Leatherman said. “The first time I saw a beach my eyes opened wide and I went, ‘Wow, that is something I have never seen before!’” Charlotte, N.C.

Leatherman is a professor at FIU and has also given a number of speeches involving around science and nature. He has authored over 200 journal articles and technical reports in topics ranging from coastal science to preparedness for natural disasters.

He has also received numerous awards for his research and teaching, including the 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching and the 2007 Academic Year of Excellence Award from the University of Hawaii. He has been recognized as a global expert in coastal science and has been invited to speak at conferences around the world.

Leatherman graduated in 1970 from Tufts University and received his doctorate from the University of Hawaii in 1976.

Leatherman’s fascination with the ocean began at an early age. He grew up on the coast of Maine and spent most of his childhood at the beach. He credits his love for the ocean with shaping his career as a marine scientist.

When the sun is out, the doctor is in. Leatherman got a makeover through his passion for beaches started at a young age. One day his father came home with a truck full of sand in order to construct the biggest sand box in Charlotte, N.C. “I loved it,” Leatherman said. “I was the sand king.”

At age six, Leatherman saw the beach for the first time, an experience that would later inspire him to write the list of best beaches.

“Before I could walk, my parents took me to the beach every day,” Leatherman said. “I remember feeling so happy and free out there. It was like a magical place where I could let loose and be myself.”

Leatherman graduated from North Carolina State University with a bachelor’s degree in geosciences and in 1976 obtained his doctorate from the University of Virginia in environmental coastal science. He has authored over 200 journal articles and technical reports in topics ranging from coastal science to preparedness for natural disasters.

Leatherman’s fascination with the ocean began at an early age. He grew up on the coast of Maine and spent most of his childhood at the beach. He credits his love for the ocean with shaping his career as a marine scientist.

When the sun is out, the doctor is in.
University unveils logo to community

LOGO, page 1

also been simplified, shedding the shield background and tall grasses previously shown. The panther was also reworked, with the new logo featuring both front legs and an open mouth, bearing teeth.

“We tried to get the panther coming out at you,” said Madeline Baró, assistant director of Media Relations. “With FIU’s tight budget in mind, the change to the new logos will be gradual.”

“We’re not asking people to throw anything away — that would be a waste of money. It’s just when people order new supplies, they’d have the new logos,” said Madeline Baró, assistant director of Media Relations.

The University neither nor Athletics is sure how long it will take to phase out the old logos, or how much it will cost.

“It’s a slow process,” O’Meary said.

The new logos came about in an effort to “unify and refresh the FIU brand,” according to Baró. The University logo was reworked to provide consistency for the FIU brand. Previously, over 40 representations had been used to identify different areas of the University, according to the press release.

“Creating a recognizable and consistent logo will generate a message of pride and community to both our internal and external audiences,” said Maidequi in the press release.

Athletics decided to change its logo to represent a new era in the department, which has mostly come about due to personnel changes, according to O’Meary.

“It’s not just about Athletics. We’re looking at FIU’s entire brand,” O’Meary said. “It’s not about Athletics, but Athletics is a part of that... we’re looking at FIU’s entire brand.”

The changes to both logos aren’t too drastic — and for good reason, according to Villar.

“A dramatic change in logo sacrifices organizational history and brand legacy. It may make alumni and fans feel alienated,” Villar said.
A cooler Roary makes his debut at the Bay

EDDITH SEVILLA
Staff Writer

She’s been in office for little more than a month, but already Kenasha Paul is making changes.

On May 21, Paul, who was elected vice president by SGC-BBC on May 21, announced her decision to find a new Roary costume with a cooling system exclusively for BBC.

“[They informed me they] were going to have Roary auditions and [I asked] how are the auditions going to affect the Biscayne Bay? Are we going to be able to have a Roary here?”, said Paul, who was unanimously elected as vice president by SGC-BBC on May 21.

Athletics suggested Roary could freelance at BBC, according to Paul. However, to avoid conflicts such as lack of availability, Paul said BBC would benefit from its own costume.

“It makes more sense for us to have our own costume so we can have it on call and [Athletics] understand our reasons,” Paul said.

SGC-BBC paid approximately $3,500 for the new costume, which comes with a cooling system to help wearers use the suit for a longer time, according to Paul. The current costume does not have a cooling system and can only be worn for two hours at a time.

Didier Georges, Student Organizations Council president, wore the current costume last summer for BBC’s 30th anniversary.

