie, you know just how brilliantly foul mouthed and entertaining it is. The story is about how a typical “bastard owner threatens to move a team, team gets motivated” storyline that permeates throughout half of all sports movies, but the characters – specifically the goonish Hanson brothers, whose style of play looks more like professional wrestling than hockey – give the movie a liveliness most movies can't touch.


I felt bad for not including a football movie in my top 5, but for some reason, football movies simply don't translate that well to the big screen. That is why I felt compelled to pick a football movie that, again, isn't really a football movie. That is why I feel no remorse for including this movie, which is an issue that is impossible to replicate through fiction without caricatures. The only way to address it is through unbiased lens of a documentary.

7. HOOP DREAMS (1994)

The lone basketball movie to make the list is also the lone documentary to make the list, which makes perfect sense. The big elephant in the room nobody wants to discuss is the racial and social-cultural undertones that run through middle-America’s relationship with basketball, which is an issue that is impossible to replicate through fiction without caricatures. The emotion rings more true in this movie than perhaps any other as you are watching the rise and fall of real people, which is something that is important to remember regarding this movie.


Six words—‘There’s no crying in baseball!’—are all this movie needs to deserve its spot on this list.


Is bowling a sport? Probably not. Is the Big Lebowski about bowling? Not really, despite the fact that anywhere from a quarter of the film takes place in a bowling alley. So how can this be on the list? Because it is just that good, and that funny.

The bowling is secondary to a convoluted plot involving nihilists, feminists and Tara Reid’s pinky toe, but the common theme throughout is the bowling alley the characters constantly return to.

10. JERRY MAGUIRE (1996)

I admit, I may be cheating with these last two, as they both only feature sports as a secondary part of the plot, but both movies are so good they transcend any categories you want to put them in, and that is why I feel no remorse for including them.

Honestly, in this movie, the best relationships aren’t between the man and the woman, but rather the agent, played by Tom Cruise, and the egotistical athlete, played brilliantly by Cuba Gooding Jr. in his best role to date.

In the days before cocky, outspoken wide receivers like Terrell Owens and Chad “Ocho Cinco” Johnson, Gooding’s portrayal of Rod Tidwell seems rather subdued in this movie, but he still commands every scene he is in, creating one of the greatest fictional athletes in movie history.

Football gods biased toward Pats

VILLARMARZO, page 12

nullified after a timeout came from the Ravens sideline. The Patriots converted the fourth down and were stopped before reaching the endzone, but a very controversial defensive holding penalty gave the Patriots a fresh set of downs to score the winning touchdown.

Fast forward now to the recent AFC Championship game against the San Diego Chargers. Not only were there multiple non-calls against the Patriots defenders – including holding penalties, pass interference penalties, roughing the passer penalties, etc. At one point, linebacker Mike Vrabel performed a leg sweep on Charger quarterback Philip Rivers that wasn’t called. The trip caused Rivers to throw off balance and get intercepted in a crucial moment in the game.

That wasn’t the first time the Patriots have played dirty. They’ve been doing it for years – not to mention the whole controversy about filming opposing defensive signals. Why, football gods, is this team getting all the luck and getting away with dirty play? I think it’s about time you proved to everyone that sometimes, the bad guy gets taken down. That is why I feel no remorse for including this movie.

With Love,
Xavier Villarmarzo

P.S. If you want, I will totally sacrifice a goat for you.
Sisters’ relationship still strong despite distance

Despite following in her older sister’s footsteps, Liene feels no pressure. She said the most pressure she has received thus far is from having to step up due to the team’s injuries. “I think she has really stepped up, because we have lost two to major post players,” [who said this?] “She has done an outstanding job stepping and handling all this pressure as a freshman.”

Although Liene enjoys living in Miami, she misses Latvia because her parents and family live there. Like many student-athletes, she lives on campus and actually rooms with the teams’ other freshmen: guard Tabitha Drake, forward Fanni Hutlassa and center Maja Krajacic. As far as her teammates go, Liene feels she has learned a lot from senior guard LaQuetta Ferguson, who she feels helps keep the team together. “I think LaQuetta does that [lead the team] very well and I admire how she does it. She always supporting and encouraging us,” Liene said. This season, Liene has scored 36 total points and pulled down 44 rebounds. Those numbers surpass Lasma’s freshman year statistics. Her older sister still contacts her before every game. “I try to leave her an encouraging message in Facebook or Skype before the game,” Lasma said. “The last part of our conversations always is wishing each other good luck and more minutes for next the game.”

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SISTER ACT

No crying here if you didn’t make the top 10 sports movies

As the two most dominant forms of diversion in our society over the course of the last century or so, sports and movies have sometimes been intertwined. From “The Freshman” – arguably the first sports movie – until now, movies have been an important part of cinema and it is with this in mind that I am counting down the best sports movies, like the best comedic timing, of all time.

The Sandlot (1993)

Sure, the boxing scenes are more like dim-witted characters in all of cinema. Spackler is one of the most brilliantly dim-witted characters in all of cinema. In the early 1980’s, nobody had any idea of the pure joy of being a kid. “If you build it, he will come” stands for not only the impact of this movie but for the world know they aren’t dead inside.

The Sandlot is a movie that is semi-novel to anyone born between the years of 1985 and 1995, but is mostly unknown otherwise, so this might be somewhat of a surprise pick.

But if you ask me, no movie in history has so accurately captured the pure joy of being a kid during the summer.

From getting kicked out of the pool to getting into the “biggest pickle” of all time, to the ultimate schoolyard taunt (“You play ball like a girl!”), this movie represents everything that was great about being a kid. Plus, who among us still doesn’t want a pair of PF Flyers?

Caddyshack (1980)

Not only is it the second greatest sports movie of all time, it is arguably the funniest movie of all time. It features three comedic geniuses at the absolute height of their games: Bill Murray, Chevy Chase and Rodney Dangerfield.

They are all absolutely hysterical in every scene they are in. It is also Tiger Woods’ favorite movie, so how can you argue with that?

In the early 1980’s, nobody had better comedic timing than Chevy Chase, who deadpans every single line in this movie, and Murray’s Carl Spackler is one of the most brilliantly dim-witted characters in all of cinema.

Rocky (1976)

Sure, the boxing scenes are more like ballroom dancing with blood and you can’t understand a word Stallone says, but it is impossible to deny the power of this movie, which launched one of the most successful franchises in movie history.

Field of Dreams (1989)

This is maybe the only movie that “manly men” will allow themselves to shed a tear in. That says a lot about the dramatic impact of this movie.

“If you build it, he will come” stands as one of the most enduring lines in any movie, and the scene when he finally gets to play catch with his dad is the one where even the hardened of hearts has to, at the very least, let out a little sob to let the world know they aren’t dead inside.

The best sports movies, like the best