“Because it was hot outside and summer, the costume was extremely hot and I was sweating a lot,” Georges said. “While I was wearing the costume, I didn’t smell anything, but once I got out of it I was like ‘wha?’ The rest of the day I smelled bad.”

Kenasha Paul, Vice President SGC-BBC

While I was wearing the costume, I didn’t smell anything, but once I got out of it, I was like ‘wha?’ The rest of the day I smelled bad.

Since since, she has gone from singing from TV shows like “Sabado Gigante” and theme songs for soap operas like Telemanco’s “Valle Teodo,” to singing the 2006 Univision Sports World Cup Germany theme, “You can change the world.”

Alvarez was chosen to sing “The Star-Spangled Banner” at the 55th Presidential Inauguration on Jan. 20, 2008.

Alvarez said, “I was doing something for my country.”

Alvarez has since sung for the president two more times: in October 2006 when she was invited by Emilio Estefan to sing at a White House event celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and again during her April 2007 graduation from Miami Dade College at the commencement ceremony.

Today, Alvarez is focused on working on her new album of pop and R&B club music. Alvarez is also completing her degree in journalism, which she says is not easy while also working on her album.

“It takes a lot of energy, planning and emphasis,” she said.

Alvarez’s mother Teresa knows that it is not easy for Alvarez, but is confident that she will succeed.

“Ana Cristina is a good, happy person and has high standards. She is very optimistic and has a very good attitude about life. She is strong and doesn’t give up for anything,” she said.

She has succeeded as a recording artist but getting an education is not easy. Her parents also influenced her decision to attend school.

“I am a mechanical engineer, and I know how important an education is. So we encouraged her to get one,” said her father Rene.

“I always wanted to have an education and not have people say that I have missed on something in my life,” Alvarez said.

Now a senior, Alvarez will graduate in the spring of 2009.

“I’ve done so many interviews that I wanted to be on the other side. That’s why I chose journalism.

“I always wanted to have an education and not have people say that I have missed on something in my life,” Alvarez said.

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History repeating in ‘08 election

John McCain: A splitting image!

Both of our two most likely choices for the White House this year bear striking historical comparisons to past leaders.

While Sen. Barack Obama is older than John F. Kennedy was when he moved into the Oval Office in 1960, the presumptive Democratic nominee does share the late President’s oral eloquence and barrier breaking biogra-

phy, with Kennedy being the first Catholic President and Obama vying to be the first African American.

Yet it is Obama’s opponent’s similarity to Richard Nixon that may very well swing the election in the Democrats favor.

John McCain has often been com-
pared to our incumbent, George W. Bush, and while the two have been close allies over the past eight years, with McCain voting with Bush 95 percent of the time last year, accord-
ing to the Congressional Quarterly, McCain’s record evokes a quote from J.F.K., who 48 years ago criticized his opponent, Nixon, as he accepted the Democratic nomination.

“We know it will not be easy to campaign against a man who has spoken and voted on every side of every issue,” Kennedy is quoted as saying.

George Bush and his campaign team called John Kerry a “flip-flopper” in 2004, yet Kerry, for all his political flaws, wasn’t nearly as inconsistent as his opponents made him out to be. John McCain, by con-
trast, is almost forced to contradict himself.

McCain, after all, offered a glowing endorsement of Bush and his policies in 2004.

McCain, disturbingly, often tries to sound like he’s become more like the Democrats in a deceptive attempt to win votes. “On the most important issues of our day, I’ve been totally in agree-
ment and support of President Bush,” McCain said in an interview on Meet The Press on June 19, 2005.

So, like Nixon, McCain is being forced to try to defeat a charismatic opponent. McCain, disturbingly, of-
ten tries to sound like he’s become more like the Democrats in a de-
ceptive attempt to win votes. With high gas prices squeezing millions of Americans, he was quoted in the New York Sun on June 13 stating to a crowd, “I am very angry, frankly, at the oil companies.”

Yet his bout of populist pro-
lam was short lived.

A few days later he was in Houston, criticizing Obama in front of execu-
tives from big oil companies, declaring his support for sacrifice-
ing the coasts of Florida for drilling, something he had long opposed.

In a television ad, McCain de-
crees his hatred for war, despite his longstanding support for the Iraq War.

Despite having voted with the president’s position 95 percent of the time last year, he’s attempting to claim he’s not like Bush. Despite a zero percent rating from the League of Conservation Voters on environ-
mental issues, he’s claiming to be “green.” Despite his commitment to staying in Iraq, he talks about his ha-
tered of war.

In 1968, Nixon faced an electorate unhappy with the war and promised “peace with honor.” Once elected, he promptly escalated the war and ex-
panded the fighting into Cambodia.

He kept the war going for five more years. McCain would likely use a similar strategy for Iraq. Democrats and Independents alike must fight to ensure that Americans elect the Kennedy-like Obama, before McCain has the chance to become the 21st century Nixon.

Chris Cabral is president of FIU College Democrats

Athletics takes the steps necessary to keep progress scores above the national average

Although long over due, the Athletics department is begin-
ning to take the NCAAs allegations that it “lacks institutional control” seriously.

For the past two years, FIU has been hit with penalties from the NCAA for poor academic progress rate (APR) scores, mis-
applying financial aid and allow-
ing ineligible student-athletes to compete in competition.

APR scores are used to mea-
sure how well Division I stu-
dent-athletes are performing academically during a four-year period. If a team scores less than 925 consistently, the NCAA’s punishments can range from scholarship losses to termina-
tion from Division I.

From 2003 to 2007, men’s basketball, football, baseball, men’s track and women’s swim-
ning scored under 925.

Even though Athletics has in-
stalled various support systems to help student-athletes succeed while at FIU, students continue to fail. Since APR scores are cal-
culated during a four-year peri-
od, it may take sometime for the cumulative scores to improve.

But the department is head-
ing in the right direction in ad-
ressing the problem by hir-
ing additional compliance officers, giving more athletics resources at the Student-Athlete Academic Center and hiring an APR specialist.

Going to such extremes is the only way to make this problem go away. If the problem persists, the NCAA can ban teams from postseason completion or even relegate it to Division II status.

Being downgraded back to Division II would be a major blow to a University that has in-
vested so much money into ad-
vancing its athletics program.

By focusing so much atten-
tion on Athletics, the University is hoping for a return on it’s ini-
tial investment in the future.

Here are just some expenses:

a new stadium, a new logo, new coaches, new equipment, support staff and the Student-
Athlete Academic Center.

Even though coaches may be frustrated with APR scores, it helps student-athletes get help in the classroom. This ultimate-
ly holds the coaches and their players to higher standards.

APR ensures that student-
athletes gain an education along the way, since many crit-
ics argue that schools use athlet-
icas as a means of producing a he-

creative revenue stream, without student- athletes seeing a penny for their labors.

On the other hand, universi-
ties argue that student-athletes are being rewarded with a de-
gree they are earning while in college.

Unless APR scores begin to be taken seriously, the value of these degrees will always be held in question.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Letters to the Editor can be sent to opinion@fiusm.com. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 300 words and include the writer’s full name, year in school, major/ department and a valid phone number for verification purposes. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and or spacing constraints.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FCAT article presents misfights amidst its irrelevance

Juan Carlos Sanchez’s FCAT article was reporting on a moot point, if only because no one at FIU (except education majors) is reporting on a moot point, if only because no one at FIU (except education majors) is reporting on a moot point.

Sanchez misses the entire concept of standardized testing. He suggests that the FCAT should only be administered at cer-

tain grade levels.

The test is administered yearly for the standardized tests that currently are being used. The test is administered yearly for the standardized tests that currently are being used.

However, the millions Sanchez is refer-
ing to is actually the seed money Neil Bush raised to start the company.

This, in fact, released said software sev-
eral years prior to the No Child Left Behind Act.

Many students already have children attending public schools.

If not, once graduated they will have children.

FCAT is not a moot point or “piece of history.”

This is an election year in which vouch-
ers are being re-considered after the state Supreme Court banned them.

Now is the time to hold legislators ac-
countable for their actions and remove them if necessary.

Juan Carlos Sanchez
Contributing Writer

RESPONSE FROM THE WRITER

Standardized test is pertinent to current FIU students

Even though it was created in 1999, the influence of Ignite on the public school system is obvious.

It was specifically designed to assist the standardized testing that currently takes place in public schools today.

The company plans to sell its software at a price of $30 per pupil per year, ac-

AFCAT should only be administered at cer-

tain grade levels.

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Juan Carlos Sanchez
Contributing Writer

July 2, 2008

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CLAUDIA SANTANA
Contributing Writer

We want to make you feel like you are enjoying a movie from your living room while enjoying a high-end meal.

Niketic Vedran,
General Manager of CinéBistro

At CinéBistro, the atmosphere is more oriented, it might mean waking up too early, tired from the week-end festivities.

KASSANDRA POOL
Staff Writer

Peer advisors welcome fresh faces at orientation.

This year alone the orientation leaders and the returning peer advisors. This year the team won the first prize for having the best banner in the southern region.

Information sessions are held during the month of October for students who are interested in learning more about the duties of peer advisors or any questions they might have.

Whether it is impacting freshmen’s lives, or teaching others about the university, peer advisors are, at some point, the first person students befriend in college.

We want to make you feel like you are enjoying a movie from your living room while enjoying a high-end meal.

Niketic Vedran,
General Manager of CinéBistro

Once the meal is finished, one can lift the arm rest and snuggle up next to their significant other while indulging on one of their many movie-themed cocktails: the 007 Martini, Exorcist Bloody Mary and Sex and the City Appletoni.

CinéBistro is like on the inside. We want to make you feel like you are enjoying a movie from your living room while enjoying a high-end meal,” said Niketic Vedran, general manager of CinéBistro.

The cost of watching a movie at CinéBistro is $15 on weekdays and $17 on week-ends which includes valet parking.

The prices for meals vary almost as much as the assorted selections on the menu. It ranges from $5 for ham croquettes to $25 for an entrée of tournedos, which are small, round meat tender-locks with mushrooms.

CinéBistro is open to anyone. The Dolphin Mall location is the first in the country, however, Cobb is opening new locations in Tampa, Daytona Beach and Alabama in the near future.

For more information, call (305) 455-3733 or visit http://www.cinebistro.com/.

Pepperidge Farm's Goldfish just might be the trick to having the whole family at the dinner table.
GO TEAM
Greek Affairs seeks to expel stereotypes

KASSANDRA POOL  Pool Writer
Promiscuous girls, scandals, cheaters, hazing and party animals -- no, it’s not an episode from MTV’s “True Life,” just the typical stereotypes many identify with fraternities and sororities.

To put these myths and labels to rest, the Office of Greek Affairs established the Greek Orientation team, more commonly known as the GO Team.

For the past seven years, a team of about 15 to 20 students has been selected to represent Greek Affairs during freshmen orientation. Incoming freshman might remember seeing the team dressed in green polos presenting experiences about Greek Life during Get A Life.

Team leader Melissa Sabatier joined the GO team in the hopes of dispelling Greek stereotypes.

“A lot of people say we are party animals and cheaters who have test banks. Our purpose above all is to squash these stereotypes and to prove to those who are incoming freshmen or already on campus that we are more than what a lot of people think we are,” Sabatier said. In May, the team began putting together a video for incoming students at orientation. The film highlights how joining a fraternity or sorority will make a difference in a student’s life.

The group has been given the opportunity to input ideas and visions regarding how they want to present Greek life to incoming freshmen. This year, the team will be focusing more on presenting first year experience classes, setting information tables throughout the University and possibly presenting at high schools for future students.

From capturing an audience of any-age, it is important to think that it was something I wasn’t use to,” said Ocasio. “You have to watch out for other people’s backs and stay on your toes to make sure we give students accurate information. I was nervous until we started rolling with the punches with our video.

“Don’t embrace the stereotypes.”

It is a message the team is trying to get across to students and the quote they used to end their video.

For more information on GO team, contact graduate assistant Joanna Garcia at jgarc154@fiu.edu

Sean William Scott looks for life after Pie

STEVEN MESA  Contributing Writer
Two mid-level supermarket employees, one managerial position. Sean William Scott faces off with John C. Reilly in a battle of wits in the new movie written by Steve Conrad (The Pursuit of Happyness), The Promotion.

As a fan of Conrad’s work, Scott came on board for The Promotion because he enjoys the comedy that Conrad’s script delivered.

“He comedy comes from his voice and how he writes about human struggle, work, relationships and I really enjoy that,” Scott said.

Aside from being a fan of Conrad, Scott is also a fan of his co-star’s work.

“Reilly’s performance is so unique and beautiful that he should be nominated,” Scott said. “I may be exaggerating, but I think he is so great in this movie.”

Recently, Scott has said that he cannot watch his performance in his movies Mr. Woodcock and The Dukes of Hazzard because both movies were terrible.

“It is important to think that not all movies you were in were great”, Scott said.

In regards to The Dukes of Hazzard, in which he co-starred with Johnny Knoxville, he thought the movie should have been number the title cut that came out in the summer of 2005.

“The movie should have been like how guys really talked with me and Johnny but we were kind of handcuffed due to the PG-13 rating,” he said.

This year, the team will be a decade since the first American Pie was shot. This became the launching pad to Scott’s career with the role of Steve Stifler, the over-sexed hound dog who always found himself in the most disgusting situations.

Since then, Scott has been in the first two American Pie sequels, Dazed, Where’s My Car, and Ashton Kutcher and The Rundown with Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson; Johnny has yet to star in another blockbuster.

“I am always remained of it because I would not have the life I have now it if was not for American Pie,” Scott said.

Scott’s next movie is called Role Models with Paul Rudd in which they both star as energy drink reps who enroll in a Big Brother program. Scott is hoping that his co-star-

You can kind of coast for a while, but at the end of the day you need a movie that needs to make some money.

Stifler Grows Up: Sean William Scott, best known for his role in the American Pie series, recently starred in The Promotion, with John C. Reilly.

“Anybody can kind of coast for a while, but at the end of the day you need a movie that needs to make some money.”

Steven Mesa can be reached at moviefriendly@ymail.com

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.
Recruits build athletic programs, logos do not

The Leprechaun has been putting up his dukes for the University since 1965. The storied athletics program saw its variety of mascots and logos before solidifying the Leprechaun as the official logo.

Before 1965, the University still won seven of its 11 football national championships. But it is not until how it is that Notre Dame was a football powerhouse for decades without its own logo and roll up the Leprechaun’s sleeves a ½ inch down to show the athletics program means business.

Maryland: Turkeys look so lethargic and friendly, nothing can make them menacing. Adding muscles just makes them look even goofier.

The University of Maryland logo is the school’s mascot, Testudo, a huge diamondback terrapin with Arnold Schwarzenegger-sized muscles and a cross between a smile and scowl. His huge pectorals are complemented by his serious pose, hands on his waist.

Every toddler recognizes that pose, Testudo looks like a mom scolding her young child. Not exactly a distraction or problem for visiting team.

The program has managed to win 16 total national championships using the same logo. Most recently the men’s and women’s basketball teams hoisted the championship trophy in 2002 and 2006 respectively.

Not changing the logo is a way to build tradition. When a university is constantly changing its identity, recruits and fans alike have trouble associating one logo to the school.

Maryland decided to keep the “mean” and silly logo for many years, but it’s what represents the University’s athletic program now and forever.

Whether it’s a sissy bird, crazy old leprechaun or steroid-filled turtle, logos represent winning programs, but should not be altered in an attempt to create them.

APR policy forces academic compliance effort reform

only employees of her kind in the nation. Working under the compliance office, Garcia is the “gatekeeper” of all scholarship athletes, and will be working with incoming athletes and making sure APR guidelines are met.

Garcia understands the university’s vision and is impressed with FIU’s direction, which has been initiated by athletic director Pete Garcia.

“I am impressed with Pete’s [Garcia] realization that this is a process. From the beginning of recruiting to graduation. He is not just into the numbers but the process,” Garcia said.

“There is a commitment of everyone to start a foundation with a clean slate from the registrar’s office to me.”

As the APR specialist, Garcia is also an assistant director of compliance, who will work with Eligibility Assistant Director Jessica Planteda-Diaz and financial aid specialists in the University to prepare FIU to succeed for the next circulation of APR evaluation.

A START

After a successful 2007-08 academic year for athletes that saw a tremendous cumulative GPA improvement, Garcia is sure of the positive direction, but it is the incoming recruits who will have to get the grades in order for the University to be released of its probation.

The recruiting process will be more challenging than ever in the search to bring the best student-athletes to the University who can succeed on the field and in the classroom.

“We have to make this better,” Garcia said.

Those words have rattled FIU’s athletic program more than ever before.

Father, girlfriend lead track star’s cheering bandwagon

A: I have been really hard to break my bad habits. I am trying to get more sleep because school makes me miss out on a lot of sleep time. The books are always first, but now that I have graduated, I am trying to sleep as much as possible.

Q: How does it feel to represent not only FIU, but also the Cayman Islands at the Olympics?

A: It feels like a dream to me. To know that I’m going to be representing FIU and my country at these games, is a one in a lifetime opportunity. Many of the guys that I’ve competed against this year probably will not make it to these games for various reasons. This is an opportunity that is not to be taken lightly.

Q: Describe the emotion you felt after getting injured right after making the qualifying time at Drakes?

A: After re-aggravating my foot during nationals at Drakes, I was just hoping that it was not too bad to the point where it would affect me drastically. I was just praying that it wouldn’t get better by resting it, and it did. So, I am really grateful.

Q: Medal or no medal, what are your plans after the Olympics?

A: After the Olympics, my plans are to go pro. I love track and field to the point that I want to keep competing for my country is something that I’m obligated to do, not just for myself, but for the up and coming youths that might not have that guidance that they need. Mostly, I want to give them something to look up to as a role model.
Part 1:

**FIU GRADUATE QUALIFIES FOR OLYMPICS**

Track star discusses training, life after Beijing

AURDINA BIGOS
Contributing Writer

Caymanian Ronald Forbes, a recent FIU graduate, qualified to represent the Cayman Islands in the 110-meter hurdles at the 2008 Olympics after being scouted and given a full athletic scholarship out of Bacone College. He battled injuries throughout his entire FIU career but now, all his dedication has clinched a spot in Beijing.

On June 13, Forbes clocked 13.625 seconds in the semi-final round at Nationals, beating the 13.72 second mark needed to attain the Olympic qualifying standard. Forbes was only .44 of a second behind the NCAA record of 13.21 run by Aries Merritt in 2006.

Unfortunately, he slightly re-aggravated an injury during the race, which hindered him in the finals, as he finished eighth with a time of 14.05 seconds.

Forbes is still training and competing until he travels to Beijing later this summer.

Forbes Q&A

Q: If you could describe your journey during the last 5 months in 3 words, what would they be?

A: Long, hard, and rewarding.

Q: What has been your biggest obstacle on your journey to Beijing?

A: Some of the biggest obstacles that I've had on my journey would be injuries. They really kept me from learning some of the critical skills I need to know in order to run this event. I not only had to deal with the physical despair of the injury, but also the mental frustration because of me not being able to do many of the things others could do. When trying to run at my best, having an injury is not too fun. It sometimes takes away my confidence because I know my body isn't functioning at 100 percent.

Q: What expectations do you have going into the hurdles at the Olympics?

A: At the Olympics, my goal is to make it through as many rounds as possible. I really don’t want to get knocked out in the first round. One of the main things I want to accomplish in China is to better my current personal best time.

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Part 2:

**Academic rules affect coaches’ jobs**

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. Sports Editor

There was a time when the NCAA didn’t have such strict academic regulations. A time before academic reform efforts changed the standards division I programs had to meet.

Men’s basketball coach Sergio Rouco can explain: “As coaches, we are cleaning up the program academically, while trying to win games,” he said.

Since the APR (academic progress rate) was instituted in 2003, athletic programs have had to live up to a higher academic standard for their student-athletes.

The APR system is an assessment of academic performance that gives points to teams based on student-athletes reaching academic eligibility.

A score of 925 during a four-year span is needed in order to appease the NCAA, something FIU was not able to do in basketball, football, baseball, men’s track and women’s swimming from 2003-2007, all five teams scored under 925.

As a result of the low scores, FIU lost more scholarships than any other team in division I in 2007 and lost more than five total scholarships in 2008.

Rouco believes that the new rules are in the best interest of the student-athletes and education, but has made it more difficult for coaches to keep their jobs.

“HARSH”

“The APR started the year I came here in 2003, so I inherited it. We are frustrated as coaches because they throw something at us as an experiment, but while they tweak it as we go along some coaches are losing their jobs,” Rouco said. “You should have something established if you’re having a rule so harsh.”

With some coaches paying for the failures of previous administrations, it has become harder to survive as a division I coach in Rouco’s opinion.

The athletic department has gone through seven coaches in the last two years, four of those coaches were fired.

Rouco, who is 42-74 in four seasons as head coach, hasn’t changed the way he has recruited because of FIU’s emphasis on academics.

“Are you more pro-student than any other institution I have been at. Miami is a city where kids have to be academically oriented. They can be easily distracted,” he said. “It never changed with me.”

Despite the University’s stress on academics over the years, the football, baseball and men’s basketball teams need to score at least 900 next year or they will face postseason bans.

And if they do not score at least 900 the following year, the programs will be banned from division I and the Football Bowl Subdivision.

As a result of the severe consequences low APR scores may bring, Monique Garcia was hired roughly three months ago to serve as an APR specialist, one of the